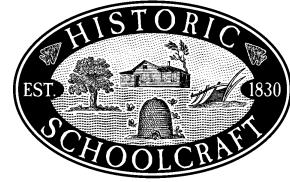


Village of Schoolcraft



Preserving our Past, Enriching our Present, Planning our Future

www.villageofschoolcraft.com

Village President's Message

YOUR TURN AGAIN

Once again we are looking for your input on the "Comprehensive Land Use Plan" . The Draft Land Use Plan is out for a 63 period for public input.

So ... go to the Village Website (www.villageofschoolcraft.com), the Village Library, or Village Municipal Building to take a look at the Plan Documents, or you can come to a Council Meeting (1st and 3rd Monday of each month) , or a Planning Commission Meeting (2nd Monday of any month) , all meetings are held at the Municipal Building at 7:00 P.M. on Mondays, to learn and /or talk about the proposed plan.

Any of the items that we have been working on are supported by text, drawings or photos for your viewing pleasure and understanding. **Please, feel free to call with any questions that arise.** (all numbers are on the Village website) and mine is always at the bottom of the newsletter.

During the next couple of months, the Village Council, Planning Commission, and Wightman and Associates, will be formulating which projects can be accomplished in the Village and in which order. We have to take into consideration resident preference, physical needs and limitations and the availability of funding.

Plans are also in the works with Vicksburg, Schoolcraft Township and possibly Three Rivers to discuss walking and bicycling trails that connect all of us eventually to Portage and Kalamazoo and beyond. Trails issue seems to be a very popular item on many peoples wish list in S.W. Michigan.

The next 2-3 months will be busy for the Village Council and Planning Commission working on and finishing the "Comprehensive Land Use Plan" and Starting the process of adjusting "Village Ordinances" to reflect the wishes of the residents / stake holders /commissioners as outlined in the "Visioning" and "Master Land Use Plans".

Hopefully, some projects will get started this summer or fall and we will be able to reap some of the "Fruits" of our Labor.

Please, look over the information and feel free to call, E-Mail or come to a Meeting to discuss these plans.

Keith Gunnett
Schoolcraft Village President
269-569-6057

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.

2018 Quarterly Meeting Calendar

Village Council 7:00 p.m.

April 2	April 16
May 7	May 21
June 4	June 18

Planning Commission 7:00 p.m.

April 9	May 14
June 11	

Downtown Development Authority 8:00 a.m.

April 5	May 3
June 7	

All meetings are open to the public and are held at the Municipal Complex at 442 N. Grand Street

News from the Village Manager's Desk

Happy Spring to all of you! After a particularly harsh winter, we are all looking forward to some warm weather. I have heard many positive comments this winter about the great job that our DPW has done keeping our streets and sidewalks clear from snow and ice. They literally worked around the clock for days on end plowing and removing snow. So a big thanks goes out to Rob, Adam, and Brent for a job well done!

This is the time of year when we start cleaning up our yards and garages. I would like to remind you that Brush Pick-Up begins in March, and goes through October. Please refer to the Brush Pick-Up Guidelines that are listed in this newsletter. For those of you who have trees, bushes, tall grasses in the right of way, please be sure that they are trimmed back two (2) feet from the edge of the sidewalk. Visual obstructions in the right of way are subject to removal if they are deemed to be a safety concern.

Please remember to mark your calendars for our Annual Garage Sales to be held on May 11th & 12th followed by Village Wide clean up on May 19th. For additional information, please contact Theresa O'Leary at 679-4304. Remember that Spring Clean-Up is intended for village residents **only**, items to be picked up are household items only. Year after year, we see loads of stuff being dropped late Friday by people who are not Village residents. This only costs the Village more money, and is not a good use of your tax dollars.

If you are looking for a nice place to have a family picnic, Burch Park is the place to be. Equipped with modern playground equipment, grill, picnic tables, and a gazebo, Burch Park provides a pleasant environment for family activities.

The Village of Schoolcraft would like to remind you to support our business community. Take advantage of what they have to offer and save your time and money by shopping locally. They need your support and we need them in order to keep Schoolcraft strong and vibrant!

Finally, if you are out and about, please stop by the office, and meet our new Finance Director/Assistant Village Manager Tammi Youngs, and make sure to congratulate Theresa O'Leary on her new position as Clerk/Treasurer.

Our goal here in the office, and in every department is to provide you with courteous and accurate information.

For additional information on happenings in town, visit our web site at www.villageofschoolcraft.com or like our Facebook page.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please give us a call or stop by to see us.

Cheri M. Lutz
Village Manager
cmultz@villageofschoolcraft.com



Schoolcraft Police Department

Allowing a dog to run at large: Any person who owns or keeps a dog within the Village limits must keep the dog under immediate control, leash or chain, when the dog is not on the owner's property.

Junk Vehicles: Any vehicle which is not licensed and insured for operation on the highway or is inoperable is in violation. The fact that a vehicle may be for sale does not matter. The vehicle in question cannot be on a person's property for more than 10 days at any time within a calendar year. A vehicle which meets the criteria of being a junk vehicle may be kept on the property if it is placed in a wholly enclosed structure (garage).

Blight: Building materials, junk, trash, rubbish or refuse of any kind may not be kept outside for a period to exceed 10 days. Furniture typically found inside a residence may not be kept outside.

Lawn, Noxious Weeds: Weeds or grass may not exceed 9 inches. When a violation occurs, the property owner will be given 48 hours to take care of the violation.

Right of Way: With the exception of decorative flowers, a resident may not place any structure, sign or other object within the right of way (33' from the center of the road). Basketball hoops can be placed off the roadway in the right of way in a cul-de-sac from March through October.

Parking: A person may not park their vehicle on the paved portion of the roadway within the Village limits unless a curb is present. A person may not park on the right of way between 2-6 a.m. unless the person is the property owner or a visitor of the owner.

Curfew: Any person 16 years or younger may not be out between the hours of 10 p.m. And 6 a.m. There are some exceptions. The curfew ordinance is meant to curb juveniles from being out in public in the Village during the before-mentioned hours.

Golf Carts: This is not a local ordinance but is State Law. A golf cart may not be operated on a public highway in this state unless it is registered, insured and has all required equipment of a motor vehicle.

Fire Pit: Fire pits are allowed by permit which can be acquired at the Village Office. Recreational burning (campfire) is the only burning allowed. Once a permit is acquired, a person can burn from 5 p.m. until midnight. Ther permit is good for one year.

The above ordinances are only a portion of the Village ordinances which are in effect. All of the above violations are Municipal Civil Infractions and those in violation are subject to both a citation and subsequent fine. The initial fine for a violation is \$75. Each subsequent violation of the same type increases with the new violation.

Chief Bryan Campbell
bcampbell@villageofschoolcraft.com

Village's Updated Wellhead Protection Plan Gets Approval by the MDEQ

In 2017, the Village of Schoolcraft updated its Wellhead Protection Plan (WHPP). The updated plan was approved by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) at the end of 2017. The Village also received a grant from the MDEQ to help the Village implement the plan. The goal of the WHPP is to protect the Village's drinking water supply. The Village of Schoolcraft's public drinking water supply comes from groundwater that is pumped out of wells. When the Wellhead Protection Plan was originally prepared in 2004, a study was conducted that defined the Wellhead Protection Area. The wellhead protection area includes the entire surface area which overlies the groundwater (also called an aquifer) that is directly contributing water to the wells for 10 years.

In order to protect the groundwater, the Village created a Wellhead Protection Plan (WHPP) and assembled a Wellhead Protection Committee. The Wellhead Protection Committee is comprised of members that have a variety of backgrounds and experiences, including representatives from Schoolcraft Public Schools, Kalamazoo County Fire Authority, the farming community, the business community, Village staff, the Kalamazoo County Health Department, and the Village engineering firm Prein & Newhof. Members meet quarterly to discuss updates to the WHPP, and come up with ways to help educate local citizens and businesses and to develop strategies on protecting the groundwater. Management practices may include land-use regulations, facility inspections, and public education. By creating and consistently updating the WHPP, the Village of Schoolcraft is showing dedication to protecting our drinking water source.

Funding for the Village's WHPP updates and activities comes in part from the Michigan Wellhead Protection Grant Program. The Village submits an updated version of its WHPP to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) every few years for approval. Make sure to keep an eye out for a Wellhead Protection Committee booth at the Fourth of July Festival! There will be more information on what can be done to protect our groundwater, as well as giveaway prizes. If you have any questions about the Village of Schoolcraft's Wellhead Protection Plan, or on groundwater protection, please contact Cheri Lutz, Village Manager, at (269)-679-4304.

Fire Hydrant Flushing April 17, 2018

Be sure to run your water for a few minutes before doing laundry.

Obstruction of Sidewalks

If your property is abutted to a sidewalk, you must keep it clear of vegetation. Bushes or any vegetation must be trimmed at least two (2) feet from the sidewalk to provide safe passage for walkers.

Obstruction of Right of Way

Visual obstructions in the right of way (i.e. trees, bushes, tall grasses, fencing, etc.) may be subject to removal if deemed to be a safety concern for pedestrians and/or traffic.

Water Bills

Water Bills are sent out quarterly. You should receive one by March 1, June 1, September 1, and December 1. If you do not receive a bill by these dates, please call the Village Office, 679-4304, and we can either send another one or tell you the amount. Water bill payments are **always** due by 5:00 p.m. on the 20th of the month they go out, unless the 20th falls on a weekend, then the due date is the following business day. There is a drop box outside the Municipal Complex next to the entrance doors. Our office hours are 8—5 Monday thru Friday. For payment, we accept cash, checks and money orders.

Office Closure

Memorial Day, May 28, 2018

Annual Village Wide Garage Sale

Friday, May 11, 2018 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Saturday May 12, 2018 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

If you are a Village Resident and would like your garage sale marked on a Village map, call Theresa at the Village Office, 269-679-4304, by 4:00 p.m. on May 9, 2018. Maps will be available at the Village Office May 10-11, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Spring Clean Up Saturday, May 19, 2018 7:00 a.m.

Items must be placed at the curb by 7:00 a.m. on May 19, 2018.

No more than one (1) roll of carpet or laminate floor will be collected. Carpeting must be rolled and securely tied in no longer than four (4) foot sections.

Mattresses/Box springs must be wrapped in plastic.

Bags of items may not exceed thirty-five (35) pounds; and cans may not exceed seventy-five (75) pounds.

No individual items over five (5) feet in length, three (3) feet wide or three (3) feet high or weighing over 100 pounds.

Windows, glass, and mirrors must be less than 3'x4' in size. Broken glass should be placed in a box, taped shut, and clearly marked, "Broken Glass".

All small items must be in bags or cans. Loose piles will be left for the homeowners disposal.

Items **not** accepted are:

Appliances

Auto parts, engines, tires, batteries, doors, hoods, etc.

Batteries of any sort

Building debris or material of any sort, including lumber, plaster, drywall, paneling, siding, etc.

Concrete, dirt, rocks, sod, or stumps

Electronics, TV, computers, printers, fax machines, etc.

Large metal pieces or large plastic drums

Hazardous Waste (including medical waste, paints, solvents, pesticides, chemicals, varnishes or liquid of any sort)

Fencing

Motor Oil

Propane tanks/gas tanks

Iron or steel

Cast iron bathtubs

Yard Waste—grass clippings, branches, etc.

Brush Pick Up

Brush pick up is done on the last Monday of each month. It begins in March and ends the last Monday in October. If the last Monday of the month falls on a holiday, brush will be picked up the following business day.

- **Brush may be taken to the right-of-way no sooner than the Wednesday before the pick up day.**
- **Brush must be out to the curb by 7:00 a.m. on pick up day.**
- Brush should be less than four inches (4") in diameter and eight feet (8') in length.
- All cut ends of brush should be placed in the same direction, toward the road.
- Brush piles should be placed between the street and sidewalk when possible.
- **Brush piles should be no larger than can be picked up by any one person.** If you have multiple piles, spread them out with space in between, along your property.
- Small sticks and twigs must be put into a container that can be emptied by one person.
- Unacceptable material include leaves, yard waste (grasses, weeds, plants or vines), root balls, dirt, building materials and any brush generated through a removal of a tree, bushes or hedgerow.
- **Brush placed out in violation of the restrictions will not be picked up.**
- There is a limit of one dump truck load per month.

Storm Damage Brush Pick Up

- Storm damage pick up has to be declared by the Village Manager.
- Use same guidelines as for regular brush pick up.
- Only storm damage brush will be picked up.
- Check the ticker on the Village of Schoolcraft website (www.villageofschoolcraft.com) after a major storm to see if the DPW will be picking up brush.

Leaf Pick Up Through April 27, 2018

Leaves must be in **paper** bags. Paper grocery bags and store bought paper leaf bags are acceptable. Place bags out by the curb. Call the Village Office at 269-679-4304 to let us know the number of leaf bags to be picked up. Bags of leaves must be out to the curb by 7:00 am. April 27.

Village of Schoolcraft

"Preserving Our Past, Enriching Our Present, Planning Our Future"

P.O. Box 8
Schoolcraft, MI 49087

2018 Citizen of the Year Application

The Village of Schoolcraft is now accepting nominations for the 2018 Citizen of the Year Award. The Citizen of the Year Award is presented annually to an individual(s) who has performed outstanding service or made exceptional voluntary contributions to the community.

Anyone with community contact may nominate someone who they feel meets the criteria of the award. The recipient(s) of the award is not made aware that they have been selected until the actual day of the award ceremonies, which is the second Council meeting in June..

When selecting the recipient for this award, the Committee looks for an individual(s) who, among other attributes, continually gives of his or her time, dedication and talents to the betterment of the community. The Committee also looks for those individuals who lend leadership and vision, organize or assist in achieving organizational goals, who serve on service or school committees and youth programs lending his or her expertise and guidance voluntarily. The recipient will have performed voluntary services that have advanced or helped the quality of life in the Village of Schoolcraft.

If you have a friend, neighbor or relative you feel has given unselfishly to help others or who meets any of the above criteria, you may pick up an application for nomination at the Schoolcraft Village Hall (or click here to print one.), or fill in a fillable form on the Village of Schoolcraft website www.villageofschoolcraft.com. Further information may also be obtained by contacting the Village Hall Office, at 269.679.4304. The deadline for nominations is the end of business on the second Friday in May.

Application is enclosed in this newsletter.

The Village of Schoolcraft Community Recreation Plan

This plan is a long range plan that will be used to achieve and maintain high quality parks and recreational opportunities. This plan was developed through information that was given during several public forums, along with information from the Visioning Process, and Comprehensive Land Use Planning sessions. In addition, the Village posted a survey on our web site to help assist in determining the recreational needs of our community.

Three Short Term Goals and Objectives were developed as part of public input during the planning process. These goals are listed as follows:

Goal 1 – Develop a trail network connecting Schoolcraft to neighboring communities. Prepare a trail feasibility study in the next two years.

Objectives

- Develop a new regional non-motorized system for Schoolcraft in phases connecting with Portage, Three Rivers, Vicksburg, and others.
- Explore utilizing existing North/South rail line corridor from Portage to Three Rivers.
- Offer a new recreational opportunity in the Village.

Goal 2 – Partner with the schools in the next three (3) years to acquire property and pursue grants to develop a trailhead park and sports fields to support the proposed North/South Trail.

Objectives

- Provide further recreational opportunities for residents in the Village.
- Create a destination for visitors.
- Provide alternative transit for residents of Schoolcraft.

Goal 3 – In the next three years, assess the current amenities and the community's desired actions to make Burch Park as a destination.

Objectives

- Attract young families and park-users to the Village.
- Provide for further recreational opportunities.
- Improve park accessibility for all user groups.

There are more long term plans in the Draft Community Recreation Plan, and we encourage you to take advantage of this 30 day comment period to voice your thoughts, opinions, and/or suggestions.

Copies of the plan are available on our web site at www.villageofschoolcraft.com or can be reviewed at the Municipal Office.

**Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, March 31, 2018
11:00 a.m. Burch Park
Sponsored by the Lions Club**

**4th of July Celebration
Wednesday, July 4, 2018**

Details will be in the July 1, 2018 Newsletter and, when they become available, on our website; www.villageofschoolcraft.com.

Just a reminder; the highway will be closed during the parade. Traffic will be rerouted around the Village.

For inquiries, email parade1925@yahoo.com. Phone calls will not be accepted.

Mailbox Relocation Program

Due to the ongoing damage to our roads, road shoulders, right of way, and mail delivery, the Village of Schoolcraft and the Post Office will work together to start enforcing mailbox placement. Mailbox face should be between twelve (12) to sixteen (16) inches from the outside paved edge of the road. Height should be between 41 inches to 45 inches above road surface. The Village will be working with some non-profits to help those who need it. Guidelines will be available at the Village Office, located at 442 N. Grand St. If you have any questions, please call the Department of Public Works at 679-5658.

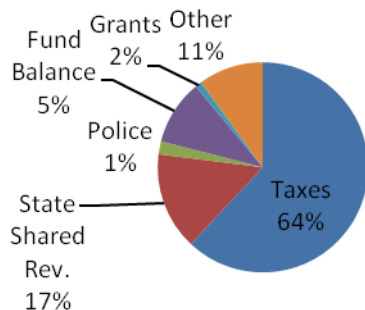
**General Fund Budget Fiscal Year
2018/19**

March 1, 2018, began the new fiscal year for the Village of Schoolcraft. Tax Revenues from the Summer Village Tax to be collected July 1, 2018, constitutes 64% of the Village's Budget.

The charts illustrate General Fund Revenues and General Fund Expenses as budgeted for 2018/2019.

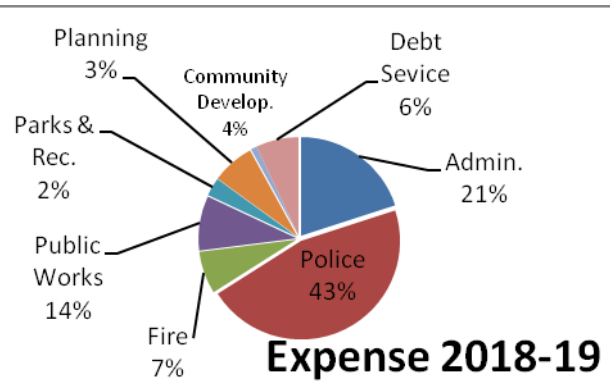
The first pie chart is for Revenue and shows that 64% of the Village's income is generated from Property Taxes, 17% from State Revenue Sharing, 5% from Fund Balance, 11% from Other Revenue Sources such as the sales of fixed assets, 1% from Police Department Revenue and 2% from Grants.

Revenue 2018-19



Note: The Village Tax rate is 14.8557 Mills or 33% of the approximate total 45.1978 Mills levied on residential property.

The second pie chart represents budgeted expenditures for the Village of Schoolcraft. The chart shows percentages for specific operations within the Village; Police 43%, Administration 21%, Public Works 14%, Debt Service 6%, Fire 7%, Planning 3%, Parks & Recreation 2%, and Community Development 4%.



The operations of the Water Department, Major and Local Streets and DDA do not come out of General Fund. The Water Fund is an enterprise fund which is self supporting. If you have any questions, please be sure to give us a call at 269-679-4304.



Spring Events

LIBRARY HOP 2018: You may have attended an “art hop” but have you ever been to a “Library Hop????” We have teamed up with multiple libraries in the area to promote libraries and their events in the month of April. Get out during your spring break “stay-cation” and visit some exceptional small Michigan libraries. Sign up to get your free Library Hop Passport in April.

STORYBOOK WALK: Entire Month of April! Have an outdoor adventure in our Reading Garden and share a story with your family! Enjoy the scenery as you read story pages posted along the walk. Featuring the book “Hurray for Spring!” by Patricia Hubbell.

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK: Food For Fines/ Wish List Tree!—April 9-14. In honor of National Library Week the Library is offering “Food For Fines.” Fines will be forgiven with the donation of an unexpired/non-perishable food item OR take an item off our “Wish List Tree” and return. **Please note that this applies to materials overdue as of January 1st, 2017.** Fines will be excused up to a \$5 maximum on current or previously incurred fines. Collected food will go to the Schoolcraft food pantry. Also, celebrate National Library Week with a special activity in the Library!

ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION: The Prairie Pageturners will be meeting on Wednesday, **April 11** at 2 p.m. Participants will be discussing “The Leisure Seeker” by Michael Zadoorian. Books are available at the Library for checkout. Refreshments served.

PRESCHOOL STORYHOUR: Thursdays, 10:00-10:45 a.m. For ages 3-5 years. Come join us for a fun filled morning of stories, songs, movement, crafts and snacks! Parents feel free to drop off your children in our Community Room. Registration Required. Runs through June.

TOT TIME: Tuesdays, 9:30-10:30 a.m. For toddlers 18-36 months and one adult for a lapsit program. (mom, grandma, babysitter etc.) Includes rhymes, finger plays, songs, books and optional free play. No registration required. Come when you can!

ART OPEN HOUSE: Student Art On Display—April 17 Come see a fun assortment of student art on display at our Spring Art Open House. Meet the middle and high school artists as well as art teacher Jaime Hilaski. Refreshments served. April 17, 5:30-7:00 p.m. Art on display through May.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY ANNUAL BOOK/BAKE SALE: May 11 & 12. The FOL will hold their annual Book/Bake Sale on the same weekend as the Village wide garage sales. **Friday, May 11 the sale is 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, May 12 the sale runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.** Take advantage of the BAG SALE! We provide the bags and you fill as many bags as you like for \$3.00 per bag. Baked goods go fast, so come early. Proceeds go towards children’s programming in the Library.

SUMMER READING 2018: “Libraries Rock!” Registration starts **June 18** at 10:00 a.m. Opening day for Schoolcraft Library’s Summer Reading clubs and program sign ups. Phone registration begins at 11:00 a.m. Check our online calendar for summer program dates.

DID YOU KNOW? The Library offers *Ancestry Library Genealogy Database and Consumer Reports Online* to library patrons. Ask how to access these free resources at the circulation desk.

SCHOOLCRAFT COMMUNITY LIBRARY: 330 N. CENTRE STREET SCHOOLCRAFT, MI 49087 : (269) 679-5959

Village Directory

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

Village Council

President: Keith Gunnett
Trustees: Russell Barnes
Todd Carlin
Kathy Mastenbrook
Michael Rochholz
Sy Spears
John Stodola

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
Finance Director/
Assistant Manager: Tammi Youngs, tyoungs@villageofschoolcraft.com
Clerk/
Treasurer: Theresa O'Leary, toleary@villageofschoolcraft.com
Police Chief: Bryan Campbell, bcampbell@villageofschoolcraft.com
Sergeant: Jamie Edwards
Officers: Matt Britton
Henry Kite
Aaron McCullough
Eric Ray
Brady Roberts
Joe Sheteron
Aux. Officers: Mary Secondi , Kevin Sampson , and Dick Simon
DPW Super: Rob Coffman, rcoffman@villageofschoolcraft.com
Equip/Water Operator: Adam Wood, awood@villageofschoolcraft.com
Grounds/
Maintenance: Brent Smith, bsmith@villageofschoolcraft.com

Village of Schoolcraft Spring 2018 Newsletter



«Account#customerName»
«Account#customerName2»
«Account#customerStreetAddr»
«Account#customerStreetAddr2»
«Account#customerCity», «Account#customerState» «Account#customerZip»

PRESORTED STANDARD
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The Village of Schoolcraft
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Schoolcraft, MI 49087
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