



STREETS
PARKS
POOL
WATER
WASTEWATER
RECREATION
ENGINEERING
MOTOR POOL

**PUBLIC WORKS &
ENGINEERING/UTILITIES
DEPARTMENT
592-4015**

FEES AND CHARGES

RESIDENTIAL SEWER RATES

Minimum usage is 1,000 gallons at \$4.68 plus any in excess of minimum will be charged an additional \$3.53/1,000 gallons

RESIDENTIAL WATER RATES

5/8" meter - minimum usage is 1,000 gallons at \$5.22 plus all water in excess of minimum usage will be charged an additional \$3.29/1,000 gallons.

The number one cause of high water bills is toilets that continue to run after they are flushed

RESIDENTIAL GARBAGE RATES

\$11.30 per residential unit per month (1 house/1 unit).

The Department of Public Works handles streets, parks, water operations, sewer operations, snow removal and composting.

Some of the things the department handles are listed below.
Streets - Pothole repair, snow removal, sidewalk repair, street lights, picking up dead animals in the street, etc.

Parks - mowing grass, litter removal, flower and tree care. Maintain playgrounds and picnic shelters.

Water Operations - Getting the water from the plant to your tap. Billing is done by the Treasurer's Office (592-4005).

Sewer Operations - Getting the waste water from your house to the treatment plant.

Fall Leaf composting/pick up.

The Engineering/Utilities Department handles the functions of the City Engineering Department and the administration of the water and wastewater treatment plants.

The Engineering Department also handles surveying, including GIS/GPS work, design and inspection of all street and utility improvements, and coordination of utility work with adjoining townships.

Some of the duties handled by the Utilities Department are operation and maintenance of a 5.4 MGD water treatment plant and a 2.4 MGD activated sludge wastewater treatment plant to ensure full compliance with all federal and state laws and rules.

ALL NIGHT WINTER PARKING

In order to permit the city to properly remove all snow and ice from streets during the winter months, no person shall park a vehicle on any street in the city from **November 15 to and including March 1, between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.** Vehicles parked in violation may be ticketed and/or impounded by the Police.



FALL LEAF PICK UP

Fall leaf pick up will begin approximately October 31 and run until approximately November 25. One city-wide pick up will be done, if we have time, we will attempt a second city-wide pick up. Call 592-4015 to check on second pick up.

Please call the Public Works Office or check the "PIONEER" for instructions on how to prepare the leaves.

Prior to October 31 and after November 25, the leaves will have to be bagged and put out for Sunset Waste to pick up on Tuesday. **LEAVES MAY NOT BE PUT INTO PLASTIC BAGS.**

Please place leaves in paper bags (30 gallon bags are available at City Hall and other locations around town). Leaves may also be placed into cans clearly marked "compostible material" or placed in cardboard boxes for pick up.

State law prohibits leaves and other compostibles from being placed into landfills.



DEPARTMENTAL PHONE NUMBERS

592-4015

Parks
Potholes
Snow Removal
Sewer Problems
Leaf Pick up

592-4018

Water Permits
Sewer Permits
Project Inspection
Aerial Photos

796-2425

Recreation Office

796-7798

Community Pool
(June – Aug.)

MORE DEPARTMENTAL PHONE NUMBERS

592-4005

Water Problems
Recycling
Garbage Pick up
Utility Bills

592-4025

City Parking Tickets

592-4030

Assessor's Office

592-4003

City Income Tax

SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

From March 1 – September 30 in the City Parks.
Stop by the City Clerk's Office and fill out an application.
For more information, call 592-4015.

WATER MAIN FLUSHING PROGRAM

The water distribution system should be flushed at least every six months. Using a program that starts at the source and works towards the dead ends contributes to cleaning of the system. The reason water mains are flushed is to remove sedimentation - rust and mineral deposits that have accumulated since the last flushing.

To remove these deposits, a water main should be flushed at a velocity at least six times its normal rate. During this flushing program not all the deposits can be flushed out of the hydrant so during a short period of time a resident can experience rusty or colored water. Normally this condition would only exist for a few hours while the flushing is being completed in your area.

There are several reasons other than flushing that could cause rusty or colored water. This rusty or colored water condition is from using higher than normal velocity in the system. Fire fighting, filling of the street sweeper through the hydrant as well as other hydrant uses could cause this condition to exist. The flushing program is also necessary to check flows for fire fighting and to make repairs as needed on hydrants.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause the user. If you experience rusty or colored water, let the tap run for a few minutes until the water runs clear, do not wash clothes during this period since your clothes may become rusty, do flush the hot water heater to clear out any sedimentation that may have entered the system.

If you have any problems and/or concerns, please contact the water filtration plant at 796-6231.

CITY PARKS

All Big Rapids City parks are available for use on a first come - first served basis. Parks may be reserved only for city-wide functions such as concerts, art fairs, etc. Anyone requesting to reserve a park must come to the Public Services Office and fill out an application and then appear before the Park and Recreation Board. The Board meets the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall. The Park and Recreation Board has the final approval for any reservations. The pavilions at Hemlock and Northend Riverside Parks may be reserved for various functions for a fee of \$50.00. Call 592-4015 for more details.

Alcohol Use in City Parks

The consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages is prohibited in all City parks, except alcohol beverages may be possessed and consumed in Hemlock, Vogel and Industrial Parks from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and from 1:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Glass containers of alcoholic beverages are prohibited at all times in all City parks. A violation of this section shall be a municipal civil infraction.

Hemlock Park

Located at the east end of Hemlock Street and Warren Avenue. Features tennis and basketball courts, softball field, play areas, picnic tables, grills, pavilion, fishing area and a hiking trail.

Mitchell Creek Park

Located at the corner of Pine and State Streets. Features walkways, a bridge, wooden deck, picnic areas and fishing areas.

Northend Riverside Park

Located at the north end of Fourth Avenue. Features 3 pavilions, a picnic area, fishing site, nature trails, cross-country skiing, playground, and horseshoe pits.

Swede Hill Park

Located on the northeast side of town on Baldwin Street. Features a historic marker dedicated to those early Swedish settlers.

River Street Park

Located between the 300 and 600 blocks of River Street. Features baseball diamonds, soccer fields, ice rink, picnic table, grills, a fishing area and a hiking trail.

Library Park

Located beside the Community Library at 428 S. Michigan Avenue. Features the Anna Howard Shaw Memorial sculpture and play area.

Linden Street Park

Located at the corner of Gilbertson and Linden Streets. Features a play area for children.

Community Pool/Park

Located in the 100 block of Hutchinson Street. Features the community swimming and picnic area with grills and a hiking area.

Vogel, Industrial Ballfields

Vogel Field is located south of Colburn Street on the west side of Bronson Avenue. Features softball fields. Industrial fields include areas for softball and soccer. Surrounded by Bjornson, Milton and Catherine Streets.

RIVERWALK

The Riverwalk is a paved linear path running from the Maple Street bridge through Hemlock Park and will then branch off to go across a pedestrian bridge to the east side of the Muskegon River and then north to Swede Hill Park and on to Northend Riverside Park or north on the sidewalk past the middle school onto Osceola Avenue where it rejoins the paved linear path which goes to Hanchett Park..

COMMUNITY POOL

The City of Big Rapids operates the Charles E. Fairman Community Pool from mid June to mid August.

Swimming Lessons are provided at a nominal charge. Lessons are available five days per week for five weeks.

Open Swim is held weekdays when the pool is open from 1:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. and from 7:00 p.m. until 8:45 p.m. Weekend hours are from 1:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

PLEASE DO NOT ENTER THE POOL AT ANY TIME OTHER THAN THOSE POSTED. THE CHEMICALS USED IN THE POOL ARE ADDED AT NIGHT AND CAN BE HAZARDOUS TO YOUR HEALTH.

COMMUNITY RECREATION

The City of Big Rapids Community Recreation Department sponsors the following programs:

Seniorcize - Seniors are invited to exercise sessions at the North End Community Building in Parkview Village. These sessions involve sitting and standing to maintain and improve joint flexibility, range of motion, muscle tone, balance, coordination, concentration and endurance.

Dancercize - Held at the North End Community Building at Parkview Village. This senior program begins with a few warm-up dance routines and progresses to more vigorous dances such as the Jesse Polka and the Virginia Reel then proceeds to a cool-down routine.

Senior Citizen Swim - Held at the FSU Pool. Individuals take part in light aerobic exercises to help improve circulation, muscle tone and flexibility. You do not need to know how to swim to participate.

Adult Open Gym. Basketball for some of Big Rapids' finest. Must be over 30 to participate. This program operates September to March.

Men's & Women's Volleyball - this program runs from September to December. Teams are placed in divisions and come in weekly for some exercise and fun. These leagues run Sunday through Thursday.

Coed Volleyball - This program runs January through April, Sunday through Thursday. Men & women combine to make teams and come in weekly for exercise and fun.

Tai Chi is held at 7:30 a.m. every Tuesday and Thursday from mid September – mid May at City Hall. Cost is \$2.00 per session.

Some of these programs require a fee to participate. Please contact the Community Recreation Coordinator at 796-2425 for more information

GARBAGE PICK UP

Refuse is collected on a weekly basis. Residents are allowed up to four (4) bags of garbage per week. Refuse containers, which must be covered, water tight, rodent and fly proof, can be placed at the curb or alley at 6:00 p.m. the night before collection and must be out no later than 6:00 a.m. the morning of collection. Containers must then be removed from the curb or alley no later than 12:00 midnight on the day of collection.

RECYCLING

Residential recycling occurs every other week. Please check with the Treasurer's Office for dates. A green recycling container is available at City Hall for all residential garbage collection customers.

YARD WASTE

Yard waste will be picked up by Sunset Waste from April 1 to November 30. Yard waste **cannot** be placed in plastic bags. The yard waste and leaves will be picked up if it is in rigid containers such as garbage cans and cardboard boxes or if it is placed in paper bags including grocery bags. Thirty gallon paper bags will be made available for purchase from local merchants and also at city hall. These materials will be picked up on Tuesdays.

CLEAN UP

We will have year-round clean up on the same day as trash pickup. Items will be picked up any time during the year on the regular route. All clean up type materials must be boxed, bagged or bundled, weighing no more than fifty pounds except for the following items:

Appliances: Must be clearly separate from other refuse. **NOTE: Any appliance that once contained HFT or CFC (freon), i.e. refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, must have a certificate from a licensed extractor that the freon was removed prior to collection.**

Miscellaneous steel: Shall be separated from other refuse or placed next to appliances.

Furniture and Carpet: All furniture will be taken. Carpet must be rolled, bundled and cut into lengths of 6 feet or less. These items should be kept dry if possible.

NOTE

Please do not put debris (grass, leaves, sod, dirt) in the street gutter pan. These items can cause the storm sewer to get clogged and flood the street.

RECYCLE DATES 2006

Your recycle day is every other week on your regular garbage day. Questions – call 592-4005.

January

4, 5, 6, 18, 19, 20

February

1, 2, 3, 15, 16, 17

March

1, 2, 3, 15, 16, 17, 29, 30, 31

April

12, 13, 14, 26, 27, 28

May

10, 11, 12, 24, 25, 26

June

7, 8, 9, 21, 22, 23

July

5, 6, 7, 19, 20, 21

August

2, 3, 4, 16, 17, 18, 30, 31

September

1, 13, 14, 15, 27, 28, 29

October

11, 12, 13, 25, 26, 27

November

8, 9, 10, 22, 24, 25

December

6, 7, 8, 20, 21, 22