

# BC WORKS!

## The City of Battle Creek's Department of Public Works Newsletter

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#### Contact us:

City of Battle Creek  
Department of Public Works  
150 S. Kendall St., Battle Creek, MI 49037  
269-966-3507  
<https://battlecreekmi.gov/publicworks>



### Check out What's New at Claude Evans Park

If you haven't been to the City of Battle Creek's Claude Evans Park in the past year, you are missing out! The Wet Safari Splash Pad opened to the public in 2021. The splash pad idea was initiated by neighborhood and community groups, and the splash pad construction and equipment were funded by donations. The City would like to extend a BIG thank you to all those that made this project happen.

Claude Evans Park, located at 320 Washington Avenue North, has a number of amenities for residents and visitors to enjoy. The 5.5 acre park has a baseball field, basketball courts, a playground and a pavilion. The Splash Pad normal hours of operation are 10:00 am to 8:00 pm beginning Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend. There will be a Community Conversation at Claude Evans Park this spring to discuss additional improvements to the park. For more information, contact the City at **(269) 966-3311** or [publicinput@battlecreekmi.gov](mailto:publicinput@battlecreekmi.gov)

To learn more about all the City of Battle Creek's parks, playgrounds and trails, visit:

<https://www.bcparks.org/27/Parks-Trails>

# Battle Creek is "Tree City USA" for 21st Year



The City of Battle Creek has been recognized by the Arbor Day Foundation as a "Tree City USA" for the 21st consecutive year. Cities must meet certain criteria to qualify each year. In 2020, only 128 communities were certified in Michigan and 3,676 were recognized nationally.

A total of 55 trees were planted on City property in 2021. If you are interested in volunteering to help with tree planting in the City, call (269) 966-3355 ext. 1878 for opportunities.



## Solid Waste Collection Reminders

City residents receiving solid waste services have the option of renting carts from Republic Services for trash (black lid) and yard waste (brown lid) for \$39/yr for one (and an additional \$30/yr for each additional cart) or they can use their own garbage and yard waste containers. To rent a 96-gallon, wheeled cart, call Republic Services at (269) 216-8008. If a customer chooses to use personal garbage and yard waste containers, they must meet the following guidelines:

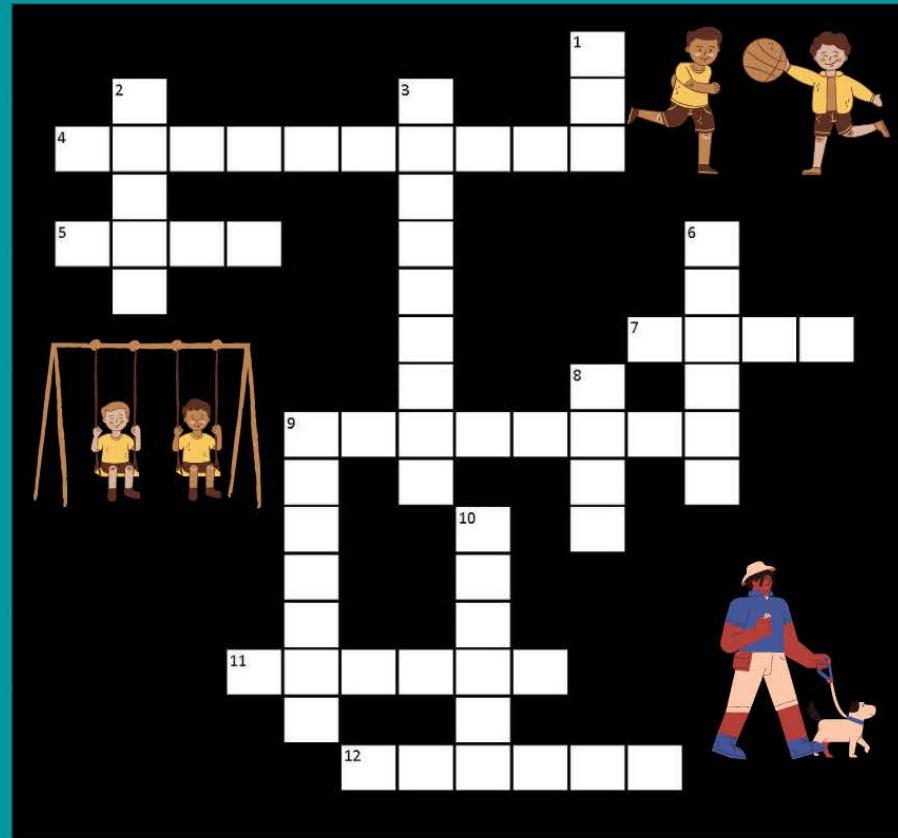
- Containers must be between 20 - 32 gallons and constructed of substantial plastic, metal or fiberglass with a tightly fitting lid and handles.
- Containers must be portable, watertight and vermin-proof.
- Containers must have a top diameter greater than or equal to that of the base.
- Garbage and other refuse, except materials intended for recycling and yard waste, may be deposited in sealed plastic bags.
- Personal yard waste containers must be clearly marked **"Yard Waste Only."** Free stickers are available at the Department of Public Works, 150 S. Kendall Street, Battle Creek.
- Yard waste can also be placed in biodegradable paper yard waste bags. Brush and twigs may be put in bundles no longer than 4' in length and 1' in diameter. Do not put yard waste in plastic bags.
- Full personal containers can weigh no more than 50 lbs.
- Full rented carts can weigh no more than 250 lbs.

**Weight restrictions are for the safety of the waste haulers.**

Recycling carts are available at no additional charge to single family residences and additional recycling carts can be rented for \$39/yr. The carts with the light blue lids can ONLY be used for recycling. To request or rent a recycling cart call (269) 216-8008. **Recycling carts used for trash or yard waste will be tagged and removed to minimize contamination of the recycling load.**



## BC Works Puzzle - Battle Creek Area Parks and Playgrounds



### ACROSS

4 Anybodies \_\_\_\_\_

5 \_\_\_\_\_ Run Dog Park

7 Mill \_\_\_\_\_ Park

9 \_\_\_\_\_ Park & Nature Preserve

11 Historic \_\_\_\_\_ Park

12 Fort \_\_\_\_\_ State Park

### DOWN

1 Splash \_\_\_\_\_

2 Flash \_\_\_\_\_ Park

3 \_\_\_\_\_ Bend Park

6 \_\_\_\_\_ Evans Park

8 Binder \_\_\_\_\_ Zoo

9 \_\_\_\_\_ Beach Park

10 \_\_\_\_\_ Brook Park

\*Visit <https://www.bcparks.org/27/Parks-Trails> for some helpful hints!

### BLACK lid Garbage ONLY



### BROWN lid Yard Waste ONLY



### LIGHT BLUE lid Recycling ONLY



**May 23-27:** Republic Services Curbside Spring Cleanup

**Sept. 12-16:** Republic Services Curbside Fall Cleanup

This service is only for those living inside Battle Creek city limits. For a list of accepted items, visit:

<https://www.bewater.org/garbage-yard-waste/>

# 2022 RECYCLING COLLECTIONS AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVENTS

## Polystyrene #6 (Styrofoam) Recycling

### ACCEPTED:

- ✓ Egg cartons, take-out food containers, meat trays, drink cups, disposable coolers and packing materials. All materials must be clean and dry.
- ✓ Pre-sort items into food containers and coolers/packing material to help volunteers process materials more quickly.

### NOT ACCEPTED:

- ✗ Packing peanuts, insulation sheets, flexible foam wrap



### Department of Public Works

150 S. Kendall St.



Saturday, March 19  
8 - 11 a.m.

Saturday, May 7  
8 - 11 a.m.

Saturday, Sept. 10  
9 a.m. - noon

## Scrap Tire Recycling

### ACCEPTED TIRES:

- ✓ Lawn mower; Residential passenger vehicles (cars/trucks); Semi tires; Motorcycle tires

### NOT ACCEPTED:

- ✗ Tractor tires; Tires with rims; NO COMMERCIAL TIRES

Residents are allowed a maximum of 10 tires per visit.

### Department of Public Works

150 S. Kendall St.



Wednesday, March 23  
3 - 6 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 5  
3 - 6 p.m.

## Electronics Recycling

### ACCEPTED:

- ✓ Computers, Computer equipment, Laptops, LCD monitors, CRT monitors, Printers, Wires and cords, Computer peripherals, Copy/fax machines, Audio-visual equipment, Plasma televisions, LCD televisions, Tube televisions, Game consoles, Stereo equipment, Lamps, Small kitchen appliances and electronics,

### NOT ACCEPTED:

- ✗ Large household appliances and those containing Freon.

Calhoun County Event: Bailey Park  
1350 Capital Ave. NE, Battle Creek



Thursday, April 14

noon - 5:30 p.m.

\*Also batteries, scrap metal

### Calhoun County Event: Ketchum Field

1203 E. North St., Albion



Thursday, June 30  
noon - 5:30 p.m.

\*Also scrap metal

### Department of Public Works

150 S. Kendall St.



Saturday, Sept. 10  
9 a.m. - noon

\*Also batteries

## Other Events



### Earth Day/Linear Park Cleanup

April 18-24



### Kanoe the Kazoo Paddling Event

Saturday, August 6



### Krazy for the Kazoo River Cleanup

Saturday, October 1, 9 - 11 am

Pre-registration is required.

Visit: [bcwater.org](http://bcwater.org) or contact Bessie Stears at [bestears@battlecreekmi.gov](mailto:bestears@battlecreekmi.gov) or **(269) 966-3355 ext. 1889** for more information.

**\*All events are subject to change due to Covid restrictions.**

For an updated listing, visit, [bcwater.org/events](http://bcwater.org/events).

# Where does your Wastewater go?

Do you know where the water from your sinks, tubs and toilets goes after it leaves your house? That "wastewater" flows from your home via underground pipes, which connect to the City's sanitary sewer system. All those underground pipes (414 miles of sanitary sewer mains) eventually lead to the City's wastewater treatment plant, located at 2000 W. River Road. At the wastewater treatment plant, the water goes through a multi-step treatment process before the treated water is released back to the Kalamazoo River. To keep our system flowing smoothly, please remember to **never flush anything but water, human waste and toilet paper down your drain**. Paper towels, rags, dental floss and those "flushable" wipes are **not** meant to be flushed and can cause clogs in the sewers, resulting in costly overflows and property damage.

The water that flows off roads and parking lots during rain storms travels to the storm sewer system. That water is **NOT** treated at the wastewater treatment plant, but rather flows untreated directly to local lakes, rivers and wetlands.

The graphic ([www.EnviroSight.com](http://www.EnviroSight.com)) below provides a good overview of a municipal sanitary sewer system.



# Getting the Lead Out of Battle Creek's Drinking Water Service Lines

There are approximately 19,300 water services (lines that go from the water main into the home) in the City, and the Water and Engineering Divisions in the Department of Public Works are working to **get the lead out** - and to meet all other requirements of the revised Lead & Copper Rule of the Safe Drinking Water Act. We currently have records that indicate approximately 4,600 services contain lead and will need to be replaced. Services made of galvanized pipe will also be replaced as they may have been connected to a lead service line at an earlier time. The Lead & Copper Rule requires water systems to replace any galvanized piping downstream of lead piping to remove any lead particles that may have moved into the galvanized pipe.

The Water Division continues to do lead and copper sampling within assigned homes to monitor for the presence of lead in the water we provide to our customers. The results of this year's sampling are once again well below the action levels (the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow). The measured level for lead in the City's water was at 3 parts per billion (ppb) while the action level is currently 15 ppb. The measured concentration of copper was detected at 0.6 parts per million (ppm), also well below the action level of 1.3 ppm.



**A** **CCTV Inspection Crawler** travels through sewer mains and interceptors, performing detailed inspections with a camera head that pans and tilts.

**B** **Zoom Assessment Camera** rapidly assesses manhole and pipeline condition quickly using powerful illumination and zoom optics.

**C** **Push Camera** inspects small-diameter lines like laterals, and is delivered manually via clean-outs.

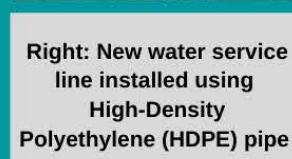
**D** **Video Inspection Nozzle** propelled by jetted water, it allows a sewer cleaning crew to quickly assess pipes post-cleaning to determine whether they need additional maintenance or repair.

One of the requirements of the Lead & Copper Rule is a complete inventory of the service line material that was used for homes in Battle Creek. Records indicate what most of the service lines within the right of way are made of, but determining what material is used for the private property portion of the service line presents a challenge, as oftentimes records were not kept of what plumbing contractors used for that section.

The City is currently going through a process to determine what material is on both the City's side and the customer's side by excavating on both sides of the curb box (the valve in the front yard). We will also need to identify the material that enters into the homes to satisfy the State of Michigan's requirements.



**Left: Typical water service line at the curb box showing copper pipe on the City side and galvanized pipe on the customer's side**



**Right: New water service line installed using High-Density Polyethylene (HDPE) pipe**

Service line information and our progress will be reported annually in the *Consumers Confidence Report* (CCR) that is published before July 1 each year. We will be reporting up-to-date numbers in the CCR. You can view current and past CCRs at the following link:

[www.battlecreekmi.gov/WaterQualityReports](http://www.battlecreekmi.gov/WaterQualityReports)

If you know that you have a lead water service line, please take the appropriate actions to minimize the amount of lead that may be in your water. Our water treatment process for corrosion control is extremely effective in preventing lead and copper from entering the water, however, taking a few extra steps as a consumer helps even more. Please visit the State's website for much more information on lead and copper in drinking water at:

[https://www.michigan.gov/egle/0,9429,7-135-3313\\_3675\\_76638--,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/egle/0,9429,7-135-3313_3675_76638--,00.html)

# Streetlight Out?

## Report it Online in Three Easy Steps

A well-lit community is a safer community. Keeping our employees, customers and the environment safe is the foundation for all we do.

Consumers Energy's streetlight outage reporting tool makes reporting streetlight outages from your phone or your desktop computer easier than ever.

### How to Report Streetlight Outages

If you see a streetlight out or malfunctioning in one of the 900+ Michigan communities we serve, report it in three easy steps:

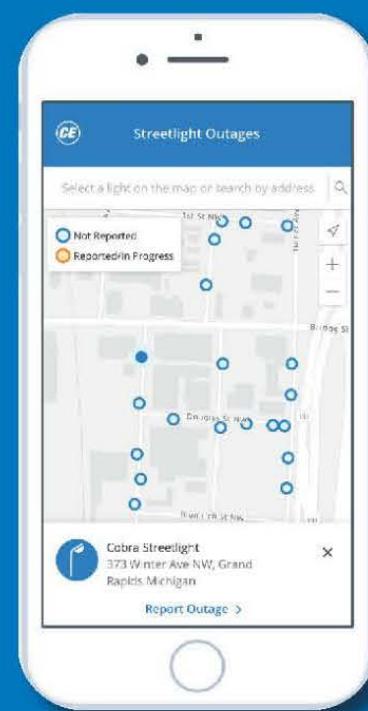
1. Visit [streetlights.consumersenergy.com](http://streetlights.consumersenergy.com).
2. Locate the streetlight on the map by street address or panning and zooming on the map.
3. Tell us what you're seeing. Provide as much detail as you can.

Check the map anytime for status updates and to see other streetlight outages in your area.

### Tips for a Better Outage Reporting Experience

- The tool isn't compatible with Internet Explorer 11 or below.
- We suggest using Microsoft Edge, Google Chrome or Safari.

[streetlights.consumersenergy.com](http://streetlights.consumersenergy.com)



For quick access to the tool,  
scan the QR code

Report a street light out by phone: Call 800-477-5050

# CONSTRUCTION SEASON 2022

Pending approval from the City Commission, the Engineering Division is preparing the following projects to be completed during the 2022 construction season.

The following roads will be **Chip sealed**:

- Central St – Emmett St to Pleasantview Dr
- Pleasantview Dr – Central St to Orchard Ave
- Chestnut St – Emmett St to Pleasantview Dr
- Woodmer Ln – Chestnut St to Merwood Dr E
- Crest Dr – Merwood Dr E to Orchard Ave
- Crest Ln – Crest Dr to end
- Laurel Dr – Chestnut St to East Ave N
- Orchard Ave – Emmet St to Curtis Ave
- Merwood Dr E – Chestnut St to N McKinley Ave
- Clinton Dr – Emmett St to Laurel Dr
- Clinton Dr E – Clinton Dr to Laurel Dr
- W Pitman Ave – Clinton Dr E to East Ave N
- N McKinley Ave – Emmett St to Lindsey St
- Hunter St – N McKinley Ave to East Ave N
- Morley St – Laurel Dr to end
- Garrison Rd – Pleasantview Dr to E Roosevelt Ave
- Cornell Dr – Orchard Ave to East Ave N
- Curtis Ave – Orchard Ave to N McKinley Ave
- Lindsey St – Garrison Rd to N McKinley Ave
- Beacon Ridge Dr – East Ave N to end



What is **Chip seal**? Inexpensive, effective method to extend pavement life, by applying small chips in a liquid asphalt. The road is swept to remove dust, a liquid layer is sprayed onto the road, and chips are applied and rolled over.

The following roads will be **Resurfaced**:

- Pleasantview Dr – Orchard Ave to East Ave N
- Woodward Ave – Capital Ave NE to Bryant St
- Sanderson St – Capital Ave NE to Emmett St
- Convis St – Capital Ave NE to Emmett St
- Washington Ave – Michigan Ave W to Goodale Ave
- Kedzie Ct – Orient St to Upton Ave
- Spring St – Meachem Ave to Upton Ave
- Mint St – Meachem Ave to Washington Ave
- W Fountain St – Meachem Ave to Caroline St
- Plantain St – Meachem Ave to Capital Ave SW
- Elder St – Meachem Ave to Capital Ave SW
- Sumac St – Meachem Ave to Capital Ave SW
- M-37 – Dickman Rd to Creekview Dr
- Highland Ave – Columbia Ave to Territorial Rd
- Kelwood Ln – Honey Ln to Honey Ln
- Honey Ln – Sunnyside Dr to end
- Buckner Dr – south end to north end
- Logistics Dr – Skyline Dr to end



What is **Resurfacing**? A quick process in which 1.5 to 2 inches are milled off the top, enough to remove defects, after which a new layer of asphalt is laid. Prior to road work crews will also perform lead service line replacement.



The following roads will receive **Crack Fill treatment**:

- Van Buren St – Washington Ave to Division St
- Goguac St – Carl Ave to Capital Ave
- Kendall St – Dickman Rd to Vanburen St
- Hamlin Ave – Washington Ave to Division St
- Helmer Rd – Gethings Rd to Columbia Ave
- Garrison Ave – Pleasantview Ave to Roosevelt Ave
- 20th St – City Limit (about 360' south of Industrial Park Dr.) to Michigan
- 20th St – Columbia Ave to Goguac St

The following locations will receive **Water Main and Storm Sewer Replacement**:

- Lakeview Ave – LaVista Blvd to Foster Ave
- Foster Ave – Surby Ave to Columbia Ave

The following location will receive **Sanitary Sewer Replacement**:

- Sisson Ave from Riverside Dr to end (Sanitary)

The following roads will be **Reconstructed**:

- 6th Ave – Helmer Rd to end
- Armstrong Rd – Matt Urban Dr to William Shafter Circle W

**Water Main Extension:**

- Helmer Rd from North of I-94 to Beckley Rd
- Beckley Rd from Helmer Rd to Minges Rd

This work will allow City to service additional neighborhoods while also creating a loop that will help keep residents in service in the event of a break

As the construction season nears, impacted neighbors will be notified by the project personnel of the anticipated timelines. Neighbors along these routes may encounter team members performing maintenance and inspections prior to projects beginning. This could include activities like tree trimming, valve exercising, lead service line replacement and sewer inspection.

## Meet City Engineer Jarret Geering P.E., STSC

Jarret is an experienced Civil Engineer with a Bachelor's degree focused in Civil Engineering from Western Michigan University and a demonstrated history of working in the civil engineering industry. Skilled in AutoCAD, Drainage, Leadership, Civil Engineering, and Construction Management.



Welcome Jarret to the City of Battle Creek!

Questions/concerns should be forwarded to Jarret Geering, City Engineer, at (269) 966-3343 or by email at [jtgeering@battlecreekmi.gov](mailto:jtgeering@battlecreekmi.gov)

Customers can also get information on these projects by signing up for alerts here:

<https://www.battlecreekmi.gov/notifyme>

To view the **2022 Street Treatments Map** go to [battlecreekmi.gov/publicworks](http://battlecreekmi.gov/publicworks), click on "Engineering", and scroll to "Road Surface Treatments."



## Looking for a Rewarding Career? Join Our Team!

### Is a career in public works right for you?

#### Ask yourself the following questions:

- Do you feel a responsibility to improve your community's quality of life and protect the environment at the same time?
- Do you want to do something with your life that makes a difference to others?
- Can you make tough choices and put in the hours preparing for a career in a technical or professional discipline?



If your answer is **YES**, there are many interesting choices and combinations to explore. The City of Battle Creek's Department of Public Works offers exciting careers for:

• Laborers	• Electricians
• Equipment Operators	• Scientists
• Engineers	• Foremen
• Office Administrators	• Managers
• Mechanics	• And more!
• Plant Operators	



Many of these positions come with on-the-job training and excellent municipal wage and fringe benefits in addition to opportunities for personal and professional growth. A career in public works provides many rewarding opportunities to earn the respect of others while keeping communities safe and healthy places for everybody.

**Look for openings with our team at:**  
<https://www.battlecreekmi.gov/jobs>