



CITY OF BERKLEY NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2022 | www.berkleymich.org | (248) 658-3300 | Facebook: [@CityofBerkley](https://www.facebook.com/CityofBerkley)



MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER

Matthew Baumgarten

Happy April Berkley!

April also brings us even closer to completing our annual budget reviews for the new fiscal year which begins on July 1, 2022, and ends on June 30, 2023. City Council will be scheduling their budget work sessions in May and we encourage you to attend these meetings to learn about all the exciting initiatives and projects we have budgeted for the upcoming year.

Lastly, I would like to use this opportunity to encourage you to check out our stormwater management tips courtesy of our Environmental Advisory Committee by visiting our city webpage www.berkleymich.org/stormwatermanagement.

Berkley is no stranger to thunderstorms and heavy rainfall this time of year and we as a City are taking steps to limit and mitigate basement backups as much as possible. In addition to these stormwater management tips, we recommend that residents consider a backwater valve installation which can aid in ensuring floods and sewage do not come back up into your basement. We even have a Backwater Valve Permit Fee Reimbursement Request Form for homeowners that can be found under our Community Development permits page at www.berkleymich.org/permits.

As the weather gets warmer everything gets busier. It is good to see neighbors out and about again after a long and cold winter. It is exciting because it means that we are one month closer to the kick-off of event season here in Berkley, and this year, we are certainly in full swing again. Stay tuned for those details coming next month! Or, check out our latest issue of the [Berkley Buzz](#).

Have a great month and stay safe,
Matt

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Baumgarten". The signature is stylized and fluid.

STRAIGHT FROM THE CLERK'S OFFICE

(248) 658-3310 | Email: clerk@berkleymich.net | Monday - Friday (8:30 AM - 5:00 PM, *closed for lunch from 1-2 PM*)

2022 Elections ... #BerkleyVotes

The City of Berkley will be holding an election for Berkley Public Schools on **May 3, 2022**.

To learn more about the district's millage proposal, please contact Berkley Public Schools. Six precinct locations will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., or residents may request an absentee ballot.

The Clerk's Office will also hold additional hours for **election purposes ONLY** from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 30, 2022.

ADDITIONAL ELECTION DATES

The State Primary Election will take place on **August 2, 2022**.

The Clerk's Office will hold additional hours for **election purposes ONLY** from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, July 30, 2022.

For all election-related needs contact the Clerk's Office by calling 248-658-3310 or via email at clerk@berkleymich.net.

Learn more about voting in Berkley at www.berkleymich.org/vote.



FINANCE UPDATE

(248) 658-3310 | Email: treasury@berkleymich.net | Monday - Friday (8:30 AM - 5:00 PM, *closed for lunch from 1-2 PM*)

City Sidewalk Program

The 2021 Sidewalk Program replacements have been completed. If there are any sidewalk payment questions, they can be directed to the Finance Office by calling (248) 658-3349.

Property Taxes

Delinquent property tax questions can be directed to the Treasurer's Office at (248) 858-0611.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

(248) 658-3320 | Email: building@berkleymich.net | Monday - Friday (8:30 AM - 5:00 PM, *closed for lunch from 1-2 PM*)



It's Home Improvement Season!

Friendly reminder to residents to not forget to include building permits and zoning certificates in their plans.

All information on the City of Berkley's building permits can be found at www.berkleymich.org/permits.

For additional questions, contact the Building Department at 248-658-3320 or via email at building@berkleymich.net.

BERKLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

(248) 658-3440 | www.berkley.lib.mi.us | Facebook: [@BerkleyPublicLibrary](https://www.facebook.com/BerkleyPublicLibrary)



Berkley Public Library Hours

Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

In-Person Programming Returns to the Library!

The month of April brings the return of in-person programming to Berkley Public Library.

We'll hold our first in-person storytimes in the building since March 2020. Join us on Tuesdays in April at 10:30 am in the meeting room for family storytimes. We'll also have a reading buddy adoption program in April and a guessing jar in May.

For teens, we'll have a bee garden kit in April and a guessing jar in May.

An Introduction to Mindfulness Meditation will return in person on April 6. Our Tuesday Afternoon Book Club voted to return in person after meeting on Zoom throughout the pandemic. They'll meet on the second Tuesday of the month at the library. We'll be hosting Earth-Friendly Gardening on April 21 on Zoom. Dale Carlson will give a talk on Kahn's Detroit in person on May 12.

Stay tuned for details on this year's Summer Reading program!

See the latest issue of the [Berkley Buzz](https://www.berkleymich.net/berkleybuzz) or our online program calendar at www.berkleymich.org/library for more details.

PARKS AND RECREATION

(248) 658-3470 | Email: parks@berklemich.net | Facebook: [@BerkleyParksandRec](https://www.facebook.com/BerkleyParksandRec)



The Jaycee Park fundraiser: If They Build It, They Will PLAY! is now live.

The campaign is being offered through the Michigan-based crowdfunding platform Patronicity. If the campaign reaches its **crowdfunding goal of \$50,000 by May 9**, the project will win a matching grant with funds made possible by MEDC's Public Spaces Community Places program. For project details and to donate, please visit:

www.patronicity.com/jayceepark.

An inclusive playground is one in which children and adults of all abilities can interact with each other and do what everyone wants to do: PLAY. Inclusive play goes beyond the required ADA accessibility requirements to create play experiences that meet a variety of needs and interests.

These environments are sensory-rich and enable children to develop physically, socially, and emotionally. Inclusive playgrounds are engaging places that provide the just-right level of challenge and offer opportunities to succeed. Inclusive playgrounds also allow adults of varying ages and abilities to actively engage with children in their care.

There are several play elements that we plan to have as part of this park design. Below are a number of those elements:

- Zip Krooz –Double Track Line with accessible swing
- We-Go-Round spinner
- Cozy Dome
- Friendship Swing and other accessible swings

Our capital funding will provide for a number of these elements, but we want to be able to create the best design with the most engaging play area we can.



Thank you to everyone who has already donated! If you have any questions please contact the Parks & Recreation Department directly at 248-658-3470.

BERKLEY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

(248) 658-3335 | Email: museum@berkleymich.net | Facebook: [@BerkleyHistoricalMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/BerkleyHistoricalMuseum)

Latest Issue of The Museum Corner is Now Available!

The Berkley Historical Committee has published the latest issue of its new quarterly newsletter: The Museum Corner.

It contains articles about Berkley's history and the museum's holdings and news.

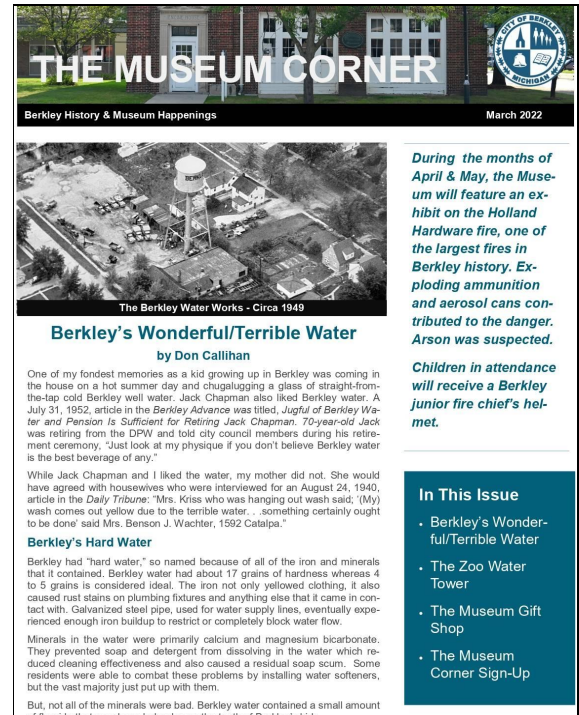
The newsletter will be available electronically on both the website and Museum's Facebook page. Paper copies are also available at the library, museum, and city hall.

Museum Exhibit: The Holland Hardware Fire

During the months of April and May, the Museum will be featuring an exhibit on the Holland Hardware fire, one of the largest fires in Berkley history.

Exploding ammunition and aerosol cans contributed to the danger. Arson was suspected.

Children in attendance will receive a Berkley junior chief's helmet!



Learn more about the Historical Museum at www.berkleymich.org/museum.

PUBLIC WORKS SEASONAL REMINDERS

(248) 658-3490 | Email: publicworks@berkleymich.net | Hours: Monday - Friday (7 AM - 3:30 PM)



Public Works Office Renovations

Starting in April, the DPW will be undergoing a major renovation project in the area near the main garage. Note the current office area will remain in place during construction and residents can visit the facility as normal. The construction project is expected to be completed in the Summer of 2022.

Yard Waste Collection

Yard waste collection information, including the full schedule, is posted on the City website at www.berkleymich.org/yardwaste. Free pickup of yard bags or labeled cans (50 lbs. limit) starts the first full week of April (April 5) and runs through December 16.

Chipper Service


Branch chipper service runs once a month starting the 3rd Monday of each month at 7 AM (weather permitting). **The chipper service is for branches over 4' in length and over 2" in diameter.** Residents should continue to contact the DPW if chipper service is needed at 248-658-3490. ***Please note, it often takes a full week to get through the entire City.***

Berkley Chipper Route Service


This service is for branches specifically **OVER 4 feet** in length and **OVER 2 inches** in diameter.
HOW TO ENSURE YOU HAVE THE CORRECT SIZE BRANCHES

This

About half the height of a Berkley garage is 4' (standard garages are approximately 7').




AND



That

The diameter of the top of a soda can is 2 inches.



Sewer System and Catch Basin Reminders

With Spring upon us, it's a good time to revisit some important points regarding our sewer system:

1. The City of Berkley has a combined sewer system meaning flow from the homes and stormwater from the street occupy the same pipe in the right-of-way. During heavier rain events, there may be temporary ponding in the road near catch basins. This is normal and moderates flow into the underground system. Please contact the DPW if you have any questions.
2. To assist with proper roadway drainage, residents and landscaping contractors shall not blow or place grass clippings in the street.
3. We encourage all homeowners to have their private sewer lateral lines regularly inspected by a licensed plumber. A video can also be obtained from a plumber to assess the overall condition of the pipe. Property owners are responsible for the entire lateral from the home up to and including the connection to the City main.



Lead Service Line Replacement Program

www.berkleymich.org/cleanwater

Lead Service Line Replacement Program

The City of Berkley has implemented a lead service line replacement program to meet the new requirements of the State of Michigan. Residents can find out more information by visiting www.berkleymich.org/cleanwater.

The web page provides tips and photos to assist in material identification as well as the next steps if you find a lead pipe. An access agreement was drafted by the City Attorney and will need to be signed by the homeowner before any work begins.

Need a New Trash Bin?

96-gallon trash totes can be purchased from the DPW. These are wheeled cans with attached lids that are dumped mechanically by the City refuse hauler (Tringali). Please contact the DPW for more details at 248-658-3490.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS APRIL MEETINGS

Please visit our [calendar page](#) on our City website for more details and to stay up-to-date with all our boards & commissions.

APRIL 04:

- 7:00 PM - City Council Meeting

APRIL 07:

- 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM - Berkley's DDA Ladies Night OUT Event

APRIL 11:

- 7:00 PM - Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting

APRIL 12:

- 7:00 PM - Historical Committee Meeting

APRIL 13:

- 8:30 AM - Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Board Meeting

APRIL 14:

- 7:00 PM - Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

APRIL 15:

- City Offices & Library Closed In Observance of Good Friday

APRIL 18:

- 4:00 PM - Public Safety Pension Board Meeting
- 7:00 PM - City Council Meeting

APRIL 20:

- 6:30 PM - Tech Advisory Board Meeting
- 7:00 PM - Library Board Meeting

APRIL 21:

- 6:30 PM - Environmental Advisory Board Meeting

APRIL 22:

- City Offices & Library Closed for In-Service Training

APRIL 25:

- 7:00 PM - Tree Board Meeting

APRIL 26:

- 7:00 PM - Planning Commission Meeting

APRIL 27:

- 6:30 PM - Beautification Advisory Commission Meeting

