



CITY OF BERKLEY NEWSLETTER

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



MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER

Matthew Baumgarten

Happy December to you,

As we close out 2022 and look forward to a new year, I hope you look back over the past 12 months with a sense of pride in all that has happened in our community. I know I do.

The dedicated public servants who serve Berkley notched some fantastic victories in the ongoing effort to keep our city awesome.

This year saw the completion and complete overhaul of our Public Works offices, installed new play equipment and walkway in our parks, partnered with Berkley Schools and the Downtown Development Authority on the ArtSpace plaza, completely rebuilt a half-mile section of Kenmore & Cornwall Ave, raised over \$100,000 for the development of an inclusive playground, and completed our 200th road repair project funded by the 2018 Infrastructure millage.

Impressive on its own, what I am most proud of is the investments in the people who make it all possible. I talk a lot about our team for reason. They work hard, they succeed, and they are the biggest reason why we have seen improvements in our standard of living. We were joined by many new faces this year and we were proud to see other, longstanding members of our team take on new leadership roles as well. A great example of this can be found within our Public Works Department (DPW) where we promoted longtime employees to fill our DPW Director and Assistant DPW Director positions. Along with filling two laborer and one administrative positions. Likewise, in our Public Safety Department, we filled eight officer positions, hired two dispatchers, and proudly applauded the promotion of an officer to the rank of Sergeant. In order to better serve Berkley, our Parks and Recreation Department added an employee and also created a position dedicated to creating new events and improving upon the ones we already know and love. As if all those upgrades were not enough, we also overhauled our Community Development Department with a new director, staff in new roles, and the addition of a new staff member to serve all your building, planning, zoning, and code enforcement needs. Whew!!

Lastly, I hope you read my article in the upcoming winter edition of the Berkey Buzz where I talk about ending the "Good enough for Berkey" mentality which asks us to settle for less because of where we live. As you can see, our team is constantly improving, our City is constantly improving, and we should expect nothing less from our community as we move forward in 2023.

In gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Matt Baumgarten".

– Matt Baumgarten

PUBLIC WORKS SEASONAL REMINDERS

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



Winter Is Main Break Season

Our yearly average is near 20 main breaks per year. If residents notice a water main break, we ask that they call public works immediately. Please note that the same crews that clear the roads of ice and snow also perform any water main break repairs. There may be additional time needed for repairs during storm events.

Traveling For The Winter?

We encourage residents that plan to be out of town for the winter months to call us and arrange for a seasonal water turn-off in the winter months. This also limits the possibility of pipes freezing.

Sump Pump Discharge Reminder

In the winter months, sump pump discharges can cause hazardous conditions if they are directed to roadways or sidewalks. Please redirect sump pump discharges to grassy areas when possible.

Lead Service Line Replacement Program

Having safe, clean, healthy drinking water is a top priority for the City. That is why we are asking all residents to submit photos of their water service line near the meter for verification. We are currently replacing lead services based on these photos. You can learn more about the program and submit your photo at www.berkleymich.org/cleanwater.

PUBLIC WORKS SNOW PLOW REMINDERS

We urge residents and businesses to follow the general snowplowing guidelines below:

- Do not push or plow snow into the public street
- Please move parked vehicles off the street during snow events
- Snowplows need "room to groom" - please give road crews ample room to safely clear the streets

SECRET TO AVOIDING THE "SECOND SHOVEL"

As you look at your driveway from the road, clear out the right corner as much as possible.

Place more snow on the left side of the driveway. This will create a place for passing snow from the snow plow to go (instead of the end of your driveway).



FINANCE / TREASURY UPDATE

Finance: (248) 658-3340; Email: finance@berkleymich.net | Treasury: (248) 658-3360; Email: treasury@berkleymich.net |
Monday - Friday (8:30 AM - 5:00 PM, closed for lunch from 1-2 PM)

City Sidewalk Program

The City of Berkley continues to replace the sidewalks around the city that are in the worst condition. While paying to replace sidewalks is never a fun proposition, it makes our city safer for everyone and increases the value of our property at the same time.

When it comes time to pay your sidewalk invoice, please note that our City Council has approved giving residents extra time to pay their bills without added interest fees.

The Fall 2022 Sidewalk Replacement Program was completed and invoices will be generated in early 2023. Those bills can be paid at anytime after they are received. If property owners need additional time to pay the sidewalk bills they can allow the payment to be split between the winter 2023 tax bill and the summer 2024 tax bill as a special assessment.



For more information on the Sidewalk Program visit, www.berkleymich.org/citysidewalks.

HOLIDAY OBSERVANCES



City Offices will be **CLOSED** in observance of the following holidays:

- **Christmas Holiday - Friday (December 23) & Monday (December 26)**
 - Normal hours will resume on Tuesday, December 27, 2022.
 - **NOTE: The Community Center will be closed for the ENTIRE WEEK (Dec. 26 - Dec. 30).**
 - Trash & Recycle collection is **NOT delayed.**
- **New Years' Holiday - Friday (December 30) & Monday (January 2, 2023)**
 - Normal hours will resume on Tuesday, January 3, 2023.
 - Trash & Recycle collection is **NOT delayed.**

If you have any questions or inquiries, the best form of contact is email but if you leave a voice message on the Department line(s), staff will get back to you as soon as possible. Visit our ["Contact Us" page](#) for details.



retro feel. metro appeal.

Merry Month

IN DOWNTOWN BERKLEY

*Join our merry downtown elves for
a month full of merriment!*



SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26TH, 11 AM TO 5 PM

Shop Local in Downtown Berkley! The day features many fun offerings, including shop grand openings, free giveaways, and Merry Elves surprising shoppers with free Berkley swag!



MERRY & BRIGHT SHOPPING NIGHTS

THURSDAYS, 5 TO 9 PM (DECEMBER 1, 8, 15, 22)

Magical late night shopping at participating retailers! Fun features at our charming shops who stay open late for the holiday shopping season, and surprises from our Merry Elves! On the final night, December 22nd, retailers will have turnkey last-minute gifts ready for the procrastinating holiday shoppers (we're looking at you, dudes; yes, you).



ROCKIN' ROBINA BEFORE THE PARADE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3RD, 4 PM TO 5:30 PM

Before the big parade, we've got a downtown block party happening with festive live music, shopping fun, sweet treats, and warming stations on Robina and Griffith along Twelve Mile!



HOLIDAY LIGHTS PARADE DOWNTOWN

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3RD, STARTING AT 5:30 PM

One of the most magical nights of the year! Get your ideal spot along Twelve Mile in Downtown Berkley, enjoy the splendor, spot Santa in the lineup, and visit with him at the Gazebo afterward.



VISIT SANTA CLAUS AT THE LIBRARY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11TH, 10 AM TO 12 PM

The Big Guy returns to Downtown Berkley! Families can join us at the Berkley Public Library for photo opportunities and to share their wish lists. Letters to Santa can be delivered at the North Pole receptacle outside the Library throughout the season, too.

**PLUS! WINTRY LIGHTS
ALONG OUR DOWNTOWN,
FESTIVE STOREFRONTS
& LOCAL GIFT IDEAS**

Get all the deets at

DOWNTOWNBERKLEY.COM/MERRIMONTH



*Follow our elves
on social media for
updates!*





TWELVE HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

- 1** Keep decorations at least three feet away from heat sources – especially those with an open flame, like fireplaces and candles.



- 3** If you have a natural Christmas tree water it to keep it fresh and safe.



- 2** The best decorations are safe decorations, so when you're decorating, make sure not to run cords under rugs or furniture.



- 4** Always turn off your decorations when you leave your home and when you're sleeping.



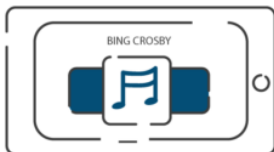
- 5** If you're using extension cords or adapters that add receptacles, consider having a qualified electrician add more outlets to your home.



- 6** Only use electronics in dry areas. As tempting as it is, you just can't decorate your aquarium with icicle lights.



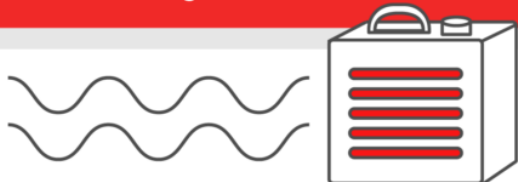
- 7** Remember that phones and tablets should stay on your nightstand.



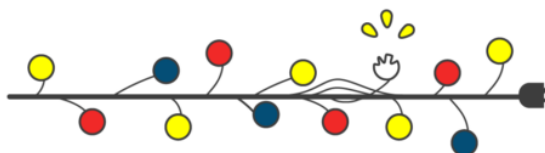
- 8** Every home needs a working smoke alarm in each bedroom, outside sleeping areas and on every level, including the basement.



- 9** If you're using a space heater, switch it off before leaving the room.



- 10** Inspect your decorations and discard any that are damaged or worn out.



- 11** Keep batteries stored safely in their packaging and out of reach from small children and pets.



- 12** The best gift for your family is an Arc-Fault Circuit Interrupter breakers or outlets. Many electrical fires that occur every year could be prevented by AFCIs.



Please share this free resource to save lives

COLD WEATHER EMERGENCY KIT

Items to keep on hand during severe winter weather.

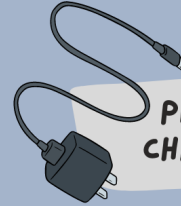
**JUMPER
CABLES**



**FLASHLIGHT WITH
FRESH BATTERIES**



**PHONE
CHARGER**



**EXTRA GLOVES
& HAT**



**FIRST AID
KIT**



**SNOW
SHOVEL**



PREPARE YOUR CAR FOR WINTER

In addition to annual maintenance, here are some tips to winterize your car:

- Test your battery. Battery power drops as the temperature drops.
- Make sure the cooling system is in good working order.
- Have winter tires with a deeper, more flexible tread put on your car.
- If using all-season tires, check the tread on your tires and replace if less than 2/32 of an inch.
- Check your tire pressure. Tire pressure drops as the temperature drops.
- Check your wiper blades and replace if needed.
- Add wiper fluid rated for -30 degrees.
- Keep your gas tank at least half full to avoid a gas line freeze.

Before you head out...

- Clean your car's external camera lenses and side view mirrors so you'll be able to see what's around you.
- Remove dirt, ice, and snow from sensors to allow assistive-driving features like automatic emergency braking to work.
- In frigid weather, you may want to warm up the car before you drive it.
- To prevent carbon monoxide poisoning, never leave a vehicle running in your garage – even with the garage door up.
- If the forecast looks iffy, wait out the storm if possible. If you must travel, share your travel plans and route with someone before you leave.





WINTER SEASON REMINDER: SNOW EMERGENCY ORDINANCE



IT SHALL BE UNLAWFUL FOR A PERSON TO PARK OR LEAVE ANY VEHICLE ON A STREET OR MUNICIPAL PARKING LOT IN THE CITY OF BERKLEY AFTER A SNOW EMERGENCY HAS BEEN DECLARED.

Ordinance Enacted: January 6, 2020

PARK YOUR VEHICLE IN THE DRIVEWAY

Moving off the street ensures your car doesn't get covered in snow.



DPW CAN CLEAR ROADS FASTER

Staying off the roads during a snow emergency optimizes DPW crews' plowing time.

DON'T CROWD THE PLOW ON THE ROAD

Stay at least 100ft away or 3 cars length away.



WATCH FOR DPW PRE-TREATING THE ROADS

DPW coats the road with solvent to ensure the roads don't become icy and freeze.



CLEAR ROADS ARE SAFE ROADS

Clear roads during snow events allow for emergency vehicles to get through more easily.

Learn more at www.berkleymich.org/snowplowing

WiFi Hotspot Lending Program

Available to Berkley cardholders.

Stop by the library or give us a call at 248-658-3440.



Berkley Parks & Recreation
PRESENTS

Winter Fest

Saturday, February 4th
12:00-2:00 PM

The Community Center lawn
2400 Robina

FREE & FUN outdoor activities for the entire family!



BERKLEY PARKS & RECREATION

2023 VACATION CAMP

JANUARY 3-6
FEBRUARY 21-24
MARCH 28-31

@ THE COMMUNITY CENTER
8:45 AM - 5:00 PM
AM/PM Extended available

For pricing and to register:
recreation.berkleymich.org

BERKLEY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

248-658-3335 | Email: museum@berkleymich.net | Website: www.berkleymich.org/museum

Looking For That Perfect Holiday Gift?

This holiday season, consider purchasing a Berkley Historical Museum item!

REFRIGERATOR MAGNETS

****NEW**** The Berkley Historical Museum is offering refrigerator magnets for sale this holiday season. There are six different images. The size is 2x3.5.

Cost? Only \$1.00 each! Or you can get all six for only \$5.00!! Perfect stocking stuffers or a cute thing to include with your holiday cards.

All items are available at the Berkley Public Library, the Berkley Historical Museum, and the City Clerk's Office!

Happy Holidays
from the
Berkley Historical Museum

NEW!

BERKLEY THEATER
BUILT 1941

DOWNTOWN BERKLEY 1948

ROSELAND PARK CEMETERY GATES
ERECTED 1909

BERKLEY THEATER
BUILT 1941

BERKLEY PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING
BUILT c.1927

BERKLEY VILLAGE HALL & FIRE-POLICE STATION
BUILT 1927-1928

Magnets
\$1 each
or
all six for \$5

Christmas Mugs \$10

DECEMBER MEETINGS & EVENTS

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

DECEMBER 01:

- 6:30 PM - Drive-By Santa Parade Celebration (DAY 1)
- 5:00 PM - Merry and Bright Shopping Night

DECEMBER 02:

- 6:30 PM - Drive-By Santa Parade Celebration (DAY 2)

DECEMBER 03:

- 4:00 PM - Rockin Robina Block Party
- 5:30 PM - Holiday Lights Parade

DECEMBER 05:

- 7:00 PM - City Council Meeting

DECEMBER 08:

- 7:00 PM - Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting
- 5:00 PM - Merry and Bright Shopping Night

DECEMBER 11:

- 10:00 AM - Visit Santa at the Berkley Public Library

DECEMBER 12:

- 7:00 PM - Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting

DECEMBER 13:

- 7:00 PM - Historical Committee Meeting

DECEMBER 15:

- 5:00 PM - Merry and Bright Shopping Night

DECEMBER 16:

- 7:00 PM - Library Board Meeting

DECEMBER 14:

- 8:30 AM - Downtown Development Authority Meeting

DECEMBER 19:

- 7:00 PM - City Council Meeting

DECEMBER 20:

- 7:00 PM - Planning Commission Meeting

DECEMBER 22:

- 5:00 PM - Merry and Bright Shopping Night

DECEMBER 24 & DECEMBER 25:

- City Offices & Library Closed in observance of the Christmas Holiday
 - *Note: Trash Collection is **NOT** delayed.*

DECEMBER 28:

- 6:30 PM - Beautification Advisory Commission Meeting

DECEMBER 30 & JANUARY 2, 2023:

- City Offices & Library Closed in observance of the New Years' Holiday
 - *Note: Trash Collection is **NOT** delayed.*

