



City of *Hastings* Michigan

(269) 945-2468
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201 E. State Street 49058

September 13, 2026

We understand that there are many questions and concerns regarding recent events involving the presence of ricin in the city. The utmost priority of elected officials, city staff, and responding agencies is and will continue to be public safety. Numerous public agencies have been working around the clock to ensure safety and to get displaced residents back into their homes as quickly as possible. Please know that there is no threat to the public at this time. The Barry-Eaton District Health Department (BEDHD) has placed an imminent danger and remediation order on the entire Tyden Lofts building until testing and remediation efforts can be completed. BEDHD is communicating directly with residents about the situation and apartment re-entry plan.

Continued updates will be posted by BEDHD on their Facebook page. Anyone with questions or concerns related to their health or wellness and ricin is encouraged to contact the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) hotline at 1-800-648-6942.

We are aware of several misinformation points that have been shared on social media. At this time, there is no known or suspected presence of ricin elsewhere in the city beyond the area currently being addressed. There is no threat to the public. Teams worked as quickly as possible to collect medications and pets for tenants who were unable to bring their pets with them during the evacuation. Pets that could not be immediately removed were given food and water as they were identified. Any resident who has not yet reported a pet remaining in the apartment building should contact the MDHHS hotline at 1-800-648-6942.

I am exceedingly proud of the hardworking men and women of the Hastings Fire Department and Hastings Police Department who have worked tirelessly to ensure the safety of the public and investigate the criminal activity that caused this situation. It is because of their dedication to public service, and the dedication of the numerous cooperating agencies involved, that this situation was quickly contained and there is no further public threat.

BEDHD is the primary point of contact for health-related questions and concerns. The majority of questions about these events can be answered by BEDHD, and they can help connect residents with additional resources when needed. Anyone who is unsure where to go for information or who has other questions is welcome to contact City Hall by using the contact form on our website, calling 269-945-2468, or by visiting 201 E. State St, Hastings, MI 49058, Monday – Friday from 9am – 4pm.

In service,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Moyer-Cale', written in a cursive style.

Sarah Moyer-Cale
City Manager