

# Welcome to Springfield!

[www.springfieldmich.com](http://www.springfieldmich.com)

Congratulations on your choice to locate yourself and your family in Springfield, Michigan. We are happy that you chose to live here! Springfield is a small, culturally diverse community with a population of approximately 5,200 and an economy that consists of more than 250 small businesses.

We have excellent parks and other recreation opportunities for both youths *and* adults. From our great playground areas, to our free 18-hole disc golf course, and our 9,500 sqft Farmers' Market, we're sure you'll find plenty to love about our community. We expect that you'll find our City services to be second-to-none. Our Public Safety Department prides itself on quick responses and strong customer services, and our Public Works staff takes the appearance of our streets, parks, and cemetery very seriously. And of course, our administrative staff will always be helpful and easy to work with.

Our community is serviced by the excellent Battle Creek Public School System; our children attend the recently-renovated (2008) Valley View Elementary School, Springfield Middle School, and the recently-renovated (2008) Battle Creek Central High School. Our great schools are getting better by the day thanks to residents like you!

Again, thank you for choosing Springfield as your home. We know that you'll quickly find that Springfield is a great place to live, work, and play. This brochure is a great tool to get to know the community. If there is anything in here that you do not understand, or anything that we missed, please feel free to contact the City Manager's Offices anytime for clarification.

If you are still looking for your new home, please take some time to visit our newest housing development: *Orchard Hills*. This subdivision is being developed through a partnership between the City of Springfield and New Frontier Homes. Check it out; if you have any questions, just contact the City Manager's Office!

We hope to see you soon!

*Sue Anderson*

Susan L. Anderson, Mayor

*Franklin Peterson*

Franklin J. Peterson, City Manager



## General Contact Information

### Administration

City Manager .....	965-2354
City Clerk .....	965-2354
Assessor .....	965-3880
Public Works .....	965-3774
Treasury/Finance .....	965-8014
Income Tax .....	965-8324
Building Department .....	965-2354
Code Compliance .....	965-7795
Fax .....	965-0114

### Public Safety

Non emergency .....	965-7795
Emergency .....	911
Fax .....	969-2566

### Schools

Valley View Elementary .....	965-9760
Springfield Middle School .....	965-9640
BC Central High School .....	965-9500
Endeavor Charter Academy .....	962-9300

### Public Services

Semco Energy (Nat. Gas) .....	800-624-2019
Comcast (Cablevision) .....	962-6216
Consumers Energy (Elec.) ...	800-477-5050
ACD (Wireless Internet) .....	877-422-3638
SBC (Phone/Internet) .....	800-244-4444
Battle Creek Post Office .....	965-3280
Battle Creek Enquirer .....	968-4444
Waste Management .....	800-796-9696

### Transportation

Yellow Cab .....	966-5161
Union Cab .....	968-6113
Cereal City Taxi .....	963-1711

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# City Services and Officials

Municipal Office Hours:  
M-Th 7:00a - 6:00p (closed holidays)

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## City Manager

Franklin J Peterson  
fpeterson@springfieldmich.com

The City Manager is the chief administrative officer for the City, and is responsible for implementing the policies of the City Council. The City Manager directs City activities, submits reports, makes recommendations to the City Council and its various Boards and Commissions, and represents the City at various official meetings and functions. The City Manager is responsible for preparing the annual municipal budget for recommendation to the City Council and provides leadership to the City's five Department Heads.

In addition to overall municipal management responsibilities, the City Manager must coordinate, develop, and implement local ordinances, services, community relations, and economic development to ensure the high quality of life for community residents.

## Finance/Treasury Department

Jeannine Turner  
jturner@springfieldmich.com

The Finance Department is responsible for centralized accounting of all financial transactions and reporting to federal, state & other agencies. Activities include: collection of property and income taxes, utility billing for sewer, water and garbage service, billing and collection of other miscellaneous fees, payroll, accounts payable, investment of city funds, management of cash flow and customer service to area residents and businesses.

In addition, Finance provides ongoing assistance to other city departments regarding financial matters, coordinates the budget process and develops revenue & expense projections.

All Springfield residents and workers must file an income tax return each year. If you have any questions, please contact the Finance Department.

## City Clerk

Kris Vogel, CMC  
kvogel@springfieldmich.com

The City Clerk is the chief election official for the City and is responsible for conducting elections in accordance with the State of Michigan's Election Laws. All U.S. Citizen at least 18 years of age are eligible to vote. Voters are expected to register at least 30 days prior to an election if they wish to vote in that election. You may register to vote in the Clerk's office at 601 Avenue A, or at any Secretary of State's office.

### Where do I vote?

Precinct #1 - Residents East of Helmer Road  
Battle Creek Area Math & Science Center  
765 Upton Avenue

Precinct #2 - Residents West of Helmer Road  
City Hall, Council Chambers  
601 Avenue A

## Department of Public Safety

Rob Coles,  
rcoles@springfieldmich.com

The Springfield Public Safety Department is responsible for all police and fire duties within the City. The Department is located in the Public Safety Building; next door to City Hall.

The department is headed by the Director, and is staffed by 15 Public Safety Officers (each certified as Police Officers and Firefighters), 15 paid on-call firefighters, and an Office Manager. The Department is also responsible for issuing burn and gun permits, fire risk inspections, fire prevention activities, the elimination of fire hazards, and the enforcement of State laws and local city ordinances.

Dispatch services are provided by the AMSA Board, which is an area-wide organization in place to make dispatch services as uniform and reliable as possible.

## Public Works Department

Tom Matson  
tmatson@springfieldmich.com

The Public Works Department is responsible for general maintenance within the City.

The Water/Sewer Division is responsible for ensuring state and federal guidelines are met for the delivery of a safe drinking water supply and the disposal of the all waste waters. The Public Works Department maintains the City's fire hydrant system and water mains. The City of Battle Creek maintains all of Springfield's sewer infrastructure.

The Street Division provides for the safe and smooth flow of traffic by keeping the streets clean and free from potholes, leaves, snow/ice, etc.

The Parks Division maintains the grounds of Springfield's four parks: Begg Park on Military Ave, Rothchild Park on N. Helmer Rd, and Upton Park and Freedom Park (both on Upton Avenue). The parks are open from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. The Farmers Market at Begg Park offers public restrooms.

## Building Inspection Department

Donna Carnell  
dcarnell@springfieldmich.com

This Department is responsible for zoning enforcement, issuing permits, and receiving and investigating complaints regarding ordinances.

You must obtain a building permit *before* beginning any new construction or making any structural alterations. Application for a permit must be accompanied by complete plans and specifications for construction, including a sketch.

Some common activities that require a permit:

Putting up a fence, building a deck, shingling a roof, putting up a sign, replacing a furnace or water heater, demolition, installing central air, or installing a swimming pool.

## Assessing Department

Dan Brunner  
dbrunner@springfieldmich.com

The Assessor is responsible for the preparation of the City's assessment rolls and the tracking of improvements, valuations, and all information pertaining to each city parcel.

The Assessor is required by State law to assess all assessable property in the City at 50% of market value. If property owners believe their assessment is incorrect or inaccurate, they may appeal the assessment to the Board of Review. The Board meets multiple times per year.

## Springfield City Council

Springfield is governed by this seven-member board. Meeting twice each month (1st and 3rd Monday), the council directs the City Administration and makes policy decisions on behalf of the City's residents and business owners.

### Springfield's Current City Council

Susan Anderson, Mayor  
Harry Burdett, Mayor Pro Tem  
David Agne  
Larry Eib  
Tim Good  
B. Carol Hinton  
Carey Whitfield

A little history . . . On December 1, 1952, the citizens of Springfield voted to adopt a Charter and formally become a Michigan City. The following officials were elected to govern the newly-formed city of nearly 3,000 residents as Springfield's first City Council:

Lewis Parrott, Mayor  
LaVerne Parkinson  
Samuel R. Korn  
Fleta Tedrow  
Earl E. Johnson  
Albert Wetzel  
Lloyd C. Hulbert