

BELDING BUGLE

Spring, 2019

Office of the City Manager

Adopt-A-Spot

Special Events:

- Arbor Day - a beautiful Japanese Lilac has been planted along the north side of Depot Street, to observe and celebrate Arbor Day in our community!
- May 4 & 5 - Spring into the Past from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Museum
- May 18 - Household Hazardous Waste Collection - please see article on Page 3 for details
- June 3 - August 19 "Music in the Park" on Mondays from 7 - 8:30 p.m. at East Riverside Park. A concert will not be held on July 1 due to the holiday. Join us for free popcorn and the chance to win a door prize each week!

Belding Museum

Open the 1st Sunday of each month from 1-4 p.m.

Children's Museum

April and May - Open the 1st Sunday and Wednesday of each month from 1-4 p.m.

June - Open the 1st Sunday from 1-4 p.m., and every Wednesday from 1-4 p.m.

In 2018 the City was able to overlay approximately 50 blocks of streets. We have 2 streets to do yet as part of our 2018-19 budget, North State from Ellis to the north city limits and Reed Street from York to Merrick. They should be done before the end of June. As we get closer to doing the work we will be contacting the residents on North State and the businesses on Reed Street to inform you of detours that will be necessary during the project.

We are in the process of putting together next year's budget and as part of that we will be developing a list of streets we plan to overlay for the 2019-20 fiscal year that starts in July.

We have completed detailed studies looking at the conditions of our storm and sanitary sewers as well as our water system. As a result we now have comprehensive Capital Improvement plans. We've also had our roads rated and are awaiting the results which will allow us to create a Capital Improvement plan for roads. With technology, we are able to combine all of that information and electronically create a map that will show us the condition of our utilities and roads. As we move forward, we are better positioned to

properly plan for necessary improvements. We will be able to coordinate projects that involve water, sewer and/or road improvements avoiding the problem of fixing a road and coming back a year or two later and digging it up to replace a sewer line.

In addition to the street paving projects, three other projects are planned for this summer. The basketball courts in Central Riverside Park are going to be replaced, thanks to a grant from the Greenville Area Foundation. A kayak launch will be installed at East Riverside Park and the Silk City Pathway will be extended from Main Street to the Fred Meijer trail along the mural wall and river. The pathway will also include an observation deck with benches along the river's edge. Both the pathway and kayak launch are being funded primarily by grants from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

I believe in an open door policy and work hard to make myself very accessible. You can stop by city hall, call me at 794-1900 extension 216, email me at jniemela@ci.belding.mi.us or call/text my cell number at 1-517-256-7943.

Spring is almost here and the budding trees and flowers will be a welcome sight after the long winter!

Volunteers are needed to care for the landscaping areas in the downtown area. The spots may simply be cleaned up and mulched, or new plants added. The landscaping mulch will be available at no cost from Nature's Needs at 8079 Storey Rd. The same mulch is used for all spots, to keep the beds looking uniform throughout the downtown. The mulch can be picked up at your convenience.

We would like to encourage participants to have the spots completed by the Memorial Day weekend, if possible, as there will be a Memorial Day event at the Veteran's Memorial Park that will bring many residents and guests into the downtown area.

We would like to thank the many volunteers currently involved with the beautification program again this year. Your contributions do so much to enhance the appearance of the downtown area and are truly appreciated!

Please contact Kareen Thomas at 616-794-1900, Ext. 210 to view the spots that are currently available for adoption.

Code Enforcement

Ordinance stipulates that there are to be no more than two dogs and two cats per residence without a special permit. Keep dogs and cats confined to their yard.

Animals walked in the city park areas must be on a leash and waste must be collected and disposed of.

Garbage and trash in bags or receptacles may not be put to the curb earlier than 24 hours before pick up day. Emptied containers MUST NOT remain at the curb

and MUST be removed within 24 hours of pickup.

Grass can be no longer than 10 inches, and leaves must be raked.

No unlicensed or inoperable vehicles are allowed within the city limits, unless stored within a four sided enclosed building. The storage of building materials outside of an enclosed building is prohibited without a building permit.

Any chemical containers (oil, gas, coolant, etc.) must be disposed of in an environmentally safe manner. Outside storage of these chemicals is a violation of City Ordinance.

Zoning permits are required but not limited to the following: fences, signs, accessory buildings, pools and decks. Applications are available at:
belding.mi.us/forms_publications.php

Belding Fire Department

Bon Fire Permits

Please contact the Fire Dept. at 794-1900, Ext. 212 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. for the annual Bon Fire permit. Please speak with the on-duty firefighter at the fire station to renew an existing permit. Brushfires or the burning of yard wastes is strictly prohibited within the city limits.

Severe Weather

The City's weather warning sirens will be tested on the 1st Saturday of every month at 12 p.m. starting in April and continuing throughout the severe weather season.

The National Weather Service will issue a tornado watch when conditions are right for the formation of a tornado. This is the time to begin preparations. The weather siren will be sounded when a tornado warning has been issued for our area. A tornado warning means a tornado has been sighted and that persons should immediately take cover.

House Numbers

City of Belding ordinance requires visible house numbers at or near the front entrance of all residences and businesses within the city limits. Visible house numbers are critical to emergency service per-

sonnel when trying to locate the origin of an emergency call.

Smoke Detectors

City of Belding ordinance requires working smoke detectors in all existing residential occupancies, which include all one and two-family dwellings and apartment houses. Detectors must be located on the wall or ceiling in each room used for sleeping purposes, on the wall or ceiling outside of each separate sleeping area, and one on each floor of the dwelling unit. Installation information may be obtained by contacting the Fire Dept. Check regularly and change batteries.

Contact the police department any time you observe suspicious persons, activities or vehicles any place in the city.

Belding Police Department

The Belding Police Department would like to remind you that Spring is a time for an increase in pedestrian traffic. After the long winter, residents will be out walking, bicycling or just enjoying the spring weather. With pedestrians out, it is time to slow down. The speed limit in the city is 25 mph unless posted. Slowing down will allow you to react to the pedestrian entering the street, from behind a parked car, or the ball thrown into the street being chased by a child.

Park hours are 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Bathrooms are open daily from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. from late spring through September, weather permitting. Bathrooms that are damaged or littered beyond regular use

will be locked and not reopened until they are cleaned or repaired on regular business days. If we all do our part, they will stay open daily.

Vehicles that are parked on curbed streets must park with the right wheels to the curb. Parking between the sidewalk and curb and in front yards is prohibited. For people that walk, please use the sidewalks when provided ... it's the law! Each person riding a bicycle upon a roadway is subject to all the duties of a person driving a motor vehicle.

If you are going to be away on vacation, please make arrangements to stop the mail and newspaper. Make your home look lived in with the use of light timers. Have

trusted friends and neighbors watch the house and help it look lived in by picking up weekly newspapers and flyers left at the door. For the extended vacations, have someone mow the lawn. Contact the police department or visit the website at belding.mi.us/forms_publications.php for a vacation request form.

No domestic animals shall be permitted in any public park or on a public pathway unless on a leash, not exceeding 6 ft. in length, controlled by the owner at all times. Owners shall remove all animal fecal discharges from the park or the pathway property immediately. No dangerous or vicious animals shall be permitted in any public park or on a public pathway.

Dial-A-Ride

Spring is here and summer heat is around the corner! Beat the heat by riding the air conditioned Dial-A-Ride bus to your next destination!

Fare rates are as follows:

Student (4-17)	\$2.00	(\$20.00 ticket)
Adult (18-61)	\$2.50	(\$25.00 ticket)
Seniors (62+)	\$1.25	(\$12.50 ticket)

Disabled \$1.25 (\$12.50 ticket)

Tickets are available at the Depot. Buy a ticket (10 rides) and get the 11th ride FREE by presenting your full ticket to the driver!

Our "Job Access" route to Ionia leaves at 8:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. from Belding.

Information about our transportation service is available at 616-794-3278 weekdays between the hours of 6:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. You may also visit the city website - www.belding.us, or find us on Facebook for more information. Brochures are available at the Pere Marquette Depot, 100 Depot St.

Fire Hydrant Flushing

Hydrants will be flushed on April 14-17 from midnight to 7 a.m. If you experience discolored water, please flush the cold water faucet closest to the water meter until the water runs clear.

Library Book/Bake Sale

April 8-13 (during library hours) Friends of the Library invite you to shop our collection of gently-used books and fresh baked goods at our bi-annual sale, or get a great deal on a small selection of computer towers, monitors, and a paper shredder in gently-used condition.

Library Teen Party

April 12 from 5-8 p.m. **TEEN Friday Night SAT Party** Did you just take the SAT and want to celebrate? All teens are invited to join us after-hours for games, snacks, and a Friday night of fun! Registration is required. Call the library at 616-794-1450 for more information.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

The collection will be held on Saturday, May 18, 2019 from 8 a.m. to noon at 1408 W. State, on M-44 in Belding.

Household Hazardous Waste includes: gasoline, motor oil, auto batteries, anti-freeze, cleaners, windshield wiperfluid, car wax, brake fluid, transmission fluid, auto paint, mercury switches, oil-based paint, varnish, stain, paint thinner, paint stripper, caulk, adhesives, fluorescent light bulbs,

insecticide and insect repellent, weed killer, rat/mouse poison, pet spray/dip, flea collars, mothballs, disinfectant, wood preservative, fly traps, chlorine/bromine tablets, shock treatments, water balancers, household cleaners, furniture polish and wax, oven cleaner, ammonia, drain opener, tub and tile cleaner, toilet bowl cleaner, scouring powders, upholstery/carpet cleaners, fever thermometers, spot

and stain removers, bleach, dyes, dry cleaning solvents and hobby supplies.

If you are not sure, contact the Ionia Conservation District at 616-527-2620, Ext. 101.

Wastes not accepted: explosives, ammunition, latex paint, appliances, computers, tires, medications and needles, smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, 20 lb. propane tanks (1 & 2 lb. cylinders are OK)

Library Happenings

April 29 @ 6 p.m. - **Saving and Sharing Seeds with Ben Cohen** - Adult. This fast-paced and energetic presentation highlights the importance of community seed sharing programs.

May 6 @ 6 p.m. - **Birding Across Michigan with Greg Bodker** - Adult. His beautiful photography will help you learn more about birds and demonstrate the joys you can have in your backyard and in the field.

June 3 @ 6 p.m. - **Uneven Ground, live Celtic Music** - all ages. Enjoy the four-piece traditional Celtic band that blends vocals with instrumentals for a unique musical journey.

June 25 @ 1:30 p.m. - **Air Zoo** - all ages. Join Kalamazoo Air Zoo for hands-on action in this outer space themed program.

Board Vacancies

Applications are being accepted for city boards and commissions. These volunteer positions are appointed by the City Council and offer an excellent opportunity to make a difference and serve our community.

Board of Review

Meets in March, July and December, serving a one-year term. The Board revises and corrects assessments and authorizes changes, additions or corrections to the assessment roll. Members and alternates are needed.

Downtown Development Authority

Meets quarterly (February, May, August, November) on the 1st Wednesday at 4 p.m., serving a four-year term. Must be a

resident or have an interest in property located in the downtown district.

Zoning Board of Appeals - Regular or alternate member (which serves in the absence of a regular ZBA member) is needed - Meets as needed, three year term.

A description of the focus of each board is available on the city website - www.belding.us An application is also available on the city website, at city hall - 120 S. Pleasant Street, or can be mailed to your residence.

Please contact Kareen Thomas at 794-1900, *210 or kthomas@ci.belding.mi.us for additional information. Please submit applications to the city clerk.



CITY of BELDING

live. grow. naturally.

PRSR STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Belding, MI
Permit No. 77

120 S. Pleasant St.
Belding, MI 48809

Phone: 616-794-1900, Ext. 210
Fax: 616-794-0091
E-mail: kthomas@ci.belding.mi.us

City Hall Office Hours:

Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER

BELDING, MI 48809



Music in the Park

June 3 Belding Schools Music Program

Sponsor: Leppinks Food Center

June 10 Flashback - Oldies

Sponsor: Johnson Feuerstein F.H.

June 17 Igniter - Classic Rock

Sponsor: Mercantile Bank

June 24 Peat in the Creal - Irish/Folk

Sponsor: TBA

July 1 No show due to holiday

July 8 Larsen Brothers - Country Gospel

Sponsor: Daniel R. Tift, D.D.S.

July 15 Dusk - Light Rock

Sponsor: John & Janet Niemela

July 22 Lighten Up Francis - Classic Rock

Sponsor: TBA

July 29 TBA

Sponsor: Gus Macker

August 5 Ionia Community Band

Sponsor: Belding Chamber of Commerce

August 12 The Roer Family - Variety

Sponsor: Center St. Free Methodist Church

August 19 The Adams Family - Folk Rock

Sponsor: Ernie & Karen Thomas

Concerts are held from 7 - 8:30 p.m. at East Riverside Park. Free popcorn!

Belding Housing

Happy Spring to all in the community!

Belding Housing Commission administers rental units for eligible individuals and families within the City of Belding, under regulations set forth by the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development. Properties include Taft Court, Belhaven I, Belhaven II, Hilltop Court, and Woodhaven. Applicants must be determined eligible for participation in the program. Rent is offered on a flat rent or income basis.

Inquiries about availability, eligibility, and the application process may be made by phone Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 616-794-1740, or by visiting the office during window hours Monday through Friday from 1 - 4:30 p.m. The office is located at 41 Belhaven Avenue, Belding, Michigan.

Belding Housing Commission is an Equal Housing Opportunity agency.

Dept. Public Works

Yard Waste/Leaves

There will be no loose leaf pick-up in the spring. Yard waste and leaves must be placed in biodegradable bags and will be picked up every Friday, beginning April 19, 2019. Bags must not exceed 35 pounds and cannot contain other materials, such as rocks, shingles, garbage, sticks or brush. Please place bags at the curb by Friday at 7 a.m., but no earlier than 6 p.m. on Thursday.

Brush Pick-Up

April 22, May 27, June 24, July 22, August 26, September 23 and October 21

Please place brush at the street by 7 a.m. on the above dates, but no earlier than the 18th of the month, except for the first pick-up in April. The total amount of brush and limbs per household shall not exceed 10 cubic yards per month. Brush cannot be longer than 10' in length.

To ensure pick-up, please locate brush in a clear area, away from any obstacles and overhead wires.