

June 2023

CHARLOTTE MICHIGAN

Charlotte Chronicles



SUMMER EVENTS-2023

Warm weather means lots of fun events in Charlotte! Chamber of Commerce is kicking off their weekly summer concerts and farmers

markets in June. The Chamber also hosts Charlotte Celebrates June 15-18. Eaton County Fairgrounds will be hosting Magical Realm Fantasy Faire on June 3 and 4; a horse show June 9 and 10; and the Charlotte Bluegrass Festival June 22 to 24. Mark your calendars for the Eaton County Fair July 10-15! Check out the monthly newsletters for details on these and more events!

CONSTRUCTION 2023

Construction began this spring for two of the three major projects this construction season. Safe Routes to Schools program will install sidewalks through



\$1.8mill grant funding in partnership with Charlotte Public Schools; Hall/Washington/McClure streets will be completely reconstructed, including underground utilities; and Island Hwy will be reconstructed in partnership with the Eaton County Drain Commissioner's Office.

Want to keep up-to-date on the latest construction news? Check out the city's website here: www.charlottemi.org/construction-updates-2023/



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CITY MEETING CALENDAR

June

- Monday, 5 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Tuesday, 6 Planning Commission
- Tuesday, 13 Camp Frances Board, 6:30pm, Camp Frances Bldg, 1501 S Cochran
- Wednesday, 14 City Council workshop meeting, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Monday, 19 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Tuesday, 20 Downtown Development Authority, 6:30pm

<u>July</u>

- Monday, 3 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Tuesday, 4 City Hall Closed—Independence Day
- Tuesday, 11 Planning Commission
- Tuesday, 11 Camp Frances Board, 6:30pm, Camp Frances Bldg, 1501 S Cochran
- Wednesday, 12 City Council workshop meeting, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Monday, 17 Airport Advisory Board, 8:00am, Fitch Beach Airport, 1325 Island Hwy
- Monday, 17 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Tuesday, 18 Downtown Development Authority, 6:30pm

August

- Tuesday, 1 Planning Commission
- Monday, 7 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Tuesday, 8 Camp Frances Board, 6:30pm, Camp Frances Bldg, 1501 S Cochran
- Tuesday, 15 Downtown Development Authority, 6:30pm
- Wednesday, 16 City Council workshop meeting, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Monday, 21 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live

Agendas, meeting details, and zoom links are available online at www.charlottemi.org.

Meetings are in-person at City Hall Council Chambers at 7pm unless noted otherwise.

Persons with disabilities who require assistance in order to participate in the public meeting should contact the City at the earliest opportunity by emailing the City Clerk at clerk@charlottemi.org or by calling (517) 543-2750.

PUBLIC NOTICE TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE

NOTICE is hereby given that Nominating Petitions and Affidavits of Identity forms may be picked up beginning Monday May 1, 2023 in the City Clerk's office for the following City Council seats to be elected at the city election on **November 7, 2023**

			TERM EXPIRATION
			(1ST MONDAY
	# OF OFFICES TO		FOLLOWING
COUNCIL OFFICE	ELECT	TERM LENGTH	ELECTION)
MAYOR	1	5 YEAR	11/13/2028
DISTRICT 1	1	3 YEAR (PARTIAL)	11/9/2026
DISTRICT 1	1	5 YEAR	11/13/2028
DISTRICT 2	1	3 YEAR (PARTIAL)	11/9/2026
DISTRICT 2	1	5 YEAR	11/13/2028
AT-LARGE	1	5 YEAR	11/13/2028

The City Clerk's office is

open Mon. to Fri. 9am-1pm and 2pm to 4pm, located at 111 E. Lawrence Ave. Charlotte MI 48813. The deadline for filing the required forms with the City Clerk is Tuesday, July 25, 2023 at 4pm at the Office of City Clerk

NOTICE is further given that at the regular City Council Meeting held Monday, April 17, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. the City Council of the City of Charlotte passed *Resolution 2023-07 "A resolution establishing regular elections in November of each even year commencing with the city election of November, 2026".*

To accommodate for the change from odd to even year elections, all terms of office for City of Charlotte Council seats are extended for one (1) year, one (1) time only. Six (6) Council seats that are open for election at the November 7, 2023 city election; Mayor, District 1 and 2 and an At-large seat each with a 5-year term and District 1 and 2 each with a 3-year (partial) term. One (1) At-Large seat that is not open for election in 2023 has been extended 1 year (exp. 11/9/2026).

Questions? Contact Mary LaRocque, City Clerk at 517-543-2750 or clerk@charlottemi.org



Notice of Election Location Change.

Voting for all precincts will take place at City Hall for the November 7, 2023 City Election. City Hall is located at 111 E Lawrence Ave. Voters who typically vote in another location will receive a mailed notice regarding the change.

Please note, this change is only for the November 2023 City Election.

Rave Alerts. The City of Charlotte is using Rave alerts! Get notified with important information about what is happening in the community such as street closures, water system work, or emergencies that may affect you. There are several ways to register: Text CHARLOTTE to 67283; Download the Smart911 app; or Register for a free and secure safety profile online at Smart911.com.

The City also sends out notifications specific to users by address, such as notices when quarterly utility bills are sent out. If you're already registered, make sure to update your profile address so you're receiving accurate information.





Lead Service Line Replacement. The City of Charlotte Department of Public Works (DPW) is verifying the material of water service lines throughout the City as a requirement of the 2018 Michigan Lead and Copper Rule. EGLE is requiring a complete inventory of the water service lines by January 1, 2025. The inventory must include material verification at 3 locations along the service line.

including inside the home where the water service comes into the house. The City received a Grant from EGLE to help with the material verification. Contact DPW at 517-543-8878 to schedule an inspection.

In place of an in-home inspection, an online survey is available to residents to complete which includes taking a picture of the water service line at the in-home water meter. Scan the QR code to complete the self-survey of your home's water service.





Notice: Permit and/or Registration Required to Solicit or Canvass within City.

What is soliciting or canvassing?

Soliciting is to seek out sales for profit. A permit and registration is required, background check and fees apply.

Canvassing is to seek votes, contributions or sales for non-profits or to conduct surveys, or public discussions. Registration is required, but no fees apply.

A copy of the ordinance and forms can be found on our website: www.charlottemi.gov/forms-applications/, then scroll down to find the appropriate form.

Backyard Chickens. Did you know that backyard chickens are allowed in Charlotte if you obtain a permit? It's true - residents can keep up to 6 egg-laying chickens (No roosters!) in a coop and fenced enclosure after getting a permit from the City Clerk's Office.

The permit costs \$50 and is good for two years, after which it can be renewed for no charge. The permit is easy to obtain and the rules are easy to follow. This regulation only covers chickens, however; it cannot be extended to other fowl, like ducks or geese, and it does not allow for the keeping of other farm animals such as rabbits or goats.

If interested, call (517) 543-8853 for more information and a copy of the application.

It's a dirty job, but someone's got to do it! Please make sure to pick up after your dog. Not only is it neighborly, it's the law!

City code requires pet owners clean up after their

pets. Please do your part to keep our city clean.





2023 Park Reservations Planning a party or event for later this spring or summer? Host your event at one of our beautiful facilities!

Bennett Park pavilion rental calendar is now open for 2023 reservations. Find the rental registration information and forms online at https://www.charlottemi.org/serviceadministration/parks/park-reservation-applications/

You can also contact the Clerk's Office with questions about reservations and date availability at 517-543-2750 or email mdensmore@charlottemi.org

Camp Frances is taking reservations for the 2023 calendar year. Visit the website at https://www.campfrances.org/ Under the tab "Rental Information" you will find the "Guidelines for Use of the facility". By clicking "Rental Request" you will be taken to the City's website where you can complete a request for dates. Please register as early as possible for your date as it could take up to 7 business days to process your paperwork once submitted.



Michigan Homeowner Assistance Fund (MIHAF). The Fund was established under section 3206 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (the ARP) to mitigate hardships associated with the coronavirus pandemic by providing funds to prevent homeowner mortgage delinquencies, defaults, foreclosure, loss of utilities or home energy services and displacements of homeowners experiencing financial hardship on or after January 21, 2020 or for those homeowners who experience a coronavirus pandemic financial hardship that began before January 21, 2020 but continued after that date. For more infor-

mation or to apply, visit MSHDA's website.

Emergency Home Repair Program. Eaton County administers an Emergency Repair Program. No interest, no payment loans to Eaton County residents who meet federal, state and County Housing Program guidelines may be provided. This program assists with emergency repairs that are causing a health and safety risk to the occupants and the structure of the home.

The program offers up to \$20,000 in no interest, no payment loan assistance to repair and improve program participant's home. A deferred mortgage is recorded against the property for the amount invested into the home. Contact Housing at: 517-543-3710 or visit their website at https://www.eatoncounty.org/181/Emergency-Home-Repair for more information.

Other Assistance Programs Available. There are other programs for those having trouble paying rent/mortgage or utilities. Persons who are in need of assistance due to financial or other hardships can find information on available programs online at www.charlottemi.org/assistance-programs-available/ or by calling 2-1-1.



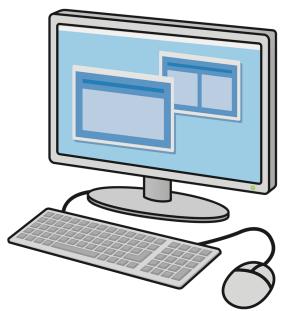
Email Billing Feature Now Available! Ready to ditch the paper utility bill? You can now sign up for emailed billing of your quarterly utility bill. Please complete the form below and return it to City Hall, in-person or drop-box, or you can sign up online at www.charlottemi.org/email-utility-bill-form/

Name:		
Phone:	Email:	
Service Address:		



Utility Billing Customer Service. If you have questions or need to update your utility billing account, contact UB Clerk Mikayla Middaugh: in-person during regular business hours, by phone at 517-543-8841, or email mmiddaugh@charlottemi.org.

The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) is a federal program run by the FCC to assist qualifying low-income households pay for internet service and connected devices such as laptops or tablets. Households may be eligible if their income is below 200% the Federal Poverty Line or if someone in the household receives a government benefit such as SNAP, Medicaid, SSI, WIC, Pell Grant, or Free and Reduced-Proce Lunch. If eligible, households may receive up to a \$30/month discount on internet service, up to \$75 a month discount on qualifying Tribal lands, and a one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, tablet, or desktop computer (with a copayment of more than \$10 but less than \$50). Infor-



mation regarding ACP may be found here: https://www.affordableconnectivity.gov/.



Michiganders in crisis now have an easy-to-remember three-digit number to call for help – 988. Michigan has joined the nation with 988, which will operate through the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline's network of more than 200 locally operated and funded crisis centers across the country.

In 2020, Congress designated the new 988 dialing code to operate through the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline to expand the existing support beyond people who are feeling suicidal to all individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis, including sub-

stance abuse issues. Trained counselors will be available 24/7 to field calls. They will listen to the caller's problems, assess their needs and provide support by connecting them with resources, and alert local emergency crisis teams, if necessary. \$

Anyone with these concerns can call, including mental health-related distress; thoughts of suicide; substance use crisis; or emotional distress. There are specialized services available for veterans, LGBTQ individuals and other groups. People who are worried about a loved one who may need support also can call.\$

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The 988-dialing code does not replace the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 800-273-TALK (8255) or other locally operated crisis lines. Instead, it serves as a universal entry point to connect individuals in need to trained crisis counselors who can help. MDHHS is working to ensure a solid infrastructure is built through coordination with 911 and other crisis service providers as the 988-dialing code launches.\$

Blight, Weeds, or Junk Vehicles Spring is a great time for yard clean-ups and general outdoor property maintenance as well. Residents who have a concern about the condition of a specific property, because of an accumulation of junk, refuse, improperly stored recreational vehicles, or unregistered vehicles should contact Code Enforcement so it can be evaluated.

Properties must be kept in good repair, including exterior siding and roofs, and free of junk/debris. Additionally, city code states that vehicles must be registered and operable. Grass and vegetation be maintained so as not to exceed 10 inches in height. Residents who own larger lots in the city (5 acres or more) must also keep those areas within 100 feet of a street, alleyway or neighboring property line at 10 inches or less. Please keep shrubs and trees trimmed back at corners to prevent traffic hazards, and away from sidewalks for pedestrian safety.

A code enforcement inspector will take action on properties that are not maintained. Residents who are not mowing will be given notice of the violation and a reasonable time to remedy the problem. If the problem persists, the City may mow the lot and the homeowner will be charged for the work. Continued violations may result in the issuance of a civil infraction ticket.

If you see a property in your neighborhood in need of maintenance, please call 517-543-8837, ccum-mings@charlottemi.org, or report it online at www.charlottemi.org/contact-us/.

Individuals in need of assistance can find resources on our website at www.charlottemi.org/assistance-programs-available/





Over 25% of damage is from homeowners.

It's the LAW! It's fast and it's FREE!!!

What do you mean FREE?

When you contact **MISS DIG 811**, the public facility companies are notified to mark the location of their underground lines.

Public facilities are marked for **FREE** by facility company representatives known as Locators.

The Locators paint lines and/or place flags to mark the approximate location of underground public lines.

Volunteers Needed. Are you looking to give back? Do you have skills that can benefit the community? The City has several opportunities for citizens to participate in their local government. The following boards/committees need volunteers. Interested or want to learn more? Contact the Mayor or the City Clerk at 517-543-2750 or clerk@charlottemi.org.

- Board of Review (2)
- Downtown Development Authority (3)
- Airport Advisory Board (1)
- Camp Frances (2)

Interested persons can also find more information here:

www.charlottemi.org/board-and-commission-volunteer-opportunities-available/



From the Police Chief Did you know the police department does vacation checks? If you are going to be out of town for an extended period of time, just let us know and we'll check on your property while you are gone. Either stop down to the police department or call us at 517-543-1552 and we'll take care of you.



Attention —As warmer weather occurs, so do larcenies from vehicles. Please lock your vehicles at all times and remove your valuables. Report any suspicious activity to the police department by calling Eaton County Central Dispatch at 517-541-0767.



From the Fire Chief Effective June 1st, 2023 residents in the City of Charlotte will no longer need to contact the Charlotte Fire Department to obtain a burn permit. Residents are permitted to have a recreational, cooking, or ceremonial fire any time of the year without a permit. Township residents may still be required to have a burn permit.

§3.3.226 Recreational fire. Fuel used for a recreational fire shall be untreated dry-season wood or charcoal. The total area for the fire shall not exceed 3 FT in diameter and 2 FT in height.

Burning of leaves, brush, yard waste, and trash is prohibited within city limits. Residents may be subject to a fire response charge if found in violation of city ordinance.

Additional information can be found at www.charlottemifire.org

CHARLOTTE PUBLIC LIBRARY EVENTS—MAY













Library Hours:

M-F 9am-7pm Sat 10am-2pm

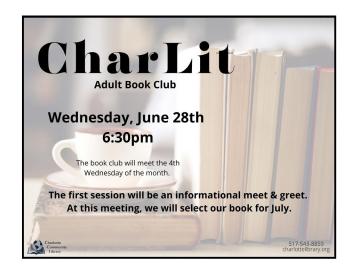
Address: 226 S. Bostwick Charlotte, MI 48813

Phone: (517) 543-8859

CHARLOTTE PUBLIC LIBRARY EVENTS-MAY

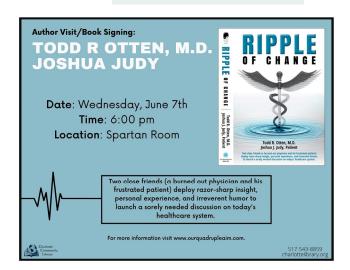












CHARLOTTE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EVENTS 2023



June

15

- Touch A Truck 5-8 (Downtown)
- Summer Concerts 6:30 (Courthouse Lawn)

June

16

- Vendors on the Square 11-7
- Cruise In Car Show 6-9 (Downtown)
- Brews at Beach 7-11
 w/ DJ Tom Cat & 100 Proof
 (Beach Market)

June

17

- Free Movie 11 (Eaton Theatre)
- Free Family Fun w/ bounce houses, activity trailers and vendors on the Square 10-5
- Colossal Cookie Challenge 2-4 (Congregational Church)
- Charlotte Celebrates Local Bands 12-8 (Courthouse lawn, Congregational Church & Beach Market)
- Windwalker Open Mic 8-11 (Beach Market)

June

18

Father's Day Pancake Breakfast 7-1
 (Eaton County Fair Grounds)

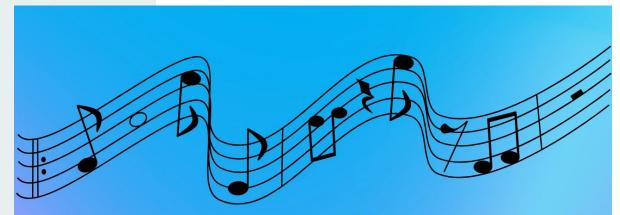
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517-543-0400 or www.micharlotte.org

CHARLOTTE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EVENTS 2023



CHARLOTTE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EVENTS 2023



Summer Concert

Series 2023

On the Historic Courthouse lawn
Thursdays at 6:30pm

- 6/1 Sea Cruisers:50's/60's
- 6/8 Frendz: Thru the Decades
- 6/15 Claim Jumpers: Country
- 6/22 Detroit Social Club: Blues
- 6/29 Jimmy & the Mortals: 60's
- 7/6 Frog & the Beeftones: Americana
- 7/13 Dwayne Spaw: Country
- 7/20 Laurie & the Lefties: Variety
- 7/27 Soul Town: Motown Hits
- 8/3 Whistle Pig Surprise band
- 8/10 Parted Water
- 8/17 Blind Ambition: 50's/60's



EATON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

The events at Eaton County Fairgrounds are managed by the Eaton County Agricultural Society. The Eaton County Agricultural Society is a Non-Profit 501(c)(5) corporation established in 1855. ECAS is operated by the Board of Directors, AKA the Fairboard. The Fairboard consists of 15 members who make the majority of the decisions regarding the operation of the Eaton County Fair and the grounds. Learn more here: https://eatoncountyfair.com/pageserver/ag-society.

The Fairboard has a full slate of exciting events planned for 2023

June 3-4: Magical Realm Fantasy Faire

June 9-10: Horse Show

June 22-24: Charlotte Bluegrass Festival

July 10-15: Eaton County Fair

July 29: Horse Show

August 5: Dairy Goat Show

August TBD: Mid-Michigan Gospel Fest

August 18-19: Horse Show

September 6-10: Charlotte Frontier Days

September 15-16: Horse Show

October 7: Horse Show

October 13-14: Horse Show



Eaton Area Senior Center "The Center"

The Senior Center invites one and all to join as a member and support the non-profit's mission. All ages can join! Please contact 517-541-2934 or visit https://www.eascmi.org/ The Center is located at 804 S Cochran Ave, Charlotte, MI 48813.

BINGO! Every Tuesday from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM the Center hosts Bingo games. All are welcome to attend and join in the fun!

The Center is available for rent—banquets or special events; fundraising!

Call Cindy for details, 517-541-2934



CITY OF CHARLOTTE

Michael Armitage—Mayor

Tammy Weissenborn—Mayor Pro-Tem/ Councilmember

Joseph Chin Jr.—Councilmember

Michael Duweck-Councilmember

Branden Dyer—Councilmember

Anthony Rodriguez—Councilmember

Adrianne Van Langevelde-Councilmember

Erin LaPere—City Manager

Mary LaRocque—City Clerk

Eric Smith—Finance Director/Treasurer

Amy Gilson-DPW Director

Paul Brentar-Police Chief

Dan Daly-Interim Fire Chief

Bryan Myrkle—Community Development Director

Randy Jewell—Assessor

City Hall

111 E Lawrence Ave Charlotte, MI 48813

Phone: 517-543-2750 Fax: 517-543-8845 E-mail: manager@charlottemi.org

> Clerk/Treasurer/Police In-Person Service Hours Monday thru Friday

9 am - 1 pm 2 pm - 4 pm

City Hall Staff Hours Monday thru Friday 8 am - 5 pm

Emergency Services 9-1-1 After-Hours DPW 517-543-8874



MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER



Summer weather brings fun events large and small. We hope you take advantage of the wonderful city parks for outdoor fun, including rental of Bennett Park or Camp Frances for your private events. I hope to see everyone at the numerous city events we have planned this year. Charlotte Celebrates is June 15-18, Magical Realm

office 517-543-8850 cell/text 269-223-9809 email elapere@charlottemi.org Fantasy Faire is June 3-4; and the Charlotte Bluegrass Festival June 22-24 to name a few. Weekly, the Chamber hosts farmers market

and concerts downtown-come join us!

Do you have an idea? Something happening in your neighborhood that you want to share? Concerned about a city matter? You can reach out to me anytime via phone, email, or stop by the office. You can also reach out to your elected officials, their contact information is available <u>online by clicking here</u>.

You can also learn more about what's happening in Charlotte online at the city's website: www.charlottemi.org; the city's facebook page, or twitter: @CityCharlotteMI

- Erin E La Pere

Recent City Council Actions—May 2023:

- Approved resolution to submit an application for Protecting MI pension grant program
- Approved resolution to allocate remaining ARPA dollars to Major Streets for Hall/Washington/McClure road rehabilitation project
- Approved signatories for FAA ARPA Grant
- Approved brush grinding contract for required yard waste disposal activities
- Approved selection of consultant for Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance project
- Held Public Hearing on Hazards and Nuisances Assessments for unpaid invoices
- Held Public Hearing on the 2023 Special Assessment Roll for the Fire District
- Held Public Hearing on the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget
- Adopted resolution to authorize addition of hazards and nuisance assessments for unpaid invoices
- Adopted resolution changing polling locations for November 2023 City Election
- Approved resolution to authorize 2023 special assessment roll for the fire district
- Approved resolution to adopt the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year budget
- Approved bid to replace the maintenance hangar roof at Fitch A.
 Beach Municipal Airport
- Approved Mayoral Appointments to boards/committees
- Canceled the May workshop meeting

Want to know more? Check out www.charlottemi.org/ to see 2023 meeting agendas and minutes.