

# Village of Grand Beach Spring 2023 Newsletter

*PUBLISHED BY THE COUNCIL OF  
THE VILLAGE OF GRAND BEACH*

## **WELCOME BACK**

Welcome back to all of you that are returning for another great summer in Grand Beach and welcome to those of you that are new to Grand Beach! We hope that everyone has a wonderful summer spending time with family and friends and enjoying all that Grand Beach has to offer.

## **ELECTION RESULTS**

In the November 2022 election, incumbent Peter Doerr and residents Ed Brandes and Harry Walder were elected to the Council for 4-year terms. Others currently serving as council members are James Bracewell and Blake O'Halloran.

Long-serving council members Paul Leonard Jr. and Deborah Lindley did not seek re-election. Thank you, Paul and Debbie for all of your hard work while on the Council.

## **VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETINGS**

Our regular council meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. EST, 6:00 p.m. CST.

## **PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS**

Current members of the Grand Beach Planning Commission are Harry Walder, Liaison to the Village Council, Paul Leonard, Robert Kegan, Liz Grim, and Chair Laurie Roche. The Planning Commission will meet on July 27 and October 26 at 7:30 p.m. EST, 6:30 p.m. CST in the Council Room at the Village Hall.

**SWIM AT YOUR OWN RISK**-Please remember to watch your children closely as the Village of Grand Beach does not have lifeguards. Also, be aware that due to erosion, the lake bottom drops off quickly and the water may be deeper than expected. Please also be mindful of possible strong rip currents along the beach.

**WHITE CREEK** - Due to E. coli contamination originating from outside of the Village, please keep children and pets away from White Creek.



## **NO JUMPING OR DIVING OFF OF PIER AND OTHER STRUCTURES**

The pier and surrounding area is very dangerous. Extreme accidents can and have resulted from diving off of, or swimming near the pier. For safety reasons, swimmers should avoid this area. Keep an eye on your children to ensure that they are not on or near the pier. Diving or jumping from any pier, dock, piling, breakwater, or related structure is prohibited per Grand Beach Ordinance. Also, metal and concrete obstructions could be present on the beach and under water. Diving into the lake is hazardous and not advised.

## **MASTER PLANNING UNDERWAY**

Grand Beach is in the process of developing a new Master Plan. This document will identify Village needs and desires, potential costs, and a timeline for the next 5-20 years. Input from the community is vitally important; thanks to all who completed the first survey. Further input will be gathered in upcoming focus groups and in a second survey. If you have an interest in helping with additional data gathering, email Diane Cody ([dianecody@me.com](mailto:dianecody@me.com)) or Harry Walder ([hwald@grandbeach.org](mailto:hwald@grandbeach.org)).

## BEACHES

The beaches are one of the greatest assets of the Village, but we have lost a great amount of beach area due to storms and erosion over the past several years. Many locations have no beach, and beach accesses in those locations are closed. We will continue to do our best to open as many beach accesses as possible this year.

**BEACH FIRES** require a permit issued by the Clerk's office or the Police Department. The applicant is required to clean up the area after the beach fire.

## DOGS OR OTHER PETS

are not allowed on the golf course or in the parks, and are only allowed on the beaches on leashes from May 1 - October 1, between 6 p.m. EST and 11 a.m. EST. All pets must be on a leash when not confined to their own yard per Michigan State Law and Grand Beach Ordinances. State Law requires pets to have annual immunization shots. Please be kind to your neighbors and clean up after your pets.



## TRASH PICK UP

Trash is picked up by Able Disposal on Monday year round with an extra pick up on Fridays between July 1 and the Friday after Labor Day. Place carts at the edge of the street by 7:00 a.m. EST - 6:00 a.m. CST. If Monday falls on a major holiday, the pick-up will be on Tuesday. If your trash or recycle is missed, contact Able Disposal at (219) 929-1150.

Do not place carts near cars, poles or other stationary objects because the automatic arm on the truck will not be able to pick up the cart, and your trash carts will not be emptied.

Call Able Disposal to make arrangements for any large item pick-up. **You will be charged a fee for any items containing Freon.**

Ordinance #2022-103 (available to view at [www.grandbeach.org](http://www.grandbeach.org)) outlines days and times when trash receptacles must be placed and removed from the edge of the street. It is your responsibility to remove the trash and recycle carts from the edge of the street after they are emptied.

## 2023 RECYCLE SCHEDULE

Able Disposal provides curbside recycling pick-up on alternate Mondays except between July 1 and Labor Day when recycling is picked up every Monday. Carts should be at the edge of the street by 7:00 a.m. EST - 6:00 a.m. CST. Call (219) 929-1150 for a missed pick-up.

### 2023

May 8, 22, \*30

June 5, 19

July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

August 7, 14, 21, 28

September \*5, 11, 25

October 9, 23

November 6, 20

December 4, 18

\*Pick-up is Tuesday due to holiday.

Glass, metal, cans, papers and plastics may be comingled in the recycling cart.

## A RECYCLING EVENT FOR HOUSEHOLD CHEMICALS AND ELECTRONICS

will be held at Chikaming Township Hall at 13535 Red Arrow Highway, Harbert, Michigan on June 7, 2023 from 3 -7 p.m., EST. For additional dates or more information regarding recycling events, see [www.berriencounty.org/recycle](http://www.berriencounty.org/recycle).

## LEAF PICK UP

Fall clean-up of loose leaves will take place from November 1 to December 1 (weather permitting).

Please have all of your leaves at the edge of the street at one time. Do not place the leaves on the street, or mix sticks, stones, rocks and yard waste with the leaves as someone could be injured when these items are vacuumed into the machine.

Once the Village stops picking up leaves in the fall, leaves must be placed in brown biodegradable bags and placed at the edge of the street for pick-up.

**LANDSCAPERS** must haul away all debris, leaves, brush or lawn waste that they generate. Nobody is allowed to dump yard waste on Village property or private property.

## **FIREWORKS**

The State of Michigan Fireworks regulations were recently changed to allow for fewer dates for the use of consumer fireworks. The following is a portion of Village Ordinance No. 2020-99 regulating the use of fireworks. The full ordinance may be viewed at [www.grandbeach.org](http://www.grandbeach.org).

A person (only a Village resident, not a renter) may ignite, discharge, or use consumer fireworks on private property owned or controlled by that person, or with the owner's permission in the Village of Grand Beach on the following days, after 11:00 a.m.:

1. December 31 until 1:00 a.m. on January 1.
2. The Saturday and Sunday immediately preceding Memorial Day, until 11:45 p.m. on each of those days.
3. June 29 to July 4 until 11:45 p.m. on each of those days.
4. July 5, if that date is a Friday or Saturday, until 11:45 p.m.
5. The Saturday and Sunday immediately preceding Labor Day until 11:45 p.m. on each of those days.

No person shall ignite, discharge, or use consumer fireworks on any public property in the Village of Grand Beach at any time, including public streets, Village parks, the golf course or driving range, any Village beach, on the pier, or on any other Village owned property.

Renters are not allowed to light fireworks at any time.

In extreme circumstances, a burn ban to protect the Village residents' health, safety and welfare may go into effect. In the event of a Village-wide ban on burning, the discharge of fireworks of any nature or sort shall also be temporarily prohibited until the burn ban is lifted.



Make sure to obey the ordinance, or you could be fined up to \$1,000 plus the cost of prosecution.

## **SOCIAL CLUB PACKETS**

Social Club packets have been emailed out again this year. If you are new to Grand Beach or did not receive one, you can find one on our website at [https://www.grandbeach.org/social\\_club.asp](https://www.grandbeach.org/social_club.asp) or email [fgazzolosr1@gmail.com](mailto:fgazzolosr1@gmail.com).

## **ONE-WAY STREET**

Lakeview Avenue is a one-way, eastbound street between Memorial Day and Labor Day weekend. Please be aware that the trash removal and recycle trucks will travel westbound along Lakeview on Mondays and Fridays for trash and recycle pick-up. In the case of a holiday, they will be traveling westbound on the day after their normal scheduled pick-up day. Please obey the signs and travel in the right direction when in a vehicle or golf cart.

## **VEHICLE PARKING STICKERS**

Grand Beach logo parking stickers are available at the Village office. There is no need to get a new sticker each year if you have one on your vehicle because they have not changed. The Village requests a sticker on each car that will be parked in the Village on a frequent basis. The first sticker is free and all others are \$2.00 each.

## **ELIMINATE BROKEN WATER PIPES**

If you are going to be away from home for an extended period of time, have your water turned off and your lines cleared out so that you don't experience frozen pipes and damage to your home.

### **IF YOU HAVE A WATER EMERGENCY.....**

During regular business hours, contact the Village Office at (269) 469-3141. After regular business hours, contact the police department at (866) 630-7679 or (269) 469-5000.

## **WATER TURN ON/OFF FEES**

There will be a \$75 fee to cover expenses if you ask to have the water turned on or off after regular water department hours, on weekends or on holidays. If done during regular water department hours, there will be no cost to the homeowner.

## **POOLS AND IRRIGATION SYSTEMS**

The Village requires that all in ground pools and irrigation systems be inspected every year by a professional to be sure there is a backflow preventer in place, and that it is working properly.

The inspection should be done before using your pool or irrigation for the first time this year. If you have any questions concerning your back flow prevention device, please contact Village Water Superintendent Bob Dabbs at (269) 469-1270.

## WHAT IS STORMWATER?

Stormwater is the flow of water on the ground immediately after precipitation, rain or snowmelt. After a rainfall, some of the precipitation is infiltrated into the soil, some of it is taken up by plants, and some is evaporated back into the atmosphere and the rest runs off land surfaces and other impervious areas. Unfortunately, the stormwater runoff picks up any oil, grease, chemicals, nutrients, metals, even bacteria as it travels across land. All of these chemicals and pollutants will then enter our lakes, rivers, and streams.

To find tips on keeping our water clean, visit [www.swmpc.org/water.asp](http://www.swmpc.org/water.asp).



## HELP KEEP OUR WATERWAYS CLEAN

It is important to be aware of the many things that cause pollution to our lakes and streams. If pollutants such as fertilizer, household chemicals, oil and other hazardous materials continue to find their way in to our waterways, the lakes and streams may become unusable for the things we enjoy such as swimming, fishing, water skiing, kayaking and canoeing. With your help, we can work towards eliminating the pollution in the water and protect our land and waterways for the enjoyment of all generations, now and in the future.

## BUILDING PERMITS

Building permits are required for all new construction, pools, roofs, decks, fences, additions and repairs to your home, etc. If your home is located in a high erosion or critical dune area, you will need a permit from Environment, Great Lake & Energy (EGLE) prior to applying for a building permit with the Village. Septic location and project approval by the Berrien County Health Department may be necessary as well for some permits.

**Tree Removal** on a vacant lot requires a building or zoning permit before any removal can begin.

**Building Certificates** are required and should be posted when performing maintenance to homes. Examples of maintenance include painting, plaster repairs, and door or window replacement.

## GENERATORS & AIR CONDITIONING UNITS

Building, electrical, and any other permits that may be required by outside agencies are required to install a generator or air conditioning unit.

## SUMMER HOURS OF CONSTRUCTION

Construction work (by homeowner or contractor) with a permit or certificate is only allowed Monday through Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. EST from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day. Work may be done on Saturdays during the remainder of the year. Please be respectful to others and follow these hours when working on your house.

## SEPTIC SYSTEM MAINTENANCE

Remember to have your septic system checked and pumped every 2-3 years to insure that it is working properly. Without regular maintenance, a septic system will fail. Save money and protect your investment in your home. It is fairly inexpensive to maintain your system by having it pumped every 2-3 years, but a new system could cost thousands.

Protect your drinking water and the environment. A properly working septic system will remove pollutants and disease-causing bacteria and viruses such as E. coli.

Information on septic systems can be obtained from the Berrien County Health Department at <http://bchdmi.org/760/On-Site-Septic>.

## CHECK OUT THE SPLASH PAD

The splash pad and play area at New Buffalo Township's Memorial Park located at 17425 Red Arrow Highway is a great, fun activity for children and open to the community. The park also offers a terrific playground, trails and sport courts as well. Galien River County Park is across the highway and features more trails and scenic overlooks to the Galien River area.

## RENTAL INFORMATION

A short-term rental ordinance was adopted and became effective on January 1, 2023. The full ordinance #2022-104 is available at [www.grandbeach.org](http://www.grandbeach.org). Rental packets for those who rent their home are available in the Clerk's Office. The packets contain rules regarding fires, dogs, trash, and other matters that renters should be aware of and should help alleviate rental complaints.

## KEEP YOUR TREES HEALTHY

To keep your trees the healthiest they can be, make sure to remove vines that may be growing on them.



## **RESIDENT GOLF FEES**

### **Adults**

Weekdays: 9 holes \$14 – 18 holes \$24  
Weekends or Holidays: 9 holes \$16 – 18 holes \$25  
Cards: 11 punches plus one free round \$160  
Seniors/weekdays only: \$11  
Senior pass: 10 punches plus one free round \$110

### **Children (6-13 years old)**

Daily Fee: \$ 6  
Season Pass: \$100  
Child's Family Pass: 6-13 Years \$130  
Maximum Three Children

### **Junior (14-21 years old)**

Daily Fee: \$11  
Junior Pass: 10 punches plus one free round \$ 90  
Junior Season Pass: \$160

**All cards and passes purchased in 2023  
will expire on 10/31/23**

## **GOLF CARTS**

You must have current stickers on your golf carts by June 10th. If not stickered, the cart will not be allowed on the golf course or on the streets, and the driver will be ticketed and fined \$100. Please pick up your sticker in the Pro Shop once you have paid the fee and be sure to put the sticker on your cart.



All golf carts must conform to Grand Beach ordinance #53, as amended.

A limited number of rental carts are available at the Pro Shop for use on the golf

course only. You must be 18 years old and over to rent a cart.

**IF GOLF CART FEES ARE UNPAID FOR TWO YEARS, CART NUMBER WILL BE REISSUED**

### **BRAND NEW TWILIGHT GOLF PASS**

**Starts May 1 – 6:00 p.m. EST till dusk**

**June 1 – 7:00 p.m. EST till dusk**

**July 1 – Aug. 31 – 8:00 p.m. EST till dusk**

**\$140 for the entire season for residents only!**

Check in with Pro Shop if they are open, you must have your pass with you while you golf and show the Rangers on the course. **Everyone playing twilight golf must have this pass.**

## **GOLF CART RULES**

All cart operators must be at least 14 years old to drive on the golf course. **Cart operators must be 16 years old and have a valid driver's license to drive on the streets.**

You must obey all traffic laws:

- Stop at stop signs.
- Drive in correct direction on one-way street.
- Allow faster traffic to pass.
- Cart must have a working headlight and tail light to operate at night.
- The number of persons on the cart must not exceed the seating capacity of the cart.
- All persons must be in a seat.
- Children cannot be held in the lap of driver, nor help in operating or driving the cart.
- No riding backwards on the front of the cart.
- No riding on back where clubs are strapped in.
- Carts are not allowed on the golf course beginning a half hour after dark until a half hour before dawn.
- Operating a cart after dark without lights is prohibited.
- All carts must have an annual sticker and have numbers on both sides of the cart.
- Carts that have been rented from an outside agency require a sticker, even if they are rented and only in Grand Beach for a couple of days. Temporary stickers are available at the Pro Shop for rental carts. If you do not have a current sticker on your cart or on a rented cart, you will be ticketed and fined \$100.

**CHILDREN ARE NOT ALLOWED TO OPERATE GOLF CARTS OR HELP THEIR PARENT DRIVE THE CART.** Make sure you and your guests follow these rules. These rules will help keep our streets safe. Report any golf cart infractions to the Police Department at (866) 630-7679.

## **GRAND BEACH NATURE PRESERVE**

The Grand Beach Nature Preserve is open. Be sure to visit it soon and see this wonderful spot which is the result of the hard work of many people. This land can now be enjoyed and will be preserved for all to enjoy in the years to come.



### **VILLAGE COUNCIL**

Council President Harry Walder  
President Pro-Tem Blake O'Halloran

#### **COUNCIL MEMBERS & COMMISSIONERS**

Building & Zoning Harry Walder  
Golf & Pro Shop Blake O'Halloran  
Parks & Beaches Peter Doerr  
Police Ed Brandes  
Streets & Water James Bracewell

#### **BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

Building Inspector & Zoning Administrator  
Chad Butler building@grandbeach.org

#### **OFFICIAL WEBSITE**

[www.grandbeach.org](http://www.grandbeach.org)

#### **VILLAGE OFFICE HOURS**

Monday – Friday  
9:00 A.M. -3:45 P.M. EST  
8:00 A.M. – 2:45 P.M. CST

### **VILLAGE EMPLOYEES**

CLERK'S OFFICE (269) 469-3141  
Clerk-Treasurer Mary Robertson  
Deputy Clerk Kathie Butler

[clerk@grandbeach.org](mailto:clerk@grandbeach.org)  
[deputyclerk@grandbeach.org](mailto:deputyclerk@grandbeach.org)

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE (269) 469-1270  
Superintendent Bob Dabbs  
Maintenance Department Dale Powell  
Jayson Powell  
Keith Kehoe

POLICE DISPATCH (866) 630-7679  
POLICE OFFICE (269) 469-5000  
Police Chief Ryan Layman  
Assistant Police Chief Jamie Flick  
Police Officer Creo Brewster

Police Email [rlayman@michianavillage.org](mailto:rlayman@michianavillage.org)

PRO SHOP (269) 469-4888  
Pro Shop Manager Don Butler



Village of Grand Beach  
48200 Perkins Blvd.  
Grand Beach, MI 49117