



CITY OF PORTLAND NEWSLETTER

www.portland-michigan.org

September 2024



TAXES ARE DUE SEPTEMBER 30TH

Property Tax Bills and Estimated Tax Payments are due on Monday, September 30TH by 4:30 P.M. at City Hall. Checks must be made payable to the *City of Portland*.

PORTLAND AMBULANCE SERVICE OFFERS EMERGENCY CARE PLAN

The Ambulance Department will be offering subscriptions for the coverage period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at a cost of **\$60.00** per household. The enrollment period will be May 1, 2024, through June 30, 2024. Please be sure to read the agreement and information sheet.



PLEASE KEEP UTILITY METERS ACCESSIBLE

For meter readers to obtain an accurate reading from your utility meters it is important to keep landscaping and other vegetation surrounding them trimmed. Please check the area surrounding your utility meters to make sure that your meter reader has easy access. Thank you.



ENERGY SMART PROGRAMS

The City of Portland Electric Department offers several Energy Smart Programs to its customers. Visit <https://mienergysmart.com/portland/> to find the programs available to you, along with the links to download rebate applications.

NEW * TORNADO SIREN TESTING * NEW



Due to recent enhancements to the Emergency Warning System, tornado siren testing will now occur year-round, every Saturday at noon, conducted by Ionia County Central Dispatch, except in the case of severe weather.

If you hear the tornado siren at any other time, it indicates that a tornado warning has been issued for our area, and you should seek shelter immediately.



HYDRANT FLUSHING

Water Department crews will conduct the semi-annual preventive maintenance program on the City's water system from September 16th through September 27th when they systematically flush all fire hydrants. Please call Rod at 517-647-2948 if you want to know when crews will be in your area. **Remember, rusty or discolored water can occur after flushing.** Make sure to check your tap water before washing clothes, and let the water run until it is clear before using.

FALL LEAF REMOVAL

The leaves will start falling soon! DPW crews can serve you better for loose leaf pickup if leaves are placed in long narrow rows at the curb. Please keep limbs, branches and rocks out of leaf piles as these items can damage the leaf machine. Leaves can also be placed in paper yard waste bags for pickup. Residents can also self-haul leaves to the compost pile located behind the horse arena at Bogue Flats. Please **DO NOT** place any animal waste in leaf piles; these piles will not be picked up. Under the Refuse Ordinance the burning of brush and leaves is prohibited.



The last day for loose leaf pickup will be Monday, December 2, 2024. Please have leaves raked to the curb by 7:00 A.M. on December 2, 2024. After that date, leaves may be placed at the curb in paper yard waste bags for pickup.



BRUSH PICK UP REMINDERS

BRUSH PICKUP PROCEDURE - The City is divided into two areas for pickup; Area #1 is east of the Grand River and south of Grand River Ave (the east side) and Area #2 is the rest of the city. Brush pickup for Area #1 will be on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month and Area #2 will be picked up on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month.

Brush should be neatly stacked with ends facing the same direction that are no longer than 8' in length (brush piles) and no branches should be larger than 6" in diameter. Small branches and twigs shorter than 2' should be bound together, placed in paper biodegradable bags, or containers that will be returned to your yard. Stumps and root balls will not be picked up. Please do not place brush behind or close to signs, fire hydrants, trees, etc.

Brush may be placed curbside the Friday before pick up until 7:00 A.M. on pick up day. Brush should be placed in the curb lawn and not placed in the roadway pursuant to City Ordinance.

The D.P.W. will accept self-haul brush Monday through Friday 7:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. These services are for City of Portland RESIDENTS ONLY for maintenance of their yard; not lot clearing. This service is not for contractor use.

DOG REMINDERS

Please pick up after your dog. According to City Ordinance all dogs must be secured by a leash while on any public property. Also, dogs are not allowed to defecate on any premises other than their own, unless the person in possession of the dog promptly cleans up any feces deposited by the animal. Violators may be cited and fined up to \$500.



For more information on the recreation programs below please contact Erin at 517-647-3207 or at efair@portland-michigan.org



NEW RECREATION SOFTWARE:

This user-friendly and mobile-friendly system allows for easy program registration and, new this year, online pavilion rentals. Families will need to create a new account for their household; your old login information will no longer work. Visit portlandmi.recdesk.com to get started.

WINTER SPORTS REGISTRATION:

Registration for winter sports will open on October 1st. Available programs:

- **1ST/2ND GRADE BASKETBALL:** Season begins in early January and runs through the middle of February. Teams will practice one night a week and play games on Saturday mornings. Practice days and times will not be established until the December coaches' meeting.
 - Deadline: Monday, December 2, 2024
 - Cost: \$55 Res/\$65 NR
- **DK/KINDERGARTEN:** Leagues will take place in March. There are two available options: Mondays and Wednesdays OR Tuesdays and Thursdays. Teams will practice and scrimmage each hour-long session.
 - Deadline: Monday, February 3, 2025
 - Cost: \$45 Res/\$55 NR
- **ADULT BASKETBALL:** Games are played on Sundays at Portland High School. There are leagues for both men and women. The four men's divisions available range from A (upper) to D (lower). League play will begin in early December and run into February.
 - Deadline: Monday, November 11, 2024
 - Cost: \$450/team

PARKS & CEMETERY:

PAVILION RENTALS – Available through the Parks & Recreation Department. Reservations can be made up to one year in advance for the pavilions at Community Lake, Bogue Flats, Thompson Field, William Toan Park, Joe Tichvon Park, and the Red Mill. To make a reservation visit portlandmi.recdesk.com. For more information call Parks & Recreation at 517-647-7985, Portland City Hall at 517-647-3205. City Hall hours are Monday-Friday 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM.

CEMETERY DEPARTMENT – Any flowers not securely placed in an urn or that are in poor condition will be removed by cemetery staff. *Reminder: glass vases, urns, or other glass containers are not permitted. Flowers not securely placed in an urn will be removed by staff.* Please call 517-647-7985 with questions.

CITY MEETING SCHEDULE

City Council meets the first and third Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at City Hall. *City Council members are Mayor Jim Barnes, Mayor Pro-Tem Joel VanSlambrouck, Patrick Fitzsimmons, Amanda L. Johnston, and Erica Sheehan*

Downtown Development Authority meets at City Hall at 7:00 p.m., on the fourth Monday of each month.

Portland Area Fire Authority meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Portland City Hall.

Zoning Board of Appeals meets at City Hall at 7:00 p.m., on the second Monday of the month as needed.

Planning Commission meets at City Hall at 7:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month.

Parks Board meets at City Hall at 5:30 p.m., on the third Thursday of each month.

Board of Light & Power meets at the Electric Department, 4:00 p.m., on the last Tuesday of each month.

Mayor Barnes is available to meet with citizens at City Hall on the Sat. following Council meetings from 9:00–11:00 a.m.

CITY OF PORTLAND

259 KENT ST • PORTLAND, MI 48875

PHONE 517-647-7531 • FAX 517-647-2938

HOURS (M-F) 8:00-4:30

www.portland-michigan.org

The City of Portland is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

CITY HALL 647-7531

Assessor	647-2943	Income Tax	647-2941
Ambulance	647-2935	Parks	647-7985
Cemetery	647-7985	Police(Records)	647-2947
City Clerk	647-3211	Police(NonER)	647-7521
City Manager	647-2931	Recreation	647-3207
Code/Zoning	647-2931	Streets	647-6129
DDA	647-5027	Wastewater	647-6926
Electric	647-6912	Water	647-2948
Fire/Burn Pmt	647-4111	Treasurer	647-2933
Fire/Business	647-2950	Utility Billing	647-3205