

City of St. Louis

News and Views

April 1, 2024

Message from the Mayor



After sitting on the Board of Review for the first time last month, I have advice for anyone who wants to protest their property assessment next year. Do your homework. Don't just sit down and say "I think my taxes are too high."

Your first step should be to get hold of the official assessment card for your house to see what the city believes you have. If the card says you have a finished basement, and you don't. You should bring that to the assessor's attention. If the card says you have an outbuilding that was removed, bring that to the assessor's attention. These items add value to your property, and when you remove them your property's taxable value may be adjusted downward at a March Board of Review meeting.

No need to wait for next March though. The assessor can make changes to your card any time of the year if you prove that information on the card is wrong or out of date. You can also request to be added to the assessor's "field review." Then an assessor will visit your house to compare reality to your assessment card, making changes as needed.

Another thing you can do is see what similar houses in your area have sold for recently. The easiest way to do that is to use the Realtor.com web site. But a friendly Realtor can help you with that, too, and do a better job.

If you can prove to the Board of Review that the assessed value of your house is high when compared to other properties in your neighborhood, you might have a successful appeal.

Home repairs -Homeowners sometimes postpone improvements for fear of increasing their property taxes. However, many home improvements are exempt from increasing the taxable value of your property.

Generally speaking, if it's not a "structural addition" it won't increase your property's taxable value. If you're merely replacing something you already have (including windows, siding, masonry, roofing, gutters, doors, driveways, wiring, porches, awnings) with basically the same thing, it doesn't affect your taxable value or property taxes.

Call Assessor Kathy Roslund at (989) 463-9514 for details or clarification.

Trash & Recycling Tips



*Bag all trash before placing in your cart to keep your cart clean and keeps items from flying away on windy days.

*Place your cart within three feet of the road, allow a minimum of two feet of clearance around the cart. The wheels on the cart and the handle should be away from the road to allow for the automated side load.

*Trash will only be collected from your Granger trash cart. Granger will not collect any trash bags or other items outside of the cart.

*Carts with the **yellow** lids are for **recycling only**.

*For a list of acceptable recycling please visit [Recycling Schedule & Guidelines | Granger Recycling Services \(grangerwasteservices.com\)](https://www.grangerwasteservices.com/recycling-schedule-guidelines)

*Tips for cleaning your cart

- Empty your cart
- Squirt some dish soap into the bottom of the cart
- Fill the bottom of the cart with some water
- Use a broom, long-handled scrub brush or mop to scrub the inside walls of the cart.
- Rinse the cart
- Leave the lid open and allow to dry before placing any trash inside

If the cart smells, wait for the cart to dry, then spray the inside of the cart with some diluted bleach or a disinfectant spray.

*Collection of one large item (furniture, appliances, etc.) each week is included with your service. Bulk collection will take place on Thursdays. Residents must contact Granger 48 hours in advance of the bulk service day to schedule by using the following link <https://www.grangerwasteservices.com/customer-support/bulk-pickup-request/> or by calling 888-947-2643.

Love my City

I LOVE MY CITY SUNDAY

APRIL 21, 2024

Activities to include:

- Painting
- Mulching
- Large item pick up
- City wide debris pick up
- Yard clean up

A day to serve the community of St. Louis

Sunday, April 21st at 1:00 PM

Resurrection Life Church

714 S. Main, St., St. Louis, MI 48880

For more information call Resurrection Life Church: 989-681-5731

Organized together with local area churches and the City of St. Louis, MI

Oak Grove Cemetery Information

All winter decorations must be removed from grave sites by **April 1st**.

Spring/Summer decorations may not be placed on grave sites until **May 1st**.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation!

Earth Day

METAL RECYCLING

WHEN
APRIL 20
10am - 1pm

WHERE
St. Louis City Hall
Parking Lot
300 N. Mill Street,
St. Louis

ACCEPTING
Iron, steel, aluminum, copper, tin, old appliances.
Anything metal!

If you have anything BIG to donate (like a car or tractor) take it directly to Padnos 1430 Williams Street, Alma.

AT THE EVENT

WMLM will broadcast live from 10am to 12 Noon with special giveaways.

Follow Healthy Pine River on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram
Tune in to WMLM at 105.9 FM

Join Us
Clean out your garage,
barn, basement or shed!



Metal Collection by Padnos Central
Michigan in partnership with WMLM
All proceeds go to the Healthy Pine
River group

Book Sale



The Friends of the Cutler Memorial Library will host a used book and video sale April 10th through April 13th in the library meeting room located at 312 Michigan Avenue. The sale starts at 10:00 each morning (when the library opens) and runs until 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday and Friday, 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, and 2:00 p.m. on Saturday.

Adult and young adult hardcover books, DVDs, and music CD's are \$1.00; adult and young adult softcover books, juvenile hardcover books, and jigsaw puzzles are \$.50; slim paperback romances and juvenile soft cover books are \$.25. All items remaining on Saturday will be half-price. If you have questions, please call the library at 989-681-5141. If you would like to donate books, DVDs, or puzzles for the sale (in good or better condition), they may be dropped off at the library during normal hours of operation through Monday April 8th. All proceeds from the sale benefit the library. We appreciate everyone who shops at, donates to, and helps spread the word about our used book sales. Thank you!



No Parking on City Streets



There is no parking on City Streets
from 2:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.
November 1 to May 1.

It is also a violation to park in any manner which creates a hazard or impedes snow removal.

**Brush pickup for the month of April
begins April 1, 2024**

**This Institution is an equal opportunity provider
and employer.**