

Summer
2024

~ MUNICIPAL VIEWPOINT ~

Cherishing Our Past...Living for the Future



Summer Hours - May 6, 2024 thru September 2, 2024

Monday - Thursday 8:00am to 4:00pm
Friday 8:00am to Noon

Winter Hours - September 3, 2024 thru May 5, 2025

Monday - Friday 8:00am to 4:00pm

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www.ithacami.com

~VOTER INFORMATION~

The 2024 State Primary Election will be Tuesday, August 6, 2024

City of Ithaca registered voters can vote at the Ithaca Community Center, 120 N. Maple Street.

Polls open at 7:00 am and close at 8:00 pm

Election Drop Box is available at City Hall, 129 W. Emerson Street, Ithaca

YOUR VOTE
Counts

**PRIMARY
ELECTION**

Vote by Mail

During an Election season, you can request an absent voter ballot online through the Michigan Voter Information Center at mi.gov/vote. In accordance with Michigan Election Law, we can mail your ballot until 5:00 pm on the Friday before an election.

City Hall will be open on the Saturday prior to an election from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm to obtain an absent voter ballot in-person, as well as assist with any other Election related needs.

In addition, on the Monday prior to the Election, you can obtain an absent voter ballot in-person at City Hall until 4:00 pm. A voter who registers to vote on Election Day by appearing in-person at the City Clerks Office, in City Hall with valid proof of residency, is also eligible to obtain an absent voter ballot until 8:00 pm on Election Day.

There are now two options to vote by mail. Voters can complete and return an application for an Absent Voter Ballot or be added to the Permanent Ballot List to automatically receive a ballot before every election that you are eligible for.

Permanent Ballot List

To request to be added to the Permanent Ballot List, check the box on the application for an Absent Voter Ballot. You will automatically receive a ballot for every election that you are eligible for, to your registered address. You will no longer need to fill out an application to receive a ballot.* If you are going out of town, you will need to contact the Clerk's office as ballots do not forward.

**Michigan Election Law (MCL 168.615c) requires that voters indicate in writing which political party ballot they wish to vote. This requirement only applies to Presidential Primary elections.*

Live election night results will be available at

www.electionreporting.com on election night.



UTILITY AND REFUSE SERVICE RATES



Utilities - As we shared last year, the city found itself with one of the lowest water and sewer rates in the State of Michigan. This is the result of operating with minimal increases over the years and without funding to keep up with aging infrastructure, rising costs and increased regulation requirements of the systems. Our consulting firm, Municipal Analytics, recommended two years of significant rate increases, which began last year. After the two years, we should see more moderate cost of living increases. As the city moves into the new budget year, the rates for water and sewer will incur the second-year increase of 20% for water services and 15% for sewer services. This will be effective July 2024.

Refuse services, with Granger Waste Services, are in year four of a ten-year contract. Effective September 1, 2024, rates will be \$11.86 per 95-gallon cart per month and Senior tags will be \$2.22 each. Full details of trash services offered are available on the city website or at City Hall.

Raising rates are decisions made with careful consideration, understanding the impacts they have on our customers. The City Council and staff work diligently to minimize all increases and ensure fair adjustments that reflect our commitment to delivering value and service excellence.



A Few Tips to Help Keep Our Community Looking Great

- ▶ **Grass Clippings** –Please keep grass clippings away from the street to avoid plugging drains and catch basins.
- ▶ **Tree Trimming and Clear Vision** - If you have trees or shrubs that hang over the sidewalk, please trim them back to allow safe walkways. On corner lots, make sure any trees, bushes and landscaping are maintained to allow for clear vision for all vehicles and pedestrians.
- ▶ **Yard Waste** - Residents may dispose of yard waste at the City brush pile located on the South East corner of town at the end of Meadow Lane Estates. There are two piles which are labeled with signs. The Southern pile is for the disposal of tree limbs, brush & brush trimmings. The Northern pile is for the disposal of grass, plants (no rootballs), cut flowers and leaves.
- ▶ **Yard/Garage Sale and Political Campaign signs** - Must be placed behind the sidewalk and permission must be given by the property owner before placing the sign. Signs are not allowed on utility poles, street signs, streetlights, trees, or corners of alleys and streets. Please refrain from parking vehicles downtown to advertise sales.

PUBLIC NOTICE ▶ **Notice to Ithaca Property Owners, Tenants & Public**

We would like to remind residents that property owners need to maintain their property in keeping weeds and grass under control, and the property up to code. This includes the “right of way” area between the sidewalk and the street. City code requires that grasses & noxious weeds not exceed eight (8) inches of height on any property in the City of Ithaca. Weeds and grasses not in compliance will be cut by the City as many times as necessary and the property owner charged according to City Ordinance. Please see the city website for complete Property Maintenance Code.

- ▶ **For Sale** – The city has crushed concrete for sale at \$30 a yard and may be purchased at City Hall. Call 989-875-3200 for more information.

SUMMER READING PROGRAM 2024

ADVENTURE BEGINS AT YOUR LIBRARY

Join us as we travel around the world this summer, exploring a different continent each week through snacks, games, and a craft that is popular in each location.

EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 11:00 AM, STARTING JUNE 12TH. SIGN UP ONLINE OR IN PERSON!

Designed for school-age children, but all ages are welcome!

THOMPSON HOME PUBLIC LIBRARY
125 W CENTER ST
989.875.4184

UPCOMING EVENTS

- July 4th** — All City Offices closed
- August 22nd** — Old US-27 Motor Tour, downtown Ithaca 11:15 am to 1:00 pm
- August 24th** — 1st Annual B#4 5k Run/Walk, 8:30 am, Ithaca Veteran’s Memorial Field
- August 26th** — School Starts for Ithaca students
- September 2nd** — Labor Day, all City Offices closed
- September 20th - 21st** — City-wide garage sales
- September 21st** — Harvest Festival
- September 30th** — Summer property taxes due

Are You Planning a Home Improvement Project?

Zoning permits are needed for projects such as new additions, decks, garages and fencing.

Be sure to stop at City Hall to fill out your zoning application before you begin your project.

Applications are also available on the City’s website.
www.ithacami.com

ITHACA FARMERS MARKET

Farmers Market started May 2nd and runs through October 15th. We look forward to our previous vendors returning and are always looking for new vendors to join us in Downtown Ithaca under the pavilion located at Center & Pine River Streets.

The Farmers Market is on **Tuesday’s from 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm**. There is **NO VENDOR FEE** this year, however, the vendor must fill out a Registration Form and submit to City Hall before the market day in which the vendor plans to attend. Vendors will be assigned a space when registered each week. A pdf of the Registration Form and packet can be found on our website at: www.ithacami.com.

If you have homegrown or homemade items you would like to share with our community and surrounding area please contact:

DDA Coordinator Shelly Moffit at 989-875-3200 or by email at: dda@ithacami.com.



All City Offices will be closed for the following holidays:

- Independence Day - July 4th**
- Labor Day - September 2nd**

Stay up-to-date on City info at:
www.ithacami.com

Visit us on Facebook at:
www.facebook.com/