



Letter from the Mayor

Time to make Garden City a walkable community!



A few months ago, the Garden City Council updated a number of City Ordinances. One of the most important changes include the revising of the City Sidewalk Ordinance. After years of our residents having to walk in the street due to the lack of sidewalks, and many City Councils of the past discussing the issue, the current City Council has decided to start the City on the path to become fully walkable.

To give you an idea how we got here, allow me to offer a bit of history of our City. The origins of Garden City started with the transfer of the property to John Lathers from Andrew Jackson for 160 acres in October 1835. The city was patterned after the "garden city" concept that became popular in England during the 19th century, with most home sites sectioned off into 1-acre plots to allow adequate farming area to support the family with fruit and vegetables. Now, while most sites are considerably smaller today with little room for gardening of fruits and vegetables, areas of the city still include some large lots where an extra street has not been placed between two of the older streets. In June 1927, Garden City became a Village, and six years later the Village became the City of Garden City in 1933.

Since the City was more of a farming community west of the populated City of Detroit, sidewalks were given little thought as to being important. What was a small community by the mid-century, has now become a very populated City with schools spread-out across the City. Due to the lack of sidewalks, children walking to school, seniors on scooters, walkers, and joggers all must travel in the street.

To correct this deficiency and develop Garden City into a safe and walkable community, sidewalks MUST be installed in the following instances:

§ 94.35 (D) *The owner of any lot or property in the City must install sidewalks in front of and along the side of any property, along any roadway, which is currently vacant of sidewalks, in the following circumstances:*

- (1) *A new home is being built on an empty lot.*
- (2) *The lot or property is being sold.*
- (3) *The lot or property is currently being used as a rental or is being permitted as a rental property.*

No certificate of occupancy will be issued to the homeowner or renter until the sidewalk is installed.

By passing this law, the City Council is not compelling long-term homeowners to install sidewalks immediately. It is the hope of the City Council that over time our residents will find the City to be more inviting and safe to walk; through the installation of sidewalks when a house is built, sold, or turned into a rental property. While it will still take some time for the City to become fully walkable, we must act at some point. Imagine how many more sidewalks we would have in the City if this law were in place 20 years ago? Thank you for your understanding of our desire to continue Garden City as a neighborly, friendly City.

Randy Walker

Mayor of Garden City



How much work do you put into your property? A big thank you goes out to these residents who painstakingly keep their property in top shape.

**Please help clean-up Garden City this summer!
Purple bags are now available for pick-up
in City Hall.**

Need A Little Extra Support Putting Food on Your Table?

Garden City's Parks and Rec. Department has a wonderful food program available to our residents called the "Our Home Pantry", with regular service and emergency bags. Call Pat Rybak to see if you qualify and set up your intake appointment today. **734-793-1859**



Our Home Pantry Is by Appointment Only

On Shred Day, "Our Home Pantry" received \$706 and 900 pounds of food to help our community! Thank you!!!

“GARDEN CITY UNIVERSITY” STARTS ITS INAUGURAL CLASS THIS FALL

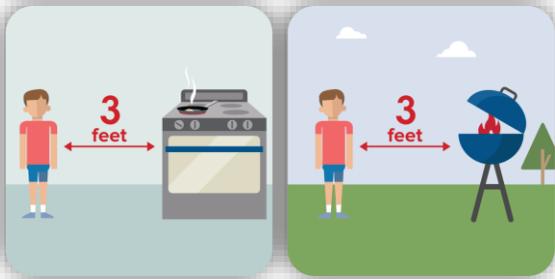
The goal of offering “Garden City University” is to provide citizens the opportunity to learn about the City’s services and operations. Residents can learn more about the City’s municipal government and the services it provides by attending a series of classes that offer citizens a diverse background of Garden City. The six-week course is free and will meet every other Wednesday evening from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The course will cover a number of topics, including City administration, public works, public safety, finance, parks & rec and a variety of areas related to Garden City’s municipal government. The aim of Garden City University is to provide residents with a better understanding of the government’s role and its relationship with its citizens, as well as tours of City facilities and time to speak with the City’s leaders.

To be eligible for the program, and to receive a graduation diploma, participants must be: 17 years of age or older; Live in the City of Garden City; and not miss more than two sessions. The first class will have a maximum of 30 participants, with a waiting list being compiled for a future class. You will be contacted as to when your class will begin.



The start date is expected to be in September, and applications will be available on the City website.

HAVE A SAFE SUMMER Keep kids 3’ away from danger!



Animal license season is here! License your animals before August 2, 2021

Starting August 3, 2021 / \$10.00 late fee



Animal Licenses can be obtained in-person at City Hall. The fees are \$10 per year for spayed / neutered animals and \$20 per year for non-spayed / neutered animals.

GC Downtown Development Authority

Lucky Squirrel Flea Market, Craft, & Vendor Event

Arts, Crafts, Antiques, etc...

THE THIRD SATURDAY
July 17, August 21 & Sept. 18
10am – 3pm

For registration info call
734.261.2830

www.downtowngardencity.com



As a reminder...



Sorry, but there is no reprieve on sewer costs when filling a swimming pool or using yard sprinklers. Your sewer cost is directly related to your water usage, and the City is charged the fee through the Great Lakes Water Authority. The City MUST pay for all water used through the GLWA, as well as all sewer costs determined by the GLWA.

Therefore, the City cannot waive any sewer fees for filling up pools or water fees for toilets that were left running all day.

AVOID THE LEGAL PROCESS...

No house or building in the City of Garden City can be used as a “grow house” for marijuana. This includes your own home!

Check-for-Leaks

Today, walk around your home and check for leaks in your toilets and faucets, inside and out. Many residents must pay high water bills because they either leave their house with the toilet running, or the toilet has a slow leak because the flapper needs to be replaced. Save yourself a money by doing some simple maintenance.



← City Hall –
Henri Gervex,
Café Scene in
Paris



Detroit Institute of Arts Inside/Out 2021 Program

The Detroit museum partnered with the City of Garden City and the DDA to display high-quality reproductions of masterpieces in the DIA’s collection. The exterior paintings will be on display between May to October at the following locations around the City: City Hall, Garden City Park, Maplewood Community Center, Historical Museum, Orin Jewelers, Salvation Army, and Dairy Queen.

2021 IMPORTANT PROPERTY TAX DATES

Summer Tax Bills Mailed	July 01, 2021
Summer Tax Bills Due	August 31, 2021
Winter Tax Bills Mailed	December 01, 2021
Winter Tax Bills Due	February 14, 2022
Last Day to Pay Taxes	February 28, 2022

If you do not receive a tax bill, please contact the Tax/Assessing Department at (734) 793-1610. Failure to receive a bill does NOT waive penalties and/or interest.

NO SMOKING IN CITY PARKS

According to City Ordinance “93.12 SMOKE FREE PARKS, the lighting up or smoking of tobacco or any other substance, or smoking, consumption or use of marijuana products or derivatives, or use of vapor products or nicotine alternatives, is prohibited within all Garden City Parks, unless it is in the vehicle parking area and over 100 feet from the grass surface of a park.”