



HEARD IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE...

March 2026

NEWS & INFORMATION

Office closures: The Village of Lawton Clerk's Office will be closed April 03, 2026 in observance of Good Friday. The Lawton Library will be closed Wednesday April 01 - Sunday April 05, 2026.

Cemetery Cleanup: All winter decorations must be removed by April 15, 2026 to allow for the spring cleanup of cemetery grounds. After the date, the winter decorations will be removed by the Department of Public Works. As a reminder, once decorations become faded or unsightly, they will be removed. Any questions or concerns about plantings, decorations, and displays can be directed to the cemetery sexton, Todd Hackenberg, at 269.624.6407.

Chauncey Lewis Park - Pavilion Rentals: Reservations are now being accepted for both our Big and Small Pavilions for your spring and summer gatherings. Whether you're planning a party, picnic, or special event, we've got the perfect space for you! To reserve a pavilion, simply visit our website, give us a call, or stop by our office to fill out an application. Plus, we're now accepting credit card payments for your convenience!

Brush Pick-up: Brush pick up will begin in April. Further details will be shared on our website and Facebook page as soon as they become available.

Spring Clean-Up Week is Coming! The Village of Lawton will be offering dumpster services for residents to dispose of unwanted items. Dumpsters will be available at the Department of Public Works (DPW) building on the following dates:

- Monday, May 11 - Friday, May 15: 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM
- Saturday, May 16: 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Please bring proof of residency (e.g., driver's license or utility bill).

Items NOT accepted: Construction debris, tires, electronics, yard waste, medical or hazardous waste (such as paint, chemicals, or oil products), or any flammable materials. Questions? Contact the DPW at 269-299-0012.

Alternative to the Spring Clean-Up Event: If you'd prefer not to wait for our Spring Clean-Up event, you can also use the Transfer Station located off CR 652 Village of Lawton). Operating Hours:

- November 1- March 31: Saturdays, 9 AM - 5 PM
- April 1 - October 31: Tuesdays, 1 PM - 5 PM | Saturdays, 9 AM - 5 PM

To use the Transfer Station, you'll need a key fob. If you don't have one yet, Antwerp Township can provide it. Simply visit or contact the Township Office at 24821 Front Ave, Mat-tawan, MI 49071, or call 269-668-2615 during office hours (7 AM to 5 PM, Monday through Thursday).

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

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 March at this time.

For updated information, please visit our website
www.lawtonmi.org



Severe Weather Preparedness for Village of Lawton Residents

Spring in Michigan brings warmer weather, but it also means thunderstorms, high winds, flooding, and the possibility of tornadoes. Taking a few minutes to prepare can help keep you and your family safe when severe weather strikes.

✓ WHAT TO DO

- **Stay Weather Aware** Monitor weather alerts through your phone, weather radio, or local news.
- **Have a Plan** Know where you will go during a tornado warning. The safest place is a **basement or interior room on the lowest floor**, away from windows.
- **Prepare an Emergency Kit** • Flashlight and batteries • Bottled water • Non-perishable food • First aid kit • Phone chargers • Battery radio
- **Secure Outdoor Items** Bring in or secure lawn furniture, garbage cans, and decorations before storms arrive.
- **Charge Your Devices** Storms can cause power outages. Charge phones and backup batteries ahead of time.

✗ WHAT NOT TO DO

- **Do NOT seek shelter near windows** Flying debris and broken glass can cause serious injury.
- **Do NOT drive through flooded roads** Just **6 inches of water** can cause a vehicle to lose control. Remember: **Turn Around, Don't Drown.**
- **Do NOT shelter under bridges during tornadoes** This increases your risk of injury from flying debris and wind.
- **Do NOT rely only on outdoor sirens** Sirens are designed to warn people **outdoors** and may not be heard inside buildings.
- **Do NOT ignore warnings** If a **tornado warning** is issued, take shelter immediately.



TORNADO WATCH vs. TORNADO WARNING

TORNADO WATCH

- Conditions are **favorable for tornadoes** to develop.
- Stay alert and monitor weather updates.
- Review your safety plan.

TORNADO WARNING

- A tornado has been **sighted or detected by radar.**
- **Take shelter immediately.**
- Move to a basement or interior room away from windows.



SAFETY REMINDER

"When thunder roars, go indoors!"

If you can hear thunder, you are close enough to lightning to be struck. Move indoors immediately and stay away from windows and electrical appliances until the storm passes.



STAY CONNECTED

Residents are encouraged to sign up for Van Buren County emergency alerts and follow the Village of Lawton for updates during severe weather events.



VILLAGE HALL

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COUNCIL MEMBERS

Josh Appleby
President

Eric Dudek
President Pro-tem

Gail Dudek

Judy Peterson

Char Raber

Ryan Tanis

Ren Turner

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.

