



THE CITY OF GRANT IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER

JULY 2012

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 2

www.cityofgrantmi.com

THE CITY OF GRANT NEWSLETTER



Grant Festival 2012-August 17-18-360 S. Maple St.

The Grant Area Chamber of Commerce made a few changes to the festival for this year. The first change was a name change. The "Frontier Festival" is now the "Grant Festival." The second change is the location. The location has moved from Front St. to 360 S. Maple St (M-37). The event will be held in the large parking lot of Never Enough Auto. The Grant Festival will be held on August 17 and 18. For up to date information, contact information and entry forms, please visit: www.grantareachamber.com

ORV Ordinance-Notice

Newaygo County recently created an ORV Ordinance to permit ORV vehicles on all the shoulders of County Roads. This means COUNTY ROADS ONLY. State roads and City/Village roads do not apply to this ordinance. ORV's are currently NOT PERMITTED on any City of Grant streets (unless the City Commission creates an ordinance) as well as M-37, M-82, M-120, or M-20. If you are interested in having an ORV ordinance in the City, attend a City Commission Meeting or contact a City Commissioner. Newaygo County has created resource information available on its website with the ordinance, pamphlet and map at: <http://www.countyofnewaygo.com/ORV/ORVHome.htm>

Summer 2012 Construction Projects

Sidewalks:

The City will be constructing new sidewalks through the Safe Routes to School grant the City and GPS received. The new sidewalks will be constructed September 4-October 5. This project is 100% grant funded thanks to the MDOT grant and engineering grant funded by the Fremont Area Community Foundation. Sidewalks that will be constructed will be on both sides of Brink St, the west side of Lake St to Commerce St, both sides of Commerce St and the west side of Elder Ave.

Street Resurfacing:

The City partnered with the County Road Commission bid for materials and will be resurfacing the southern half of Elder Ave, Part of Park Dr, the alley off Front St (Post Office alley) and the small stretch of Commerce St between M-37 and the train tracks near Wilbur Ellis. The resurfacing projects do not have a date scheduled yet, but notice will be sent to adjacent properties in advance as well as put on the City sign and website.

Be Involved! Other Public Meetings:

Library Board Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7pm.

Ashland-Grant Fire District Meetings: Every other month- June 25 and August 30 at 9am at the Fire Building at 62 W State Rd.

Grant Public Schools: 2nd Monday of every month, 7pm, Middle School Cafeteria.

Credit/Debit Card Payments Available For Your Convenience

The City has expanded payment options for property taxes as well as water and sewer billing. The company processing the payments will charge a fee of \$5.95 for utility payments and 3% for tax payments. To use this service simply go to the city's website www.cityofgrantmi.com and click on the online payment tab, you can go directly to www.officialpayments.com or by phone **1-800-272-9829**

Our Jurisdiction Code is 7124.

You can pay by:

- Visa, MasterCard, American Express & Discover credit and debit cards.
- Electronic Check

If you have any questions, please contact the city office.

New Fireworks Law

The Michigan Fireworks Safety Act became effective on January 1, 2012. The new statute makes the sale, use, and possession of "consumer fireworks" legal. Consumer fireworks are fireworks that are designed to produce visible and/or audible effects by combustion, such as firecrackers, Roman candles and bottle rockets.

Municipalities may create local ordinances pertaining to ignition, discharge of fireworks. The statute does NOT permit these local ordinances to regulate the use of consumer fireworks on the day preceding, the day of, or the day after a national holiday.

****Local noise ordinances are still enforceable regardless of the day. The City of Grant does have a noise ordinance, ordinance #44. Limits are 50 ft. from 7am-9pm and 25ft. from 9pm-7am. ****

Grant Police Department Tips

Keep your homes, businesses and garages locked and be sure to remove your keys from the ignition and lock your vehicles whether your car is at home or store parking lots. Installing motion sensor lights on your home is also another inexpensive way to deter would be thieves or vandals.

The Grant Police Department reminds residents and business owners to call law enforcement authorities when suspicious activity or a crime is occurring. **Do not wait to report such activity!** If you wait to report suspicious activity or a crime it makes solving or resolving the complaint difficult.

For Emergencies: Dial 911

For Non-Emergencies: Dial 231-834-7212-Grant PD

For Non-Emergencies if there is no answer at Grant PD: Dial 231-689-5288-Dispatch-They will contact the car out on patrol to assist you.

Sewer Issues, How Do I Handle It?

If you ever experience slow drains or notice drains bubbling up, first call the **City DPW at 834-7462**. City staff will check the main line from the manhole to determine if the main line is obstructed or not. If the main line is obstructed, then the city will clear the line and is responsible for any property damage. If the main is flowing, then it is likely you have roots in your lateral, grease plugging your lateral, or you have an old clay lateral that may have collapsed. If it is determined that the issue is your lateral, then you should **call a local plumber immediately**. **You are responsible for your sewer lateral to the main line, just like you are responsible for your driveway to the street.**

Ordinance #53 Section 302.4-Tall Grass and Weeds

All premises and exterior property shall be maintained free from weeds or plant growth in excess of **10 inches**. All noxious weeds shall be prohibited. Weeds shall be defined as all grasses, annual plants and vegetation, other than trees or shrubs provided; however, this term shall not include cultivated flowers and gardens as well as wooded or forested lots. The City will serve you written notice sent by U.S. Mail if you are in violation. You will be given 7 days to comply before a **\$30 citation** is issued. If the property is still not taken care of for an additional 7 days, another citation will be issued and the City DPW will mow the property and a bill will be sent for the services rendered.

Ordinance #53 Section 303.1-Pools

Private swimming pools, hot tubs and spas containing water more than 24 inches (2 ft) in depth shall be completely surrounded by a fence or barrier at least 48 inches (4 ft) in height above the finished ground level measured on the side of the barrier away from the pool.

2012 Elections Information

July 9: The last day to register for voting eligibility for the August 7 Primary Election

August 7: Primary Election-Vote at the City Office from 7am to 8pm

October 9: The last day to register for voting eligibility for the November 6 General Election

November 6: General Election-Vote at the City Office from 7am to 8pm

For voter registration forms and other information, please visit:

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/MIVoterRegistration_97046_7.pdf

Blanche Lake

The City has worked hard to improve City parks, both with amenities and increased upkeep and maintenance. The City currently has an application to the DEQ for a swim beach area adjacent to the dock/launch area added a few years ago. The City will also be placing a security camera system this summer at Blanche Lake Park to help catch vandals and dumpers/littering.

Notice of Public Meetings:

July 16, 2012

August 20, 2012

September 17, 2012

City of Grant Regular Commission Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7:00 PM

280 South Maple Street, Grant, MI 49327

(Clip this out for the fridge):

City of Grant Office: 834-7904

A-Waste (Garbage): 834-9913

City of Grant Police: 834-7212

City of Grant DPW/Water/Sewer: 834-7462

Grant Post Office: 834-5966

Newaygo County Sheriff Department: 231-689-7303

City Assessor (Newaygo County Equalization):231-689-7244

Building Inspector (Newaygo County):231- 689-7216

Grant District Library: 834-5713

For a list of area business contact information please visit:

www.grantareachamber.com

DPW Brush Pick Up

Its spring and time to spruce up your yard again!

Brush and bagged leaves will be picked up beginning **April 1st**. However only leaves bagged in **biodegradable paper bags** will be picked up. The city has encouraged local stores to stock these bags for your convenience.

***Pick up of yard waste occurs on the 1st and the 15th of each month.** Please do not place your yard waste at the curb after they do pick-up on your street, because it will not get picked up until the next scheduled pick-up.

However, if the DPW crew misses your yard waste, please contact them as soon as possible at 834-7462.

Size and weight restrictions are strictly enforced, 50 pounds and 4 foot sections for branches. Also as a reminder, do not place any yard waste at the curb more than 1-2 days before the scheduled pick-up. If the regular pick-up falls on a Saturday or a Sunday, it will be moved to Monday.

Community Center

If you or someone you know is interested in renting the Community Center for a reception or party, all information is available at the Community Center, City Office or the City website:

<http://www.cityofgrantmi.com/communitycenter.html>

City Resident Rate: \$140 (includes tables and chairs)

Non-Resident Rate: \$240 (includes tables and chairs)

****Deposit \$250****

****Non refundable deposit to reserve date \$20****

Citywide Yard Sales

The "unofficial" Citywide yard sales in the City will be September 8, 2012.

Summer Taxes

Summer tax bills will be July 1st. They are due August 10th. Taxes can be paid at the City Office during regular office hours, the City drop box, or via the City's 3rd party payment vendor for online/phone payments (see first page of newsletter).

Other Local Ordinances to be Aware of:

Ordinance #44 Prohibits loud noise generated by radios or other sound amplification devices. Limits are 50ft from 7am-9pm and 25 ft from 9pm to 7am.

Ordinance #15-1 and #53.301-308 Our local junk ordinance prohibits unlicensed and nonfunctioning vehicles in the city limits, unless they are located in full-enclosed areas of your property as well as cluttered material present in yards.

Ordinance #21-1 An ordinance regulating the care and custody of dogs. All dogs must be licensed, no more than three dogs per household, no dogs running at large, must be restrained on 6ft or shorter leash, may be unrestrained at home if being supervised, if not supervised must be inside or in a kennel/fenced in.

Ordinance #37-2 An ordinance that allows for a permit to burn for \$20.

Ordinance #34 Curfew-no minors under 17 out from 10pm to 6am, no aiding or abetting curfew violations for 17 or older.

All City Ordinances are available on our website:

www.cityofgrantmi.com

****If you see any of these violations, call the Grant Police Department at 834-7212****