HEARD IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE...

AUGUST

two thousand twenty six

Office Hours: As summer comes to a close, so do our summer office hours. The Village Office will soon return to our regular schedule. **The Village Office will be closed Monday, September 7, in observance of Labor Day.** Beginning Tuesday, September 8, the Village Office will resume regular hours:
Monday - Friday 8am - 5pm. We hope everyone has had a safe and enjoyable summer, and we wish you a happy Labor Day!

Summer Property Tax Reminder: 2026 Summer Property Taxes are due Monday, September 14, 2026. Residents are reminded that property taxes for properties located within the Village of Lawton are collected by Antwerp Township. Property tax payments should not be made at the Village Office. For questions regarding your tax bill, payment options, or tax payment status, please contact Antwerp Township directly.
Antwerp Township
24821 Front Ave
Mattawan, MI 49071
(269) 668-2615

Park Rentals/Splash Pad Closure: Enjoy the last weeks of summer at our Village parks! Pavilion rentals are available - visit our website or call the Village Office for details. Please note: the Splash Pad will close for the season the day after Labor Day.

Utility Billling Update: The Village has implemented a new utility billing cycle that provides approximately 30 days between the date bills are issued and the due date. Please review your utility bill carefully, as your due date has changed. We also encourage residents to sign up for paperless billing to help reduce printing and postage costs and save taxpayer dollars. To enroll, please call the Village Office or complete the paperless billing form on the Village website.

Lawton Farmers Market - Open Through October: The Lawton Farmers Market is open every Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and will continue through the last Saturday in October. Come on down and see what our local vendors have to offer! From fresh produce and locally made goods to unique finds, there is always something worth checking out. Shop local, support our vendors, and enjoy your Saturday at the Farmers Market! **Have goods you'd like to sell?** We're always looking for vendors! Visit the Village website or our Lawton Farmers Market Facebook page to find a vendor application. We hope to see you at the market!

Food Truck Tuesdays: Don't miss our final Food Truck Tuesday of the season! Come on down to Reid's Corner on Tuesday, August 25, from 5:00–8:00 p.m. for a great evening of food, friends, and community fun! Food Trucks Joining Us:
🍖 *Scott's Pig Roast* 🌮 *Kalako Street Cuisine* 🍰 *SWAT – Sweets With A Twist*
Bring your family, bring your friends, and come hungry! Help us wrap up another great Food Truck Tuesday season in Lawton. See ya there!

VILLAGE HOURS

Clerk's Office Hours:
M-TH 6:00am – 4:30pm
FRI - 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 the Month of August.

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

VILLAGE MANAGER'S *Update*

As we continue working to improve services and infrastructure throughout the Village, you'll notice several projects and activities taking place over the coming months.

FRONTIER FIBER INSTALLATION

Frontier Communications is currently installing fiber optic cable throughout the Village. This investment will provide residents and businesses with access to faster, more reliable high-speed internet service.

During construction, you may see utility crews working along streets and within utility easements. While every effort is being made to minimize disruptions, we appreciate your patience as this important project moves forward. Please use caution when traveling through active work areas and remember to give construction crews plenty of space to work safely.

WORKING AMERICA CANVASSING

Over the next few months, representatives from Working America will be canvassing neighborhoods throughout the Village by going door-to-door. Their representatives may speak with residents about a variety of community and public policy topics.

This is an independent organization and is not affiliated with or endorsed by the Village of Lawton. We simply want residents to be aware that you may see canvassers in your neighborhood.

ANNUAL HYDRANT FLUSHING

Our Department of Public Works will once again begin its annual hydrant flushing program in **September**. Hydrant flushing is an important part of maintaining our water distribution system by improving water quality, verifying hydrant operation, and helping ensure reliable fire protection.

A detailed schedule and additional information will be provided as the start date approaches. During flushing, residents may notice temporary discoloration of their water or reduced water pressure. If this occurs, simply run cold water for a few minutes until it clears.

FALL IS AROUND THE CORNER!

Fall is quickly coming, which means it will be leaf pick up before you know it. A quick and friendly reminder,

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

GUIDELINES FOR LEAF PICK UP

- Place leaves at the curb - do not put them in the street.
- Leaves only - please do not include branches, twigs, or other yard debris.
- Mixing in other yard waste can damage the leaf vac and delay the pickup schedule.

Thank you for your continued support and for helping make the Village of Lawton a great place to live, work, and visit.

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

VILLAGE MANAGER
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thackenberg@lawtonmi.org

CHIEF OF POLICE
Greg Cordes
gcordes@lawtonmi.org

VILLAGE CLERK
Brittany Rathbun
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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.

Lawton Public Library News

by Lyn Tone

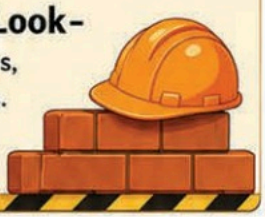
www.lawtonlibrary.org | 269-624-5481 | @lawtonpubliclibrary

Under Construction:

The Children's Area is Getting a Fresh New Look-

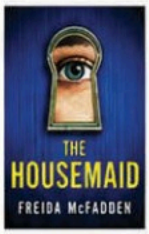
For everyone's Safety: Please stay out of the designated work areas, and keep a close eye on your children while they are in these areas.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we make these exciting improvements.



Adult Book Club:

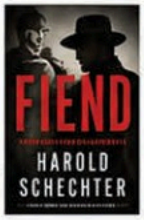
Thursday August 20th at 11:30 a.m. at Big T's. Any changes can be found on Facebook and our Website www.lawtonlibrary.org.



We are currently reading *The Housemaid* by Freida McFadden. If you'd like to join our fun and welcoming book club, we'd love to have you! Contact the library to reserve your copy of the book and join the discussion.

Murder Mystery Club –

is Tuesday, August 25th at 5:30 p.m. We are reading *Fiend* by Harold Schechter.



Knitting Club

meets every Tuesday at 10:30 a.m., whether you're experienced or not, stop in and see what these ladies are working on. Many of these ladies can offer tips, tricks, and new ideas for your next project.

Adult Craft Night –

August 19th at 5:30 pm. Please Call and Register 269-624-5481 – we have limited supplies.

The Outside Dropbox is behind the fire department, drive up and drop off!

Summer Reading – Last Program:

LEGO Day – August 5th

Join us for an all-day LEGO building event! Create your best LEGO masterpiece, and once you've finished, our staff will take a photo of your creation. Photos will be posted on our Facebook page for community voting. Winners will be selected based on Facebook votes.

Last Day to Turn in Reading Logs: August 21st

The last day to submit your Summer Reading Program reading logs is August 21. Participants who complete the program will receive a coupon from VerHage Fruit Farms & Cider Mill for one Unlimited Slide Ride and a FREE donut. Don't miss your chance to finish strong and claim your reward!

VerHage FRUIT FARMS & CIDER MILL

Story Time -

Begins September 9th at 10:30 a.m. for ages 0- Age 5.

Display Case: August will be all things Summer Reading.

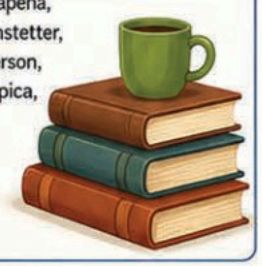
libby

Libby by Overdrive now offers Magazines, along with books, eBooks, and much more. Take a look and if you have any questions stop in and we can help you navigate through.

New Books Received: *The Bourne Revenge* by Brian Freeman, *Getting Away with Murder* by Shari Lapena, *Weddings* by Danielle Steel, *The Things We Never Say* by Elizabeth Strout, *Melody of Love* by Wanda Brunstetter, *Conspiracy* by Colleen Coble, *The Unexpected Caller* by Shelley Shepard Gray, *A Life So True* by Tracie Peterson, *In pursuit of Civility* by Jen Turano, *A Dark Path* by Linda Castillo, *The Country Road Murders* by Mike Lupica, *Hard Country* by Many authors, *The Briars* by Sarah Crouch, *The Anniversary* by Alex Finlay, *In Pursuit of Civility* by Jen Turano.

We have also received a donation of several series: *The Whistle Stop Café, Amish Legacy, Lighthouse Lane, Sisters and Brides* and *Camper & Criminals.*

Many and Many new Children's books, Junior Fiction and non-fiction books also.



If we're unable to order it, we can often borrow it through MEL, our free interlibrary loan service available to all patrons. Feel free to reach out to our staff with any questions.

VILLAGE OF
LAWTON
• MICHIGAN •
EST. 1858

Our Parks.
Our Community.
Our Future.

TAKE OUR PARKS SURVEY

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS!

Help us make our parks even better!
Your feedback helps the Village of Lawton
plan for the future and make improvements
that matter to our community.

SCAN ME!

YOUR INPUT MATTERS

STRONGER PARKS

A BETTER LAWTON

THANK YOU FOR BEING PART OF OUR COMMUNITY!