

BELDING BUGLE

January, 2020

Fire Department

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.

City of Belding ordinance requires visible house numbers at or near the front entrance of all residences and businesses. House numbers must be visible from the street both day and night. Visible street numbers are critical to emergency service personnel when trying to locate the origin of an emergency call.

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 Department. Working smoke detectors save lives. Please check smoke detectors regularly and change the batteries at least twice yearly.

Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless and toxic gas. Carbon monoxide will kill you before you are aware it is in your home. At lower levels of exposure, carbon monoxide causes mild flu-like effects including headaches, dizziness, and nausea. Carbon monoxide is a by-product of combustion from items such as: gas-fired appliances, wood-burning furnace or motor vehicles. Protect yourself from carbon monoxide by:

- Install a carbon monoxide detector near sleeping areas.

- Have all fuel burning appliances and vent systems checked yearly by a qualified professional.
- Never use your range or oven to help heat your home.
- Never keep a vehicle running in a garage. Even with the garage door open carbon monoxide can build to dangerous levels.

Housing Commission

Happy Holidays from Belding Housing Commission!

[mi211.org](https://www.mi211.org) in partnership with Michigan Association of United Ways holds information on thousands of health and human service agencies and programs across Michigan. Persons needing assistance with bill paying, food, transportation, health care, housing, crisis or other services may visit the website at: <https://www.mi211.org> or dial 211 - 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to get fast, free and confidential help.

For housing assistance, Belding Housing Commission offers income-based rental assistance within the City of Belding for one, two, three and four-bedroom units. Applications are available at the administrative offices, located at 41 Belhaven Ave. To inquire about availability, eligibility and the application process, email info@beldinghousing.org, or call 616-794-1740 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Office window hours are Monday through Friday 1 - 4:30 p.m. Belding Housing Commission is an Equal Housing Opportunity agency.

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.

Finance Department

Winter Tax Deadlines

The 2019 winter property taxes were sent on December 1, 2019 and are due by Monday, February 17, 2020. After this date, a 3% penalty will be added to the property tax bill. Postmark dates are not accepted. Your payment must be in our office by 6 p.m. to avoid the penalty.

2019 taxes will be sent to Ionia County on March 1, 2020 and will need to be paid in Ionia.

If you recently purchased your home or within a year, the Headlee Act is why the taxes increased. When property is sold/transferred, taxable value is reset to equal state equalized value, which equals half of the property's cash value.

Water/Sewer Bills

Water and sewer bills for each quarter are due 30 days after the following dates - December 31, March 31, June 30, and September 30 billings. If not paid within the thirty days, a 10% penalty will be added to the current quarterly bill. If not paid within the next fifteen days, a \$75.00 fee will be added and the water will be shut off. The total bill, including all penalties and late fees, is required to be paid before the water is turned back on.

Adopt a Spot

Thank you so much to everyone who adopted a landscaping area to maintain in the mall parking lot during 2019! Please contact Janae to let her know if you wish to maintain or discontinue maintaining the bed in 2020 at j.cooper@ci.belding.mi.us or phone 616-794-1900, Ext. 210.

Additional spots may be available for adoption for 2020. Your continued interest in this community project is greatly appreciated!

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 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, 2020.

Front Yard Parking is prohibited under the Zoning Ordinance. Vehicles shall be parked in the driveway or garage. There is no parking between the curb and the sidewalk.

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.

Snow shall not be pushed into the roadway or across the roadway.



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
Fax: 616-794-0091
E-mail: j.cooper@ci.belding.mi.us

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

LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER
BELDING, MI 48809

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www.belding.us

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Facebook!

 **City of Belding**

Library Happenings

January 20 at 6 p.m. - **Finding the Lost Pages: An Adoptee's Story.** Adopted at age three, Ruth Sanderson offers personal insight into the challenges, frustrations, failures, discoveries, and ultimate successes of her 60-year search for birth records and biological family.

February 10 at 6 p.m. - **Family Valentine Party.** Make handmade Valentine's Day cards to give or keep. All materials supplied by the library, and refreshments provided.

February 28 at 3 p.m. - **Teen/Tween Snowball Fight.** Bring a friend and battle it out at this event. No snow? No problem! We will have a movie and snacks!

March 9 at 6 p.m. - **Family Fort Building Night.** Build a fort that you won't have to clean up! We will have building supplies that will spark your imagination.

Monday in March (Date to be announced)
Art and Architecture of Stained Glass. Join Barbara Krueger, who has been studying stained glass from around the world for 40 yrs. for a visual and informative presentation.

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 upon request.

Tickets and tokens are available for purchase at the Depot during business hours, 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.

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 17, 2020.

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 20	August 24
May 26	September 21
June 22	October 26
July 27	

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.