

SAULT STE. MARIE HOUSING COMMISSION

March 2026 Newsletter



TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAGE 1:

Tenant Accounts

PAGE 2:

Battle of the Badges
Free CPR & Narcan Training
Family Literacy Night
Community Events

PAGE 3:

Recycling Center
Senior Meal Programs
Local Food Pantries

PAGE 4:

4-Forms
Recertification/Inspections
Work Orders
Housekeeping

PAGE 5:

Important Reminders
Staff Directory
Board of Commissioners
Office Information

TENANT ACCOUNTS

As we approach the end of our fiscal year and plan for the year ahead, we are conducting a thorough review of all tenant accounts. During this process, we have noticed that some accounts still show open balances or unused credits. Over the coming month, our team will be working diligently to ensure that all accounts are up to date and any remaining balances are cleared.

Each month, you receive a receipt detailing any outstanding balances or remaining credits. We kindly ask that you review your most recent receipt and submit any outstanding payments as soon as possible.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss your account, please contact our office at 906-635-5841 and ask to speak with our Accounts Payable/Receivable and Collections Specialist, Allison.

BATTLE OF THE BADGES



The Sault Ste. Marie Fire Department and Police Department will face off in the annual Battle of the Badges Charity Hockey Game on Saturday, March 21st at 2:00pm at the Pullar Arena.

This community event brings our local first responders together for a competitive game, with all proceeds benefiting the Chippewa County Victim Services Unit. Come out to support a great cause and cheer on our hometown heroes!

FREE CPR & NARCAN TRAINING

Emergencies can happen in an instant, and you could have the power to save a life! Face Addiction Now (FAN) and Lifesaver U.P. are offering CPR and Narcan training for community members of all backgrounds. You will learn how to recognize an overdose, administer Narcan, and perform CPR with certification available.

The training is FREE, requires no experience, and is open to the public, but spots are limited to 18 participants, so pre-registration is required at <https://forms.gle/tBjUtKzDZ4YVPkzL6>. The session will be held on Wednesday, March 18th at 5:30pm at the First Church of Christ on 300 W. Spruce St.

FAMILY LITERACY NIGHT



Come One! Come All! EUP Reads is hosting a Family Literacy Night on Monday, March 9th from 6:00 to 8:00pm at the LSSU Cisler Center. Families are invited to take part in an evening filled with literacy activities for children of all ages in a lively circus themed setting. The event will feature prizes, giveaways, free snacks, and valuable literacy resources and references. Guests are also encouraged to wear circus themed costumes to join in the fun.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Winter Farmer's Market

Every Saturday throughout the winter, Bayliss Public Library hosts a Winter Farmer's Market from 10:00am to 12:30pm. Stop by 541 Library Drive to browse and show support for the local crafters and vendors.

Family Fun Fair

Join Child Evangelism Fellowship for their 18th Annual Family Fun Fair! This FREE, family-friendly event features carnival games, face painting, popcorn, prizes, and plenty of candy for elementary-aged kids and their families. Enjoy a brief Gospel presentation at the start and a short program at the end, with door prizes like bikes, basketballs, footballs, and stuffed animals. Every game offers prizes and candy, plus a cupcake from the cupcake walk. The event is held on Saturday, March 7th, from 1:00 to 3:30pm at the Lake Superior State University Student Activity Center on 1000 Meridian Street.



FOOD PANTRIES

Feeding America: Upper Peninsula

- Thursday, March 12, 2026 at 4:00pm. Located at the Big Bear Arena (Chi Mukwa) on 2 Ice Circle, Sault Ste. Marie, MI.

Salvation Army

132 W. Spruce St: 906-632-6521

- Pantry: by appointment only.
- Community Kitchen: Mon-Fri (12pm-12:30pm)
- Bread Rack: Monday - Friday (9:30a - 10:30a)

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)



RECYCLING CENTER

Operated by Northern Transitions, Inc., the Chippewa County Recycling Center is the perfect place to drop off your recyclables! Listed below are accepted and non-accepted items for recycle:

Accepted Items (Cleaned & Rinsed):

- Glass: Bottles & jars (no candles)
- Metals: Aluminum, steel, tin, cans, aerosol cans, scrap metal(remove plastic parts)
- Plastics: Codes 1-7, bottles & containers (remove caps)
- Paper: Newspapers, office paper, magazines, books, envelopes, shredded paper (bagged)
- Cardboard: Flatten boxes, remove packaging (no Styrofoam or plastic-coated boxes)

Not Accepted:

- Syringes, Styrofoam, drugs, medical waste
- Glass, ceramics, wax-coated boxes
- Diapers, cat litter, single-use cups
- PVC, lawn furniture, toys

SSM Drop-Site Dates/Hours: Sunday and Monday Closed, Tuesday 9:00am to Midnight, Wednesday through Friday Open 24 hours, and Saturday closes at 3:00pm.

SENIOR MEAL PROGRAMS

Congregate Meal Program

Nutritious lunches are served at the Chippewa-Luce-Mackinac Community Action dining site, where seniors can enjoy a meal in a welcoming group setting. If you are aged 60 years or older, you are eligible to attend. The dining site is open Monday-Friday at noon and located in the Calery Center on 524 Ashmun Street.

Home Delivered Meals Program

This program is designed to assist home-bound seniors with their dietary needs. Each and every meal is a blend of good taste and balanced nutrition and is delivered to the homes of seniors who are not able to attend Congregate Meal Sites. The Home Delivered Meal Program provides meals for seven days a week. The recommended donation is \$3.00 per meal.

Eligibility Requirements:

- You or your spouse must be 60 years of age or older.
- You are home-bound and cannot leave your home independently.
- You are unable to prepare meals and have no other access to a nutritionally balanced diet.

To apply for the Home Delivered Meals Program, contact the Community Action Agency at 906-632-3363.

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/hours, child support changes, a minor starting a job, unemployment benefits, changes in SSI/Social Security benefits, 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 question 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 include the dates when maintenance will enter your home to conduct the annual inspection. Additional details will be provided in the letter at that time. If you have questions or concerns, please 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 our office as soon as they arise to avoid 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 \$1,278/month.

Maintaining your housekeeping is essential, and HUD has set standards to define what is considered acceptable or unacceptable. 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 March 1st.** If rent is not paid by the end of day on March 5th, 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 can be made by Personal Check, Cashier's Check, Money Order, or through Online Payment.
- Our office lobby is open to the public Monday through Friday from 9:00am to 4:00pm. While the lobby closes at 4:00pm, staff are available by phone until 5:00pm.
- Our office vestibule is open 24/7. You can pick up forms or turn in paperwork at any time.

Our office will close at 1:00pm on Wednesday, March 4th for staff training.



SUBMIT YOUR PAYMENTS ONLINE BY SCANNING THE QR CODE BELOW WITH YOUR PHONE!



STAFF DIRECTORY

Executive Director

candy@saulthousing.com

Deputy Director

lauren@saulthousing.com

Occupancy Specialist - Family Housing

jodi@saulthousing.com

Occupancy Specialist - Senior Housing

melissa@saulthousing.com

Accounts Payable/Receivable & Collections

allison@saulthousing.com

Section 8/Resource Manager

jim@saulthousing.com

Administrative Assistant

wendyh@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

