



Letter from the Mayor

Unbelievable Flooding!



This past couple of months saw rainstorms and flooding, the likes of which the region has never seen before. The June 25th and 26th rainfall measured around 6.5" of rain in a 5-hour period of time. The result was that the streets were flooded throughout Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Livonia, Westland, Wayne, and Inkster – not just Garden City. In fact, of Garden City's nearly 12,000 properties, over 1,200 have stated that their basements were flooded from the storm. From end to end of the City, many people were affected by some type of damage. For several days, the City's Public Works Department worked around the clock to jet sewers and help homeowners wherever they could.

My own house flooded with 9" of sewage submerging my basement. In addition, many City staff members were also among the 1,200 properties flooded during the torrential storm. As I stated above, no one was left unaffected in some way by the storm and its effects.

What caught most people off guard was that either the sump pump in their basement was inoperable, or they did not have a portable sump pump and hose available to drain their basements onto their front lawn. Might I suggest whether you experienced flooding this past summer or not, that you invest in one or two portable sump pumps and hoses just in case you find your basement flooding in the future. While we hope to not experience such an event at anytime in the future, it is better to be safe than sorry by investing into the tools that you may need one day.



For those properties affected, the City immediately promoted the application process for filing flood information and accepted the applications for distribution to Wayne County and the State Emergency Officials. The City then arranged for FEMA to be housed at the Maplewood Center to facilitate requests for emergency funding through the federal government. Fortunately, such a tragedy brought out the best in people as neighbors helped each other to get through such a time. Thank you to those residents that went out of their way to help others in need. This is why Garden City is a great place to call home!

Randy Walker
Mayor of Garden City

Catch Basin Debris

If you have a catch basin/storm drain in the road in front of your house, please keep it clear of leaves and debris so that the water drains off the sidewalks and roadway. If the drain appears to be clogged with more than leaves and debris than you can remove yourself, please call Public Works at (734) 793-1800.



What is "Uncapping your taxes"

When a new homeowner buys a house, the annual cost of taxes usually increases forcing the new owner to pay more in taxes than the previous owner. New owners often expect to pay the same in taxes as the last owner. This does not happen because when the transfer is made, the old value of the home is changed to the new value, which inevitably increases the cost of the taxes to the new owner. The term "uncapping" indicates that the home is reevaluated at its new value, which usually means an increase in taxes. This isn't always understood by new owners who are understandably frustrated when they realize their taxes are higher than what they thought they would be.



Homeowner Tip – Ground Feeding Attracts rats

To help keep rodents off your property, store pet food in closed containers and never leave it outside in open dishes, especially overnight. Clean up around bird feeders. Rats are attracted to nuts and seeds. Be sure to pick up fallen fruit from your fruit trees and clean your BBQ well, because rats love leftovers. Keep your garbage cans lidded and never leave trash in plastic bags outside. Finally, clean up your animal waste in a timely manner. Rats eat dog poop!

Rats also need water, so fix any leaks in your irrigation equipment. Do not leave any pools of water outside like pet water bowls. Keep in mind that bird baths and fishponds may also attract rodents.





See a Street Light Out -

If you notice a streetlight not turning on, please go to the following web address to report it.
<https://www.dteenergy.com/cso/pltr/initTrouble.do?customerType=residential>

See a Traffic Light Out -

Traffic Light problems, call Wayne County at (734) 955-2163.



See a Pothole -

* Potholes on City of Garden City streets, call (734) 793-1800.

* Potholes on Ford Road and County Roads:

For Inkster, Middelbelt, Merriman, Venoy, Cherry Hill, and Warren, call (888) 762-3273.

As a reminder...

The City has been clearly relaying resident's concerns to our trash contractor GFL regarding the limited service that has been periodically happening over the last year. Due to the unintended consequences of COVID-19, our trash hauler is dealing with a shortage of staff and new drivers not familiar with the City routes.

In speaking with other cities in the region, everyone is being affected by a similar experience, even with other trash haulers.



Mother and Son: Let's Have Some Fun

\$8 per person - Ages 6-10

Friday, Nov 5th - 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Maplewood Center - Call (734) 793-1850

Community Shred Day

Saturday, October 23rd

10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

City Hall Parking Lot

6000 Middlebelt Road Garden City, MI 48135

We will accept up to five paper grocery bags or cardboard banker's boxes of sensitive paper documents from Garden City residents & businesses to shred at no charge - NO PLASTIC BAGS PLEASE!

PLUS:

Prescription Drug Disposal

Pills only, no liquids/needles

HOME Pantry Food Donations Accepted

Non-perishable foods, toiletries, and cash donations



Interested in working for the City?

- Full-time job openings are advertised through the City webpage at gardencitymi.org
- From the home page, click on the "Employment Opportunities" icon. This will take you to the link for all current openings.
- The City is currently accepting applications for **full-time Firefighter/Paramedics and Public Works employees.**

Please see the full description on our website

"GARDEN CITY UNIVERSITY" STARTS ITS INAUGURAL CLASS IN OCTOBER

The goal of offering "Garden City University" is to provide citizens the opportunity to learn about the City's services and operations. 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.

For more information and how to register, go to: www.gardencitymi.org/740/Garden-City-University



HALLOWEEN EGG HAUNT

Sat. October 16th - 8:00 p.m.

Costume Competition starts at 7:30 p.m.

City Park Ball Fields

(Cherry Hill & Merriman)

Do you like Easter Egg Hunts? Don't miss Garden City's first-ever Egg Haunt!

The FREE event will have three age groups (0-3, 4-6, 7-10), where Garden City youth will be able to hunt for thousands of purple and orange eggs with the use of only glow sticks.

Come early in costume if you want to be in the costume competition - Which will have winners as homemade & store-bought costumes. Judging at 7:30 p.m.!

HALLOWEEN EGG HAUNT



Oct 16

8:00pm

FREE

City Park Softball Fields



LIVE!

HALLOWEEN EGG HAUNT

THRILLER DANCE

Whether you have children or not, plan to stop by the Egg Haunt and see Garden City's Inaugural Thriller Dance. Presented by the City's Dance Express program, see the zombies appear from the crowd to dance to the famous Michael Jackson song "Thriller."

You have heard the song and seen the video for years, but now is your chance to see it performed live just minutes before the Egg Haunt begins at 8 p.m. on Oct. 16th, City Park.

Nerf Wars - Ages 7-9

\$15 per person - Sat., Nov 6th, 11 a.m.

Maplewood Center - Call (734) 793-1850

Halloween Skate

\$10 per skater - Sat., Oct 30th, 7-8:20 p.m.

Best Costume Contest / Garden City Ice Arena