

### *Message from the Mayor*



The main complaint I hear from residents is unkept properties, otherwise known as blight. You don't have to drive far to see what they're talking about. Just about every neighborhood has problematic properties.

Complaints range from junk accumulation to inoperable vehicles, dilapidated structures, overgrown weeds and other nuisances that harm property values, public health, safety and community appearance.

Every one of those things falls under the city's noxious weed, anti-blight or solid waste ordinances.

However, property owners have rights, and enforcement requires notices, opportunities for hearings and potential court action. Delays are common due to full court dockets, owner appeals, or disagreements over violations.

Blight enforcement applies community standards to personal property/habits, which can feel heavy-handed—especially for long-standing issues or owners with limited means. Sudden crackdowns risk backlash, accusations of selective enforcement, or government overreach.

Many cases involve elderly, low-income, or overwhelmed owners who can't afford clean-up. Absentee landlords and/or complex title issues add layers. Blight often involves multiple violations that feel daunting to resolve.

Ordinance Enforcement Officer Dori Foster processed 46 incidents of blight at 40 locations in St. Louis last year. Twelve of them stemmed from residents reporting blight on the city's web site.

Here's how you can do the same.

Start with the city's main page ([stlouismi.com](http://stlouismi.com)). Hover over the "Government" heading at the top of the page. A menu appears. Select "Police Department."

When you get to the Police Department page scroll down almost to the bottom and you'll see a long gray rectangle that says "Report a violation of the noxious weed, anti-blight or

blight or solid waste ordinances."

Click on that and you'll be taken to a page where you can type in your complaint. There's even a field where you can upload photos of the blighted property.

Once submitted, a copy of the blight report is sent Code Enforcement Officer Foster and Chief Ramereiz for evaluation and possible action.

I asked Grok (the artificial intelligence native to the X site) to compare St. Louis's blight reporting form to similar small towns. Grok said St. Louis compares favorably. "With photo upload and specific categories like abandoned vehicles, dilapidated fencing, etc., it's a solid, typical example for a town of its size," he said.

### *August Primary Election*



**Tuesday, August 4th**  
**Michigan Primary Election**

Registered voters of the City of St. Louis will be voting in the City Hall Community Room located at 300 North Mill Street.

The Poll opens at 7:00 a.m. and closes at 8:00 p.m.

To inquire if you are registered to vote, or if you have questions about the election, contact the City Clerk at 681-2137 ext. 1050.

### *City Website*

Scan the QR Code to explore our website and stay up to date on everything happening in the City!



# Independence Festival

Miranda & The M80s will perform on Friday, July 10th in the south parking lot of St. Louis City Hall!

Be sure to stop down and enjoy some fun, high energy live music from 5:30-9:30 PM .



*Saturday, July 11th*



**SATURDAY, JULY 11th**



*Downtown Area Events*

Vendor Show & Food Trucks 11 AM to 4 PM  
Dunk Tank  
City Wide Garage Sales July 9-12

**FREE SWIM AT W.T. MORRIS SWIMMING POOL**

**1PM-4 PM & 5PM-8 PM**  
**9PM-10:30 PM (night swim ages:12-18)**

Ice Cream in Clapp Park 11:00AM  
CLAPP PARK 12 PM TO 4 PM:  
**Live Music and Inflatables and Food**  
**All Free**



**Firework and Finds Market**  
**8 PM-10 PM**  
Games & Vendors  
520 Olive Street

**Fireworks! Saturday at Dusk**

# W.T. Morris Swimming Pool



July 3<sup>rd</sup> - Invenergy  
July 7<sup>th</sup> - 1:00-4:00pm - Sheri Kelly  
July 7<sup>th</sup> - 5:00-8:00pm - Collectors Cave  
July 10<sup>th</sup> - Frosty Cone  
July 11<sup>th</sup> - Invenergy  
July 18<sup>th</sup> - Happy Trails Pet Hotel  
July 25<sup>th</sup> - Biggby Coffee St. Louis

## POOL HOURS

Monday-Friday  
1:00-4:00 PM & 5:00-8:00 PM  
Saturday                      Sunday  
1:00-6:00PM                  2:00-6:00PM

All Sessions are **\$3.00** per person, unless otherwise posted.

<https://www.facebook.com/stlouismipool>

## Farmers Market



The Market will be open every Thursday from June through October from 2-6 PM.

Gratiot MI Market is now located at 201 N Mill St. St. Louis.

Please contact Sara Piaskowski at 734- 249-3961 or Lisette Smith at 989-824-0152 or email us at [gratiotmimarket@gmail.com](mailto:gratiotmimarket@gmail.com) with questions or ideas.

**Brush pickup for the month of June begins July 6, 2026**

This Institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.