



Community Planning & Development

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Media Release

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Trash Ordinance grace period in effect through Sunday, May 1

For Immediate Release

April 1, 2016, Kalamazoo, Michigan - Spring has arrived in southwest Michigan, as sometimes evidenced by the appearance of months of litter exposed by now-melted snow. Owners of both residential and commercial property within the City of Kalamazoo are reminded of their responsibility to keep properties trash-free throughout the year. Chapter 15A of the City's Code of Ordinances (the Trash Ordinance) states, "...All garbage must be stored in a watertight container that is constructed of metal, plastic or other durable material impervious to rodents, has a tight-fitting lid or cover, and is capable of being serviced without creating unsanitary conditions. ..."

The Community Planning & Development Department encourages everyone to take a proactive approach to keeping our community clean and inviting for the people who live, learn, work, play and visit in our City.

A grace period for litter violations of the Trash Ordinance will be in effect through Sunday, May 1st.

Thereafter, the Community Planning & Development Department will begin actively citing properties in violation of the Trash Ordinance. Violations will involve a written citation allowing 10 days for clean-up and a \$77 bill for the recovery of expenses incurred by the City for the purpose of issuing the citation. In the event that clean up does not occur within 10 days, crews will be dispatched to clean up the property, thereby returning the property to compliance with the Trash Ordinance on behalf of the owner. The property owner will also be billed for recovery of costs incurred by the City in this effort. The Community Planning & Development Department encourages everyone to take advantage of the grace period to avoid fines and other frustrations.

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