



CITY NEWSLETTER

Volunteers Needed For Tree Planting

The City of Montrose is looking for volunteers to help plant trees throughout the city to help celebrate Arbor Day on **October 7th**. The month of October has been designated NeighborWoods Month — 31 days focused on planting and caring for community trees and making communities greener and healthier. The event will kickoff at 8:45 a.m. at Blueberry Park and volunteers will plant approximately a dozen trees. Please wear closed-toe shoes, gloves and bring a shovel if you have one. Event occurs rain or shine no experience necessary. See you there!

For more information please call the City Offices or visit cityofmontrose.us



Ribbon Cutting for Blueberry Park Set For October 15th



In the next few weeks contractors will be installing the final pieces of playground equipment at Blueberry Park. This installation will mark over five years of investment and improvements to this neighborhood park. Starting in 2017 the Montrose Planning Board adopted a new park plan that would incorporate new equipment with existing, add a restroom, acquire property and design a park for young children and those with limited mobility. To celebrate this achievement city council has chosen to hold a ribbon cutting ceremony on **Saturday, October 15th at 11:00 a.m.** to thank all the various organization that have made this project possible. This include the Jennings Memorial Foundation, Blueberry Festival, Michigan State Housing Development Authority, Genesee County Metropolitan Planning, Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the many volunteers that have helped along the way. We hope you can attend this event and celebrate with us in marking this exciting achievement.

Elected City Officials

Colleen Brown, Mayor
Mark Richard, Mayor Pro-Tem
Robert Arnold, Council Member
Tom Bigelow, Council Member
Aaron Burch, Council Member
Ryan Heslop, Council Member
Andrea Martin, Council Member

Appointed City Officials

Neil Rankin, City Manager
Christina Rush, City Clerk
Jennifer Whitting, City Treasurer
Janet Loomis, Utilities
Sam Spence, DPW Supervisor
Bob Naumann, Assessor
Matt Leoni, Building Inspector
Deborah Gross, DDA Chair
Todd Pangle, Planning Chair

City of Montrose

139 S. Saginaw Street
Montrose, MI 48457
Phone 810.639.6168
Fax 810.639.6125

www.cityofmontrose.us

In This Issue

- Fall Projects
- Water & Sewer
- Clerk's Corner
- City Happenings
- DPW
- Manager's Remarks

Online Payment Info

The City of Montrose has contracted with companies; "BS&A Software" and "Point and Pay" to offer you the option to pay a bill online at your convenience with a credit card. **There is a minimal convenience charge for online payments however to access your account is free of charge.**

On this page you will be able to look up your bill and/or pay it online. This includes: Utility Bill Water/Sewer, Property Tax Bill, Assessing (Property Parcel)

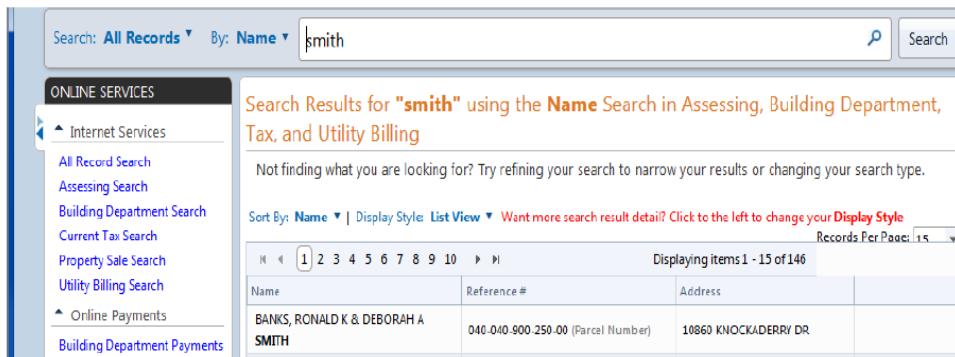
A Quick Tutorial To Access Your Online Account

Click on the following hyperlink on the City's main page at cityofmontrose.us

[**Access Online Services! Click Here for more information**](#)

You can also go to AccessMyGov page at <https://accessmygov.com/?uid=1161>

1. Find your record using the search options at the top of the screen. For a more detailed discussion of the search capabilities, please see <http://www.accessmygov.com/Documents/AMGBasics.pdf>. For this example, we'll search by owner name (Smith):



The screenshot shows the AccessMyGov search results for the name "smith". The search bar at the top has "smith" entered. The results table shows 146 items, with the first few rows visible:

Name	Reference #	Address
BANKS, RONALD K & DEBORAH A	040-040-900 250-00	10860 KNOCK/DERRY DR
SMITH		

2. Click on your parcel record from the Search Results screen. If your parcel isn't found, broaden your search criteria by removing some details such as First Name, or search by the Address or the Parcel Number instead.

3. Once you are on the Parcel Details screen, two options are presented to view details. This help document covers Option 1:

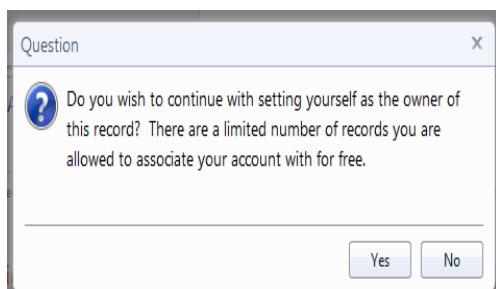
Option 1: I am the homeowner of this record. (No Charge)

Homeowners can view their information **free of charge** please click the below button to proceed. Please note that once an AccessMyGov account has viewed their records for free, they will no longer be able to view other properties for free.

Note: You must have an AccessMyGov account in order to access your information for free, please [click here](#) to create a new account.

[Access this Record for free](#)

4. To access your record for free, it is important that you create an account and log in which you must click here to register. After you enter you create a username and password you will be prompted with the question.



The dialog box contains the following text:

Question

Do you wish to continue with setting yourself as the owner of this record? There are a limited number of records you are allowed to associate your account with for free.

Yes No

Click yes. The details of the parcel record become available. As long as the Owner Name of this record doesn't change, you will have 24/7 access to make payments.

Montrose Office Staff are here to help if you have any questions or issues to create your account. It's a great way to save time and money.

City Assessor

The Assessor's office also inspects a property when notified of new construction, remodeling or demolition. The Assessor's Office may request a full inspection if there are physical changes made to the property.

Why do we do this?

The Assessor's office has the responsibility to assess all property in the City at 50% of fair market value. This includes homes, factories, commercial properties, vacant land and personal property. To meet the standards of the State Tax Commission, the Assessor's office reviews a portion of the properties every year. This allows the City to keep accurate records. **The assessor will not enter your home.**

Need to file a tax exemption?

Tax exemptions that are available include:

- Principal Residential Exemption - This exemption is for residential properties that are owned and occupied by an individual.
- Beginning in 2019, taxpayers are no longer required to annually file Form 5076 (personal property) in order to claim the exemption. Once granted, taxpayers will continue to receive the exemption until they no longer qualify for the exemption. At that point, the taxpayer is required to file Rescission Form 5618 and a personal property statement no later than February 20th of the year that the property is no longer eligible.
- Poverty Exemption - If for reason of poverty an individual is unable to contribute to the common good.
- Property Exemption for Disabled Veterans - Exemption for the principal residence of Disabled Veterans.

December Board of Review Will be held on December 14th at 5:00 p.m. @ City Office

Did you know?

Genesee County was created on March 28, 1835, from territory taken from Lapeer, Shiawassee and Saginaw counties



MONTROSE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS NEWS



You may see us but we might not see you. Give space, slow down & turn on your headlights.

Between the months of November 1st and April 1st, no person shall park a motor vehicle on any street between the hours of 3:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m., or those days when an accumulation of snow requires that the city snowplows and clears such streets.

Did you know?

The DPW prioritize plow routes for snow removal starting first with school bus routes, followed by other residential areas and lastly alleys and city parking lots.

A Few Fall & Winter DPW Tips

- Please do not place your leaves or snow in the street where they may interfere with traffic or drainage.
- Please do not block sidewalks or cover fire hydrants with leaf or snow piles. Leaves should be placed in leaf bags and set in the right-of-way.
- Be sure you know the location of the water shutoff valve in your home. Check it periodically to ensure it works properly.
- Be sure to shut off water to outside faucets, and drain the water from the outside faucets.
- Insulate pipes in unheated parts of your house. Be alert if you have had frozen pipes in the past.
- Monitor your sump pump. A frozen drain pipe could result in a flooded basement.
- Always keep on hand a three day supply of bottled water; one gallon per person per day.
- Homeowners and business owners are responsible for removing snow and ice from their sidewalk within 48 hours after a snow event.
- No person shall pile, dump or place snow, ice or any other material on any sidewalk or public street in the city. Snow or ice shall not be plowed or moved across a public street or otherwise disposed of in any other place or in a manner so as to create a safety hazard to the people of the city.
- City officials wish to keep pedestrians safe during the winter months by keeping sidewalks clear and will work with residents and property owners to ensure compliance.

CLERK'S CORNER

STATEWIDE GENERAL

ELECTION

Tuesday, November 8th

Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

What is on the ballot?

Am I registered to vote?

Please Visit

www.michigan.gov/vote

Absentee Ballots Will Be Available and Mailed Out On September 29th.

For other election questions please feel free to contact the City Clerk.

Are You Registered To Vote?

To register to vote, you must be all of the following:

A U.S. citizen

At least 18 years old by Election Day

A resident of Michigan

A resident of the city or township where you are applying to register to vote. If you want to check to see if you are registered, visit www.Michigan.gov/vote and/or view your sample ballot

If you meet those following requirements and live in the City:

Get to the city clerk's office and bring your State ID or Driver's License.

Fill out voter registration form.

Keep it in your wallet or purse so you know where to go to cast your ballot.

For City Electors the Precinct is located at the City Offices at 139 S. Saginaw .

It's Now Easier to Vote

- You can register to vote and cast your ballot on the same day, including election day.
- Adults are automatically registered to vote when they apply, renew or update their driver's license or state identification card.
- To vote absentee, you won't have to explain why you can't make it to the polls.

UTILITIES-WATER-SEWER-PERMIT INFORMATION

Sign Up For Our Automatic Bill Payment Program

- No checks to write
- No postage to pay
- No trip to the City Office
- Out of town? Your bill will be paid on time

How Do I Sign Up? Forms are at the city office.

Is there a charge? No, there is no fee for the service.

Will I still receive a bill? Yes. We recommend going paperless.

When will payment be deducted? All payments will be automatically withdrawn from your designated account on the 25th of each month.

What if there isn't enough money in my account?

If there are insufficient funds in your account, your payment will be reversed, an NSF fee and penalty fee will be applied and be reflected on the next bill.

Can I unenroll? Yes, you will need to notify the city in writing.

2023 Water/Sewer Information

Billing Period	Date Billed	Date Due	Shutoff Date
12/10 to 1/9	January 10	January 25	2/8/23
1/10 to 2/9	February 10	February 27	3/8/23
2/10 to 3/9	March 10	March 27	4/7/23
3/10 to 4/9	April 10	April 25	5/9/23
4/10 to 5/9	May 10	May 25	6/8/23
5/10 to 6/9	June 12	June 26	7/7/23
6/10 to 7/9	July 10	July 25	8/8/23
7/10 to 8/9	August 10	August 25	9/8/23
8/10 to 9/9	September 11	September 25	10/9/23
9/10 to 10/9	October 10	October 25	11/8/23
10/10 to 11/9	November 10	November 27	12/7/23
11/10 to 12/9	December 11	December 27	1/9/24

*Dates are subject to change without notice

Be Our Guest!

Host your next family or special event at Blueberry Park, Lions Park or at the Depot. Rental reservation applications are on a first-come/first-serve basis. No reservations are permitted during the annual Blueberry Festival which is the third week in August (2nd Sunday through 3rd Sunday). Applications are available at City Hall and are just \$10.00 for the parks and \$65.00 for the Depot.

Dump Pass and Hazardous Waste

If you are planning to do some fall cleaning please take advantage of your free monthly dump pass (1 per residential household per month). This valid pass at Brent Run Sanitary Landfill located at 8247 Vienna Rd. in Montrose Township allows up to 5 yards of solid waste. This pass does not include hazardous waste, whole tires, liquids, stone, rock or dirt or any other materials banned from Michigan Landfills. Trailers need to be covered. Landfill is open Monday-Friday 7am-3pm.

Burn Permits Are Available

Planning to have a campfire or burn those leaves? Make sure you have a burn permit. Permits are free and available at the city office. For more details please call or stop by the city office.

Upcoming Holidays & Happenings

The City Offices Will Be Closed

NOVEMBER 24 & 25 – THANKSGIVING & THE FRIDAY AFTER THANKSGIVING

DECEMBER 23 & 26 – CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS DAY

DECEMBER 30 – NEW YEARS EVE

JANUARY 2 -NEW YEAR'S DAY

JANUARY 16- MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY



**KNOW WHEN TO KNOCK...
TRICK OR TREAT HOURS
ARE FROM 6PM-8PM**



News and Notes From City Hall

For emergency responders, every second counts.

That's why it's important to make sure your home address is visible from the street. The City of Montrose adopted the International Property Maintenance Code and it states that buildings shall have approved address numbers placed in a position to be plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property. These numbers shall contrast with their background. Numbers shall be a minimum of 4 inches in height with a minimum stroke width of 0.5 inch. Visible address numbers also ensures that city staff in an emergency can respond in a timely manner.

Parking in Right of Way.

Just a reminder that right of way is for ingress and egress, and not for parking. This area between the street facing edge of the sidewalk and roadway is owned by the City or State and is maintained by the resident. It is where all the underground utilities are located and parking vehicles in this area could cause damage. Vehicular traffic should travel only over driveways and approaches. **Michigan Vehicle Code (Act 300 of 1949) and City of Montrose Ordinance (Ord. No. 394, § 4, 8-14-2007) makes parking between the curb of the street and the sidewalk a violation as it blocks a clear vision area.**

Want to Get Involved?

The City of Montrose is always looking for citizens to serve on a variety of boards. Stop at city hall to pick up your application.

Remarks from the City Manager:

As 2022 comes to an end your elected and appointed officials are planning many projects for 2023.

One of the most ambitious projects to be undertaken will be by the planning board in the creation of a new city master plan. This process will develop a community vision by identifying long term goals and objectives. It will look at the past master plan, what has been accomplished, what worked and what didn't. It will need input from you, the Montrose resident over the many public hearings and workshops to be held. The final product will ultimately shape future priorities and investments and be a forward looking flexible roadmap. I would like to invite you to be part this process as it unfolds and to please visit the city website in the coming months as this process gets underway.

Creating this document is an exercise in the willingness to embrace the future with the knowledge that the vision may not be realized for years to come. Knowing that the tree you planted may never provide you with shade.

I look back on all that has been accomplished here in the city in 2022 and go into 2023 with a renewed sense of optimism. I'm excited to see what the new year brings and I hope you do too!

As always if you have a questions please feel free to contact me at the City Offices.

Sincerely,



Montrose City Manager

Postcards from the Past



Looking West on M-57/State Street circa 1890.

To Learn More About The History of The Montrose Community Visit
The Montrose Historical and Telephone Pioneer Museum

City Council Meetings

All other meetings are posted outside of the City Offices and online at www.cityofmontrose.us

The City Offices will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services for the hearing impaired, audio recordings of printed material being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting (and/or hearing) upon 3 working days notice to the City of Montrose.

City of Montrose
139 S. Saginaw Street
Montrose, MI 48457