



"It takes everyone in a community to keep our homes, schools, offices, stores and other buildings safe."

City of Highland Building and Zoning

2610 Plaza Dr

PO Box 218

Highland, IL 62249

(618) 654-7115

(618) 654-5570

www.highlandil.gov



Feel free to contact Building and Zoning at 2610 Plaza Drive, (618)654-7115 or via e-mail at highlandzoning@highlandil.gov should you have any questions of comments

We're on the Web!
www.highlandil.gov

From The Ground Up

Fall 2011

City of Highland's Community Development Mission Statement:

To ignite positive change through orderly development and revitalization of quality construction while serving in a courteous professional, and ethical manner.

DO YOUR PART

There has been a significant increase in the number of property complaint issues handled by the city within the last year or so. They range from grass/weeds taller than eight (8) inches, structures deteriorating from lack of normal maintenance, junk and debris in yards, and piles of brush. In addition to receiving complaints, city staff also documents an issue they find and enter it into the system for investigation and resolution.

If contacted by the city in reference to an issue with your property, do not ignore the notice. Doing so will cause the city to take further action which may result in costing you more money and time than what it would have taken to correct the issue. Staff would rather work with you to resolve any issues rather than go through a lengthy court process. If you need more time than what the initial notice gives, contact the city prior to the deadline spelled put in the notice to work out an agreeable timeline.

You can help take pride in your neighborhood by keeping your grass cut and trimmed and your property neat as a pin. Disposing of any piles of junk, piles of brush, derelict vehicles, painting and touching up the exterior of the buildings on your property will go a long way in helping keep your neighborhood looking beautiful and rewarding you in the form of increased property values.

ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Helping your neighbors, avoiding blight, and maintaining property values are three of the fundamentals of the city sponsored Neighbors Helping Neighbors program. The Neighbors Helping Neighbors program is not intended to be a loan program. It is there for the single family homeowners on fixed incomes, single parent families, or physically challenged that do not have the resources or methods to perform the work on their single family structures. Establishing this program will allow the city to provide assistance in working with the homeowner instead of working against them.

Should you discover a major issue and do not have the funds readily available, there are several avenues you can use to correct the problems. Madison County has a low interest loan program, home repair grant program and home weatherization program available for rehabilitation use. These programs are available through Madison County Community Development Department. You may reach them at (618) 296 - 8940.

Another resource available would be the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Office. They also may have some funds available for home rehabilitation/preservation. Their contact number is (618) 656 - 7300 ext. 4.

Feel free to contact Building and Zoning at PO Box 218, 2610 Plaza Drive, Highland, IL. 62249 (618) 654 - 7115 or via email at highlandzoning@highlandil.gov should you have any questions about the assistance programs.



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VEHICLE CONCERNS

Did you know that the city has regulations that prohibit parking vehicles between the street and sidewalk on the grassed area? While there were some exceptions made in the past, staff has noted an increase of the frequency of this happening.

Vehicles also are not allowed to block a city sidewalk for extended periods of time. You may only do so while loading and unloading from that vehicle.

Inoperable/unlicensed vehicles on private property fall under the city nuisance codes as do vehicle accessories/parts.

The Police Department handles complaints concerning vehicle issues and may be contacted at (618) 654 - 2131.

ANIMAL COMPLAINTS

The Highland Police Department handles calls for domesticated animal complaints in the city limits only. They no longer provide trapping services. The city has regulations concerning animals in the city such as licensing (tags), abuse, neglect, and excessive barking among other requirements. You may reach the Police Department at (618) 654 - 2131.

LIMBS/BRUSH REMOVAL

Staff has seen an increase in the amount of limbs/brush located on private property. The city no longer provides regular pick up of limbs/brush or landscape material. Those services are provided by the trash contractor. The requirements concerning limb pick up are: no limbs larger than 4 inches in diameter, not longer than 48 inches and must be bundled. Bundles are not to exceed 24 inches in diameter.

If there is a significant storm that moves through town resulting with limbs down, the city will put out a notice that they will do a special pick up the week after the storm event. You must contact Public Works at (618) 654 - 6823 to get on the list. Your limbs must be placed at your normal brush /trash pickup location. If you do not call and get on the list, then your limbs will not be picked up. Contact Public Works should you desire clarification or need additional information.



**Please Have
A Fun And Safe
Halloween**

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

