

Between the Lines

Volume I, Issue I

December 1, 2008

General Information

One Grand Street
Coldwater, MI 49036

Office:
517-279-9531

Internet Helpdesk:
517-278-9276

Websites:
www.cbpu.com
www.coldwater.org

Payment options:
Mail, Drop-box, Automatic Bill Pay, On-Line Bill Pay or just stop in Mon-Fri, 8 am - 5 pm

Suggestions for Newsletter:
Newsletter@coldwater.org

The City and CBPU Offices will be **closed**
Wed, December 24th
Thurs, December 25th
Wed, December 31st &
Thurs, January 1st
in observance of the Holidays.



Mark Your Calendar!

Winter Taxes are due
February 16, 2009

Daylight Saving Begins
March 8, 2009

Household Hazardous Waste Collection is scheduled for Saturday, April 4th, 2009

Is Your Mailbox Ready For The Winter?

Plowing snow from Coldwater's 75 miles of streets is a complicated and formidable task. The hours can be long, with operations conducted during the most unfavorable weather and driving conditions. Snow plow operators pay close attention to avoid mailboxes and other obstacles within the right of way; however, in performing their duties occasional damage to mailboxes may occur. The City may consider reimbursing the cost of replacing a mailbox (not to exceed \$40) that has been damaged by being hit by plowing equipment. The mailbox must show visible signs of damage from the snow plow equipment, such as being cut or bent. The City is not responsible for damage to mailboxes when it is apparent they were hit by flying snow or ice thrown from the snow plowing equipment.

Mailbox Placement & Standards:

- ☞ Height: Mailboxes shall be set with the bottom of the box between 42" & 48" above the curb surface.
- ☞ Setback: The face of the mailbox shall be 12" back from the back of the curb.
- ☞ Post material: The support for the mailbox shall be maximum of 4" by 4" treated wood or 2" diameter schedule steel or aluminum pipe buried to a maximum depth of 24". The post cannot be installed in concrete.
- ☞ Number 8 minimum size screws that are weather resistant (galvanized or stainless steel) are required during assembly of mailbox & post. Do not use nails.

Maintenance Tips:

- ☞ Inspect the vertical support. Look for rotting or rusting, especially at the ground level
- ☞ Inspect the box support attachment. Look for rotting or rusting along with loose or missing fasteners.
- ☞ Inspect the box itself. Replace a mailbox that is rusted or beyond repair.
- ☞ Regular maintenance reduces safety hazards and may help your mailbox survive the rigors of winter weather and snowplowing.

Pivot or swing mount links:
www.swingingmailbox.com
www.ruralmailboxes.com

Always call MISS DIG before you dig.
1-800-482-7171

Seasonal Reminders

Here are a few friendly reminders you may find helpful for the upcoming Holiday season:

- Christmas tree pickup begins on December 26th and ends on January 16, 2009.
- Between the week of Christmas and New Years, extra garbage (boxes, wrapping paper,

any holiday related items) will be picked up at no charge.

- If your garbage pickup day falls on Christmas Day or New Year's Day, your garbage will be picked up the following business day.
- Before winter approaches, please inspect (and repair) your mailbox to allow for snow removal.

- Please clear your sidewalks and walkways of snow and ice. Your neighbors, mail carriers & meter reader will appreciate it!

For more info, please call DMS at 279-7770 Mon-Fri 8am-4pm

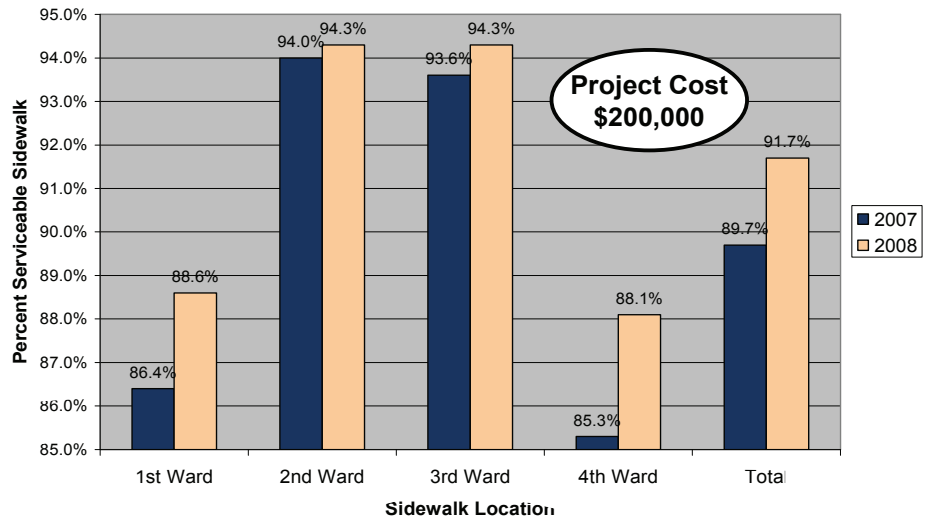


2008 Sidewalk Program Helps Citizens Stay Connected

The Sidewalk Program is responsible for the maintenance and construction of sidewalks in the City of Coldwater. Included among the activities performed are installation of new sidewalks, removal and replacement of damaged or deteriorated sidewalks and ADA accessible ramp installation or repairs.

In 2008, the program's focus was on providing sidewalk connectivity throughout the City while concentrating on repairs in Ward # 1 and Ward # 4. The final results of the program included over two miles of newly constructed or repaired sidewalks. This total contributed to an increase in the serviceability of our 65 miles of sidewalk to a rate of 91.7%.

Sidewalk Performance



Digital Transition Information

As a customer of CBPU Cable, you should not have to do anything when broadcast TV stations go to their new digital format on February 17, 2009. That's because we have already invested in the technology to convert local TV stations from the digital picture to be able to work with your current TV set.

CBPU Cable does so by capturing and converting these digital signals and then sending them to your home through the same cable you have today.

As long as your TV sets are connected to cable, they should display local television stations.

Analog-only TVs in your home not currently connected to cable service will need to be connected to cable service or may require additional equipment such as a DTV converter box. Analog-only TVs should continue to work as before with cable TV services, gaming consoles, VCRs, DVD players, and similar products.

After February 17, 2009, a television receiver with only an analog broadcast tuner will require a converter box to receive over-the-air broadcasts through an antenna because of the Nation's transition to digital broadcasting. More information on the DTV transition is available from www.DTV.gov and from www.dtv2009.gov or **1-888-DTV-2009**.

If you have any questions, please contact the CBPU Customer Service Department 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday at 279-9531.

Energy Depot® Offered on www.cbpu.com

Energy Depot® is a new set of online tools and resources to help you better understand and manage your home energy use and costs. Energy Depot is your one-stop resource for energy information and it's available free.

Here's what Energy Depot can do for you:

- Receive a personalized energy profile with an estimate of your energy costs for each home energy system / appliance.
- Learn specific things you can do to reduce energy use and how much you can save.
- Complete a do-it-yourself home energy audit and receive your report online.
- Quickly estimate the annual energy use and

cost of home energy systems and appliances.

- Compare your heating and cooling systems or water heater to a range of new systems.
- Learn how soon you can pay for a new more efficient heating or cooling system or water heater through lower energy bills.
- Use the Energy Library to answer your energy questions.
- Get answers to the most frequently asked questions regarding home energy use and more!



Congratulations Corner!

Our Telecommunications Department is celebrating 10 years of outstanding sales and service. Thank you for your continued loyalty and support!

Amp-Ohio awarded the CBPU the Environmental Stewardship Award of the Year for our Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program.

Way to go!