



# OCTOBER 2026 NEWSLETTER



## GENERAL ELECTION - NOVEMBER 3, 2026



The General Election will be held Tuesday, November 3, 2026. Polls will be open from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM. Portland voters may also take advantage of early voting or vote by absentee ballot. More information is available by scanning the QR Code.

Voters are encouraged to verify their registration, view their sample ballot, and confirm their polling location before Election Day. For election information, including voter registration, polling locations, absentee voting, and ballot tracking, visit [Michigan.gov/Vote](https://Michigan.gov/Vote).



## FALL LEAF REMOVAL

To help us serve you better:

- Place leaves in long, narrow rows at the curb.
- Keep limbs, branches, rocks, and animal waste out of piles (they won't be picked up if contaminated).
- Leaves may also be placed in paper yard waste bags or self-hauled to the compost pile at Bogue Flats.
- Burning brush or leaves is prohibited under the Refuse Ordinance.

The last day for loose leaf pickup will be Monday, December 1.  
Please have leaves at the curb by 7:00 AM that day.

After December 1, only paper yard waste bags will be collected.



## PORTLAND COMMUNITY FUND NEWS



### Annual Coat Drive & Community Events

The Annual Coat Drive runs Friday, October 3 through Friday, October 17 at Bill's Party Store (1153 E. Grand River, Portland). We're collecting clean, usable coats, snow pants, hats, mittens, gloves, and boots; *especially children's* sizes. Nonperishable food donations are also welcome. (Please, no general clothing or garage sale items.)

*The Coat Giveaway will be held Saturday, October 18, 10:00 AM until 1:00 PM at St. Andrews Lutheran Church (8867 Kent St.). Outerwear is available to anyone in need.*

Other upcoming events:

- PCFA Fundraiser – Thursday, October 9 at 6:00 PM at The Port (143 Kent St.) with live music by Clique Vocals, wine, food, and fun.

### Christmas Giving Program

Applications will be available October 1st for families in the Portland School District needing assistance—or for those who know someone in need. Applications can be found at City Hall, Portland Food Bank, or online at [portlandcommunityfund.org](https://portlandcommunityfund.org). Applications are due Monday, November 2nd.

### Fundraising

All donations directly support residents of the Portland School District. To contribute, send a check to Portland Community Fund Association, PO Box 524, Portland, MI 48875, or visit [portlandcommunityfund.org](https://portlandcommunityfund.org) to give via PayPal, one-time donation, or monthly gift. Payroll deduction options are also available. Connect with us on Facebook and Twitter for updates.

**Thank you for your support – Neighbors Helping Neighbors!**

## WINTER PARKING BAN - BEGINS NOVEMBER 1ST



To help City crews safely clear snow and ensure emergency vehicles can travel easily, the annual winter parking ban goes into effect November 1, 2026.

Per City Ordinance, no parking is allowed on any City street between 2:00 AM and 6:00 AM Beginning November 1, 2026, the Police Department will issue warnings for a two-week grace period. After that, vehicles parked in violation will be ticketed.

If you have questions, please contact the Police Department at (517)647-4111.

# PARKS, RECREATION, AND CEMETERY

**WINTER SPORTS REGISTRATION** - Will Open on October 1  
Visit [portlandmi.recdesk.com](http://portlandmi.recdesk.com) to sign up.

- **1ST/2ND GRADE BASKETBALL:** Both a girls league and a boys league are available. Season begins in early January and runs through the middle of February. Teams will practice one night a week and play games on Saturday mornings. Practice days and times will not be established until the December coaches' meeting. Deadline: Mon, Dec. 1 - Cost: \$55 to \$80 depending on residency
- **DK/K BASKETBALL:** Leagues will take place in March. There are two available options: Mondays and Wednesdays OR Tuesdays and Thursdays. Teams will practice and scrimmage each hour-long session. Deadline: Mon, Feb 1 - Cost: \$45 to \$70 depending on residency
- **ADULT BASKETBALL:** Games are played on Sundays at Portland High School. There are leagues for both men and women. The four men's divisions available range from A (upper) to D (lower). League play will begin in early December and run into February. Player fees MUST BE paid before first game. Deadline: Mon, Nov 9 - Cost: Team Fee (\$500) + Player Fees (\$20 to \$30 depending on residency)



## TRICK-OR-TREATING

Halloween, Saturday,  
October 31, 2026

6:00 - 8:00 PM



### FALL CEMETERY CLEANUP REMINDER

Cemetery staff will begin fall cleanup on October 1. During this time, urns will be emptied. Flowers that are securely placed and in good condition will be left, while those that are loose or weather-worn will be removed.

Families are welcome to place Grave Blankets starting November 1. Please remember they will need to be removed by April 1 to allow for spring maintenance.

For the safety of visitors and staff, we kindly ask that glass vases, urns, or other glass containers not be used. If you have any questions, we're happy to help—please call (517) 647-7985.



## CITY MEETING SCHEDULE

- **City Council** meets at City Hall the first and third Monday of each month at 7:00PM. City Council members are Mayor Joel VanSlambrouck, Mayor Pro-Tem Patrick Fitzsimmons, Cena Schneider, Barney Boyer
- **Downtown Development Authority (DDA)** meets at City Hall on the fourth Monday of each month at 7:00PM.
- **Portland Area Fire Authority** meets at City Hall on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00PM.
- **Zoning Board of Appeals** meets at City Hall on the second Monday of the month as needed at 7:00PM.
- **Planning Commission** meets at City Hall on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00PM.
- **Parks Board** meets at City Hall on the third Thursday of each month at 5:30PM.
- **Board of Light & Power** meets at the Electric Department on the last Tuesday of each month at 4:00PM.

## CONTACT US!

City of Portland  
259 Kent St., Portland, MI 48875  
[www.portland-michigan.org](http://www.portland-michigan.org)  
Phone: (517) 647-7531  
Fax: (517) 647-2938  
Hours: M-F, 8:00AM-4:30PM

|                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Assessor          | (517) 647-2943 |
| Ambulance         | (517) 647-2935 |
| Cemetery & Parks  | (517) 647-7985 |
| City Clerk        | (517) 647-3211 |
| City Hall         | (517) 647-7531 |
| City Manager      | (517) 647-2931 |
| Code/Zoning       | (517) 647-2931 |
| DDA               | (517) 647-5027 |
| Electric          | (517) 647-6912 |
| Fire/Burn Permits | (517) 647-4111 |

|                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| Fire/Business    | (517) 647-2950 |
| Income Tax       | (517) 647-2941 |
| Police (Records) | (517) 647-2934 |
| Police (NonER)   | (517) 647-7521 |
| Recreation       | (517) 647-3207 |
| Streets          | (517) 647-6129 |
| Wastewater       | (517) 647-6926 |
| Water            | (517) 647-2948 |
| Treasurer        | (517) 647-2933 |
| Utility Billing  | (517) 647-3205 |