



CITY OF

McHenry

HEART OF THE FOX RIVER

Illinois

SPRING/SUMMER NEWSLETTER²⁰²⁶



From the MAYOR'S DESK

With warmer weather on its way, I hope you can get out and enjoy some of the new amenities we've added recently around the City of McHenry. This includes the ADA accessible playground at Veterans Park, new piers at West Beach and the Lakeland Park boat launch and, in response to resident requests, six new pickleball courts at Knox Park next to the existing skate park. The City is also getting ready for two transformative road projects that will kick off later this year. The much-talked-about Route 31 project will widen the road to four lanes and add a bike path from 120 in McHenry south to 176 in Crystal Lake. The Riverside Drive streetscape will beautify downtown Riverside Drive, enhance safety, and upgrade underground utilities. Although construction will cause traffic disruption and some temporary inconvenience, we plan to keep residents and affected businesses informed every step of the way. From parks to roads, we're moving projects forward to ensure that McHenry will be a great place to live for many years to come.

But first, let's get our springtime festivities started with ShamRocks the Fox! Activities will take place the weekend of March 13-15. Miller Point Park will be the headquarters, and returning events include the Shamrock Shuffle 5K, dyeing of the Fox River, and the parade. Full information on ShamRocks the Fox can be found [here](#)! Please check out the rest of the newsletter, which is full of information and other activities to keep you busy through summer. I hope to see you out there!

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City DIRECTORY



City Offices

Mayor's Office

Wayne S. Jett 815-363-2108

City Administrator

Suzanne Ostrovsky 815-363-2108

Deputy City Clerk/Assistant to City Admin

Monte Johnson 815-363-2108

Community Development Director

Ross Polerecky 815-363-2170

Economic Development Director

Douglas Martin 815-363-2110

Finance Director

Carolyn Lynch 815-363-2100

Parks & Recreation Director

Bill Hobson 815-363-2160

Public Works Director

Russ Adams 815-363-2100

Police Chief

John Birk 815-363-2200

Police Non-Emergency

815-363-2200

Emergency 911

Municipal Center

333 S. Green Street 815-363-2100
Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Public Works

1415 Industrial Drive 815-363-2100
Monday - Friday, 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Parks & Recreation

3636 Municipal Drive 815-363-2160



Holiday Schedule

May 25th
(Memorial Day)

September 7th
(Labor Day)

November 26th & 27th
(Thanksgiving)

July 3rd
(Independence Day)

November 11th
(Veteran's Day)

December 24th & 25th
(Christmas)

Stay Connected:



Facebook: [@CityofMcHenry](https://www.facebook.com/CityofMcHenry)



YouTube: [@CityofMcHenry](https://www.youtube.com/CityofMcHenry)



Website: www.cityofmchenry.org

City Council

MAYOR

Wayne S. Jett

CITY CLERK

Trisha Ramel

WARD 1 ALDERWOMAN

Bobbi Baehne

WARD 2 ALDERMAN

Andrew Glab

WARD 3 ALDERMAN

Stephen Doherty

WARD 4 ALDERWOMAN

Chris Bassi

WARD 5 ALDERMAN

Andy Davis

WARD 6 ALDERMAN

Michael Koch

WARD 7 ALDERWOMAN

Sue Miller

WHO'S MY ALDERPERSON?

Find your representative by using the ward map on the City's website:
www.cityofmchenry.org/wardmap

HOW DO I CONTACT COUNCIL MEMBERS?

Residents can fill out the City Council contact form on the City's website: www.cityofmchenry.org/contactcitycouncil

COUNCIL MEETINGS

McHenry City Council meetings are scheduled on the first and third Mondays of the month and begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. Meetings that fall on a holiday will be held on the Tuesday after the holiday. The 2026 City Council Meeting Schedule is posted on the City [website](http://www.cityofmchenry.org).

If you can't attend a council meeting in person, you can watch online! Meetings are streamed live on the City's [YouTube channel](https://www.youtube.com/CityofMcHenry) and are automatically saved for residents to view after the meeting.

Spring/Summer EVENTS



MARCH

ShamRocks the Fox: 13th - 15th

Friday, 13th

- **Festivities** - Miller Point Park, 5 - 11 p.m., [more info](#)
Live Music: 6:30 - 11 p.m.
Alcohol Sales: 5 - 10:45 p.m.

Saturday, 14th

- **Kiwanis ShamROCK Shuffle 5K** - 1012 N. Green St, Race starts at 8 a.m., [more info](#)
- **Fox River Dyeing** - 10 a.m.
Viewings at Webers Park, Pearl Street Bridge, and Miller Point Park
- **Festivities** - Miller Point Park, 11 a.m. - 11 p.m.
Live Music: 12:30 p.m. - 11 p.m.
Alcohol Sales: 11:00 a.m. - 10:45 p.m.
- **Parade** - 12 p.m.
Parade Route: Starts on Kane Ave. towards Green St., proceeds north on Green St. to Pearl St., turns east to Riverside Dr. and then north on Riverside Dr. until W. Broad St., then turns west on Broad St.

Sunday, 15th

- **Festivities** - Miller Point Park, 12 - 7 p.m., [more info](#)
Live Music: 12 - 7 p.m.
Alcohol Sales: 12 - 6:45 p.m.
- **Fireworks** - Miller Point Park, 7 p.m.

MORE EVENT INFORMATION

City of McHenry
cityofmchenry.org
[@CityofMcHenry](https://twitter.com/CityofMcHenry)

McHenry Chamber of Commerce
mchenrychamber.com
[@McHenryAreaChamber](https://twitter.com/McHenryAreaChamber)

Naturally McHenry County
naturallymchenrycounty.com
[@NaturallyMcHenryCounty](https://twitter.com/NaturallyMcHenryCounty)

APRIL

Friday, 24th

- **Arbor Day Ceremony** - Municipal Center, 3 p.m.

MAY

Friday, 1st

- **Riverwalk Shoppes Grand Opening** - Miller Point Park, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., [more info](#)

Saturday, 9th

- **Spring Sip** - Downtown McHenry Businesses, [more info](#)

Thursday, 14th

- **Pearl Street Market & Concerts** - Every Thursday through September 3rd, 3400 Pearl St., 5 - 7:30 p.m., [more info](#)

Sunday, 24th

- **Summer Music Sundays** - Every Sunday through October 4th, Miller Point Park, [more info](#)

Monday, 25th

- **Memorial Day Ceremony** - Veteran's Memorial Park, 10 a.m.

JUNE

Tuesday, 2nd

- **Green Street Cruise Nights** - Every Tuesday through September, [more info](#)

Tuesday, 16th

- **Night Under the Stars** - McHenry Riverwalk Shoppes, [more info](#)

Saturday, 20th

- **Soap Box Derby** - Waukegan Rd, [more info](#)
- **Miller Point Concert** - Miller Point Park, [more info](#)

Sunday, 21st

- **Kids Fishing Derby** - Whispering Oaks Park, 8 - 11:30 a.m., [more info](#)

JULY

Fiesta Days: 9th - 19th



Thursday, 9th

- **Cask & Barrel Night** - Petersen Park, 6 p.m. - 10 p.m., [more info](#)

Friday, 10th

- **Music Fest Weekend** - Petersen Park, [more info](#)
- **RC Racing** - Petersen Park
- **Carnival & Yard Games** - Petersen Park

Saturday, 11th

- **Lakefront 5K and Kids Fun Run (formerly River Run)** - Petersen Park Beach, check-in from 7 - 7:45 a.m., race starts at 8 a.m.

Sunday, 12th

- **Beach Bash** - Petersen Park, 12 - 4 p.m., Free Admission Day!
- **42nd Annual Car Show** - 8 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
- **Big Wheels Race** - Petersen Park, 3 p.m., Register [here](#)
- **Fireworks** - Petersen Park, 9:30 p.m. [more info](#)

Thursday, 16th

- **Concert in the Park/Parade Marshal Ceremony** - Veteran's Memorial Park, 5 - 9 p.m.

Saturday, 18th

- **DamYak Challenge** - Registration begins at 6:30 a.m., Event is 8 - 10 a.m., [more info](#)
- **Duck Derby** - Boone Creek at Green Street, 11 a.m. duck drop, [more info](#)
- **Art & Street Fair** - Veteran's Memorial Park & Miller Point, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- **Maker's Zone Craft Stations** - Veteran's Memorial Park, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Sunday, 19th

- **Fiesta Days Parade** - 1:30 p.m.

Monday, 27th

- **Miss McHenry Scholarship Pageant & Princess Program** - The Vixen, 7 p.m.
Applications go live on April 2nd and are due May 14th, [more info](#)



MCHENRY MUSIC FESTIVAL

THU. SEPT. 10TH

SHINEDOWN
DAUGHTRY
SEVENDUST
NONPOINT

FRI. SEPT. 11TH

KANE BROWN
KAMERON MARLOWE
JOSH ROSS
ZACH MILLER

SAT. SEPT. 12TH

HARDY
TBA
LAKEVIEW
MCCOY MOORE

TICKETS AS
LOW
AS \$59

WWW.MCHENRYMUSICFEST.COM

GET
TICKETS



mchenrymusicfest.com



[Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/mchenrymusicfest)

Development REGULATIONS

Unified Development Ordinance (UDO)

In June 2025, the City of McHenry began a comprehensive update of the City's development regulations, which were originally adopted in 1986. This effort consolidates the City's regulatory policies into a Unified Development Ordinance (UDO). The UDO is intended to guide and regulate development while implementing the vision, goals, and policies established in the City's 2025 Comprehensive Plan.

Follow along for future updates and opportunities to be involved in the UDO's development: www.cityofmchenryudo.com.



CREATING THE CITY of McHENRY UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE (UDO)

Three Major Plan Development Tasks

1. DIAGNOSTIC ANALYSIS



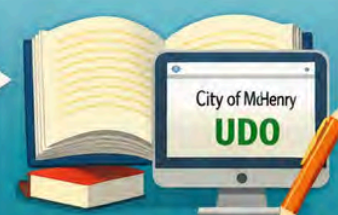
Assess Needs & Issues

2. ORDINANCE CONTENT DEVELOPMENT



Draft Standards & Regulations

3. DOCUMENT DEVELOPMENT



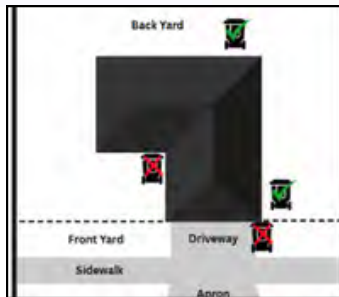
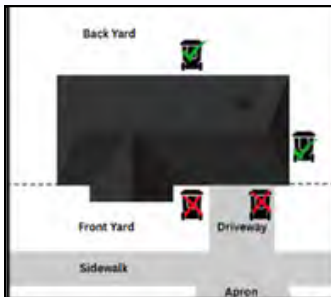
Prepare UDO Document

Property MAINTENANCE

Each property owner is required to maintain their properties in accordance with City Code. These codes exist to ensure the safety, health and welfare of our community, as well as preserve property values. Below are some reminders to keep your property in good shape.

Garbage Cans

Please remember that per City ordinance, **garbage cans may not be out more than 24 hours prior to the regular collection schedule nor can they be out more than 24 hours after the collection schedule.** At all other times, the containers may not be located between the principal structure and the street.



Grass Maintenance

Mowing your lawn is an important part of maintaining your property. **City Code states grass/weeds shall not exceed 8 inches in length.**



Junk & Debris

Trash, construction debris, and any other items that affect the appearance of the property should not be left in the yard. Please keep your property free of these items.



Seasonal Decorations

Many residents choose to celebrate seasonal holidays with outdoor decorations. **City Code states seasonal decorations may not be installed more than 45 days before a holiday and must be removed within 45 days after the holiday.** Please be sure to adhere to these guidelines when decorating for holidays.



Building PERMITS

It's that time of year when many people start home improvement projects. Many projects require building permits. Permits and inspections ensure each project meets the minimum requirements of the adopted building, electric and plumbing codes. These processes help the City protect the public from potential hazards and unsafe construction.

Common projects that require a building permit:

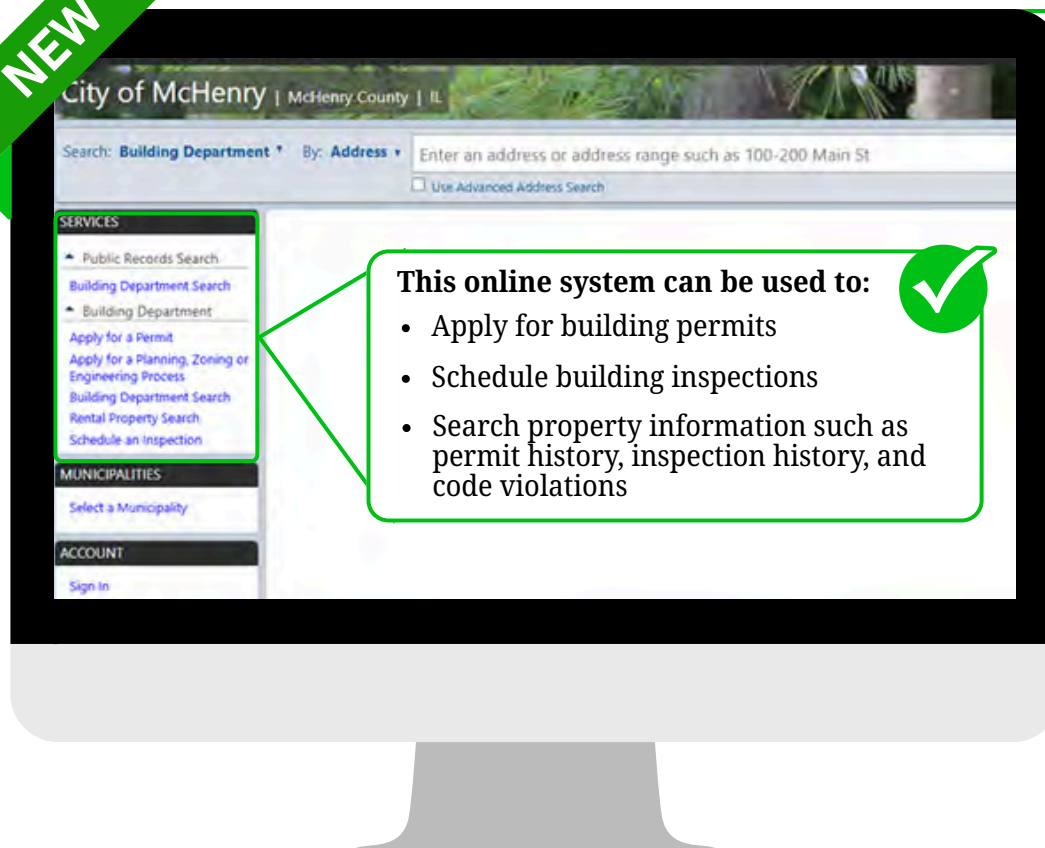
- Additions
- Alterations/Remodels
- Accessory Structures (sheds, etc.)
- AC/Furnace
- Decks
- Demolition
- Driveways
- Fences
- Generators
- Sewer/Water Repairs
- Lawn Irrigation
- Patios
- Pools/Hot Tubs
- Electric Upgrades
- Roofing
- Siding
- Sidewalks/Stairs
- Solar Panels
- Windows/Doors

Please note this is NOT an all-inclusive list.

Applying for permits:

- **In person:** McHenry Municipal Center (City Hall), 333 S. Green St., Monday - Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- **Email:** CED@cityofmchenry.org
- **Online:** Visit our website at: www.cityofmchenry.org/permits

NEW



As of January of 2026, Community Development has implemented a new online portal.

- **Residents are not required** to make an account to utilize the portal.
- **Contractors are required** to create an account using a specific code provided by Community Development. Contractors can receive their code by calling 815-363-2170.



Questions? Contact
Community Development at 815-363-2170

Riverwalk Shoppes

A COMMUNITY FAVORITE

Welcoming a Thriving Fourth Season!

Excitement is brewing as the McHenry Riverwalk Shoppes gear up for their fourth season! Since their debut in the summer of 2023 “The Shoppes” have become a beloved feature in our City, enriching the Riverwalk District and providing a vibrant destination for residents and visitors alike. Whether you’re searching for a unique gift, a delicious treat, or simply a relaxing afternoon by the water, The Shoppes are the place to be!

We’re thrilled to announce that two of last year’s Shoppes— Curated by Laney and Hello Darling Books & Beyond—are returning for another year. Their continued presence is a testament to the Shoppes’ success and the warm support of our community. In addition, one of last year’s shops (AteaCo Coffee & Tea) will soon be opening a brick and mortar store in McHenry.

Here’s to another fantastic season, we can’t wait to see you there!

SAVE THE DATE

MAY
01

Opening Day!

📍 Miller Point, 1202 N. Riverside Dr.

📘 @mchenryriverwalkshoppes

🌐 mchenrychamber.com/mchenry-riverwalk-shoppes/

2026 Lineup

- Arlo’s Candy Shop
- Art for Adrienne
- Blink Supply
- The Cake Lady, LLC
- Curated by Laney Boutique
- Hello Darling Books & Beyond
- Nugi Soaps
- The Refill Shed
- Roots & Routes Co
- The Winter Inn BBQ Company



Hours of Operation

Friday: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sunday: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Many shops extend their hours, be sure to check business's individual Facebook pages for extra hours.

Shop Local

THINK McHENRY

Get rewarded for shopping local

Thank you to everyone who has downloaded the ShopNDine McHenry Open Rewards app and is supporting our economy by shopping local and promoting economic growth in our municipality. Our fall ShopNDine Rewards Program had 49 new users at over 165 McHenry businesses!

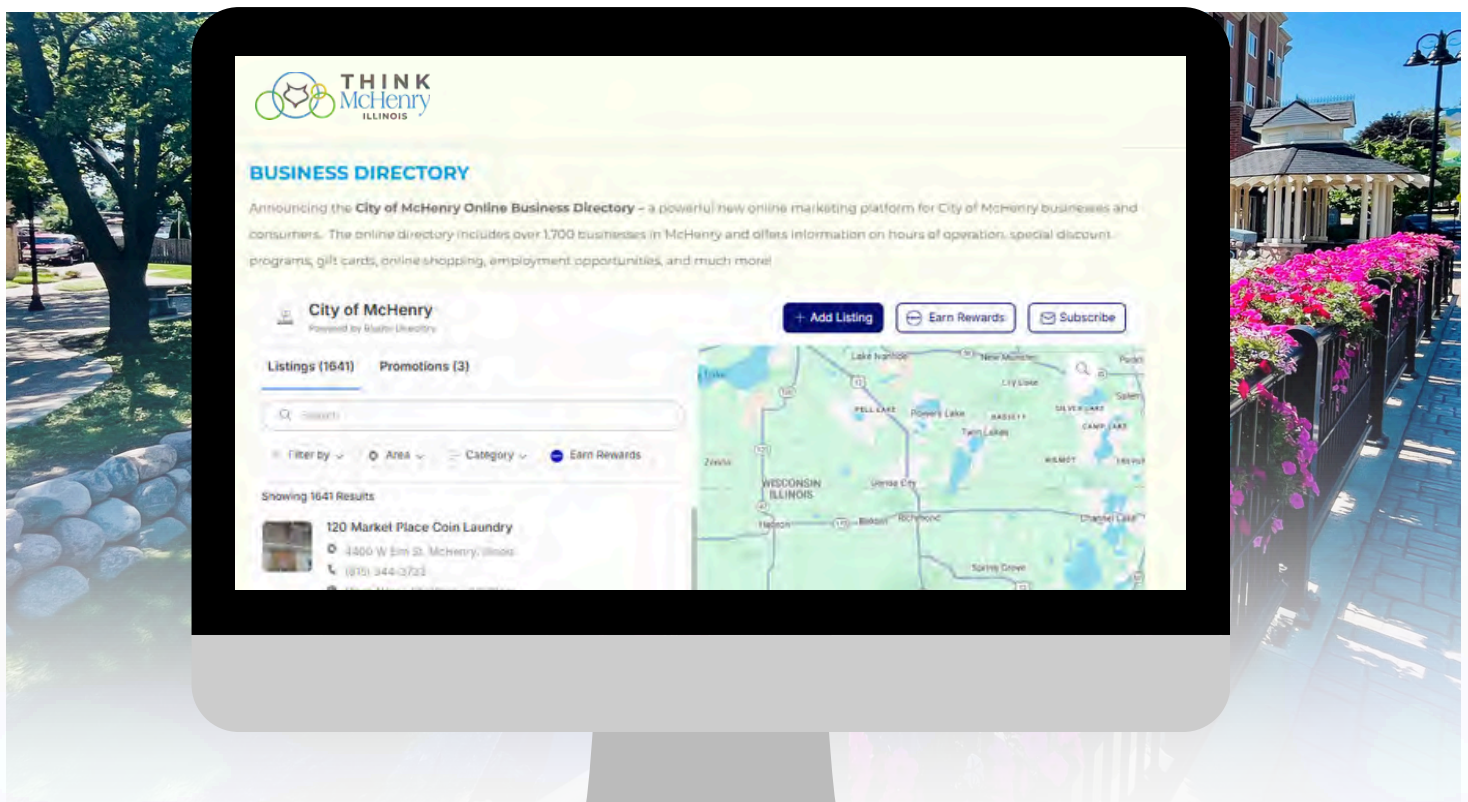
Keep your eyes out for the next ShopNDine Rewards Program this summer. Participants will be able to earn at least 5% rewards for every purchase at specified McHenry businesses by using the Open Rewards App. Rewards can be redeemed towards purchases at select businesses within the City.

Visit: shopndinemchenry.com for more information.



McHenry businesses at your fingertips

We encourage residents and visitors to utilize our interactive business directory to discover all of McHenry's local businesses. Visit ThinkMcHenry.com/businessdirectory to help plan your next outing!





Local BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESSES

Hannigan, Botha & Sievers, Ltd.....	5306 W. Elm Street, Unit B
NewGen Wireless.....	3719 Elm Street
Echo Inc.....	2742-46 Barney Court
Iron Roots Nutrition.....	615 N. Front Street
Collective 31.....	620 IL Route 31
Taylor Place Apartments.....	812 N. Mill Street
Cantaritto's Mexican Restaurant.....	1228 Green Street
McHenry Wireless.....	4400 Elm Street, Unit M
76 McHenry.....	3702 W. Elm Street
Lakemoor Dental #2.....	2018 N. Richmond Road
Eternal Goddess Tattoo.....	3940 Main Street
Dobbs Tire & Auto Centers.....	4705 W. Elm Street
Tasty Tumblers.....	2808 Route 120
The Rooted Ritual Apothecary.....	1309 Green Street, Unit A
Mindful Roots.....	1309 Green Street, Unit A
Happy Jacks (new owner).....	4911 W. Elm Street
J&R Exteriors.....	611 Front Street
Petra Kinnerk American Family Agency (new owner).....	402 Front Street

IN PROGRESS

RGD Illinois Grocer.....	1762 Richmond Road
Redwood Apartments.....	Route 120 & Chapel Hill Road
Niko's on the Fox.....	1211 N. River Road
A-Tea Co.....	1323 Riverside Drive
Clubs Indoor Golf McHenry.....	3315 Pearl Street
Sacred Vision Tattoo Studio.....	3817 Elm Street
Yummy Bowl.....	1700 Richmond Road
The Thresholds.....	616 IL Route 31
A Stone of Your Own.....	1118 Green Street
The Buzzz (Private Banquet Space).....	1250 Green Street
Red Rose Banquets LLC.....	1501 IL Route 31

WE'VE MOVED

BMO Harris Bank.....	2400 Richmond Road
K-Adams Foto.....	305 Front Street
Temperance Crystals.....	4314 Elm Street
Salt & Stone Massage.....	3511 Elm Street
Unique Smiles.....	4101 Shamrock Lane
NICL.....	4302 Crystal Lake Road
Reese's Barkery & Pawtique.....	3314 Pearl Street
Learning Linx.....	620 S. IL Route 31, Suite 1

McHenry RECREATION CENTER

Membership Benefits

- The McHenry Recreation Center features a 4,500 square foot fitness center
- 50+ weekly group exercise classes for members, including Les Mills classes, TRX suspension training and cycling
- Individual, senior, teen and military annual passes receive 5 guest passes each year
- Convenient monthly payment plans
- Available childcare while you exercise (additional fee)
- Locker rooms and showers
- Cardio equipment with touch screen technology, internet capability and television screens
- Treadmills, incline trainers, ellipticals, ARC trainers, stepmill, recumbent and upright bikes
- Rig functional training system, weight machines, free weights



View Group fitness schedule:
cityofmchenry.org/parks&rec

Get your membership today!

Membership Type	Monthly Rate	Enrollment Fee
Individual (18-61)	\$38	\$30/R - \$50/NR
Add'l Family Member (12+)	\$23	\$20/R - \$30/NR
Individual Senior (62+)	\$30	\$30/R - \$50/NR
Individual Teen (14-17)	\$30	\$30/R - \$50/NR
Military/Police/Fire (Act/Ret)	\$33	Waived
Monthly	\$48	N/A
10-Punch Pass	\$80	N/A
20-Punch Pass	\$150	N/A
Individual Daily	\$10 Daily	N/A

Contact Us

McHENRY PARKS & RECREATION
3636 Municipal Dr, McHenry, IL
Phone: 815-363-2160
Email: recinfo@cityofmchenry.org
Website: cityofmchenry.org/parks&rec
Facebook: [@McHenryParksandRecreation](https://www.facebook.com/McHenryParksandRecreation)

Hours

Monday - Thursday	5:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Friday	5:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday	7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Holiday Hours	7:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.



Parks & Recreation

EVENT SPACE RENTALS

MCHENRY REC CENTER ROOMS

Take advantage of the spacious community rooms available for meetings, parties, or receptions accommodating up to 100 guests. Rooms can be rented individually for smaller groups or combined to cater to larger groups. Food storage and prep is allowed in the kitchen adjacent to Community Room A. Rentals cannot extend beyond 11:00 pm.



Room	Seated Capacity	Resident Rate	Non-Res Rate	After Hours Fee
A	40	\$50/hr	\$65/hr	\$50 flat fee
B	50	\$50/hr	\$65/hr	\$50 flat fee
C	40	\$50/hr	\$65/hr	\$50 flat fee
A-C	100	\$125/hr	\$165/hr	\$125 flat fee
Kitchen	NA	\$35 flat fee	\$35 flat fee	NA

PARK SHELTERS

Choose from a variety of affordable, scenic parks for a rustic, natural setting for your special event, family reunion, picnic or corporate function. All shelters include picnic tables. Some include nearby washrooms, water and recreation opportunities.

Veterans Memorial Park Gazebo: Located in the heart of McHenry, this scenic setting offers an intimate gazebo for weddings or similar ceremonies. The front rails on the gazebo can be removed with a \$25 maintenance fee.

Shelter Locations:

- Knox Park, 330 S. Knox Drive
- Petersen Park, 4300 Petersen Park Road
- Veterans Memorial Park, 3400 Pearl Street
- Ft. McHenry, 4300 Front Royal Drive (max 30 people)



Book Now! ←

For available dates and additional information:

Call 815-363-2166 Email recinfo@cityofmchenry.org

At time of booking: full payment is required for shelter reservations; at least half payment is required for room reservations.

Please note: Beer & wine and special uses are allowed with a minimum of four weeks' notice.

Group	# People	Reservation Fee
Resident/ Resident Non-Profit	25 - 50	\$55
	51 - 150	\$85
	151 - over	\$115
Non-Resident/ Non-Resident Non-Profit	25 - 50	\$110
	51 - 150	\$170
	151 - over	\$230
Company	In City	\$220
	Out of City	\$440

Save the Date

POLICE EVENTS

**APRIL
07**

COFFEE WITH THE CHIEF

McHenry Public Library

Learn about the current happenings within the Police Department and the City with Police Chief John Birk. At these events, open Q&A on any topic relating to our Police Department is encouraged.



**MAY
15**

COP ON A ROOFTOP

Dunkin' Donuts

Stop by and see our officers on the roof of a Dunkin' Donuts near you and help support Special Olympics of Illinois!



**JUNE
02**

COFFEE WITH THE CHIEF

McHenry Public Library

Learn about the current happenings within the Police Department and the City with Police Chief John Birk. At these events, open Q&A on any topic relating to our Police Department is encouraged.



**AUG
04**

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Petersen Park

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie.



STAY CONNECTED 24/7

Stay up to date on all Police Department events by following them on social media!





Police Department UPDATES



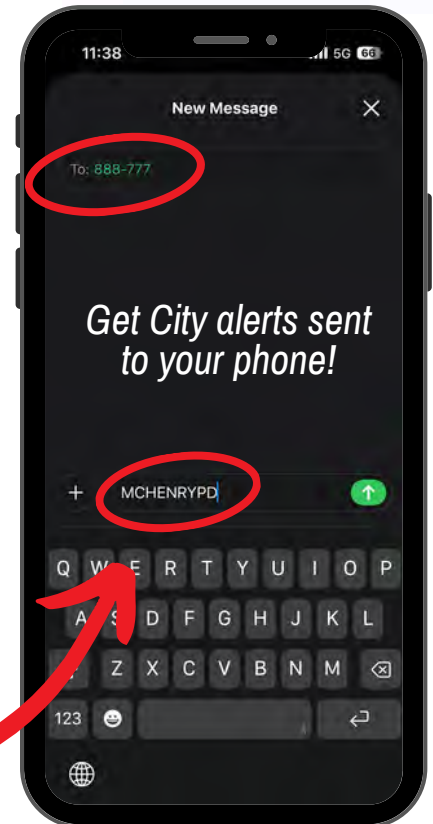
Stay "In the Know" With Nixle

The Nixle program is a community information service that allows the McHenry Police Department to send real-time alerts directly to our residents by text message, email, and web posts. It's used to share important public safety information such as road closures, severe weather warnings, missing person notices, crime alerts, and other urgent situations that may affect the McHenry community.

One of its biggest benefits is speed—community members get accurate information straight from the McHenry Police Department, which helps reduce rumors and confusion during emergencies.

Nixle also strengthens transparency and trust by keeping the community informed about ongoing issues and safety initiatives, not just crises. Overall, it gives residents a simple way to stay aware, prepared, and connected to the City of McHenry and the McHenry Police Department who serve and protect them.

Sign up for Nixle alerts by texting MCHENRYPD to 888777



SCAM



ALERT

Quick tips for preventing fraud

- Do not pay any bill, bail, computer repair, tax, or other payment using gift cards of any kind. This is most likely a fraud. Please contact the non-emergency number and report it. Even if you did not complete the payment, it might assist with other investigations.
- Recently, the department has taken several fraud calls where victims were fraudulently taken for \$10,000 or more, usually with direct payments such as gift cards or even PayPal or other pay sites which can be difficult to trace.
- No payment to government agencies should be paid via cryptocurrency. This is also fraud and should be reported.



**Police Non-Emergency
815-363-2200**



Public Works

1415 Industrial Drive
Monday - Friday, 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Program Updates

IL Route 31 Widening

The City is actively engaged in the IL Route 31 widening project with the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). The project will expand Route 31 to four lanes (2 northbound and 2 southbound) from IL Route 176 in Crystal Lake to IL Route 120 in McHenry. Tree removal and right-of-way clearing is nearly complete. Utility relocation is anticipated to begin in 2026 and continue through 2027, and road construction is expected to occur 2028 - 2030.

2026 Road Resurfacing

The City Council continues robust funding of the City of McHenry's Local Road Resurfacing Program, with the improvement of 5.3 miles of local neighborhood roads and a total investment of \$2.0 million scheduled for 2026. This program is targeted for an early spring 2026 start. All streets are anticipated to be completed by July, weather permitting.

In an effort to provide up-to-date information on the schedule, the Public Works Department will share project updates via X at @CityMcHenryRoad and via the City website at cityofmchenry.org/projects.

HYDRANT FLUSHING

April 20th - May 8th

The Public Works Department will begin its spring hydrant flushing operation throughout the City on **April 20th for a three-week period ending May 8th.**

Hydrant flushing is necessary to clean and maintain the water distribution system. During the flushing period, water can become discolored. If this occurs, run your cold water tap for a few minutes until the water clears. If this does not correct the problem, wait approximately one (1) hour and flush the cold water again. Do not run your hot water until the cold water tap has cleared. This discoloration is not hazardous for human consumption; however, clothing can become stained during laundering.

ARBOR DAY CEREMONY

April 24th at 3:00 p.m.

Planting trees is a wonderful way to help the environment and memorialize someone special. As part of the City's Arbor Day celebration (the last Friday in April), the Arbor Day Tree Donation Program has been established to allow residents to donate a tree at the Municipal Center or a City park. The cost is \$400.00 per tree, and a memorial brick will be installed in the ground near the tree. Residents wishing to participate in this program must submit payment and complete the Tree Donation form by April 1st, 2026: www.cityofmchenry.org/treedonation

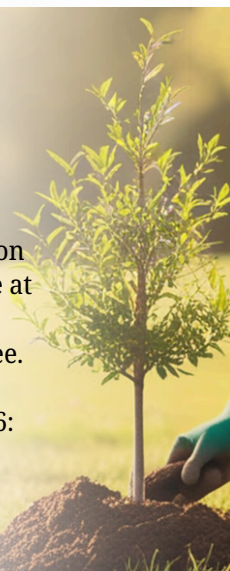
For further information regarding this program, please contact Arborist Mike Harper at 815-363-2162.

BRUSH PICK-UP

Monday, May 4th at
7:00 a.m.

The Public Works Department will begin its spring brush pick-up program on Monday, May 4th at 7:00 a.m. for the entire City. **All residents must have their brush out to the curb by 7:00 a.m. on May 4th.** Crews will visit each street once and continue until they have gone through the entire City. No callbacks will be made.

This program is for tree material only; yard waste belongs in the Yard Waste Collection Program provided by Flood Brothers. This program is intended for larger tree branches resulting from trimming or storm damage and is for residential properties only. No stumps or roots will be taken. Branches should be as long as possible and no more than 5 inches in diameter. Residents are advised to place brush on the parkway parallel to the street but not in the street.





(w) www.floodbrothersdisposal.com

(p) (630) 261-0400

(e) mchenry@floodbrothersdisposal.com

Programs



REFUSE & RECYCLING

Annual Rates

The City of McHenry's residential refuse, recycling, and yard waste contract with Flood Brothers Disposal concludes on July 31st, 2027. Refuse and recycling rates for 2026 are as follows:

RATES	YEAR 4	YEAR 5
	August 1, 2025 - July 31, 2026	August 1, 2026 - July 31, 2027
35-gallon cart	\$20.22/month	\$20.82/month
65-gallon cart	\$21.75/month	\$22.40/month
95-gallon cart	\$22.89/month	\$23.58/month
Refuse Sticker*	\$3.30 each	\$3.35 each

*Refuse stickers are available for purchase at the Municipal Center, Angelo's Fresh Market, Meijer Store, Ace Hardware & Jewel Food Store. SOLD IN SHEETS OF 5.

Holidays

Flood Brothers will observe the following holidays for 2026 which will affect scheduled collection days by one (1) day after the holiday for the remainder of the week:

- New Year's Day
- Memorial Day
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Day



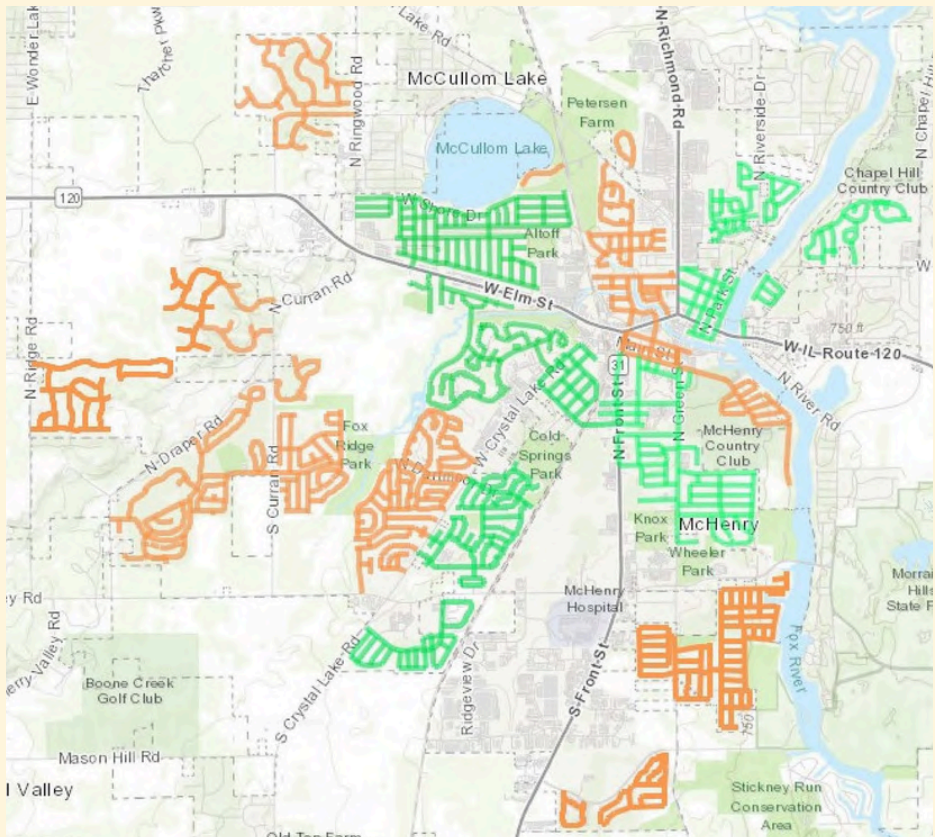
Suspended 2025 Zoned Leaf Vacuuming resumes for one final pick-up in spring!

Due to snow events occurring at the end of November 2025, Flood Brothers' zoned fall leaf vacuuming program was suspended. **Flood Brothers Disposal will complete the 2025 program in the spring of 2026 by passing through every residential property once throughout each zone's 1-week period.** All leaf piles must be placed within 4 feet of the roadway edge or curbing by 7:00 a.m. on the Monday of the zone collection week.

Zone 2 Green - Monday, April 6th

Zone 1 Orange - Monday, April 13th

This service is performed utilizing trucks with specially designed vacuum equipment. Leaf piles must be within 4 feet of the roadway edge or curbing and **must be free of brush/branches/rocks** as this damages the equipment. Do not place leaf piles on the pavement or in drainage ditches. Cars cannot be parked in the roadway when these collections are being made. Clear access to the curb line or roadside must be maintained in order to properly collect the leaves.





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Programs



E-WASTE COLLECTION

March 16th - 20th

Flood Brothers will remove e-waste at the curb **on the resident's regular refuse pick-up day beginning March 16th through 20th, 2026.**

Residents are limited to five (5) electronic items per pick-up. Out of those five (5) items, only one (1) may be a television or one (1) computer monitor.

Acceptable Electronic Items:

- 1 television or 1 computer monitor
- Any type of telephone
- Cameras
- CD players, MP3 players, stereos
- Computer drives, mice, keyboards
- Fax machines
- Holiday lights
- Paper shredders
- Printers without ink
- VCRs
- Video games and players
- Microwave ovens
- Small household appliances

UNLIMITED BULK ITEM CLEANUP

May 18th - May 22nd

The contract with Flood Brothers Disposal includes one spring bulk cleanup event per year. **This year's unlimited bulk item cleanup collection will occur Monday, May 18th, 2026, through Friday, May 22nd, 2026, on the resident's regular refuse pickup day.**

This curbside collection allows residents to dispose of unlimited bulk items. A bulk item is considered an item the resident would take with them if they moved out of the residence and manageable for one person to lift (not drag). Please call Flood Brothers at 630-261-0400 if you have any questions regarding the program.

Acceptable Bulk Items:

- Couch, small tables, mattresses, chairs, box springs weighing no more than 50 lbs. and no longer than 5 feet.
- Rolls of carpeting will be accepted, but must be rolled, taped, or tied, and weigh less than 50 pounds and be no more than 5 feet long, 2 feet in diameter.

Unacceptable Bulk Items:

- Items weighing more than 50 pounds
- Items longer than 5 feet
- Rocks and concrete
- Construction debris: lumber, drywall, roofing materials, old cabinets, glass windows, glass doors, etc.
- White goods (appliances): freezers, refrigerators, stoves, washing machines, dryers, etc., even if broken up, cut up, crushed or flattened
- Any type of metal post, pipe, swing set, antenna, etc.
- Electronic waste or e-waste: computer equipment, televisions, printers, etc.
- Household hazardous waste: gasoline, solvents, pesticides, motor oil, pool chemicals, paint, paint thinner, propane tanks, etc.
- No tires of any kind

UNLIMITED YARD WASTE COLLECTION

April 6th to December 11th

Flood Brothers Disposal's unlimited yard waste curbside collection program for 2026 begins on Monday, April 6th. This program includes free weekly pickup of yard waste bags, properly sized bundles, or acceptable containers for every residential refuse account in the City on the resident's regular refuse pickup day. Residents may use either 2-ply, 50-pound weight disposable kraft paper bags or plastic/metal containers with a tight cover which do not exceed 35 gallons in size and 50 pounds in weight. No plastic bags are allowed. Personal containers for yard waste must be marked with an X, Y, or YW. Branches must be bundled/tied together: each bundle cannot exceed five (5) feet in length, cannot exceed two (2) feet in diameter, cannot exceed more than 50 pounds, and cannot contain limbs greater than three (3) inches in diameter.

Acceptable Materials:

Grass clippings, leaves, branches 3 inches in diameter or less and no more than 5 feet in length, brush, garden plants, flowers, weeds, bark pieces, pine cones, pumpkins, mums, hay bales and corn stalks. Food scraps are acceptable too!

Unacceptable Materials:

Tree trunks & stumps, branches larger than 3 inches in diameter and longer than 5 feet, fence posts, railroad ties, firewood, rocks, sod or dirt.

Public Works BRIEFS



Restoration Work

Restoration work to parkways damaged by snowplows and water main breaks will begin in the spring. Materials such as black dirt, sod, and blacktop need to be available before work can begin.

Restoration of damaged sidewalks and curbs will start as soon as the weather permits. This is ongoing work for Public Works' personnel and will commence as soon as possible.

If your lawn has suffered any damage, a quick and easy way to notify the Public Works Department is via our online form: cityofmchenry.org/PWServiceRequest



Pick Up, Help Out

When the white blanket of snow melts each spring, it reveals a wondrous new year full of surprises. Unfortunately, some surprises are trash and it is doubtful the people who left it there are going to come back to get it. Before this trash is carried away into our streams and ponds by the spring rains, let's pick it up – pay it forward – pollution starts and stops with people. Picking up trash and debris helps protect our waterways and wildlife habitats and instantly makes the area look better. What you might not see are the benefits to the earth. Each time we pick up trash and put it in the right place, we take a step toward making the planet we live on happier and healthier.

Test Your Tank

Leaking toilet tanks are sometimes called the “sneaky leak.” Unlike a dripping faucet, you cannot usually see or hear a leaking toilet tank. When the flapper valve in the bottom of your toilet tank begins to wear out and does not seal properly, water from the toilet tank can leak into the toilet bowl. Sometimes this is just a drip or trickle that cannot be seen without some help.

If you would like to test your toilet tank to see if you are flushing money down the drain, simply remove the cover on the toilet tank and put a few drops of dark food coloring in the toilet tank. Red, green, or blue food coloring work the best. Wait 25 minutes and DO NOT flush the toilet. If the water in the toilet bowl becomes colored, you are losing water and your flapper valve needs to be replaced.

Experiencing A Sewer Backup?

Call Us!

If you are experiencing a sewer backup during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., contact City Hall at 815-363-2100 before calling a plumber. If after 4:30 p.m., call the non-emergency police phone number at 815-363-2200. Public Works personnel will be sent to your location to assess the problem. If the blockage is in the City's sewer main line, the City will take corrective action as quickly as possible. If the blockage is in your private sewer line (the portion from the building to the sewer main line), you will be requested to call a plumber to clear your building's service. In this instance, all necessary repairs and restoration are the responsibility of the homeowner.

Storm Damage Pick-Up Criteria

- Sustained wind speeds of 40 mph or greater
- Wind gust speeds of 58 mph or greater

The City may provide a storm damage pick-up following a major storm event that has **impacted large areas of the community**. This service is intended to assist in the clean-up of severe damage and not the result of tree trimming. The City uses the Weather Command Weather Service to help determine if weather events meet the criteria and are severe enough to warrant a storm damage pick-up.

If the need for a storm damage pick-up has been determined by the City, notification of the storm damage pick-up will be communicated via Nixle, the City website, and the City Facebook page. Residents should place branches on the parkway parallel to the street but not in the street, making sure that the branches are as long as possible and not more than 5 inches in diameter. No stumps, roots, or root balls will be taken.

Free Wood Chips

While supplies last!

The City's spring and fall brush pick-up programs result in free wood chips for City of McHenry residents. Wood chips are available only at the Public Works Facility, located at 1415 Industrial Drive. They are stored in a bin on the east side of the parking lot. You may take as much as you need, but you must bring and fill your own containers. Wood chips are available while supplies last, so come grab them early in the season!