



MISHAWAKA COMMUNICATOR



A LETTER FROM MAYOR DAVE WOOD



In the Middle of Winter - and Moving Forward Together

As we welcome 2026, Mishawaka finds itself right where it has often proven its character—in the middle of winter.

This has been a winter that feels like winters of old. Heavy snow. Bitter cold. Long nights. The kind of season that tests patience, preparedness, and resolve. Yet, as always, Mishawaka has responded the way it always does—with grit, teamwork, and quiet determination.

Our crews have been out before dawn and late into the night, keeping streets passable, utilities running, and essential services operating. Neighbors have helped neighbors. Businesses have adapted. Families have pressed on. That resilience is not accidental—it's part of who we are. It's the Mishawaka Way.

While we haven't experienced a winter like this in many years, multiple snow events combined with persistent frigid temperatures create compounding challenges. As our crews work around the clock, we've received many questions about snow operations. I want to take a moment to address some of the most common ones.

Why hasn't my street been plowed yet?

Mishawaka Central Services, along with our Water and Sewer Departments, all play roles in snow removal. Our approach starts with primary thoroughfares like Main Street to ensure emergency and commuter routes remain open. From there, we move to secondary roads and residential streets, followed by one-way streets and cul-de-sacs. Our goal is to clear streets curb-to-curb within 24 hours after the last snowflake falls. If snow continues during that window, the process must restart.

Why aren't sidewalks and parks cleared first?

Roads take priority. Once streets are under control, crews move to City-owned sidewalks, bridges, trails, and the Riverwalk. At the same time, Water and Sewer teams assist with City-owned parking lots.

(Continued on next page)

UPCOMING EVENTS



February 12
2000's Throwback Skate
Ironworks Ice Rink



February 19
K-Pop Skate
Ironworks Ice Rink



February 20
Daddy/Daughter Dance
Ironworks Ice Rink



February 28
Seed Swap
Ironworks Event Center



March 28
Whiskey Warmer
Ironworks Event Center



April 18
Plant Sale
MEF Greenhouse

A Letter from Mayor Dave Wood (*continued*)

Why haven't the streets been salted?

Our Street Department applies brine and beet juice before many snow events to prevent snow from bonding to pavement, and we can also use the brine mixture as both a pretreatment and de-icing treatment. Salt is typically applied during storms, but it is **most effective above 20 degrees and becomes far less effective as temperatures drop below 15 degrees**. Because salt is expensive—and scarce this year—we don't waste it when it won't work. This winter, we've had many days in a row when temperatures did not reach that threshold.

Why don't we use sand?

Sand provides only temporary traction and is quickly pushed off the roadway or embedded in snow. More importantly, it eventually enters storm and sanitary sewers, which can clog pipes and cause backups—especially in older neighborhoods. For these reasons, sand is not a viable solution.

Why aren't Lincolnway, Capital Avenue, or Cleveland plowed?

Lincolnway is State Road 933. Cleveland Road is State Road 23. Most of what people refer to as Capital Avenue is State Road 331—and much of it lies outside Mishawaka's city limits. These roads are maintained by the Indiana Department of Transportation, not the City. Issues on these routes should be directed to INDOT at in.gov.

Why does my car have an orange sticker on it?

Street parking is a privilege, but streets are meant for travel. Inoperable or improperly plated vehicles cannot remain on the street. When snow piles up around unmoved cars, plows must work around them, narrowing roadways and creating unsafe conditions. The Mishawaka Police Department tags vehicles that haven't moved; owners have 72 hours to relocate them before towing occurs at the owner's expense.

Do I have to shovel my sidewalk?

Yes. City ordinance requires residents to clear sidewalks. This is especially important because Mishawaka schools do not provide busing, and many students walk to school. We simply ask for a safe path. I know it's frustrating—particularly when plows push snow back onto sidewalks you just cleared. I share that frustration. Please remember our drivers are doing their jobs under tough conditions.

Why do plow trucks seem to be speeding?

Most of the time, they are not. Modern turbocharged diesel engines are loud, which can make trucks seem faster than they are. Our plow trucks are equipped with GPS technology that tracks speed and location in real time, helping us manage routes and address concerns.

Driving heavy equipment in slick conditions—while pushing tons of snow, salting intersections, and following traffic laws—requires skill and focus. Our drivers are highly trained professionals, and winter gives them plenty of practice. **With cumulative snowfall this winter exceeding many recent years**, they've certainly had it.

I am exceptionally proud of the dedication shown by our Central Services, Water, and Sewer teams during some of the harshest winter conditions we've seen in years. As I write this in late January, the snow is still falling—but we're one day closer to spring.

Be safe out there.

Yours in Mishawaka,
Mayor Dave Wood



Mishawaka Parks & Rec.

SEED SWAP

Ironworks Event Center
February 28th, 11am - 2pm

*Bring your seeds to
swap with other passionate
gardeners!*

*Local plant based businesses & food
vendors attending*



EBERHART-PETRO MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE & CLUBHOUSE

CLUBHOUSE LUNCH MENU

STARTERS		SPECIALS	
Jalapeno Poppers	\$ 7.00	MONDAY	
Mozzarella Sticks	\$ 7.00	Philly Cheesesteak Basket	\$ 12.00
Basket of Fries	\$ 5.00	WEDNESDAY	
Cookies	\$ 2.00	Chili Cheese Dog & Cup of Chili	\$ 9.00
Chips	\$ 2.00	FRIDAY	
		Pulled Pork Sandwich & Slaw	\$ 12.00
DRINKS		MAINS	
Draft Beer Domestic	\$ 3.00	Pork Tenderloin Basket	\$ 12.00
Specialty Draft	\$ 4.00	Chicken Tender Basket	\$ 12.00
Can Beer Domestic	\$ 3.00	Club Sandwich Basket	\$ 10.00
Specialty Can	\$ 4.00	BLT Basket	\$ 10.00
Glass of Wine	\$ 5.00		
Cocktail	\$ 4.00		
Shot	\$ 4.00		
Soda	\$ 2.00		
Energy Drink	\$ 4.00		
Water	\$ 2.00		



FREE SAINT JOSEPH HEALTH SYSTEM
BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING
In partnership with St. Joe Health System

 **2ND MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH**
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

 **AT THE BATTELL COMMUNITY CENTER**
904 N. Main St. Mishawaka, IN 46545

BATTELL COMMUNITY CENTER

IRONWORKS SKATING RINK

ADMISSION

Adult \$11

Youth \$8

HOURS

Monday/Wednesday:

5:00pm-6:30pm & 7:15pm-8:45pm

Tuesday/Thursday:

5:30pm-7:00pm & 7:45pm-9:15pm

Friday:

4:00pm-5:30pm, 6:15pm-7:45pm, 8:30pm-10:00pm

Saturday/Sunday:

11:30am-1:00pm, 1:45pm-3:15pm, 4:00pm-5:30pm, 6:15pm-7:45pm, 8:30pm-10:00pm

PRE-REGISTER: <https://checkout.roller.app/ironworksplaza/products/booknow#/sessions>



TUBING AT GEORGE WILSON PARK

DECEMBER – FEBRUARY

WEATHER DEPENDENT

HOURS

10:00pm-8:00pm

\$4/person (all ages)

\$3/tube rental

PURCHASE TICKETS: <https://checkout.roller.app/ironworksplaza/products/booknow#/sessions>

Disney Skate

FEBRUARY 5TH 2026
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM
IRONWORKS ICE RINK
410 N HILL ST.

**2000s
THROWBACK SKATE**

FEB 12TH • 5:30P - 7:30P
IRONWORKS ICE RINK

IRONWORKS ICE RINK PRESENTS

K-POP NIGHT

FEBRUARY 19 2026 • 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM
410 N HILL ST. MISHAWAKA, INDIANA

DiscGlo

20TH OF FEBRUARY 2026

DADDY DAUGHTER DANCE

7 PM - 9 PM AT THE
BATTELL COMMUNITY CENTER

DiscGlo

21ST OF FEBRUARY 2026

MOTHER SON DANCE

7 PM - 9 PM AT THE
BATTELL COMMUNITY CENTER

**COUNTRY
SKATE NIGHT**

26TH FEB, 2026
IRONWORKS ICE RINK
410 N HILL ST. MISHAWAKA, IN
\$8/YOUTH • \$11/ADULT

SCAN ME TO
BOOK YOUR SKATE

