



Grosse Pointe NOW

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Fall 2017



Mayor Dale Scrace

City Council Members

Christopher Boettcher
Donald Parthum Jr.
John Stempfle
Sheila Tomkowiak
Andrew Turnbull
Christopher Walsh

City Personnel

Peter Dame
City Manager
Julie Arthurs
Asst. City Manager/Clerk
Kimberly Kleinow
Finance Director
Stephen Poloni
Public Safety Director
Pete Randazzo
Public Service Supervisor
Patrick Thomas
Public Service Supervisor
Christopher Hardenbrook
Recreation Director

Municipal Judge

Russell Ethridge

Phone Numbers

City Hall 885-5800
Public Safety 886-3200
Municipal Court 343-5262
Neff Park Office 343-5257

ReLeaf Grosse Pointe Help Restore the City's Tree Canopy



The City of Grosse Pointe's newly created Urban Forestry Commission is launching a new initiative to enhance the City's tree canopy. This citizen inspired endeavor intends to restore the once heralded huge tree canopy that used to line both sides of Grosse Pointe's residential streets. Mostly comprised of American Elms in the 1950's, the trees met at the center to form a cathedral-like canopy of green. But with Dutch elm disease, this canopy was decimated. While maples and ash trees were planted to replace the elms, the ash tree population also has been decimated by disease, in this case by the emerald ash borer. As a result, the City has significant gaps in its tree canopy.

The City's Urban Forestry Commission has put together a Master Plan to address these issues and to promote education about and care of the City's valuable tree assets. The Commission, comprised of five citizen volunteers, has identified spots for more than a hundred trees to be planted in the City's parkways. The goal is to raise \$35,000 to supplement the City's tree replacement budget through grants and donations. The Urban Forestry Commission invites you to help "ReLeaf Grosse Pointe" by making a tax deductible contribution that would be dedicated to restoring the fullest possible tree canopy. Checks should be made out to "the City of Grosse Pointe Foundation" with "ReLeaf Grosse Pointe" on the memo line and envelope and sent to City Hall c/o the City of Grosse Pointe Foundation at 17147 Maumee. If you have any questions, please contact the City Forester, a certified arborist, at 885-5800.

Construction Updates

While the major water main upgrade project is winding up with restoration of the sidewalks, driveways and parkways, this year's street resurfacing projects, funded by the Road Improvement Program millage, are about half-way completed. You can check the latest weekly updates on all of these projects from the City's website at www.grossepointecity.org. The last road project to get started is on Kercheval Place, the street in The Village between Notre Dame and Cadieux serving businesses such as Notre Dame Pharmacy and Bayne Optical. One lane of traffic will be maintained during the project and all the businesses will remain open. The City will provide free parking, as a courtesy, in City Lot #6 behind Chez Lou Lou during the course of this month long project. Please support and continue to patronize your favorite restaurants such as Village Grille, City Kitchen and Einstein's and all of the other businesses there during the construction.

A couple of utility projects are also underway. AT&T is installing a new state of the art fiber optic system throughout the entire City. You may see their contractors placing loops of black wire on the telephone poles or underground where there are easements. Except to coordinate with other construction projects, DTE's plans to upgrade the City's gas lines are being postponed, as the high pressure gas line upgrades in Grosse Pointe Farms, Shores and Woods are taking longer than expected. Next year, DTE plans to focus on the gas and service line replacements in the areas between Lake St. Clair and Maumee, and reserve upgrading the rest of the City until 2019.

**Trick or Treating
hours
in the City are
Tuesday, October 31
5:30 - 8:00 pm**

**Halloween in
The Village,
see page 3**

City News

City Council Extends Hotel Feasibility Period

The City Council has extended until the end of the year the time allotted for the City to work with the developer selected earlier this year to explore the feasibility of a mixed use development including a hotel on City Lots 2 and 3 in The Village, on the north side of Kercheval. Earlier this year, the Council selected Pedersen Development from three developers as the best suited to work with to examine the feasibility of such a development. This group proposed a 125 room Cambria Suites hotel, with a parking structure, condos and commercial space as part of a development across both City owned parking lots. Over the last six months, Pedersen Development has examined several alternative scenarios that move the hotel onto Lot 2 instead of on Lot 3, in response to initial concerns from businesses adjacent to Lot 3. The first version of an alternative concept would involve building the hotel above a public parking structure. The City also initiated a parking study to help ensure that there is sufficient parking for the new development and the existing businesses as alternative scenarios are discussed and evaluated. Information about this study is available on the City website at www.grossepointecity.org. There is also financial analysis, environmental study, construction phasing and impact planning yet to do. The developer has been meeting with business community stakeholders and remains committed to developing a project that fits, is in keeping with the character of City and The Village, and is financially sustainable without using tax dollars from residents as required by Council.

Rubbish Pickup for Winter Holidays

Thanksgiving day's rubbish pickup will be on Saturday, November 25.

Rubbish pickup for the week of December 25 will be delayed one day.

Rubbish pickup for the week of January 1, 2018 will be delayed one day.

Recycling Pickup will follow the rubbish schedule above.

A NOTE FROM JOHN SHOOK, PRESIDENT CITY OF GROSSE POINTE FOUNDATION

Dear fellow Grosse Pointers:

I would like to take a moment to remind and introduce you to our Foundation. The Foundation has been supporting our community by funding non-tax dollar projects and activities for over 30 years!! These projects and activities are highlighted on our website located at www.cityofgpfoundation.org. We encourage you to view the many projects and activities sponsored by your generous contributions.

Please take pride in our beautiful city by making a donation and becoming a member of the Foundation. The annual appeal letter will be mailed soon or you can access our website and make a contribution through the payment site.

I thank you in advance for continuing to make our community a special place to live and play.

Important Dates

- Parks and Recreation Fall programs are listed on page 3.
- City General Election to be held on November 7. All residents vote at Maire School. Polls open from 7 am to 8 pm - see page 4.
- The Village Aglow Tree Lighting Ceremony held on November 17 from 5:30 - 6:30 pm.
- City Offices closed on November 23 & 24 for the Thanksgiving holiday.
- City Offices closed on December 25 & 26 for the Christmas holiday.
- City Offices closed on January 1 & 2, 2018 for the New Year holiday.

Parks and Recreation

Fall Programs

Halloween in The Village

Kids will be able to fill their candy bags even more as The Village hosts its annual Halloween event. This trick-or-treating event will be hosted by the City's DDA and Parks and Recreation Department.

Village Trick-or-Treating: Tuesday, October 31
3:30 – 4:45 pm



Platform Tennis Seasonal Memberships and Reservations

For the 2017-2018 season, residents will need to purchase a \$100 seasonal membership or a \$10 daily pass to play. Seasonal membership applications are available at City Hall, the park office and from the City's website. The platform tennis courts can be reserved up to three days in advance. All reservations must be made by 3:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Call the department office about scheduling court time or to get the court access code. Please have your park pass and membership number available.

Platform Tennis Reservation Play October 1 to April 30 - - Everyday, 8:00 am – 10:00 pm

Important Marina Information If you currently have a boat in the marina, please remember the following dates:

- November 1** Boats must be removed from the marina
Renewal applications due with a minimum deposit of 50% (**a \$5 per week late fee will be enforced**)
- February 1** Remaining 50% of well deposit due

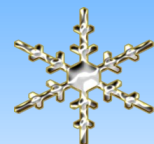
Boat Well and Boat Rack Renewal Information

- If you are on any of the waiting list(s), a reminder renewal card will be sent to you after January 1. This card, along with the fee, must be returned to the City by **February 1st** to maintain your spot on the waiting list(s).
- 2017 Small Boat Rack Renewal Agreements and Fees are due by **March 1, 2018**.

When the weather gets cold... Ice Rink and Warming Room

What would winter be without outdoor ice skating? For those who don't take to the cold, the warming room will be available. The warming room will be closed on holidays.

Neff Park Ice Rink Warming Room December 2017 – March 2018
Everyday, 12:00 – 7:00 pm



Saturday Warming Fires

This year we will be continuing the weekend warming fires catered with s'mores and hot chocolate during each Saturday that the Neff Park Ice Rink and Warming Room is open.

More City News

City General Election – November 7, 2017

AM I ELIGIBLE TO VOTE?

You must be registered to vote 30 days prior to an election to be eligible to vote. The registration deadline for the City General Election is *October 10*. You can verify your voter registration status at the State of Michigan website at www.michigan.gov/vote or at your local City Clerk's office.

WHERE DO I VOTE?

All registered voters who live in the City vote at: **Maire School - 740 Cadieux Rd. Hours: 7:00 am to 8:00 pm** (use entrance off parking lot on Waterloo Avenue). All voters will vote at Maire School.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Absentee ballot applications are available on the City website under City Clerk, Downloads or at City Hall for those ages 60 and over or persons who will be out of town during voting hours. If you plan to be out of town, please make application for an absentee ballot as soon as possible. You can verify your absentee ballot application status at www.michigan.gov/vote.

SAMPLE BALLOTS Sample ballots are available. Pick up at City Hall or review on the City website under City Clerk, Elections.

PICTURE I.D. REQUIRED

Every Michigan voter who applies to vote at the polls must show picture identification or sign an affidavit attesting that he or she is not in possession of picture identification.

EXTRAS Please ensure you are properly registered, bring picture identification to the polls and familiarize yourself with the candidates and proposals on the ballot. Thank you in advance for your patience and for helping make Election day run smoothly.

If you have any questions regarding the upcoming election, please contact the City Clerk's office at 885-5800 or check online at www.grossepointecity.org under City Clerk, Elections.

SNOW REMOVAL REMINDERS

Plowing and Salting - Streets will be plowed when snow fall is 3 inches or greater. Streets with less than 3 inches of snow will not be plowed, but will be spot salted. The City does not salt streets to a bare road surface. The City does not salt or plow private roads.

Sidewalk - The clearing of snow from sidewalks adjacent to private property is the responsibility of the property owners or resident. As a courtesy, when snowfall accumulation is greater than 2 inches, the City will clear sidewalks during regular working hours, 5:30 am to 4 pm, Monday through Friday.

Upcoming Meetings

Council Chambers, 17145 Maumee Ave.

Oct. 16	City Council	7:00 pm
Nov. 13	City Council	7:00 pm
Dec. 18	City Council	7:00 pm

FALL LEAF SEASON REMINDERS

- Leaf pickup begins **Monday, October 16**. The pickup days are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Please see map on leaf flyer insert or City website to find out what your pickup day is.
- Place or rake loose leaves into neat piles on the edge of the street after 4:00 pm **on the day before your scheduled pickup**. Leaves left on the parkway grass area will not be picked up. **DO NOT RAKE LEAVES INTO STREET UNTIL THE DAY BEFORE YOUR PICKUP DATE.**
- Street parking is not allowed on leaf collection day. Any obstructions caused by cars, construction vehicles, etc. will be by-passed and leaves will not be picked up until the next regularly scheduled pickup date. Vehicles parked in violation may be ticketed.
- **The leaf collection period will run from October 16 through December 7.** Leaves will not be picked up after December 7 due to equipment availability and residents will be required to bag and store leaves until spring.