

Fall 2017 Newsletter



City of St. Johns, Michigan



Fall Leaf Collection

The leaf collection program will be November 13—December 1, 2017. **Leaves must be in the compostable Kraft brown paper yard waste bags and placed**

curbside (NOT IN THE STREET) for the daily collection. For persons raking or otherwise placing leaves or branches, trimmings, & similar type organic plant materials in the public street will be subject to a \$50 civil infraction fine. For updates on City programs visit www.cityofsaintjohnsmi.com, like us on Facebook, check the local newspaper or view the City Public Access Channel on your local cable stations (Channel 52 for WBI and channel 99 for Charter).

City residents can obtain their FREE Kraft bags by going to the following locations, **WHILE SUPPLIES LAST:**

⇒ City of St. Johns Department of Public Works, 1000 N. US-127 BR from 7:30 am - 3:30 pm, Mon-Fri

⇒ Briggs District Library, 108 E. Railroad St. from 9:30 am—8:00 pm, Mon-Thur; 9:30 am—5:00 pm on Fri; and 9:30 am—1:00 pm on Sat

⇒ City of St. Johns Offices (1st Floor, Clinton County Courthouse) from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm, Mon-Fri

We ask that for curb side pick up that only the following items to be placed in the Kraft brown yard waste bags:

- ✓ Leaves
- ✓ Small Sticks—no longer than 4-foot (no large branches or stumps).
- ✓ Pumpkins, gourds or any garden vegetation
- Additional Kraft paper yard waste bags may be purchased at many local retailers. (Plastic bags will not be picked up).
- If you prefer not to bag, bring loose leaves to the compost site located at the Department of Public Works, 1000 N. US-127 BR. The site is open 24 /7. Please use the Kuntz Drive entrance.
- There is an alternate drop off site on Kinley Rd. which is located northeast of the US-127 overpass. There are signs directing you to the site & is open daily from 7:00 am—4:00 pm. There will be free compost for City residents.

Regular curbside brush pick up is suspended during leaf collection, but you may take brush to the compost site at the DPW or Kinley Road.

If you are a senior or physically challenged & are unable to dispose of your leaves, please contact the City of St. Johns at (989) 224-8944, ext. 282 or email twright@ci.saint-johns.mi.us.



Halloween Trick-or-Treat Hours

The trick-or-treat hours are from **6:30—8:00 p.m.** on Tuesday, October 31, 2017. The beginning and ending of the candy gathering period will be signaled by the fire whistle. Please use caution driving as there will be lots of children running door to door to collect candy.



Prevent Your Pipes From Freezing This Winter

Pipes and utility meters can freeze when the temperature remains below 25° for extended periods of time. The City of St. Johns Water Department offers the following tips to help protect water lines during cold weather:

- * Let a thin stream of cold water run from your faucet. The stream should be a continuous flow, about the thickness of a pencil. This water can be caught in a bucket or pail to be recycled later to use for laundry or dish water.
- * Be sure pipes in unheated parts of your home/crawl space are insulated, hardware stores carry foam insulation for this purpose.
- * Leave interior cupboard doors under sinks open, especially if the sink piping is adjacent to an exterior wall.
- * Plug up drafty cracks & repair broken window panes that allow cold air inside where pipes are located.
- * If your pipe is frozen, gently warm it with hot air from a blow dryer at the point where it enters your house.
- * Be sure you know the location of the water shut-off valve in your home. Check it periodically to ensure it works properly.
- * Shut off & drain all pipes leading to outside faucets.



If you lose water service, locate the frozen pipe.

Common areas which freeze first are piping located adjacent to exterior walls or where the water service enters your home through the foundation.

- * Apply heat to the suspected section of exposed pipe with an electric hair dryer, carpet sweeper exhaust or a light bulb in the area of the freeze.
- * Heat tape can be used with care taken to install according to manufacturers specifications.
- * **NEVER USE ANTI-FREEZE TO THAW A PIPE.** The chemicals could contaminate the water supply.

If you are unable to regain service you may want to contact a plumber.

The City of St. Johns maintains underground water lines from the water main to the curb stop near the property line. Water lines running from the curb stop to the house, as well as internal plumbing, are the responsibility of the property owner. For questions, contact city offices at (989) 224-8944, ext. 282 or 280.

The cold weather tips provided above are only suggestions. The City of St. Johns does not account for or take responsibility for the customers piping for the above suggestions.

After Hour Emergencies

For night, weekend and holiday emergencies relating to sewer, water, drainage or streets, please call (989) 224-9192.

Clinton County Department of Waste Management Events

Clinton County Department of Waste Management offers various programs to dispose of unwanted medications, mercury thermometers & thermostats and the Clean Community Event. Take advantage of these programs by visiting their website at www.clinton-county.org or email recycle@clinton-county.org for more information.

Free Compost

Compost from the leaf and yard waste collections is given back to the City residents FREE of charge. Compost is great for gardens and flower beds. Compost is usually available in late fall and is located at the DPW. Watch for public service announcements on availability of the compost.

Burning Permit Info.

The City of St. Johns prohibits leaf and brush burning per ordinance #388. Outdoor burning may aggravate asthma and other respiratory ailments.

Residential recreation fires (no leaves or trash) is permitted in the City when properly contained & supervised. Please call the Police Dept. at (989) 224-6721 for a burning permit.

Fire Hydrant Flushing

The City of St. Johns Water Department periodically flushes hydrants to make sure they are operable and also to clean the water mains of rust and sediment that develops over a period of time. During the process, the water could become slightly colored; however, it should clear up shortly after flushing.

Flushing of the hydrants is done in the spring and fall. When flushing occurs, it is done between the hours of 8 am and 4 pm. Please look for postings in the Clinton County News or www.cityofsaintjohnsmi.com for exact dates when hydrant flushing will occur.



Keep Sidewalks & Hydrants Clear

Please keep snow and ice cleared from sidewalks within twelve (12) hours after precipitation ceases during daylight hours. When snow and ice occurs during nighttime hours, it must be cleared by 6:00 p.m. the following day. When clearing your sidewalk or driveway, please do not place the snow or ice in the street or the shoulder of the road. It is against the state statute to deposit snow, ice or slush in the street or on the shoulder of the road. A citation may be issued to individuals violating the this code (Motor Vehicle Code P.A. 82 of 1978, 257.677a).

Also please keep areas around fire hydrants clear of snow or ice so the fire department can access the hydrant during a fire emergency.



Granger Waste and Recycling Collection

Granger is the waste & recycling hauler for city residents. The mint green city trash bags are still required for trash pick-up however there is a recycling cart that will be emptied weekly on the same day as your trash collection. Please follow the recycling guide that was included with your cart for a smooth transition.



Granger Holiday Schedule

Thanksgiving Day—Thursday, November 23, 2017

Monday—Wednesday collection on schedule

Friday's collection day will be on Saturday



Christmas Day—Monday, December 25, 2017

No delay in collection pick-up

GRANGER

Zoning, Building, Utility & Right-of-Way Permits

Most types of construction such as fences, decks, sheds, etc. require a permit in the City.

Residents desiring to connect to City utilities must obtain a utility permit & pay the fee prior to any work commencing.

A permit must also be obtained prior to performing any work in the street right-of-way (sidewalk or driveway removal, removal/planting/trimming trees or utility service repairs).

Sidewalk/Driveway Approach Replacement Program

Property owners will be reimbursed \$1.75 per square foot for sidewalk replacement and \$.70 a square foot for sidewalk sections raised. There is a \$200.00 reimbursement for replacing driveway approaches. Sidewalk & approach construction must meet City Construction Standards. Inspections are required.

Work performed without an inspection will not be eligible for reimbursement.

Contact the Public Works Department at (989) 224-8944, ext. 229 for further information.



Signage in Right-Of-Way

Signage is prohibited in the area between the sidewalk & curb or where these improvements would be located if constructed. Prohibited signage includes real estate & political signs, employment & service opportunities, garage sale signs, etc. Signage is also prohibited on utility poles, which are located in the right-of-way.

Contact City offices to advertise your garage sale on the access channel.

Parking Regulations

No vehicle shall be left on public city streets between 1:00 am to 6:00 am of the same day. Parking is prohibited on a sidewalk or between curb & sidewalk. Any vehicle wishing to park overnight in a designated municipal parking lot must obtain a permit at the St. Johns Police Department. For special circumstances or to receive permission to park, contact the St. Johns Police Department between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. at 989-224-6721. In some instances, permission may be granted to park on the street overnight. After hour emergency parking circumstances call 911 for assistance.