

Spring  
2024

# ~ MUNICIPAL VIEWPOINT ~

*Cherishing Our Past...Living for the Future*



Winter Hours - September 4, 2023 thru May 3, 2024

Monday - Friday 8:00am to 4:00pm

Summer Hours - May 6, 2024 thru September 2, 2024

Monday - Thursday 8:00am to 4:00pm

Friday 8:00am to Noon

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[www.ithacami.com](http://www.ithacami.com)

## News from the City of Ithaca

The Ithaca Woodland Park playscape has been an iconic place for parents to bring their kids and grandkids for generations. Many birthday parties, lunch picnics, and gatherings over the years have made the playscape a special place for many people.

As with all things time takes its toll. Over the past several years the city has tried to preserve the playscape by putting 'band-aids' on it, but it has gotten to the point where it is unsafe. Our main concern is the safety of the children.

Ushering out with the old will permit a new playscape structure to take its place. That will follow some first steps, however, beginning with the formation of a new committee, perhaps echoing a successful approach from when the original playscape committee was spearheaded for a fundraising effort more than two decades ago.

We are at the beginning stages of a new Parks Master Plan and will be looking to the community to see what they want Woodland Park, as well as our other parks to look like in the future. We hope to form a committee of interested residents to find out what the community would like to see as far as a new playscape. A Gratiot County Parks Grant can be applied for and could help offset some of the expense of the new construction project.

As playground equipment, along with safety protocols, have evolved over the past 20 years, whatever we end up with will need to reflect today's standards. We have beautiful parks and want everyone to enjoy them. The playscape has been a big part of Woodland Park for over 20 years, and our hope is that we can form a committee of community members to work with the city and develop a play area that can be as enjoyable as the current playscape has been.

If you are interested in being a part of a committee, please call city hall at 989-875-3200.



## A Few Tips to Help Keep Our Community Looking Great

- ▶ **Grass Clippings** – Please keep grass clippings away from the street to avoid plugging drains and catch basins.
- ▶ **Tree Trimming and Clear Vision** - If you have trees or shrubs that hang over the sidewalk, please trim them back to allow safe walkways. On corner lots, make sure any trees, bushes and landscaping are maintained to allow for clear vision for all vehicles and pedestrians.
- ▶ **Leaves** - Please do not rake leaves to the curb during the Spring months. The City does not have a leaf collection program in the Spring as it does in the Fall. Residents may dispose of leaves and yard waste at the City brush pile located on the South East corner of town at the end of Meadow Lane Estates. There are two piles which are labeled with signs. The Southern pile is for the disposal of tree limbs, brush & brush trimmings. The Northern pile is for the disposal of grass, plants (no rootballs), cut flowers and leaves.
- ▶ **Yard/Garage Sale and Political Campaign signs** - must be placed behind the sidewalk and permission must be given by the property owner before placing the sign. Signs are not allowed on utility poles, street signs, streetlights, trees, or corners of alleys and streets. Please refrain from parking vehicles downtown to advertise sales.

▶ **Cemetery Decorations** - New decorations are allowed starting May 1<sup>st</sup>. Any grave decorations must comply with the updated Cemetery Ordinance. All flowers, including artificial must be in a urn on the foundation. All glass, ceramic, or like breakable material of any type is strictly prohibited. Arches for hanging baskets and shepherd hooks are not permitted. The City will remove all items not in compliance without notice. The ordinance can be viewed on the city website: [www.ithacami.com](http://www.ithacami.com)



### ▶ Notice to Ithaca Property Owners, Tenants & Public

City code requires that grasses & noxious weeds not exceed eight (8) inches of height on any property in the City of Ithaca. Weeds and grasses not cut by May 1, 2023 will be cut by the City as many times as necessary and the property owner charged accordingly. Please see the city website for complete Property Maintenance Code.



Opening day for the Farmers Market this year is May 2nd. We look forward to our previous vendors returning and are always looking for new vendors to join us in Downtown Ithaca under the pavilion located at Center & Pine River Streets.

The Farmers Market is on **Tuesday's from 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm**. There is **NO VENDOR FEE** this year, however, the vendor must fill out a Registration Form and submit to City Hall before the market day in which the vendor plans to attend. Vendors will be assigned a space when registered each week. A pdf of the Registration Form and packet can be found on our website at: [www.ithacami.com](http://www.ithacami.com).

If you have homegrown or homemade items you would like to share with our community and surrounding area please contact:

DDA Coordinator Shelly Moffit at 989-875-3200 or by email at: [dda@ithacami.com](mailto:dda@ithacami.com).



All City Offices will be closed for the following holiday:



**Independence Day - July 4th**  
Stay up-to-date on City info at:

[www.ithacami.com](http://www.ithacami.com)

Visit us on Facebook at:  
[www.facebook.com/CityofIthacaMI](http://www.facebook.com/CityofIthacaMI)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**May 7th - October 15th**— Ithaca Farmers Market every Tuesday from 2 p.m. - 6 p.m.

**June 14th**— Flag day

**June 19th - 23rd**— Gratiot Ag Expo, Ithaca Fairgrounds, McNabb Park at the Ithaca Fair Grounds, McNabb Park

**July 4th**— All City Offices closed

### Are You Planning a Home Improvement Project?

Zoning permits are needed for projects such as new additions, decks, garages and fencing.

Be sure to stop at City Hall to fill out your zoning application before you begin your project.

Applications are also available on the City's website.  
[www.ithacami.com](http://www.ithacami.com)

## SUMMER READING PROGRAM 2024

### ADVENTURE BEGINS AT YOUR LIBRARY

Join us as we travel around the world this summer, exploring a different continent each week through snacks, games, and a craft that is popular in each location.

EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 11:00 AM, STARTING JUNE 12TH. SIGN UP ONLINE OR IN PERSON!

Designed for school-age children, but all ages are welcome!

THOMPSON HOME PUBLIC LIBRARY  
125 W CENTER ST  
989.875.4184