

Farmers Market and Artisan Village:

The Montague Farmers Market and Artisan Village had another excellent summer and are still open through the fall season! The farmers market is open Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., through October 31. The Artisan Village also remains open Saturdays through October 31, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., and will be open for Holiday Walk in November.



Boards, Commissions, and Authorities:

The Mayor and Council will be making appointments to many Boards, Commissions, and Authorities at the Council meeting in December. If you would like to get involved in your local government, and to learn more about opportunities to serve, please contact the City Manager.

Brush Pick Up Schedule:

The City of Montague will offer brush pick up the **week of October 5**. Materials must be placed roadside by Sunday, October 4 as only one trip will be made through the City. All materials must be placed near the edge of the street and **should not be more than four feet (4’) long and four inches (4”) in diameter**. No stumps, branches, or logs created by property owners removing mature trees will be collected. Contact City Hall for more information.

Police Department Renovations:

Interior renovations at the Montague Police Department are in progress and will be completed by the end of October. In the meantime, the Police Department has temporary offices set up in the council room, below the library. The renovations include a secure lobby space, walls and doors for all offices, and a slight reconfiguration of the space. Carpets, windows, furniture, and walls will also receive a much needed update. Thank you to our residents for your patience with this process through the fall. Police Department hours will remain the same in their temporary location, weekdays from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Hydrant Flushing:

The City Department of Public Works will be flushing fire hydrants from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. during the week of **September 21**. Water customers are advised to not do laundry during the hours hydrants are being flushed. If a temporary discoloration of the water is noticed, run your cold water for about five minutes until it clears.



- IMPORTANT DATES -

- Hydrant Flushing: week of September 21
- Fall Brush Pickup: week of October 5
- Pumpkinfest: October 10, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Remove spring/summer gravesite decorations by October 15
- Halloween Trick-or-Treating: October 31, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- Pre-election Weekend Hours: November 1, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- November Election: November 3, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Winter gravesite decorations may be placed on November 15
- Tree lighting/caroling at Artisan Village: November 20, 5 p.m.
- Holiday Walk: November 20, 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. & November 21, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- 73rd Annual Christmas Parade: December 5, 2 p.m.



City of Montague
City Hall
8778 Ferry Street
Montague, MI 49437
www.cityofmontague.org

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Montague Messenger

Ebike and Escooter Safety:

School is back in session and many youths are commuting to school on electric bikes (ebikes) and electric scooters (escooters). This is, of course, a fun way to travel, but there are some important safety guidelines to keep in mind when using a vehicle that can exceed 25 mph. The State of Michigan follows the federal three-class model for ebikes and escooters as follows:



- Class 1—Pedal-assist only, max 20 mph, no throttle. Riders under age 16 may only operate Class 1 or 2 ebikes / escooters on private property or designated trails. **Certified bike helmets are mandatory for riders under age 18.**
- Class 2—Throttle-activated, max 20 mph, pedal-assist optional. Riders age 16 to 17 can operate Class 1 or Class 2 ebikes / escooters on public roads with a valid driver’s license. **Certified bike helmets are mandatory for riders under age 18.**
- Class 3—Pedal-assist up to 28 mph, no throttle. Class 3 ebikes / escooters must be registered with the Secretary of State and be insured with at least \$25,000 liability insurance. **All riders of Class 3 vehicles must wear a certified bicycle helmet, regardless of age.**

In addition to the State Law for these vehicles (MCL.257.662a) the City of Montague Ordinance Section 62-66 ‘Pedestrian and Bicycle Traffic’ states that bicycles, scooters, and skateboards, whether electric or manual, may not travel on sidewalks or alleys within the 2-block downtown area. Violations of these laws and/or ordinance can result in a civil infraction ticket for the vehicle operator. Stay safe out there!

General Election, November 3, 2026:

There will be a statewide general election on November 3, 2026 for Federal, State, and Local offices and several proposals, State and Countywide. If you are a registered voter in the City and would like to vote by mail, stop by City Hall for an Absentee Voter (AV) Application **or** submit one online at <https://www.michigan.gov/sos/>. Early Voting is an option as well and will take place at Muskegon County’s Marquette Campus, 1903 Marquette Avenue, Muskegon, 49442, from October 24 through November 1. In-person voting will proceed as usual in the council room on Election Day from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. **Snowbirds and College Students!** If you have signed up on the Permanent Ballot List, meaning you receive a ballot for every election, please let the clerk’s office know if you would like your ballot mailed to your away address to avoid any delays. Election mail, by law, can not be forwarded by the United States Postal Service. Here is the general mailing timeline for Absentee Ballots in the State of Michigan:

- May election ballots are mailed at the end of March.
- August election ballots are mailed at the end of June.
- November election ballots are mailed at the end of September.



Frequently Requested Info

City Hall Hours:
Monday—Thursday:
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Fridays:
8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

City Hall Staff: 893-1155
City Manager: Jeff Auch
City Clerk: Kelly Markley
Utility Billing: Hannah Cross
Treasurer: Melissa Beegle
Zoning: Steve Coverly

Police Department: 893-0810
Chief: Rick Johnson
Sergeant: Tom Walicki
Secretary: Rebekah Pawlowski

DPW Maintenance: 893-2235
Superintendent: Scott Beishuizen
Foreman: Alan Weesies
Cemetery Sexton:
Steve Lohman 855-1617

Assessor:
Shirley Wyatt 724-6153

Building Inspections:
Permit Coordinator:
Hannah Cross 893-1155

Building Official:
Val Jensen 638-0529
Electrical Inspector:
Chris Elzinga 670-2290
Mechanical Inspector:
Jim Callender 206-6563
Plumbing Inspector:
Steve Smith 736-8179

Montague Fire Dist.: 893-3311
Fire Chief: Jonathan Degen

Montague Branch Library:
893-2675

City Council Meetings:
Council Room: 8778 Ferry St.
3rd Mondays - 5:30 p.m.

Mayor:
Tom Lohman 893-5545
tomlohman@yahoo.com

City Councilmembers:
Lisa Kiel Susan Newhof
Ken Mahoney Robert Hires
Laura LaGuire Paul Schultz

Bike Trail Repaving

The City is currently working on final plans for the construction and repaving of the recreation trail from Dowling Street to Old Channel Trail, which is a continuation of the work completed in 2024 north of Dowling Street. The project will temporarily close the trail and is expected to occur in the first half of 2027. The City also continues to support the ongoing efforts of Montague Township and White River Township to extend the trail to Medbery Park and Lake Michigan.



Dacey Street Project

Plans are underway to rebuild Dacey Street in 2027 as the pavement along this section continues to degrade due to increased traffic to and from both the MACC and Middle School. The original street was constructed for lower traffic numbers and prior to expansion of the Montague Schools campus. The project scope will be from Stanton Boulevard to just past the bus drop-off loop at the MACC and is dependent on coordinating efforts with the school calendar.



Knudsen Street Project

Reconstruction is being planned for a two-block section of Knudsen Street between Old Channel Trail and Sheridan Street. Project activities are scheduled for early 2027 and will include: milling out existing asphalt, updates to the stormwater system, reshaping / grading base, pouring new concrete curb radiuses at intersections, establishing alley and driveway entrances, installing ADA compliant sidewalk crossings, paving, and restoring of all road shoulders.



Maple Grove Park

Planned improvements continue at Maple Grove as the City has recently finished construction and installation of the new playground, rubberized play surface, and sidewalks. This fall, the City's contractors will begin construction of the retaining wall and beach area, build a new shoreline walking path, and install new landscaping. In coming years the City is seeking funds for new benches and seating, additional improvements surrounding the pavilion, and developing plans for a sidewalk to access the park from Old Channel Trail.

