



Blanche Lake



THE CITY OF GRANT IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER
MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

JULY 2015

VOLUME 15 ISSUE 3

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****

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****

City of Grant Water Quality Report

The annual water quality report is enclosed with the tax bills for your convenience and is also available via the City website:

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

If you have any questions please contact the DPW/Water Dept. at 834-7462.

Summer Property Taxes

Summer tax bills will be sent out July 1st. They are **due by 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 pg 1).

Please Keep Our City Beautiful!

The City of Grant has several ordinances regarding parking of vehicles, trash/junk, tall grass/weeds, trash containers and other nuisance violations. As a reminder, these ordinances **will be enforced** so please be sure to read the regulations on the back page of this newsletter and by clicking on the "ordinances" tab on the City website.

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- August 24th and October 2th 6 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.

Farmers Market and Public Parking Area

The planned improvements for the new Farmers' Market are finally underway. As soon as winter frost restrictions are lifted, we will begin with excavation of the grounds. Part of work will focus on improving the surface water drainage problem prevalent in the area over the past few decades. Once excavation is complete, we will proceed with concrete work and constructing the sheltered pavilions. We will finish the project up by adding the benches and picnic tables and installing trees, shrubs, and a little bit of landscaping. Once complete, the Farmers Market will also offer the opportunity to host other city-wide events. We are currently looking for individuals who would like to be involved in the planning and development of the market. Please contact the City Manager at (231) 834-7904.

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—The City's Jurisdiction Code is 7124.**

You can pay by: Visa, MasterCard, American Express & Discover credit and debit cards and electronic check.

Blanche Lake Amphitheatre

Welcome to spring and our newly completed lakeside amphitheatre. If you look around at other communities, you will find that the lakeside amphitheatre is unique and not found in such a setting as it is here in Grant.

For years now, our intent was to bring back something special that once existed eighty plus years ago on Blanche Lake. Before that could happen, we needed the proper infrastructure to support this facility. It took years of work, investment, grants and planning to bring it all together.

To launch our first year, we are looking forward to having various forms of music through spring, summer, and fall, which may include our Harvest Festival in August.

At this time we seek a family venue that includes jazz, classic rock, and Bluegrass. Other event ideas include, lakeside movies, car and bike shows, as well as Arts and Craft shows.

The time and date of our grand opening has yet to be determined as we are working on the final details with sponsors and others, to schedule these events.

At this time we offer our warmest thank you to the Fremont Area Community Foundation for their significant role in helping us every step of the way. We also thank our local contractors, as well as Rich Ulrich of Detail Paint for his donation to the completion of the building.

In the meantime, we will provide a schedule of events as soon as we complete them. Thank 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 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, 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 **\$50 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. Unpaid bills will be placed on tax bills.

Summer 2014

*New public amphitheatre at Blanche Lake Park is finished and ready for use. It is available on a first come first serve basis. We are looking for corporate sponsors to have community events.
*Continuing Blanche Lake treatments for weeds/algae/cattails-The DEQ Permit is online via the public notice tab.
*Work will begin on the property behind Water Tower Park. Farmers Market Pavilions will be installed.

Notice of City Commission Meetings:

July 20, 2015

August 17, 2015

September 21, 2015

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

FIND US ON FACEBOOK

DPW Brush Pick Up

Bagged leaf and brush pick-up Starts April 1st

Leaves must be bagged in biodegradable paper bags to 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 out after pick-up on your street, because it will not get picked up until the next scheduled pick-up. The City has had several homeowners come out after DPW staff has been down their street. Just like your solid waste/garbage that is picked up, get it out the night before or very early in the morning to make sure it gets picked up. Otherwise you will have to wait until the next pick up and may receive a citation for violating Ord. # 50. **Size and weight restrictions are strictly enforced, 50 pounds and 4 foot sections for branches.** If the regular pick-up falls on a Saturday or a Sunday, it will be moved to Monday.

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 #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. It also prohibits 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, dogs 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****

ORV Ordinance #56: The City Commission has approved an ORV Ordinance, similar to Newaygo County, permitting ORV's on the edge of City streets. Please visit the City website and click on ordinances to view the rules and regulations.

MSHDA'S "Step Forward"

Unemployment Mortgage Subsidy Program is available to pay Delinquent Property Taxes, if you qualify. Visit: <https://www.stepforwardmichigan.org/> or call toll free (866) 946-7432. (A list of MSHDA's programs to assist homeowners is on the back of this sheet.) MSU Finance and Home Ownership Educator, Bill Hendrian, is also available to assist you at (231) 757-4789.

Citywide Yard Sales

The "unofficial" citywide yard sales in the City will be held on Saturday, September 12th.