

# Between the Lines

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### General Information

One Grand Street  
Coldwater, MI 49036

Office: 517-279-9531

Internet Helpdesk: 517-278-9276

Website: [www.coldwater.org](http://www.coldwater.org)

Payment Options: Mail, Drop-box,  
Automatic Bill Pay, On-Line Bill Pay  
or Lobby Mon-Fri, 8:00am - 5:00pm

Suggestions for Newsletter:  
[Newsletter@coldwater.org](mailto:Newsletter@coldwater.org)

**We're on Facebook... and  
Twitter too!**

Get up-to-date information on City  
and CBPU events, programs &  
service offerings!



**Our offices will be closed  
the following days to  
observe the Holidays:**

**Monday, July 4th &  
Monday, Sept 5th**

### FREE SWIM DAYS

at Heritage  
Pool on  
Fourth of  
July &  
Labor Day



**Garage Sales are  
permitted 3 times per  
year for no longer than 3  
days each.**

**Posting of signs is only  
allowed on  
property  
having sale.  
No permit  
is needed.**



## CBPU Offers Water and Sewer Lateral Protection

No one likes an unexpected expense, especially when it means paying a large amount for a much needed repair. That's why the Coldwater Board of Public Utilities designed a water and sewer line protection plan - a fee based monthly program that takes the expense, stress and worry out of water and sewer line repair.

As a homeowner, you own the water and sewer line that runs from the street into your home. It is your responsibility to repair those lines in the event of a water leak or a sewer blockage. The cost to repair a water line can range from \$1,500 to \$2,500 and the sewer lateral line can range from \$4,000 to \$5,000.

You may be surprised by this, but most homeowner policies do not provide any coverage to water line breaks or clogs in your sewer line.

The CBPU Water and Sewer Lateral Protection Program would ease the frustrating task of spending time finding a qualified professional to locate the problem

and repair the line.

Here are the simple steps to sign up for the protection program:

1. Contact the CBPU for a copy of the Lateral Protection Agreement, or review a copy online at [www.coldwater.org](http://www.coldwater.org).
2. Return a signed copy of the agreement to the CBPU for the service level you would like. The monthly fees for the water and sewer protection plans are \$3.50 and \$5.45 respectively.

If you have an issue with your water and/or sewer lateral once

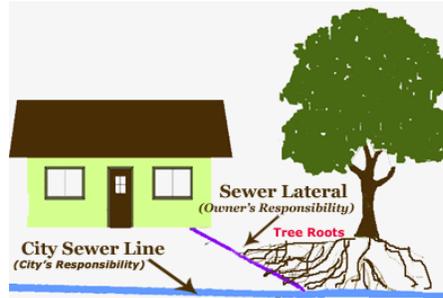
the agreement is in place, then help is just a phone call away. Customers under the program just need to call the CBPU if they have a problem. CBPU staff or a qualified contractor will respond and identify the problem.

Depending on the nature of the problem with the lateral, CBPU staff or a CBPU qualified contractor will make the necessary repairs.

The program coverage limits are \$4,000. In the event the needed repairs were to exceed those coverage limits, the CBPU would notify the customer of

the estimated expense prior to performing the work. The CBPU offers a lateral financing program as well that could be utilized to cover any expenses above the program limits.

Contact the CBPU today to get protected!



## Cooling Tips to Save Energy & Money!

**Turn on the fan.** When a ceiling fan turns counterclockwise, it causes air to blow across your skin - evaporating sweat, cooling your body temperature, making the room feel four to six degrees cooler. But remember to turn the fan off when you leave the room. An electric fan cools people, not rooms.

If you have a whole-house fan, turn it on. As long as the

outdoor temp is cooler than the indoor temp, it will cool your home.

**Close the curtains.** Close south and west facing curtains during the day to keep the sun out. To really beat the heat, purchase sun-controlling films and awnings for south facing windows.

**Avoid using heat-generating appliances, such as the oven, dishwasher, washing machine and clothes dryer.** These

appliances cause heat waves whenever they're turned on. Instead, fire up the grill, use the microwave, air-dry dishes and line-dry clothes. If you must use these gadgets, wait until evening when it's naturally cooler in your home.

**Use your green thumb.** Plant a deciduous vine or tree on the hottest side of your house. The foliage traps cool air, reducing air temperatures by as much as nine degrees.

# Enjoy Coldwater's City Parks this Summer

**Heritage Park** in the NW section of the City, include amenities such as an Olympic sized pool & water slide, softball, basketball, soccer, tennis, walking trails, skate park, dog park, pavilions, restrooms, sledding hill and the list goes on and on. This park also showcases the Independence Recreation Building, which is popular for basketball and volleyball. Heritage Hall is a great place to hold reunions, holiday parties, graduation open houses and the like. Both the Independence Recreation Building and Heritage Hall area are available for rent and two of the pavilions can be reserved.



**Linear Park** off Riverside Dr is a popular park for those who like mountain biking.  
**Rotary Park** W Chicago St, includes a boat launch and is your gateway to the North

chain of lakes with unlimited fishing opportunity, wildlife and abundant scenery.  
**Waterworks Park** S Sprague St, is a popular spot to bring your lunch and watch the geese and ducks. Includes softball diamonds, a playground, restrooms and an area for soccer.  
**South Lake Park** across from Sauk River from Rotary Park is a wildlife habitat. Great place to exercise dogs and watch for deer.

**Jaycee & Rieth Parks** Fremont & Lilly St, include a basketball court, picnic grills and large play area for children.  
**Four Corners Park** intersection of US12 & US27 is actually four distinct parks. The NW park hosts the annual Memorial Day ceremony and is the site of the buried time

capsule. The NE park carries a military motif. This quad holds 'Entertainment Under the Stars' every Tuesday evening in July. The historic Branch County Library is in the SE park and the SW park includes a sandbox play area along with seating for relaxing and enjoying downtown.  
**Jefferson Park** Vans Ave & Hull St is a play area for young children north of the school.  
**Parkhurst Park** corner of Grand St & Parkhurst Ave is the site of the popular 'Kids Kingdom' a shuffleboard court, a basketball court, pavilions and restrooms.  
**Pilot Knob Park** is a small neighborhood park located in Pilot Knob.  
**City Park** is a small tree-studded triangular play area located at the intersection of N Hanchett and Grand St.  
**East Pointe Park** is a neighborhood park located at the end of East Pointe Dr. It's a very small park that includes playground equipment for the younger children.

# Michigan South Central Power Agency Debt Free

In 1978, Coldwater, Union City, Marshall, Hillsdale and Clinton formed the Michigan South Central Power Agency (MSCPA) to provide reliable, value-based electric energy and related services to its member communities and focus on their customer's needs.  
 The MSCPA borrowed \$95 million in November 1979 to construct the 55-megawatt coal-fired electric generation station located in Litchfield. On December 3, 1982, after a successful 24-hour test, the plant was declared commercially available.

Over the past 30 years, the members refinanced the bonds several times, cutting interest rates in half, and also purchased other diesel generators.  
 One-by-one the member communities have been paying off their portion of the MSCPA debt. On March 3<sup>rd</sup> the MSCPA Board held its monthly meeting in Coldwater and presented the City with a plaque in recognition of paying off its share of the debt.  
 The MSCPA is now officially debt free.



City of Coldwater "Paid - March 2011"

# CBPU Earns National Recognition as Reliable Power Provider

The Coldwater Board of Public Utilities is one of 82 of the nation's more than 2,000 public power utilities to earn Reliable Public Power Provider (RP<sub>3</sub>)<sup>®</sup> recognition from the American Public Power Association for providing consumers with the highest degree of reliable and safe electric service. Paul Allen, vice president, engineering at Nashville, Tenn., Electric Service and chair of APPA's RP<sub>3</sub> Review Panel, presented



**Reliable Public Power Provider**

the designees on March 21, during the association's annual Engineering & Operations Technical Conference, held in Nashville.  
 "These RP<sub>3</sub> designated utilities should be proud," said Allen, "They stand out as utilities that are continuing to strive for excellence for their customers and their communities."

The RP<sub>3</sub> program recognizes public power utilities that demonstrate proficiency in four key disciplines: reliability, safety, workforce development and system improvement. Criteria within each category are based on sound business practices and represent a utility-wide commitment to safe and reliable delivery of electricity.  
 "This is a real honor for our utility," said Paul Beckhusen, Director of the Coldwater Board of Public Utilities. "A lot of hard work and dedication by our employees has gone into receiving this designation, and in the end, our customers are the real winners."