



THE CITY OF GRANT IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER

OCTOBER 2013

VOLUME 13 ISSUE 4

www.cityofgrantmi.com

****PLEASE READ YOUR CITY NEWSLETTER. MANY QUESTIONS VIA CALLS/E-MAILS/STOPPING BY CITY HALL ARE OFTEN ADDRESSED IN NEWSLETTERS TO BETTER INFORM CITIZENS****

THE CITY OF GRANT NEWSLETTER



Fall Leaf Vacuum Pick-Up: Oct.1-Nov. 29

- The City's popular curbside/edge of street leaf vacuum collection begins Tuesday October 1 and will continue through November 29.
- Residents may rake rows of loose leaves into the edge of the street or continue to use recycled/paper bags.
- The increased volume of leaves means a regular pick up cycle is difficult, so please be patient. DPW staff will start each Monday after the initial start date during this period and cycle one time through the City. Once a crew has been up/down a street they will not return until the following week. No exceptions.

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****

****These are non-alcohol rates****

Community Resources Call 2-1-1

2-1-1 provides callers with information such as volunteer opportunities, mobile food pantries, housing options, senior programs, utility bill assistance and youth programs.

Newaygo County Museum

The Newaygo County Museum is a rich source of information and local history. The museum is located at 12 Quarterline Rd. in Newaygo. Admission is free and the museum is open Fri-Sun 12pm-4pm. The museum can be reached at 231-652-2892.

Halloween Trick-Or-Treating

The recommended date/time for "trick or treating" is Thursday, **October 31, 2013 from 6:00pm-8:00pm.** The City recommends the following safety tips: chaperone your children, wear reflective colors/markings, use flashlights, walk on sidewalks where they are provided and inspect all treats before allowing children to consume them.

Be Involved In Your Community!

Other Public Meetings:

Library Board Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7pm at 122 Elder Ave.

Ashland-Grant Fire District Meetings: Every other month- Oct. 28, 2013-Dec. 16, 2013-Feb. 24, 2014 at 9am at the Fire Building at 62 W State Rd.

Grant Public Schools: 2nd Monday of every month, 7pm, at the Fine Arts Center on E State Rd.

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 and electronic check.

Grant Police Department Information

The Grant Police Department reminds residents and business owners to call law enforcement authorities when suspicious activity or a crime is occurring.

For Emergencies: Dial 911

For Non-Emergencies: Dial 231-834-7212

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.

Silent observer: Dial 231-924-0641 or newaygocountysilentobserver@gmail.com

Water Freezes at 32 Degrees!

Each winter the City DPW responds to properties that are not adequately insulated or heated, which in turn results in pipes/meters bursting. Please make sure that there is adequate insulation, heat or appropriate winterization to avoid a mess and repair that will be costly to you.

Winter Taxes

Winter property tax bills will be mailed out November 29 and they are due Friday, February 14, 2014. The City will accept late summer and winter tax bills with penalties until Friday, February 28, 2014. After this date delinquent taxes go to the County and payments must be made to: Newaygo County Treasurer's Office, P.O. Box 885, White Cloud, MI 49349.

Pharmaceutical Drug Collection Drop-Box

The Grant Police Department has a drop-box for unused drugs located in the City Hall lobby. It is important to turn over unused drugs that are no longer needed to prevent abuse of them in our community as well as to make sure they are properly disposed of.

Winter Parking Restrictions-Ord. #18

The City reminds residents/businesses/visitors that there is no parking of any motor vehicle upon any public street or alley within the City limits between the hours of 2am and 6am November 15-April 15. This aids City plows removing snow from streets. Signs are posted around the City that also serves as a notice. If your vehicle is towed signs have the appropriate contact number to call if your vehicle is towed.

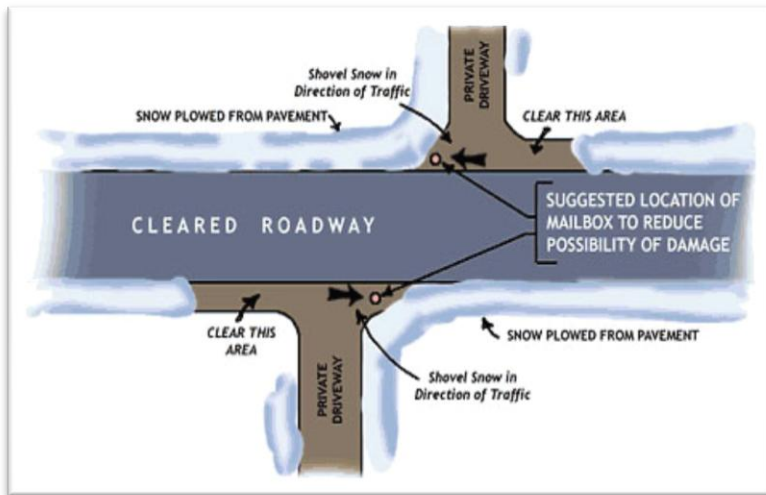
ORV Ordinance: The City is working on an ordinance to allow ORV's on the edge of City Streets. Please stay tuned!

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.**

Winter Snow Plowing: Understanding Plowing Near Driveways

Driveways are always a sensitive issue when it comes to snow removal. DPW crews are sensitive to this problem, however, there is no practical way to plow snow without depositing snow into driveways. Drivers will do their best to minimize filling in or blocking driveways. Below is a graphic showing how a driveway can be initially cleared to reduce the likelihood of the plow filling the entrance. If you shovel or move the snow in the direction of traffic, making a pocket next to the driveway as shown, snow accumulation on the plow will drop into that pocket and only a bare minimum will go into the opening.



Water Main-Hydrant Flushing

City DPW staff will be conducting fall water main flushing the weeks of **October 7-18**. Some discoloration of water may occur throughout this time, so let your water run for a short period until it clears. While the water will continue to be safe to drink, residents are urged to be cautious of discoloration while doing laundry during these times.

Notice of City Commission Meetings:

July 15, 2013

August 19, 2013

September 16, 2013

City of Grant Regular Commission Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7:00pm at City Hall-280S. Maple St, Grant, MI 49327

Important Contact Numbers:

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

November 5, 2013 Election

On Tuesday, November 5, the City General Election will be held. The following candidates have submitted petitions and will be on the upcoming ballot:

Mayor:

Terry Fett (2-year term ending Nov. 2015)

City Commission:

Julie Hallman (4-year term ending Nov. 2017)

Anne Pickard (4-year term ending Nov. 2017)

Harold Portell (4-year term ending Nov. 2017)

October 7, 2013: Last day to register for voting eligibility for the November 5 election.

November 5, 2013: City General Election., 280 S. Maple St. (M-37). Polls open at 7am and close at 8pm.

*Please exercise your constitutional right and duty to your community and vote!

**For all voter related forms and additional resources, please visit: www.michigan.gov/sos

Projects-Finishing Up/Ongoing This Fall

*New public amphitheatre at Blanche Lake-thanks to the FACF for a \$56,000 grant.

*Interior repainting of the water tower.

*The City is working on acquiring the vacant CSX railroad property between Front St and M-37. The City is working with the Newaygo County Economic Development Office as well as the Newaygo County Brownfield Authority on appropriate environmental due diligence work currently. If the acquisition and redevelopment moves forward the City is planning on addition green space, more public parking for our businesses and the addition of a farmers market.

Snow Removal on Sidewalks

Ordinance #53 section 302.3- Requires property owners to keep sidewalks adjacent to their property free from anything that will obstruct them or cause a hazard to public safety. Please shovel/clear sidewalks to keep them clear, especially for children who use them. Per City Policy, the DPW will clear them during large snow events of 10 or more inches or as time permits during a regular work day.

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 #14 Is an ordinance regulating snowmobiles for the winter season. Snowmobiles must be OFF streets, sidewalks, must travel at a speed not greater than 10mph and may not operate between 10pm and 8am.

Ordinance #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 #20 Is an ordinance requiring anyone plowing snow for hire to obtain a snow plow permit from the City. Permits are \$10 per vehicle.

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