

The Land Bank, City of Flint, community groups, and residents are working together to maintain vacant properties in 2017. A decrease in Flint's population has generated an abundance of vacant properties; there are more houses and buildings available than there are people and businesses to fill them. There are approximately 24,000 vacant properties in Flint today, representing more than 42% of all properties in the city.

Maintaining vacant properties is expensive.

It would cost **\$7 million annually** to mow the grass and remove trash from all vacant properties in Flint, once a month from spring to summer. It would cost an additional **\$845,000** to board vacant properties that have open doors and windows. The Land Bank has approximately \$1.5 million for vacant property maintenance in 2017. The City of Flint has \$200,00 for vacant property cleanups.

Are you mowing a vacant property on your street? Is there illegal dumping or a problem property in your neighborhood? Are you organizing a neighborhood cleanup?

**If so, call the City of Flint Blight Office and let us know!
(810) 237-2090**

The City of Flint's Blight Elimination Division works in partnership with the Land Bank to eliminate blight in neighborhoods across Flint by following the vision laid out in the *Imagine Flint Master Plan* and the *Beyond Blight Framework*. The City currently responds to problem property complaints from the community and has resources to assist residents working to improve their neighborhoods. In 2016, the City's Blight Elimination Division responded to 3,966 resident complaints, supported 101 neighborhood cleanup efforts, boarded 126 homes, removed nearly 260 tons of dumping, and supported Land Bank crews to clean an additional 79 problem properties across Flint.



**2017
VACANT PROPERTY
MAINTENANCE PLAN**



Vacant Properties

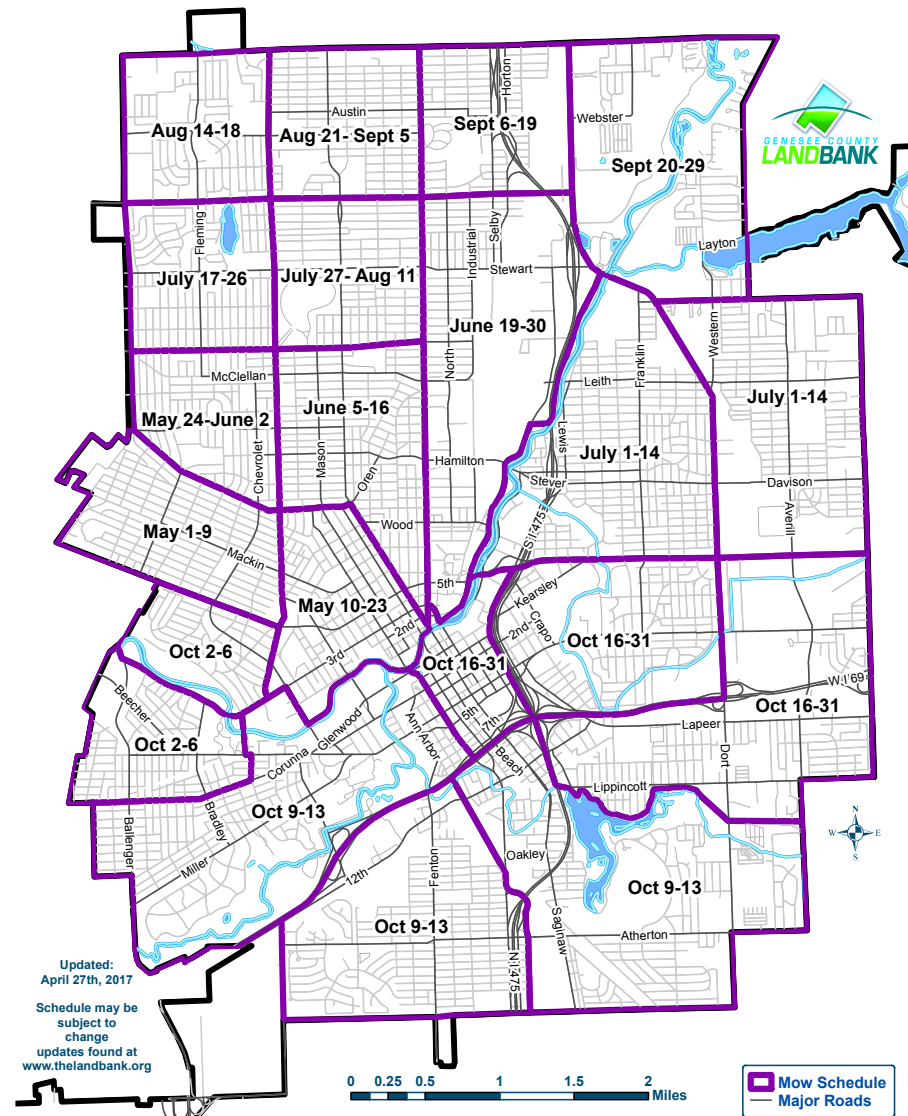
Vacant properties accumulate tall grass and trash, increasing the presence of blight and decreasing the sense of safety in the community.



#BeyondBlight

The Land Bank hires seasonal weed and trash abatement crews that mow grass and remove trash from vacant properties in Flint and Genesee County.

2017 Genesee County Land Bank Mowing Schedule



The Land Bank owns about one out of every two vacant properties in Flint. Because the Land Bank exists to stabilize and improve neighborhoods, Land Bank crews mow grass and remove trash from all vacant properties in Flint, half of which are privately owned.

- In May, crews start sweeping the city of Flint, mowing grass and removing trash from all vacant properties - vacant houses, vacant buildings, and vacant lots. Crews will visit all vacant properties in Flint at least once in 2017.
- Vacant and blighted properties that are next to occupied properties are completely mowed.
- Mow strips are used for vacant and blighted properties that are *not* next to occupied properties.
- For properties in Flint, crews follow the schedule on the map to the left. The start dates provided are subject to change according to weather and property conditions.
- Land Bank crews also mow properties that are in its inventory outside of the city of Flint.



Illegal Dumping

In order to mow the grass on vacant properties, crews must also remove illegally dumped trash. Land Bank crews annually remove 500 tons of trash from vacant properties. Illegally dumped trash is the biggest obstacle that the crews face each year.

Community groups and residents are maintaining thousands of vacant properties in Flint, with support from the Land Bank and the City of Flint.

Hundreds of Flint residents are cleaning up their neighborhoods with dumpsters and Saturday support crews provided by the City of Flint Love Your Block program. Contact Joel Arnold for more info @ jarnold@cityofflint.com or (810) 237-2090.



Residents are maintaining hundreds of Land Bank lots through Adopt-A-Lot and Lease-A-Lot agreements and Side Lot sales. Contact Renee Harvey for more info on lots available through the Land Bank @ rharvey@thelandbank.org or (810) 257-3088 x. 541.



58 community groups are maintaining more than 3,200 vacant properties every three weeks through the Land Bank's Clean & Green program. Each group receives a stipend for its work. Most groups engage and employ area youth. Contact Raynetta Speed for more info @ rspeed@thelandbank.org or (810) 293-0663.



Mow Strips

Crews are mowing the first eight feet of vacant properties that are *not* next to occupied properties with mow strips. This enables more frequent mowing that keeps sidewalks and sightlines consistently clear.



Next-Door Mowing

Flint residents mow thousands of vacant properties that are next-door, across the street, or down the block. If every Flint household mowed one vacant property on its block, they would keep more than two-thirds of all vacant properties mowed.