

# WATCH MUSKEGON *For Business*

**Where Business Thrives in West Michigan**



**MUSKEGON COUNTY** offers companies, big and small, the benefits of being **LOCATED BETWEEN CHICAGO AND DETROIT**, while offering a lifestyle that feels a world away.

#### THE RIGHT INFRASTRUCTURE FOR BUSINESS

Located on the eastern shore of Lake Michigan just three hours north of Chicago, Muskegon County is part of the Grand Rapids-Muskegon-Holland Combined Statistical Area (CSA), the fastest-growing region in the upper Midwest with a population of **nearly 1.3 million people**. The county is **easily accessible** by I-96 and CSX freight rail lines run through the region.

Muskegon is also home to West Michigan's largest commercial deep-water port with proposed cross-lake shipping to provide direct links to the western U.S. and Asian markets. The Muskegon County Airport offers daily flights to Chicago and the Gerald R. Ford International Airport in Grand Rapids is less than an hour's drive.



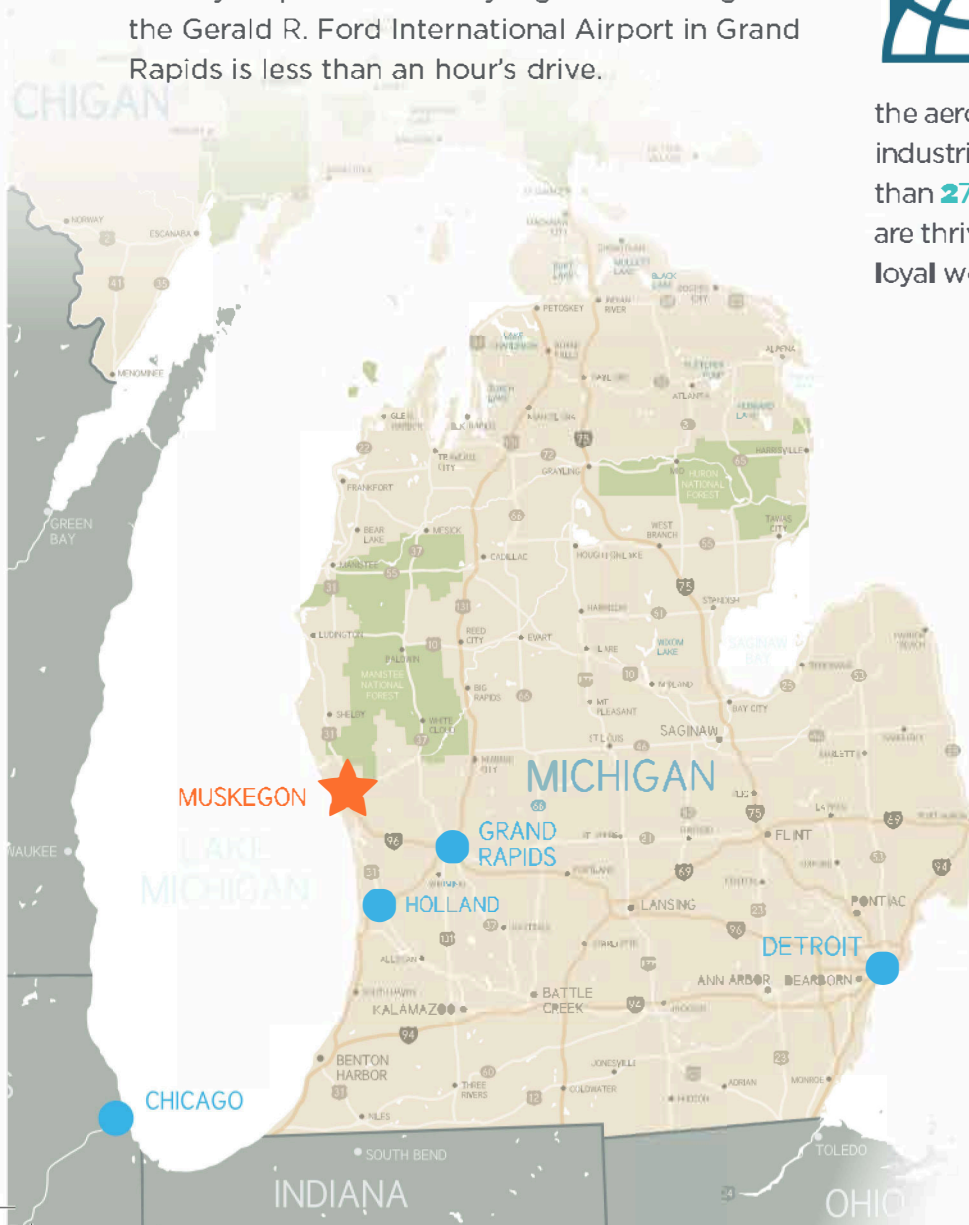
#### GLOBAL COMPANIES DO BUSINESS HERE

GE Aviation, Hilite, Pratt & Whitney, Howmet, Coles and other big names in business are **prospering** in Muskegon County, making **products** for

the **aerospace**, automotive, defense and agrifood industries, among others, around the **globe**. More than **270** manufacturers and industrial companies are thriving in the county thanks to a **skilled** and **loyal** workforce.

#### ABUNDANT WATER AND WASTEWATER RESOURCES

With an abundant freshwater supply from Lake Michigan, Muskegon County has a world-class wastewater management system. The massive land-application treatment facility offers companies up to 30 million gallons per day (MGD) of excess capacity, with low wastewater charges and low surcharge rates for high-strength wastes – all in an environmentally -friendly way that can reduce production costs. The Muskegon County wastewater system offers unexcelled capacity for business.







### GROWING SMALL BUSINESSES

Small businesses are taking hold in Muskegon County, often driven by entrepreneurs who are attracted to the West Michigan lifestyle and the strong opportunities that exist in the region. Grand Valley State University's Muskegon Innovation Hub, a co-working and incubator space, Muskegon Angels and Muskegon Inventors Network all offer support to startups.

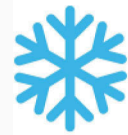


### LIVING THE GOOD LIFE

Downtown Muskegon is **humming** with arts, culture, festivals and a burgeoning restaurant and **micro-brewery** scene, along with the Mercy Health Arena, which is **home** to **minor** league ice hockey and arena football **teams**., and the Lakeshore Convention Center. **Other communities** in the county - **Norton Shores**, **Whitehall**, **Montague**, **Ravenna** and **Muskegon Heights**, to **name** the largest - offer their own advantages **from** up-and-**coming** urban neighborhoods with below-**market** rate opportunities to lakefront living. **Some** of the schools in the county are **among** the best in Michigan.



Grand Valley State University's Muskegon Innovation Hub has produced a steady stream of successful start-up companies.



### FOUR SEASONS OF FUN

Muskegon is also a four-season playground with connections to more than **120 miles of hiking**, biking and water trails in the region, **26 miles of white-sand beaches**, superb boating, hunting, fishing, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling and other outdoor recreation.

### THE MUSKEGON COUNTY WASTEWATER SYSTEM OFFERS UNEXCELLED CAPACITY FOR BUSINESS.







## WE'RE HERE TO HELP

In Muskegon County, we work closely with our economic development partners – local municipalities, Greater Muskegon Economic Development, Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce, regional organizations like Lakeshore Advantage and The Right Place, and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation. Our goal is to serve as a one-stop shop to assist in your company's expansion and relocation plans by providing:

- Community Tours
- Available Buildings, Sites and Industrial Parks
- Workforce Training Programs
- Incentives

Please reach out. We're ready to help you join the momentum in Muskegon.

# WATCH US GO!

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