



ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Public Property Records & Homeowner Resource Guide

A homeowner-friendly starting point for locating parcel information, permit records, well and septic files, recorded documents, water resources, radon guidance, and environmental information.

PUBLIC EDITION

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PURPOSE AND LIMITATION

This guide is educational and navigational. It is not a title examination, legal opinion, boundary survey, environmental site assessment, code-compliance certification, or substitute for property-specific inspection or testing. Government records and online systems can be incomplete or change over time.

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Relationships First. Excellence Always.

1. Start With the Property Address

Begin with Allegan County's current parcel and property-record tools. Confirm the parcel number and the legal municipality before contacting a permitting or record agency.

[Allegan County GIS and Parcel Resources](#)

[Allegan County Property Records](#)

- 1 Search the street address in the county parcel viewer.
- 2 Record the complete parcel number and owner information shown.
- 3 Confirm whether the property is in a township, city, or incorporated village.
- 4 Use that legal municipality - not the mailing city, ZIP code, school district, or utility provider - when requesting permit and zoning records.

GIS LIMITATION

Parcel mapping is an identification and research aid. It is not survey-grade and does not establish legal property boundaries.

DATA FRESHNESS

An improvement missing from assessment or parcel data is not proof that it does not exist or was completed without a required permit.

Allegan local-unit code key

01 Allegan	02 Casco	03 Cheshire	04 Clyde
05 Dorr	06 Fillmore	07 Ganges	08 Gun Plain
09 Heath	10 Hopkins	11 Laketown	12 Lee
13 Leighton	14 Manlius	15 Martin	16 Monterey
17 Otsego	18 Overisel	19 Salem	20 Saugatuck
21 Trowbridge	22 Valley	23 Watson	24 Wayland
51 City of Allegan	52 City of Fennville	53 City of Holland	54 City of Otsego
55 City of Plainwell	56 City of Wayland	57 City of Saugatuck	58 City of South Haven
59 City of Douglas	Villages: Hopkins and Martin		

Hopkins and Martin villages are separate incorporated governments. Do not automatically treat them as their similarly named townships.

2. Permits, Additions & Remodeling

Use this process for additions, finished areas, decks, garages, structural work, electrical changes, heating and cooling work, plumbing, demolition, changes of use, and other improvements.

- 1** Confirm the parcel and exact legal municipality.
- 2** Identify zoning or land-use authority separately from construction-code authority.
- 3** Ask whether building, electrical, mechanical, and plumbing records are maintained separately.
- 4** For older work, ask which agency enforced each discipline when the work was performed.
- 5** Request the complete available file, including zoning approval, application, plans or site plan, inspection history, final approvals, and occupancy or compliance records when applicable.

WHEN NO RECORD IS LOCATED

No record located in the records searched does not establish that work was performed without a required permit. Older records may be archived, paper-only, indexed differently, incomplete, or held by a previous enforcement agency.

WHEN A PERMIT IS LOCATED

Finding a permit does not prove every improvement visible today was included in its scope or received final approval. Review the approved scope, inspection history, and final records.

Because permitting responsibility varies by municipality and can change, begin with the legal township, city, or village shown in the county parcel record. Ask that municipality to identify the current zoning and construction-code agencies for the property. This public guide intentionally does not publish unresolved or unconfirmed agency assignments.

[Allegan County Departments and Offices](#)

3. Well & Septic Records

Allegan County Environmental Health is the official county starting point for well, septic, sewage-system, soil-evaluation, and related Environmental Health records.

Allegan County Environmental Health
3255 122nd Ave., Suite 200, Allegan, MI 49010
(269) 673-5415 | Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Environmental Health Records Request

- 1** Confirm the property address and parcel number.
- 2** Open the Environmental Health records-request page.
- 3** Request the specific file needed: septic permit or system record, soil evaluation, well permit or record, maintenance or pump-out record, or another Environmental Health file.
- 4** Include the address, parcel number, and owner history if known.
- 5** If an older record is not immediately available online, submit the official records request.

HISTORICAL RECORD VS. PRESENT CONDITION

A historical well or septic record documents information recorded or approved at that time. It does not establish present condition, remaining service life, exact current component location, or current drinking-water quality.

4. Drinking-Water and Well Information

Choose testing based on the question being investigated. Routine bacteria and nitrate testing does not establish the absence of every possible contaminant.

Allegan County Drinking Water

Michigan Water Well Viewer

SAMPLING RULE

Obtain the correct laboratory bottle and sampling instructions before collection. Bottle type, preservation, holding time, and shipping requirements can vary by analyte. Do not use an improvised household container.

5. Deeds & Recorded Property Documents

Use the Register of Deeds for recorded land documents, including deeds, land contracts, mortgages, liens, leases, and other recorded instruments.

Allegan County Register of Deeds
3283 122nd Ave., Allegan, MI 49010
(269) 673-0390 | Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

[Allegan County Register of Deeds](#)

USE THE RIGHT RECORD SYSTEM

Parcel and GIS data identify and describe a parcel for assessment and research purposes. Register of Deeds records are the route for recorded legal-property documents. Neither substitutes for a survey, title examination, or legal opinion.

6. Radon Information & Testing

Radon is colorless, odorless, and tasteless. The only way to determine the radon level in an individual home is to test.

Michigan currently lists the Allegan County Health Department as a local radon test-kit resource: 3255 122nd St., Suite 200, Allegan | (269) 673-5411. Confirm kit availability before traveling.

[Michigan - Finding and Using a Radon Test Kit](#)

[Michigan Radon Testing Guidance](#)

RADON GUIDANCE

County, ZIP-code, neighborhood, or mapped radon information provides area context only. It cannot determine the radon concentration of an individual home and does not replace property-specific testing.

7. Environmental & PFAS Information

Use Michigan environmental maps as screening and research tools. When a mapped location appears relevant, open and review the underlying site record.

[Michigan EGLE RIDE Mapper](#)

[Michigan MPART PFAS GIS](#)

ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE RULE

A nearby mapped environmental site does not establish contamination of the subject property, its soil, groundwater, or drinking water. Review the underlying government record and obtain property-specific evaluation or testing when warranted.

8. When You Cannot Find a Record

- 1** Reconfirm the parcel number and legal municipality.
- 2** Confirm the current zoning and construction-code agencies directly with the municipality.
- 3** For older work, ask which agency enforced the relevant code at the approximate time of construction.
- 4** Ask whether older records are paper-only, archived, or indexed by parcel number, owner name, permit number, or address.
- 5** Ask whether plans, site plans, inspections, and final approvals are stored separately.
- 6** Document exactly what was searched and what was or was not located.

DO NOT OVERSTATE

'No record located in the records reviewed' and 'no permit existed' are not equivalent statements.

9. Gray's Evidence Standard

OBSERVED	Something directly seen at the property or directly shown in a record.
VERIFIED	Supported by an authoritative record or appropriate property-specific testing.
INDICATED	Available information points toward a possibility but does not establish it conclusively.
NOT ESTABLISHED	Available information is insufficient to determine the answer.

Good property research is not about filling every blank with an answer. Sometimes the correct conclusion is that additional verification is necessary.

Official Resource Directory

[Allegan County Online Services](#)

[Allegan County GIS Resources](#)

[Allegan County Property Records](#)

[Allegan County Environmental Health](#)

[Environmental Health Records Request](#)

[Allegan County Register of Deeds](#)

[Michigan Water Well Viewer](#)

[Michigan Radon Resources](#)

[Michigan EGLE RIDE Mapper](#)

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