

2025

Calhoun County Community Calendar

BATTLE CREEK AREA CLEAN WATER PARTNERS

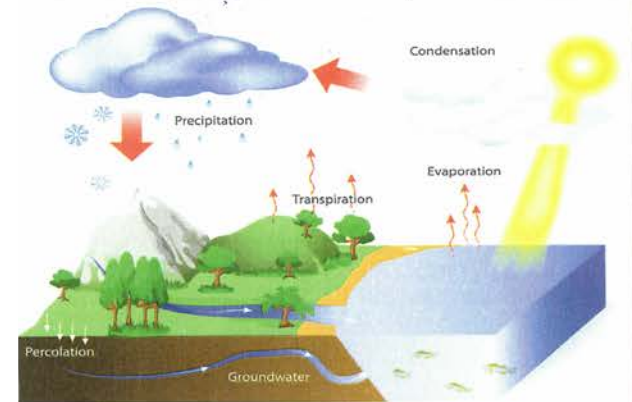


The Battle Creek Area Clean Water Partners (BCACWP)

is proud to present this 2025 wall calendar for the residents of Calhoun County. The featured photographs were all taken within the Kalamazoo River Watershed within Calhoun County by local photographers, who participated in the BCACWP photo contest.

The purpose of the calendar is to display the many beautiful areas within our county, and to bring focus to an unseen resource; groundwater, which is the source of drinking water in Calhoun County. Both surface water and groundwater are overlooked for the value they bring. Groundwater sustains us in the form of drinking water and the Kalamazoo River Watershed provides habitat for wildlife and recreation for our residents.

You can follow the simple steps outlined in the calendar to help protect our water from sources of pollution. The steps we take now will help protect our water for future generations. The Battle Creek Area Clean Water Partnership is the City of Battle Creek; City of Springfield; the Calhoun County Water Resources Commission ; the Calhoun County Road Department; the townships of Bedford, Emmett, Leroy, Newton and Pennfield; the Hart-Dole-Inouye Federal Center; Kellogg Community College; and the Battle Creek Area Schools joining together with common goal of protecting the waterways in the area.



Groundwater

UNDERSTANDING THE WATER CYCLE

Water is something we often take for granted. From the lakes to the streams we play and fish in, to the water we use everyday to nourish our bodies, water plays an important role in our lives. It's a natural resource that we simply can't live without. That's why it is our responsibility to protect our water resources for the next generation. In order to do that, we need to better understand the water cycle and how it works.

WHAT IS GROUNDWATER

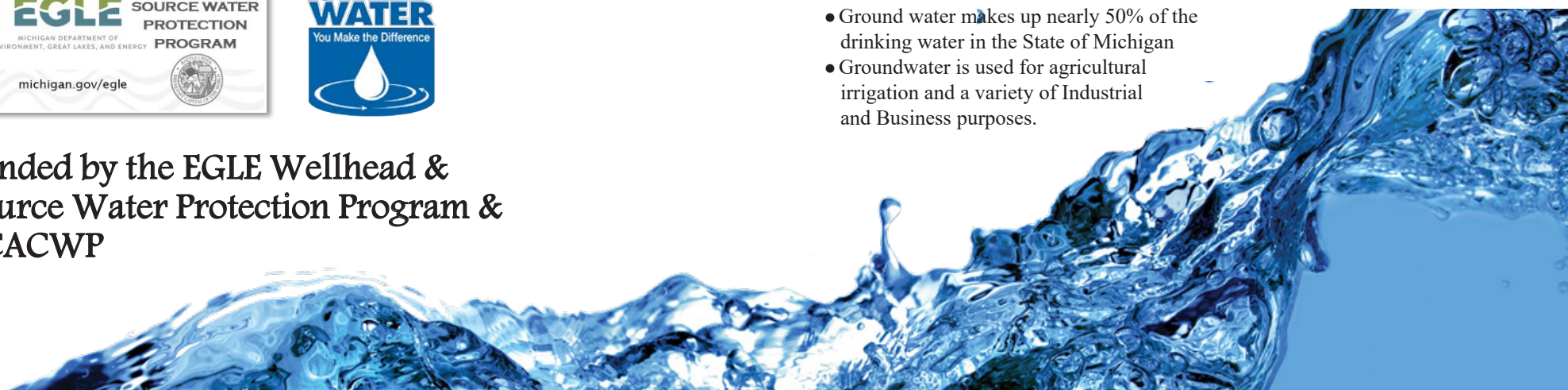
- Water that collects underground, filling cracks and spaces in layers of sand, gravel and rock.
- Layers of earth that hold enough groundwater to supply a well are referred to as aquifers
- Rain and snow runoff recharge the groundwater supply
- Pollutants can seep into the groundwater making it unsafe to use.

HOW IS IT USED?

- Ground water makes up nearly 50% of the drinking water in the State of Michigan
- Groundwater is used for agricultural irrigation and a variety of Industrial and Business purposes.



Funded by the EGLE Wellhead & Source Water Protection Program & BCACWP





Surface Water

WHAT IS SURFACE WATER?

- Rain water and runoff that collects in lakes, rivers, streams and wetlands on the earth's surface
- Surface water also comes from groundwater through springs

HOW IS IT USED?

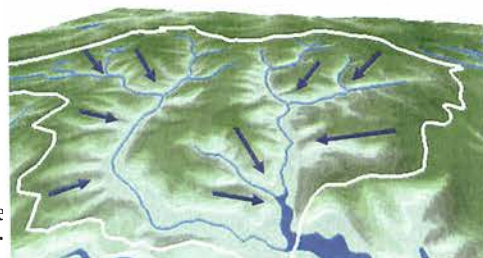
- Surface waters provide a natural habitat for wildlife
- As a recreational area for the people of our community.
- Interconnected with groundwater - our source of drinking water

HOW DO POLLUTANTS ENTER SURFACE WATERS?

- Storm sewers are the main source of pollutants, draining virtually everything from lawns, streets, and parking lots directly into local surface waters in the urban areas of our county.
- Storm water is not cleaned and is known as Non point Source Pollution. Common contaminants include: fertilizers, pesticides, grass clippings, leaves, grease, toxic chemicals, sediment, livestock and pet waste.
- As a matter of fact, too much phosphorus is making its way into the Kalamazoo River Watershed causing increased algal blooms and lower oxygen levels affecting aquatic life.

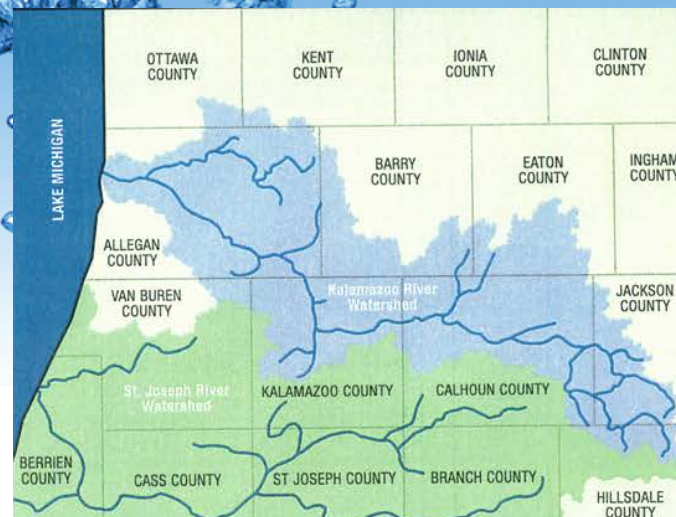
OUR SURFACE WATER - OUR WATERSHED

What is a watershed? It is an area where all water drains into the same body of water, such as a river or lake, based on topography and elevation. Two major watersheds are in our county. The Kalamazoo River Watershed and the St. Joseph River Watershed. The rivers and their tributaries flow until they reach Lake Michigan.



For more information on how you can do your part visit the Battle Creek Area Clean Water Partners at bcwater.org

Cover Photo by: Linda Gillespie



The Wellhead Protection Plan

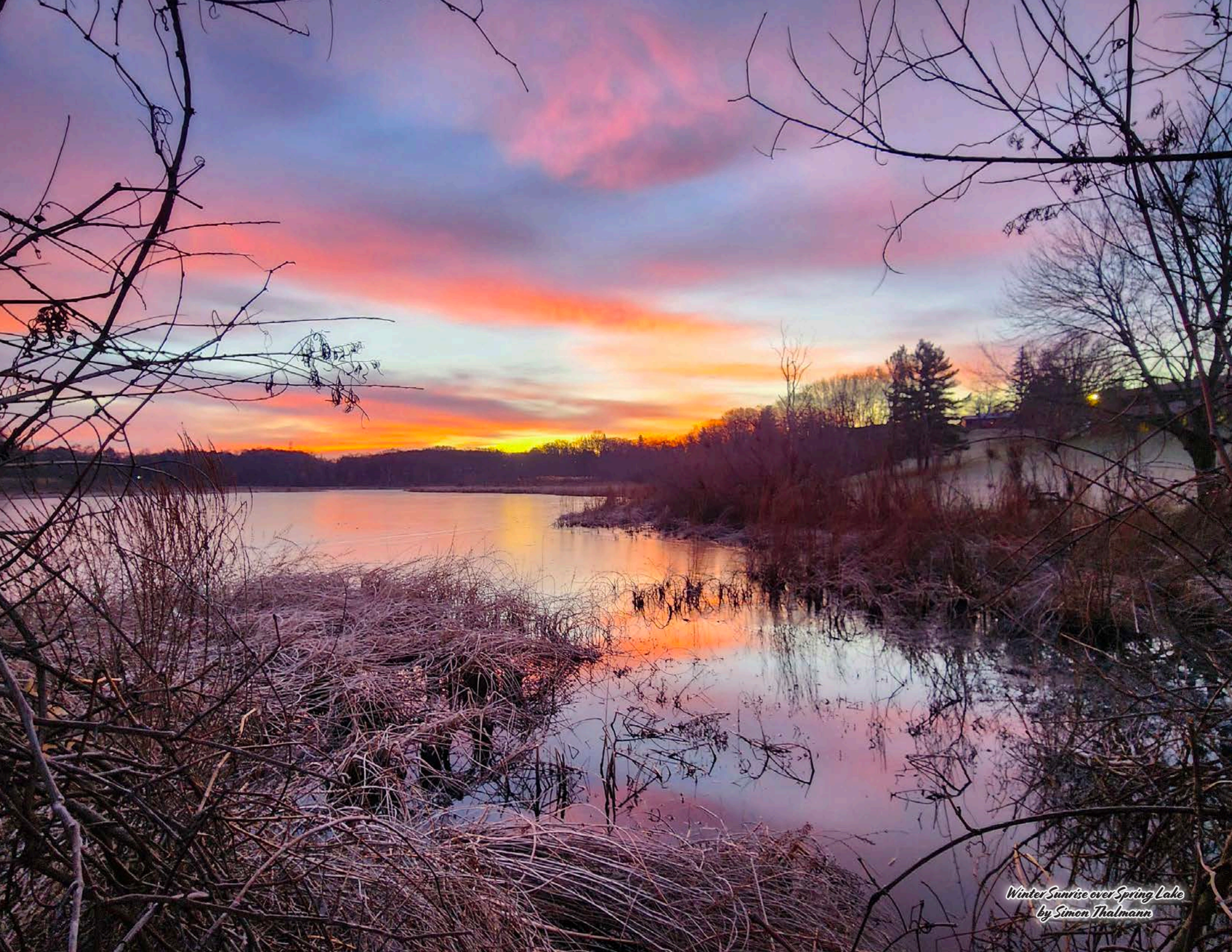
- To protect drinking water in your county, Wellhead Protection Plans have been developed for six communities: the City of Battle Creek, the City of Albion, the City of Marshall, Pennfield Township, and the Village of Athens. Elements included:
 - A pro-active initiative to prevent contamination
 - A designated wellhead protection area around each well field
 - Land use and zoning ordinances when new construction occurs within the area to prevent potential contamination
 - A contingency plan in case a contamination incident occurs

How is YOUR Water Protected?

- The City has an updated Wellhead Protection Plan (2019) and Wellhead Protection Ordinance (Chapter 1041)
- Annual site visits to select businesses are conducted to ensure safe practices are used within the Wellhead Protection Area
- Quarterly Wellhead Protection Team meetings are held to discuss groundwater protection
- The City's wells are monitored regularly to ensure drinking water standards are met
- The City participates in the State of Michigan Wellhead Protection Grant Program
- Annual Water Quality Report is published each year to provide customers with the latest drinking water information: battlecreekmi.gov/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/537

Want More Information?

- Visit the City of Battle Creek's website: www.battlecreekmi.gov
- Visit the Battle Creek Area Clean Water Partners website: bcwater.org
- Contact the City of Battle Creek's Environmental Department at (269) 966-3355.



*Winter Sunrise over Spring Lake
by Simon Thalmann*

Drinking water comes from deep within the ground so remember it is our actions that can make a difference. Dispose of your waste properly.

January 2025

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Tip: DE-ICING: Shovel snow and ice more often to limit use of sand, salt and de-icing chemicals.

Act: Visit the Salt Watch site to learn more about salt's impact on our water resources: iwla.org/water/stream-monitoring/salt-watch





*For updated meeting & event dates for the City of Battle Creek, Battle Creek Area Clean Water Partners, & Calhoun County visit battlecreekmi.gov, bcwater.org, or calhouncountymi.gov/recycling for more information.



*February Sky in Marshall
by Craig Hewitt*

Water that flows within Calhoun County will end up in Lake Michigan. "Do unto those downstream as you would have those upstream do unto you" - Wendell Berry

February 2025

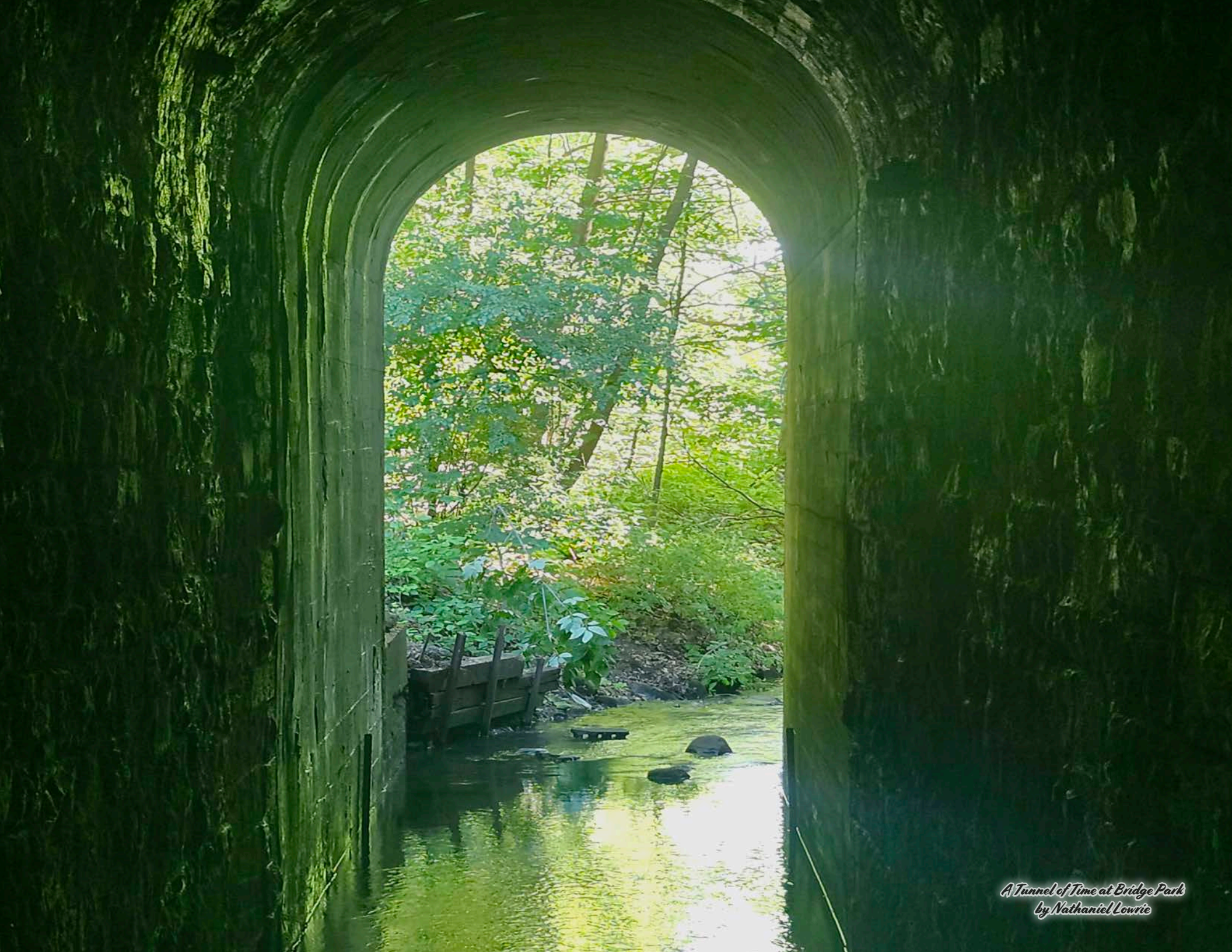
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Tip: Household Cleaners: Protect your drinking water. Never pour household cleaners down the drains, sinks or onto the ground.
Act: Visit USEPA's website for information on chemical products. www.epa.gov/saferchoice.



*For updated meeting & event dates for the City of Battle Creek, Battle Creek Area Clean Water Partners, & Calhoun County visit battlecreekmi.gov, bcwater.org, or calhouncountymi.gov/recycling for more information.



*A Tunnel of Time at Bridge Park
by Nathaniel Lowrie*

"Thousands have lived without love, not one without water."
 - W. H. Auden

March 2025

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Tip: IRRIGATION: Learn plants' water needs and water appropriately.

Act: RAINWATER: Purchase a rain barrel to capture water. Rain barrels help reduce runoff that can carry contaminants into storm drains and into our waterways. Visit bcwater.org for more information.




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*The Kalamazoo River in Albion
by Julia Faber*

*"To be without trees would, in the most literal way, to be without our roots."
- Richard Mabey*

April 2025

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13	14	15 <i>Tax Day</i>	16	17	18 <i>Good Friday</i>	19																																																																																																									
20 <i>Easter Sunday</i>	21 <i>Earth Week</i>	22	23 <i>Administrative Professionals Day</i>	24	25 <i>Arbor Day</i>	26																																																																																																									
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Act: Adopt a storm drain: Keep it cleared of leaves, dirt, grass clippings and other debris.



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*First look near Walkins Road
wetlands by Linda Gillespie*

*"In every walk with nature, one receives far more than they seek."
- John Muir*

May 2025

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Act:
No wipes in the pipes! Those "flushable" wipes are not so flushable. They can clog pipes resulting in major problems on your own property and with equipment used in treating our wastewater.



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*Nottawa Lake at Sunset in Marshall
by Stephaine Garcia*

"Always be like water. Float in the times of pain or dance like waves along the wind which touches its surface." - Santosh Kalwar

June 2025

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Tip: PET WASTE: Prevent bacterial contamination of our surface and groundwater by cleaning up anything "left behind" on your walk.



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*Turtle in the Rain at Spring Lake
by Kristen Stolz*

*"We have a single mission: to protect and hand the planet on to the next generation."
- Francois Hollande*

July 2025

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Tip: Never flush MEDICATIONS down the drain or toilet. They can end up in the ground and eventually in the water we share.
Act: Visit drugfreebc.org for medicine disposal locations. (Most police departments and pharmacies have Red Med Boxes)



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*Peaceful Pathway on Wabascon
Lake by Sylvia Dunn*

*"To do good, you actually have to do something."
- Yvon Chouinard*

August 2025

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Tip: Properly close abandoned wells on your property as they can contaminate our groundwater. Call Calhoun County Health Department for more information 269-969-6370.

Act: SEPTIC SYSTEMS: Properly maintain septic systems as they can pollute both our surface and groundwater supply. Visit the EPA's SepticSmart site at: epa.gov/septic



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*Emmett St. Bridge Waterfall
by Robin Garberik*

"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not." - Dr. Seuss.

September 2025

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21	22 <i>Fall Equinox</i>	23	24 Scrap Tire Collection: 4pm-6pm @ 150 Kendall St. S, B.C., bcwater.org for more info	25	26	27																																																																																																							
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Act: Help reduce costly repairs and stinky backups in your home and in the City by disposing of fats, rags, oils, grease (FROG) in the trash - not in your drains.







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*Cedar Waxwing near the Kalamazoo
River by Benjamin Young*

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.” - Margaret Mead

October 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	 	1	2	3	4	  Cleanup event from 9am-11am, visit bcwater.org/events for more information.
5	6 <i>Child Health Day</i>	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 <i>Columbus Day</i>	14	15	16 <i>Boss's Day</i>	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 <i>Halloween</i>	



Tip: FALL LEAVES: Help keep leaves out of our storm drains by mulching them into the lawn, bagging for removal or hiring a lawn service for fall cleanup.



*For updated meeting & event dates for the City of Battle Creek, Battle Creek Area Clean Water Partners, & Calhoun County visit battlecreekmi.gov, bcwater.org, or calhouncountymi.gov/recycling for more information.



*Lake of Fall in Fort Custer
by Andrew Matthews*

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago... the next best time is NOW!"
 - Chinese Proverb

November 2025

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Tip: RECYCLE RIGHT: Visit www.bcwater.org/recycling/ for more information.

Act: Remember to keep recyclable items "loose" in your recycle cart. Do not bag them. Plastic bags or films are not accepted in your curbside recycle program.



*For updated meeting & event dates for the City of Battle Creek, Battle Creek Area Clean Water Partners, & Calhoun County visit battlecreekmi.gov, bcwater.org, or calhouncountymi.gov/recycling for more information.



*Snowy Morning in downtown Battle Creek
by Doreen Barrett*

*"In every walk of nature one receives far more than they seeks."
- John Muir*

December 2025

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Battle Creek Area Clean Water Partners
Scan QR Code



bcwater.org
269-966-3355 x1889

Calhoun County Recycling Events
Scan QR Code



calhouncountymg.gov/recycling
269-969-4395

Tip:
DE - ICING: Shovel snow and ice often to limit use of sand, salt, and de-icing chemicals.

Act:
Visit the Salt Watch site to learn more about salt's impact on our water resources:
iwla.org/water/stream-monitoring/salt-watch

City of Battle Creek
Scan QR Code



battlecreekmi.gov
269-966-8111

City of Battle Creek
Environmental Services
Scan QR Code



battlecreekmi.gov/222/Environmental-
Services
269-966-3355 x1889

RESOURCES

CITY OF BATTLE CREEK

City Hall

10 N. Division St
Battle Creek, MI 49014
269-966-3311

Utility Billing

269-966-3366

Department of Public Works (DPW)

150 S Kendall St.
Battle Creek MI 49037
269-966-3311

DPW Water/Meter Shop Department

269-966-3506

Wastewater Treatment Plant

269-966-3513

CITY OF ALBION

112 West Cass St.
Albion, MI 49224
517-629-5535
cityofalbionmi.gov

CITY OF MARSHALL

323 W. Michigan Ave.
Marshall, MI 49068
269-781-5183
cityofmarshall.com

CITY OF SPRINGFIELD

601 Avenue A
Springfield, MI 49037
269-965-2354
springfieldmich.com



CALHOUN COUNTY ROAD DEPARTMENT

13300 15 Mile Road
Marshall, MI 49068
269-781-9841
calhouncountymi.gov/roads

CALHOUN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

George W. Toeller Building, Suite A100
190 E. Michigan Ave.
Battle Creek, MI 49014
269-969-6370
calhouncountymi.gov/publichealth

CALHOUN COUNTY WATER RESOURCES COMMISSIONER

315 West Green Street
Marshall, MI 49068
269-781-0790
calhouncountymi.gov/wr

CALHOUN COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

315 West Green Street
Marshall, MI 49068
269-781-0780
calhouncountymi.gov/communitydevelopment

CALHOUN COUNTY SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING

315 West Green Street
Marshall, MI 49068
269-969-6395
calhouncountymi.gov/recycling

Battle Creek Area Clean Water Partners

Scan QR Code



bcwater.org
269-966-3355 x1889



Calhoun County Recycling Events

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269-969-6395



City of Battle Creek
Environmental Services

Scan QR Code



battlecreekmi.gov/220/Environmental
Services
269-966-3355 x1889



City of Battle Creek

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battlecreekmi.gov
269-966-3311

