

# ALGER HEIGHTS NEWSLETTER



## Strategic Priorities for 2026

As we look ahead to 2026, the Alger Heights Neighborhood Association has been building a clear roadmap to strengthen connection, communication, and community involvement. This spring, we're launching a Block Liaison Program to help neighbors stay connected, along with a new website to serve as a central hub for updates and resources. We're also working behind the scenes to formalize our board and organizational structure to support long-term growth. As the year continues, you can look forward to a neighborhood open house, a community clean-up, a Dumpster Day, and a fall 5K community event. We are also exploring new ways to partner with local businesses and organizations to bring additional opportunities into the neighborhood. Your feedback continues to shape our priorities, and we encourage residents to share ideas and stay engaged. We're excited about what's ahead and look forward to building a stronger Alger Heights together. If you're interested in getting involved, we'd love to hear from you—reach out and be sure to stay up to date on our website for upcoming events.

## Upcoming Events

### Neighborhood Garage Sale

June 26, 9:00am-5:00pm

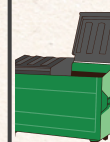
June 27, 9:00am-5:00pm

A fun way to declutter, shop, and connect with neighbors.



### October Community 5K

The Alger Heights Halloween 5K takes place on Saturday, October 31, 2026, with the race beginning at 10:00 AM. This festive, neighborhood run welcomes all ages and abilities—whether you're running, walking, or showing off a costume! Questions? Interested in volunteering? Check out [alger5k.com](http://alger5k.com)!



### Dumpster Day

October 24 || Mackay-Jaycees Park

See more details and rules and expectations at [algerheights.org](http://algerheights.org)



## Stay informed:

✦ Up to date information: [www.algerheights.org](http://www.algerheights.org)

✉ Contact us: [info@algerheights.org](mailto:info@algerheights.org)

📅 Join our monthly meeting!

We meet the first Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm at Seymour Church (840 Alger St SE)

## | 2025 recap:

Over the past year, the Alger Heights Neighborhood Association has focused on bringing valuable resources and conversations directly to our community. In November, we hosted a Community Police Officer (CPO) Q&A to introduce Officer Austin and provide a space for neighbors to ask questions and discuss safety—along with encouraging the use of the city’s non-emergency line for ongoing concerns. In December, we partnered with the Garfield Park Neighborhood Association (GPNA) to host a “Know Your Rights” event, and welcomed Valerie Maciejewski from United Way 2-1-1 to share an overview of local services and how residents can easily access support. We also highlighted the important work of SECOM Food Pantry, led by Executive Director Pablo Garcia ([director@secomministries.org](mailto:director@secomministries.org)), which continues to be a vital resource for many in our community. We’re always looking to feature topics and organizations that matter to our neighbors—if there’s something you’d like to see highlighted in the future, please reach out and let us know.

## | City Yard Waste Services Reminder

Yard waste is collected on your regular trash day from the first full week in April through the second Friday in December. Residents can use several collection options:

- Yard Waste Cart: Available for a \$30 one-time service fee. Each pickup requires a yellow yard waste tag (\$6.50).
- City Yard Waste Paper Bags: Accepted without a tag. Bags cost \$2.75 each or 5 for \$13.75 and must weigh under 30 pounds.
- Bulk Yard Waste Tags: Green tags (\$2.75) can be used for bundled branches or non-city paper bags. Branches must be under 4 feet long and 2 inches in diameter.

Tags and bags are available at City Hall and select local retailers.

## Resources:

### Need assistance?

- Food insecurity: reach out to SECOM [www.secomministries.org](http://www.secomministries.org) || 751 Burton St SE
- For food or emergency assistance, call 2-1-1 or visit [MI211.org](http://MI211.org)
- Know of a neighbor in need? Contact the Neighborhood Association!

### Community Police Officer:

- Officer Austin Highlen
- Phone Number: 616-280-1015
- Email: [ahighlen@grand-rapids.mi.us](mailto:ahighlen@grand-rapids.mi.us)

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward Commissioners:

- Marshall Kilgore: [mkilgore@grcity.us](mailto:mkilgore@grcity.us)
- Kelsey Perdue: [kperdue@grcity.us](mailto:kperdue@grcity.us)

Have a community resource you want to share in the next newsletter? Please email us!

### | Community Spotlight

## Block Liaison Program

Every great neighborhood starts with neighbors who care. If you're looking to deepen your community roots and connect with the people around you, becoming a Block Liaison could be perfect for you! Our goal one day is to have a Block Liaison for each street. Learn more about this low commitment way to get involved by emailing [BlockTeam@algerheights.org](mailto:BlockTeam@algerheights.org).

Block Liaisons are neighborhood champions who keep Alger Heights connected!

Here's what they do:

- Share newsletters and important updates with neighbors
- Welcome new residents with welcome packets
- Spread the word about community events like Dumpster Day
- Build personal, direct connections within the neighborhood
- Help foster a stronger, more engaged Alger Heights community!

