COMMUNITY APPEARANCE CONCERNS

The following is a list of appearance concerns for the City of Southfield for residential areas. By following these recommendations, you can help improve not only your own home, but your entire neighborhood.

1. Homes should be routinely painted with no visible signs of peeling paint. Aluminum siding and trim should be routinely cleaned.

2. All brick work, especially chimneys, should be free of broken bricks and mortar joints.

3. Windows should contain no broken or cracked glass. Screens should not be ripped or torn.

4. All buildings should be maintained in a structurally sound condition with no sagging roof lines, worn or missing shingles, or tilted/bowed floors and walls.

5. All building extensions and attachments, such as fences, porches, gutters and shutters, should be maintained. They should present an even, straight and structurally sound appearance.

6. Property owners must obtain a fence permit from the Building and Planning Department prior to installing a new fence.

7. Garage doors should be free of peeling paint and should close tightly and securely.

8. Grass and shrub areas should be mowed, trimmed and kept weed free. Mowing and trimming of ditch lines and right-of-way areas adjacent to the roadway is also expected. All types of landscaping are expected to be kept neat and clean.

9. Driveways and sidewalks should be free of major cracks and broken areas; and damage corrected by either repairing or replacing.

10. Yard areas should be free of litter, junk, debris and scrap storage.

11. No unlicensed and/or junk vehicles should be parked on the property other than in the garage. Major vehicle repairs, such as engine and transmission overhauls and body work that require extensive time to complete, should not be attempted.

12. Vehicles you do not intend to drive for extended periods may not be stored on your property except inside the garage.

13. All vehicles should be parked in defined driveways; not in any yard areas. Automobiles should not be parked on the lawn between the sidewalk and the roadway.

14. It is illegal to park vehicles for sale in area parking lots. Vehicles in violation will be tagged.

15. All public sidewalks should be kept free of ice, snow and other obstacles. Snow should be removed within 24 hours after a snowfall. Any dangerous sidewalks should be repaired or replaced as necessary.

16. Shopping carts should not be removed from store parking lots. The carts are the property of the stores. They create a hazard when left in the right-of-way.

17. Garbage should be placed at the curb no sooner than 4:00 p.m. of the day before pick-up. Empty containers must be removed from curb by noon of the day following pick-up. Refuse containers, bundles, and materials shall be stored in a manner not visible from the front of the residence.

18. All containers should have tightly fitting lids. All papers and debris that may have spilled on the ground should be removed by the homeowner.

19. Appliances, furniture and other household discards can be placed at the curb no earlier than 4:00 p.m. the day before your pick-up. Refrigerators must have the doors removed before placement at the curb.

20. **Do not** place yard waste in plastic bags. It will not be collected. Yard waste (grass clippings, weeds, etc.) must be placed in up to 30-gallon rigid containers marked with a "Y" or a Yard Waste sticker or in recyclable 30-gallon paper bags, and separated from the regular trash.

21. Bushes, shrubs, hedges and landscape materials in the front yard shall be trimmed so as not to provide any visual barrier to the front of the entranceway or front windows of a home.

22. Dead or diseased bushes, shrubs, and other plantings in the front yard of a home shall be promptly removed. Dead or hazardous trees or limbs on private property shall be trimmed or removed so as not to be a danger to the public or to adjoining property.

23. Tree branches and brush may be placed at the curb with your regular rubbish mid-April through October. The branches should be placed at the curb with the cut ends all facing toward the curb. **No logs, stumps, or root balls.**

24. All homes should have large, readable house numbers, plainly visible from the street. This helps emergency vehicles find you faster.

25. Commercial vehicles, recreational vehicles, domestic trailers, boats, and travel trailers exceeding 20 feet in length are not permitted and must be stored off-site. Commercial vehicles, recreational vehicles, domestic trailers, boats and travel trailers less than 20 feet in length may be stored in the rear yard only.

26. A garage sale permit must be obtained by the homeowner from the City Clerk's office. Garage sale signs must not be placed in the City right-of-way, on utility poles, or attached to street signs. Any signs placed in these areas will be removed by City staff.

27. Overnight parking on public streets is not permitted. Please refrain from parking on public roads between the hours of 3 a.m. to 6 a.m.