

Inform

Neighborhood Projects

Residents can obtain information about neighborhood activities and construction projects in their area by contacting the City of Portage Department of Community Development.

A public or private construction project and/or utility improvement project may take place in residential areas. Information about these projects is available for neighborhood residents or for anyone concerned.

Additionally, zoning and building inspections are performed for all residential construction projects requiring a building permit.

Please contact the Department of Community Development at (269) 329-4466 or (269) 329-4477. Department staff will answer questions and provide information about project activities in your neighborhood.

Preserve

Housing Assistance Programs

The Neighborhood Support Program involves neighborhood preservation activities. Supporting preservation activities maintains the housing stock and property values and improves the quality of neighborhood life.

Through the Community Development Block Grant Program and other funding sources, emergency repair grants and deferred low- or no-interest loans are provided to low/moderate income property owners for improvements to their homes. In addition, assistance is offered to income-eligible home buyers with the purchase of homes within specified Portage neighborhoods. The resulting benefits include improved safety and livability of residential structures, increased home ownership and an overall improvement in neighborhood appearance.

For information about Housing Assistance Programs through the City of Portage, contact the Community Development Specialist at (269) 324-9201.

Neighborhood Support Program Improving the Livability of Portage Neighborhoods



City of Portage

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www.portage.mi.gov

Neighborhood Support Program

The Neighborhood Support Program is a comprehensive effort to ensure the quality of residential neighborhoods within the community. The goals of the Neighborhood Support Program are:

- ◆ **Promote** the stability of residential neighborhoods.
- ◆ **Improve** the character of residential neighborhoods.
- ◆ **Protect** and enhance the quality of life.
- ◆ **Inform** citizens of development projects.
- ◆ **Preserve** residential property values.

Several programs and activities are described in this brochure that support neighborhoods. The programs and activities are administered by the Department of Community Development.

If you have questions or need additional information, please feel free to call the Department of Community Development at (269) 329-4477 or visit www.portagemi.gov.

Promote, Improve and Protect Neighborhood Inspections and Citizen Services / Reports of Ordinance Violations

The stability of Portage neighborhoods is important and is promoted through periodic neighborhood inspections by city staff. The prevention and elimination of ordinance violations improves the livability of neighborhoods.

While city staff conduct periodic inspections, the promotion, improvement and protection of neighborhoods is a cooperative effort with citizens. Prompt response is provided whenever a request for services is received from a citizen regarding a reported ordinance violation.

Neighborhood areas, especially those near commercial and industrial land uses are also regularly monitored. City staff work cooperatively with the parties involved to ensure that all ordinance regulations (such as noise, health and safety, zoning, housing, building and property maintenance) are fulfilled.

Common ordinance violations include:

- ◆ Presence of junk and debris
- ◆ Grass and/or weeds taller than eight inches
- ◆ Vehicles parked on the grass
- ◆ Inoperable vehicles
- ◆ Vehicles parked within the road right-of-way or within the required 10-foot parking setback.
- ◆ Construction without a permit
- ◆ Loud noises
- ◆ Sidewalks not cleared of snow, ice and/or debris
- ◆ Dilapidated or poorly maintained buildings

If you wish to report an ordinance violation or other neighborhood concern, contact the Department of Community Development at (269) 329-4466 or (269) 329-4477. You may also visit www.portagemi.gov and navigate to "Report It!"