

SAULT STE. MARIE HOUSING COMMISSION

July 2025 Newsletter



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Summer is here—bringing barbecues, beach days, and fun-filled celebrations! As you enjoy the season, please remember the City of Sault Ste. Marie's Code of Ordinances (Sec. 16-60) regarding fireworks:

- It is unlawful to ignite, discharge, or use fireworks in a way that causes debris to land on public or private property you do not own.
- It is unlawful to use fireworks on public property, including streets and right-of-ways.
- It is unlawful to set off fireworks on private property without the owner's permission.
- Fireworks may only be used between 11:00 a.m. and 11:45 p.m. from June 29 through July 4th and on July 5th only if it falls on a Friday or Saturday.

Important Reminder: Fireworks must be lit at least (25) feet away from all Sault Ste. Marie Housing Commission structures. Be sure to use them responsibly and dispose of all debris properly. Finally, please be considerate of your neighbors, especially those with pets, as fireworks can be distressing.

We hope everyone has a safe and fun summer!

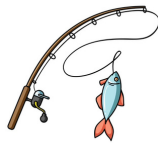
MUSIC IN THE PARK

Spend your Wednesday evenings enjoying live music from some of the region's most talented performers — all set against the scenic backdrop of Soo Locks Park in downtown Sault Ste. Marie. This free, family-friendly concert series is a perfect way to enjoy warm summer nights filled with great music and community spirit. Concerts begin at 7:00 p.m., so bring a lawn chair or blanket, sit back, and soak in the sounds of summer!

Each week features a variety of musical styles, including country, folk, rock, blues, original songs, and more. The 2025 line-up is as follows:

- **July 9** – Petoskey Steel Drum Band
- **July 16** – Blue Water Ramblers
- **July 23** – Pub Runners
- **July 30** – Gentleman George Band
- **August 6** – Dominic Fortuna
- **August 13** – Night of Native Music
- **August 20** – TBD

CONNOR GORSUCH KIDS' FISHING DAY



The Connor Gorsuch Kids' Fishing Day is set for Friday, July 26 at the Kids Fishing Pond in Rotary Park. This free, family-friendly event is open to all kids 16 and under—come cast a line and enjoy a great day outdoors! Registration will take place from 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM.

Fishing times are:

- Ages 8 and under: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
- Ages 9 to 16: 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
- All registered kids: 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Each child can catch up to three fish and register two. Bait will be provided by Wilderness Treasures, and while some fishing gear will be on hand, kids are encouraged to bring their own. Please note: only hooks and bobbers are allowed—no lures. Stick around for food, drinks, and prizes donated by generous members of the community.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

43rd Annual Baaweting Homecoming Powwow

Celebrate culture and community for the 43rd Annual Baaweting Homecoming Powwow from July 4th at 8:00 a.m. through July 6th at 2:00 p.m. at the tribe's powwow grounds in Sault Ste. Marie! Immerse yourself in the vibrant traditions of powwow, including powerful drum circles, mesmerizing dance performances, and authentic tribal customs. Each day features Grand Entries—a stunning display of unity and heritage as dancers in elaborate regalia take the arena in celebration.

Fourth of July Parade and Fireworks

Celebrate Independence Day at the annual Parade along Ashmun Street and Portage Avenue in Sault Ste. Marie, MI! The festivities begin at 7:00 p.m. on Davitt Street, with the parade traveling north on Ashmun Street, then turning west onto Portage Avenue and continuing to Magazine Street. A designated quiet zone will be in place at the start of the route for individuals with sensory sensitivities. As night falls, head over to Brady Park to enjoy the fireworks show at dusk!



FOOD PANTRIES

Feeding America: Upper Peninsula

- Thursday, July 10, 2025 at 4:00pm. Located at the Big Bear Arena (Chi Mukwa) on 2 Ice Circle, Sault Ste. Marie, MI.
- Wednesdays-Fridays (11:30a-1p) FREE Summer Meals at Bayliss Public Library for youth 18 and under & disabled adults up to 26.

The Salvation Army

132 W. Spruce St: 906-632-6521

- Pantry: by appointment only.
- Community Kitchen: Mon-Fri (12pm-12:30pm)
- Bread Rack: Mon/Wed/Fri (10am-12pm) and Tues/Thur (10am-12pm & 12:30pm-3:30pm)

First Church of Christ

300 W. Spruce St: 906-632-6511

- Mon-Wed (9am-11am)

First United Presbyterian Church

555 Bingham Ave: 906-632-7771

- 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month (3:30pm-5pm)

St Joseph's Catholic Church

1101 Minneapolis St: 906-632-9625

- Every Tuesday (2pm-3pm)

CLM Community Action Agency

524 Ashmun St: 906-632-3363

- Mon-Fri (9am-4pm)



BRATWRUST FUNDRAISER

Chippewa-Luce-Mackinac Community Action Agency (CLMCAA) is proud to host its annual Brat Fundraiser on Tuesday, July 8, 2025, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Soo Brewing Company in downtown Sault Ste. Marie, MI. This event raises vital funds to support individuals and families in our communities who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

Their goal this year is to raise \$2,500—enough to provide 30 nights of emergency shelter for those in need across Chippewa, Luce, and Mackinac Counties! The suggested donation \$8.00 to enjoy great food and help the homeless individuals in our community.

STORYTIME WITH THE LIONS

Storytime with the Lions, hosted by the EUPISD, takes place every Wednesday from June 25th through August 6, 2025, at 315 Armory Place from 1:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Families and young readers are invited to enjoy fun stories, giveaways, and reading adventures all summer long. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to foster a love of reading!

DOLLY PARTON'S IMAGINATION LIBRARY



Dolly Parton's Imagination Library offers free, high-quality books to children ages birth to five, regardless of family income. If you live within the EUPISD service area, your child is eligible for this program!

Parents can enroll their child, and anyone can sponsor a child. To register, you may contact Emily Mayer at 906-632-3373.

4-FORMS

Any changes in your household must be reported **within ten (10) business days of receiving notice.** This includes updates such as new employment, job loss, changes in pay, child support, a minor starting a job, unemployment benefits, changes in SSI/Social Security, pension or retirement earnings, household size, childcare expenses, cash assistance, etc.

Updates cannot be made via phone or email; you must complete the 4-forms. To avoid retroactive rent charges that can accumulate quickly, complete and submit these forms as soon as possible.

ANNUAL RECERTIFICATION & INSPECTIONS

When you receive notice that it is time for your Annual Recertification, you may wonder why it's scheduled three months before your original move-in date. We start this process early to ensure we can complete the necessary verifications and file processing before your annual move-in date.

The notice will also include the dates when maintenance will enter your home for the annual inspection. You do not need to be present for this inspection. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact our office.

WORK ORDERS

Any damages or work orders not reported when they occur and later discovered during an inspection are considered lease violations. As outlined in your lease, you must report these issues promptly. Be sure to notify us as soon as they arise to avoid any potential violations.

HOUSEKEEPING

When signing your lease for subsidized housing, you agreed to the specific requirements needed to keep your eligibility. Subsidized housing means that a portion of your rent is paid by the federal government, depending on your income. Although we understand there are many regulations associated with federally subsidized housing, these requirements are necessary in order to receive reduced rent. For instance, in Chippewa County, the fair market rent for a 3-bedroom unit is \$1,233/month.

Housekeeping is crucial and HUD has established standards for what is considered acceptable. These standards are outlined in your lease. When maintenance enters your home, they will assess and document its condition. If they find it below HUD standards, it will be reported, and you may receive notice of a follow-up housekeeping inspection. Sub-standard housekeeping will be a lease violation and you will be placed on biweekly housekeeping inspections. Three (3) violations within a calendar year could lead to the termination of your lease.

If you need assistance maintaining these standards, there are agencies and programs that may be able to help you. We strongly encourage you to inquire about eligibility for assistance. Any further questions, please contact our office and ask to speak with our Resource Manager, Jim.



REMINDERS!



- **Rent is DUE on July 1st.**
If rent is not paid by the end of day on July 7th, a \$10.00 late fee will be added to your account, along with an additional \$1.00 per day until payment is made.
- We do not accept cash payments. Acceptable forms of payment include a Personal Check, Cashier's Check, Money Order, or Online Payment.
- Our lobby doors are open to the public Monday through Friday from 9:00am to 4:00pm. However, we are available for phone calls until 5:00pm.
- The office vestibule is open 24/7. You can pick up or drop off forms at any time.

Our office will be closed on Friday, July 4th for Independence Day.

**SUBMIT YOUR RENTAL PAYMENT ONLINE
BY SCANNING THE QR CODE WITH YOUR PHONE!**



STAFF DIRECTORY

Occupancy Specialist I - Senior Housing

jodi@saulthousing.com

Occupancy Specialist II - Family Housing

jeannine@saulthousing.com

Section 8/Resource Manager

jim@saulthousing.com

Accounts Payable/Receivable & Collections

allison@saulthousing.com

Administrative Assistant

melissa@saulthousing.com

Receptionist

chrissy@saulthousing.com

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Jennifer Dunton, President

Michael B. Winnick, Vice-President

Jennifer LaBonte, Treasurer

Bridget Akre, Commissioner

Ancilla Lee, Resident Commissioner

Board meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month at 12:00pm in our office, located on 608 Pine Street, Sault Ste. Marie, MI.

Meeting dates may be subject to change

OFFICE INFORMATION

P.O. Box 928 / 608 Pine St
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Phone: (906) 635-5841

Fax: (906) 635-9500

Website: www.saulthousing.com

Executive Director

Candy Seward-Farstad P.H.M.
candy@saulthousing.com

Deputy Director

Lauren Gamelin
lauren@saulthousing.com

