

Dear Neighbors,

As your City Council Member-at-Large, I want to ensure our citizens are informed and engaged with everything happening in our city. In this newsletter you will find information on issues important to Detroiters such as the new water and drainage rates, tax payment options, the City Wide Lead Hazard Reduction Program, my coffee hours, DDOT's Fresh Wagon program, and the Improve Detroit app.

Since I have been in office I have worked my hardest to serve every Detroiters, including our most vulnerable citizens. I established the Returning Citizen's Task Force to help reintegrate formerly incarcerated Detroiters into the community and reduce recidivism rates. I helped tackle blight by getting an amendment passed to the current

blight ordinance that prohibits violators from receiving new building permits if they have other properties blighting our city. I was involved in establishing Project Green Light which places well lit, high definition video feeds at businesses all over the city to deter crime, help business growth, and protect customers. I'm working with the American Civil Liberties Union and Michigan United on an ordinance that provides returning citizens a fair chance at housing and employment.

These are just a few of the issues I care deeply about and have been devoting my attention to since day one. However, I want to continue hearing from you about what is important to our communities. During my time spent across our city attending community

and block club meetings, hosting coffee hours, and knocking doors, I have listened to residents from all walks of life about the topics that matter to them and ways I can better serve. Whether I'm working with the law department to draft new legislation, working with our police and fire departments to improve public safety, or meeting with community groups to better understand the problems Detroiters face, I am constantly striving to improve the place that you and I call home.

My staff and I have already had the privilege of speaking to many Detroit residents. If we haven't met yet, I encourage you to contact my office and to be on the lookout for future events and community group meetings where I would love to meet you in person.

Please feel free to contact me anytime at (313) 224-4248 or by email at councilmemberayers@detroitmi.gov.

Sincerely,

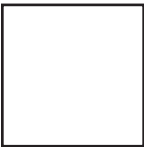


Janeé L. Ayers
Council Member at-Large
City of Detroit



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CHAN

New Changes to DWSD Billing

This month, the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) has started to make a series of changes in how it charges customers for drainage services. DWSD will bill customers based on parcel identification number. Billing for 22,000 properties, like parking lots, not currently charged for drainage will begin this month. Near-term changes will mostly affect commercial and industrial customers. Changes for most residential customers won't start until October 2017. When this happens, the vast majority of residents will see a small, if any, difference in how much they are charged for drainage services.

There are three different services that DWSD provides and charges for -- **water, sewage, and drainage**. The first is the use of water for cooking, cleaning, drinking, etc. The second is the removal of used or dirty water from our toilets, baths, and sinks. The third is the removal of rainwater that runs off our roofs and driveways that goes into the sewer instead of the ground. The term that the DWSD is using to describe hard surfaces, like roofs and driveways, that

don't absorb water is "impervious." Some customers are billed based on the size of their water meter, while other customers are billed based on the amount of impervious surface on their property. By 2018, all customers will be billed the same rate.

Since DWSD announced these changes in drainage charges, there has been a lot of public outcry and much of it has come from churches and business owners throughout the city. In the past, DWSD charged for drainage services if a customer had a water account. For example, a parking lot owner downtown who has no use for running water at his business would not receive a bill from DWSD, even though rainwater landing on his property would be flowing into the sewer system. Now, all property owners that drain to the city's sewer system will be charged for drainage, even if they do not have a water hookup. This has increased the number of customers the department has, and has also greatly increased bills for existing customers that have always used water and were charged for it, but weren't charged for the water runoff from their properties.

Residents who have bought side lots that have over 400 square feet of impervious surface, like a driveway, will now be charged for drainage services. However, because these surfaces are small, the average drainage charge is around \$20.

DWSD will offer credits for customers who install "green infrastructure" practices that remove storm water from the sewer system. Customers who have disconnected downspouts, rain barrels, rain gardens, pavement that soak up water, etc., can earn up to 80% credit on their drainage bill.

Property owners can see how much impervious surface they have by using DWSD's Parcel Viewer: <http://arcg.is/29KWCpY>. For more information, visit DWSD's drainage website:

www.detroitmi.gov/drainage

Wayne County Treasurer

New Tax Payment Methods and Programming Kiosk Locations

Did you know you can make your tax payments online, by mail, by phone, or in person? Our new Wayne County Treasurer Eric R. Sabree is making paying your taxes easier.

You should consider the cost of various payment options. If you pay in person you will likely pay \$10 per monthly visit for parking, totalling a minimum of \$120 over the course of a year. You will also have to wait to see a cashier. If you mail your payment you only pay for postage and

the relatively low cost of getting certified funds from the post office, so the total cost would be approximately \$25 for a year. The additional cost to pay online is \$0.

You can order a receipt when paying online and one will be emailed to you. If paying by mail or the drop box, you can include a self addressed envelope and a receipt will be mailed to you.

To pay online, visit:
www.waynecounty.com/treasurer/treasurer_payonline.htm

To mail your payment, make your check payable to:
Wayne County Treasurer
P.O.Box 33555
Detroit, MI 48232-5555

To pay in person, the address is:
The Office of the Wayne County Treasurer:
International Center
400 Monroe, 5th Floor
Detroit, Michigan 48226

Open: Monday - Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday Extended Hours 8:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Delinquent Tax Payments can also be made at Kiosks conveniently located across the city:

DTE Energy HQ
One energy Plaza 2000
2nd Ave
Detroit, MI 48226

DTE Energy Payment Center
2835 Bagley
Detroit, MI 48216

DTE Energy Payment Center
14858 E 8 Mile. Rd
Detroit, MI 48205

DTE Energy Payment Center
3000 Gratiot Ave Ste 400
Detroit, MI 48207

Samaritan Center
5555 Conner St. #2210
Detroit, MI 48213

Northwest Activity Center
18100 Meyers
Detroit, MI 48235

Focus Hope
1300 Oakman Blvd
Detroit, MI 48238

Rite Aid
19150 Wyoming Ave
Detroit, MI 48221

Rite Aid #4266
7843 West Vernor Hwy
Detroit, MI 48209

Rite Aid #4355
17170 Harper Ave
Detroit, MI 48224

Rite Aid #4595
4612 Woodward Ave
Detroit, MI 48201

Rite Aid #4498
13939 Livernois Ave
Detroit, MI 48224

Rite Aid #4526
1900 East 8 Mile Rd
Detroit, MI 48234

Rite Aid #4414
19160 Greenfield
Detroit, MI 48235

Rite Aid #4843
10950 Gratiot Ave
Detroit, MI 48213

Feel free to reach out to the Wayne County Treasurer's office at [313-224-5590](tel:313-224-5590) if you have any additional questions.



CITY WIDE LEAD HAZARD

Reduction Program



Each year, approximately 1,300 children and 750 adults are newly diagnosed with harmful levels of lead exposure in Michigan. It is vital to the health of families that we get our homes inspected for lead-based paint and other hazards.

The objective of the City Wide Lead Hazard Reduction Program is to remediate lead-based paint hazards and the conditions that contribute to these hazards in single-family, owner occupied properties where children under the age of six reside. The focus is on where children with an elevated blood lead level (EBLL) of ten (10) or more reside.

This program provides financial assistance for the reduction of lead-based paint and other hazards in residential dwelling units located in the City of Detroit. The City

Wide Lead Hazard Reduction Program offers a forgivable loan tied to a self-discharging three (3) year lien on the property. The maximum funding amount per property where lead hazards exists is \$24,950. The Program is funded by City of Detroit's Community Development Block Grant Funds and HUD Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control and, therefore must adhere to all program guidelines and regulations.

The City Wide Lead Hazard Reduction Program targets children under the age of six exposed to and poisoned by Lead-Based Paint Hazards in single-family, owner-occupied properties. However, applications are also available to households with pregnant women and/or where a child under six years of age visits at least six hours a week on a consistent basis.

Applicants are approved on a first come, first serve basis, however, priority will be given to households with children identified as having an elevated blood level (EBLL).

Eligible applicants must have a gross annual household income (from all sources) that is less than 80% of the area median. Applicants who cannot document household income from any source are not be eligible to apply. The following represents the maximum gross annual income that is eligible based upon family household size for this year. The maximum income may change on an annual basis as determined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

MAX ANNUAL INCOME

- Family of one: \$36,200
- Family of two: \$41,400
- Family of three: \$46,550
- Family of four: \$51,700
- Family of five: \$55,850
- Family of six: \$60,000
- Family of seven: \$64,150
- Family of eight: \$68,250

APPLICATION PROCEDURE
Obtain an Application Package from the Housing & Revitalization Department at 2 Woodward Ave. Suite 908, Detroit, Michigan 48226 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday or by calling my office at 313-224-4248.

The application must be completed and signed by the applicants. A copy of all required documents must be turned in with the application - the office will not make copies for you.

WHERE:
8825 E
JEFFERSON AVE
DETROIT, MI
48214

WHEN:
FRIDAY, NOV. 4
9:00AM - 11:00AM

FREE!

JANEÉ L. AYERS
COUNCIL MEMBER AT LARGE

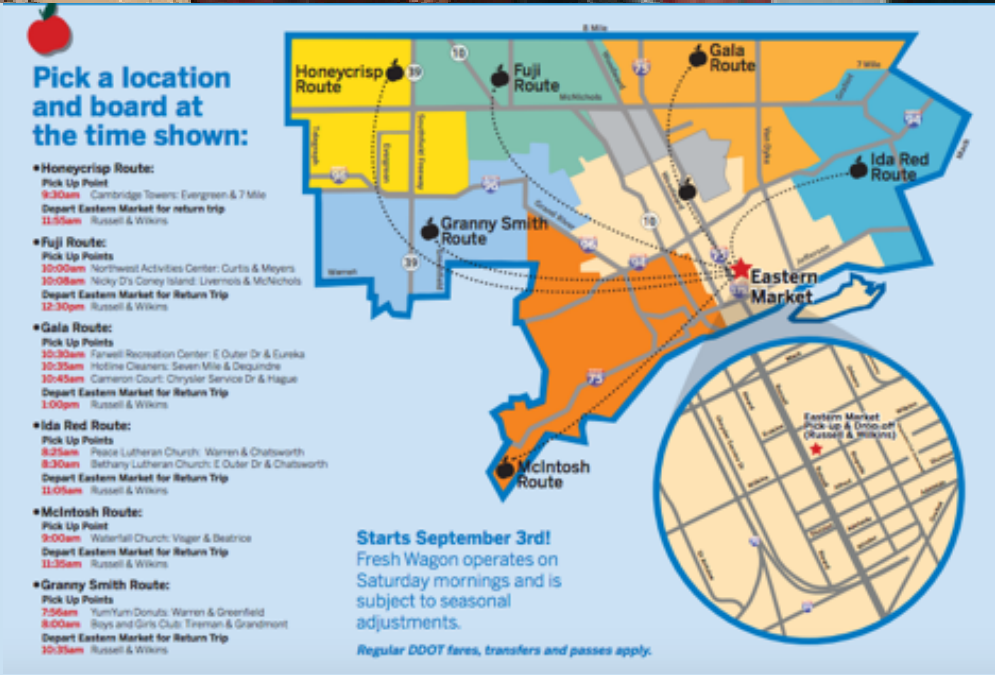
COFFEE HOURS ARE A CHANCE TO MEET WITH YOUR AT-LARGE COUNCIL MEMBER IN AN INFORMAL SETTING. YOU CAN ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT ISSUES IMPACTING YOUR COMMUNITY, GET MORE INFORMATION ON CITY GOVERNMENT OR OFFER IDEAS AND SOLUTIONS FOR MATTERS FACING OUR CITY.

(313)-224-4248 COUNCILMEMBERAYERS@DETROITMI.GOV



FRESH WAGON

DDOT has been working to make improvements and is rolling out some of these changes soon. “Fresh Wagon” is a new program based on discussions at community meetings about the lack of accessibility to fresh produce in the city. Fresh Wagon will provide a direct, nonstop bus every Saturday to Eastern Market from various neighborhoods. Each route offers one round-trip.



IMPROVE DETROIT

SEECCLICKFIX

There are many easy ways to report issues or request services in the city.

Download the “Improve Detroit” App for your phone at the Apple App store or the Android Market.

To report an issue from your computer visit www.detroitmi.gov/How-Do-I/Mobile-Apps/ImproveDetroit and follow the instructions.



You can also go to seeclickfix.com/detroit

Report problems and ask questions of other users. Stay informed about your neighborhood’s specific issues and happenings at www.nextdoor.com

You can always contact my office directly at (313) 224-4248 or email at councilmemberayers@detroitmi.gov.

Report an Issue from your Computer

From your computer, use the form below to enter a new service request or view other problems that have been reported. To report an issue:

1. Select the **Report** tab.
2. Type in the **Street Address** (or drag the map marker to the location of your issue).
3. Click **Next**.
4. Choose the correct **Category** from the drop-down menu.
5. Answer all the required questions. The red asterisk (*) indicates a required field.
6. Answer the optional questions to provide additional details to help city employees understand the problem.
7. **Issue Title** (required) will be prefilled. Enter a brief or detailed **Description** (optional), and attach an **Image** (optional).
8. Click **Submit**.

Congratulations! Your issue has now been reported to the City of Detroit.

