

THE BIRMINGHAM *Beat*

City of Birmingham Newsletter

VOLUME 31 | NO. 2 | SPRING 2024



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 **BIRMINGHAM**
A WALKABLE CITY

MORE INFORMATION: BHAMGOV.ORG | JOIN OUR MAILING LIST: BHAMGOV.ORG/ENEWS
(248) 530-1800 | 151 MARTIN STREET, BIRMINGHAM, MI 48009

FROM THE CITY MANAGER



Temperatures are unseasonably warm as I write this, indicating a high probability for an early spring. It's wonderful to see friends and neighbors spending more time outdoors, visiting and reconnecting with one another after the cold winter months. As flowers begin to bloom and buds form on trees, it's the perfect time to enjoy the trail system and parks throughout Birmingham.

Spring is also a good time to mark your calendar for community events that are right around the corner. Flip to pages 6-8 for details regarding our annual Department of Public Services Open House, special events at Lincoln Hills and Springdale Golf Courses, the Celebrate Birmingham Hometown Parade, In the Park Summer Concerts, Farmers Market, Movie Nights and more.

Renovations to the Baldwin Public Library are nearly complete following three phases of construction that began in 2017. The third and final phase will be complete mid-April, resulting in a new street-level entrance, café and collaboration space, enclosed study rooms, outdoor terrace, gardens and more. See page 3 for information about the Library Open House and Dedication event set for May 18 from 1-3p.m.

With community event planning well underway, we are also preparing for the start of construction season (see page 11 for details) and the continuation of a busy election year for the Clerk's Office (see page 5 for details). There are a number of recent election law changes in Michigan, and we are grateful to staff

members working hard to ensure a smooth State Primary and General Election later this year.

The City's newly formed Aging in Place Committee distributed a survey to better understand the needs of seniors in Birmingham and how to help them age in place safely, independently and comfortably. The committee is compiling results from more than 570 surveys received so far from community members. We thank those who submitted feedback on this important topic. Survey results will guide the committee as they create a citywide Aging In Place Action Plan. Learn more at bhamgov.org/aginginplace.

Many of you know the City recently formed the Ad Hoc Environmental Sustainability Committee. As the committee works to create a Sustainability and Climate Action Plan, we ask residents to be mindful of changes each one of us can make to help the environment. Page 9 of this newsletter touches on one such change – considering lawn care contractors who use electric equipment – as City crews work to eliminate the use of two-stroke gas powered leaf blowers to reduce emissions, noise and negative environmental impacts. If we all work together, we can better protect the environment now and in the future.

If I can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at jecker@bhamgov.org or (248) 530-1811.

Jana Ecker
CITY MANAGER

WHAT'S *New?*



MICHIGAN'S NEW PERMANENT MAIL BALLOT LIST

Voters can now join Michigan's "permanent mail ballot list" to automatically receive an absentee ballot by mail before every election. Voters on the new list will not receive an application for the ballot – just the ballot when it becomes available approximately 40 days before each election. Learn more about this and the upcoming state primary and general elections on page 5.



INTRODUCING OPENGOV BUDGET SOFTWARE

Do you want to learn more about the City of Birmingham's budget? With new software by OpenGov, residents will enjoy a user-friendly on-line budget book this spring. As always, residents may attend the city's Budget Hearing on Saturday, April 27 at 8:30 a.m. **Keep an eye on bhamgov.org/budget to learn more.**



LIBRARY OPEN HOUSE AND DEDICATION SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2024 300 WEST MERRILL STREET 1-3P.M.; BRIEF REMARKS AT 1:30 P.M.

Celebrate the completion of the Baldwin Public Library Phase 3 Renovations! Hear remarks from the Library Board, see the new public art installation by Wendy Popko, and enjoy live music, appetizers and sweet treats while checking out the new space.



RAINSMART REBATES PILOT PROGRAM

A new initiative of the Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner's office offers rebates of up to \$2,000 per property for installing rain gardens, rain barrels and trees to those who live within the George W. Kuhn Drainage District, which includes some homes in northeast Birmingham. To check your eligibility, learn more and submit an application, visit www.oakgov.com/rainsmart. Rebate funds may not be applied to projects completed in the past, and will be allocated to new installation projects throughout 2024 and 2025 on a first-come, first-served basis.

CONNECT WITH US

» SIGN UP

Visit www.bhamgov.org/enews to sign up for the city newsletter and alerts.



Nixle – Police & Fire Emergency Alerts
Text 48009 to 888777 or visit nixle.com

» EXPLORE

Explore Birmingham virtually at www.birmingham.skywayvr.com.

» FOLLOW

Facebook – City Government of Birmingham, MI

Instagram – @bhamgov

Nextdoor – City of Birmingham

» ENGAGE

Submit feedback at engage.bhamgov.org

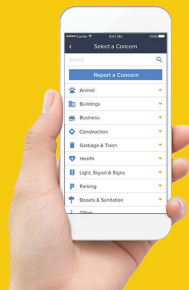
» JOIN

View openings on City boards at bhamgov.org/boardopportunities

» SUBMIT CONCERNS USING GOVALERT

Submit non-emergency concerns directly to the City of Birmingham using the GovAlert Mobile app! Simply download the free app and follow the user-friendly prompts.

Don't want to use the app? That's OK! Submit your request at www.bhamgov.org/citizenrequests



CITY Offices

» ACCESSING CITY HALL - 151 MARTIN STREET

City Hall is open to the public during regular business hours, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. The Police Department lobby entrance on the east side of City Hall on Pierce Street continues to operate as the point of contact for all off-hour requests.

» CONTACT US

www.bhamgov.org/contacts

» CITY MEETINGS

City Commission and other city boards meet in-person, and most have a virtual option available to the public. Learn how to participate in virtual meetings at www.bhamgov.org/participate.

You may also watch many city meetings on your local cable access channel and view live streaming information at www.bhamgov.org/watch



FROM THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

2024 ELECTIONS: DATES TO REMEMBER

August 6 State Primary Election

- Absentee ballots available late June
- Early in-person voting July 27 – August 4

November 5 General Election

- Absentee ballots available late September
- Early in person voting October 26 – November 3

MICHIGAN'S NEW PERMANENT MAIL BALLOT LIST

Voters can now join Michigan's "permanent mail ballot list" to automatically receive an absentee ballot by mail before every election. Voters on the new list will not receive an application for the ballot – just the ballot when it becomes available approximately 40 days before each election.

More than 4,500 Birmingham voters have migrated to the permanent ballot list. This list is different from the permanent absent voter list used in the 2020-2023 elections, which required voters to return an application before receiving an absent voter ballot. Voters on the old list will not automatically be transferred to the new list. If you have not yet joined the permanent mail ballot list and wish to do so, look for a checkbox on a future absentee ballot application, or send a written request to the Clerk's Office at elections@bhamgov.org or 151 Martin Street, Birmingham MI 48009.



ADDRESS CHANGES

It is a voter's responsibility to notify the clerk's office of any changes to their mailing address two months before each election. Absentee ballots cannot be forwarded. If you will be at a vacation home, away at college or briefly staying at a different address, please provide your temporary ballot mailing address by emailing elections@bhamgov.org or submit it online at mi.gov/vote.

Voters who do not wish to be on the list will still be able to request an absentee ballot directly from their local clerk's office. **Learn more about absentee ballots and elections at mi.gov/vote and bhamgov.org/voting.**

BECOME AN ELECTION INSPECTOR

The City of Birmingham is looking for qualified people to work and manage voting precincts on Election Day. Duties include checking voter registration, issuing ballots, maintaining precinct records, and lending support to residents throughout the voting process. Election inspectors are paid an hourly wage. They work on Election Day, and may also choose to work during the early voting period. **Learn more at bhamgov.org/electioninspector.**



CHERISHED Community EVENTS IN BIRMINGHAM

Guests of all ages are invited to participate in the following family-friendly events downtown.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY, MAY 11, 10 A.M. – 2 P.M.

Go behind the scenes with the Department of Public Services during their open house event on Saturday, May 11 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Bring your family and friends along for informational exhibits, trucks and equipment on display, children's activities, giveaways and complimentary grilled hot dogs and refreshments. Visit bhamgov.org/dpsopenhouse to learn more.



PARTICIPATE IN MAY 19 BIRMINGHAM HOMETOWN PARADE

Mark your calendars for the annual Celebrate Birmingham Hometown Parade on Sunday, May 19. The parade will kick off downtown at 1 p.m. and end with a fun party in Shain Park. Join the fun as a spectator or consider these options to get more involved:

March in the parade

Community groups, local businesses, dance teams, scout troops, neighborhood associations, children and adults of all ages are encouraged to march in this year's parade. It's a great opportunity to spotlight your group! Visit bhamgov.org/parade to register before May 12.

Sponsor the parade and Shain Park party

Sponsorship allows a business, group, organization or individual to be recognized as part of this beloved family-friendly event reflecting the hometown feel of Birmingham. Sponsors receive varying levels of recognition depending on commitment level. Visit bhamgov.org/parade for additional details, registration forms and sponsorship packages.

Be a vendor

Interested in being a parade performer or after-party vendor? Contact the Clerk's Office at (248) 530-1880 or clerksoffice@bhamgov.org.



BIRMINGHAM SUMMER Concert SERIES

IN THE PARK SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Head to Shain Park this summer for the popular In the Park Summer Concert series. Again this year we have a full line-up of bands and a wide variety of music genres. Grab a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy free, fun and substance-free concerts in a picturesque setting. Evening and afternoon concerts are scheduled on select dates from Friday, June 7 through Wednesday, August 14. View the concert schedule at bhamgov.org/summerconcerts.



BIRMINGHAM

Shopping DISTRICT

SPRING STROLL SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 11 A.M. – 2 P.M. DOWNTOWN

Register to participate in the free Spring Stroll event featuring local retailers and special giveaways. The event takes place between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., with staggered start times. **Register at [ALLINBirmingham.com/events](https://www.allinbirmingham.com/events).**



BIRMINGHAM FARMERS MARKET SUNDAYS, MAY 5 – OCTOBER 27, 9 A.M. – 2 P.M. PUBLIC PARKING LOT 6, 660 N. OLD WOODWARD

The Birmingham Farmers Market season begins with its Opening Day Celebration on Sunday, May 5! Enjoy fresh Michigan-grown produce, plants and bouquets, prepared foods, artisan goods and more from local vendors and artists. The bustling outdoor market features live music, kids' activities and food trucks weekly, and special events throughout the season.

Visit [ALLINBirmingham.com/farmersmarket](https://www.allinbirmingham.com/farmersmarket) for details, and follow us on Facebook @BIRMINGHAMFARMERSMARKET and Instagram @BhamFarmMkt.



OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHTS SELECT FRIDAY NIGHTS BOOTH PARK, DOWNTOWN

It's show time! Free, family-friendly outdoor movie nights return to Booth Park this summer. Pre-show entertainment begins at 6:30 p.m.; movie at 7:30 p.m.

- June 7 – Migration
- July 19 – The Muppet Christmas Carol ("Christmas in July" theme)
- August 9 – People's Choice*
- September 6 – People's Choice*

In the event of inclement weather, movie nights will be held the following evening (Saturday).

Visit [ALLINBirmingham.com/events](https://www.allinbirmingham.com/events) for details.

*Vote for the movie titles you'd like to see in August and September! Starting June 1, submit your vote at <http://engage.bhamgov.org>, Facebook @BirminghamShoppingDistrict, or Instagram @bhamshopping.



Website:

[ALLINBirmingham.com](https://www.allinbirmingham.com)

Facebook:

@BirminghamShoppingDistrict

Instagram:

@bhamshopping

Event Calendar:

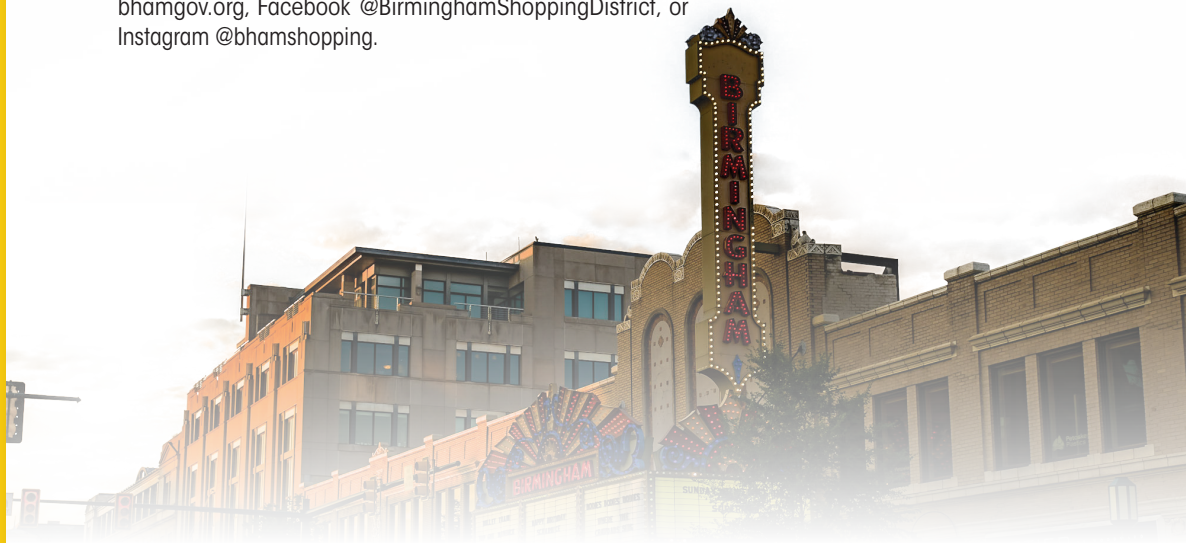
[ALLINBirmingham.com/events](https://www.allinbirmingham.com/events)

SHOP, DINE AND ENJOY DOWNTOWN BIRMINGHAM

The Birmingham Shopping District welcomed over 20 new businesses in 2023 with more scheduled to open in early 2024! A premier shopping and dining destination, our downtown offers a diverse assortment of local and national boutiques, restaurants, gift shops, jewelers, salons, fitness centers, art galleries and more. Movie theaters, parks and community events offer entertainment for all ages. For shopping, dining and service directories, and the event calendar, visit [ALLINBirmingham.com](https://www.allinbirmingham.com).

INTERESTED IN BEING INVOLVED?

Contact bsdinfo@bhamgov.org for committee and event volunteer opportunities.



GOLF IN BIRMINGHAM

Birmingham's two beautiful top-rated golf courses offer a great way to get outside and enjoy the start of spring! Lincoln Hills and Springdale each provide a fun yet challenging 9-hole course, events and programs that are affordable and close to home. Adaptive golf carts are also available.

Reservations may be made online at bhamgov.org/golf or by calling Lincoln Hills Golf Course at (248) 530-1670 or Springdale Golf Course at (248) 530-1660.

Learn more at bhamgov.org/golf.



WELCOME BACK MEMBERS APRIL 21 – 5 P.M. SHOTGUN START

Join us at Lincoln Hills for the season's first golf event! Registration begins at 4 p.m. with a 5 p.m. shotgun start, followed by an awards dinner. **Call Lincoln Hills at (248) 530-1670 for more information and to register.**

CINCO DE MAYO GOLF CLASSIC MAY 5 – 6 P.M. SHOTGUN START

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo with us during a fun three-club scramble! Registration begins at 5 p.m., with a shotgun start at 6 p.m. and awards dinner to follow. Get festive and compete for our best dressed team award!

NITE GOLF MAY 18 – 9 P.M. SHOTGUN START

This four-person scramble starts with registration, a buffet dinner and beverages at 7 p.m., followed by a shotgun start at dusk/9 p.m. Awards presented after golf.

JUNIOR GOLF PROGRAM

Birmingham's Junior Golf Program offers an opportunity for friendship, instruction, competition and fun for children ages 6 to 16 of all skills and abilities. **For more information, visit bhamgov.org/juniorgolf.**



BIRMINGHAM BUILDING DEPARTMENT

THINKING ABOUT INSTALLING A WHOLE HOUSE GENERATOR? HERE'S WHAT TO KNOW.

During spring, the world is full of promise and new beginnings. It's no surprise that the harshness of winter, especially blizzards and power outages, can feel like a foggy memory. However, power outages are not limited to the winter months, as many are caused during spring and summer storms. Many residents have prepared for power outages by installing whole house generators. Electrical and mechanical permits are required for generator installations. If you are considering installing a generator, the following paragraphs will provide you with useful information.

The Zoning Ordinance limits the placement of the generator on your lot. They cannot be located in any portion of the required front or side yard setbacks. In addition, the manufacturer's specifications provide the distance the generator must maintain between the unit and the house, operable windows and ventilation openings to help prevent carbon monoxide from entering the home. Carbon monoxide detectors will be required to alert you in the event some of the gas does enter. The following documents are required when applying for permits to assist staff in determining where the generator will be installed in accordance with the ordinance and building codes:

- A site plan must be provided that clearly identifies setback distances to property lines and clearances to building openings and vents. Please clearly state these measurements on the plan.
- The manufacturer's installation manual for the generator must be included.
- Verification that your gas meter is capable of providing enough fuel flow for the new generator and all household appliances such as the furnace, water heater, clothes dryer, ovens and stoves, etc.

Power outages are inevitable because bad weather can happen anywhere and anytime. However, not having electricity, even for a short time, can make your home uncomfortable and create bigger problems than spoiled food. Standby generators are a great option because they allow you to continue to use your electricity even when the power is out. This means that your lights, kitchen appliances, heating and cooling systems, and even your computer and television can continue to work throughout an outage.

If you have questions about generators, call the Building Department at (248) 530-1850 or feel free to stop by anytime.



BIRMINGHAM PLANNING DEPARTMENT

LEAF BLOWERS

A MESSAGE FROM PLANNING DIRECTOR, NICHOLAS DUPUIS

It is spring cleanup time! For sustainable spring cleanup tips that will help improve your yard's relationship with the environment, check out April's edition of the Around Town e-Newsletter at bhamgov.org/aroundtown. In this edition of the Birmingham Beat, though, I would like to take the opportunity to broach a separate but somewhat related matter – leaf blowers. Now is the time to consider reducing or eliminating the use of two-stroke, gas-powered leaf blowers whether it is your own, or whether it is a service. As the City works to eliminate the use of two-stroke gas powered leaf blowers in the City to reduce emissions, noise, and negative environmental impacts, your contribution to the effort is essential. This year, you can lessen your impact by considering contractors that utilize electric equipment, raking/hand clearing wherever possible, or replacing an end-of-life leaf blower with an electric one.



FROM THE BIRMINGHAM DEPT. OF PUBLIC SERVICES



AVOID FINES-KEEP GRASS & WEEDS BELOW EIGHT INCHES

Birmingham's ordinance requires grass and weeds be kept below eight inches. Poison ivy, ragweed or any other poisonous, noxious or unhealthy growths are prohibited. **View the Grass and Noxious Weed ordinance at www.bhamgov.org/code.**

BRUSH CHIPPING

The chipper truck resumes its routine cycle in April. It takes the chipper 7 to 10 business days to cycle the city, depending on weather conditions and the volume of brush out for chipping. Brush and limbs that are at least 4 feet long and up to 4-5 inches in diameter should be stacked at the curb with all cut ends facing the same direction.

YARD WASTE DECAL

Acceptable yard waste containers are trash cans with "yard waste" decals (available at the City Clerk's office) or 30-gallon paper yard waste bags. Yard waste containers must weigh less than 50 pounds, and yard waste must be small enough (under 4 feet in length) to fit in the designated container. Curbside collection is provided from April 1 through the third Friday in December.

BULKY ITEMS

Wondering what items can be placed at the curb and what requires a bulky item pick-up fee?

Place at curb:

Couches (under 8 feet), fridges (take doors off), stoves, washers, dryers, mattresses, box springs, carpeting (rolled and tied under 4 feet) and toilets are all acceptable items to place at your curb by 7 am on your trash day (no additional fee required).

Advance notice and pick-up fee required:

Cast iron items such as tubs or sinks, hot tubs, trampolines, play structures, basketball metal hoops, pianos, chain link, wood, and PVC fences, decks, sheds, roofing material, railroad ties and more than normal large amounts of trash (usually move outs) require a bulky item pick-up fee. **Please call Car Trucking at (586) 791-8480 in advance to schedule a bulky item pick-up.**

HOLIDAY TRASH SCHEDULE

City offices will be closed Friday, March 29 to observe Good Friday (normal refuse collection), Monday, May 27 to observe Memorial Day (refuse collection delayed one day that week), and Wednesday, June 19 to observe Juneteenth (normal refuse collection).

NEXT STEPS FOR PARKS & REC BOND PROJECTS AND MASTER PLAN

In November 2020, the Birmingham Parks and Recreation Bond was approved by over 70% of voters! Completed projects from the first bond issue include Ice Arena improvements and locker room expansion, Adams Park, pickleball courts and a Trail Improvement Concept Plan. So, what's next?

NEXT BOND ISSUE

The 2024 bond issue targets citywide playground improvements, focusing on inclusion and accessibility at parks such as Poppleton, Pembroke, Lincoln Well, and St. James, among others, in addition to trail improvements and accessible walking paths. The Parks and Recreation Board will also consider restrooms, dog and bicycle infrastructure, adult fitness stations, sustainability pilots and education programs, benches, places to rest, Wi-Fi, food trucks, yard game pilots, and recycling throughout the park system as we move forward with improvements.

Learn more at bhamgov.org/parks.

CONTINUED TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS

Design work for construction is currently underway for the first phase of trail improvements in Booth Park. This includes features such as an entry plaza with seating and landscaping, an accessible restroom, and trail entry identifiers and signage. Designs will be reviewed with the public by the Parks and Recreation Board and ultimately by the City Commission for approval. Construction is anticipated to occur in the spring of 2025 at Booth Park. **View the trail improvement plan at bhamgov.org/trailimprovements.**

2024-2028 PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

2023 was a big year for planning and public engagement, as our 5 year Parks and Recreation Plan needed an update. In December 2023, the updated 2024-2028 Parks and Recreation Master Plan was adopted by the City Commission. The plan will serve as a guide for park planning over the next 5 years, and its adoption is perfectly timed as we enter into the second bond issue this year. **Learn more at bhamgov.org/parksmasterplan.**

FROM THE BIRMINGHAM ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

STREETS, SEWER AND WATER INFRASTRUCTURE ENHANCEMENTS COMING THIS YEAR

2024 construction projects will be start soon throughout the City! The following is an overview of upcoming capital improvement projects.

2023 Sewer Rehabilitation Program

The project will be completed this spring and includes cleaning and televising the sewer, and adding sewer lining at various locations.

2023-2024 Asphalt Resurfacing Program

Pavement resurfacing will occur on various streets throughout the City this year. Visit bhamgov.org/engineering to view a list of locations for this program. The City will also complete crack sealing and rejuvenation on various streets.

2023-2024 Cape Seal Program

The 2023-2024 Cape Seal Program includes unimproved streets in various locations throughout the City. Visit bhamgov.org/capeseal to view a list of locations.

Redding Road

This project will include water and sewer system improvements, ADA ramp upgrades, and full-depth road reconstruction from Lakepark to Woodward Ave.

Edgewood Avenue

This project will include the replacement of the 1929 sewer from E. Lincoln to Catalpa, the installation of a new 8" water main from Catalpa to Southlawn, ADA ramp upgrades, and full-depth road reconstruction from E. Lincoln to Southlawn.

Oakland Ave. and Haynes Street

This project will include minor sewer repairs, abandoning the existing 6" water main, reconfiguration of the N. Old Woodward and Oakland intersection, and resurfacing the road from Old Woodward to Woodward .

Arlington Road and Shirley Drive

This project will include water and sewer system improvements and the installation of asphalt pavement at the current dimensions of the streets from W. Lincoln to Maple Road.

North Adams Road

This project includes minor sewer and water main repairs, reducing the roadway to three lanes and resurfacing the road from Madison to the north city limits.

Woodward and Brown/Forest Intersection Improvements

This spring MDOT will improve pedestrian crossing and traffic signals at Woodward and Brown, and Woodward and Forest. There will be a one-lane closure on Woodward, and there will be times when Brown and Forest will be closed for up to 10 days for construction.

Lead Service Replacement Program Progress

The Lead Service Replacement Program continues, with the goal to replace all lead services in the City by the end of this year. The City recently mailed a letter to property owners with known lead water services, instructing them to schedule the replacement of their water service for free. The City will soon begin a door-knocking effort to reach remaining residents with known lead water services. If the property owner is not available, a flier will be left. If you receive this notice from the City, please follow the steps to schedule your water service replacement.

Water Service Verification Program

The City has a deadline of October 2024 to submit material information for 364 randomly selected water services to the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE). The City will be knocking on doors to talk to property owners about verifying the "In-Home/Business" water service line material. If a property owner is not home, a flier will be left with the next steps.

Learn more about these and other projects at bhamgov.org/engineering.



 **BIRMINGHAM**
A WALKABLE CITY

Your FIRE DEPARTMENT



Your POLICE DEPARTMENT



WARM WEATHER TIPS FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

With warmer weather on the horizon and summer months approaching, now is a good time to review tips from the Fire Department to ensure a fun and safe summer.

Fire Pits

Every year the Birmingham Fire Department responds to burn complaints. The usage of fire pits is addressed in the International Fire Code adopted by the City. Recreational fire pits less than 3 feet in diameter and 2 feet high are allowed in approved containers and must have a 15-foot clearance on all sides from structures and combustible materials. Fires larger than this are considered to be bonfires and are NOT allowed without a permit issued by the Fire Marshal. The fire department investigates all burn complaints. Those that are deemed to be hazardous or without a permit can be ordered by the fire code official to be extinguished.

Barbecues

Barbecues are also a summer hit. However, they have limitations as to where they can be utilized. Open flame cooking devices of any kind cannot be utilized on combustible balconies or within 10 feet of combustible construction. There are exceptions, such as one and two-family dwellings or balconies that are protected by fire suppression sprinklers. For barbecues that utilize liquid propane (LP) tanks, please store them in a cool spot in the garage or shed. LP tanks should never be stored inside a home, building or apartment.

Fireworks

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), fireworks cause over 19,500 fires and send more than 11,500 people to emergency rooms every year. Remember, once fireworks are airborne there is no guarantee where they will land. Dried landscapes, trees, vehicles, wood decks and anything on the ground is susceptible to fire when fireworks land. Birmingham firefighters have been busy the past few years with fires and medical emergencies related to fireworks. Remember, it is unlawful for a person to ignite, discharge, or use consumer fireworks on public property, school property, church property, or the property of another person without that organization's or person's expressed permission to use those fireworks on those premises. In doing so, violators will receive a civil ticket of \$1,000.

State of Michigan fireworks laws allow fireworks on the following dates and times:

- 11 a.m. on December 31 – 1 a.m. on January 1
- 11 a.m. – 11:45 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday immediately preceding Memorial Day
- 11 a.m. – 11:45 p.m. on June 29 and 30 and July 1, 2, 3, and 4
- 11 a.m. – 11:45 p.m. on July 5, IF that date is on a Friday or Saturday
- 11 a.m. – 11:45 p.m. on the Saturday and Sunday immediately preceding Labor Day

Learn more at bhamgov.org/fire.

REMOVE VALUABLES AND LOCK VEHICLE DOORS

As we all look forward to warmer weather and enjoying the outdoors, so do some with criminal intentions. Last year the Police Department responded to 53 reports of larceny of personal property from vehicles (LFAs). These crimes can lead to identity theft and fraud. In many cases, vehicles were left unlocked with valuables in plain sight.

We want to remind everyone to lock their vehicles, and make your vehicle less desirable to thieves by not leaving anything of value inside. When possible, park in a well-lit area and in view of a camera if applicable.

Earlier this year, the Birmingham Police Department along with neighboring jurisdictions arrested several subjects that travel around the United States making a living from stealing items from vehicles. If you notice something suspicious, call Dispatch at (248) 530-1889. With your help, we can reduce LFAs and the number of people who commit these crimes.

SAVE THE DATE! POLICE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE AND BIKE RODEO

The Birmingham Police Department will host their Open House and Bike Rodeo event on Saturday, July 27 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the parking lot behind Birmingham City Hall, located at 151 Martin Street. Attendees will meet police officers and learn about their work to keep the community safe. Mark your calendar and keep an eye out for detailed event information coming soon!

FROM THE BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM



PEWABIC POTTERY FOUNDER MARY CHASE PERRY STRATTON MEMORIAL TILE INSTALLED AT GREENWOOD CEMETERY AND FEATURED DURING SPRING TOUR

Famous ceramicist Mary Chase Perry Stratton (1867-1961) co-founded Detroit's Pewabic Pottery in 1903, and her characteristic iridescent glazing has been sought after ever since. Perry was an accomplished artist of the early Arts and Crafts movement in Detroit. She lived in Birmingham briefly with her brother Frederick Perry before launching her successful pottery, which is still active today.

Mary Chase Perry remained a single woman until her early fifties, devoting herself to her work and the advancement of ceramic arts. Although she lived in Detroit and Grosse Pointe for decades, she and her late-in-life husband, architect William (Buck) Stratton, are buried in Birmingham's Greenwood Cemetery near her brother and other relatives.

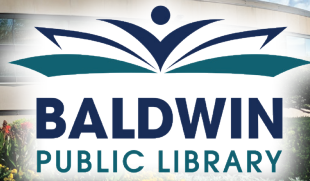


A member of the Stratton family (Mary Chase Perry's husband) donated a modern Pewabic vase in her memory to the Birmingham Museum in 2012. The vase and its matte cerulean glaze is representative of her characteristic style.

To bring recognition to Mary Chase Perry (Stratton's) historic importance and accomplishments, the Friends of the Birmingham Museum have worked with Pewabic Pottery to create a special memorial tile for her gravesite. The tile, which reflects her handmade style and blue and green glazing, will be permanently installed this spring. Perry's story and the tile memorial will be a special feature of the Friends' annual spring cemetery tour, which will take place at 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 11. Tickets are \$10; interested participants should meet at the east gate of the cemetery for the start of the tour.

Contact the museum at (248) 530-1682 or visit museum@bhamgov.org to learn more about the museum's programs and exhibits. We also have fun and interesting content on Instagram and Facebook @TheBirminghamMuseum. View our videos at bhamgov.org/museumyoutube, or listen to an episode of our podcast, "Birmingham Uncovered," available through your device's play store.





FROM THE BALDWIN PUBLIC LIBRARY



Your Place to Stay Active & Connected

JOIN US FOR BIRMINGHAM'S BIG NIGHT OUT TO BENEFIT NEXT THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 7 P.M. AT THE DAXTON HOTEL



Think of bands like Tommy Dorsey, Count Basie or Glen Miller and crooners like Frank Sinatra, Bing Crosby and Dean Martin! Headlining this year's Big Night Out at The Daxton Hotel on Thursday, April 4 at 7 p.m., Mark Randisi

will be accompanied by the Motor City Brass Orchestra, with special guests starting off the evening – the amazing acapella group – The Unforgettables.

The night will be reminiscent of the nightclub scene that was popular starting in the 1930-50s with clubs such as the Copacabana, The Chi Chi Room and The Rainbow Room. Add strolling appetizers and desserts, a couple of special surprises, the warmth of community, and you truly have a night to remember! Join us for this very special evening and a community celebration to benefit Next.



Next serves over 2,300 members with a wide variety of opportunities for socialization, enrichment, and life-long learning, as well as health and wellness presentations, fitness classes and creative arts. We also serve several hundred additional non-member residents through our Support Service Department where we provide Meals on Wheels, SMART transportation, offer home and yard maintenance, and provide referrals and information that allow seniors to remain safely in their homes. Please visit the Next website at www.BirminghamNext.org to see a full calendar of activities and learn more about the services and resources Next provides.

FRIENDS OF THE BALDWIN PUBLIC LIBRARY SPRING 2024 USED BOOK AND MEDIA SALE

May 3-5, 2024; see baldwinlib.org/book-sales for a detailed schedule.



SUMMER READING 2024

Start your summer off right by joining our annual Summer Reading program. Readers of all ages are encouraged to participate to earn chances at great prizes all summer long. Find details and register at baldwinlib.org/summer-reading, beginning June 7.



EVENTS OF INTEREST

Visit baldwinlib.org/calendar to view upcoming programs for all ages. Find event descriptions, locations and registration links for each program by clicking on the titles listed on the calendar dates.

Baldwin Public Library is located at 300 W. Merrill Street in downtown Birmingham, Michigan. Visit us online at baldwinlib.org or call (248) 647-1700. The Library will be closed May 25-27 and June 19, 2024.

WHERE TO GET Answers

EMERGENCY AND TDD 911
Police, Fire and Medical

**AFTER HOURS
NON EMERGENCY** (248) 530-1870
Submit any non-emergency concerns using the GovAlert
Mobile App or at www.bhamgov.org/citizenrequests

CITY GOVERNMENT

Clerk's Office (248) 530-1880
Community Development (248) 530-1850
Engineering (248) 530-1840
Finance (248) 530-1820
Fire Department (248) 530-1900
Human Resources (248) 530-1810
Information Technology (248) 530-1888
Police Department (248) 530-1870
Public Services (248) 530-1700
Treasurer's Office (248) 530-1890

CITY SERVICES

Baldwin Public Library (248) 647-1700
Birmingham Museum (248) 530-1928
Birmingham Shopping District (248) 530-1200
City Hall Main (248) 530-1800
Code Enforcement (248) 530-1859
Building & Permit Information (248) 530-1850
E-mail info@bhamgov.org
Fire Marshal (248) 530-1903
Fire Services (248) 530-1900
Golf Course — Lincoln Hills (248) 530-1670
Golf Course — Springdale (248) 530-1660
Golf Course Website bhamgov.org/golf
Greenwood Cemetery (248) 530-1880
Historical Preservation (248) 530-1850
Ice Sports Arena (248) 530-1642/1643
Mayor (Clerk's Office or Voice Mailbox) (248) 530-1801
Parking Lots & Garages (248) 540-9690
Parking Violations (248) 530-1890
Parks & Recreation (248) 530-1642
Planning and Zoning Information (248) 530-1850
Police Services (non-emergency) (248) 530-1870
Property/Assessing Information (248) 530-1899
Skate Park (248) 530-1640
Trash Collection & Recycling Information (248) 530-1700
Voting Information (248) 530-1880
Water Service & Billing (248) 530-1830
Water & Sewer Line/Main Repair (248) 530-1700
Water & Sewer Main Repair (after hours) (248) 530-1870
Street & Water/Sewer Line Maintenance (248) 530-1700
Construction Projects (248) 530-1840

2024 BIRMINGHAM City Commission



Elaine McLain
Mayor



Katie Schafer
Mayor Pro-Tem



Clinton Baller
Commissioner



Andrew Haig
Commissioner



Brad Host
Commissioner



Anthony Long
Commissioner



Therese Longe
Commissioner

BIRMINGHAM City Staff

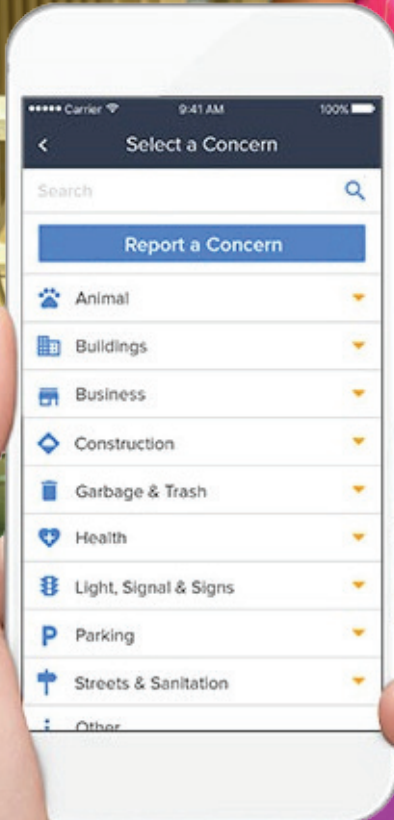
Jana L. Ecker
City Manager
Melissa A. Fairbairn
Assistant City Manager
Mark H. Clemence
Assistant City Manager
Alex Bingham
City Clerk
Melissa A. Coatta
City Engineer
Rebekah Craft
Library Director
Nicholas J. Dupuis
Planning Director
Aaron Ford
Parking Systems Manager
Marianne Gamboa
Communications Director

Mark Gerber
Finance Director/Treasurer
Scott Grewe
Police Chief
Bruce R. Johnson
Building Official
Leslie K. Pielack
Museum Director
Vacant
BSD Executive Director
Paul Wells
Fire Chief
Christina Woods
HR Manager
Scott Zielinski
Director of Public Services
Mary M. Kucharek
Beier Howlett, P.C. Legal Counsel

City Website bhamgov.org
City Newsletter and Alerts bhamgov.org/enews
Nixle Emergency Alerts nixle.com
City Communications bhamgov.org/communications
Citizen Requests bhamgov.org/citizenrequests
Public Notices bhamgov.org/publicnotices
Agenda Enotify bhamgov.org/agendasandminutes
City Forms and Payments bhamgov.org/formsandpayments
City Facebook facebook.com/BhamGov
City Instagram @bhamgov
Police Department Facebook bhamgov.org/policefacebook
Police Department Instagram and X @BirminghamMi_PD
Museum Facebook facebook.com/TheBirminghamMuseum
Museum Instagram @birmingham_museum_mi
BSD Website ALLINBirmingham.com
BSD Facebook facebook.com/BirminghamShoppingDistrict
BSD Instagram & X @BhamShopping
Baldwin Public Library Website baldwinlib.org
Library Facebook & Instagram @baldwinlib

The City of Birmingham participates in the State's City, Village, and Township Revenue Sharing (CVTRS) program. This program provides additional funding to eligible local units which publicly display documents which meet State requirements for accountability and transparency. To view these documents please go to www.bhamgov.org/revenuesharing.

ECRWSS
Postal Customer



Submit Concerns **USING GOALERT APP**

Submit non-emergency concerns or questions directly to the City of Birmingham using the GoAlert Mobile app! Simply download the free app, available for both iOS and Android devices, and follow the user-friendly prompts.

Visit www.bhamgov.org/goalert to watch a video with step-by-step instructions. Don't want to use the app? That's OK! Submit your request at www.bhamgov.org/citizenrequests.