

Village of Schoolcraft

Preserving our Past, Enriching our Present, Planning our Future



www.villageofschoolcraft.com

Vision Statement

The Village of Schoolcraft commits to building on its strong heritage while moving forward to a vibrant future as a community where all citizens are safe and secure, local businesses thrive, and residents and visitors alike are drawn to the variety of recreational and cultural activities.

Mission Statement

The Village of Schoolcraft seeks to enhance the community through development that contributes to its welcoming hometown atmosphere, complements its landscape and local business environment, and reinforces its rich history and quality schools.

2026 Quarterly Meeting Calendar

Village Council 7:00 p.m.

January 5	January 19
February 2	February 16
March 2	March 16

Planning Commission 7:00 p.m.

January 12	February 9
March 9	

All meetings are open
to the public.

442 N. Grand St., Schoolcraft

Village President's Message

Building Connections, Sharing News, and Listening to You!

Let's Stay Connected!

Your Village Council and Staff is dedicated to keeping everyone informed and involved. We believe that open, transparent communication is the foundation of a thriving community. That's why we're striving to update our website with the latest ordinances, notices, events, and documents. Visit us anytime at <http://www.villageofschoolcraft.com> for all the details!

Want quick updates and community highlights and information? Follow us on Facebook at Village of Schoolcraft—it's the best way to stay in the loop and be informed!

Your Voice Matters

Every Village Council meeting begins with a public comment period, giving you the chance to share your thoughts, concerns, or ideas. You'll have three minutes to speak on any topic that's important to you. While there isn't a live dialogue during this time, rest assured that council members listen closely and may follow up with you afterward.

Let's Keep the Conversation Clear

Questions are always welcome! If something isn't clear, please reach out and ask. We'd much rather answer your questions than have misunderstandings. Together, we can make sure everyone has the right information.

Thank you for being an active part of the Village of Schoolcraft! Your participation makes our community stronger.

Sincerely,

Michael Rochholz
Village Council President

News from the Village Manager's Desk

Happy New Year to all of you. I hope that all of you had a Merry Christmas, and that you are blessed with happiness and good health in the upcoming year.

A new year in the Village means that there are many projects in the planning stages, and much work to do as we budget for the upcoming year. Each year we are tasked with providing the same great services to you.

As I write this article, we have yet to experience much (if any) snow, which is great news for the DPW giving them extra time to complete projects, while anticipating the great snowstorms that we all know will come.

This year, we received many calls about leaf pick up so I want to take a quick moment to explain how this service is done. The DPW typically begins leaf pick up in late October and runs through late November. We received a number of calls asking why leaves were not picked up as soon as they are raked to the curb, and in some cases; why they were not picked up even when they were raked to the curb. The following explanation will hopefully help you to understand how, when and why leaves are, and are not picked up:

- The DPW has a methodical plan for leaf pick up; circulating through various quadrants of town until all the leaves have been picked up.
- Once the DPW has made a round of the entire Village, they start all over again so it is very likely that there will be a few days in between pickups. This time frame is determined by the amount of leaves, weather, equipment break downs, personnel and other public works duties.
- If you have placed your leaves to the curbside, and they were not picked up, it is very likely that they were not placed close enough to the road. Six feet from the road edge is the length we can reach without driving off the pavement and leaving ruts in your yard.
- Leaf piles must not have debris like sticks, stones, garbage, toys, weeds and other yard waste. These things are very hard on our equipment
- In fairness to everyone, the DPW tries very hard to stick with this schedule because it works, and because we do not want to show partiality to any one person. Everybody matters, and that is why we do not pick up leaves that are not on the scheduled route for that day.
- If you still have leaves to be picked up after the last pick up, the DPW will pick up leaves that are in biodegradable bags the following spring. Please call the office for pickup in the spring.

We do appreciate your understanding and cooperation during this very busy time.

As always, please feel free to call us with any questions you may have at 679-4304.

Sincerely,

Cheri M. Lutz
Village Manager



Schoolcraft Police Department

QUICK CONSUMER TIPS

As a savvy consumer, you should always be on the alert for shady deals and scams. Keep these things in mind to avoid becoming a victim:

- Be wary of promises to fix your credit problems, low-interest credit card offers, deals that let you skip credit card payments, work-at-home job opportunities, risk-free investments, and free travel. A deal that sounds too good to be true usually is!
- Beware of payday and tax refund loans. Interest rates on these loans are usually excessive. A cash advance on a credit card may be a better option.
- Read and understand any contract, legal document, or terms of service before you sign or click "I Agree". Do not sign a contract with blank spaces or incomplete terms. Some contracts include a clause that prohibits you from taking legal action and requires you to engage in mandatory arbitration with a company in the case of a dispute.
- Get estimates from several contractors for home or car repairs. Make sure the estimates are for the exact same repairs for a fair comparison.
- Before you buy, make sure you understand and accept the store's refund, return and early termination or cancellation policies, especially for services and facilities that charge monthly fees.
- Double-check the final price when you pay for your purchases. Speak up if you think the price that has been charged is incorrect. Remember, when shopping online, your purchase may include additional fees, such as shipping, handling, and convenience fees that are not calculated until you check out.
- When shopping online, look for the padlock icon in the bottom right-hand corner of your screen or a URL that begins with "https" to ensure that your payment information is transmitted securely.
- Don't buy under stress. Avoid making big-ticket purchases during times of duress (e.g., coping with a death or debt).
- Notify your lender immediately if you are having difficulty making payments on loans, so that you can work out a payment plan.

QUICK TIPS FOR AVOIDING FRAUD

There are many varieties of consumer fraud, but the most common ones are variations of fake check scams, credit repair, free trip offers, and sweepstakes. Here are some tips to help you avoid being a victim:

- Don't give out personal information. Be suspicious of anyone you don't know who asks for your Social Security number, birthdate, credit card number, bank account number, password, or other personal data.
- Don't be intimidated. Be suspicious of calls or emails that want you to provide or verify personal information immediately. Answer that you are not interested and hang up or don't reply to the email.
- Monitor your accounts. Review bank and credit card statements carefully and report unauthorized transactions to your financial institution immediately.
- Use a shredder. Tear or shred credit offers, bank statements, insurance forms, and other papers with personal information.
- Ignore unsolicited offers. Don't respond if someone you do not know asks you to send money or money orders to claim a prize, lottery, credit card, loan or other valuable offer.

Schoolcraft Police Department
Chief Scott Smith

VILLAGE OF SCHOOLCRAFT 2026 COUNCIL MEETINGS

The meetings of the Schoolcraft Village Council are held on the first and third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

January 5, 2026
 January 19, 2026
 February 2, 2026
 February 16, 2026
 March 2, 2026
 March 16, 2026
 April 6, 2026
 April 20, 2026
 May 4, 2026
 May 18, 2026
 June 1, 2026
 June 15, 2026
 July 6, 2026 **
 August 3, 2026 **
 September 8, 2026 *
 September 21, 2026
 October 5, 2026
 October 19, 2026
 November 2, 2026
 November 16, 2026
 December 7, 2026
 December 21, 2026

* Meetings are held on Tuesday when the Village Office is closed for Holiday on Monday.

** Only one meeting is held in July and August.

VILLAGE OF SCHOOLCRAFT 2026 PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

The meetings of the Planning Commission are held on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

January 12, 2026
 February 9, 2026
 March 9, 2026
 April 13, 2026
 May 11, 2026
 June 8, 2026
 July 13, 2026
 August 10, 2026
 September 14, 2026
 October 12, 2026
 November 19, 2026
 December 14, 2026

Christmas Tree Pick Up

The Village of Schoolcraft's Department of Public Works will be picking up Christmas Trees, which are placed in the right of way, through January 19, 2026. **TREES MUST BE PLACED OUT BY 7:00 A.M. ON JANUARY 19, 2026**

Schoolcraft Community Library

To see the Schoolcraft Library calendar and list of activities, visit their website www.schoolcraftlibrary.org

Winter Streets and Sidewalks

During the snow season, we ask for your patience and cooperation regarding snow removal. It is our goal to remove it as quickly and safely as possible.

Our first priority is to open major and local streets. This can be accomplished more efficiently if vehicles are not parked along the street.

Once the snow has been removed from the streets, the DPW will remove the sidewalks of snow. Be sure your vehicles are not blocking the sidewalks. Village residents who have placed decorative fences along the public sidewalks may wish to remove them during the winter months to avoid any damage that may occur during the snow removal season.

Snow Removal

State and Local Ordinance prohibits the plowing of snow into or across sidewalks and streets as it leaves snow or slush on the roadway. This ordinance is for vehicular and pedestrian safety.

Please be sure that when you are clearing snow from your driveway, you are also keeping it off the sidewalks and roadway.

Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated by our winter walkers.

Garage Sales

May 15, 2026 9-4
 May 16, 2026 9-3

Call the Village Office if you would like to place your garage sale on a map. Maps will be available at the Village Office beginning May 14, 2026.

Village Spring Clean Up (Central Drop Off)

June 6, 2026

E. Clay Street (Across from Krum Recreation Center)
 More information will be in the Spring 2026 Newsletter.

Village Directory

Administrative Office 269-679-4304
Police Department 269-679-5600
Department of Public Works 269-679-5658
Associated Government Services 1-800-627-2801

Village Council

President: Mike Rochholz
Trustees: Kathy Mastenbrook
Joe Beck
Kirk Bergland
Todd Carlin
Jennifer Doorn
Shawn Rance

Messages for the Village Council can be left at the Administrative Office or on Village Staff email.

Village Staff

Manager: Cheri Lutz, cmlutz@villageofschoolcraft.com
Clerk/Treasurer: Theresa O'Leary, toleary@villageofschoolcraft.com
Office Assistant: Michelle Crawford, mcrawford@villageofschoolcraft.com
Police
Chief: Scott Smith, ssmith@villageofschoolcraft.com
Sergeant: Jamie Edwards, jedwards@villageofschoolcraft.com
Officers: Joe Bippus
Eric Ray
Matt Britton
Mike Willis
DPW Super: Rob Coffman, rcoffman@villageofschoolcraft.com
Water Operator: Dan Lewis, dlewis@villageofschoolcraft.com
Grounds Maintenance/
Equipment Operator: Emily Munson, emunson@villageofschoolcraft.com

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