

# SAULT STE. MARIE HOUSING COMMISSION

May 2026 Newsletter



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## SPRING CLEAN-UP ✨

The Sault Ste. Marie Housing Commission is pleased to offer dumpsters for residents again this year. From **May 18th through May 29th**, dumpsters will be made available on Andary Avenue and Kimball Street. This is a great opportunity to de-clutter your home, clean out your basement, or tidy up your yard!

To make sure the dumpsters are used appropriately, the following items are **NOT** permitted for disposal:

- Tires and automotive parts
- Yard waste (twigs, grass clippings, leaves)
- Large appliances, furniture, or mattresses
- Paint, hazardous waste, or flammable materials
- Electronics and fluorescent lights

As a reminder, these dumpsters are *exclusively* for SSMHC residents. Non-residents are prohibited from using this service. If it is found that residents are allowing non-residents to dispose of items, the dumpsters will no longer be offered in the future.

We appreciate your cooperation in ensuring the service remains available for everyone and we look forward to helping make your spring clean-up easier!



## MOTHER'S DAY GARDEN PARTY

Fields Farm & Garden (3290 East 9 Mile Road) is hosting its 4th Annual Mother's Day Garden Party on Saturday, May 9th from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Bring the whole family for an afternoon of fun with free teacups for kids to plant a gift for mom, snacks and refreshments, and free family photos by Haley Lynn Photography from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. You can also create your own 12-inch hanging basket with five annuals of your choice for \$40.00!

## MAY BURGER MONTH

Hosted by Everything Classic Bridge FM, celebrate National Burger Month this May with juicy burgers, mouth-watering toppings, and specials at the following participating restaurants:

- The Wicked Sister
- The Palace Restaurant & Saloon
- Goetz's Lockview Restaurant
- Soo Brewing Company
- Double D Sports Bar & Grill
- Cozy Corners: Barbeau, MI
- Black Rock Bar & Grill
- Prime Cuts Italian Steakhouse
- The Antlers Restaurant
- VFW Post 3676

Grab your official Burger Month Passport at any of these locations, collect stamps at each stop, and return your completed passports to participating restaurants for a chance to win fantastic prizes! This event runs all month long, starting May 1st through May 31st.



## SPRING INTO MAY WORD SEARCH

B Y D B D N W Y G S W S I  
 F Q F D X M T S P V D K V  
 P C C Z Z Z O I V N X N R  
 L A D Y B U G M P W H U S  
 V T T T J R U I H P X S R  
 G R E S Y G K I O M W Z E  
 Z G I Y M I F V A L S H W  
 N R W C P M P K B U B V O  
 L E W L I H W M O B X M L  
 L E F R G Z N O C H N S F  
 A N S P R I N G R B D Z D  
 B T U C D B U R B E R W B  
 E U O M S R W I E S C F L  
 S W C T A A Z S O D U U O  
 A A T C H T Y A F V G A S  
 B U G Q W Y T Z S O Q H S  
 G I E H G B N E D R A G O  
 A Y S F T S Z Z X Y H N M  
 U E C G G Z P J H E A K L  
 A F V B X N A N J K C O A  
 A I O S U N S H I N E R U  
 E L C N M H I K S O R O W  
 Y T T D O Y D O P L A N T  
 D Z S S B U M B L E B E E  
 X F I A J A E W G N G V W  
 D U J U W T A E U N V J L  
 Z Y L F R E T T U B F W K  
 T Q N R E W O M N W A L O

### WORD LIST

- BLOSSOM
- BUMBLEBEE
- BUTTERFLY
- GARDEN
- GREEN
- LADYBUG
- FLOWERS
- LAWNMOWER
- BASEBALL
- MOM
- PLANT
- SEEDS
- SPRING
- SUNSHINE

# FOOD PANTRIES

## Feeding America: Upper Peninsula

- Thursday, May 14, 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)



# FINANCIAL COUNSELING



If you're looking to get your finances back on track, the Soo Co-Op Credit Union offers FREE financial counseling to help you regain control of your money and build a stronger financial future. Their certified counselors can assist you with managing and prioritizing debt, improving or rebuilding your credit score, developing realistic and effective budgets, exploring financial options that fit your situation, and creating a clear plan to reach your long-term financial goals.

Whether you're tackling debt or simply looking for better financial guidance, these counselors are available to help. Sign up today by visiting their website at <https://www.soocoop.com/resources/financial-counseling-> or call 906-632-5300 for more information.

# 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 is 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 as they occur. Please notify our office as soon as possible 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 Friday, May 1st.**  
If rent is not paid in full by the end of day on May 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 or turn in forms at any time.

**Our office will be closed on Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup> in observance of Memorial Day.**



**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

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](http://www.saulthousing.com)