

# PORTAGER

*A Natural Place to Move*



## A Message from Mayor Patricia M. Randall

As the holidays near, I thought I would take a moment to ponder all that makes me thankful and grateful. Thanksgiving is the one holiday all Americans share with both a federal holiday and, (hopefully) a long weekend before the Christmas sprint begins.

Being “thankful” is a response or expression to that which is pleasing. It deepens our external connections to the events and experiences that bring us joy. “Gratitude” is about internal feelings of quiet, personal appreciation. It can also be an active, ongoing state of being which deepens over time.

In my ongoing quest to appreciate the aging process, I can personally share that gratitude has crept into my life

as the years continue to spin by. Whether it is the result of time spent with my adult children or young grandchildren, observing the miracles of nature, the kindness of a stranger, or things running well in the community in which we live, my sense of gratitude for my life continues to grow. I hope that holds true for you, as well.

As I travel near or far, coming home offers many amenities that I appreciate. This season is a good opportunity to reflect on all that makes Portage a community that continues to grow and thrive, despite all of the mayhem in the world. Here is a partial list that we can all take pride in:

**Safety:** Violent crime is down 13.4% since 2021 and non-violent crime is down 5.3% since 2023.

**Recreation:** Our parks, trails, and bike lanes encourage recreation, fitness, and quality of life.

**Our Schools:** Academic excellence and community support

of new facilities is our priority.

**Senior Center:** We take pride in providing world class amenities for our aging population.

**Fair Taxes:** The increase in industrial, commercial, and residential sectors keeps taxes low.

**Employment:** We work hard to attract the high paying jobs that allow for upward mobility.

**Logistics:** Less time spent in transit allows for more time with family and for ourselves.

Of course, my list may differ from yours. Still, it is my wish that each of us seeks joy in the little things and the big. I hope you take just a moment to experience thankfulness and/or gratitude each and every day.

Now, if only we could have more sunshine in the winter ...

– Patricia M. Randall

## Leaf-A-Legacy: Restoring Our Canopy, One Tree at a Time

In the aftermath of the devastating May 7, 2024 tornado, the City of Portage, with support from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), continues its mission to restore the city’s tree canopy and green spaces. The storm caused widespread damage, resulting in the loss of thousands of trees across parks and neighborhoods.

### A heartfelt thank you to all our supporters!

On September 26, 2025, volunteers and community partners including the MDNR, the Kalamazoo Nature Center, Mulders Nursery, Graphic Packaging International, the Kalamazoo Growlers, Kalamazoo Landscape Supplies, and the City of Portage joined together to plant 25 additional trees at Celery Flats. During the event, volunteers learned about best practices for tree planting and contributed to our goal of planting 400 trees over the next two years through the Leaf-A-Legacy campaign.



#### Special thanks to:

- » Graphic Packaging International and the Kalamazoo Growlers for their Home Run Sponsorship, which donated a tree for every Growlers home run this season
- » Biggby Coffee for keeping our volunteers energized
- » Mulder’s Landscape Supplies for donating trees
- » Kalamazoo Landscape Supplies Inc. for donating compost and mulch
- » The MDNR Urban and Community Forest Inflation Reduction Act Grant Program, with funding provided by the USDA Forest Service’s Urban and Community Forestry Program, for helping fund the Leaf-A-Legacy program

Thanks to our community partners and volunteers, Portage is becoming more beautiful and resilient every day.

## Help Us Continue the Effort

Portage parks still need your support to reforest what was lost. The City of Portage and the Portage Parks Foundation are partnering through the Leaf-A-Legacy campaign to plant 400 trees over two years. So far, 56 contributors have supported this important effort – but more help is needed to reach our goal.

Each donor receives a personalized certificate, which can honor or memorialize someone special. Additional recognition is available based on your level of giving, and a recognition ceremony will be held in 2026.

Leaf-A-Legacy Tree Donation Giving Levels			
LEVEL	DONATION	BENEFIT	TREES
Supporter	Up to \$499	Personalized Donor Certificate	1
Champion	\$500 - \$999	Above plus Recognition in Portage Online Tree Registry	2 - 3
Guardian	\$1,000 - \$2,499	Above plus Name on Bronze Plaque & Promotional Materials	4 - 8
Visionary	\$2,500 - \$4,999	Above plus Recognition in the Portager Newsletter	9 - 15
Legacy	\$5,000 - \$10,000	Above plus Commemorative Art Piece	16 - 32

Donations can be made via cash, check (payable to the Portage Parks Foundation), or online at [portageparksfoundation.org](https://portageparksfoundation.org). Contributions are tax-deductible – please consult your tax advisor for details. Check if your employer offers a Corporate Matching Gift Program to maximize your impact.

Consider supporting your parks and leaving a legacy by contributing to the Leaf-A-Legacy Campaign. Together, we can restore and strengthen the natural beauty of Portage.

For more information about Leaf-a-Legacy or to donate or volunteer, visit [portageparksfoundation.org](https://portageparksfoundation.org) or [mypark.portagemi.gov](https://mypark.portagemi.gov).

## Grants Available for Agencies Supporting Portage Citizens in Need

The City of Portage is accepting applications for its annual Human Services Grant Program, which provides funding to nonprofit agencies that help Portage residents meet essential housing and living needs.

Each year, the city allocates a portion of its General Fund to organizations offering services such as home repairs for seniors, emergency housing assistance, food and clothing distribution, and transportation to work or medical appointments. These programs help residents maintain stable housing and improve quality of life.

For Fiscal Year 2026-2027, funding will be available beginning July 1, 2026. While the total amount has not yet been determined, the city allocated \$216,000 for the current fiscal year.

Few municipalities provide this type of support, but the Portage City Council views it as a meaningful reinvestment of tax dollars back into the community.

## Eligibility and Criteria

Nonprofit agencies in the greater Kalamazoo area may apply if their services directly benefit low-income Portage residents. Qualifying programs must address housing or related needs and demonstrate accessibility, outreach, and impact for Portage citizens. Agencies must also show the ability to obtain or leverage other funding. (Startup programs are not eligible.)

## How to Apply

The **Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Human Services Funding Grant Application Form** is available at [portagemi.gov/180](https://portagemi.gov/180). Applications are due by 12 PM on Tuesday, November 25, 2025, and must be submitted to:

Department of Community Development  
City of Portage  
7900 South Westnedge Avenue, Portage, MI 49002

Emailed applications will not be accepted.

For more information, contact the Department of Community Development at 329-4477.

### Community Services Open House

Thursday, November 6, 2025  
4:30 - 6:30 PM  
Portage Zhang Senior Center  
203 East Centre Avenue

Curious about what services are available to Portage residents? Meet representatives from local service organizations and learn about the resources and services they provide at the City of Portage Community Services Open House.

Whether you’re seeking assistance for yourself or someone you know, want to learn more about community support programs, or are looking for volunteer opportunities, this event is for you.

**We look forward to seeing you there!**



# No Roosters, Please: What You Should Know About Keeping Chickens in Portage

Backyard chickens are becoming more popular across Michigan, and Portage is no exception. Residents who want to raise hens for fresh eggs can do so, but there's one important rule right up front: **roosters are not allowed anywhere in the city.**



Why no roosters? They're noisy! Unlike hens, roosters crow throughout the day (and sometimes night), which can disturb neighbors. Plus, roosters aren't needed for hens to lay eggs

– hens will happily produce eggs on their own. The city's ordinance allows hens only, to give residents the benefits of backyard eggs without the early morning wake-up calls.

## The Basics

- » Up to six hens may be kept at a single-family home.
- » Chickens must be for personal use only, not for sale or commercial purposes.
- » A permit from the City of Portage is required before you bring chickens home. If you rent, you'll need written permission from the property owner.

## Where and How to Keep Them

- » Chickens must stay in the rear yard inside a secure coop and pen at night. During the day, hens may roam a fenced-in area (at least four feet tall) if supervised.

- » The coop and pen must be safe, clean, and well-built – no tarps, scrap materials, or metal sheeting allowed.
- » Structures must be set back at least 10 feet from property lines and 30 feet from neighboring homes (40 feet if you live on a lakefront lot).

## Keep It Clean and Neighbor-Friendly

- » Feed must be stored so it doesn't attract rodents.
- » Coops should be cleaned regularly to prevent odors or pests.
- » Outdoor slaughtering of chickens is prohibited
- » Chickens can't create noise, odor, or sanitation problems that affect neighboring properties.

If you'd like more information, please visit [portagemi.gov/869](http://portagemi.gov/869) or call the Department of Community Development at 329-4477.

# Verification Underway for Recently Completed Home Projects

Each fall, the Office of the City Assessor reviews recently completed home improvement projects – like new decks, finished basements, sheds, garages, additions, in-ground pools – to ensure that property records remain accurate. If your project required a building permit, staff from the Assessor's Office may visit your property to verify the completion of the project and details of the work.

Accurate property data helps ensure fair and equitable assessments for all Portage property owners. Verification may include exterior measurements and updated photographs. In many cases, a full in-person visit by an appraiser is not necessary. Instead, visit [portagemi.gov/155](http://portagemi.gov/155) or scan the QR code and complete the online Permit Inspection form.

If you prefer to schedule an appointment, please call 329-4433 or email [assessingdept@portagemi.gov](mailto:assessingdept@portagemi.gov). Staff are happy to answer any questions about your property assessment.

*Please note:* Assessing staff verifications are separate from inspections conducted by the Department of Community Development, which focus on safety standards and building code compliance.



Scan the QR Code to complete the online Permit Inspection Form

# Board of Review to Meet in December

The City of Portage Board of Review will meet at City Hall (7900 South Westnedge Avenue), on Tuesday, December 9, 2025, at 9 AM until such time as the Board completes its business. The December Board of Review can only address clerical errors and mutual mistakes of fact related to real and personal property assessments.

The December Board of Review is also the last opportunity to request a Poverty Exemption for the 2025 tax year. Download a Poverty Exemption Affidavit application at [portagemi.gov/156](http://portagemi.gov/156). You can also obtain an application by visiting the Office of the City Assessor at Portage City Hall. Completed forms should be received by the City Assessor no later than Monday, December 1, 2025.

The December Board of Review is prohibited from hearing disputes related to property valuation for the 2025 tax year. Any clerical errors or mutual mistakes of fact that need to be presented to the Board can be scheduled by calling 329-4433 or by visiting the Assessor's Office before the meeting.

# Portage Launches New Rental Hub for Renters and Landlords

Looking for a new apartment in Portage? Or maybe you're a landlord trying to fill vacancies? The City of Portage has you covered.

The city has teamed up with City Wise Software to launch [apartments.portagemi.gov](http://apartments.portagemi.gov) – a new rental housing website that makes connecting landlords and renters easier than ever. The platform allows landlords to list available units quickly and reach a wider audience, while renters can easily search, filter, and find apartments that fit their needs.

**For landlords, especially those managing fewer than 20 units, the platform offers:**

- » Free listings to showcase your properties.
- » Simple, guided setup so your listings go live quickly.
- » Verified listing status, boosting trust with potential renters.
- » Support for larger property managers, too, with custom onboarding.



*"Landlords are essential partners in meeting Portage's housing needs."*  
Pete Dame, Chief Development Officer

**For renters, the benefits are just as clear:**

- » Find verified, up-to-date listings right in Portage.
- » Access a centralized, city-supported source – no sifting through national sites with outdated or confusing information.
- » Get a transparent, trustworthy look at available housing, making it easier to find a home that fits your needs.

"Landlords are essential partners in meeting Portage's housing needs," said Pete Dame, Portage's Chief Development Officer. "This service will help renters identify their options when looking for a place to live in Portage"

Built by City Wise Software, a Midwest company, the new site is already helping communities in Wisconsin and Minnesota modernize their rental markets. Now Portage residents and property owners can enjoy the same streamlined experience.

Renting or listing is quick and easy. Get started today at [apartments.portagemi.gov](http://apartments.portagemi.gov).

# Get a Permit to Harvest Downed Timber in Tornado Affected Areas

Portage residents can now apply for Fuel Wood Harvest Permits as part of the city's Timber Harvest Program, launching November 1, 2025. The program offers residents the chance to collect firewood from designated areas while supporting sustainable forest management.

This initiative helps keep Portage's city forests healthy, removes downed trees from the May 2024 tornado, and promotes the growth of native tree species. Forestry professionals have carefully reviewed harvest areas to ensure long-term forest health and environmental protection.

The city has partnered with American Arbor, a local company, to perform large-scale tree remediation on tornado-damaged properties. Fuel Wood Harvest Permits will be coordinated with these efforts to maintain safety and efficiency.

Harvesting will occur during the fall months to minimize the risk of spreading tree diseases such as oak wilt. Residents may notice temporary equipment noise or restricted access in some areas during active harvests. The city will notify the public in advance of any major impacts.

Permit holders must follow all rules and conditions to ensure safety and environmental stewardship.

For permit applications, harvest site maps, and program details, visit [portagemi.gov/968](http://portagemi.gov/968). Questions? Contact the Department of Public Works at 329-4444.



## Fall Leaf Pickup Continues through Dec 5 (weather permitting)

» Have leaves at the curb by 7 AM on your collection date

» Paper bags OK – no plastic

Find your dates

[portagemi.gov/282](http://portagemi.gov/282)

Questions?

Call the Department of Public Works at 329-4444

## City General Election

### Tuesday, November 4, 2025

Make your voice heard! All registered Portage voters are encouraged to exercise their right to vote on November 4, in the City General Election. Polls are open from 7 AM to 8 PM.

After the election, scan the QR code to view countywide election results.

For personalized voter info, visit the Michigan Voter Information Center at [mi.gov/vote](http://mi.gov/vote).

» Confirm your voter registration status

» View a sample ballot

» Find your polling location

» Check your absentee ballot status

... and more!





## POCKET PAY

### Merchant Spotlight

Check out the new barbershop in the city! Stubble & Stache is located at 161 West Centre Avenue with business hours on Monday through Friday from 9 AM to 7 PM and Saturday from 9 AM to 3 PM. Walk-ins are welcome or you can book by calling 888-2025 or online at [stubblestach.com](http://stubblestach.com). Stubble & Stache isn't your average Barbershop. They offer exceptional barbering, waxing, massage services and more. What sets Stubble & Stache apart is a full-service bar with signature cocktails & mocktails, and innovative amenities and relaxing atmosphere that you will enjoy!

Stubble & Stache is currently offering 10% off any service, when you use Portage Pocket Pay, so choose Stubble & Stache for your one-of-a-kind barbering experience!



A Natural Place to Move

[portagemi.gov](http://portagemi.gov)

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PORTAGER Newsletter | NOVEMBER 2025



# YOUR BACKYARD IS BIGGER THAN YOU THINK



## Wildlife with a Backbone

Engage your curiosity and learn about animal ambassadors at this Blandford Nature Center unique wildlife presentation. Learn about vertebrate groups, their unique qualities, and habitats. Hands-on props highlight adaptations that different vertebrates use for protection, warmth, and food gathering. Live examples of a reptile, bird, and mammal will be included in the presentation. This presentation is designed for grades 2 through 6, but all ages are welcome. Participants under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a chaperone. Seats are limited to 30 per session.

- » Saturday, November 8
  - Session 1:** 11 AM - 12 PM
  - Session 2:** 12 - 1 PM
- » Portage Parks & Recreation (320 Library Lane)
- » \$5 per seat (Registration required)

## Terra Talks: An Environmental Lecture Series

“Terra Talks” is a transformative lecture series and call to action for community engagement and environmental stewardship. Embrace the opportunity to transform your backyard and become a guardian of the environment. This educational series delves into the heart of land management and explores the delicate balance between human activity and ecological preservation.

### Oak Savannas as a Model for Native Plant Gardens

Learn about oak savanna ecosystems and how they benefit local wildlife. Mike Weis, from Dropseed, delves into how you can plant a native garden in your backyard, inspired by resilient and disappearing oak savannah ecosystems. Bring back oaks and watch your backyard turn into a pollinator oasis.

- » Friday, November 7, 6 PM
- » Portage Parks & Recreation (320 Library Lane)
- » FREE (Registration required)

### Fighting with Fire

Speaker Kyle Martin, from the Kalamazoo Nature Center, tells us why prescribed burns are a hot land management tool everybody’s talking about! Learn how land managers use fire to fight fire,



## Portage Parks & Recreation Events, Camps & Classes

1,000 Acres. 20 Parks. One City.

The Portage Parks system is multi-faceted with activities and opportunities for families and people of all ages. To find out more and register online, visit [mypark.portagemi.gov](http://mypark.portagemi.gov) and click



REGISTER NOW!

restore native landscapes, and manage invasive species. This talk will also cover the history of fire, indigenous land management, the differences between prescribed fires and wildfires, and the special role fire plays in restoring healthy landscapes. Learn about native plants, wildlife, and ecosystems that depend on fire to thrive.

- » Friday, November 14, 6 PM
- » Portage Parks & Recreation (320 Library Lane)
- » FREE (Registration required)

## Holiday Card & Tree Walk

Join the holiday magic at Celery Flats! Every year, families, businesses, civic groups, and organizations come together to create a festive wonderland during the annual Holiday Card & Tree Walk. Experience the joy and community spirit as we transform Celery Flats into a dazzling display of holiday cheer!



### Holiday Cards

Get creative and craft a personalized seasonal card for the Portage Holiday Card & Tree Walk! Your card should depict a winter, non-denominational holiday theme, painted on a 4’x8’ sheet of plywood (at least ½” thick) and painted white on the backside. Ensure it’s weatherproof for outdoor display. These festive cards will be installed in an upright position at the Celery Flats Historical Area, adding to the holiday cheer. Deliver your completed card to the Department of Public Works by November 4 for installation.

- » Card Drop Off: Now - November 4
- » Card Pick Up: January 13 - January 20, 2026
- » Department of Public Works (7719 South Westnedge Avenue)
- » FREE (Registration required)

### Holiday Trees

Decorate a holiday tree in the Celery Flats Historical Area to spread the joy and celebrate the season! Trees and 300-count warm white lights will be provided; use your own decorations and artistic flair to show Portage your

holiday spirit. Reserve your tree online or in person while supplies last. Pick up your decorations from January 2 to 6, 2026. Trees will be disposed of by the city along with any remaining decorations after January 6.

- » Decorate your tree from November 25 - December 1
- » Decoration Pick Up: January 2 - 6, 2026, at Celery Flats Historical Area (7335 Garden Lane)
- » FREE (Registration required, while supplies last)

## Holiday Market

Get a jump on your holiday shopping at the Portage Holiday Market! Find unique gifts for friends and family, as well as tasty treats you can bring to Thanksgiving. Support local businesses selling beautiful handmade gifts, gourmet food, amazing art, and holiday goodies. Mark your calendar now!

- » Sunday, November 23, 11 AM - 3 PM
- » Portage Parks & Recreation (320 Library Lane)
- » FREE, Open to the public (No patron fee)

## Traditional Holiday & Tree Lighting Celebration

Celebrate the magic of the season at the annual Portage Traditional Holiday and Tree Lighting Celebration at the Mayor’s Tree in the City Centre. This cherished event begins with the reading of the winning “I Love Portage” essay by Portage students. The festivities continue with Portage Northern High School choir heralding the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus.



Stuart Manor will host Santa and Mrs. Claus, who will greet children and listen to their holiday wishes while spreading festive cheer. The 1856 one-room Schoolhouse hosts letter writing to Santa. Listen to the Proclamation Brass while warming your hands by a toasty fire and marvel at the ice sculpture demonstrations. Enjoy complimentary milk and cookies in the Hayloft Theatre and take part in the children’s crafts. Pick up some gifts while you browse Santa’s Village Boutique Market while being serenaded by the Portage Northern High School Choir.

- » Saturday, December 6, 6 PM
- » The City Centre & Celery Flats Historical Area (7335 Garden Lane)
- » FREE (No registration required)

## Portage Parks & Recreation Celebrates Two Community Milestones

The Portage Parks & Recreation recently marked two exciting milestones that highlight our community spirit and commitment to enhancing local gathering spaces.

### Portage Zhang Farmers Market Groundbreaking

On October 8, the City of Portage hosted a groundbreaking event for the permanent home of the Portage Farmers Market at East Centre Avenue, just west of the Portage Zhang Senior Center. Since its founding in 2016, the market



Portage Mayor, City Councilmembers, and Charles & Lynn Zhang officially break ground on the new Portage Zhang Farmers Market.



A rendering of the center pavilion at the future Portage Zhang Farmers Market.

has grown from 12 vendors and 5,000 visitors per season to over 30 vendors and 30,000 visitors annually.

The new site will feature three open-air pavilions with 50 covered vendor stalls, ADA-compliant walkways, a performance space, picnic areas, and food truck space. This \$3.25 million project, funded by a combination of a \$1.75 million State of Michigan grant, a \$1 million philanthropic pledge, and city contributions, will ensure the market continues to thrive as a hub for local farmers, small businesses, and community connections. Construction began this fall, with the new market scheduled to open in spring 2026.

### Lexington Green Park Ribbon-Cutting

On October 10, the city celebrated the completion of the newly renovated Lexington Green Park at 4750 Pittsford Avenue with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. The renovations include a new playground, a pavilion area, heated restrooms, and a lighted walking loop trail. Residents played an active role in shaping the upgrades, making the park a true community space. This \$1,770,000 project was funded by a Michigan Department of Natural Resources grant, Community Development Block Grant funds and the city’s Capital Improvement Program.



The new playground and pavilion at Lexington Green Park.

These two events reflect Portage’s ongoing dedication to improving recreational and community spaces, making the city an even better place to live, gather, and enjoy.



# PORTAGER

YOU HAVE MORE  
FRIENDS  
THAN YOU KNOW

## Portage Zhang Senior Center Events, Activities & Classes

Explore More. Have Fun. Live Well.

Find us at 203 East Centre Avenue | [mypzsc.portagemi.gov](http://www.mypzsc.portagemi.gov) | To find out more or to register, call 329-4555

Experience a vital, vibrant community offering a wide variety of services and activities that match the needs of active older adult.  
**Membership and participation at the PZSC is open to anyone over the age of 50. Portage residency is not required.**  
All events are held at the Portage Zhang Senior Center unless otherwise noted.

### PZSC Annual Holiday Bazaar and Bake Sale

Kick off the holiday season at the PZSC Annual Holiday Bazaar & Bake Sale, where proceeds benefit the Portage Zhang Senior Center. Enjoy a festive day of holiday shopping, handcrafted gifts, seasonal décor, and delicious homemade treats from local artisans and bakers. Concessions and free hot chocolate will be available. Admission is free – bring your family and friends for some holiday cheer! To donate baked goods, contact Kimberly Middleton, Deputy Director, at 329-4554.

- » Saturday, November 8, 9 AM - 2 PM
- » FREE, Open to the public (No patron fee)

### Veterans Day Breakfast at the Air Zoo

Join us as we honor those who served! The PZSC and the Air Zoo are proud to host a special Veterans Day Breakfast – an opportunity to share stories, connect with fellow veterans, and enjoy a classic breakfast among the Air Zoo’s incredible exhibits. Thanks to the Friends of the Portage Zhang Senior Center and Visiting Angels Southwest Michigan for their generous support. Space is limited so reserve your spot today. There will be no Veterans Group Luncheon in November.

- » Tuesday, November 11, 8 - 9 AM
- » Air Zoo, 6151 Portage Road, Portage 49002
- » FREE for Veterans | Guests \$20 (Registration required)

### Memory Café

The Memory Café offers a welcoming space for individuals with memory loss and their care partners to socialize, share experiences, and enjoy engaging activities like music, crafts, games, and storytelling. This program, led by Heather Renter, PhD and volunteers from the Memory Care Learning Center, fosters connection, reduces isolation, and promotes well-being for all participants.

- » Wednesday, November 12, 10 - 11:30 AM
- » FREE, Open to the Public (Registration required)

### Men’s Only Grief Support Group

This four-week support group offers men a safe, supportive space to navigate the loss of a loved one. Guided by Matthew Carlson, LLMSW, Grief Support Counselor, Centrica Care Navigators, participants will share experiences, learn coping strategies, and find strength in connection. Attendance at all four sessions is required to ensure trust and continuity. Presented in partnership with Centrica Care Navigators.

- » Wednesdays, November 19 - December 17, 10 - 11:30 AM
- » FREE, Open to the Public (Registration required)

### Flourishing after 50: Women’s Health After Menopause

Join us for an empowering, private workshop designed for women navigating the post-menopausal years. Led by, Dr. Jan Werbinski, MD, Board Certified in Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Menopause Care, a trusted expert in women’s health and intimacy, this session provides a safe, supportive space to explore the physical and emotional changes of this life stage. Registered participants can submit questions anonymously in advance, ensuring comfort and confidentiality.

The workshop offers practical tools, honest conversation, and encouragement for embracing this next chapter. Whether you’re seeking answers, reassurance, or the opportunity to connect with other women, this program emphasizes that you are not alone and that thriving beyond menopause is possible.

*This workshop is for educational purposes and sharing information only. It is not medical advice. Please consult your healthcare provider regarding your personal health needs.*

- » Tuesday, November 25, 12 – 1:30 PM
- » FREE, Women Only (Registration required)

 **PORTAGE**  
*A Natural Place to Move*  
7900 South Westnedge Avenue  
Portage, Michigan 49002-5160  
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### City Closing Notices

Non-emergency city offices will be closed on the following dates:

#### Thanksgiving

- » Thursday, November 27
- » Friday, November 28

#### Christmas

- » Wednesday, December 24
- » Thursday, December 25

#### Regular Business Hours

- » Monday - Thursday, 7:30 AM - 5:30 PM
- » Friday: 8 AM - 12 PM

## Portage City Council

Portage City Council meetings are held twice a month on Tuesdays at 6 PM at Portage City Hall (7900 South Westnedge Avenue) in Council Chambers and are always open to the public.



Mayor Patricia M. Randall  
(269) 329-4400  
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Mayor Pro Tem Jim Pearson  
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Patrick McGinnis, City Manager  
(269) 329-4400  
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## The City Manager

The City Manager is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the city. Citizens are encouraged to contact the City Manager with concerns or complaints about city services by visiting [reportit.portagemi.gov](http://www.reportit.portagemi.gov) or by calling Complaint Resolution at 329-4404.

## Televised City Meetings

City Council, Planning Commission, and Zoning Board of Appeals meetings can be viewed live on Spectrum channel 995 and AT&T channel 99. All meetings can be viewed via live streaming at [www.portagemi.gov/205](http://www.portagemi.gov/205).

### NOVEMBER 2025

5	6:00 PM	City Council Meeting
6	7:00 PM	Planning Commission Meeting
10	7:00 PM	Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting
18	6:00 PM	City Council Meeting
20	7:00 PM	Planning Commission Meeting

## The Portager

The *Portager* is the official publication of the City of Portage, used to inform residents of city services and events, as well as city projects that have significance to Portage citizens. The newsletter is published monthly and delivered to every mailbox in the 49002 and 49024 zip codes.

This month’s front and back cover photo features Lexington Green Park.

PORTAGER Editor  
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