



HEARD IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE...

MARCH 2021

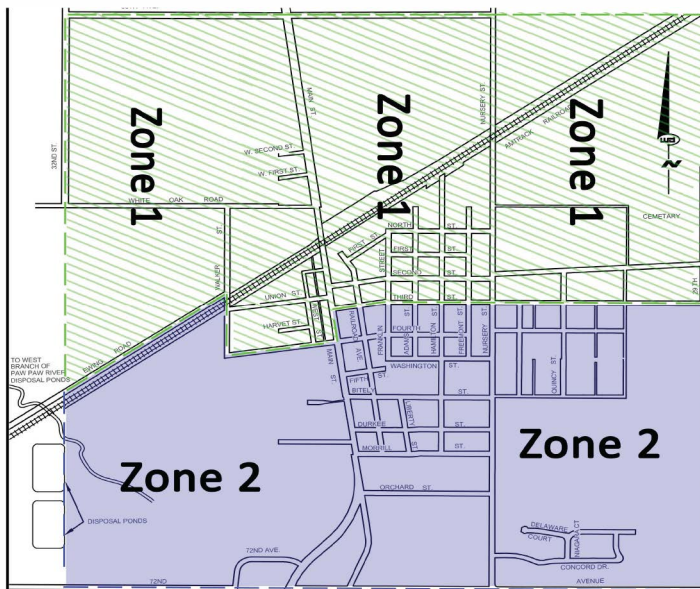


Brush Pick-Up

Beginning April 1st, 2021

1. Stack your brush along the roadway (not in the road) by 7 am on the day of pickup.
2. Keep sections under than 8 feet in length and no thicker than 4" in diameter
3. Pile them no more than 4' high
4. Do not mix leaves, grass clippings, or other vegetation with brush.
5. Do not mix any trash, debris, lumber, paper or other trash and debris with the brush.
6. This service is for trimming of brush, shrubs and trees and branches that may fall in a storm. The village is not able to take trunks and root balls.
7. Residents Are to only PLACE ONLY 1 PILE OF BRUSH AT THE ROADSIDE. The Village will not remove brush from clearing of lots or from tree removal.
8. Brush pickup will be done by zone. Zone 1 residents will have their brush picked up starting the first Monday of each month. Zone 2 residents will have their brush picked up starting the Third Monday of the month. (work schedules and emergencies allowing)
9. Brush shall not be placed to the curb more than 48 hrs prior to the scheduled pickup. This includes placing brush out after pick up has already been made. Brush will need to be removed within 72 hours of receiving notification.

Questions? Call 624-6406



Help the Environment!
Sign up for Paperless
Utility Billing on the
Village website
www.LawtonMI.gov

For continuous updates and news, follow us on [Facebook @VillageofLawtonMI](https://www.facebook.com/VillageofLawtonMI) and visit our website at www.lawtonmi.gov



SAFEbuilt We have teamed up with a company called SAFEbuilt to handle all permits for the Village of Lawton. These permits include: Building, Electrical, Mechanical and Plumbing. You can request a permit by going to www.SAFEbuilt.com or call 269.729.9244

Summer Clean-Up Program

We will be providing our residents with three (3) "dump" weekends: No garbage, construction material, concrete, wood, chemicals, tires, TV's. If you are a senior and/or disabled and need help or have any questions about the clean-up program, please call the Public Works Department 269.624-6406.

Friday June 25, 2021	8:00am - 5:00pm
Saturday June 26, 2021	8:00am - 2:00pm
Friday July 23, 2021	8:00am - 5:00pm
Saturday July 24, 2021	8:00am - 2:00pm
Friday August 27, 2021	8:00am - 5:00pm
Saturday August 28, 2021	8:00am - 2:00pm

Village of Lawton Hours: M-F 8:00am - 5:00pm
Lawton Library Hours: M, T, W, and F 10am - 5pm CLOSED TH, Sat and Sun
You can continue to pay your utility bill by mail, drop-box or online.
The Village of Lawton and the Library continue to follow CDC guidelines.

It's time to
talk about our
water and sewer rates.



There's a New Rate Structure

Lawton's water and sewer system is a multi-million dollar investment that directly affects the health, safety, and overall quality of life in our community. With every water bill, our customers are investing to preserve and protect that system. It is the Village Council's responsibility to safeguard the water and sewer system investments for today's customers, as well as future customers. It is the Village's responsibility to evaluate rates and adjust them accordingly. All revenues derived from the water and sewer utility bills are used exclusively for water and sewer system expenditures. Rates have not been adjusted over the last five years.

With the help of the Michigan Rural Water Association, we recently completed a water and sewer rate analysis. The Village is required to charge rates that will support current, as well as future, costs. The result of the analysis is that a rate increase for both water and sewer is necessary. Current rates are insufficient to meet current costs, let alone future costs as this critical infrastructure ages.

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) requires water system change out all services with lead components. This State mandate requires that 5% of the Village's services with lead be changed out yearly over the next 20 years. The Village estimates that 95% of our water services have lead components (approximately 475) and will need to be replaced. The current cost to replace a water service with lead components is budgeted at \$6,000, and we will need to replace 24 services each year for the next 20 years.

Many want to know what neighboring communities are charging for water and sewer compared to the Village, it is important to understand the complexity that is represented in various community rates. Each community has a unique configuration of costs used to establish rates, including population; type of treatment; operation plans; short and long-term service needs; debt obligations; and capital improvement responsibilities. The Village is committed to meeting the needs of our system. Our rates must support our budget to provide safe and reliable water and sewer services to our community.

The Village Council will have the rate increases finalized in the next few weeks. We anticipate that it will be approximately \$10.00 per month for the average residential customer but are working out some of the final details. We will hold a public hearing at the April 13th Council meeting to discuss the rate increase and take comments from the public.

We understand that rate increases are difficult for everyone. We will release the actual rates as soon as possible and will be available for questions at your convenience.

For more info:



Visit us online at
www.lawtonmi.gov



Call the Village of Lawton
Clerk's office at 269.624.6407