

## Fire Department

Fireplaces, wood burning stoves, and space heaters are all acceptable methods of heating, but without the proper precautions, they can be a major contributing factor in residential fires.

- Have your chimney or wood stove inspected and cleaned annually.
- Keep the area around heating units free of combustible materials.
- Never use flammable liquids to start a fire.
- Soak ashes in water and place in a metal container outside your home.

City residents are encouraged to assist fire department crews by shoveling out hydrants in their neighborhood and keeping them clear of snow. Keeping fire hydrants visible and accessible will save valuable firefighter time in an emergency.

Extension cords are a common cause of electrical fires.

- Use only extension cords which are rated for the power used by the device they are powering.
- Extension cords should not be used as a long-term solution.
- Extension cords should never run inside walls or under rugs or furniture.
- Do not use any cord that has become stiff or cracked.

Develop and practice a home fire escape plan with your family. Select a meeting place outside that everyone can get to. Once you are out of the house – **stay out!**

## Dial-A-Ride

With winter weather, the demands on our bus system will increase. Please allow extra time for the bus to arrive and plan your trips to appointments well in advance. The bus could take up to one-half hour or slightly longer from the time of your call to arrive during peak hours. If you would like to schedule a ride, please call (616) 794-3278.

Information about the bus service is available by calling the dispatch office weekdays from 6:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., and Saturdays from 9 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. We can also mail a brochure about our services on request.

Tickets are available for purchase at city hall between the hours of 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. M-Th. Tokens are available for purchase at the depot between the hours of 6:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. If advance notice is given, tokens can also be purchased from any of the Dial-A-Ride drivers.

## Belding Museum

The historical museum is open the first Sunday of each month from 1 - 4 p.m.

## Children's Museum

The "BEL" (Belding Exploration Lab) is open the 1st Sunday and Wednesday of each month from 1 - 4 p.m.

## Adopt a Spot

Thank you so much to everyone who adopted a landscaping area to maintain in the mall parking lot during 2017! Please contact Katherine Henry to let her know if you wish to maintain or discontinue maintaining the bed in 2018 at [khenry4mi@gmail.com](mailto:khenry4mi@gmail.com) or call or text her at 616-303-0183.

Additional spots are available for adoption for 2018. Your continued interest in this community project is greatly appreciated!

## Finance Department

### Water Bills

Water bills issued on January 1, 2018 are due by January 30, 2018. A 10% penalty will be added on January 31 and the bill must be paid by February 15. Per the Water Policy, a \$75.00 shut off fee will be added as soon as the shut off list is given to the DPW department, regardless of whether the water is turned off or not.

### Winter Tax Deadlines

2017 winter property taxes are due by February 14, 2018. A 3% penalty is added after this date. Last day to pay all 2017 taxes at city hall is February 28, 2018. After this date, taxes will be payable through the Ionia County Treasurer. Please contact the office directly at (616) 527-5329 to obtain the current amount owing.

Postmarks are not accepted. Payments must be received by city hall on the due dates by 6 p.m.

## Housing Commission

Seasons Greetings to all in the community from Belding Housing Commission!

Information about agency rental units at Taft or Hilltop Court, Belhaven I, II or Woodhaven is available through the administrative office Monday through Friday, excluding holidays, as follows:

Phone-794-1740 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Window hours 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The administrative office is located at 41 Belhaven Avenue.

Belding Housing Commission administers its program in accordance with U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations and locally established policy, and is an Equal Housing Opportunity agency.

## Police Department

The best way to avoid becoming a victim of crime is by not giving a criminal the opportunity to commit crimes against you.

- Eliminate the opportunity for the thief to steal property
- Lock car doors and keep valuables out of sight
- Properly secure personal property and mark valuables for identification
- Make it hard for the criminal to commit a crime
- Report suspicious activity in your neighborhood to the police immediately

If you are going away for an extended period of time, please contact the police department directly or visit us on the web at [www.belding.us](http://www.belding.us) for a vacation house check form. Please bring the completed form to the police department or city hall.

As a reminder, **NO PARKING on city streets from 2 - 6 a.m.** will be enforced thru March 31, 2018.

Front Yard Parking is prohibited under the Zoning Ordinance. Vehicles shall be parked in the driveway or garage.

## Code Enforcement

Please keep sidewalks clear of ice and snow and remove accumulation within 24 hours of the ice storm or snowfall. When ice is formed on any sidewalk, owner or occupant shall, within 12 hours after the ice has formed, cause salt, chloride or sand to be strewn on the entire sidewalk to make travel reasonably safe.

Where there are no sidewalks, the owner shall clear a path free from snow and ice, when such a path will provide an extension of existing sidewalk on an adjacent property.



# CITY of BELDING

live. grow. naturally.

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 Belding, MI 48809  
 Phone: 616-794-1900  
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PRSR STD  
 U.S. Postage  
 PAID  
 Belding, MI  
 Permit No. 77

**City Hall Office Hours:**  
 Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER**  
 BELDING, MI 48809

**We're on the web!**  
[www.belding.us](http://www.belding.us)  
**Check us out on**  
**Facebook!**  
  
**City of Belding**

## Library Happenings

### January

- 18 Library Mini Golf (Teen) 3 p.m.  
 27 Tinker Lab (Youth) 10 a.m.

Teams or individuals will use materials provided by library to conquer a new challenge.

### February

- 1 Teen LAB Make blackout poetry/word art with book/magazine pages 3 p.m.  
 5 Family Storytime Stories, songs and activities - children of all ages & adults 6 p.m.  
 9 Girl's Night Lock-In (5th-8th grade) Hair and makeup tutorials, get decked out. Registration & permission slip required 5-7 p.m.  
 10 Legos at the Library (Youth) 10 a.m.  
 15 Throwback Thursday (Teen) 3 p.m.  
 Celebrate with Playdoh, Legos and Mad Libs  
 24 Tinker Lab (Youth) - see above 10 a.m.

### March

- 1 Teen LAB Make crazy designs with book "dominoes" 3 p.m.  
 5 Family Storytime - see above 6 p.m.  
 9 Spy Training (5-8 grade) 3 p.m.  
 10 Legos at the Library (Youth) 10 a.m.  
 15 No Fish Sushi Making (Teen) 3 p.m.  
 24 Tinker Lab (Youth) - see above 10 a.m.

### Genealogy Interest Group

Will meet on January 5 and February 2 at 10 a.m. to learn and share tips and tricks for family history research.

Will meet on March 2 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for a LIVE Rootsweb genealogy conference viewing. Come for part or all of this live streaming conference.

### Senior Social

Will meet January 9, February 13 and March 13 at 2 p.m. for games, snacks, and social time for seniors at the library.

### Starting Seeds

February 19 at 6 p.m. Come learn the ins and outs of getting seeds started for the growing season.

### "Mystic Michigan" - Mark Jager

March 19 at 6 p.m. Discover some of Michigan's unsolved, scientific mysteries and strange historical facts.

### Gemini

March 26 at 6 p.m. Musical event for all ages.

### Little Wiggles Storytime

10 a.m. on January 15,22,29, February 5,12,19,26 and March 5,12,19,26 (Birth-2)

### Preschool Pals Storytime

10 a.m. on January 17,24,31, February 7,14,21,28 and March 7,14,21,28 (3-5 years)

## Department of Public Works

### Yard Waste/Leaves

There will not be a 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 20, 2018.

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 on Friday by 7 a.m., but no earlier than 6 p.m. on Thursday.

### Brush Pick-Up

April 23	August 27
May 21	September 24
June 25	October 22
July 23	

Please place brush at the street by 7 a.m. on the dates listed above, but no earlier than the 18th of the month. The total amount of brush and limbs per household shall not exceed 10 cubic yards per month.

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