



## CITY NEWSLETTER

### Celebrating 125 Years!

## SPRING/SUMMER PROJECTS

### Water Improvement Project

The City of Montrose was awarded a \$1.7 million dollar grant by the State of Michigan Drinking Water State Revolving Fund last year to complete water improvements throughout the city. This includes replacement of water lines along North, Alfred, Latting and Russell Streets as well as Coke Drive. Work started in early March and should be completed with restoration by June. Contractors will be working throughout the city so please be patient and drive carefully in these work areas as safety is our number one priority.

### Cape Seal Project

This summer the city will completing street improvements including applying cape seal on several streets. This surface treatment is designed to extend the life of pavement in fair to good condition. Cape seal provides the benefits of both the chip seal and the slurry seal or micro surfacing treatment, namely sealing moderate cracks, providing skid resistance, sealing the pavement against moisture and restoring a uniform black appearance. More info on the project will be available on the city website.

## Don't Forget to Get Your Permit

*The City of Montrose staff can answer your questions about the building, zoning and the permitting process and guide you through the details so that your home or business not only looks great when you are done with your project but can be done right. Permits can be obtained through the city office or online. Because your home or business is an investment, if your construction project does not comply with city ordinances, the value of your investment can be reduced.*

*Property insurers may not cover work done without permits and inspections. If you decide to sell a home or building that has had modifications without a permit, you may be required to make costly repairs. Also, by following code guidelines, the completed project will meet minimum standards of safety and will be less likely to cause injury to you, your family, your friends or future owners. If you are hiring an outside contractor for your next home project, please make sure whoever you hire is licensed and insured.*

*If you are planning to do work such as landscaping or excavating please contact MISS DIG at least 3 business days prior to conducting excavation on your property. **Contact MISS DIG at 1-800-482-7171 or 8-1-1 MISS DIG.** They will notify the public utilities in your area so that they can locate and mark the approximate location of underground lines they own and operate within your proposed work area.*

### Elected City Officials

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

### Appointed City Officials

Neil Rankin, City Manager  
Christina Rush, City Clerk  
Jennifer Whiting, City Treasurer  
Christine Schultz, Utilities  
Sam Spence, DPW Supervisor  
Robert Naumann, Assessor  
Matt Leoni, Building Inspector  
Colleen Brown, DDA Chair  
Ray Foust, Planning Chair

City of Montrose  
139 S. Saginaw Street  
Montrose, MI 48457  
Phone 810.639.6168  
[www.cityofmontrose.us](http://www.cityofmontrose.us)

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# 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](http://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 interface. At the top, there's a search bar with 'All Records' selected and 'By: Name' chosen. The search term 'smith' is entered. Below the search bar, there's a sidebar with 'ONLINE SERVICES' including 'Internet Services' (All Record Search, Assessing Search, Building Department Search, Current Tax Search, Property Sale Search, Utility Billing Search) and 'Online Payments' (Building Department Payments). The main area shows 'Search Results for "smith" using the Name Search in Assessing, Building Department, Tax, and Utility Billing'. It indicates 'Not finding what you are looking for? Try refining your search to narrow your results or changing your search type.' Below this, there's a table with columns: Name, Reference #, and Address. The table shows one result: 'BANKS, RONALD K & DEBORAH A SMITH' with Reference # '040-040-900-250-00 (Parcel Number)' and Address '10860 KNOCKADERRY DR'. The table is displaying items 1 - 15 of 146.

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 screenshot shows a dialog box titled 'Question' with a question mark icon. The text inside asks: '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.' At the bottom, there are two buttons: 'Yes' and '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.

**The City Assessor Robert Naumann** will be sending notices to properties in the city to re-inspect twenty percent of its parcels. This is a requirement by the State of Michigan and the City wishes to be compliant with the Audit of Minimum Assessing.

The assessor will take measurements of the exterior of the home and all structures on the property including: sheds, decks, porches, garages, utility buildings, pools, or any other structure erected on a property.

The assessor will not enter your home.

If you have any questions feel free to call the City Offices at 639-6168 ext. 5

## July Tax Board of Review

May grant a Poverty Exemption, Disabled Veteran's Exemption, pursuant to MLC 211.7u, which was not denied by the March Board of Review.

The July Tax Board of Review may grant an exemption, at the election of the Taxpayer, for a Qualified Start-Up Business as provided in MCL 211.7h.

Correction of a Clerical Error. The error must be an error made by the Assessor relating to the correct assessment figures, the rate of taxation and the mathematical computation of the tax or must be an error in the rate of taxation which was applied.

## July Board of Review

**Will be held on July 16<sup>th</sup> at  
:5:00 p.m.m.**

## Did you know?

The City is always looking for residents to serve on its various boards including the Tax Board of Review, Zoning Board of Appeals & Planning Board. Pick up an application from the city office and the staff can help you find a way to serve your community!

# MONTROSE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS NEWS



The Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) Rule requires community water supplies to annually report to their customers on the quality of the drinking water and the sources of that water, and to characterize the risks (if any) from exposure to contaminants detected in the water. The City of Montrose makes this report available online by July 1<sup>st</sup>. Copies can be requested.

*The information contained in the report is a snapshot of the quality of water that the city provided in 2023 (previous year). Included are details about where the water comes from, what it contains and how it compares to Environment Protection Agency and state standards.*

## CLERK'S CORNER

## A Few Spring/Summer DPW Tips

- Hydrant flushing to begin in late May early June. This will help ensure hydrants are maintained and flush out any rust or sediment. If your water is discolored just run it for a while and it should eventually run clear.
- Be sure you know the location of the water shutoff valve in your home. Check it periodically to ensure it works properly.
- The street sweeper is slow moving and easy to spot, but it might not necessarily see you or your vehicle. Please be cautious and give it space on the road.
- Our DPW prides itself on its safety record. This summer look out for the neon green vests Montrose DPW employees will be wearing as they crack seal and patch streets. Please slow down and move over when you see them working.
- During the summer months and year-round property, owners in the City of Montrose are responsible for keeping public right-of-way clear from overgrown vegetation, including bushes, shrubs and trees. This includes sidewalks overgrown with sod and weeds.
- Please do not blow, sweep or deposit grass clippings into the streets. This is a violation of city ordinance and adds bio-waste into the storm system and creates a potential riding hazard for motorcycles. Sec. 22-216. - Noxious weeds and growth prohibited.

### VOTING METHOD #1 ABSENTEE

Any registered voter can vote with an absentee ballot. There is no requirement for an excuse.

There are 2 steps to this process:

- 1) Submit a ballot application (unless you have previously submitted a permanent ballot application)
  - 2) Return your voted ballot by mail or absentee ballot drop box (locations listed on front of brochure)
- BALLOTS MUST ARRIVE AT CLERK'S OFFICE BEFORE 8:00 PM ON ELECTION DAY**

#### Absentee Application Options:

- Online at [Mi.gov/Vote](https://mi.gov/Vote)
- Request from the Clerk's office
- Visit the Clerk's office

Returning your ballot to the City of Montrose Offices or inside the drop box is strongly recommended instead of mailing - especially in the last week before the election.

**THE OUTSIDE OF THE BALLOT ENVELOPE MUST BE SIGNED & DATED BY VOTER!**

### VOTING METHOD #2

#### IN PERSON - EARLY ✓

Any voter can vote during the 9 day early voting period for all state and federal elections

City of Montrose's Early Voting Center will be at the City of Montrose Offices located at  
139 S. Saginaw Street  
Montrose, MI 48457

Check [Mi.gov/Vote](https://mi.gov/Vote) for early voting dates, times, locations

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
						✓
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
✓		✓				

#### Permanent Absentee Ballot

##### Application Info:

Voters who want to automatically be mailed a ballot for all future elections may sign up for the Permanent Absentee Voter List anytime at [Mi.gov/Vote](https://mi.gov/Vote) or when submitting an Absent Voter Ballot Application.

### VOTING METHOD #3

#### IN PERSON - ON ELECTION DAY

**Polls are open  
7:00 am - 8:00 pm  
on Election Day**

**City of Montrose  
Precinct 1  
Location:  
City Offices  
139 S. Saginaw St.  
Montrose, MI**

### Options for Voter Registration (or Updating Address):

Those who have a valid Michigan Driver's License or State ID, can register at [Mi.gov/Vote](https://mi.gov/Vote)

- or -

Register by mail: Applications are available on the City's website

- or -

Register in person at the Clerk's office

### Voter Registration Deadlines:

- Online or by mail: Up to 15 days before election
- In person at the Clerk's office: Through election day (proof of residency required during last 14 days before election day)

### What's on the ballot?

**Beginning a month before election day, voters can preview their ballot at [Mi.gov/Vote](https://mi.gov/Vote)**



# Code Enforcement Enforcing Blight Ordinances

City staff will be working this Spring to ensure the blight ordinances are being enforced. The "Blight Ordinances" are meant to; Prevent areas of the City that are, or may become, blighted with the resulting impairment of taxable values.

**Door hangers will inform residents of a suspected violation, followed up by a letter and if necessary the issue of a citation. Complaint forms are available at the office and online.**

**Blight includes:**

- **Vehicle Storage, Repair and Abandonment**
- **Litter, rubbish, junk. Storage and Disposal**
- **Noxious Weed and Growth (tall grass)**

## Just A Reminder

The parking of motor vehicles upon the area between the curb of the street and the sidewalk shall be forbidden. (Ord. No. 394, § 4, 8-14-2007) In single-family residential, multiple-family residential, mobile home residential, commercial and industrial districts, the required front yard setbacks shall not be used for off-street parking and shall remain as open space unoccupied and unobstructed from the ground upward except for landscaping, plant materials, or vehicle access drives. All yards abutting public streets shall be considered as front yard.(Article 3 Sec. 3.7))



The City of Montrose has been awarded a \$45,000 grant by the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) for the **Neighborhood Enhancement Program** for 2024.

If you own your own home and your income falls below the income limit for your household size, you may qualify for the program

City of Montrose	Genesee County							
	For Information Only Do Not Mark							
Household Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Income Limits 120% AMI	\$63,720.00	\$72,840.00	\$81,960.00	\$90,960.00	\$98,280.00	\$105,600.00	\$112,800.00	\$120,120.00

Average awards have been \$5,000 per project and the city has awarded over \$124,000 with residents matching \$67,000 over the last four years. This is a grant and not a loan with the goal to see exterior improvements on owner occupied homes Including the new siding, painting, front porches, driveways, doors, windows and roofs. More information and forms will be available in the next few months. Please visit the city website or stop in at the office.

## Eligible Home Improvement Projects Include:

- Driveways



- Siding, Roofs and Windows



- Porches and Front Doors





# MOSQUITO ABATEMENT PROGRAM

APM Mosquito Control (APM) has been contracted to perform the mosquito control program for The City of Montrose. The City of Montrose Mosquito Management program was implemented in 2017. APM will work to improve and refine the current program in efficiency and effectiveness. The program consists of all phases of an Integrated Mosquito Management strategy against mosquitoes in the city.

1. Adult mosquito monitoring/Disease Testing.
2. Breeding site inspections and larviciding.
3. ULV Adulticide applications.
4. Perimeter Barrier Adulticide applications.

Detailed information about the program is available at the city offices.

In an effort to notify residents within the city for community Larviciding and ULV adulticide applications APM and City of Montrose utilize the following methods:

1. Public notice in newspaper. A notice appears in the Tri County Times newspaper explaining larviciding and seasonal adulticiding. Advises anyone interested in further information to contact APM or Montrose City Hall.
2. The city posts information about mosquito program at the city offices, as well as on their website, [www.cityofmontrose.us](http://www.cityofmontrose.us)
3. The city frequently posts current information regarding mosquito management program in the newsletter.
4. A brochure about the mosquito control program is available at the city hall. The Brochure explains how the whole program works and gives any resident the opportunity to not participate. See Brochure included with this correspondence.
5. A Call/Shut-off notification list is maintained as part of the city program. Before ULV adulticide applications take place APM will call any residents that request to remind them and inform them that a community mosquito control application will be happening that evening, weather permitting. Residents may also request that the ULV adulticide be shut off in front of and or upwind of their area. These areas are staked with a reflective orange stake and noted on ULV adulticide operational maps.
6. Mosquito control is often a topic of discussion at city meetings and residents are always encouraged at meetings to find out more about their local mosquito control program.
7. Information (sample labels & SDS) on insecticides used in program are available upon request by calling APM at (810) 766-9423 or (877) 276-4714 and are available at the City of Montrose offices and the APM website at [www.advancedmosquito.com](http://www.advancedmosquito.com)

**APM MOSQUITO CONTROL**  
21240 34 Mile Rd  
Armada, MI 48005  
(810) 766-9423  
Toll Free (877) 276-4714  
[www.advancedmosquito.com](http://www.advancedmosquito.com)

## Crime Prevention Safety Tips

With the arrival of Spring people will be out and about in the city but not everyone has the same intention of enjoying the warm weather.

Review the following crime prevention safety tips in order to familiarize yourself in ways to help prevent crimes of opportunity.

- Keep your garage door closed.
- Remove valuables from vehicles.
- Install secure window well covers.
- If you have double-hung or sliding windows or doors, place a wooden stick in the track.
- Use timers for your lights if you come home after dark.
- If you are going on vacation, be sure to stop mail service and cancel newspapers so they don't pile up in front of your home while you are away.

***The Montrose Township Police also conducts vacation checks. Just call the Township Office to schedule.***

- Be on the lookout and report suspicious vehicles that look out of place. Did you know?
- Be on the lookout and report suspicious vehicles that look out of place. Did you know?

## Did you knoww

***To be a Peddler in the City of Montrose you must apply and be issued a permit. If someone knocks at your door ask if they have a city issued permit. If they don't please feel free to call the city offices.***

# 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.

## 2024 Water/Sewer Information

Billing Period	Date Billed	Date Due	Shutoff Date
12/10 to 1/9	January 10	January 25	2/8/24
1/10 to 2/9	February 12	February 26	3/7/24
2/10 to 3/9	March 11	March 25	4/8/24
3/10 to 4/9	April 10	April 25	5/8/24
4/10 to 5/9	May 10	May 28	6/6/24
5/10 to 6/9	June 10	June 25	7/8/24
6/10 to 7/9	July 10	July 25	8/8/24
7/10 to 8/9	August 12	August 26	9/9/24
8/10 to 9/9	September 10	September 25	10/8/24
9/10 to 10/9	October 10	October 25	11/7/24
10/10 to 11/9	November 11	November 25	12/9/24
11/10 to 12/9	December 10	December 26	1/8/25

\*Dates are subject to change without notice

## Dump Pass and Hazardous Waste

Each residential address can receive one free dump pass per year and can be used at the Priority Waste Yard at 1301 Consumers Dr. Flint. You can get your pass at the city office.

The Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission (GCMPC) is pleased to announce the 2024 Recycle Day event schedule for household hazardous waste and electronics collection.

The Recycle Day events are as follows:

**May 21, 2024 (registration opens on May 7th at 9AM)**

**June 18, 2024 (registration opens on June 4th at 9AM)**

**July 16, 2024 (registration opens on July 2nd at 9AM)**

**August 20, 2024 (registration opens August 6th at 9AM)**

**For more information visit [gcmpr.org/recycle-day/](https://gcmpr.org/recycle-day/)**

**You must register at [shorurl.at/nHJS7](https://shorurl.at/nHJS7) Proof or registration is required.**

## 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

MAY 27 – MEMORIAL DAY

JULY 4 & 5 – INDEPENDENCE DAY THURSDAY 4th & FRIDAY JULY 5th

AUGUST 11th-18th BLUEBERRY FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER 2 – LABOR DAY

**The City Office Will Be Open Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.**

**Memorial Day through Labor Day. Closed on Friday.**

## 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 \$ 5.00 for the Depot.





# **FREE FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT**



**Friday, July 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Lion's Park**

**Sponsored by the  
The State Bank.**

**More Information To Come.**

- **Movies will start at dusk**
- **Bring a chair or blanket**
- **Snacks and drinks may be available**
- **Restrooms will be available**
- **Parking may be limited**
- **\*No alcohol/drugs allowed**

## **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.

### **125 Years-It's Our Quasquicentennial!**

Starting from a petition from a portion of the inhabitants of Montrose Township the *Village of Montrose* was approved through resolution by the Genesee County Board of Supervisor on **October 19<sup>th</sup>, 1899**. In 1980, the village went through a lengthy process to become chartered as the *City of Montrose*. **On October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 ,the City will celebrate 125 years or a quasquicentennial as a municipality.**

To celebrate this once in a lifetime event ,the City of Montrose, local businesses and non-profit organizations are planning a few exciting events and activities leading up to October 19<sup>th</sup>. Look for events and updates on the City of Montrose and the Montrose Chamber of Commerce Website (**cityofmontrose.us & montroseareacoc.com**) in the coming weeks.

### **Meet With The Mayor**

Do you have have questions, concerns or want to learn more about the City of Montrose or how it operates? Mayor Brown will be available to meet with residents, business owners or visitors. Want to get an update on current projects? Would you like to get involved in a volunteer role for our city? Interested in providing some constructive feedback? She would like to hear from you. Mark your calendar and make sure to attend.

- **May 16<sup>th</sup> 6:00 p.m.- Montrose Depot 154 W. State Street**
- **June 13<sup>th</sup> 6:00 p.m.- City Offices 139 S. Saginaw Street**
- **July 11<sup>th</sup> 6:00 p.m. - City Office 139 S. Saginaw Street**

# Postcards from the Past



Montrose Grain Elevator circa 1880's. Elevators could be found in each town along the railway. Farmers would bring their grain to the elevator to store and sell it. Learn more about the history of the Montrose Community at the Montrose Historical and Telephone Pioneer Museum.

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