



# HEARD IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE...

## OCTOBER '25

**Village of Lawton:** Fall is in full swing, and our streets are starting to glow with autumn color. As the season changes, please take a few moments to read through the updates and reminders below — they help us all keep Lawton safe, clean, and connected. Thank you for doing your part to make our Village a wonderful place to live!

As the leaves begin to fall, our annual leaf pick-up will soon be underway. Please remember to place leaves by the curb, not in the street, and avoid mixing in grass, sticks, or other debris. Leaf piles should be kept clear of storm drains to help prevent flooding. We appreciate everyone's help in keeping our streets safe and our storm system clear! Please see the back of this newsletter for more information.

While you're outside, it's also a great time to take care of a little fall cleanup around your property. The Village will continue enforcing our **Blight Ordinance** throughout the season to help keep Lawton looking its best. Simple steps like removing yard waste, storing unused items properly, or repairing small issues can go a long way toward keeping our community beautiful and welcoming.

**Fire Safety:** October is Fire Safety Month, and our local fire department encourages everyone to take a few minutes to check smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, have furnaces and chimneys inspected, and keep space heaters at least three feet from anything flammable. A little prevention now can make all the difference once temperatures drop.

**Trick or Treating 2025:** Halloween in Lawton will be held on Friday, October 31 from 5:30–7:30pm. Trick-or-treating is always a highlight of the season, and we look forward to seeing everyone's costumes and creativity! Please help keep the evening safe by encouraging kids to wear reflective gear, carry flashlights, and use sidewalks where possible. Parents, remember to check all treats before eating — let's make it a fun and safe night for everyone

**Lawton Library:** While you're out collecting goodies during trick or treating, be sure to stop by the Lawton Public Library for a sweet treat and a smile, they love being part of the Halloween fun!

**Spooky Fun Fact:** Michigan isn't just known for its fall beauty, it's known for its ghost stories too! 🎃 Our state is home to more than 200 reportedly haunted places, from historic theaters and lighthouses to old hotels and forgotten towns. So, if you're feeling brave this Halloween season, take a Michigan road trip and discover why we're one of the most "spirited" states in the country!

## VILLAGE HOURS

### Clerk's Office Hours:

M-F 8:00am – 5:00pm  
SAT - SUN CLOSED

### Library Hours:

M-W 9:30am - 6:00pm  
F 9:30am - 5:00pm  
Sat 9:30am - 2:00pm  
Th/Sun Closed

### Museum Hours:

Please call 269.624.5481  
to schedule a tour.

## CONTACT US!

Ask billing questions, sign up for our email newsletters, update your account information, get an explanation of rates, or make service changes:

**Clerk's Office:** 269.624.6407

**Police Office:** 269.624.2382

**DPW:** 269.299.0012

**Website:** [www.lawtonmi.org](http://www.lawtonmi.org)

**Address:** 125 S Main St

**Mail:** PO Box 367

**After-hours water/sewer emergency:**  
269.251.0148



Find and like us on Facebook!

@VillageofLawtonMI

## PUBLIC NOTICE!

There are no public notices for the month of October.  
Please visit our website for real time updates.



# LEAF PICK-UP REMINDER



Help Keep Lawton Safe, Clean, and Beautiful This Fall!



## Keep Leaf Piles Off the Street

- Clogged storm drains that lead to flooding.
- Traffic hazards – wet leaves become slippery and reduce visibility.
- Fire risks when dry piles sit near vehicles or curbs.

Please place leaves along the curb, not in the street, to help keep our community safe and our storm drains clear.



## Leaf Piles = Leaves Only

Avoid mixing sticks, twigs, grass clippings, or other debris with your leaf piles. These can damage collection equipment and delay service for everyone.



## Pick-Up Schedule

Leaf pick-up will begin once the majority of leaves have fallen and will continue through the end of November or until the first snowfall, whichever comes first.

### ✔ *Quick Reminders:*

Rake leaves only to the curb—not into the street.  
Keep branches, sticks, and trash out of the pile.  
Stay patient—crews will make multiple passes through town.



### VILLAGE HALL

125 S Main St  
Lawton, MI 49065  
P: 269.624.6407  
F: 269.624.6408

### VILLAGE MANAGER

Todd Hackenberg  
thackenberg@lawtonmi.org

### CHIEF OF POLICE

Greg Cordes  
gcordes@lawtonmi.org

### VILLAGE CLERK

Brittany Rathbun  
brathbun@lawtonmi.org

### VILLAGE TREASURER

Melina Leonard  
mleonard@lawtonmi.org

### PUBLIC WORKS FOREMAN

James Stermer  
jstermer@lawtonmi.org

### COUNCIL MEMBERS

Josh Appleby  
President

Eric Dudek  
President Pro-tem

Gail Dudek

Judy Peterson

Char Raber

Ren Turner

Ryan Tanis

Council meets the second Tuesday at 7pm at the Village Hall.

Planning commission meets the first Tuesday at 7pm at the Village Hall.

DDA meets the third Wednesday at 7pm at the Village Hall.