



THE CITY OF GRANT NEWSLETTER

December 2019

VOLUME 19 ISSUE 4

PLEASE READ YOUR CITY NEWSLETTER

MANY QUESTIONS VIA CALLS/E-MAILS/STOPPING BY CITY HALL ARE OFTEN ADDRESSED IN NEWSLETTERS TO BETTER INFORM CITIZENS

FIND US ON FACEBOOK: CITY OF GRANT

THE CITY OF GRANT IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER

CITY ORDINANCES

All City Ordinances are available on our website:

www.cityofgrantmi.com

If you see any of these violations, please call the Grant Police Department at 231-834-7212

Christmas Tree Removal

Every Monday in January the DPW will pick up your Christmas tree if you place it by the road.

Medication Drop-Box

If you have unwanted medication and aren't sure how to dispose of them, there is a medication drop-box located in the City office. Medications can be in their original containers or in plastic bags if they are loose. Please make sure any liquid medication is in a secure container and the container then placed in a plastic bag. Needles can also be disposed in the needle drop box at the City office.

City Police Voicemail

If you need immediate assistance and can not reach a City Police Officer, please call Central Dispatch at 231-689-5288 and a car closest to your area will be dispatched. Please do not leave complaints on the City PD voicemail. If you would like to leave a voicemail for a Grant PD officer and it is not an emergency, please call 834-7212 as normal and leave a message. The officer on duty will return your call as soon as possible.

Free Burn Weekend in The Spring

In the spring of 2020, the City will be holding a burn weekend. During the burn weekend, residents will not need to purchase a burn permit and are encouraged to burn their brush and remaining leaves at this time. The dates have not yet been set. Please check the City's Facebook page, website, and the upcoming newsletter for more details.

Cleanup Week

Tentative dates for a 30-yard dumpster are May 18th thru May 21st, 2020. City residents may unload **"non-hazardous"** household waste into the dumpster at no charge. More information will be available in the next newsletter.

Water/Sewer and Tax Payments

Please use separate checks when paying City bills. Water/sewer payments go into a different bank account than tax payments. If you are paying more than one parcel for taxes, all of the parcels can be combined on one check. Please note exact parcels payments are to be applied to.

Snow Removal on Sidewalks

Ordinance #53 section 302.3- Requires property all owners to keep sidewalks adjacent to their property free from anything that will obstruct them or cause a hazard to public safety. So please be mindful and **keep your sidewalk clear of snow and ice**. Winter can be a difficult time to get around for those on foot. Per City Policy, the DPW will clear sidewalks during single snow events of 10 or more inches of accumulation or as time permits during a regular work day.

DPW Staff

The City DPW works as quickly as possible during inclement weather to assure the safety and clearance of all city streets for the use of emergency vehicles and citizens. Your patience, cooperation, and understanding will help the road crews to clear the roads faster and safer.

Snow Plow Permits

The City requires that snow plow permits be obtained for snow plowing within the City limits. Permits are \$10 and are available at the City Office. It is important to note that if you are plowing your own driveway or a family member's driveway, you do not need a permit. If you are a property owner hiring a plow company, please direct them to the City Office for a permit.

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.

How Do I Handle Sewer Issues?

If you 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 it is obstructed. 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 or grease buildup in your lateral or have an old clay lateral that may have collapsed. If it is determined that the issue is your lateral, you should call a plumber immediately. You are responsible for your sewer lateral to the main line, just like you are responsible for your driveway to the street.

Water Freezes at 32 Degrees!

Each winter the DPW responds to properties that are not adequately insulated or heated, which in turn can result in pipes/meters bursting and a high bill. Remember it is colder near the floor and along the block wall of a basement than at the ceiling, so make sure warm air is allowed to circulate around your meter. Please make sure that there is adequate insulation, heat or appropriate winterization to avoid costly repairs.

BE COUNTED MICHIGAN2020

The 2020 Census counts every person living in the United States and the five U.S. territories. The count is mandated by the Constitution and conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, a nonpartisan government agency. Each home will receive an invitation to respond to a short questionnaire-online, by phone, or by mail. This will mark the first time that you will be able to respond to the census online. This will begin on March 1, 2020.

Please remember:



It is **illegal** for residents or any unauthorized personnel to plow snow, ice or slush onto or across roadways because it can present a **serious traffic hazard**.

Vehicles may slide or lose control if they hit a patch of ice/snow dropped by a private plow/snow blower

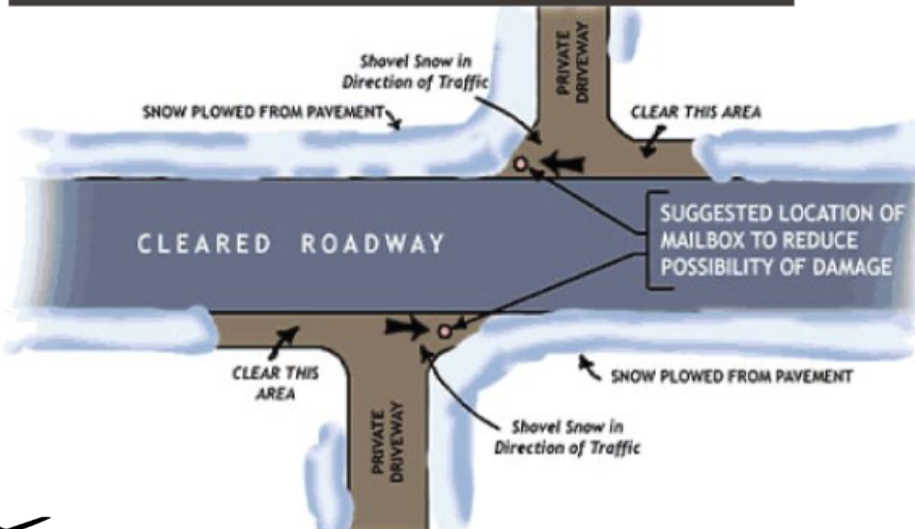


Snow Plowing Across the Road

The 2nd picture shows trails of snow left on the pavement after it was illegally plowed across the road. This snow is what presents a serious traffic hazard for those driving on the road as it creates unnecessary drifts and ice ridges on the pavement. As temperatures change, the area can become ice which causes cars to slide. The Grant Police Department will issue citations to anyone caught plowing or blowing snow across city roads. If you have someone plowing/blowing your driveway, please make sure they are not adding to the hazards of wintertime driving. Let them know that if they are plowing/blowing snow across the road and are caught, this will result in a \$100 ordinance ticket.

Winter Snow Plowing: Understanding Plowing Near Driveways

Driveways are always a sensitive issue when it comes to snow removal. DPW crews are aware of 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. The graphic to the left shows 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.



Winter Taxes

Winter property tax bills were available December 1st and are due by Friday, February 14th, 2020. The City will accept late summer and winter tax bills with penalties until Fri, February 28, 2020. 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. If you would like to pay online, visit www.govpaynow.com or call 888-604-7888 and use location code 4309. Govpaynow does charge an additional fee to utilize their services.

Water/Sewer Billing Schedule for 2020

Water and sewer is billed out quarterly. Payments can be made throughout the quarterly billing cycle (weekly, bi-weekly, monthly) to reduce the amount owed at the end of the quarter. Payments can be made using cash, check, money order or credit card. The billing dates for the 2020 calendar year are as follows:

Quarter	Billing	Due Date
Jan-March	March 31	April 30
April-June	June 30	July 30
July-Sept	September 30	October 30
Oct-Dec	December 31	January 30

If you would like to pay online, visit govpaynow.com or call 888-604-7888 and use code 4308. Please note that Govpaynow does charge an additional fee to utilize their services. Their fee is disclosed during the online and phone payment process and is added on once you complete the transaction. Visa, MC, American Express, and Discover cards accepted.

Other Public Meetings:

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

Ashland-Grant Fire District Meetings: every other month—Feb. 24 and April 27 at 9am at the Fire Building at 62 W. State Rd.

Grant Public Schools Meetings: 2nd Monday of every month, 7pm at the Fine Arts Center; 331 E. State Rd.

Notice of City Commission Meetings:

January 20, 2020

February 17, 2020

March 16, 2020

City of Grant regular Commission Meetings are always held on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7:00pm in the Public Meeting Room:
City of Grant Municipal Offices: 280 S. Maple St, Grant, MI 49327

City of Grant Contact Numbers:

City Assessor (Newaygo County Equalization): 231-689-7244
City of Grant Dept of Public Works/Water/Sewer: 231-834-7462
City of Grant Municipal Offices: 231-834-7904
City of Grant Police Department: 231-834-7212

Other Important Contact Numbers:

Grant Area District Library: 231-834-5713
Grant Post Office: 231-834-5966
Newaygo County Central Dispatch: 231-689-5288
Newaygo County Sheriff Department: 231-689-7303
Newaygo County Building Safety/Permits: 231-689-7216
Republic Services (Trash/Recycling): 877-698-7274