

Spring Cleanup Is Here!



- **Spring Cleanup is on Saturday, May 9th starting at 7am.**
- All items you want removed must be set out the Friday night before your cleanup day as cleanup begins promptly at 7am.
- Place all items behind the curb on streets with curbs, and off the traveled roadway on streets without curbs. Please do not leave anything in the right of way that you do not want removed.
- **Spring Cleanup is for City residential dwellings only. Please do not allow people who live outside the City limits to drop off cleanup items at your home.**

As a general rule, cleanup items include:

- Household furniture, including chairs, couches, mattresses and tables. *Please take steps to ensure that these items do not become waterlogged in the event of rain and/or snow.*
- Appliances including hot water tanks, stoves, refrigerators and air conditioning units. Residents are responsible for the cost of having the Freon removed from refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, etc., by a certified contractor. **A certification sticker must be affixed to each unit indicating that the Freon has been removed. Any item that once contained Freon WILL NOT be picked up without a certification sticker.**
- Dry carpeting cut into lengths of four feet or less and rolled and tied securely.
- Small bundles of construction material no more than four feet long, tied securely and weighing no more than 50 pounds.
- All other items must be bagged, boxed, or bundled and weigh no more than 50 pounds each.

Cleanup items **DO NOT** include:

- Any liquids including unsolidified paint.
- Appliances containing Freon.
- Chemicals or other hazardous wastes.
- Flammables and explosives.
- Broken glass.
- Dangerous items such as gasoline, propane tanks, or hot ashes.
- Motor oil, antifreeze, car batteries and transmissions.
- **TIRES**, railroad ties, burning barrels, concrete, blocks, brick, and stone.
- Wet carpeting, engine blocks, and any item too heavy to be lifted by two average people.

**Spring cleanup questions?
Call City Office at 732-4060.**

Spring Yard Waste Protocols!

Through September 30th, leaves, lawn rakings, and pine needles must be bagged. Please remember that tree branches or bags need to be of a size that one person can handle.

Compost bags for grass cuttings, leaves, pine needles, and small twigs are **available to City residents** free-of-charge at City Hall as long as supplies last.

For those of you in the fall who rake leaves to the curb line; the City DPW asks that you leave such yard waste at the top of the curb or in the terrace areas. Such waste that is deposited into the gutter pan only blocks the roadway and plugs up the storm drains. Your assistance and cooperation is appreciated!

2026 Streets Update

This summer we will complete work on N. Center that will include some utility replacement, sidewalk reconstruction and a remill and resurface from Main Street to Fairview Drive. The project is set to begin after school ends in June and will be completed prior to school coming back in session at the end of August. At certain points the roadway will be completely shut down and a detour route utilized. Homes and businesses in those areas will still be accessible during these detours.

We are still planning that 2027 and 2028 will involve utility replacement, streetlights and other improvements in conjunction with MDOT's Diverging Diamond and Bridge replacement projects that are scheduled to take place. Updated schedules and other relevant information about the project can be found at:

<https://www.michigan.gov/mdot/projects-studies/i75-m32-interchange-otsego-county>.

We are very aware of the rough shape of North Ohio and have received several calls over the winter about the poor condition of the roadway. Due to issues with the reconstruction years ago when winter comes the roadway buckles and becomes very uneven.

The City receives funding via a Small Urban Grant that can only be utilized on a few roadways within the city and North Ohio is one of those roadways. The amount the city receives for this grant is approximately \$425,000. It will be 2029 before the city receives the allotted monies for North Ohio from the Small Urban Grant, so it is our intention to try and maintain the roadway until we receive the funding to reconstruct and correct the underlying issues.

A New Chapter for the Gaylord Police Department

After years of dedicated service, Chief Frank Claeys will retire on June 30, 2026, bringing to a close a remarkable career with the City of Gaylord. His commitment to our community has left a lasting mark, one that will endure long after he passes the torch.

Effective July 1, 2026, Detective Sergeant Blake Huff will step into the role of Chief of Police. A familiar face in our community, Blake has had a distinguished career with the City of Gaylord and brings with him a strong law enforcement background, a deep commitment to the people he serves, and a genuine enthusiasm for this department and city. He is well-prepared to lead Gaylord into its next chapter.

Please join us in thanking Chief Claeys for his years of service, and in welcoming Chief Huff as he takes on this important role.

2026 Election Update

The 9 day early voting location for the August and November Elections will be the Bagley Township Hall located at 3660 Krys Rd, Gaylord, MI. The schedule is as follows, August Primary Election early voting will be available from Saturday, July 25th until Sunday, August 2nd. November General Election early voting will be available from Saturday, October 24th to Sunday, November 1st. Early voting is from 8:00am to 4:00pm. If you choose not to vote early or by absentee ballot, you can vote in person on Election Day at City Hall. August Primary Election Day is Tuesday, August 4th from 7:00am to 8:00pm. General Election Day is Tuesday, November 3rd from 7:00am to 8:00pm.

New Waste Water Superintendent

Greg Dowker is the City's new Waste Water Superintendent. Greg began working for the Department of Public Works (DPW) in 2016. Dowker's years of service to the city and experience make him a great choice for this position and to steward the updates that are coming to our Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Greg has always enjoyed working with everyone in the department and truly cares about making the city a great place to live, work, and enjoy.

Moving Forward: Gaylord Submits Main Street Application

Downtown Gaylord continues to make steady progress. After reaching the Engaged Level in the Michigan Main Street program, the Gaylord Downtown Development Authority (DDA) has now submitted its application for the next step, which is the Select Level. If approved, Gaylord will gain access to more support, including tools, guidance, and potential funding to help improve and grow downtown. These resources will help strengthen local businesses, enhance public spaces, and preserve the Alpine character that makes downtown Gaylord unique.

This effort would not be possible without the strong support of the community. The DDA would like to recognize the time and dedication of its volunteer board and committee members, as well as the input and encouragement from local business owners and residents. Through meetings, open houses, and conversations, their ideas and feedback helped shape the goals and vision included in the application.

As Gaylord continues to navigate changes, including major road construction, this work helps ensure downtown remains a place people want to visit, shop, and spend time. The goal is simple: a downtown that is welcoming, active and reflects our Alpine identity.

For more information on Gaylord's Main Street initiative, visit, cityofgaylord.com or contact Lisa Marie Tobin, DDA Director, at tobinl@cityofgaylord.org.

Nothing Down Pipes or Sewers!

We have seen a dramatic increase in “flushable wipes” and other waste such as gas and oil which have led to costly sewer backups, clogged pumps, and increased maintenance in our wastewater and sewer systems. These foreign objects have become a threat to our sewer and wastewater systems causing expensive clogs and messy sewage backups in homes and businesses, along with more maintenance at our wastewater treatment plant. These flushable items do not disintegrate like common toilet paper and the only way to dispose of them for us is to remove them at pump stations or manholes, and the dumping of oil and gas causes our crew to have to spend more time getting it out. We ask that “flushable wipes” be disposed of in your garbage as opposed to flushing down the toilet, and oil and gas be disposed of at any place listed in the box at the bottom right of the page. Below is a list of items that should not be flushed or poured down drains/sewers:

- **Baby wipes, disinfectant wipes, moist wipes, etc.**
- **Diapers (cloth, disposable, “flushable”)**
- **Sanitary napkins, tampons, condoms, or any non-organic materials**
- **Fats, oils and grease**
- **Dental floss, Q-tips, and cotton balls**
- **“Swiffers” toilet bowl scrub pads**
- **Napkins (paper or cloth), paper towels, facial tissues**
- **Seeds, peelings, egg shells, nutshells, and coffee grounds**
- **Bandages and bandage wrappings**
- **Clothing, wash cloths, towels, rags (any cloth item)**
- **Medicines/pharmaceuticals**
- **Harmful chemicals such as solvent-based glue, paint, strippers, wood preservatives, nail polish, antifreeze, engine cleaners/degreasers, gasoline, motor oil, fertilizers, pesticides, and pool/spa chemicals**

We would like to remind you all that our Gaylord Wastewater Treatment Plant is a biological based facility. We want to thank you for helping keep our systems operating in good condition!

2026 Events Schedule

Back to the Bricks Car Show

June 8th 4:00pm to 8:00pm

Alpenfest

July 14th to July 19th

Sidewalk Sales

August 22nd to August 23rd

Blocktoberfest

September 19th

Witchin' Night Out

October 11th 4:00pm to 7:30 pm

Light the Night Christmas Celebration

December 13th

We look forward to seeing everyone downtown this year! For more information on these events and more, please visit downtowngaylord.com, or scan this QR code to go there now!



Oil and Gas Disposal

Otsego County Hazardous Waste Disposal Day

July 11th from 9am to 2pm at the Road Commission.

Auto Value, Auto Zone, Tractor Supply, Walmart Quick Lube and Tire

All take motor oil under 5 gallons

Automatic Payment Plan

For those who prefer its convenience, the City of Gaylord offers an Automatic Payment Plan (APP) via electronic deduction from a checking account, for utility bill payments. As long as you maintain adequate funds in your account there are no fees for APP, no check writing charges, and no late payments.

With APP you will have the convenience of automatic payment. Other benefits include:

- 1) You still get a monthly bill.
- 2) You have time to review the bill and call us if you have questions.
- 3) Your Water/Sewer bill will be automatically paid from your bank account on the due date.
- 4) You keep control over your payment, even if you don't write the check yourself.

To begin Automatic Payment Plan, please complete an Authorization Agreement form -available from City Hall, or online at www.cityofgaylord.com, and return it to City Hall. Automatic payments would then begin with your next water bill. You will need to continue to make payments until "Automatic Payment Plan" is printed on your monthly utility bill.

Important Dates to Remember

- May 9th - City Clean Up
- July 1st – Summer Tax Bills Mailed
- July 14th -18th Alpenfest
- September 15th – Summer Taxes Due
- December 1st – Winter Tax Bills Mailed
- February 16th – Winter Taxes Due

Pets and Parks

If you are enjoying a nice leisurely walk with your pet, keep in mind that there is a leash law the Otsego County Animal Control may enforce and you also must clean up after him/her.



Please remember that animals are prohibited in all City of Gaylord parks.

Downtown Gaylord Farmers Market

Opening Saturday, May 16, 2026

Under the Pavilion on Court

Saturdays (May 16th - October 24th)

Market Hours are from
9:00am to 1:00pm





City of Gaylord
305 E. Main Street
Gaylord, MI 49735

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Gaylord, MI 49735
Permit #281

City Hall is open weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

City Hall will be closed in observance of the following holidays (2026-2027):

April 3rd – Good Friday, May 25th – Memorial Day, July 3rd – Independence Day, September 7th – Labor Day
November 11th – Veterans Day, November 26th & 27th – Thanksgiving, December 25th – Christmas, December 31st – New Year’s Eve
January 1st 202 – New Year’s Day, February 15th 2027 – President’s Day, March 26th 2027 – Good Friday

Visit us on the Internet for upcoming events and more information at: <http://www.cityofgaylord.com>

The City of Gaylord does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities. The City will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities desiring to attend City meetings/hearings. Three weeks advance notice is requested.
Please call the City office at 732-4060 for more information.

The **Gaylord City Council** meets the 2nd and 4th Mondays of every month at 7:00 p.m.
The **City Planning Commission** meets 4 times a year or as needed. Please call the City to schedule projects needing review.
The **City Zoning Board of Appeals** meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month as requests for variances are submitted. Notice for each meeting is published in advance.
The **Gaylord Downtown Development Authority** usually meets the first Tuesday of every month at 8:00 a.m. Please call or visit our website for meeting dates.
Public meetings are held in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 305 E. Main Street, Gaylord.

Mayor: Todd Sharrard, 989-619-0906
Council: Ward 1: Jordan Awrey, 989-858-6262
Ward 2: Robert Wilson, 989-858-0964
Ward 3: Deb Jaques, 989-289-7820
At Large: Vic Ouellette, 989-731-1906
At Large: Hannah Techel, 989-858-0464
At Large: Ryan Kennedy, 616-304-9004
City Manager: Kim Awrey, 732-4060
Chief of Police: Frank Claeys, 732-1777
City Assessor: Holly Franckowiak, 732-4060
City Clerk: Jennifer Molski, 732-4060
City Treasurer: Travis Hewitt, 732-4060
DPW Superintendent: Matthew Belding, 732-5475
WWTP Superintendent: Greg Dowker, 732-0750