

Communicator

Quarterly Newsletter of The City of Grosse Pointe Park



Photo Credit: Melissa Arondoski

Summer Issue 2024

CITY HALL 15115 EAST JEFFERSON GROSSE POINTE PARK, MI 48230 PH: 313-822-6200 M-F 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.



Mayor's Article Mayor Michele Hodges

Hello Grosse Pointe Park ! “I’d like to tell you a bit about your elected leaders so that you know who is working on your behalf.

As an outcome of the November 2023 election, the City Council took on a new look with the addition of new members who assumed their seats alongside the more seasoned of us. I’m pleased to report our new team is taking shape nicely, and that we are working collaboratively to move the community forward.

Productivity is important, and I am committed to ensuring we have a clear focus to guide us and a high degree of trust to bind us. To that end, I can see a level of commitment, collegiality, and professionalism taking shape, and I’m pleased to report the results are beginning to show.

In a few short months, and by working in collaboration with the administration, we have furthered critical infrastructure projects, making progress on the corrective action plan set forth by our auditors, approved key appointments to boards and commissions, formalized a Farmers Market, supported the Planning Commission and its evolution of the Zoning Ordinance, passed resolutions that draw attention to important issues like the future of our beloved Trombly Elementary School, evolved policies and procedures that professionalize day to day operations, implemented a sidewalk replacement program, adopted a Capital Improvement Plan, participated in the Motor City Makeover to stabilize Alter Road, took steps to improve our parks and marina, and approval of a new website and recreation software coming later this year.

This level of productivity doesn’t happen by accident, and will only increase as our team continues to develop. We are still nascent, with a degree of fragility to it, but there are indications that suggest the future is bright.

You can reach us anytime at citycouncil@grossepointepark.org



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Park Hours

Patterson Park
7:00 a.m. to Dusk

Windmill Pointe Park
7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

City Phone Numbers

911 - Emergencies Only

**Municipal Offices -
Automated Telephone System:**

**Main Number
313-822-6200**

- 0 - For the operator
- 1 - Public Service, Building Department and Assessment
- 2 - Water & Sewerage Billing
- 3 - Public Safety
- 4 - Municipal Court

Direct Lines:

Public Safety:	313-822-7400
Public Service:	313-822-5020
Public Works Garage:	313-822-5100
Voting & Elections:	313-822-4267
Tax Information:	313-822-4380
Building Inspector:	313-822-4365
Water Billing:	313-822-4380
Municipal Court:	313-822-3535
City Forester:	313-822-6200

**Parks & Recreation
313-822-2812**

- Press 1 Lavins Activity Center and Theatre Information
- Press 2 Tompkins Community Center, Picnic Permits and Lindell Lodge Rentals
- Press 3 HarborMaster
- Press 4 Lifeguard Office and Pool information
- Press 5 Inside Gatehouse at Windmill Pointe Park
- Press 6 Outside Gatehouse at Windmill Pointe Park

**Windmill Park Gatehouse
313-822-5155**
**Patterson Park Gatehouse
313-822-1681**

Park Pass Information

It is the goal of the City of Grosse Pointe Park to continue to provide to you, the residents, the best possible service and recreational facilities. It is extremely important that everyone complies with the Park Pass rules so that we all enjoy our Parks.

Lost passes will be replaced ONCE per season, through an adult only, at a cost of \$20.00 each at City Hall. Office hours are Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. For more information regarding Park Passes, please contact Public Service at (313) 822-6200.

- Park Pass Guest Privileges allow one guest daily for Residents age 17 or under and three guests daily for Residents 18 and older.
- Businesses & Tenants are required to renew park passes annually.
- Current homeowner passes expire December 31, 2026.
- Landlords are required to have a valid rental C of O (Certificate of Occupancy), current business license and must verify all tenants before tenants can obtain a park pass.
- As a friendly reminder, you must show the gatehouse your park pass and not a drivers license or that of another individual to enter into the Parks.

Tompkins Center

The Tompkins Community Center offers residents an unique and picturesque venue for hosting a wide range of functions. There is a full-service catering kitchen along with updated restrooms and lighting fixtures in the banquet room. The Center is air conditioned and heated and also offers a gas fireplace. The newly added Atrium adds to the Center's capacity and ambiance by providing patrons a beautiful view of the lake while dining.

The Center's seating capacity is 134. However, the Atrium now adds standing room capacity of up to 150. We provide tables, chairs, coffee pots, a sound system, 65 inch TV, wireless microphone, wifi and podium.

Please Note: Reservations may be made one year in advance from the current calendar date. Only weddings and wedding receptions can be reserved further in advance.

Monday – Thursday	\$500 from 1:00 pm – 12:00 am
Friday, Saturday, or Sunday Rentals	\$750 from 1:00 pm – 12:00 am
Weddings & Wedding Receptions	\$1,200 from 11:00 am – 1:00 am
Additional hour to enter facility	\$80
Additional 2 hours to enter facility	\$160

Grosse Pointe Park Communicator

Mayor
Mayor Pro Tem
Council Members

City Attorney
City Manager
Assistant City Manager
Finance Director
City Clerk
Parks & Recreation Director
Public Safety Director
Public Works Director

Michele Hodges
Tom Caulfield
Brent Dreaver, Christine Gallagher, Tim Kolar,
Marty McMillan, Max Wiener

Dan Kelly
Nick Sizeland
Warren Rothe
Ginger Moriarty
Bridgette Bowdler
Chad Craig
Jim Bostock
Tom Jenny

Editor Kara Hardenbrook

*Editor's note - Any correspondence can be sent to:
15115 E. Jefferson
Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230
Attn: Parks & Recreation*

E-Mail to: craigc@grossepointepark.org



Grosse Pointe Park's Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/grossepointepark>



Primary Election Day is Tuesday, August 6, 2024

Primary Election - August 6, 2024

July 22, 2024 - Deadline to register to vote by mail or on-line and to be eligible to vote in the August Election.

July 23, 2024 - Deadline for candidate to file for Local School Board.

July 27, 2024 - Begin period of Early Voting (9 days). Located inside Grosse Pointe Park City Hall, 15115 E. Jefferson, Lower-Level Lobby from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

August 4, 2024 - Last Day of Early Voting

August 5, 2024 - Voters may obtain an absesnt voter ballot in-person, vote and submit ballot in the Local Clerk's office until 4:00 p.m.

August 6, 2024 - Primary Election Day 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

General Election Day is Tuesday, November 5, 2024

General Election - Novemer 5, 2024

September 21, 2024 - UNCOVA Ballots will be mailed out

September 27, 2024 - Absentee Ballots will be mailed out

October 21, 2024 - Deadline to register to vote by mail or on-line and to be eligible to vote in the November Election.

October 26, 2024 - Begin period of Early Voting (9 days). Located inside Grosse Pointe Park City Hall, 15115 E. Jefferson, Lower-Level Lobby from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

November 3, 2024 - Last Day of Early Voting

November 4, 2024 - Voters may obtain an absesnt voter ballot in-person, vote and submit ballot in the Local Clerk's office until 4:00 p.m.

November 5, 2024 - Primary Election Day 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

2024 Primary Election Early Voting

Grosse Pointe Park voters may cast their vote in person at the Grosse Pointe Park City Hall from Saturday, July 27, 2024 through Sunday, August 4, 2024, from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. during early voting. Other services available to voters on those nine days of early voting include voter registration and assistance with absentee ballots.

Voting precints will be open on Election Day from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. at the following locations for the 2024 Primary Election and 2024 General Election:

- Precint 1** - Tompkins Community Center
14290 Windmill Pointe Drive
- Precint 2** - Tompkins Community Center
14290 Windmill Pointe Drive
- Precint 4** - Lavins Community Center
14290 Windmill Pointe Drive
- Precint 5** - Lavins Community Center
14290 Windmill Pointe Drive
- Precint 6** - Lavins Community Center
14290 Windmill Pointe Drive
- Precint 7** - Lavins Community Center
14290 Windmill Pointe Drive



IMPORTANT NOTICE

With the passage of Proposal 22-2, voters now have the right to vote in-person at an early voting site prior to Election Day for all statewide and federal elections. The established site may also serve as an early voting site for additional election dates if approved by the Grosse Pointe Park City Council.



Scan the code to visit the Michigan Voter Information Center

YOUR EARLY VOTING SITE:
 Grosse Pointe Park City Hall
 15115 E. Jefferson Avenue
 Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230

2024 EARLY VOTING SCHEDULE:
DAYS: Early Voting is open nine (9) consecutive days beginning on the second Saturday prior to the election and ending the Sunday prior to the election.
TIME: Early Voting is 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. daily.

Questions? Contact the Grosse Pointe Park City Clerk's Office at (313) 822-4267 or clerk@grossepointepark.org

New Ballot Drop Box Is Here!

A new secured Ballot Drop Box has been installed in the drive-thru in front of Grosse Pointe Park City Hall. The state-funded secure drop box may be utilized immediately by voter registration form and ballots to the City Clerk's Office 24 hours a day, 7 days a week during election seasons.

Ways to Register to Vote:

- In-person at City Hall
- Online at <https://mVIC.sos.state.mi.us/register/voter>
- At your local Secretary of State Office
- By mail 15115 E. Jefferson Ave., Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230



Grosse Pointe Park Municipal Court Amnesty Program

The Grosse Pointe Park Municipal Court is holding an Amnesty Program for delinquent cases. The program provides individuals an opportunity to settle old outstanding financial obligations while saving money. In addition, the program helps courts clear a backlog of files.

PLEASE VISIT US TO CLEAR UP YOUR OUTSTANDING BALANCE

1. The program will run Thursday, August 1, 2024, through Friday, August 30, 2024.
2. For parking tickets, civil infractions, and adjudicated misdemeanors only.
3. Must be paid in full.

If you have any questions, please contact the court at 313-822-3535. The court is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

Residential Improvement Grant Program Continues

The Tax Increment Finance Authority (TIFA) is pleased to announce the continuation of its popular Residential Improvement Grant (RIG) program. This initiative provides residents with the opportunity to enhance their properties through a 50-50 match grant, with a maximum grant amount of \$4,000.

Grant funds can be used for a variety of eligible property improvements, helping to beautify our community and increase property values. For more information on eligible projects and to apply, please visit the City's website.

Take advantage of this fantastic opportunity to improve your home and contribute to the beautification of our neighborhood!

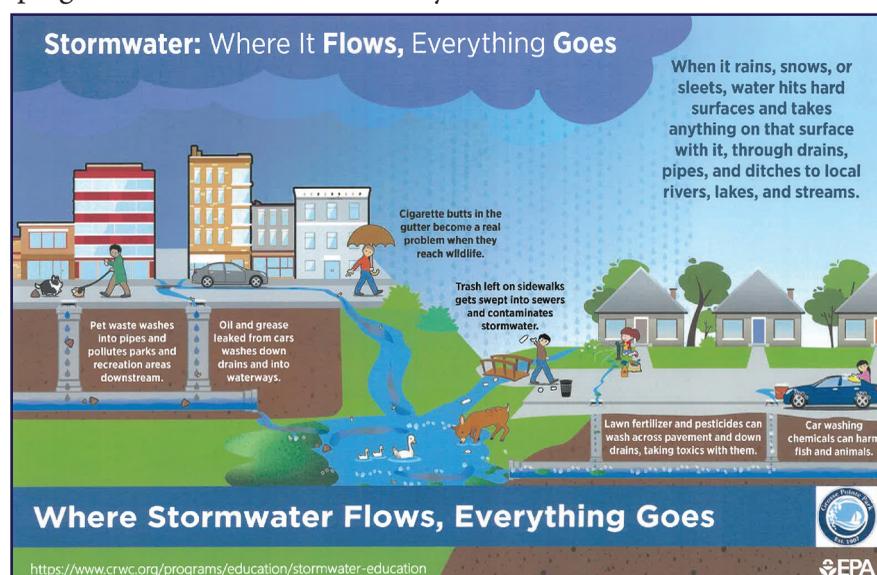
Planning Commission Zoning Ordinance Update

The Planning Commission is actively working on the comprehensive rewrite of the City's zoning ordinance, a project that began in 2023. All draft materials, including the proposed zoning map, are available on the City's website.

An advisory public hearing on the draft ordinance will occur at the July 22 Planning Commission meeting. We encourage residents to review the proposed changes and participate in the hearing. Highlights of the new ordinance include:

- **Revisions to All Zoning Districts:** Updates to better reflect current and future land use needs.
- **Expanded Requirements for Approvals:** Enhanced criteria for various approvals to ensure thoughtful development.
- **Modern Zoning Standards:** Inclusion of provisions for mixed-use developments and accessory dwelling units (ADUs).
- **User-Friendly Formatting:** Reorganized content to make the ordinance easier to understand and navigate.

Stay informed and get involved in shaping the future of our community. Visit our website for more information and to review the draft materials.



Important Notice for Property Owners

The Building Department would like to remind the community that all commercial and rental properties in the City must undergo inspections every two years, or upon change in tenancy, to obtain and maintain their certificate of occupancy. Additionally, business licenses are required to be obtained on an annual basis, including for the rental of residential properties.

Please note, park passes will not be issued to tenants without a current landlord business license on file.

Furthermore, upon every change of ownership of all other properties, including the sale of owner-occupied residential properties, an application and inspection for a certificate of occupancy are required. This ensures that all properties meet the City's safety and compliance standards.

For more information on the inspection process, how to apply for or renew your business license, and to view code requirements, visit our website or contact City Hall at (313) 822-6200.

We appreciate your cooperation in helping us keep our community safe and well-maintained!

Property Maintenance Reminder

Code Enforcement would like to kindly remind all property owners to keep their property (including alleyways) free and clear of weeds, overgrown vegetation, and trash. To maintain a clean and safe environment, please ensure the following:

- **Weeds and Vegetation:** Regularly trim and remove any overgrown vegetation and weeds.
- **Trash:** Do not leave trash cans or any other waste in the street or alley.
- **Grass:** All grass must be maintained at a height of 5 inches or fewer.

Alley inspections will be conducted throughout the year. Your cooperation helps keep our community clean and pleasant for everyone.

Streetscape Improvement Update for Kercheval and Charlevoix Business Districts

The TIFA is excited to announce the completion of conceptual designs and engineering for streetscape improvements in both the Kercheval and Charlevoix business districts. These enhancements aim to revitalize our commercial areas and create more vibrant and pedestrianfriendly spaces for our community to enjoy. A summary of community engagement and all related materials are available for review on the City's website.

Currently, the TIFA Board is prioritizing the Charlevoix project. Jointly with the City Council, we have applied for a grant through the State of Michigan's Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) to support this initiative. We anticipate a funding decision and next steps on the projects in late summer.

Your input and support have been invaluable throughout this process, and we look forward to bringing these exciting streetscape improvements to fruition. Stay tuned for further updates!

Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission



Adopt-a-Garden

The Beautification Commission has adopted a number of garden beds at Patterson Park through its second, annual Adopt-a-Garden program. Commissioners and volunteers will be at the park during group events to install native plantings and keep beds weeded and well maintained.

Events will be held on the last Saturday of June, July and September from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., starting at the Patterson boardwalk. Volunteers can sign up when they arrive to the park - we hope to see you there!

Group Event Dates: July 27, August - no event, September 28

Arbor Week, April 23-29, 2024 - Poster Contest Results

Participation and Judging Information:

We had 108 participants from a pool of 178 students in 7 different classrooms at 3 different schools. Two classes were 3/4 split classes. Congratulations to Mrs. Bergeron of Defer school whose classroom had all our winners this year and we had participation from all eligible classrooms! Thank you to all the teachers and principals for supporting this project which is celebrating its 41st year. Posters were judged by the members of the GPP Beautification Commission done in rounds. Judging is blind as posters are coded and there are no names identifying them.

Winning Posters: For 2024 there is one first place winner and runner up, all from the classroom of Mrs. Bergeron at Defer School. This year's first place winner is Catherine Palmer. A second runner up from Defer was Maria Bourdane. We like to say every poster creation is a winner because students do such a great job and every poster will be displayed with special prominence throughout the Park business community and at City Hall. These posters not only promote Arbor Week, they also bring many smiles to the faces that see them.

Awards and Recognition for the Winners: The winner and runners up were recognized at the May 13 meeting of City Council. Thanks to the City, local businesses, and the Park area schools for their support of the contest.



Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety

NIXLE and the Facebook Page

For up to date information related to Grosse Pointe Park Department of Public Safety, be sure to “like” our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/gpppublicsafety>) and sign up for Nixel.

Why Nixel: Nixel is a community information service that helps you stay connected to critical information based on your physical location. It provides alerts from local public safety departments, schools, and other relevant agencies. You can opt in to receive alerts by texting your ZIP code or a specific keyword to 888777. Nixel keeps you informed about severe weather, criminal activities, severe traffic, missing persons, and local events. If you want to stay updated on what’s happening in your community, Nixel is a valuable resource!

Personal Safety - MAKE LIFE HARDER FOR CRIMINALS

These tips can help you avoid becoming a victim of a crime when you are out and about or at work. By taking a few simple precautions, you can reduce the risk to yourself, and also discourage those who commit crime.

Be Prepared

- Always be alert and aware of the people around you.
- Educate yourself concerning prevention tactics.
- Be aware of locations and situations which would make you vulnerable to crime, such as alleys and dark parking lots.
- Be aware of where you are located.

Street Precautions

- **Keep an eye on your surroundings** and the people around you, especially if you are alone or it is dark. If you see anyone acting suspiciously, avoid them by crossing the street, entering an open store, or changing your route. Call the police if you believe you are being stalked.
- **Don’t walk alone**, especially at night or in areas that are not well lit. Whenever possible, travel with a friend. Stay in well-lit, populated areas as much as possible. Make sure a friend or family member knows where you are going when you go out.
- **Don’t get caught up in your routine.** Even on trips you make often, stay alert and keep an eye out for people or vehicles that seem strange.
- **Remove distractions.** Talking on the phone, listening to music, or looking up directions may prevent you from being able to stay aware of your surroundings. If you need to access your phone, wait until you’re somewhere safe and well lit.
- **Avoid potential hiding spots**, like bushes, alleys, and doorways. Walk close to the curb. Do not use alleys or shortcuts or cross vacant fields.
- **Walk confidently** with your head up, looking from side to side, and at a steady pace. Make eye contact with people when walking.
- **Do not respond to conversation from strangers on the street;** continue walking. Do not accept any hugs or gifts from a person you don’t know.
- **Protect your belongings.** If you carry a purse, hold it securely between your arm and your body, and not around your neck. Consider carrying a dummy wallet and/or purse. Limit the number of personal valuables you carry.
- **Consider your escape route.** Wear comfortable clothes and shoes that you could run away in, if necessary.
- **Wear reflective clothing** so that drivers can see you as you cross the street.

Car Safety

- **Lock your doors** immediately after entering or leaving your car.
- **Park in safe areas**, making sure there is adequate lighting and that your car is in public view. When you park, look around for suspicious persons or vehicles near your car.
- **Don’t carry too many things** in your arms going to and from the vehicle.
- **Have your car keys in your hand** so you don’t have to linger before entering your car and never leave your FOB in your car unattended.
- **Check the back seat** before entering your car.
- **Don’t linger in your car** (reading, eating, napping, etc.).
- **Keep the windows rolled up** more than half way.
- **Don’t leave any valuables inside the vehicle**, including cell phones and GPS devices.
- **If you think you are being followed**, drive to a public place or a police, sheriff or fire station.
- **If your car breaks down**, open the hood and attach a white cloth to the car antenna. If someone stops to help, stay in the locked car, roll down the window a little and ask them to call the police or sheriff or a tow trucking service.
- **Don’t stop to aid motorists** stopped on the side of the road. Go to a phone and request help for them.



Bike Safety

Bike theft is unfortunately a common issue among many communities, but there are steps you can take to protect your bike and reduce the risk of theft. Here are some valuable tips:

- **Use a High-Quality Lock:** Invest in a sturdy U-lock or a heavy-duty chain lock. These are more difficult for thieves to break compared to flimsy cable locks.
- **Double Lock Your Bike:** Secure both the wheel and frame together. This makes it harder for thieves to dismantle your bike and take parts.
- **Choose a Secure Location:** Park your bike in well-lit areas with high visibility. Opt for designated bike racks whenever possible. Avoid leaving your bike outside your residence unsecured, or on the sidewalk or street overnight.
- **Take Removable Items with You:** Lights, saddlebags, and other accessories can be easily removed. If possible, carry them with you to prevent theft.
- **Register Your Bike with the Public Safety Department for free:** Keep a record of your bike’s serial number and register it with local authorities or online databases. This can help in recovery if your bike is stolen.

Remember, bike theft is often an opportunistic crime. By following these precautions, you can significantly reduce the chances of losing your beloved two-wheeler.

If a crime occurs - Report it!

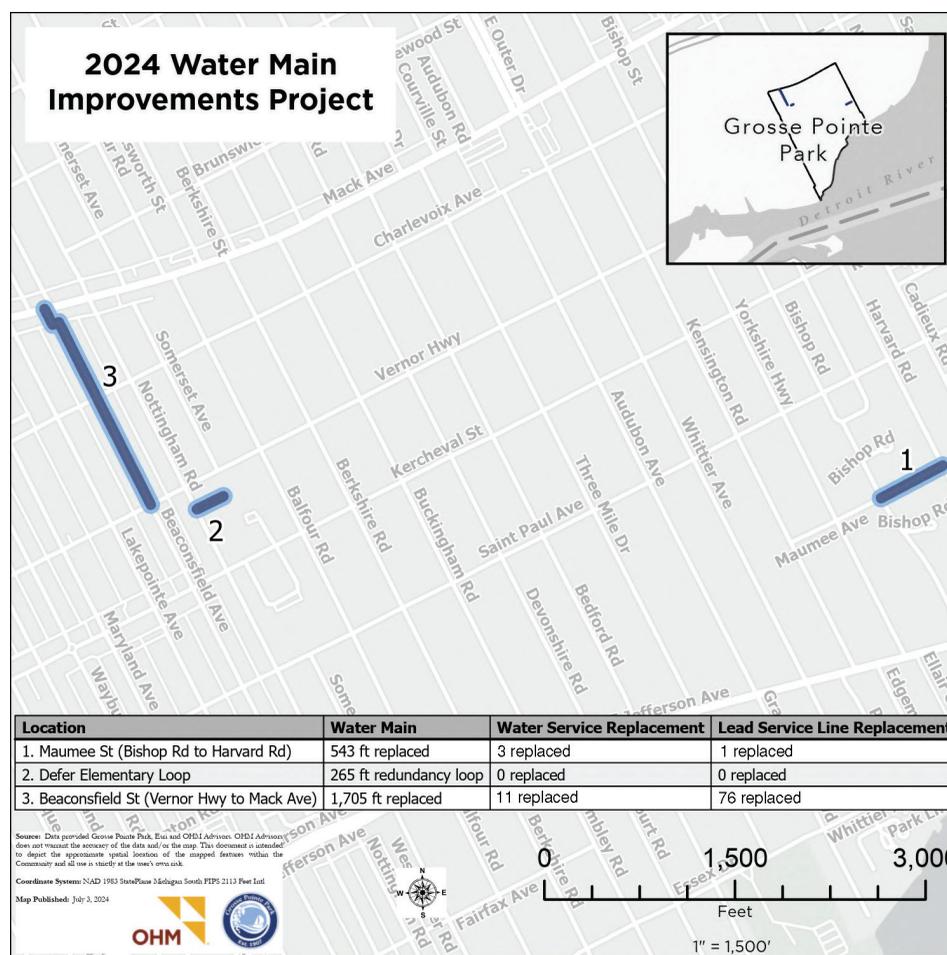
Everyone should consider it his/her responsibility to report crime. Many criminals target favorite areas and have predictable methods of operation. When you report all the facts about a crime, it helps the police assign officers in the places where crime are occurring or where they are most likely to occur. At least one out of two crimes in the United States goes unreported, either because people don’t think the police can do anything about it, or because people don’t want to get involved. If you don’t report crime, this allows the criminal to continue to operate without interference.

In many cases, it is the information provided by victims and witnesses that leads to the arrest of a criminal. So tell the police as much as you can; no fact is too trivial. The police need the eyes and ears of all citizens. Input from the public is how we solve crimes.

- Report all suspicious people and activities to the proper authorities: business owners, managers, building security, law enforcement.
- Be aware of escape routes for emergencies and post the call 911 if the situation is life-threatening. If the situation is non-threatening, please call 313 822-7400.

2024 Grosse Pointe Park Water Main Improvements Project

Grosse Pointe Park accepted a bid from Bidigare Contractors, Inc. for the Water Main Improvements Project. This includes Division A, Division B and Division C. Division A includes the water main replacement via pipe bursting method on Beaconsfield. Division B includes the water main loop at Defer School. Division C is in the water main replacement via directional drill method on Maumee Street.



Sidewalk Replacement Program

The City of Grosse Pointe Park is committed to improving the City’s infrastructure and ensuring that the community is a safe place for all residents. To improve mobility around our City, we are piloting a new annual sidewalk program to replace unsafe or failing sidewalks. The City will complete the sidewalk upgrades by dividing the City into five districts and performing the sidewalk replacement program in one district each year. After five years, the sidewalk replacement program will have replaced failing and damaged sidewalks in all five of the proposed districts and will begin again in district one. **This year the sidewalk program is being completed in district one.**

In order to ensure that this program can continue for many years, homeowner adjacent to the sidewalk requiring repair will be billed for the replacement defective sidewalk flag across your lot frontage. In the next couple of months, a member of our Department of Public Works staff will be in your neighborhood marking the sidewalks that are found to have the following criteria for replacement:

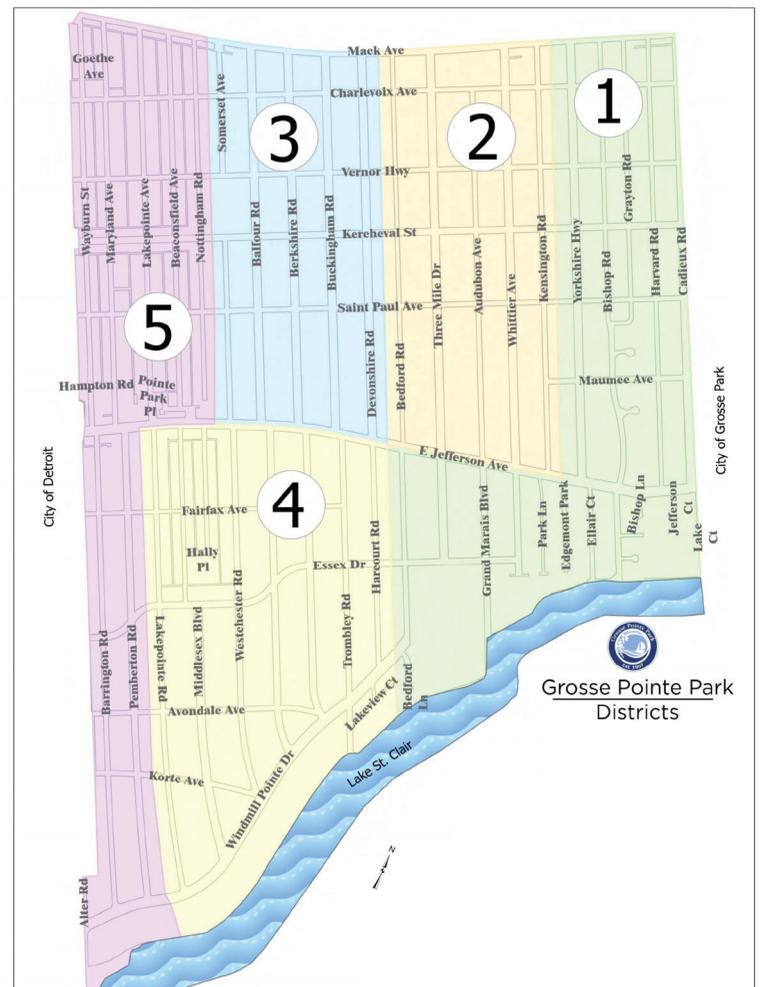
- **Offset of Sidewalk Obstruction (settlement or raised):** 1/2” maximum offset between flags.
- **Cracks:** Cracks 3/8” maximum width. Flags that are subdivided more than 2 times will require replacement
- **Spalling or Scaling:** Surface of the sidewalk is deteriorated greater than 75% in any 1’ x 1’ area of the flag.
- **Holes:** Holes greater than 2-inches and/or deeper than 1/4”
- **Cross Slopes:** As part of ADA compliance, cross slopes shall not exceed 1:50 (2%) cross slope toward the roadway.
- **Heaving as a result of City trees/utilities:** If it can be reasonable assumed that the sidewalk has heaved due to the roots of a tree between the sidewalk and the curb or a manhole utility cover within the sidewalk, the sidewalk shall be replaced at the expense of the City.
- **Saw Cutting:** In some instances, horizontal saw-cutting may be a viable option to remedy heaving sidewalks. Saw-Cutting is a temporary fix that will prolong the life of the sidewalk flag but will eventually require removal. If the homeowner is interested in saw-cutting, a member of the DPW will be able to advise whether or not the marked pavement is a candidate for saw-cutting in lieu of replacement this cycle of the program.

The sidewalks will be marked using white and pink marking paint, symbolizing whether the replacement is the responsibility of the City (White) or the adjacent homeowner (Pink). After the sidewalk is marked, homeowners are encouraged to contact the City Department of Public Works to make an appointment to discuss the sidewalk removal as proposed. In the spring, each marked location will be confirmed and additional flag removals, that have resulted from the flags shirting due to winter weather, will be marked as well.

Optional Homeowner Sidewalk Replacement

If the homeowner would like to replace the sidewalk that is marked for removal using a licensed and insured contractor of your choosing, the following steps should be followed:

1. Homeowner’s will be informed via letter from the City twenty (20) days in advance of the replacement of the sidewalk flags as marked with an “X” adjacent to their property. Within twenty (20) days of the receipt of the letter, the homeowner selected contractor must pull a permit for the sidewalk replacement from the building department.
2. The sidewalk must be replaced within the 2024 construction season meeting the following ADA and Grosse Pointe Park Standards to gain approval by the building department:
 1. Transverse slope must not exceed 1:50 (2%)
 2. Match adjacent sidewalk width, 6-foot minimum.
 3. 6-inch thick sidewalks through driveways and 4-inch thick sidewalks in all other locations.
 4. Sidewalks shall be 3,500 psi concrete with expansion paper periodically every 25 feet.
3. Once the sidewalk is cured, the homeowner must call the building department for a recheck of the sidewalk. **If the permit is not filed within twenty (20) days of the notice of replacement, the sidewalk will be replaced per the schedule outlined in this year’s sidewalk program and the adjacent homeowner will be billed for the cost of this replacement.** Contact us at (313) 822-5100 if you have any questions.



	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
District 1	Sidewalks	Signs	Trees	Hydrants	Sewer	Sidewalks
District 2	Signs	Trees	Hydrants	Sewer	Sidewalk	Signs
District 3	Trees	Hydrants	Sewer	Sidewalks	Signs	Trees
District 4	Hydrants	Sewer	Sidewalks	Signs	Trees	Hydrants
District 5	Sewer	Sidewalks	Signs	Trees	Hydrants	Sewer

Summer 2024 Tax Updates

Summer Taxes are due to begin on **July 1, 2024**, and are payable to the City Treasurer.

- The City Charter was amended on November 7, 2023, by the voters of Grosse Pointe Park, approving the city administration's proposed revision to extend the summer tax bill due date from August 31st to September 14th.
- September 14th falls on a weekend day in 2024, making all summer taxes payable without interest (on the next business day) if received at City Hall on or before **September 16, 2024**.

Various payment options have been provided to you to ensure payment is able to be made timely:

- *By using our online services with the use of a credit card or ACH by visiting the link or QR code below*
- *U.S. mail service delivery must be no later than September 16, 2024, **postmarks are NOT accepted**.*
- *In person at the City Treasurer's Office cashier counter or by using the city payment drop box by 4:30 p.m.,*
- *If using your banking institutions Online Bill Direct pay service (which is no cost to the customer), please be sure to use your **parcel number** as the account number, when making payment.*
- Summer taxes become past due on September 17th, 2024, and will be assessed a 1% monthly interest rate.
- Summer taxes will be collected at the City of Grosse Pointe Park until February 28, 2025.
- Additional interest will be added **each month**, on the 1st of the month until the balance is paid or surrendered to the Wayne County Treasurer on March 1, 2025.
- The 1% monthly interest nor the 3% penalty added on February 15, 2025 can be waived by the City Treasurer.

MAKE PAYMENTS

Use a Credit Card, Debit, ACH, or Pre-Paid Card by visiting
Online Payment Tax Search | City of Grosse Pointe Park | BS&A Online (bsaonline.com)
 or scan the QR code:



Summer Tax Deferment

Application for the **Deferment of Summer Taxes** for applicants that **meet** the qualifications under MCL 211.51(3) can be found on the City's website under the Department of Treasury.

- Applicants can either populate the State fillable application online or pick up the State of Michigan application at the City Treasurer's office.
- Application cannot be made by phone.
- Applications **MUST BE signed by the principal resident or their power of attorney**.
- Applications **MUST BE** returned to the Treasury's office with their signed and filed 2023 State of Michigan Homestead Property Tax Credit & or 2023 IRS 1040 Income tax return **no later than 4:30 p.m. on September 16th** to be applicable.
- Applicants must meet the requirements of form 471:
 - *Income does not exceed \$40,000.*
 - *Property is your Principal Residents (where you live).*
 - *You meet one of the six criteria under the Principal Residents section, or you meet section two (2) of the application.*
- If you need a State of Michigan application mailed to you, **please** contact the Treasury office for a form.
- Eligible applicants will have until **February 14, 2025**, to pay the summer balance without interest or incur interest.
- Applicants that do not meet all the eligibility criteria **will be denied**.
- If applicants submit the form and do **NOT** meeting the eligibility criteria and/or have **NOT** provided the proper supporting documentation for "total" household income (**all sources**) not exceeding \$40,000 making the summer taxes due on or before the September 16, 2024, since September 15th falls on a Sunday this year.

Past Due: Summer and Winter 2023 Property Taxes

March 1, 2024, was the last day the City of Grosse Pointe Park collected either of the 2023's Summer or Winter Taxes.

The Wayne County Treasurer's Office **is now collecting 2023 delinquent taxes** on real property located within Wayne County.

The City of Grosse Pointe Park **cannot** accept payments for last year's real estate tax bills.

Property taxes **not paid** to the local Treasurers office **by the last day in February** (February 29, 2024) have been surrendered to Wayne County, on March 1, 2024 (as prescribed by law).

Past due 2023 Summer and Winter taxes are both due and payable to the **Wayne County Treasurer's office**.

Residents may get their past due balances from Wayne County by visiting their website at <https://pat.waynecounty.com/Home/>

To reach the Wayne County Treasurers office, their phone number is (313) 224-5990 during normal business hours (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.).

Residents can look up their current balance owed to Wayne County by searching for their property address or Parcel ID number.

Wayne County provides residents with the ability to make payment online, by using their mobile application, or by using one of their kiosk's locations.

Having trouble paying your past due summer or winter taxes, Wayne County also offers payment plans. On the website, click on **"Payment Options"** and the links provided to find out more about their payment plan information.

Water & Sewer Utility Billing

Each location throughout the city with a water meter receives a bimonthly invoice containing user-charges for water, sewer, and recycling collection fees.

- Invoices are created for the billing cycle on the 10th of the month.
- Residents/customers have a month to make payment without penalty, by the 10th of the month following the invoice date (30 days).
- Beginning on 7/1/2024 past due invoice balances will incur a **10% penalty** on the outstanding balance.
- Customers have various options available to them to make timely payments.
- Payment methods not only include making your payment at the Treasury office during normal business hours, but also using the city hall payment drop box or one of many different electronic payment options now available to each customer.
- The city's authorized fee schedule includes a \$30.00 Insufficient fee for any draft checks returned to the city for bad checks and will be assessed to the customer's invoice to cover costs.

Electronic Payment Options

The city replaced the All- Paid merchant service provider for taxes and utility billing in December of 2023. Residents/customers are now able to access not only their invoice information using our online services, but also make electronic payment.

- Bsaonline.com
 - Enroll in the ACH option @ \$2.25 per invoice processed or \$13.50 annually for utility billing & \$4.50 annually for the summer & winter tax payments.
 - Credit card/Digital Wallet @ 3% merchant service (fee retained by the merchant not the city) with a minimum fee of \$2.95 reduced from the prior merchant vendor with a minimum fee of 3.5% (and above based on the payment balances) up to 7%.
 - Text to pay options.
 - Scheduled payment options.
 - Paperless enrollment for Utility Bills and Tax Bills; however, tax bills will still be sent out in the mail as required. Please be sure to notify the City Assessors Office of any changes to your mailing address.
 - Online invoice enrollment provides our customers with invoice reminders and past due notifications.
- Online Bill Direct payment (no charge) through your personal banking institution by using your invoice four digit "Account Number" not the location identification number on your invoice.

City Chipping

Effective June 3rd, the city chipper will come around once a month on your designated trash day during the first full week of the month.

Starting Date: June 3rd

Frequency: Monthly

Pickup Day: Your regular trash day

What to expect:

City pickup will handle branches of 1 inch to 4 inches. Priority will continue weekly yard waste pickup on your designated trash pickup day.

This includes small sticks less than 1 inch, brush and grass. If the first full week includes a holiday, pickup will be moved to the following week to avoid any delays.

New Service Provider Priority Waste

Priority will be your new service provider.
Effective July 1, 2024

FAQs

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



How can I contact Priority?

Phone: (586) 228-1200
Live Chat: Prioritywaste.com



Will my service day stay the same? YES

Yes, your service day will remain the same. Please have your trash, recycling, and compost out by 7 am the day of your service. Remember, you have a collection day, not a collection time.



Will any of my services change? NO

No, Priority will perform the same services according to the contract specifications of your municipality.



Will my current carts be serviced? YES

Yes, Priority will service the existing carts that you are using. If you are in need of a cart repair, Contact us by phone or website.



What are the holidays Priority observes?

Priority observes the following holidays: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day

(586) 228-1200



PRIORITYwaste.com



Karate For Kids

Head Instructor: Lisa Santi

Instructors: Marino Santi/Francesca Ruggirello

Little Dragons Karate Camp (Ages 5 - 6) – This class is for new and returning students ages 5 & 6. Basic self-defense, kicking, blocking, and striking skills will be covered along with karate games geared at building confidence, coordination and balance.

Week 3 - Wednesday - Friday, August 7 - 9, 1:00pm - 2:00pm

Week 4 - Monday - Wednesday, August 12 - 14, 1:00pm - 2:00pm

\$65 per participant

Mighty Vipers Karate Camp (Ages 7 - 9) – This class is for new and returning students ages 7 - 9. Basic self-defense, kicking, blocking, and striking skills will be covered along with karate games geared at building confidence, coordination, and balance.

Week 3 - Wednesday - Friday, August 7 - 9, 2:15pm - 3:30pm

Week 4 - Monday - Wednesday, August 12 - 14, 2:15pm - 3:30pm

\$70 per participant

Peaceful Warriors Karate Camp (Ages 10 & up) – This class is for new and returning students ages 10 and up. (Younger students who have reached the rank of 8th gup purple belt may participate with Instructor Lisa Santi's permission). Students will work on self-defense skills, kicking, blocking, striking skills and forms, along with required basics needed for belt advancement.

Week 3 - Wednesday - Friday, August 7 - 9, 3:45pm - 5:45pm

Week 4 - Monday - Wednesday, August 12 - 14, 3:45pm - 5:45pm

\$90 per participant

Kids Art Camp

Each student will create an 11x14 inch canvas with a different theme as the primary focus of each class date. All materials will be included. All materials are ACMI certified non-toxic and washable. Classes will take place in the McKeever Lounge located upstairs in the Lavins Activity Center.

Ages 5 - 13

Monday - Friday, July 22 - 26, 1:00pm - 2:00pm

\$110 per participant

Single Day KUNGFU FAN SKILLS (Ages 7 & up) - This one-day class is for new or returning students ages 7 and up. The Chinese Fan is beautiful, practical, and can be used for self-defense. We will be learning a Kung Fu Fan Form (kata) along with how to use the fan for self-defense. The instructor will have practice fans students can use and share. This class will be held outside.

One Day - Tuesday, August 6, 1:00pm - 3:00 pm

\$40 per participant

Single Day NUNCHAKU SKILLS - This one-day class is for new or returning students ages 7 and up. Come learn how to swing the nunchaku for fun, hand eye coordination, and for self-defense. The instructor will have foam nunchaku that students can use for this class. This class will be held outside.

One Day - Monday, August 5, 1:00pm - 3:00 pm

\$40 per participant



30 Years of Martial Arts Excellence!

The Lavins Activity Center

Monday – Saturday 7:00 am - 7:00 pm

Sunday 10:00 am - 5:30 pm

Closed: Thursday, July 4, 2024 and

Monday, September 2, 2024

in observance of Independence Day and Labor Day holidays.

Thank you Grosse Pointe Park Foundation for their generous donation of a new playground at Windmill Pointe Park!



Photo credit: Jarrod Kudzia



Presented By:

Red Crown, The Bricks Pizzeria, Coreander’s Children’s Bookshoppe, LeRouge Boulangerie, Brine Oyster House, and Active & Leisure.

Saturday, July 27 and Saturday, August 24

6:00 – 10:00 p.m.

on Kercheval Avenue between Nottingham and Maryland

Saturday, July 27 will feature music by Laura Rain and the Ceasars, a mechanical bull, Ballistic carnival ride, vendor market, Patterson Park Playground Fundraiser Dunk Tank, Detroit Putts, and lots of food options.

Saturday, August 24 will feature music by Funky Diesel, bumper cars, Turbo Tubs carnival ride, vendor market, Mack Avenue Dance Center Performances, Grosse Pointe South Dance Team Dunk Tank, and lots of food options.

Other sponsors include:

Gold: Brosnan Builders, Ahee Jewelers, Carly Copus Insurance, Atwater in the Park, Harvey Animal Hospital, All-Well Being Services, and Pointe Alarm.

Silver: Belding Cleaners, GPH Services, Aesthetic Theory Medspa, Keller Williams Grosse Pointe, and flagstar.

Bronze: Rustic Cabins, Shaw’s Books, Lucido Real Estate, Duffey & Co., Crosspointe Church, Cellar 313, Simply Technology, Core & Main, and Mack Avenue Dance Center.

Knapsackers Program

This program will be led by compassionate, charismatic leaders who aim to build character and cultivate friendships among their participants. Through open ended, child driven play, Knapsackers will develop social-emotional skills and self-efficacy. For both the morning and afternoon sessions, kids will have opportunities to create their own art, play games, and go swimming. Each session spans one week, Monday through Friday, but families can enroll their children in multiple sessions. All children must be potty trained and well behaved. Failure to do so may result in removal from program without refund. Please register participants in-person at the Lavins Activity Center or online

Grosse Pointe Park residents will be able to sponsor friends and family for this summer’s Knapsackers sessions. A Grosse Pointe Park resident will need to come in person to the Lavins Activity Center with the family they will be sponsoring to register them for each session of interest.

Ages 3-7, Cost \$150 Per Session - Per Time Slot

- Week II** July 8–July 12
- Week III** July 15–July 19
- Week IV** July 29–Aug. 2
- Week V** August 5–August 9
- Week VI** August 12–August 16
- Week VII** August 19–August 23

Morning Sessions – 9:00 am -12:00 pm

Afternoon Sessions – 1:00 pm-4:00 pm

Each session/time slot requires a minimum of 5 participants

Visit www.grossepointepark.org for pool hours of operation.

Patterson Park Playground Volunteer Date

Come be a part of working with the Recreation Commission and Patterson Park Subcommittee as they look for volunteers for updating the Patterson Park playscape.” Staining and pea gravel installation on **Saturday, August 24.**

For more information or interested in volunteering, please email craigc@grossepointepark.org.



Photo credit: Stedman Taylor

Camp Wind-Y-Mill

Mark your calendars now for Camp Wind-Y-Mill 2024!

Friday, September 6 – Sunday, September 8

Registration will begin on Monday, August 12 at 9:00 a.m.

Register online at www.recpro.grossepointepark.org.

Fall Plant Exchange

Exchange HEALTHY plants, seeds and gardening supplies with fellow gardeners. Tables provided to share your garden treasures. Get advice from gardening experts. Please label your plants and seeds for display.

Sponsored by The Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission

First Saturday in October

9:30 - 11:30 am

Tompkins Community Center, Windmill Pointe Park-Rain or Shine