



*City of*  
**WALKER**  
2023 annual newsletter





# A Letter from the Mayor



As we progress into the new year of 2023, much of what is happening in Walker continues to center around our five key priorities: Public Safety; Roads and Infrastructure; Finances; Parks and Recreation; and Quality of Life. I will give a brief update and outlook on our strategies for each of these in 2023.

As far as public safety goes, this is the most important thing in our community. As we continue to experience the growth in our City, it requires us to be thinking ahead to the staffing, equipment, and technology needs to support that growth. I believe that as we continue to

budget in 2023 for these increased needs, we are making sure that Walker maintains its reputation as a safe place in which to live, work, and grow.

For our roads and infrastructure, the biggest announcement the City received in many years is the state appropriation of \$25 million for the replacement of the Fruit Ridge Bridge. This news is significant on so many fronts, and the planning and design work has already begun. Other planning and design work being done this year include the Bristol Avenue Railroad Bridge; North Center Drive Traffic Circle; Kinney Avenue improvements (between Leonard and Lake Michigan Drive), as well as actual construction, hopefully, on the intersection improvements at Kinney and Remembrance Road.

Walker's financial picture has arguably never been better in our City's history. Currently, we still do not maintain any long-term debt and our general fund balance (cash reserves) is healthy. However, we have some significant projects coming our way such as the expansion of the current Walker Library that will require investment levels we have not seen in many years. So, in summary, we put ourselves in a position of strength to do the things that we need and want in our City with the freedom from legacy debt that almost always affects the quality of life in cities like ours. I also believe a critical component to attracting new businesses and residents here is the affordability of Walker. We continue to be very deliberate about that strategy as well.

The increased investment in our parks, trails, and recreation continues so that we may provide more for our residents and visitors. However, all of that takes a plan and the Parks and Recreation Committee along with City staff are currently undergoing a major overhaul of our Parks and Recreation Master Plan. That will provide us with the strategies to invest in and implement. We expect to have parks, trails, and recreation which provide a cleaner, safer, and healthier community.

Last but certainly not least is quality of life. To me, this encompasses civility, community events, and just being proud of where we live, work, and grow. We are doing more events and with stronger participation from not just our residents, but those who have also found out what a special city we have. When you experience this first hand, it is almost impossible to not be caring and empathetic for one another, which in turns breeds that civility that Walker proudly represents. What a special community we have in our unity and working together in all that we do.

As we look to what 2023 will bring, I believe us to be in a better position than most in our priorities and the ability to execute them. There are so many good things happening but, most importantly to me, is the culture of our community of which so many want to be a part. We will continue to strengthen that in 2023.

As always, whether you are a resident or business here, thank you for choosing to call Walker home.

**MAYOR GARY L. CAREY, JR.**

**CONTACT THE MAYOR:**

E: [gcarey@walker.city](mailto:gcarey@walker.city)  
P: 616-292-1715

# Clerk's Office

CITY CLERK, DEBORAH GOUDY

## ELECTION NEWS

**May 2, 2023** Special School Election will be held for Comstock Park and Grandville Public School Proposals. Though the City does not anticipate any August or November elections this year we are aware that special elections can happen. Stay up-to date with Walker election information by visiting our election webpage at [www.WalkerMI.gov/Elections](http://www.WalkerMI.gov/Elections).

**DID YOU KNOW?** By going to [MI.gov/vote](http://MI.gov/vote) you can:

- Request an absentee ballot and vote from home
- Register to vote
- Track the status of your ballot
- See what will be on your ballot

## PASSPORTS

The City Clerk's Department is a passport acceptance facility. Please contact the Clerk's Department at (616) 791-6865 to schedule an appointment or visit our website page at [www.WalkerMI.gov/Passports](http://www.WalkerMI.gov/Passports) for more information.

## KEY POINTS TO REMEMBER

- Routine service is currently taking 6-9 weeks to process a passport.
- Expedited service is currently taking 3-5 weeks to process a passport for an additional charge of \$60 per application.
- The applicant must be present to apply for a passport.
- If the applicant is UNDER 16, both parents are required to appear with the applicant when they apply for their passport. If one of the parents is unable to be present that parent must complete a Minor Consent Form #DS-3053, which is available at [travel.state.gov](http://travel.state.gov) or in the Clerk's office.
- If the applicant is 16 or 17, only one parent needs to appear with the applicant when they apply for their passport.

City of Walker offers passport photo services for \$10.00 per person.

## ELECTED OFFICIALS

### FEDERAL OFFICIALS:

**U.S. Senators:** Debbie Stabenow & Gary Peters

E: [stabenow.senate.gov](mailto:stabenow.senate.gov)

E: [peters.senate.gov](mailto:peters.senate.gov)

**3rd District Congresswoman:** Hillary Scholten  
Grand Rapids District Office: (616) 451-8383

### STATE OFFICIALS:

**Governor:** Gretchen Whitmer  
(517) 335-7858

**Attorney General:** Dana Nessel  
E: [miag@michigan.gov](mailto:miag@michigan.gov)

**30th District State Senator:** Mark Huizenga  
E: [senatormarkhuizenga.com](mailto:senatormarkhuizenga.com)

**84th District State Representative:** Carol Glanville  
E: [caglanville@house.mi.gov](mailto:caglanville@house.mi.gov)

### COUNTY COMMISSIONER

**6th District:** Stan Stek  
E: [stan.stek@kentcountymi.gov](mailto:stan.stek@kentcountymi.gov)

### SECRETARY OF STATE INFORMATION

**Secretary of State:** Jocelyn Benson  
E: [bensonj4@michigan.gov](mailto:bensonj4@michigan.gov)

Go online: [michigan.gov/voterregistration](http://michigan.gov/voterregistration)

- Register to Vote
- If you have moved or need to change your driver's license address

## RENEWING A PASSPORT

YOU MUST RENEW BY MAIL IF YOUR MOST RECENT U.S. PASSPORT:

- Is **undamaged** and can be submitted with your application; **and**
- Was issued when you were **age 16 or older**; **and**
- Was issued within the last **15 years**; **and**
- Was issued in your current name or you can legally document your name change with an **original or certified copy** of your marriage certificate or the government-issued document evidencing your legal; name change.

# Walker Income Tax Department

## 2022 WALKER INCOME TAX RETURNS ARE DUE MAY 1, 2023

We will be happy to prepare your Walker return free of charge. Please call (616) 791-6880 for an appointment and a list of information you will need to bring. We are no longer able to prepare Walker returns using information submitted by email.

### WORK FROM HOME IN 2022

If you are a Walker resident who usually works in another city with an income tax (for example, Grand Rapids), you must reduce the credit for tax paid to the other city for days worked from home. You will also reduce the amount of tax you pay to the non-resident city by allocating your wages for days worked from home. If you need help calculating non-resident taxable wages or the credit for tax paid to another city, you can call us at (616) 791-6880.



### E-FILE YOUR WALKER INCOME TAX RETURN

We will be accepting 2022 Walker resident and non-resident returns by e-file. If you use a paid tax preparer that e-files your federal and state return, they will be able to e-file your Walker return also. If you use TaxAct software/online tax program to prepare your own federal and state returns, you will be able to e-file your Walker return. Visit the TaxAct site at [taxact.com](https://taxact.com) for more information. Please note that other software/online tax programs used for self-prepared returns (TurboTax, H&R Block, TaxCut) do not participate with Michigan local e-filing as of 1/1/2023. We are working with these popular software programs to encourage them to participate with Michigan local e-filing. Check the instructions when you print your 2022 Walker return to see if you need to mail a paper copy to us.

E-filed returns for tax year 2022 will be accepted beginning January 31, 2023. Processing of e-filed returns with refunds will not begin until mid-March. All W-2 forms due from employers by February 28 must be processed first.

### ESTIMATED PAYMENTS

The first quarter estimated payment for 2023 Walker Income Tax is also due May 1, 2023. If your employer does not withhold Walker Income Tax or you have non-wage income (rental income, capital gains, premature pension distributions, etc.) that is subject to tax and you think you may owe more than \$100 with your 2023 return, you must make quarterly estimated payments. The 2023 Quarterly Estimated payment vouchers with instructions can be found:

- On our website at [www.walkermi.gov/taxforms](https://www.walkermi.gov/taxforms).
- By mail. Call us at (616) 791-6880

You must pay in at least 70% of your current or prior year liability (whichever is lower) through timely estimates, credits or withholding to avoid receiving a bill for penalty and interest for underpayment of estimated tax. If you need help calculating safe estimates, please call us for assistance at (616) 791-6880.

Please note that paying all four 2023 quarterly estimates with the fourth quarter voucher due January 31, 2024 may result in a bill for penalty and interest for failure to pay timely estimates.



## WHO MUST FILE

Every resident or part-year resident of Walker (this includes renters) who had taxable income in 2022 of \$600 or more must file a return. More information on taxable income can be found here: [www.walkermi.gov/incometaxfaqs](http://www.walkermi.gov/incometaxfaqs).

All Walker addresses have Grand Rapids mailing addresses so please do not assume you are not a Walker resident based on your mailing address. Visit the following link on the Walker website to check whether your address is within the city limits of Walker: [www.walkermi.gov/streetdirectory](http://www.walkermi.gov/streetdirectory).

If you have past years of Walker returns that you have forgotten to file, contact the tax department immediately at (616) 791-6880. If you file prior year returns and pay the tax and interest due, you may request a waiver of penalty. If the tax department contacts you first regarding unfiled returns, you will not be eligible for a waiver of penalty. We are continuing the process of electronically matching state of Michigan returns filed from a Walker resident address with Walker returns filed. If you have forgotten to file Walker returns from prior years, now is the time to get that cleared up before you receive an assessment from this compliance program.

## Income Tax Due Dates

### WALKER CITY INCOME TAX

#### For Employers:

January 31, 2023 - 4th Quarter 2022 withholding due (Form 941)  
February 28, 2023 - 2022 WW-3 forms due (Form WW-3)  
February 28, 2023 - January withholding due (Form 501)  
March 31, 2023 - February withholding due (Form 501)  
May 1, 2023 - 1st Quarter 2023 withholding due (Form 941)  
May 31, 2023 - April withholding due (Form 501)  
June 30, 2023 - May withholding due (Form 501)  
July 31, 2023 - 2nd Quarter 2023 withholding due (Form 941)  
August 31, 2023 - July withholding due (Form 501)  
October 2, 2023 - August withholding due (Form 501)  
October 31, 2023 - 3rd Quarter 2023 withholding due (Form 941)  
November 30, 2023 - October withholding due (Form 501)  
January 2, 2024 - November withholding due (Form 501)  
January 31, 2024 - 4th Quarter 2023 withholding due (Form 941)

#### For Individuals:

January 31, 2023 - 4th Quarter 2022 estimate due (Form 1040-ES)  
May 1, 2023 - 2022 individual return W-1040R/NR due (Form W-1040R/NR)  
May 1, 2023 - 1st Quarter 2023 estimate due (Form 1040-ES)  
June 30, 2023 - 2nd Quarter 2023 estimate due (Form 1040-ES)  
October 2, 2023 - 3rd Quarter 2023 estimate due (Form 1040-ES)  
January 31, 2024 - 4th Quarter 2023 estimate due (Form 1040-ES)

#### For Corporations:

January 31, 2023 - 4th Quarter 2022 estimate due (Form 1120-ES)  
May 1, 2023 - 2022 corporate return W-1120 due (Form W-1120)  
May 1, 2023 - 1st Quarter 2023 estimate due (Form 1120-ES)  
June 30, 2023 - 2nd Quarter 2023 estimate due (Form 1120-ES)  
October 2, 2023 - 3rd Quarter 2023 estimate due (Form 1120-ES)  
January 31, 2024 - 4th Quarter 2023 estimate due (Form 1120-ES)

# Walker Fire Department

## WALKER COMMUNITY CONNECT

We are always looking for ways to better serve the citizens in the City of Walker. For this reason, we rolled out a new program to protect our residents and their property in the most effective way possible. Community Connect is a free, secure, and easy to use platform that allows you to share critical information about your household that will aid first responders and emergency response personnel when responding to your residence. By providing information about your household that you feel is important for us to know about at the time of an emergency, we can ensure you and everything you care about is protected to the best of our ability. Scan the QR on this page code to access Community Connect.

1

Sign in for free and get started doing your part. It just takes your email, phone number and address

2

Enter valuable information that can help us assist more effectively during an emergency

3

That's it! Just keep us updated when things change over time so we can always be prepared.

### WHAT KINDS OF INFORMATION CAN I PROVIDE?

Any information you provide through Community Connect is completely voluntary and based on what you are comfortable sharing.

### HOW SECURE IS MY DATA AND HOW IS IT USED?

Data that you provide Community Connect is secure and is used only for the purpose of better serving you during emergency situations. Your information is never used for any other purpose. All logins are password protected with bank level encryption and security. If you're comfortable logging in to your online bank you'll be comfortable logging in to Community Connect.

### FOR HOUSEHOLDS



[www.communityconnect.io/info/mi-walker](http://www.communityconnect.io/info/mi-walker)



### HOW TO MAKE A FIRE ESCAPE PLAN

Draw a map of your home. Show all doors and windows.

Visit each room. Find two ways out.

All windows and doors should open easily. You should be able to use them to get outside.

Make sure your home has smoke alarms and test them.

Pick a meeting place outside.

Make sure your house or building number can be seen from the street.

Talk about your plan with everyone in your home.

Practice your home fire drill!



@CityofWalkerFireDepartment



# Walker Police Department

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM WALKER POLICE DEPARTMENT! WE WISH YOU ALL A SAFE & SUCCESSFUL 2023.

## CONNECT WITH US

One of our main priorities this year will be bringing back some of the opportunities to connect with residents at various community events. COVID put a big damper on these types of events the past couple years, so look for us to be back out and about doing Coffee with a Cop, Cones with Cops, and other pop-up events both in Walker and in nearby cities as we partner with other agencies.



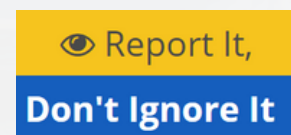
## COMMUNITY EDUCATION SERIES

We will also be bringing back Community Education seminars as frequently as we can. Anytime we can get information out to the public, on a variety of topics, we will be doing that. We already held a seminar on how to spot counterfeit currency, so thank you if you attended that. Sharing information is a force multiplier when it comes to deterring crime and suspicious activity in our neighborhoods, so let us help you on ways to help us!



## REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY AS IT'S HAPPENING

Speaking of suspicious activity, we'd like to extend a challenge for 2023. If you see something suspicious, **report it as it is occurring**. This gives officers the best chance to investigate the incident, or even catch criminals in the act. Stay in a safe place and be a good witness. Give the dispatcher as many real time updates as you can until officers arrive. The more eyes we have watching the streets, businesses, and neighborhoods, the better off we will be when it comes to deterring and reporting crimes. If you happen to have a surveillance system, take a moment to ensure it is in good working order and provides quality photo/video. While you should never assume simply having a camera will keep thieves away, cameras are still an important tool for investigation, as we can often times identify suspects through citizen photo/video.

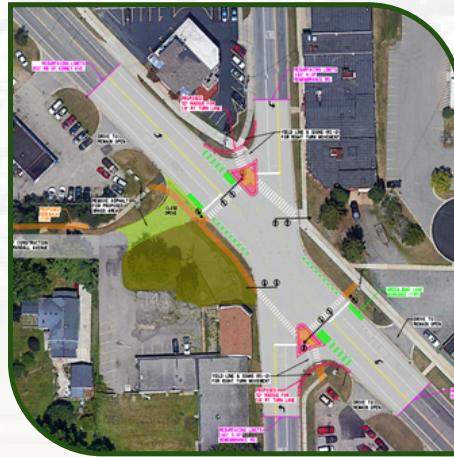


# Engineering Department

City engineers continue to transform old and outdated intersections, roads, and bridges into safer infrastructure for motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists. Here is a list of upcoming projects around the City.

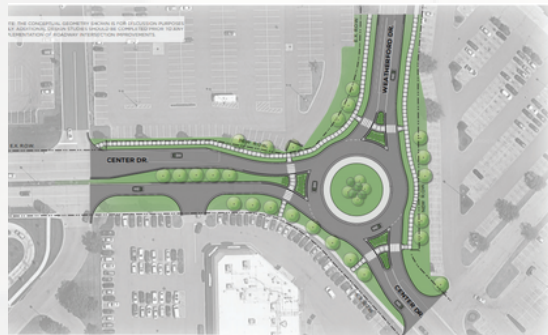
## KINNEY & REMEMBRANCE SIGNAL

The goal is to minimize the size of the intersection as much as possible. The crossing distance for most intersections is around 100-125'. Remembrance is almost 300'. The skewed shape can cause north and southbound left turners to close the distance on opposing traffic quicker than expected. By narrowing the intersection we can make it more friendly for pedestrians and safer for opposing traffic. The new traffic signals will be the mast arm variety with illuminated street name signs. All the improvements will be ADA accessible.



## CENTER / WEATHERFORD ROUNDABOUT

The Green Ridge Shopping Center has had traffic snarls along the main entrance point since it's inception. With the new roundabout we hope to eliminate the cost of a new traffic signal and dramatically improve traffic flow. The improvement will also eliminate the awkward crossover that is often confusing to drivers. Drivers will be able to circle the roundabout and free flow into the Target Driveway, along with other options via Weatherford Drive. Pedestrian movements will also be enhanced. The project is going to be funded by a Carbon Reduction grant in 2024. We will plan to bid the project after sometime after October of 2023 and hopefully see implementation in the spring and summer of 2024.



## BRISTOL /PANNELL BRIDGE

The current single lane bridge is 116 years old. We have secured grant funding to reconstruct the bridge with two - way traffic and a sidewalk to enhance pedestrian movements. Future plans for a sidewalk north of the new bridge include an expansion to the north in 2026. The project is funded with a regional Covid Relief Grant (HICU), a Surface Transportation Program (STP) grant, and Walker general fund dollars. The total construction cost for the bridge is currently estimated at \$2.5 Million. We are pushing hard to try and get the job bid in time for 2023 construction but it may slip into 2024. Supply chain issues will impact the bridge components.

## KINNEY AVE IMPROVEMENTS

Kinney Ave will be reconstructed from Leonard Street south to Lake Michigan Drive in 2024. Improvements include widening the road to allow two travel lanes with curb/gutter and a center turn lane. Ditches will also be enclosed to allow for sidewalk on both sides of the street.



# Department of Public Works

Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Call (616) 791-6854



## DATES AND TIMES:

May 4, 5, and 6

Thursday - 8:00 am to 6:00 pm

Friday - 8:00 am to 7:00 pm

Saturday - 7:00 am to 12:00 pm

**LOCATION:** Behind City Hall, 4243 Remembrance Rd NW, look for directional signs

## ITEMS ACCEPTED:

- Appliances (refrigerators coolant to be removed with certificate)
- Wood, brush, leaves, and grass clippings
- Metal
- Mattresses, old doors, small household appliances, old windows, and furniture

## ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED:

- TV's
- Computer Monitors
- Hazardous waste (contact Kent County Recycling program at (616) 632-7920 or visit [www.ReimagineTrash.org](http://www.ReimagineTrash.org))

## PROOF OF RESIDENCY REQUIRED

## FEE SCHEDULE

\$5.00 (per visit) - single car or minivan

\$5.00 - per tire

\$10.00 per tire with rim

\$10.00 (per visit) - single car with trailer

\$10.00 (per visit) - single pickup truck

\$20.00 ( per visit) - single pick-up truck with trailer



@CityofWalkerMI



[www.walkermi.gov](http://www.walkermi.gov)



**LOCATION:** Behind City Hall, 4243 Remembrance Rd NW

**DATES AND TIMES:** October 16 through November 14, 2023. It will be closed Friday, November 10, in observance of Veteran's Day.

## PROOF OF RESIDENCY REQUIRED

## PURCHASE LEAF BAGS:

Biodegradable bags can be purchased at the Department of Public Works (DPW) located at 4243 Remembrance RD NW (entrance across from the library) during office hours.

*Price: \$.50 per bag or 5 pack for \$2.50*

## TYPE OF BAGS ACCEPTED:

- Biodegradable
- Plastic bags not accepted. Residents will have to empty the leaves out of the bags.



## TREE TRIMMING

Believe it or not, yard work isn't just confined to the warmer months. Our Department of Public Works crews perform tree work in fall and winter.

You may have already seen our crews around the City trimming overgrown trees and shrubs. This is necessary so that vehicles, like snowplows and garbage trucks, can fit under tree branches.

Don't worry! Our crews will be cutting branches equally around to keep them uniform. Tree stumps will be removed in the Spring, and the area will be seeded and topsoil. We appreciate your patience as crews work this in between their other duties.

# Calendar of Events

## F E B R U A R Y

FEBRUARY 1 - 18

**Spring Soccer Online  
Registration Open**  
*walkericeandfitness.com*

MON. FEBRUARY 20

**President's Day**  
City Offices Closed

## M A R C H

MARCH 13 & 14

**March Board of Review**

NOW - APRIL 17

**Walker Adult Softball  
Registration Open**  
*walkericeandfitness.com*

## A P R I L

SAT. APRIL 1

**Annual Easter Egg Hunt**  
*City Central Park*

SUN. APRIL 9

**Easter Sunday**  
Walker Ice and Fitness Closed



## M A Y

MAY 4 - 6

**Walker Clean Up Days**  
*More information:  
www.walkermi.gov*

MON. MAY 29

**Memorial Day Parade**  
*Remembrance Road*

MON. MAY 29

**Memorial Day**  
City Offices Closed  
Walker Ice & Fitness Closed  
KDL Walker Branch Closed



## MONTHLY CITY MEETINGS

City Commission:  
6:30 pm / 2nd and 4th Monday  
*Location: Commission Chambers*

Planning Commission:  
6:30 pm / 1st and 3rd Wednesday  
*Location: Commission Chambers*

Zoning Board of Appeals:  
6:30 pm / 2nd and 4th Wednesday  
*Location: Commission Chambers*

Downtown Development Authority:  
7:30 am / 3rd Tuesday  
*Location: Commissioner Chambers*

## J U N E

THURS. JUNE 8

**Walker Standale Summer Concert Series**  
*Community Park @ 6:30 pm*



## J U L Y

TUE. JULY 4

**Independence Day**  
City Offices Closed  
Walker Ice & Fitness Closed  
KDL Walker Branch Closed

TUES. JULY 18

**July Board of Review**  
9:30 am

THURS. JULY 13

**Walker Standale Summer  
Concert Series**  
*Community Park @ 6:30 pm*

JULY 1 - 23

**Walker Fall Youth Soccer  
Registration Open**  
*walkericeandfitness.com*



## AUGUST

TUES. AUGUST 1

### National Night Out

*Follow the Walker PD*

*Facebook page for updates*

THURS. AUGUST 10

### Walker Standale Summer Concert Series

*Community Park @ 6:30 pm*



## INTERESTED IN BECOMING AN EVENT SPONSOR?

Our events are made possible by the generous donations of our sponsors. Community events are the perfect opportunity for your business to gain exposure within the Walker/Standale neighborhoods and become involved with your local community! Email Nicole DiDonato at [ndidonato@walker.city](mailto:ndidonato@walker.city) for a sponsorship packet, or go to [www.walkermi.gov/events](http://www.walkermi.gov/events).

## SEPTEMBER

MON. SEPTEMBER 4

### Labor Day

City Offices Closed

Walker Ice & Fitness Closed

KDL Walker Branch Closed

## OCTOBER

SAT. SEPTEMBER 30

### Pumpkin Bash

*Walker City Hall Complex*

FRI. OCTOBER 27

### Annual Scary Skate

*Walker Ice & Fitness Center*

OCT. 16 - NOV. 14

### Walker Leaf Recycling Program

*More information:*

*[www.walkermi.gov](http://www.walkermi.gov)*

OCTOBER; DATE TBA

### Officer Trevor Slot Memorial Service



## DECEMBER

TUES. DECEMBER 12

### December Board of Review

*9:30 am*

SUN. DECEMBER 31

### New Year's Eve

KDL Walker Branch

Open until 5:00 pm

MON. DECEMBER 25 &

TUES. DECEMBER 26

### Christmas Day/ Day After

City Offices Closed

Walker Ice & Fitness and

KDL Walker Branch Closed

only on Christmas

## NOVEMBER

FRI. NOVEMBER 10

### Observance of Veteran's Day

City Offices Closed

KDL Walker Branch Closed

THUR. NOVEMBER 24

### Thanksgiving Holiday

City Offices Closed

Walker Ice & Fitness Closed

KDL Walker Branch Closed

FRI. NOVEMBER 26

### Thanksgiving Holiday

City Offices Closed

THURS. November 30

### Walker WinterFest

*Walker Ice and Fitness*

*Center*

## JANUARY

MON. JANUARY 1, 2024

### New Year's Day

City Hall Closed

KDL Walker Branch Closed

Walker Ice and Fitness Closed

JANUARY 2024; DATE TBA

### Walker Mayor's Cup

*Walker Ice & Fitness Center*



"Where Active Families Play"

WWW.WALKERICEANDFITNESS.COM



@WalkerIceFitness



@WalkerIceandFitness

4151 Remembrance Road NW | Walker MI, 49534 | (616) 735-6286

Visitors from all over West Michigan and beyond join us for workouts, fitness classes, games, skating, recreation programs and more! We provide a state-of-the-art fitness center with the latest in equipment and classes! Memberships start at just \$39 per month and we offer special rates for our corporate partners, students, law enforcement and military. Call (616) 735-6286 for more information or visit us online!

#### FALL HOURS (OCT 1 - APR 30)

- Mon-Fri: 5am-9pm
- Sat-Sun: 7am-7pm

#### SUMMER HOURS (MAY 1 - SEPT 30)

- Mon-Fri: 5am-9pm
- Sat-Sun: 7am-5pm

#### ICE ARENA

The Walker Ice and Fitness Center's Ice Arena provides opportunities for area residents of all ages to enjoy on-ice recreation. From Learn to Skate/Play hockey programs, Cross Ice, games, practices and tournaments, there are many opportunities to get your skates on, have fun and enjoy the great sports of hockey and Ice Skating! As soon as we are able, open skate, drop-in-hockey, and stick and puck will be back on the schedule. Be sure to check our Facebook pages and our website for the latest updates.

#### BLOOD DRIVES

Throughout the year, we partner with Versiti to offer community blood drives. Please consider participating to help save lives!

- March 7-8 Kenowa Hills High School Blood Drive – 11am-6pm both days
- April 19 – 1-6pm
- June 21 – 1-6pm
- August 23 – 1-6pm
- December 27 – 1-6pm



#### TRY US FREE!

Are you interested in a gym membership? You can try out our facility FREE for 7 days. Anyone 18 years and older, area resident and first-time visitor to our facility is welcome to do this! You will have access to all our amenities during this week - that means the indoor track, cardio equipment, extensive free weights, and more are yours to try FREE! Visit [walkericeandfitness.com](http://walkericeandfitness.com) for more information or call (616) 735-6286.

#### SENIOR PROGRAMS

We participate with Silver Sneakers, AARP and Silver and Fit supplemental insurance programs. Call Mary Kay Sherman at (616) 735-6286 for more information.

#### UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

- March 11 - April 29: Learn to Skate & Play Hockey Session 4
- Week of March 20: Spring House Hockey Evals
- Week of March 20: Spring Travel Hockey Tryouts
- May: HAWK Hockey Fall Travel Tryouts
- May 17 - June 28: Learn To Skate & Play Hockey Session 5
- July 12 - Aug 23: Learn to Skate & Play Session 6
- Week of August 14: HAWK Evaluations
- Mid September: Learn to Skate & Play Hockey '23/'24 Session 1
- October: Cross Ice Begins
- October 27: Skary Skate
- November 30: WinterFest Open Skate
- December 31: Neon NYE Skate



#### CONTACT WALKER ICE AND FITNESS CENTER

##### EMAIL FACILITY DIRECTOR:

MKSHERMAN@WALKERICEANDFITNESS.COM

##### EMAIL ICE DIRECTOR:

MFOUNTAIN@WALKERICEANDFITNESS.COM



## Pavilion Rentals

Rent a park pavilion **ONLINE** for  
your next gathering

[www.walkericeandfitness.com](http://www.walkericeandfitness.com)



City Central Park Pavilion  
4243 Remembrance Rd NW



Community Park Pavilion  
700 Cummings Ave NW



Alpine Estates Park Pavilion  
1364 3 Mile Rd NW

Contact the Walker Parks &  
Recreation Department for more info  
(616) 735-6286

**Michelle May, Recreation Supervisor**  
[mmay@walkericeandfitness.com](mailto:mmay@walkericeandfitness.com)

**Gillian Hendershot, Assistant**  
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## Dates to Remember

Now - April 17: Adult Softball Registration  
April 1: Easter Egg Hunt  
April 3 - May 5: Memorial Day Parade Registration  
April 22: Spring Soccer Games Begin  
May 29: Memorial Day Parade  
June 5: Adult Softball Games Begin  
July: Parks and Recreation Month  
July 1 - 23: Fall Soccer Registration  
September 16: Fall Soccer Games Begin  
October 2 - November 11: Veterans Drive

## Adult Softball Umpires & Soccer Officials Needed

Umpires must be 18 years old, soccer officials must be  
13 years old. Both must have knowledge of the game.  
Apply online at [www.walkericeandfitness.com](http://www.walkericeandfitness.com)



## FREE Drop-In Sports

- **Drop-In Basketball** - City Central Park  
Starting in April, every Monday from 6-8pm
- **Volleyball** - City Central Park  
Starting in April, every Tuesday from 6-8pm
- **Inline Roller Hockey** - City Central Park  
Starting in April, every Wednesday from 6-8pm

Be on the lookout for NEW, up and coming activities  
and ways to get involved!



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK AT  
[@CityofWalkerParksandRecreation](https://www.facebook.com/CityofWalkerParksandRecreation)



# KDL Library: Walker Branch

 @KDLWalker

 @KentDistrictLibrary

Monday - Thursday: 9:30 a.m. – 8 p.m. | Friday & Saturday: 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Sunday: Closed

## Kent District Library Named Five-Star Library

Kent District Library has been recognized as one of America's Star Libraries, as rated by the Library Journal Index of Public Library Service. KDL received the highest score, a five-star rating. KDL was compared to other libraries with similar annual expenditures and received the top honor due to the extent that KDL patrons use the library. Scores and star ratings are based on circulation of physical materials, circulation of electronic materials, library visits, library program attendance, public internet users, Wi-Fi sessions, library website visits and E-retrievals (usage of online content such as databases). KDL had the highest program attendance per capita for any library in the index with a budget of \$10 million or more. "This award is a reflection that people use and place a high value on the services we provide," said Lance Werner, Executive Director at KDL. "The Star Library designation is welcome confirmation that KDL provides the library offerings that our residents want and need in their lives." The 2022 scores and ratings are based on fiscal year 2020 data from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Public Library Survey (PLS). This year, 5,359 public libraries received LJ Index scores and 258 received Stars.

## KDale Quest

Attend KDale brewing classes at our branches, read brewing books, visit our brewery partners and win prizes! Use the Beanstack app to complete tasks and automatically enter to win monthly prize drawings from each of our participating breweries. Complete five tasks in the app and earn a KDale pint glass. Complete 15 tasks and win a KDale growler! Follow us on Instagram for updates on which brewery prizes we'll be giving away each month. All programs are for ages 21 and up.



## SAVE MONEY WITH YOUR KDL LIBRARY CARD

Looking to cut subscriptions?

Instead of:	Try:	Website:
Netflix	Kanopy	<a href="http://kdl.kanopy.com">kdl.kanopy.com</a>
Hulu	Hoopla	<a href="http://hoopladigital.com">hoopladigital.com</a>
Audible	Libby	<a href="http://kdl.overdrive.com">kdl.overdrive.com</a>
Spotify	Freegal	<a href="http://kdl.freegalmusic.com">kdl.freegalmusic.com</a>
Amazon	The Library	<a href="http://kdl.org">kdl.org</a>

 All FREE with your KDL card.



# FREE Family Events

**1**  
APRIL

## Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Hunt begins promptly at 11:00 am  
Free outdoor Easter Egg Hunt for kids!!  
*Location: Walker City Central Park*

**29**  
MAY

## Memorial Day Parade

Family-friendly parade to honor our veterans and those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom! Parade begins with a plane flyover. *Location: Remembrance Road*

**8**  
JUNE

## Walker Standale Summer Concert Series

6:30 - 8:30 pm

Join the community for an open air concert in the park featuring local bands. This is a FREE family event. Food for sale on-site. Bring your blankets and lawn chairs.  
*Location: Walker Community Park*

**13**  
JULY

**10**  
AUGUST

## Walker Pumpkin Bash

Family event with free pumpkins, cider and donuts, farm animals, trick or treating, face painting and more!

*Location: Walker City Hall Complex*

**30**  
SEPTEMBER

## Walker Winter Fest

Free ice-skating, holiday crafts, reindeer, hot cocoa and cookies, live music and pictures with Santa! Don't miss out on the Tree Lighting Ceremony at 7:00 pm.

*Location: Walker Ice and Fitness Center*

**30**  
NOVEMBER



## Stay Informed!

### SUBSCRIBE TO WALKER'S MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER

The City of Walker sends out a monthly e-Newsletter with department reports, construction updates, community events and more. Sign up through the QR code or through our website at [www.walkermi.gov](http://www.walkermi.gov).



Scan Me!

# City Directory

## CITY COMMISSION

MAYOR: GARY CAREY, JR.

P: 292-1715 E: GCAREY@WALKER.CITY

## FIRST WARD COMMISSIONERS:

STEVEN GILBERT, MAYOR PRO TEM

P: 828-7763 E: SGILBERT@WALKER.CITY

THOM BURKE

P: (619) 379-6036 E: TBURKE@WALKER.CITY

## SECOND WARD COMMISSIONERS:

ROXANNE DESCHAIINE

P: 885-4191 E: RDESCHAIINE@WALKER.CITY

JESSICA BABCOCK

P: 634-6015 E: JBABCOCK@WALKER.CITY

## THIRD WARD COMMISSIONER:

ELAINA A. HUIZENGA-CHASE

P: 334-1900 E: ECHASE@WALKER.CITY

MELANIE GROOTERS

P: 690-1719 E: MGROOTERS@WALKER.CITY

## CITY STAFF

**ASSESSOR:** KELLY SMITH

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**CITY MANAGER:** DARREL SCHMALZEL

P: 791-6787 E: DSCHMALZEL@WALKER.CITY

**CITY CLERK:** DEBORAH GOUDY

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**ASST. CITY MANAGER / COMMUNITY**

**DEVELOPMENT:** FRANK WASH

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**59TH DISTRICT COURT:** P: 453-5765

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## WALKER CITY COMMISSION:



MAYOR GARY CAREY JR.



COMMISSIONER GILBERT



COMMISSIONER BURKE



COMMISSIONER DESCHAIINE



COMMISSIONER BABCOCK



COMMISSIONER GROOTERS



COMMISSIONER  
HUIZENGA-CHASE

## CONNECT WITH US:



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