



THE INSIDER

FOR THE CITY OF HARPER WOODS

Your community
resource guide for the
City of Harper Woods!
FALL EDITION
OCTOBER THROUGH
DECEMBER 2025

Get the most out of our community!

HARPER WOODS CITY CALENDAR

October

**Check City's website
for time and format*

October 4- Siren Test, 1:00pm
October 6*- City Council Meeting
October 13- Curbside Leaf Pickup Begins
October 13- Columbus Day
October 15- Water Bills Due
October 20*- City Council Meeting
October 25- Trunk or Treat, 1-3pm
October 31- Halloween



November

**Check City's website
for time and format*

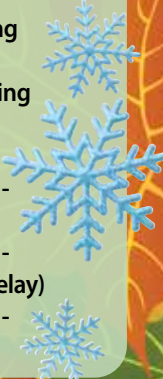
November 1- Siren Test, 1:00pm
November 3*- City Council Meeting
November 4- City Offices Closed -
Election Day, Polls Open 7am-8pm
November 11- City Offices Closed -
Veterans Day
November 17*- City Council Meeting
November 17- Water Bills Due
**November 19- Tree Lighting Pre-Glow,
5pm - In the Library**
**November 19- Tree Lighting Ceremony,
6:30pm - Outside HW Fire Dept.**
November 21- Curbside Leaf Pickup Ends
November 27- City Offices Closed -
Thanksgiving Day
November 28- City Offices Closed
November 28- Yard Waste/Compost Ends



December

**Check City's website
for time and format*

December 1*- City Council Meeting
December 6- Siren Test, 1:00pm
December 15*- City Council Meeting
December 15- Water Bills Due
December 21- Winter Begins
December 24- City Offices Closed -
Christmas Eve
December 25- City Offices Closed -
Christmas Day (Rubbish Delay)
December 31- City Offices Closed -
New Year's Eve



Propelling Harper Woods Forward

Welcome to the City's annual report highlighting the accomplishments that continue to propel Harper Woods forward. We are proud of the progress and achievements that have shaped our City's evolution. Significant investments have been made in the following areas:

POCKET PARK - Enhancing green space is an excellent opportunity for the community to connect nature with art. Improvements like these promote health, wellness, and quiet recreation. Visitors can gather, get to know one another, and thrive. Roscommon Pocket Park will be completed by late fall. Come check it out! (Page 3)

FRASER SQUARE (Former Poupard Elementary School) - Providing new housing opportunities in a fully developed community can be challenging. Availability and affordability are further added to this challenge. The City has been spearheading the transformation of vacant school buildings and other underutilized properties into sustainable affordable housing. Please look at the progress so far at the intersection of Van Antwerp Street and the Harper Service Drive. Contact City Hall if you are interested. (Page 3)

MASTER PLAN ADOPTION - The City has adopted a new Master Plan in 2025. A Master Plan is a community policy document that guides land use, infrastructure, and decision making to enhance residents' quality of life. It uses data like demographics, housing, natural features, existing and new parks, transportation, and economic developments to identify improvements, particularly through zoning updates.

ENSURING SAFE AND FAIR ELECTIONS - In 2024 and throughout 2025, the City Clerk's Office rose to the challenge of administering elections that ensure every eligible resident had the opportunity to make their voice heard. This included a rigorous review of absentee voting with the new permanent ballot list implementation, and deployment of more election workers with the launch of early voting. Through these efforts, along with close cooperation with local, state, and federal partners, our office has once again maintained its integrity.

PUBLIC SAFETY - The Harper Woods Police and Fire Departments remain dedicated to ensuring the safety, security, and wellbeing of our community. Guided by a commitment to integrity, professionalism, and service, our Police Officers and Firefighters strive to protect residents, visitors, and businesses. Whether it's emergency response, fire prevention, medical emergencies, or innovative crime prevention strategies, our quick response team delivers!

FUN FAMILY/HEALTHY ACTIVITIES - Our residents joined us this summer for Free Family Movie Nights, our first ever Summer Concert Series, and some free healthy recreational activities like water, chair, and live Zumba classes. Thank you to everyone who joined and participated! (Pages 10-12)

Please help us continue the City's excellence!!!

John Szymanski
City Manager – Harper Woods

The City of Harper Woods

Mayor

Valerie J. Kindle

Mayor Pro Tem

Regina Williams

City Council

Cheryl A. Costantino

Tom Jenny

Gerianne LaPratt

Vivian M. Sawicki

Ivery Toussant Jr.

City Manager

John Szymanski

City Clerk

Leslie M. Frank

The City Council welcomes resident comments on areas of concern or praise. Residents are welcome to attend a council meeting to comment in person, or they can write a letter to the council. All letters must be signed. Mail Letters to City of Harper Woods 19617 Harper Ave., Harper Woods MI 48225.

Harper Woods Insider Advisory Board

Vivian Sawicki - Councilmember, City of Harper Woods

Ty Hinton - Economic and Community Development Director, City of Harper Woods

John Szymanski - City Manager

Questions or comments? Please email info@drivecreativeservices.com

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Employees in the Spotlight

Shirley Gordon

Since June 2013, Shirley Gordon has been a cornerstone of the City of Harper Woods Police Department, bringing warmth, professionalism, and a contagious laugh to the Department. Starting as a Police Civilian Aide and now serving as a Police Records Clerk, Shirley is the welcoming face residents see when they request police reports, purchase dog licenses, or apply for parking permits.

Shirley's impact goes far beyond the front desk. Her joyful spirit and unwavering positivity brighten the halls of City Hall daily. Whether she's assisting a resident or sharing a laugh with officers and staff, Shirley embodies the kind of energy that makes Harper Woods feel like home.



Jason Hammerle, the Director of Public Safety, expressed, "In the twelve years I've worked with Shirley, I can't recall a single day when she wasn't smiling and laughing!" That says it all.

Thank you, Shirley Gordon, for your dedication, your laughter, and the light you bring to our City every day!



Neighbor in the News

Pat Smillie

The Insider would like to recognize Pat Smillie, the first performer of our Inaugural Summer Concert Series, as our Neighbor in the News. Pat Smillie made the move from Chicago, Illinois to Harper Woods in the summer of 2015. Drawn by the convenience of the area's expressways and the welcoming vibe of the neighborhood, he quickly found that Harper Woods offered the perfect home base for his busy performance schedule. Pat says, "I can get to almost all my local gigs in 20-25 minutes or less. It's nice!"

In 2020, Pat began taking morning walks through the neighborhood, soaking in the scenery, and connecting with the community in a new way. His favorite route forms a big loop: west on Fleetwood Drive, south on Beaconsfield, east on Lochmoor, and north on Harper Avenue. "Fleetwood and Lochmoor are my favorites. So many nice homes with well-maintained properties."

After a decade of hoping for more live music events in Harper Woods, Pat finally got his wish—a performance in Johnston Park that brought neighbors together in celebration. "I had a great time performing. I want to thank Irma Hayes, the City staff, and Bubby and his sound crew for making it all possible."

If you spot Pat and his band on a local flyer or festival lineup, do not miss the chance to experience his soulful sound and infectious energy. "Come on out to the show and say 'hello,'" he encourages. You can find his latest performance schedule at www.patsmillie.com.

Thank you, Pat Smillie, for contributing to our summer filled with music, community, and the kind of neighborly spirit that makes Harper Woods shine.

Community Progress

Roscommon Pocket Park Groundbreaking

At 3:00 pm on Tuesday, July 29, City leaders and residents gathered at the corner of Duprey and Roscommon to celebrate the long-awaited groundbreaking of the Roscommon Pocket Park. What was once a vacant lot is now set to become a vibrant community hub shaped by the input of residents and backed by local funding.

Senator Kevin Hertel, State Representative Veronica Paiz, and County Commissioner Tim Killeen joined Mayor Valerie Kindle, City Manager John Szymanski, and community members to mark this milestone. Their presence underscored the partnership between State, County, and City officials in bringing the park to life.

“This isn’t just a groundbreaking for a park, it’s a celebration of what’s possible when government listens to its people,” said Tyrone Hinton, Director of Economic and Community Development.

The project is fueled by a LEO Grant, Public Act 51 funding, and City resources, all allocated based on extensive resident feedback. Community workshops and surveys guided the park’s design, ensuring that each feature responds directly to neighborhood needs and desires, such as:

- A pavilion with seating for social gatherings.
- Walking paths, benches, and safety fencing.
- A community garden to foster neighborhood engagement.
- Play areas suited for both children and seniors.
- French drains to resolve chronic flooding concerns.
- Traffic calming measures and enhanced pedestrian crossings.

In the months to come, the Roscommon Pocket Park will transform this underutilized space into a welcoming haven where neighbors can meet, play, and grow together. Thanks to collaborative planning and targeted funding, Harper Woods is turning a shared vision into reality—one block at a time.

Roscommon Pocket Park: Made possible by community, for community.



TRANSITION: The Fraser Square Development



As you may have observed, Poupard Elementary School has been demolished in preparation for a new market rate housing development titled “Fraser Square.” This project is the result of a strategic collaboration between the City of Harper Woods and the Grosse Pointe Board of Education. That collaborative effort began over four years ago, when a team from the City of Harper Woods administration, led by Mayor Valerie Kindle, began a series of meetings with the Grosse Pointe Board of Education’s Facilities Committee and their team of housing development experts. A focus group was also organized by planning consultants from Harper Woods to discuss what type of housing would be best suited for the site. The focus group set the guidelines to be followed by developers, who would then respond to the “request for proposals.”

Fraser Square will feature a total of seventy-one new residential units on the 6.8-acre former Poupard Elementary School site. This new project will be built in two phases. The first phase will feature forty-eight new duplex homes to be constructed between Van Antwerp Street and Lennon Street. They will be called “The Manchester,” with 1,206 square feet of living space featuring two stories with basements, two bedrooms, and 1.5 bathrooms. The second phase will feature twenty-three townhomes to be constructed on the northeast corner of the housing site. They will be called “The Davenport,” and will have three stories of luxurious 1,327 square feet of living space, with two bedrooms and 2.5 bathrooms. The ground floor will feature a garage with a bonus room at the front to be used as a playroom, office, or a first-floor entertainment space.

Treasurer Info

Public Notice – City of Harper Woods **Applications for Deferment 2025 Taxes**

The Harper Woods Treasurer's Office accepts applications for the 2025 tax deferments starting July 1 for the summer tax bills and December 1 for the winter tax bills. To qualify, a household income cannot exceed \$40,000. The applicant must also be 62 years of age or older, paraplegic, hemiplegic, quadriplegic, an eligible service person, a veteran, a widow or widower, blind, or totally and permanently disabled. The deferment applications can be obtained at the Treasurer's Office Monday–Thursday from 9:00 am–5:00 pm.

Assessing, Tax and Utility Billing **Information Online**



The City's website, www.harperwoodscity.org, provides a link to Assessing/property information, including photos, sketches, assessed and taxable values, as well as amounts due for taxes, water, or miscellaneous

invoices and payment history. There is no charge to view this information. However, there is a processing fee to pay invoices with a credit card that will apply to any of the payments made through the portal.

Delinquent Tax Information Online

For delinquent taxes, visit www.waynecountymi.gov/government/elected-officials/treasurer. Searching for delinquent real tax information can be done by entering the parcel ID, street number, and street name.

Property Transfer Affidavit

A "Property Transfer Affidavit" must be filed whenever real estate is transferred. The new owner must file the affidavit with the City Treasurer's Office within 45 days of the transfer.

Electronic Debit Transactions

When a check is provided as payment, it is an authorization for the City to use the information from your check to make a one-time electronic funds transfer from your account or to process the payment as a check transaction. When the City uses the information from your check to make an electronic funds transfer, funds may be withdrawn from your account as soon as the same day your payment is received, and you will not receive your check back from your financial institution.



ALERT:

The City is now processing "actual" reads on the monthly water bills. There will be no more "estimated" reads.

Water/Sewer Rates*

As of January 1, 2024

Fixed Water Charge:	\$11.58/month
Fixed Sewer Charge:	\$20.41/month
Debt Service Charge:	\$2.50/month
Refuse User Fee:	\$4.16/month
Water Usage Fee:	\$67.08 per thousand cubic feet

***Rates subject to change**



Water Bill Delivery

- Bills are mailed on the 20th of each month.
- Payment by 5:00pm on the due date is the resident's responsibility.
- Failure to receive the bill does not excuse late charges.

If you do not receive your monthly billing, contact the Treasurer's Office at (313) 343-2522 for the balance due. Please return your water bill with your payment.

Current Fees Effective December 18, 2023

Water Disconnect Fee for Non-Payment:	\$100.00
Final Water Bill Fee:	\$20.00
Unauthorized Turn On of Water:	\$200.00
Water Appointment No Show:	\$50.00

Pay Water Bills & **(Now Available) Tax Bills Online**

harperwoods.cityinsight.com

Water Bill: NO FEES

Tax Bill: A CONVENIENCE FEE APPLIES

Convenience fees are assessed by the Credit Card Company and subject to change.



Automatic Payment-Water/Tax Bills

Your water bills and tax bills can be automatically deducted from your savings account or checking account.

- Contact the City Treasurer's office for the automatic water bill payment enrollment form.
- The automatic tax bill payment enrollment form will be mailed with the tax bill

For further information, please call (313) 343-2500.

City Clerk Info

Election Information

The General Election will be held on **November 4, 2025**. A list of City candidate names as they will appear on the ballot is provided below:

MAYOR (One 2-Year Term)

Valerie Kindle

CITY COUNCIL (Three 4-Year Terms)

Vivian Sawicki
Ivery Toussant, Jr.
Teresa Foster
Sheila Hakim



If you are unsure of your registration status or need additional information, please email the City Clerk at lfrank@harperwoods.net or call (313) 343-2510.

**** IMPORTANT VOTING INFORMATION ****

EARLY VOTING will **not** be an option for this local election.

CHANGES TO VOTING AND POLLING LOCATIONS

Watch your mailboxes for new voter cards for all Harper Woods registered voters. Precincts have been consolidated, and locations have changed. Check out the City Clerk page on the City's website, www.harperwoodscity.org, for more information.

NEW POLLING LOCATIONS

Precinct 1	Beacon Elementary School, 19475 Beaconsfield
Precinct 2	Harper Woods City Hall, 19617 Harper Avenue
Precinct 3	Wayne County Community College University Center, 19305 Vernier

To check if your polling location has changed, please visit:
<https://mVIC.sos.state.mi.us/Voter/Index>

CITY COUNCIL INSTALLATION

Newly elected Mayor and City Council members will be sworn in on Monday, November 10, 2025, at 8:00 pm in the City Council Chambers at City Hall. The public is invited and encouraged to attend.

Check out our Webpage for more Election Information at **harperwoodscity.org** or the State of Michigan Voter information page at **<https://michigan.gov/vote>**

Department of Public Safety – Police

HALLOWEEN TIPS FOR KIDS

1. Walk with other kids or have your parents walk with you.
2. Stay on the sidewalks and don't cut across people's yards.
3. Cross at intersections only and obey traffic lights.
4. If you wear a mask, make sure the holes are large enough to see and breathe through easily. MAKE-UP IS SAFER.
5. Have a plan for walking so you cross the street only when necessary.
6. Do not go into other people's houses. Stay outside.
7. Go only to houses that are well lit.
8. Wear bright, reflective colors so that drivers can see you when it gets dark. Remember that just because you see the cars, doesn't mean the drivers can see you.
9. Be courteous and say "thank you" to the people who give out treats. Don't push others when you are at the door.
10. Have your parents check your treats for tampering. If you see something suspicious, throw it away. Make sure that the treats are in their original wrappers. Do not eat homemade treats unless you know the people who gave them to you.
11. Carry identification, including your name, address, and phone number.
12. Trick-or-treat only in your own neighborhood.
13. After dark, take a flashlight along. This will help you see where you are going and let drivers see you.
14. Wear costumes that are fireproof and not too long or too loose.
15. Do not forget to invite a parent to go with you.



QUICK TIPS FOR AVOIDING FRAUD

There are many varieties of consumer fraud, but the most common ones are variations of fake checks, credit repair, free trip offers, and sweepstakes scams. Here are some tips to help you avoid being a victim:

Don't give out personal information. Be suspicious of anyone you don't know who asks for your Social Security number, birthdate, credit card number, bank account number, password, or other personal data.

Don't be intimidated. Be suspicious of calls or emails that want you to provide or verify personal information immediately. Answer that you are not interested and hang up, or don't reply to the email.

Monitor your accounts. Review bank and credit card statements carefully, and report unauthorized transactions to your financial institution immediately.

Use a shredder. Tear or shred credit offers, bank statements, insurance forms, and other papers with personal information.

Ignore unsolicited offers. Don't respond if someone you do not know asks you to send money or money orders to claim a prize, lottery, credit card, loan, or other valuable offer.

ONLINE CITIZENS POLICE REPORTING

It is the policy of the Harper Woods Police Department to provide the highest level of service to the community. The Online Citizens Police Reporting System allows citizens to file police reports for specified offenses over the internet, thereby truncating the reporting process and providing more unassigned time for officers to engage in crime suppression activities. The Online Citizens Police Reporting System can be accessed through the City's website at <https://harperwoodscity.org/police-department/>.



PORCH PIRATES CAN STEAL YOUR JOY

With Christmas around the corner, there is an increase in online shopping and packages being delivered to your home. Porch pirate criminals are known to follow delivery trucks around and when they see an opportunity, they strike!



Take steps to protect your delivered packages:

- Ensure you are home when delivery is scheduled.
- Have packages delivered to a trusted neighbor at home.
- Have packages delivered to your work, if your employer will allow it.
- If available, use store pickup.

GROSSE POINTE ANIMAL ADOPTION SOCIETY (GPAAS)

The City of Harper Woods has renewed its partnership with the Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society (GPAAS). Please make note of the following GPAAS guidelines:

WHAT WE ACCEPT FROM MUNICIPALITIES:

- Any found/stray, sick, or injured animal—including wildlife.
- Any found/stray animal with or without identification.
- Friendly, social cats with or without identification, that appear to be cared for and healthy (i.e. an owned cat).
- Young, roaming, friendly kittens.
- Aggressive dog/bite quarantine cases.
- Aggressive cats involved in bite incidents.

WHAT WE DO NOT ACCEPT FROM MUNICIPALITIES:

- Owned animals, cats or dogs. An animal is considered owned if it has been in a person's possession for 10 days or more, or if documentation of care for the animal is in their name. Refer to GPAAS for information.
- Feral cats in traps.



The Harper Woods Police Department will cite owners of dogs at large that are not vaccinated and not licensed. Please help us keep our community safe!

DOG ORDINANCES

The Harper Woods Department of Public Safety is asking our residents to familiarize themselves with the following Animal Ordinances (specifically canines) which can be found on the City of Harper Woods website. Additionally, as of January 1, 2024, dog licenses have increased to \$15.00 and must be renewed yearly.



- Sec. 4-26 Dog Bites
- Sec. 4-27 Running at Large
- Sec. 4-28 Vicious and/or Potentially Dangerous Dogs
- Sec. 4-29 Impoundment
- Sec. 4-41 Licensing

Department of Public Safety – Fire

Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety

Is there a beep or a chirp coming out of your smoke or carbon monoxide alarm? What does it all mean? Knowing the difference can save you, your home, and your family! Make sure everyone in your home understands the sounds of smoke and carbon monoxide alarms and knows how to respond. Learn the sounds of your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms by checking the user guide, or by searching the brand and model online.



What is your alarm telling you?

SMOKE ALARMS

- A continued set of three loud beeps—“beep, beep, beep”—means smoke or fire. Get out, call **9-1-1**, and stay out.
- A single “chirp” every 30 or 60 seconds means the battery is low and must be changed.
- All smoke alarms must be replaced after 10 years.
- Chirping that continues after the battery has been replaced means the alarm is at the end of its life and the unit must be replaced.

CARBON MONOXIDE (CO) ALARMS

- A continuous set of four loud beeps—“beep, beep, beep, beep”—means carbon monoxide is present in your home. Go outside, call **9-1-1**, and stay out.
- A single “chirp” every 30 or 60 seconds means the battery is low and must be replaced.
- CO alarms also have “end of life” sounds that vary by manufacturer. This means it’s time to get a new CO alarm.
- Chirping that continues after the battery has been replaced means the alarm is at the end of its life and the unit must be replaced.

Make sure your smoke and CO alarms meet the needs of everyone in your home, including those with sensory or physical disabilities.

Some tips:

- ✓ Install a bedside alert device that responds to the sound of the smoke and CO alarms. Use of a low frequency alarm can also wake a sleeping person with mild to severe hearing loss.
- ✓ Sleep with your mobility device, glasses, and phone close to your bed.
- ✓ Keep pathways like hallways lit with night lights and free from clutter to make sure everyone can get out safely.

**Hear a Beep,
Get On Your Feet!**



**Hear a Chirp,
Make a Change!**

Building Dept. & Assessing Dept.

Building Department Info

The Building Department would like to wish all residents and business owners a safe and happy summer. The Building Department handles multiple complaints daily. Most of these complaints are regarding grass and yard maintenance, as well as trash and rodent issues. We all wish to live in a better environment, and by taking the time to maintain our properties this objective can be achieved.

Our department is asking everyone to be aware of your surroundings, communicate with your neighbors, and to always help out your neighbors when you can. It is only by acting as a team that a community can change for the better. With all residents and business owners taking the time to properly maintain their properties and help one another, we can make this an achievable goal. We all need to participate in the success of Harper Woods.

Looking to report a violation or concern with a potential violation? Please contact the Building Department with any and all concerns at (313) 343-2526 or building@harperwoods.net.

To check and see if a potential violation has turned into enforcement, you can always check online at bsaonline.com. Click Wayne County, then Harper Woods. Type in the address and look under the Building Department tab.



Assessing Department Info



The Assessor is available on Wednesdays during normal business hours, 9:00 am–5:00 pm. You can contact the Assessor at (313) 343-2527 or by email at assessing@harperwoods.net. All assessment information is available online through the City's website, www.harperwoodscity.org. For a better understanding of your assessment, taxes, and for general questions, please visit the website and click on the Department of Assessing.

The State of Michigan has adopted new mandatory poverty guidelines for a reduction in taxes based on household income. You can obtain an application form from the Assessor's Office or from the City website under the Assessing Department. Please submit by the requested due date.

MCL 211.7b(1)(a) provides an exemption from property taxes under the General Property Tax Act for real property owned and used as a homestead by a disabled veteran who served in the United States Armed Forces, including the reserve components, and was discharged under honorable conditions. To know if you meet the criteria and guidelines, you can review the application available on the City website or obtain it from the Assessor's Office.

As a reminder, whenever there is a change in ownership of a property, you must file a Property Transfer Affidavit (PTA) within 45 days to the Assessor's Office. You can obtain a PTA from the City website or the Assessor's Office. It is the owner's responsibility to ensure the name and mailing address is correct on the property. Please inform the Assessor's Office in writing of any changes.



Resident Sign Up any one of these ways

- 1 Text Zip Code to 888777
- 2 Sign up at www.nixle.com
- 3 Download Nixle Mobile App

Nixle keeps you up-to-date with relevant information from your local public safety department and schools.



The City of Harper Woods encourages all of our residents to join Nixle. This is a community messaging system run in partnership with our local government. Participating members will receive real-time messages regarding important topics such as crime alerts, traffic safety issues, important dates, and community events. The program is safe, and registration is easy and is provided at no cost. Messages are received by email or through the web depending on your custom settings. Stay informed by signing up now at www.nixle.com.

Community Highlights

Harper Woods Blues Festival



Community Concert Series



Community Highlights

National Night Out



Free Family Movie Nights



32A District Court News

Greetings Harper Woods,

As summer begins to wind down and we look ahead to the fall season, I want to take a moment to share a few updates from your local court and reflect on the work we've been doing to serve this community.

The 32A District Court is more than a place where legal matters are resolved. It is a space where we strive every day to balance accountability with compassion, fairness with efficiency, and justice with understanding. Whether someone comes to court for a traffic ticket, a misdemeanor charge, or a civil dispute, my commitment is always the same: to ensure that every individual is treated with dignity and respect.

This year, we've made significant strides in accessibility and second chances. Through Michigan's Clean Slate legislation, we've helped dozens of individuals begin the process of clearing eligible criminal records. These expungements offer more than legal relief. They open doors to jobs, housing, and stability. If you believe you may qualify, I encourage you to contact our court to learn more.

One program I'm especially proud of is our Recovery Court. This specialized docket is designed for individuals struggling with substance use disorders who are ready to make a change. Rather than focusing solely on punishment, Recovery Court provides structured support through regular court check-ins, treatment services, and accountability measures. Participants often experience:

- Reduced rates of repeat offenses.
- Improved mental and physical health.
- Greater employment stability.
- Stronger family and community connections.

Graduates of Sobriety Court frequently tell us that the program gave them not only a second chance, but also a real chance to rebuild. It's proof that when we invest in people and address the root causes of behavior, we can see real transformation.

We've also expanded our virtual hearing options, allowing individuals to appear remotely when appropriate. Combined with improved online payment systems, these updates help reduce the burdens many face when navigating the justice system, especially for working families and seniors.

As your judge, I believe that justice is not something done to people, it is something we build together. My goal is to make this court not just a place of consequences, but a place of fairness, accountability, and opportunity.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to our court with questions, concerns, or ideas. This court belongs to you, the residents of Harper Woods, and it is an honor to serve.

With respect and gratitude,
Judge Rebekah R. Coleman



CAREERS:

We're Hiring: Court Officer

Qualifications: Ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions, establish priorities and work independently. Must also possess the ability to establish and maintain effective relationships with coworkers and the public. Must be able to deal effectively with the public. Ability to maintain confidential information.

Application is available at the 32A District Court or
<http://www.harperwoodscity.org/employment-opportunities>

An Equal Opportunity Employer

TO APPLY:

Submit cover letter, resume and application to:

Tamie Rice
Court Administrator
32A District Court
19617 Harper Ave.
Harper Woods, MI 48225

trice@32adc.net

Department of Public Works

Refuse Collection Guidelines

- ✓ The maximum weight of any one item is 40 pounds. 30 to 35 gallon cans or bags are recommended. Oversize containers will not be collected.
- ✓ Please do not dispose of liquids in refuse.
- ✓ Paint must be dried out and placed on the boulevard with lids removed for pick-up.
- ✓ Cardboard, scrap wood, and lumber must be bundled securely with heavy binding material. Please remove all nails. Bundles should not exceed five feet in length and should not weigh more than 40 pounds.
- ✓ Carpet, carpet padding, and bundled brush will also be collected according to the same size and weight limits.
- ✓ Window or plate glass is not recyclable and will only be collected if it is broken into pieces and placed in a secure container marked GLASS.
- ✓ Encapsulated mattresses, encapsulated box springs, appliances, TVs and furniture will also be collected on regularly scheduled refuse collection days.
- ✓ Building materials such as wood with nails, dirt, cement, and sod can be collected as a special pick-up by the Public Works Department by calling (313) 343-2570.
- ✓ *(Bulk waste exceeds size limits)* includes the following: Move outs, evictions and large set outs. Contact the Department of Public Works for a special pick up.
- ✓ Loose debris will not be cleaned up by the trash contractor. All trash must be contained in bags.
- ✓ **Do not place trash bags/cans in the street. This creates a traffic hazard. All cans/bags should be placed on the boulevard.**



Trash Delay Reminder!

A delayed trash day will **ONLY** occur when the holiday falls during a weekday. If the holiday falls on the weekend, your trash pick-up day will remain on your normal day.

When in doubt, put it out.



Yard Waste & Curbside Leaf Collection

Yard waste collection will begin the week of **April 7th** and run through the week ending **November 29th**. Please place your yard waste in **brown biodegradable lawn bags or rubbish cans no larger than 35 gallons and labeled YARD WASTE/COMPOST**. Yard waste will **ONLY** be collected from the beginning of April through the month of November.



Curbside leaf collection will run from the week of **October 13th** through the week ending **November 21st** (weather permitting). Please be aware that "heavy/large" leaf piles may cause a delay in collection. Leaves should be collected the following day. Please **DO NOT**:

- Park on top of leaf piles in the street.
- Blow or place leaves in the street until the night before your trash day.
- Place leaves on top of/near the storm drain in the curb line.

The collection will be on your trash day. Please check your calendar for specific dates. For more information go to www.harperwoodscity.org or call (313) 343-2570.

Grass Cutting Violations #89-9 Sec. 16-42 (b)

Residents, please note that according to the City ordinances, any grass over five inches is in violation. This also includes flower beds. When a GREEN TAG is placed on your door, you will have 48 hours to take corrective action. If your grass is not cut within that time, the City will hire a private contractor to cut your grass/weeds and the owner will receive an invoice to reimburse the City for such costs. If the owner fails to pay, the City Assessor shall add these charges to the tax rolls for this property. If you have any questions, please call (313) 343-2570 upon receipt of warning or notice.

Sidewalk Maintenance

A friendly reminder that all homeowners are responsible for maintaining and correcting any sidewalk or driveway approach defects. However, before any repairs are made a permit from the Building Department must be obtained. For more information, please call (313) 343-2526.

Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day

Please check waynecounty.com for information on various drop off days. Waste oil/antifreeze is no longer accepted at the DPW for drop off. Please take waste oil to your nearest O'Reilly's Auto Parts for disposal. Please contact the DPW for further information (313) 343-2570.

MISS DIG – If you notice colored flags in your yard or along the roadway, it is an indication that someone is planning to perform

underground construction in that area. The following utility companies are represented by colored flags as indicated:

- Blue – Water ● Green – Sanitary Sewer/Storm Water
- Orange – Telephone/Cable/TV ● Pink – Survey
- Red – Electric ● Yellow – Gas or Oil



Maintaining Sewer Lines

Below are a few tips to help maintain your sewer lines!

- ◆ Decrease your chances of home sewer issues by making an effort not to flush any paper products other than rolled toilet paper.
- ◆ Limit the use of your garbage disposal to small scraps that fall through the strainer. **DO NOT** use your disposal as a food processor.
- ◆ Do not pour cooking grease or cooking oil down your sink. This causes blockages as it hardens and can restrict flow.
- ◆ Living in a community with large, mature trees has its benefits. However, wandering roots can be problematic for sewer lines. To prevent possible sewage back ups, it is recommended that homeowners, with or without trees in their area, perform annual sewer line maintenance. This could include routine line cabling, root cutting and chemical treatments.
- ◆ The sanitary sewer line from the home to the City main is the responsibility of the homeowner. We suggest you get several quotes and references before having any work performed.
- ◆ Sewer line excavation and repair is a permittable event. The permit and inspection can be secured by contacting the Building Department at (313) 343-2526.



Don't forget – the only paper product that should be flushed is toilet paper! All others belong in the trash – grease too!

Rodent Control

The following check list will help eliminate rodents from breeding in your area.

- ◆ Keep your yard free of trash.
- ◆ Use trash cans with tight fitting lids.
- ◆ Keep your yard free of high weeds, brush/branch piles and building materials.
- ◆ Make sure debris does not collect under wooden decks and porches or along side garage. Pick up fallen fruit and vegetables from gardens daily.
- ◆ Clean up dog feces and leftover uneaten food daily.
- ◆ Firewood must be stored a minimum of 18 inches above ground.
- ◆ If you compost, turn pile daily. Food scraps should not be put in compost piles. This will only invite rats.
- ◆ Feeding the birds and squirrels on a regular basis can cause rodent problems.
- ◆ Lastly, rat bait (poison) can be purchased at your local store. **EXTREME CAUTION** should be exercised when using these products. Always follow manufacturers instructions. These products **MUST** be kept away from children and pets.

Professional exterminators can be hired to address this situation, if need be. Please contact our department if we can provide additional information.

Downspouts, Surface Drainage, Etc.

The City requires that downspouts be disconnected from the drain tile or weeping that surrounds your home. Failure to do so is a violation of City Ordinance Sec. 27-54.

Downspouts, surface drainage, etc., and can significantly contribute to a flooded basement.

Gutters should be kept clean of debris. Downspouts should have elbows, splash blocks and extensions to direct storm water away from the foundation of your home. Additionally, the grade (slope) of dirt around your home should be pitched to direct storm water/melting snow away from the foundation of your home. Driveways or other solid materials should also be pitched to direct water away from the foundation of your home. Failure to take these corrective actions can significantly increase the likelihood of a flooded basement.

Just a reminder... Be a good neighbor and **DO NOT** direct storm water on to your neighbors' property.



LEAD POISONING - Know the Facts

Lead poisoning is caused by swallowing or breathing lead. Children under 6 years old are most at risk. If you are pregnant, lead can harm your baby. Lead can cause learning and behavior problems.

- FACT** Lead poisoning hurts the brain and nervous system. Some of the effects of lead poisoning may never go away. Lead in a child's body can:
- Slow down growth and development.
 - Damage hearing and speech.
 - Make it hard to pay attention and learn.



- FACT** When old paint cracks and peels, it makes dangerous dust. The dust is so small you cannot see it. Most children get lead poisoning when they breathe or swallow the dust on their hands and toys. Most children get lead poisoning from paint in homes built before 1978.

- FACT** A lead test is the only way to know if your child has lead poisoning. Most children who have lead poisoning do not look or act sick. Ask your doctor to test your child for lead.

PROTECT YOUR FAMILY

1. TEST YOUR HOME FOR LEAD

If you live in a home built before 1978, have your home inspected by a licensed lead inspector. Contact your local health department for more information.

Sometimes lead comes from things other than paint in your home, such as:

- Candy, toys, glazed pottery, and folk medicine made in other countries.
- Work like auto refinishing, construction, and plumbing.
- Soil and tap water.

2. KEEP CHILDREN AWAY FROM LEAD PAINT AND DUST

- Use wet paper towels to clean up lead dust. Be sure to clean around windows, play areas, and floors.
- Wash hands and toys often, especially before eating and sleeping. Use soap and water.
- Use contact paper or duct tape to cover chipping or peeling paint.

3. RENOVATE SAFELY

- Keep children and pregnant women away from the work area.
- Make sure you and/or any workers are trained in lead-safe work practices.
- Home repairs like sanding or scraping paint can make dangerous dust.

For more information, visit Michigan.gov/Lead
or call the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program
at (517) 335-8885.



Water Sample required
Please contact the
Department of Public Works
313-343-2570

If the DPW has tagged your residence with this notice, we prompt you to call the Public Works Department to schedule a time for us to deliver water-sampling bottles. We are taking lead testing seriously and we ask for your cooperation on this matter. Residents who received a red “testing required” door tag are responsible for contacting the DPW to comply with the city’s EPA requirements..

The Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act has changed to better protect your health. The State of Michigan has updated the water sampling rules to better detect lead in your drinking water. These changes require communities with lead service lines to do more sampling. The new sampling method is likely to result in higher lead results, not because the water source or quality for residents has changed, but because the act has more stringent sampling procedures and analysis.

The City of Harper Woods continues to provide public education material to every water customer in Harper Woods. As in the past, essential information will also be included in the Annual Consumer's Confidence Water Quality Report.

In 2024, we collected samples from 30 homes. The EGLE evaluates compliance with the Action Level based on the 90th percentile of all lead and copper results collected in each round of sampling. The lead 90th percentile for the City's water a supply from phase 2 was 12.9 parts per billion (ppb), which is below the "Action Level" Surys§ Level of 15-ppb. The "Action Level" is a measure of corrosion control effectiveness; it is not a health-based standard. The goal for lead in drinking water is 0 ppb; there is no safe level of lead in the blood.

We will continue to collect samples from 60 homes every six months in 2025. Testing the same homes in each round will help us determine if corrective actions are necessary to reduce corrosion in household plumbing. To assist us in our efforts, contact us at (313) 343-2570 to participate in our drinking water testing program.

Only homes with LEAD service lines are being tested, as directed by EGLE. Taking these samples helps us keep your drinking water safe ~ PLEASE participate to keep us from being in violation of EPA requirements.

If you have questions, concerns, need information on, or can provide us with information on the service line material in your home or business, please contact the Public Works Department, Monday through Friday, 7:30am to 3:00pm.

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit the City's website at www.harperwoodcity.org, the EPA's website at www.epa.gov/lead, the EGLE website at <https://www.michigan.gov/egle/about/organization/drinking-water-and-environmental-health/drinking-water>, or call the National Lead Information Center at (800) 424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider.



Department of Public Works

Rain... rain go away



If you are fortunate enough to have a yard drain, you may have had relief from yard flooding. If not, prolonged standing water can be problematic. It is important to eliminate standing water. A sump pump and garden hose may be the most economical way to eliminate standing water in yards.

Extreme care and ALL safety precautions should be taken when using a sump pump. Electricity and water can be a dangerous or deadly combination. A professional may need to be contacted for assistance. Most plumbing contractors are familiar with sump pumps and how to use them safely. It is a violation of City ordinance to discharge water onto your neighbor's property.

The installation of yard drains and fill dirt may provide a more permanent, long-term solution. It is also a violation to displace water

by adding fill dirt when it will displace water and flood your neighbor. A reputable landscape company can advise on filling and grading low spots.

Our Building Department

should be contacted to advise on grading issues.

Wet, soggy ground and significant rainfall can contribute to wet basements or crawl spaces. This would be a suitable time to inspect the grading around the foundation of your home. Concrete landscape materials, sod, and dirt should all be pitched or sloped away from your home. Gutters should be kept clean, and there should be downspouts, elbows, splash blocks, and extensions on your gutters to direct water away from your home. This may prevent excess water intrusion into a crawl space or basement.

The foundation of homes and buildings are surrounded by drain (weeping) tiles. This is typically installed on the outside of the basement when the home is built, just below

the level of the basement floor. It is designed to take in storm water that soaks into the ground surrounding the home. It is NOT designed to be the main conduit for storm water. It is important to know that this storm line connects or ties into the sanitary line that takes wastewater away from your home. This is evident by the two clean out caps in the basement, located by an exterior wall.

When the drain tile around your home is overwhelmed with water, it can significantly contribute to water backing up through floor drains. Again, this is why it is important to make sure you have sufficient grading, clean gutters, and downspouts with extensions to direct storm water away from the foundation of your home. The slightest blockage or restriction in your sewer line—in addition to the storm water—can contribute to sewage backups.

Sewer lines should be maintained annually by cleaning and root cutting done by an experienced contractor. Most reputable plumbing contractors offer a warranty and provide a camera inspection to identify developing problems. All sewer repairs or plumbing work are permissible events. Permits and inspections can be secured by contacting our Building Department at (313) 343-2526.

Contact Information by Department

Assessor

(313) 343-2527

SAFEbuilt Building Department

(313) 343-2526

City Manager

(313) 343-2505

Economic and Community Development

(313) 343-2501

Elections

(313) 343-2510



Finance Director

(313) 343-2518

Fire Department

(313) 343-2550

SAFEbuilt Housing Inspection

(313) 343-2526

Library

(313) 343-2575

PAATS

(313) 394-9712

Parks and Recreation

(313) 343-2560

Public Safety Department

(313) 343-2530

Public Works

(313) 343-2570

Treasurer Tax & Water Billing Information

(313) 343-2500

Snow and Ice Emergencies

Our Public Works Department is responsible for keeping streets clear throughout the winter season whenever there is snow or ice. During a major winter storm, please check to see if Harper Woods has declared a Snow Emergency by looking at the City's informational sign, watching your local television news, or listening to the radio. When a Snow or Ice Emergency is declared, all vehicles must be removed from the street or they may be towed at the owner's expense. If you live on a corner lot, please be aware that you are responsible for the clearing of the corner cross walk areas.

During a salting or plowing event, we typically begin by treating the major streets such as Harper, Beaconsfield, 8 Mile, the east section on Vernier, Canton, and Peerless. Depending on the time of day, we will focus on the areas around schools.



Please be a good neighbor and do not pile snow against your neighbor's house or cover their basement windows, furnace, or dryer.

Ordinance Penalty

BSec. 23-4. Removal of snow and ice from sidewalks by owners of abutting property:

The occupant or owner of any premises shall keep the sidewalks in front of, or adjacent to such premises cleared, so far as is practicable and reasonable, from snow and ice to facilitate pedestrian use. Where there are no sidewalks, the occupant or owner as aforementioned, is required to clear a path free from snow and ice where a sidewalk would otherwise be, to facilitate pedestrian use. Whenever any snow or ice has fallen or accumulated it shall be cleared within thirty-six (36) hours after it has fallen or accumulated.

Sec. 23-4a. Penalty; enforcement.

(a) Any person who is found to have violated this section shall be deemed responsible for a municipal civil infraction as defined by section 113(1) of the Revised Judicature Act (MCL 600.113 (1)) and punished by a civil fine as provided herein plus costs and expenses.

1. For first offense, a fine of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) shall be assessed.
2. For a second offense, a fine of seventy-five (\$75.00) shall be assessed.
3. For third offense and all subsequent offenses, a fine of one hundred twenty-five (\$125.00) shall be assessed.

We truly regret plowing snow into driveways and covering crosswalks. We know what a difficult task removing this snow can be. Our objective is to keep the streets safe for travelling and accessible for emergency vehicles. **Please refrain from blowing or pushing snow onto cleared streets.** It can cause additional icing and hazardous situations. Please watch the forecast. When snow is predicted, it would be appreciated if vehicles were removed from the street to allow for a safer cleaner job. There need not be a snow emergency to remove your vehicle from the street.

(Code 1962, § 7-119; Ord. No. 2014-01, § 1, 7-14-2014; Ord. No. 2016-02, § 1, 3-7-2016)

Library News & Events

From the Director:

The library has some exciting news! Our library strives to be an inclusive and accessible space, but the reality is not everyone can make it to the library. To address this need, we will be launching a Home Delivery Program on October 1st. This program is designed for residents of Harper Woods who are unable to visit the library due to a long-term or temporary disability or illness. This service includes books, audiobooks, DVDs, and CDs owned by the Harper Woods Public Library, as well as those owned by libraries within the Suburban Library Cooperative. Deliveries and pick-ups will be made on a monthly basis. To learn more about this program, call us at (313) 343-2575.

Friends of the Library Events

Friends of the Library Book Sale

This sale will include everything, from board books to cookbooks, from large print books to DVDs, we've got it all at amazing prices. Stop by and get an amazing deal all while supporting your library—what's better than that!

Saturday, September 27, 1:00 pm–4:00 pm

Friends of the Library Meeting

Becoming a Friend of the Library is about more than getting books on shelves—it's about embracing a mission to educate, connect, and empower. It's an opportunity to make a lasting impact on your community and to ensure that libraries continue to thrive for generations to come. Join us at our fall meeting to learn more!

Tuesday, October 14, 6:00 pm–7:00 pm

Friends of the Library Artisans' Market

Get your holiday shopping done early at this year's Artisans' Market! We host a variety of local artists with fun and beautiful wares. Have an uncle who loves homemade pickles? A new addition to the family who needs a handmade blanket? Or just a beautiful set of earrings for yourself—whatever it is you can find it at the Artisans' Market!

Saturday, November 1, 11:00 am–4:00 pm

Adult Programming

Local History Speaker Series

Sponsored by the Friends of the Harper Woods Library

Haunted Detroit

Presented by local historian and author Mickey Lyons. We will explore the myths, legends, and darker histories of the City of Detroit: Did you know the oldest bar in Detroit is reputedly haunted by the ghost of a Civil War hero? Or that the scene of a grisly 1920s murder inspired spooky stories for decades? This presentation is part ghostly tales, part myth-busting, part history lesson, and a little bit of interactive quiz (with prizes!) thrown in for fun.



Wednesday, October 15, 6:00 pm–7:00 pm

Vernors, the Story of Detroit's Favorite Ginger Ale

Avid Vernors collector Keith Wunderlich will talk about the history of the "deliciously different" beverage. While it is available nationwide, Vernors is especially popular in the Midwest, particularly Michigan. The history of Vernors dates back to its creation in Detroit by pharmacist James Vernor around 1866, thus making it America's oldest surviving soft drink. Vernors is enjoyed on its own, and also used in the classic Detroit Boston Cooler—a float with vanilla ice cream, which will be served after the event!

Wednesday, November 5, 5:30 pm–6:30 pm

Exploring the Legacy of Motown

This presentation explores the enduring legacy of Motown, tracing its influence on music and culture. We'll delve into how Motown shaped the sound of a generation and continues to inspire artists today. A round of trivia will be hosted at the end of this presentation and the winner will receive a gift card to the Motown Museum.

Wednesday, December 3, 6:00 pm–7:00 pm

Ongoing Adult Programming

Wednesday Book Club: 1:30 pm–2:30 pm

October 22: *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, by Robert Louis Stevenson

November 19: *The Book Hater's Book Club*, by Gretchen Anthony

December 17: *Christmas Bells*, by Jennifer Chiaverini

Harper Woods Library's Home Economist Offers a Special Gift Bag

Mary Margaret McKent will leave a special gift bag for you in our magazine area. You will find information on cooking, cleaning, consumer issues, finances, housing, interior design and more, plus a special gift from Mary Margaret!

Pinochle at the Library!

October 9 and 23

November 13

December 11

Second and Fourth Thursdays of the Month, 1:30 pm–3:30 pm

Youth Department Programing

FAFSA Workshop – Virtual Presentation

Participate from home in this FAFSA Workshop presented by Oakland University. A financial aid professional will facilitate and be available for questions as you complete your application.

Please register in advance and complete the required steps more than 24 hours before the workshop begins. Check the library website for the link to register and find requirements.

Wednesday, October 1, 6:00 pm–7:00 pm

Library News & Events

Tabletop Gaming

Interested in cooperative role playing games? Join in for an afternoon of fantasy and adventure as we play Pathfinder. Whether you've played before or are a first-timer looking to see what it's all about, come play with us! **Ages 12–18.**

Mondays: October 6 and 20, November 3 and 17, December 1 and 15, 4:00 pm–5:30 pm

Halloween Costume Drive

Need a Halloween costume? Come shop our Costume Closet of gently used, donated costumes. Early entry tickets have been given to those who have donated. One costume per child please.

Costume Shopping for Ticket

Holders: Monday, October 6, 4:00 pm–6:00 pm

Costume Shopping for Everyone: Tuesday, October 7, 4:00 pm–6:00 pm



Captivating Creepy Crawlies with Bugs on Wheels



Come to the library to learn all about some fascinating bugs from The Bug Lady! The program will include an intro to arthropods with facts and information, Q&A time, and taxidermy viewing, and end with the opportunity to interact with the bugs themselves.

Recommended for Ages 3–16. Registration Required.

Wednesday, October 8, 5:30–6:30 pm

Read To A Dog!

Do you like to read? Do you like dogs? Come to the library to read to a certified therapy dog, Dolly! She loves to listen to stories and meet new friends..

Saturdays: October 11, November 8 and 22, 2:00 pm–3:00 pm

Parent Resource Fair

The Parent Resource Fair is a FREE event for parents and parents-to-be! Drop in and gather valuable resources, information, and community connections. Fun give-away items! Bring your family for pizza and dessert!

Hosted by The Family Center & CNS Healthcare
Monday, October 13, 4:30 pm–6:30 pm

Stories and Snacks

Join us to listen to some stories then make a simple recipe that matches the book theme! The recipes will be kid friendly, no bake, and delicious!

School Age Children with Caregiver. Registration Preferred.
Saturdays: October 18, November 15, and December 13, 2:00 pm–3:00 pm

Craft Night

Come get crafty with us! A different craft each month that you can create and take home. Crafts will be semi self-directed with instructions appropriate for **Grade School to Adult Ages.**

Tuesdays: October 21, November 4, and December 16, 5:00 pm–6:00 pm

Halloween Glow Party

Come party in the dark with us! We'll have some fun, not spooky, glow activities and a glow dance party! Costumes or glow in the dark clothing encouraged!

Ages 12 and Under. Registration Preferred.

Saturday, October 25, 2:00 pm–3:00 pm

Family Game Night

Bring the whole family to the library for some unplugged fun with our selection of games!

Tuesdays: October 28 and

November 25, 5:00 pm–6:30 pm

Tree Lighting Pre-Glow

Stop in at the library before heading over to the City's Tree Lighting to make a festive, light-up craft to take with you!

All Ages.

Wednesday, November 19, 5:00 pm–6:00 pm

Pottery Ornament Workshop for Kids & Adults

We are offering a kid-friendly version of our pottery. Pewabic Pottery artist and instructor Joshua Kochis will be leading an ornament glazing workshop; attendees are welcome to paint one ornament. The ornament will then be fired in a kiln and brought back to the library for pick-up at the Circulation Desk on December 10.

Saturday, December 6. Registration required.

Adult Session 1:30 pm–2:30 pm,

All Ages Session 3:00 pm–4:00 pm

Visit from Santa!

Santa will be visiting the library to share some stories, songs, and fun! Afterward, children will have an opportunity to talk with Santa and take a photo!

Registration Required.

Wednesday, December 10, 5:00 pm–6:30 pm



Afternoon Family Movie

Take a break with a movie matinee! **PG Audience.**

Saturday, December 20, 2:00 pm–4:00 pm

New Year Drop-In Craft

Drop in Monday or Tuesday afternoon to make a craft to help ring in the New Year!

Monday, December 29 and Tuesday, December 30, 1:00 pm–2:00 pm

Call or stop by the library or follow us on Facebook and Instagram for up-to-date and additional programming information!

Current Library Hours:

Monday – Wednesday 11am – 7pm

Thursday 11am – 5pm

Friday & Saturday 1pm – 5pm

Check the library's website for holiday closure dates.

Visit www.harperwoodslibrary.org
or call the library at (313) 343-2575

Senior Resources

Help for Seniors and Family Caregivers

Let the Detroit Area Agency on Aging (DAAA) help you.

Whether you need assistance for yourself, an aging parent, or an older friend, one phone call directs you to helpful resources for family caregivers, as well as information or referrals related to healthy aging, home-delivered meals, household chores, or long-term care planning.

Call (313) 446-4444.

You'll find out why DAAA is called The Senior Solution!



PACE Southeast Michigan revolves around YOU



PACE Southeast Michigan keeps nursing home-eligible seniors with chronic illnesses independent, in their own homes, for as long as possible. When you enroll in PACE, our expert elder care team works with you to develop a personalized care plan, including social, medical, and other PACE services. We provide access to a full continuum of preventative, primary, acute, and long-term care services 24/7, 365 days a year in our day health centers across southeast Michigan and in the home. By aging in place, seniors have more hope, vitality, joy, and an overall higher quality of life. The address of the center that residents of Harper Woods would attend is 250 McDougall Ave, Detroit, MI 48207. Call (855) 445-4554 or visit **Pacesemi.org**.

The Helm Truly has Something for Everyone!



The Helm, located at **158 Ridge Road, Grosse Pointe Farms**, is a vital hub for older adults in the community, offering a wide array of social, recreational, educational, and health-related programs and activities designed to promote both physical and mental well-being, and enhance quality of life.

From fun exercise classes to arts and craft workshops, trips around town, educational seminars, or language classes, The Helm truly has something for everyone. The Helm also provides essential services to the five Grosse Pointe communities and Harper Woods, including Meals on Wheels, a medical loan closet, community resources, home repair programs, and case coordination. The Helm is here to help older adults maintain their independence and navigate the challenges of aging with dignity and support. Come see us soon! Call **(313)-882-9600** or visit **www.helmlife.org**

Senior Resources



PAATS... your ride is just a phone call away:

Our Service Area

The PAATS service area is any location bound by 11 Mile Road, Gratiot, Alter Road, and Jefferson.

Requirements – Passengers must:

- Be a resident of Harper Woods or the Grosse Pointes.
- Be at least 60 years of age or disabled.

Reserve Your Ride – To reserve a ride, call (313) 394-9712. Monday through Friday, 7:30 pm-2:30 pm

- Make appointments at least two days in advance.
- We will accept standing appointments.
- Please be ready at your appointment time.

Our Fares

ZONE 1

\$2.00 each way:

- Within Harper Woods & the Grosse Pointes

ZONE 2

\$3.00 each way:

- 8 Mile Rd. to 11 Mile Rd.
- Kelly Rd. to Gratiot Ave.

ZONE 3

\$4.00 each way:

- St. John Surgery Center
- V.A. Hospital
- Henry Ford Main Campus
- City County Building
- Detroit Medical Center
- The New Center

Cancellation Policy – It is very important that you call to cancel an appointment so we can reroute our buses to ensure client pick up and arrival times.

Please call (313) 394-9712 as soon as possible and leave a voicemail if you are calling after hours.

For More Information: Call our PAATS dispatch office at (313) 394-9712



The PAATS mission is to provide safe and reliable transportation, ensuring our residents continue to live their daily lives with independence and dignity.

2025 Fall Recreation Program

Important Notice

Please be advised that all programs, activities, dates, times, and locations are subject to change and/or cancellation. Please call our office at (313) 343-2560 with any further questions. You can also visit us on Facebook @ City of Harper Woods Parks and Recreation Department.

Celebrating
our 42nd
Year!



Fall Dance

Come join the fun and dance as we start our 42nd year of the dance program! There is no residency requirement.

All classes take place in the Tyrone Elementary gym/stage area. Located between Mack and Harper at the intersection of Tyrone and Broadstone. We require one parent or guardian to stay and watch their child during classes. Siblings are welcome. Students will have the opportunity to perform at the annual recital. The recital will be in April at the end of the session. You can register in person at Tyrone for the first two weeks of classes. We suggest you arrive ten minutes prior to your child's class time if you choose this option. After that, the recreation office will oversee all payments. The other options to register are by mail or via the drop box at City Hall.

Please call Nonny Sperry for more details at (313) 885-3714 or email nedra.sperry@gmail.com.

Instructors: Jannette Haxter, Mikayla Schiller, Caitlin Skerske, Nonny Sperry

Registration for Fall Dance begins August 2025

Tuesdays, Starting September 23rd

Times (PM):

- 5:00–5:30-- Tiny Tappers, ages 3–5
- 5:30–6:00-- Pre-Jazz and Hip-Hop, ages 3–5
- 6:00–6:30-- Tap, ages 6–8
- 6:30–7:00-- Ballet, ages 6–8
- 7:00–7:30-- Lyrical, ages 8–12
- 7:30–8:00-- Pom-Pom Jazz/Dance Team Skills, ages 8/up
- 8:00–8:30-- Teen/Adult Hip-Hop

Wednesdays, Starting September 24th

Times (PM):

- 5:00–5:30-- Creative Move/Pre-Ballet, ages 3–5
- 5:30–6:00-- Hip-Hop, ages 6–8
- 6:00–6:30-- Lyrical, ages 6–8
- 6:30–7:00-- Tap, ages 9–12
- 7:00–7:30-- Jazz and Hip-Hop, ages 9–12
- 7:30–8:00-- Ballet, ages 9–12
- 8:00–8:30-- Teen/Adult Tap
- 8:30–9:00-- Teen/Adult Jazz

Dance Tuition:

\$190 per class, *plus \$10 family registration fee*
Tuition can be paid in two installments with HALF DUE at time of enrollment. There will be an additional \$10 installment fee for the payment plan. Final payment of the plan is due January 19, 2026. **Only cash, checks, or money orders accepted.**

Family Plan Discount

\$170 per class for two or more. Applies to siblings OR one child enrolling in two or more classes.

TRUNK OR TREAT

The City of Harper Woods' Recreation Department will be hosting Trunk or Treat at Johnston Park.

Bring the kids out in their costumes for this fun-filled event! Attendees will vote on the best costume and best trunk decoration.

Saturday, October 25 from 1:00 – 3:00 pm
Johnston Park (Back Parking Lot Between Baseball Diamonds)

Cost: \$10 per Trunk passing out treats (candy will be supplied to you day of event), FREE for Treaters (Ages 14 and Under)

Pre-registration is required. Please register by Friday, October 17th
If you have any questions, please call the Recreation Department at (313) 343-2560.
When planning your costumes/decorations, please remember this is a family friendly event.



ZUMBA CLASSES

Live Adult Zumba

Get ready to dance, sweat, and have a blast with our live Zumba class! This high-energy workout combines Latin rhythms, Hip-Hop, and Pop music to keep you motivated. Whether you are looking to boost your fitness, burn calories, or have fun, Zumba is the perfect way to stay active and feel great.

Dates: October 1–Mid-December

Times: Wednesdays, 6:00 pm–6:45 pm

Fee: Free to City residents & City employees

Location: Pointe Fitness & Training (19556 Harper Avenue.)

****Register early due to limited space****

****Must register at the Recreation Office at least 24 hours prior to reserve a spot****

Adult Chair Zumba and Tone

Looking for a joyful way to stay active and boost your mood? Our Chair Zumba class is perfect for all fitness levels, offering a lively blend of dance, music, and low-impact moves all performed safely from your chair. Whether you are recovering from an injury, managing mobility challenges, or just want a fun way to get moving, this class is designed to energize your body and lift your spirit. No experience necessary, just bring your enthusiasm! Participants may bring weights up to 5 lbs.

Dates: October 3–Mid-December

Times: Fridays, 1:30 pm–2:30 pm

Fee: Free to City residents & City employees

Location: Harper Woods Library- Lower Level
(19601 Harper Avenue)

****Register early due to limited space****

****Must register at the Recreation Office at least 24 hours prior to reserve a spot****



Adult Water Zumba

Dive into this fun and energizing workout. This class combines the rhythmic moves of Zumba with the refreshing resistance of water. This class is perfect for all fitness levels. Burn calories, improve cardiovascular health, and tone your muscles—all while enjoying a low impact, soothing exercise in the pool.

Dates: September 9–Mid-December

Times: Tuesdays, 5:00 pm–5:55 pm

Saturdays, 8:00 am–8:55 am

Fee: Free to City residents & City employees

Location: Pierce Middle School (15430 Kercheval, enter from back of school, door letter H)

****Register early due to limited space****

****Must register at the Recreation Office at least 24 hours prior to reserve a spot****

TREE LIGHTING
Ceremony

Come and see City Hall aglow with lights

Wednesday, November 19th at 6:30pm

Join fellow dignitaries in singing carols and socializing.
This event is held outdoors in front of the Harper Woods
Fire Department, located at 19617 Harper Avenue.

Refreshments will be served

Parks & Recreation Update

Park Facilities

The Recreation Department has three parks for community use, each with children's playground equipment and picnic sites. Picnic reservations are accepted starting the first business day of January. Only one picnic allowed per household per year. Residents making a reservation must be 21 years of age or older. **No Moon bounces, trains, charcoal grills, confetti, port-a-potty's, bands, or DJs** allowed for picnics. Picnics may be reserved from Memorial Day through Labor Day, and must be reserved four weeks in advance, with a minimum of three weeks in advance. Refunds for cancellations are only given if you cancel at least four weeks before your scheduled picnic date.



****There are no dogs allowed in Johnston or Danbury Park. Dogs are allowed at Salter Park on a leash, not allowed under shelters or playscape. Please see harperwoodscity.org for a complete list of park and picnic rules.****

Park Fees (Fees are subject to change)

There is a Fee for picnic reservations. A shelter at Johnston or Salter Park is \$100. The Pavilion (enclosed building) at Salter Park is \$125. The fee is due at the time of reservation. Cash or check only.

Financial Assistance Program

The City of Harper Woods believes in providing recreation opportunities to all Harper Woods residents regardless of economic circumstances. For a confidential inquiry, please contact the Recreation Director at (313) 343-2560.

Recreation Refund Policy

1. Requests must be submitted in writing to the Recreation Department within the first two weeks of the program.
2. No refunds will be given after the second week of class, except under special circumstances, i.e. medical reasons.
3. Refunds will be given in check form through City Hall for amounts over \$10 or as credit for future recreation registration fees for amounts of \$10 or less.

To Register:

Register at the Recreation Office or mail in the registration form with payment. Phone reservations not accepted. Make checks payable to: **City of Harper Woods**

The Recreation Department is located near the front of Johnston Park

Office hours: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday

The mailing address is: City of Harper Woods Parks & Recreation
20221 Beaconsfield, Harper Woods, MI 48225

(313) 343-2560

To stay up to date with all of the recreation offerings, please visit our Facebook page:

City of Harper Woods

Parks & Recreation Department.

You can also contact us at

harperwoodsrec@harperwoods.net

or (313) 343-2560.

Harper Woods Recreation Department

Participant Name _____

Age _____ Address _____

Phone _____ Birthdate _____

The undersigned recognizes that injuries sometimes occur in connection with athletic activities, and hereby exonerates the City of Harper Woods Recreation Department, its employees and volunteers for any liabilities in connection therewith. The City of Harper Woods is not liable for any accidents or injuries to participants or spectators.

Activity _____ Days/Times _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Signature of Parent, Guardian, or Adult Participant _____

the Community Resource Guide



Harper Woods Edition

"Connecting Residents to Community"

Highlighted in this Edition:

The Family Center – Free Programs • Susie Q's Kids – A New Home, A Bigger Heart
FAN – Help Keep Our Community Warm This Winter • Real Estate
CARE of SE Michigan – 31st Annual Parenting Conference
Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce – Support your Local Businesses

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"Connecting Michigan One Community at a Time"



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Official City
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SCAN & ENGAGE



CRGMichigan.com

To promote your business in the CRG Network, please contact
Drive Creative Services at (586)275-0030 • email: info@drivecreativeservices.com

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Today's Health & Fitness



Ken Welch, Owner
Pointe Fitness
& Training

Anne Marie Chaker & Women's Weightlifting

At Pointe Fitness, we have been promoting the importance of women's weightlifting for a long time. It has been a challenge to overcome some of the myths and fears about women lifting weights. But rather than just taking our word for it, we would like to highlight a great example set by writer and bodybuilder Ann Marie Chaker.

Ann Marie Chaker is a former Wall Street Journal reporter who recently published a book about her exploration into weightlifting, *Lift: How Women Can Reclaim Their Physical Power and Transform Their Lives*. Chaker began lifting weights in her

late 40s, and her book details her journey of suffering from postpartum depression, severe insomnia, a growing drinking habit, and more, all the way to becoming a competitive bodybuilder.

Not the typical fitness influencer you find online, but a very relatable woman who made a change. Working out with weights will not lead most of us to bodybuilding, but Anne Chaker's book is a manual that illustrates an inspiring path to a better living for all of us—men included!

An advertisement for Pointe Fitness & Training. The top section has a black background with the text "3 DECADES OF FITNESS" and "A LIFETIME OF STRENGTH" in large, bold, pink letters. Below this is a photograph of the gym's interior, showing various exercise machines and a boxing ring in the background. A circular logo is overlaid on the left side of the photo, featuring a cartoon bulldog and the text "BE A GYM DOG", "POINTE FITNESS & TRAINING". At the bottom, a black banner contains the text "NO HASSLES, JUST A GREAT PLACE TO WORKOUT!", the phone number "(313) 417-9666", and the website "WWW.POINTEFITNESSANDTRAINING.COM".

3 DECADES OF FITNESS
A LIFETIME OF STRENGTH

POINTE
FITNESS & TRAINING
CENTER

BE A GYM DOG
POINTE
FITNESS
& TRAINING

NO HASSLES, JUST A GREAT PLACE TO WORKOUT!
(313) 417-9666
WWW.POINTEFITNESSANDTRAINING.COM

An advertisement for SMART movement. It features a close-up of a young woman with curly hair and a nose ring, looking directly at the camera with her hands raised in a gesture. The background is a solid blue color. The text "MOBILITY. REIMAGINED." is written in white, bold, sans-serif font across the middle. In the bottom right corner, the SMART logo is displayed, along with the website "SMARTMOVESUS.ORG" and the phone number "866-962-5515".

MOBILITY.
REIMAGINED.

SMART
SMARTMOVESUS.ORG
866-962-5515

SUSIE Q'S KIDS GRAND OPENING: A NEW HOME, A BIGGER HEART

We're thrilled to share some exciting news—Susie Q's Kids has officially opened the doors to our new home at 35404 Mound Road, Sterling Heights, MI 48310!

Our grand opening, held on August 26th, marked a huge milestone for our 501(c)(3) nonprofit and a powerful step forward in our mission to bring comfort and joy to children in need.

This new space represents more than just four walls—it's a hub of hope, connection, and community. With this expansion, we're better equipped than ever to support our partners and extend our reach to even more children across Michigan and beyond.

We're always looking to grow our circle of kindness. These efforts are made possible through your continued support.

Want to see our new space, host a bag-stuffing event, or brainstorm ideas for engaging youth in our Kids Helping Kids mission? Contact Dr. Mary Welsh at DrMary@SusieQsKids.org or call (586) 206-8424.

Together, we can continue to uplift and inspire young hearts.

Susie Q's Kids

- Provides Comfort Bags for Kids In Need
- Furthers the Missions of Other Nonprofits
- Advocates for Mental Health and Well-Being
- Builds Servant Leadership of Our Youth

Helped over 17,000 kids



SUSIE Q'S KIDS
COMFORT BAGS FOR KIDS
www.SusieQsKids.org



GREATNONPROFITS
2025 TOP-RATED
NONPROFIT



LOCAL BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR
2025
Dr. Mary Welsh
Susie Q's Kids, Alignable
Ambassador, Top Business
Warren
Alignable



the BEST 2023
Mich Business
WINNER



American
Foundation
for Suicide
Prevention



Platinum
Transparency
2025
Candid.

Dr Mary Welsh

President/Co-Founder

drmary@susieqskids.org 586-206-8424 <https://susieqskids.org>



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Cannabis Dispensary

Sunday - Thursday: 10am - 9pm
Friday & Saturday: 10am - 10pm

19616 Kelly Road, Harper Woods

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Mon.-Thur./10am-1pm | Some Exclusions May Apply

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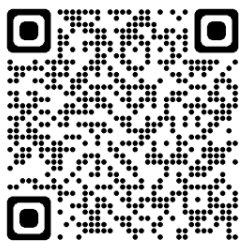
EXP: 00-00-202X

THE FAMILY CENTER HAS ALL KINDS OF FREE PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES FOR ALL KINDS OF FAMILIES!



25 YEARS OF EMPOWERING FAMILIES & ENRICHING LIVES

This fall, we have Community Yoga on Tuesday evenings, a Book Club discussion with local therapists about how to live drama free, programs on Cognitive Decline and Estate Planning, and a one-hour Suicide Prevention Training.



Looking for ways to get more connected in your community? Come to the "Joining Fair" at The War Memorial on October 1 to find new social groups and volunteer opportunities.

Check us out at the Harper Woods Library Parent Resource Fair at the Harper Woods Library on Monday, October 13 from 4:30 pm–6:30 pm. There will be free pizza and lots of free information and support for families! For more information, visit: FamilyCenterHelps.org.

WORD SEARCH

EDITION THEME:
HARPER WOODS STREETS

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Canton
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Craig
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Hunt Club
Huntington
Lansdowne
Littlestone
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Rossini
Sanilac
Sloan
South Harper
Tyrone
Washtenaw
Wildwood
Williamsburg
Woodland
Woodmont
Woodside

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30

THE COMMUNITY RESOURCE GUIDE

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

DISPENSARY

Essence South

19616 Kelly Road
Harper Woods, MI 48225

(313) 532-1100

essencemichigan.com

EDUCATION

Grosse Pointe Public School System

20601 Morningside
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236

(313) 432-3000

gpschools.org

EDUCATION

Wayne County Community College District

19305 Vernier
Harper Woods, MI 48225

(313) 962-7150

wcccd.edu

HEALTH & FITNESS

Pointe Fitness

19556 Harper Ave.
Harper Woods, MI 48225

(313) 417-9666

pointefitnessandtraining.com

MORTGAGES

Michigan Mortgage Pro

NMLS: 2566773

Joe Murray - NMLS: 1698513

joe@michiganmortgagepro.com

(586) 210-3077

michiganmortgagepro.com

REAL ESTATE

The Monzo Group

235 N. Groesbeck Ave.
Mount Clemens, MI 48043

(586) 210-3350

monzogroup.com

SENIOR RESOURCES

Detroit Area Agency on Aging

1333 Brewery Park Blvd. Suite #200
Detroit, MI 48207

(313) 446-4444 Ext. 5225

detroit seniorsolution.org

SENIOR RESOURCES

The Helm

158 Ridge Road
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236

(313) 882-9600

helmlife.org

TRANSPORTATION

Smart Bus

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Detroit, MI 48226

(866) 962-5515

smartbus.org

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Must Present Coupon at Checkout

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HELP FAN KEEP OUR COMMUNITY WARM THIS WINTER

Last winter, one of our HARM:LESS harm reduction team members met a participant wearing only a hoodie on a bitter, snowy night. A donated coat and pair of boots made it possible for him to get through the season safely.

This year, Face Addiction Now (formerly Families Against Narcotics) is collecting new and gently used winter clothing and accessories for participants who are unhoused or struggling to stay warm. We're seeking coats, sweaters, warm socks, hats, scarves, gloves, and boots in all adult sizes.

Every item you give will go directly to someone in need—providing not just warmth, but dignity and hope. All donations are tax-deductible.

To contribute, please email chelseag@faceaddictionnow.org to arrange drop-off or pick-up. Or purchase items from our [Amazon.com](https://a.co/iWADVzt) wish list at <https://a.co/iWADVzt>.



Formerly Families Against Narcotics

Together, we can help our neighbors face winter with comfort, safety, and compassion.

To learn more about FAN, go to faceaddictionnow.org.

Get to know the

GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM



District Grade

- Teachers ●
- Academics ●
- College Prep ●
- Sports ●



OUR MISSION

Cultivate Educational Excellence By:

- Empowering Students
- Valuing Diversity
- Inspiring Curiosity
- Pushing Possibilities



Enroll Now at gpschools.org/enrollment

RAISE HOPE & FOSTER DREAMS



BECOME A FOSTER PARENT

In Michigan, there are approximately 10,000 children in foster care & nearly 200 children who still need an adoptive family.

We need your help to provide a safe, nurturing home for these children until they can be returned to their families.

When children cannot be returned to their homes, foster parents are often asked to provide permanent homes.

Become a foster parent.



Michigan Department of Health & Human Services

1-313-460-4755
1-855-MICKKIDS
MICHIGAN.GOV/HOPEFORAHOME

CARE OF SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN HOSTS 31ST ANNUAL PARENTING CONFERENCE



Raising children can be one of life's most rewarding—and most challenging—roles. On Saturday, March 7, 2026, CARE of Southeastern Michigan will host its 31st Annual Parenting Conference at the Macomb Intermediate School District in Clinton Township from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm.

This one-day event offers parents, caregivers, and professionals' valuable tools, resources, and

strategies to support children of all ages. Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in engaging workshops, hear from expert speakers, and connect with others who share a commitment to strengthening families. Sponsorship opportunities are available by contacting prevention@careofsem.com. Registration opens December 1, 2025, at www.careofsem.com/parenting-services/parent-conference.

WAYNE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

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- Silver Circle Book Club
- Painting for Mature Learners
- Internet and You
- Windows 7
- Exploring the P.C.
- Rehire, Rewire, and Re-Inspire
- Zumba Gold Fitness

Want More? Start Here



Wayne County Community College District
Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center
19305 Vernier • Harper Woods, MI 48225
313-962-7150 • WWW.WCCCD.EDU

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) does not discriminate against any individual or group on the basis of race, national origin, color, sex, disability, religion, age, height, weight, familial status, partisan considerations, or genetic information. Sex-based discrimination includes, but is not limited to, discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, sex characteristics, and pregnancy.

Please note if needed, free language assistance services are available. Call 800-648-6942 (TTY users call 711).
 ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 800-648-6942 (TTY: 711).
 ملحوظة: إذا كنت تحتاج إلى مساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالبلجان. اتصل برقم 800-648-6942 (رقم هاتف الصم والبكم: 711-TTY).

Get Ahead of Lead: Use Certified Filters

MDHHS recommends using a certified lead-reducing drinking water filter for drinking water, cooking, rinsing foods, and mixing baby formula.



To learn more about the Filter Safety Net Program, visit Michigan.gov/GetAheadOfLead or use your phone's camera to scan the QR code on the left.

Free certified lead-reducing filters are available to households who:

Have a person under 19 or a pregnant person **enrolled in Medicaid.**

AND

Have or unsure if they have one of the following:

Lead or galvanized plumbing.

A lead service line carrying water from the street to the home.

Old faucets and fittings that were sold before 2014.

To sign up for the program, or if your Medicaid enrollment status changes, please call MDHHS at 844-934-1315.

FEEL STUCK AT A DEAD-END JOB?

DO YOU HAVE:

- Strong Work Ethic & Integrity
- Organizational Skills
- Drive to Help Your Community
- Willingness to Learn
- Self-Motivation to Excel

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INFO@DRIVECREATIVESERVICES.COM



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BEGIN YOUR NEW CAREER AS A COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SPECIALIST

WHAT YOU'LL DO:

- Connect with potential clients, starting with in-person consultation
- Develop rapport & maintain lasting relationships with clients
- Meet team sales goals, while focusing on the client experience

the
**Community
 Resource Guide**
 of **M I C H I G A N**

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL BUSINESSES!

GROSSE POINTE *Chamber of Commerce*

Supporting local businesses strengthens the community in meaningful ways. When residents shop locally, more money stays within the local economy, helping to create jobs, fund public services, and support schools and infrastructure. Local businesses are often owned by your neighbors who are personally invested in the community's success and are more likely to give back through donations, sponsorships, and volunteering.

Your local businesses also add unique character and charm to the neighborhood, offering personalized service and products you won't find in national chains. They're more responsive to local needs and trends, often sourcing products from nearby suppliers and contributing to a smaller environmental footprint.

Beyond economics, supporting local fosters a sense of community pride and connection. It encourages entrepreneurship, supports diverse voices, and helps build resilient, self-sustaining neighborhoods.

Choosing to support your local businesses isn't just a purchase—it's a vote for the kind of community you want to live in.

Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade:
Friday, November 28, 2025

www.grossepointechamber.com



A PLACE TO LEARN SOMETHING NEW OR ENJOY THINGS YOU ALREADY LOVE.



Whether it's enjoying a hobby, stretching your knowledge or letting your creativity flow, our monthly calendar is always filled with exciting and interesting programs. There's something for everyone! Visit us online or head to The Helm to see all the ways we can help.

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COMMUNITY THROUGH CANNABIS

At Essence Cannabis, our business journey in Harper Woods began with rental housing nearly 20 years ago. Harper Woods has long been good to us, and we believe in expanding our community support in return. Our business venture aligns with our goals of building relationships and providing a service to Harper Woods.

As a family, we opened our first Essence retail store in 2018 to provide the proven medicinal benefits of cannabis to our fellow community members. These benefits include pain management and sleep support, both of which help alleviate common issues that many of us face. For example, did you know that according to the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), 20.9% of American adults suffer from chronic pain? Or that 14.5% have trouble falling asleep most days or everyday? At Essence, we have a full line of products to help with these ailments—there's something for everyone!

In our continued efforts to expand our accessibility to Harper Woods, Essence is proposing a drive-thru option to the City as a community benefit. Our building was originally built as a bank, and we would like to revive this design element for your convenience. We are awaiting City and community support on this initiative, so please offer your encouragement!



Participating Partner



38110 Executive Dr. Suite 200, Westland, MI 48185 • Phone: 734-331-3980

**VOLUNTEER
IN YOUR COMMUNITY**
& Bring a Friend



NMLS: 2566773

Michiganmortgagepro.com

Why Now is the Right Time to Buy a Home: Mortgage Market Update

If you've been thinking about buying a home, now may be the right time to take the leap. With the mortgage market showing signs of stability and home prices stabilizing, many buyers are finding this moment offers a unique opportunity to secure long-term financial stability.

Fixed-Rate Mortgages: A Smart Choice for Stability

As more buyers opt for fixed-rate mortgages, locking in a stable monthly payment, it's clear that this is an ideal time to take advantage of predictable loan terms. In uncertain times, a fixed-rate mortgage offers peace of mind, ensuring your payment stays the same for the life of the loan. This is especially important for buyers looking to avoid the unpredictability of adjustable-rate loans.

Refinancing Could Work for You, Too

If you already own a home, refinancing could be a great way to lower your monthly payments or consolidate debt. With many homeowners taking advantage of refinancing, this could be the moment for you to adjust your mortgage terms to better suit your financial goals.

The Housing Market is Stabilizing—Don't Miss Out

While home prices have slowed after a period of rapid growth, many areas still have strong demand, and inventory remains limited. This means that homes in desirable locations are still selling quickly. By acting now, you can secure a home before prices potentially rise again or available properties become even scarcer.

In short, with stable mortgage options, steady home prices, and the potential for long-term financial benefits, now is a smart time to buy. Whether you're a first-time homebuyer or looking to refinance, taking action now could help you lock in favorable terms for years to come.



Joseph Murray
Broker, Michigan Mortgage Pro
(586) 210-3077 | (248) 228-4843
michiganmortgagepro.com
joe@michiganmortgagepro.com
NMLS: 1698513



\$160,553

AVERAGE SALE PRICE

▲ 1.5%
FROM Q1 2025

▲ 4.7%
FROM Q2 2024

45

NUMBER
OF SALES

▲ 12.5%
FROM Q1 2025

▼ 23.7%
FROM Q2 2024

38

AVERAGE DAYS
ON THE MARKET

▼ 30.9%
FROM Q1 2025

▲ 52.0%
FROM Q2 2024

92

AVERAGE MONTHLY
INVENTORY

▲ 4.5%
FROM Q1 2025

▲ 8.6%
FROM Q2 2024

17.0%

ABSORPTION
RATE¹

▲ 17.6%
FROM Q1 2025

▼ 29.8%
FROM Q2 2024

MARKET ACTIVITY

Single Family • Detached

QUARTER (Q2 2025) OVER QUARTER (Q1 2025)

▼ 6.3%
AVERAGE ACTIVE

▲ 53.7%
TOTAL UNDER CONTRACT

▲ 12.5%
TOTAL CLOSED

YEAR-OVER-YEAR (for Q2 2025 vs. Q2 2024)

▲ 6.3%
AVERAGE ACTIVE

▲ 5.0%
TOTAL UNDER CONTRACT

▼ 23.7%
TOTAL CLOSED

The market in Harper Woods remains strong with continued low sales the result of low inventory. This trend does appear to be reversing as the year over year figures suggest. Please note that with small amounts of data, average sale price is likely to fluctuate noticeably and is a less reliable indicator than Days on Market.

Stats and Trends provided by the Grosse Pointe Board of REALTORS® All information deemed reliable but not guaranteed and should be independently verified. Information was derived from a variety of sources including but not limited to Realcomp II Ltd. and the Great Lakes Repository®.

¹The Absorption Rate is the rate of home sales taken by dividing the number of sales by the inventory. Above 18.3% is considered a seller's market.

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UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

Harper Woods is now the Switzerland of real estate—neutral territory where neither buyers nor sellers have the upper hand. Inventory and demand are finally balanced, so now it's all about who brings the best location, sparkling interior condition, and right price to the table. Retail buyers and sellers, this is your time to shine (sorry, investors). Still, buying for the long haul? That's never a bad idea!

Average sale prices look healthy, climbing steadily, though if you're reading too much into monthly numbers, you might be chasing shadows—low inventory makes the math a bit fuzzy.

Sales numbers? Fair, with a glow-up from Q1, though affordability still throws a wrench at some buyers. Luckily, assistance and grant programs are ready to catch those who need a lift.

Days on market are lounging in the low range—nothing to see here, demand still has a slight edge.

Inventory is up, which means buyers get to be picky, and sellers need to channel their inner Goldilocks on pricing.

Absorption rate confirms we've officially rebounded from last quarter's buyer-fest. In this balanced market, it's a classic showdown: price, condition, and location win the deal.

Note: An absorption rate between 15.4% and 18.3% is considered a market in balance. Higher favors sellers, lower favors buyers.

Disclaimer:

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MEET YOUR LOCAL REALTOR

Ali Fawaz is a top-producing real estate agent with over 11 years of experience, proudly serving Metro Detroit, especially Wayne County, the Downriver area, and east-side communities like Harper Woods, St. Clair Shores, Eastpointe, and Roseville.

Born and raised in Dearborn, Michigan, Ali brings deep local knowledge and a strong connection to the communities he serves. He's been recognized as a Zillow Premier Agent and has ranked as a top producer for the last seven years, known for his results-driven approach and commitment to his clients.

Ali has a particular appreciation for Harper Woods, a community he describes as welcoming, well-located, and full of opportunity for both new buyers and long-time residents. Over the years, he's helped many first-time homebuyers make their start in Harper Woods and continues to enjoy matching clients with homes in this close-knit area.

He takes pride in helping first-time buyers, sellers, and growing families navigate the market with confidence. Whether you're buying or selling, his communication, negotiation skills, and hands-on support ensure a smooth and successful experience from start to finish.



(586) 210-3350

HARPER WOODS REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

20412 Roscommon Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$164,000

20928 Kenmore Avenue
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$250,000

20322 Woodmont
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$210,000

19351 Roscommon Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$107,000

18996 Washtenaw Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$123,000

21167 Lancaster Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$215,000

19709 Washtenaw
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$110,000

19436 Elkhart Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$100,000

20484 Roscommon Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$169,000

19330 Eastwood Drive
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$149,900

19613 Lochmoor Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$168,000

20611 Damman Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$139,000

19333 Woodside Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$110,000

20631 Lancaster Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$218,900

21111 Fleetwood Drive
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$240,000

19434 Eastwood Drive
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$199,900

20215 Damman Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$252,000

21406 Broadstone Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$230,000

19105 Woodside Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$129,500

21191 Lochmoor Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$115,000

19455 Elkhart Street
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$100,000

19978 Fleetwood Drive
Harper Woods, MI 48225
\$219,000

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