

BETWEEN THE LINES

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

The City of Coldwater and Coldwater Board of Public Utilities present *Between the Lines*, an informative newsletter. Inside you will find news about upcoming events, current projects, local programs/incentives and much more!

Any comments or suggestions for the newsletter, please direct to newsletter@coldwater.org.

DATES TO REMEMBER

June

- 10 Art Walk
- 18 Strawberryfest & Craft Show
- 25 Farmers Market
(every saturday thru August)

July

- 4 Fireworks at Heritage
- 5 Entertainment Under the Stars
(every Tuesday in July)

Aug.

- 2 Election
- 6-13 Branch County Fair
- 12-14 Michigan's Longest Garage Sale

Sept.

- 5 Labor Day (City offices closed)
- 17 Applefest & Craft Show
- 19-23 Hydrant Flushing

Please place your yard waste in decomposable leaf bags. Thank you!

Save over \$300 with CBPU
POOL PUMP REBATES
AC-TUNEUPS
->Visit www.coldwater.org for more info.

City of Coldwater | One Grand Street | Coldwater, MI 49036
CBPU | Office: 517.279.9531 | Help Desk: 517.278.9276

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CBPU



COLDWATER
MICHIGAN • 1861

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2015 WATER QUALITY REPORT

The Water Quality Report describing the source and quality of your drinking water is available at www.coldwater.org/water_quality_report_2015.pdf. To receive a paper copy in the mail, contact us at (517) 279-9531.



Cable Television and the Media Industry

The Industry

In 1983, 90% of televised media in America was owned by roughly 50 companies. The dispersion of networks allowed for a competitive business market. Since each organization only operated a channel or two, they would be forced to keep quality programming with reasonable costs.

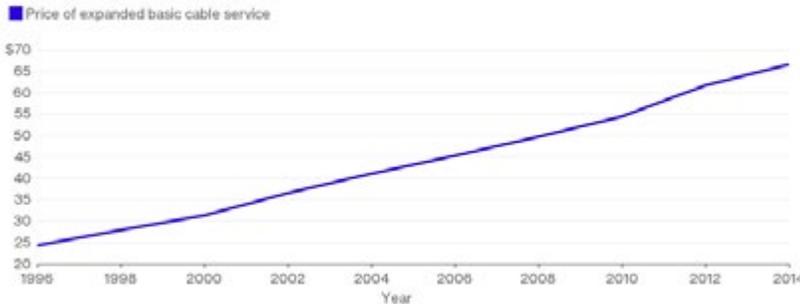
Networks that were not widely accepted did not stay on the air for long.

Today, around 90% of that same media is controlled by 4 companies (ABC, CBS, FOX & NBC).

These media conglomerates have the ability to package a group of channels and sell them at their cost of choice. The bargaining power, now in the hands of the media industry, forces providers like us to purchase channels that often would not be considered necessary and package them in ways we do not often see as the best fit.

Your Ever-Increasing Cable Bill

The average price grew 5.9 percent annually since 1995, to \$66.61 in 2014



Source: Federal Communications Commission

Bloomberg

Rate Increase

Small increases do pay for service upgrades. We have invested thousands of dollars to provide the best services possible. However, the bulk of the fee increases are due to rising network fees. These network demands often involve significant fee increases which effect you every month on

your bill. Since 1999, fees have increased 3.5 times the rate of inflation. We do our best negotiating with these networks to get the lowest fees possible, but if we refuse to pay these increases, the networks will pull their signals causing their stations to go

dark on your channel lineup. This is something we do our best to avoid.

Please know that we work hard to provide valuable services at competitive prices. We will continue to operate with our customer's best interest in mind, every step of the way.

Call Before You Dig

Dialing 811 in Michigan connects callers to MISS DIG, a statewide, one-call center for construction safety and utility damage prevention. Once a request is received, MISS DIG contacts local utility companies (CBPU), according to the location where a caller plans to dig.

Utilities will send representatives to mark the approximate location of underground lines with paint and/or staking flags within three working days. The service is free. For more information, visit www.missdig.net



Absentee Voting

With the State Legislature eliminating the option of straight party voting and this year proving to be a very popular election cycle, we are anticipating longer than normal lines and wait times at our polling locations for the 2016 August and November elections.

Voters now have the option to eliminate the wait altogether by signing up for the Permanent AV List, which will automatically send you an absent voter application for every election. If this appeals to you, please complete, cut out and return the form below to Sue Heath at the HLB Municipal Building, One Grand Street, Coldwater, MI:

Please sign me up for the permanent AV List.

Full Name: _____
Please Print

Address: _____

Signature: _____

Should you have any questions, please contact the Clerk's Office at 517-279-6928 or via email at sheath@coldwater.org.

News You Can Use to be a Safe, Courteous and Good Neighbor.

- Parking on city streets between 2:00am and 6:00am is not allowed. Do not park across or block any portion of the sidewalk or in the front yard on unimproved surface.
- Bicycles, skateboards and roller skates are prohibited in the public parking lots and sidewalk areas of the downtown business district.
- Garage sales are allowed up to three times per year for no longer than three days at a time. Posting of signs is only allowed on the property having the garage sale. Signs are not allowed between the sidewalk and the street curb or on the utility poles or trees.
- Sheds, signs, fences and swimming pools require a building permit.

- State, county and city regulations require that all dogs over the age of six months must be licensed. Farm animals may not be housed in the city without a permit. Animals must be maintained under control at all times and not allowed to run free.
- The curfew for youth 14 and under is 10:00pm and for ages 15 through 17, midnight.
- Sidewalks must be kept clear of leaves, trash and all protruding branches or overhanging shrubbery.
- Vegetation such as grass and weeds must be mowed to less than 6 inches in height.
- Open burning of leaves, vegetation or trash is not allowed with the city limits.
- All rental units must be registered and inspected on a periodic basis through the City's Neighborhood Services Department.



Follow us on Facebook, Twitter & YouTube for up-to-date information. Scan the QR code with your smartphone to visit www.coldwater.org today!