

## City of Buchanan E-Newsletter

**City of Buchanan**  
302 N. Redbud Trail  
Buchanan, MI 49107

**Phone** 269-695-3844  
**Fax** 269-695-4330  
**E-mail** [citynews@cityofbuchanan.com](mailto:citynews@cityofbuchanan.com)  
**Hours** Monday – Friday 8am to 5pm

City Commission Meetings  
are open to the public.  
Meetings are held every  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Monday @ 7pm

### City Commissioners:

Brenda Hess, Mayor  
Carla Cole, Pro-Tem  
Dr. Patricia Moore  
Dale Toerne  
Dan Vigansky  
Bill Marx, City Manager

### Department Phone Numbers

Emergency:	911
City Hall:	695-3844
Police Department:	695-5120
Dept. of Public Works:	695-7547
Code Enforcement:	695-0006
Cemetery:	695-3971
Water Department:	695-3846
Wastewater:	695-5291

### Building Inspector

Tues & Thurs: 8am – 4pm  
Fridays: 1pm - 4pm  
695-3844 ext. 24

### Tax Assessor

Tuesdays 9am – 4pm  
695-3844 ext. 18

### Holiday Closing Dates

November 23 & 24 – Thanksgiving  
December 25 & 26 - Christmas

### Peddlers/Solicitors

You must have a permit to go door to door in our City. Residents should ask to see a permit, if they do not have one, call City Hall or the Police Department. There is a Police background check before a permit is issued.

### For the Veterans

The Berrien County Veteran's Service Office is located in the County Administration Building at 701 Main Street, St. Joseph, MI. Phone 269-983-7111 ext. 8118 or 8224. Hours are 8:30am – 5:00pm Monday thru Friday. It's best to call first to make sure the Service Officer is in. Check out their website at [www.Berriencounty.org/veterans](http://www.Berriencounty.org/veterans)

### Sewer Backups

Make us your first call if you have a sewer backup. We will check the main line, which may save you from having to call a plumber. If available, we can print you a copy of your sewer line & clean outs. Call City Hall at 695-3844 ext. 11

### Sewer Drains

Please keep grass clippings, leaves and yard waste out of the streets as this is the #1 result of our storm drains being clogged.

### Worn Flags

The American Legion has a drop box where worn flags can be taken and will be destroyed in a dignified way by the American Legion.

### Yard Waste Pick Up

April 3, 2017-**October 2, 2017**

Pick-up will be every Monday. Grass clippings, leaves, hedge trimmings and/or garden waste must be in 30 gallon brown recyclable paper bags that can be purchased from the store of your choice. Plastic bags will not be accepted. Residents must call the Cemetery by Sunday evening at 695-3971 (24-hour answering machine) to request pick up.

**DO NOT PLACE LEAVES, GRASS CLIPPINGS, ETC IN THE STREETS**

### Brush Pick Up

April 3, 2017 – **October 2, 2017**

The City brush pick up starts on the FIRST and THIRD Monday of each month. It could take up to 2 weeks to make a complete pass through the town, depending on weather, equipment, funerals, and the amount of brush to be picked up. We have 27.81 miles of streets and one chipper truck. Brush and limbs must be neatly stacked and laying in one direction on the tree lawn area, between the curb and sidewalks. Items will NOT be accepted if tied in bundles or if it exceeds 10 feet in length. No branches or tree trunks with a diameter greater than 4 inches will be collected. Tree stumps are not accepted and will not be picked up.

### Leaf Pick Up to begin October 23<sup>rd</sup>

Leaf pick up is scheduled to begin October 23<sup>rd</sup>, depending on Mother Nature. Please have your leaves raked to your tree lawn (yard between curb and sidewalk). At this time there is no set schedule for pick up; rounds will be made as needed. **PLEASE DO NOT RAKE LEAVES INTO THE ROAD OR CURB AREA.**

### Oak Ridge Cemetery

All summer decor should be removed by October 1<sup>st</sup>. The Cemetery Department will be doing a summer clean-up on October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### Hydrant Flushing – October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> 7pm-Midnight

Will hydrant flushing affect your water? During the flushing process, you may experience some water discoloration, especially when work is being done in your immediate neighborhood. As water is flushed through water lines and out the hydrant, silt and mineral sediment can cause water to become discolored. Once the hydrant flushing is complete, the water quality will return to normal.

Can I drink from the tap during hydrant flushing? Although the water may not be visually appealing, it is safe to drink and continues to meet all federal and state drinking water standards. There is no health hazard associated with the discolored water.

What should I do: Here's what you should do if hydrant flushing is taking place in your neighborhood:

- If possible, avoid using water while the hydrant flushing is taking place. By not taking water from the tap or running appliances that use water (dishwashers and washing machines), you can prevent discolored water from entering your household plumbing altogether.
- If you encounter discolored water following hydrant flushing, run the cold water taps throughout your home (bathroom tub) for about 5 to 10 minutes or until water clears. This allows discolored water to work its way out of your household plumbing.
- If after hydrant flushing, your water pressure or volume seems low, clean faucet screens to remove silt and mineral sediment that could be obstructing water flow.

### Make-A-Difference Day

This year's Make-A-Difference Day is Saturday, October 21, 2017 from 9am-Noon. If you have any questions feel free to contact the First United Methodist Church Office at 695-3282.

### Trek-or-Treat – Saturday, October 28, 2017

9am: Donuts and Cider hosted by the Masonic Lodge at the Redbud City Center. Get your goblins ready at the Center.

10am: Parade leaves Redbud City Center, travels to the Moose where they sponsor costume contests with prizes, candy stations and service hotdogs and chips!

Noon-2pm: Trek-or-Treat on McCoy's Creek Trail, sponsored by Friends of McCoy's Creek Trail.

In Buchanan, ghosts, witches and assorted characters begin to make their preparations as the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Trek-or-Treat event approaches. Mark your calendars for **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28 FROM 12:00-2:00 PM** for great family fun. This could be the sweetest deal around as twenty to thirty Halloween characters pass out candy to children and parents as they trek their way through the woods of McCoy's Creek Trail. The event sponsor, Friends of the Trail, made nearly 2,000 visitors extremely happy last year. The event has grown every year since 2005. We expect this year to be no different. If you haven't had the opportunity to walk our unique trail, this would be an excellent time. The entire trail is nearly 5 miles, but we just use the original part of the trail for this annual October event. Who can you expect to see? How about a green giant, witches, a fireman, a snowman, a mountain man, police officer with McGruff, the Crime Dog, plus other movie and cartoon characters. We are always looking for new costumed adult characters to appear in the woods. If interested, please call Lloyd Miller (269-362-5771) in advance. To be a character, you need to be on our list before the day of Trek-or-Treat. We don't want surprise characters showing unannounced since safety is imperative for our children. We need fun characters only; no bloody ones with chainsaws, etc. We have lots of tiny "beggars" and don't want to scare anyone. **Also, please note we will not be allowing any dogs at the Trek-or-Treat event this year.**

We will be trying a **new parking plan** this year to help with safety and to keep Schirmer Parkway open to traffic. Parking will be in the Clark Laboratory parking lot off Front Street, rather than the lot at the east end of Schirmer. Entry to the trail will be from the west end. (The gate next to Clark Lab) We believe this will be a simple, safer, and larger parking venue for everyone. The biggest question we get is "How is this funded?" Simple answer is you: our Buchanan community donates tons and tons of candy. **Please help us again by donating candy to this super fun annual event for our children.** As we say, no donation of candy is too small. Candy may be dropped at Buchanan City Hall and Redbud Insurance before 4:00 pm on Friday the 27<sup>th</sup> of October. SEE YOU ON THE TRAIL.

### City Wide Trick-or-Treat Tuesday, October 31, 2017

6pm-7:30pm: Neighborhood Trick-or-Treat. The Police Department will be checking candy at the Redbud City Center Parking Lot at 131 S. Oak Street. This is a different location that last year. The Police and Fire Department will not be at the Ross Sanders Building.