

ANDERSON Insights

THE VOICE OF ANDERSON TOWNSHIP

NOVEMBER 2025



Transportation Projects Gain Millions in Outside Funding

Good news was recently announced for Anderson Township concerning its road improvement program. Upgrades to portions of Newtown Road, Clough Pike, Sutton Road and Salem Road are all scheduled within the next few years, with grants covering most or all of the construction costs.

The latest round of grants will provide more than \$4.6 million in financing for the township.

This intersection posted the second-highest total of crashes along the Clough Pike corridor based on statistics from January 2016 to December 2023. Statistics showed 67 reported accidents.

Clough-Eight Mile improvements are being readied for 2029. The total cost is estimated at \$1,046,000, with an ODOT Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality grant contributing \$756,160 of the project cost. The township funds are from the

TIF (Tax Increment Financing) program, which is revenue generated from new development in the community since 1994.

Drury noted that Union Township's growth to the east has "increased travel pressure in this corridor," according to results from the township's Clough Pike Transportation Study. Future expansion of neighborhood retail sites could further escalate demand at this location, he said.

(Continued on page 2)



Projects planned at this time:

The busy intersection at **Clough Pike and Eight Mile Road** often experiences backups, especially during rush hour. The newly funded project seeks to add right-turn lanes from both northbound and southbound Eight Mile Road onto Clough Pike. This project is a high-priority recommendation from the township's Clough Pike Transportation Study, adopted in 2021.

Paul Drury, director of planning and zoning, said that the analysis in that study predicted the improvement could result in an anticipated 55% reduction in delay during the morning rush hour and a delay reduction of 44% in the afternoon (by the year 2040).



Intersection of Eight Mile and Clough looking north, where right turn lanes are proposed along Eight Mile Road.

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TOWNSHIP NEWS

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Grant Funding Advances Key Projects

One mile of **Newtown Road** will be resurfaced in 2027, from Ragland Road (the Village of Newtown corporation line) to Bartels Road. This upgrade aims to stabilize the shoulder on this winding, steep road.

Other changes are planned, as well. “The township is working with Hamilton County to hopefully adjust the striping slightly to add a bit more space to increase the safety of cyclists traveling from the Little Miami Scenic Trail to the Five Mile Trail via Newtown Road,” noted Steve Sievers, assistant township administrator for operations. This improvement was a recommendation in the Eastern Corridor Study, he added. The project is estimated to cost \$621,500, with 100% of the funding provided through Ohio Department of Transportation funds allocated via the OKI Regional Council of Governments and State of Ohio Toll Revenue Credits.



Newtown Road near Stirrup Lane



Sutton Road, south of Luwista Lane, where new sidewalks are planned along with resurfacing in 2026.

The Hamilton County Engineer’s Office was recently awarded a grant from the Southwest Ohio Regional Transportation Authority’s Transit Infrastructure Fund (SORTA TIF) for resurfacing Salem Road, from Sutton Road to Beechmont Avenue. The SORTA TIF funds are derived from monies approved by a 2020 countywide tax levy. The more than \$3 million grant award is anticipated to cover nearly 90% of the construction cost, with the improvements planned for 2027.

Anderson Township also has received \$206,550 in funding from the SORTA TIF to install a **sidewalk on Sutton Road, from Salem Road to Luwista Lane.**

In 2026, the Hamilton County Engineer’s Office will resurface **Sutton Road from Mt. Washington to Kellogg Road** using SORTA TIF funds as well, and it is hoped the sidewalk will be added in conjunction with that work, Sievers said.

The project involves new sidewalks on the east side of Sutton, including a mid-block crosswalk with a pedestrian-activated crosswalk warning light at Luwista Lane. The sidewalk will connect to the bus stop location for METRO riders. New striping will be added to better define parking and create a more-defined bus stop.

After Decades of Planning, Elstun Connector Trail Link Completed



An aerial view of the completed Elstun Connector Bridge over Clough Creek near S.R. 32.

The final piece of the Elstun Connector trail, located in the Skytop area of Anderson Township near Lunken Airport, will open in November, well ahead of its target June 2026 date.

This multi-use path completes the township’s current trails plans in the area. It includes a bridge over Clough Creek and a one-third mile trail linking the Little Miami Scenic Trail to Anderson’s Skytop area, Beechmont Avenue and Mt. Washington.

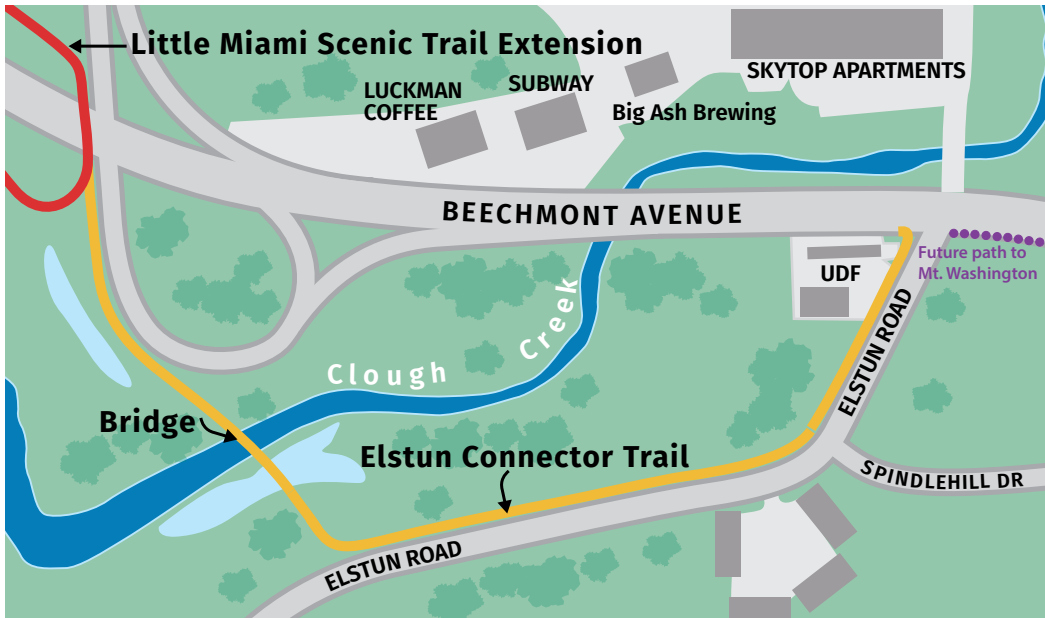
The township’s two-part project has been in the making for decades. Phase one of the Elstun Connector was completed in 2023, with the assistance of SORTA Transit Infrastructure Funds stemming from a voter-approved May 2020 levy. This project followed construction of the Little Miami Trail over the Little Miami River in 2022. That addition adjacent to Beechmont Avenue linked the section to the Ohio River Trail via the Lunken Airport Trail.

“It is very exciting to see this final phase of the Elstun Connector Trail opening to the public,” said Trustee Chair Lexi Lausten.

This phase of the project utilized a \$825,000 Federal Transportation grant, through ODOT and the OKI Regional Council of Governments. “It will increase opportunities for connecting Mt. Washington and these new Skytop residents to healthy outdoor recreation while walking or bicycling,” she noted. “The public’s response to the trail connections in this area has been very positive, so this is an exciting addition,” Lausten added.

The Elstun Connector provides easy access to the Little Miami Trail for more than 700 nearby households in Anderson Township and Mt. Washington. With its completion, the final piece of the Elstun Connector concludes a vision to link Anderson Township’s restaurants and shops in this quadrant of the township, and the new 361-unit Skytop Apartments, to the regional trail network.

Elstun Connector Trail Link Area



TOWNSHIP NEWS

Impact of Grant Funding Has Shaped Anderson Township

Can you imagine Anderson Township without its signature trails system, the beautification of Five Mile Road, or transportation safety improvements? There’s a reason projects like these have transformed the community in the past 20 years. That reason: grants.

Anderson Township’s ability to secure outside grant funding, which has totaled more than \$33 million over the past two decades, has significantly impacted the community. Money coming in from outside sources has allowed Anderson to address numerous key infrastructure and safety needs, benefiting residents daily, sustaining property values, and enhancing the quality of life. All the while, these accomplishments have occurred without raising local taxes.



Those accomplishments include enhancements to key roadways, trails, and sidewalks, fire and rescue equipment, renovated historic buildings, and much more have been funded in part or fully through federal, state and local grants, notes Trustee Vice Chair Josh Gerth.



Safety equipment has been acquired through grant funding.



Federal and state grants funded the Five Mile Trail.

“These non-repayable sources of revenue have not only met the safety initiatives in adopted plans, but **they have also helped avoid the need for tax increases,**” Gerth said.

“There’s no question that our aggressive pursuit of grant funding has paid off over time,” said Administrator Vicky Earhart. **By securing more than \$33 million in state and federal grants,** we can fill the funding gaps that have enabled us to accomplish significantly more, and in a shorter time frame, than if we had to fund the projects ourselves, she said.

“Besides the many transportation grants we have received, and continue to obtain, our safety services have been significantly funded. That equals a public that benefits,” added Anderson’s Fiscal Officer Brian Johnson.

Examples of equipment and programs that received monies include an Ohio River rescue boat, personal protective equipment for firefighters, funds for emergency crew training, and a cot loading system to protect firefighters from hurting their backs when loading patients.

Paul Drury, director of the Planning and Zoning Department, said the grants have been a crucial

- Grants have helped further:**
- The Continuous Flow Intersection at Five Mile Road and Beechmont Avenue
 - The Five Mile Trail and portions of the Little Miami and Ohio River trails
 - Upgraded and expanded traffic and pedestrian signals and warning devices
 - Key safety equipment for emergency responses
 - Key corridor safety and aesthetic improvements along Beechmont Avenue, Clough Pike, Salem Road and Five Mile Road
 - Miles of new sidewalks
 - Resurfacing and reconstruction of miles of township and county-maintained roadways

component in implementing citizen recommendations from the various township planning studies conducted over the past several decades.

“**The grants we have been awarded have been transformative and changed the face of Anderson Township,**” said Drury. “They have provided a funding stream for our many projects and helped to enhance our community’s attractiveness for new private commercial and residential investment,” he added.

Without these funding mechanisms, many of the amenities and safety enhancements we now take for granted would not have happened, Gerth added.

Anderson Center Station Reopens December 7 for METRO Service

The station already offers overflow parking for Anderson Center.

Anderson Center Station will soon reopen in December after a four-year hiatus. Relocated to the lowest level of the parking garage at Vantage at Anderson Towne Center Apartments, the station supports public transportation services offered by METRO.

This **public-private project** involved numerous regional, state and federal transportation agencies to create the new, enclosed 125-space parking facility, which also includes restrooms and other amenities.

“Vantage at Anderson Towne Center developer Hills Communities, Anderson Township and METRO have worked closely to coordinate the final aspects of the project,” noted Administrator Vicky Earhart. The park and ride is unique among the more than 20 similar facilities in Greater Cincinnati in that it offers covered parking, she added.

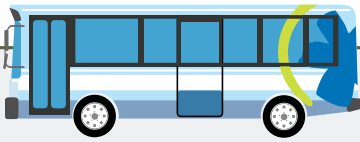
Since late spring, events hosted at Anderson Center have already benefited from the extra parking at Anderson Center Station. **The covered parking is not only attractive for those attending events, but it’s a much shorter, more level walk**

compared with the prior facility, said Jennifer Sanders, Anderson Township events coordinator.

“The rebirth of our park and ride is an important township accomplishment that took significant work over many years,” said Trustee Dee Stone. “Having a new covered parking garage for our METRO-riding residents in the Vantage apartments, with a climate-controlled waiting area, is a win for everyone.”

The redeveloped Anderson Center Station Park and Ride, **constructed by Hills at no cost to the township,** replaced the prior 20-year-old facility, which the township maintained and was beginning to require upgrades and repairs, said Public Works Director Eric Luginbuhl.

Anderson leaders are hoping the reopening of the park and ride planned for METRO’s next series of system-wide route adjustments on December 7 will encourage more commuters to consider using METRO options to reach their destination, Earhart added.



Park and Ride Details

Anderson Center Park and Ride will be open during METRO’s operation hours: 5 a.m. to midnight.

Four routes currently serve Anderson Township and Anderson Center Station: 24, 30X, 75X and 81X.

For more information, visit go-metro.com or contact METRO at 513.632.7575.

“This new park and ride makes it easier than ever for Anderson Township residents to choose transit,” said Brandy Jones, METRO’s chief marketing and communications officer. “By partnering with Anderson Township, we’re reducing congestion, cutting emissions and giving residents an easy, sustainable way to travel.”



METRO bus service out of the new Anderson Center Station returns in December.

TOWNSHIP NEWS

Plans Readied for Upgrades to Township's Operations Center

Project includes the renovation of several aging facilities on Beechmont Avenue and the replacement of two buildings.

A significant upgrade to Anderson Township's operations center campus on Beechmont Avenue, home to many of the community's public services, will begin next year, starting with the Public Works building.

Facilities used for the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, the Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department and the Anderson Township Public Works Department, several of which were built more than 65 years ago, will be renovated or replaced. The goal of the project is to provide buildings that meet current and projected needs.

The 6.5-acre site at 7954 Beechmont Ave. currently includes the Beechmont Fire Station, the District 5 substation for the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, the public works garage, the Anderson Township 24/7 Recycling Center and the Anderson Township Senior Center.

Planning for the multi-phase project began in 2023. Construction on the Public Works/maintenance facility is planned to start in the spring.

"Even the newest of these buildings was built several decades ago," noted Administrator Vicky Earhart. "Although some upgrades have been undertaken over the years, a major investment is needed to ensure that these facilities can address the current and future public safety service needs of our community."

Public Works Director Eric Luginbuhl said adding additional space is critical to the upgrade, providing more needed room in a new public works garage with a related maintenance facility. "The current public works building dates back to the 1940s and is inadequate to house and serve the 25 vehicles and more than 11 pieces of equipment in the township's fleet," he said. The new facility will protect the township's fleet investment, prolonging the life of this approximately \$5 million expenditure.



Operations Center campus

"This investment will directly translate to savings in taxpayer dollars by better protecting and servicing the millions of dollars our taxpayers have invested in this equipment," noted Trustee Chair Lexi Lausten.

Phase One includes a new Public Works building, featuring enclosed vehicle storage, more advanced maintenance bays with shop and parts storage, a vehicle wash bay and employee lockers and support spaces.

Additional construction includes a new salt storage facility. The new salt facility will replace the existing dome that was built in 1987 when the township maintained 84.5 road miles. Today, the Public Works Department maintains 122 road miles.

With the new facility, Anderson could stockpile more salt for use during harsh winters. It can also save money by offering an option to buy in bulk at lower prices rather than using mid-winter shipments.

Future phases of the Operations Center improvements include the renovation of the current shared Public Works/Sheriff's facility to better accommodate the Sheriff's Office safety needs. Plans for upgrades of



Township maintenance facility in the '40s

the busy Beechmont Fire Station (No. 6) are also underway. This station responds to nearly half of the department's calls for service. "The fire station was designed for fewer firefighters than it now houses, with limited facilities to support them," Fire Chief Rick Martin notes, "More space would be a welcome improvement."

How will this project be funded?

Over the next five years, the entire project is projected to utilize approximately \$15 million in TIF (Tax Increment Financing) funds, which are monies generated from new construction since 1994. No new taxes or bonds will be needed, per Trustee Vice Chair Josh Gerth.

No public safety levy funds will be used for construction, as those monies are earmarked for operating expenses related to staffing and supplies for the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office and the Anderson Fire and Rescue Department, he said.

Safety Feature at Juilfs Park/Endovalley Drive Intersection Now Operational on Clough

A new pedestrian-activated traffic signal, designed to help pedestrians and bicyclists safely cross Clough Pike at Endovalley Drive, is operational.

This busy crosswalk in front of Juilfs Park received a new safety signal, which requires motorists to stop for pedestrians using the crosswalk.

Research indicates these new traffic signals are more effective at encouraging drivers to yield to pedestrians. They are used on high-traffic, multi-lane roadways like this which have many pedestrian crossings, noted Steve Sievers, assistant township administrator for operations.

Pedestrian-only signal

A traditional traffic signal was not "warranted" at this location, Sievers said. Traffic signals are placed where there is a substantial amount of cross traffic, or where a high number of traffic accidents have occurred, he added. Thus, the signal is only be for pedestrians, not for vehicles.

Anderson Township planners have collaborated with the Hamilton County Engineer's Office for more than 20 years to introduce several beneficial improvements at this key crossing location, Sievers said. "However, as this crosswalk technology became more mainstream, the township was fortunate to obtain ODOT



New crosswalk off Clough Park at Juilfs Park/Endovalley Drive.

grant funding to introduce this safety enhancement, which is one of the first in Greater Cincinnati and provides an even greater level of safety at this location," he noted.

Crosswalks reduce accidents

"I applaud our staff and the engineer's office for taking this bold step to add greater pedestrian safety at this key crossing," noted Trustee Vice Chair Josh Gerth.

According to information from Jeff Newby, an engineer from the Hamilton County Engineer's Office, self-activated signals can

reduce auto-pedestrian crashes by nearly 70%. Research has shown that drivers correctly yield to pedestrians at the new high-intensity crosswalk much more often (over 90% of occurrences) than at a traditional crosswalk (about 30%).

The hybrid traffic signal operates similarly to a regular traffic signal, so both drivers and pedestrians already have the skill set to respond easily and quickly to red and yellow lights. A driver only needs to stop when a pedestrian activates the crosswalk light and it turns to the red signal (which will follow a yellow light).

Board of Township Trustees BOARD MEMBERS WELCOME YOUR CALLS!



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HISTORY NOTES

Once-Rural Anderson Township Grew Slowly, Until the Mid-20th Century

While zooming around to work, school, sporting events and shopping, have you ever asked yourself, “What was Anderson Township like in past years and how did it get to be what it is today?” The answers may not be apparent at first, but it’s not a mystery. Many factors contributed to the evolution of the place we call home.

For much of its existence, as highlighted in previous issues of *Anderson Insights*, the township was rural and agricultural. Names like Cherry Grove, Fruit Hill and Sweetwine reflect this agrarian connection. Other hints emerge from the limited evidence of farm life that remains.

Anderson’s population growth began in earnest in the early 20th century with the CG&P railroad and the simultaneous development of the interurban streetcar lines which connected rural areas, like Anderson with Cincinnati. Better transportation helped create housing opportunities in the 1920s that spread to outlying areas, including Anderson.

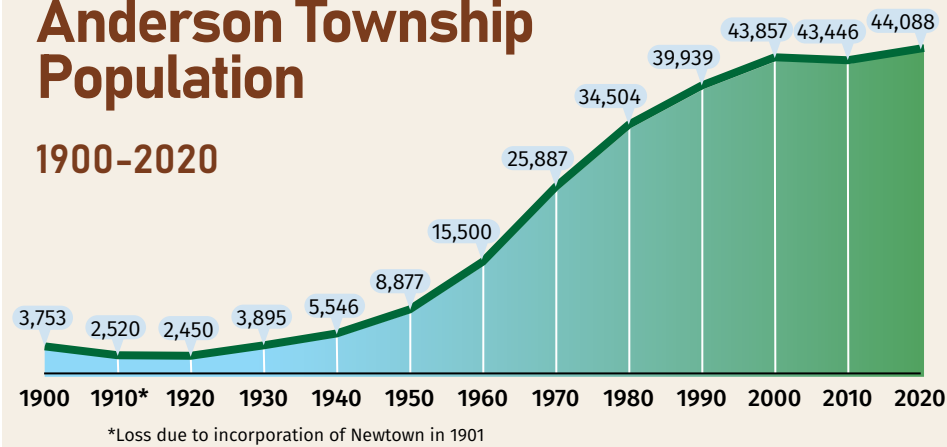
Enter the automobile, which increased the desirability of living outside the city limits as it became easier to travel from city to suburb.

During the Great Depression, Columbia Parkway was built through a Works Progress Administration program, making Anderson and nearby areas easily accessible by automobile. With an increase in the use of automobiles, the groundwork was laid for an additional rise in the township’s population.

In addition, the need was critical for a new bridge, mitigating problems in a flood-prone Mt. Washington, which also affected access to Cincinnati’s eastern areas. A stronger structure was needed that was less vulnerable to the devastating flooding of the Little Miami River, such as occurred in the record-setting flood of 1937. Once the levee was completed in the early 1950s, Anderson and Mt. Washington grew very quickly.

Anderson Township Population

1900-2020



Two decades later, with the opening of the I-275 “circle” freeway, **the many farms in our area were bought by home developers and the suburbanization of Anderson Township accelerated even faster.** During the 1970s and 1980s, more than 7,500 new homes were built in the township, leading to expanding commercial development and skyrocketing enrollment in the Forest Hills School District.

As the 1980s drew to a close and the voters of Anderson Township adopted “township” zoning control (zoning was in place, but decisions were made at the county level), a focus shifted to better managing development. Soon thereafter, the township advocated for changes in state law. Voters approved tax levies to purchase and keep property in its natural state. That action created the Anderson

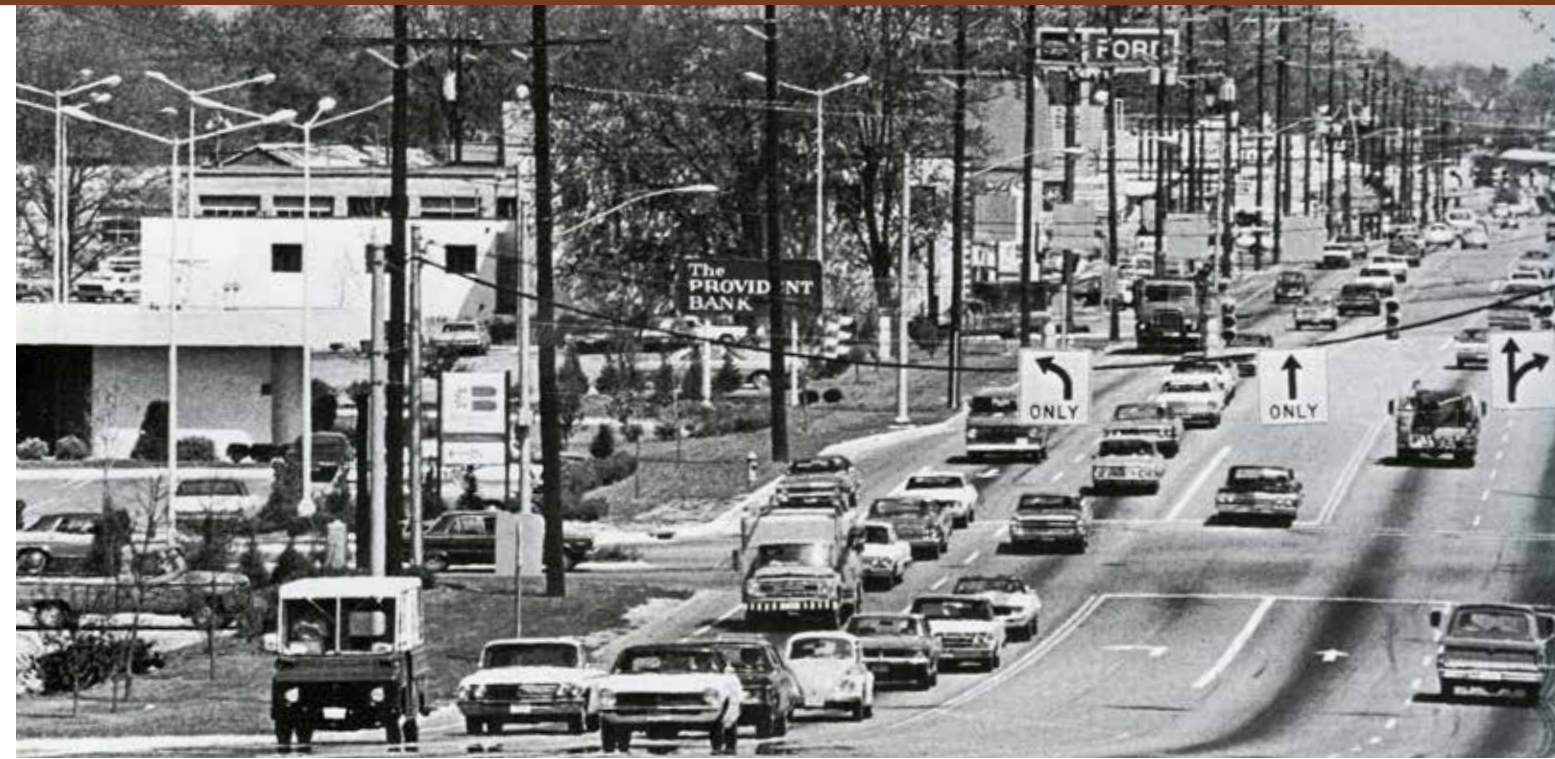
Township Greenspace program and fostered a new approach to development in the community.

While new housing construction continues today, **it’s a fraction of Anderson’s suburbanization levels of decades ago.** Today, Anderson Township has nearly 800 acres of protected Greenspace, which is in addition to 360 acres of Anderson Park District properties. Additionally, the township owns 1,513 acres (including the Little Miami Golf Center) of land protected by Great Parks.

Anderson residents enjoy enhanced natural surroundings and better air and water quality, thanks to the benefits of the community’s green areas, which are supported by these protected spaces. Anderson Township is thriving and will remain as it always has been—a great place to call home.



The Emerson-Ayer Ford dealer, on Beechmont Avenue near Wolfangel Road, sold the latest new automobiles of the 1920s.



Beechmont Avenue at Forest Road, 1971



Clough Pike circa 1950s



Sutton Road east of Five Mile Road, 1981



Beechmont Levee 1931, looking east

Text by Tom Brown. Photos from Anderson Township Historical Society.

Comprehensive Plan Gets Fresh Look in 2026



Walk and Bike to School Days

How has our community changed in the last five years? That’s one question that could be posed as Anderson Township begins a collaborative process to reexamine how the community will be defined in future years.

The guiding document used for planning the future development is undergoing an update next year. Anderson’s Comprehensive Plan Update, set to begin in the spring, will involve a township staff team and a group of residents and business owners who embark on a year-long process. The resulting document will cover broad plans and guiding concepts to help steer Anderson’s 20-year outlook.

“Updating the plan every five years allows township staff and elected officials to stay in tune with the needs, wants and trends within our community,” said Sarah Donovan, planning and zoning assistant director. “It also allows us to check up on the direction and work towards the community’s vision.”

“This plan is focused on long-term goals and visions that do change over time,” said Donovan. “That’s why every five years we initiate a fresh process of community collaboration, fleshed out and defined with the expertise of staff and outside consultants, which helps refocus the direction we should go in the future.”



Vantage at Anderson Towne Center Apartments construction in 2023

Previous areas of study from the 2022 comprehensive plan included the following topics:

- Transportation
- Quality of life
- Environment and natural resources
- Community assets
- Housing
- People
- Economic vitality



Anderson Towne Center

Goals in the previous plan were divided into short, mid and long-term categories. Several of the initiatives suggested in earlier years are now being addressed by the new Anderson Township Comprehensive Plan Implementation.

Committee or have already been completed (see page 11). One of the benefits of creating a comprehensive plan like this is that it can build on and incorporate facets of all the other guiding documents developed over the years.

Those plans have included physical recommendations, from enhancements along Beechmont Avenue, or expanding the Anderson Trails network, to policy changes such as community recycling and public art, etc., Donovan said.

Anderson’s first comprehensive plan, created in 2005, was called the Anderson Plan. It has been updated three times.

Related plans dating back to 2013 that were used in the current plan, adopted in 2022, include the following which may be found at [AndersonTownshipOH.gov](https://www.andersontownshipoh.gov).

Click on the Planning and Zoning Department link to access these plans:

- Trails and Walkways Plan (2023)
- Public Art Master Plan (2021)
- Kellogg Gateway Study (2021)
- Clough Pike Corridor Study (2020)
- Beechmont Plan (2018)
- Ohio Riverfront Plan (2013)
- ANCOR Plan (2013)

“The process that involves the community, township staff and other stakeholders brings so many good ideas to the forefront,” said Trustee Dee Stone. “The whole process is very advantageous to bettering our community.”

Committee Spurs Plans’ Goals into Action

Over the past three decades, Anderson Township planners have created a series of award-winning guiding documents that have since transformed the community.

These multifaceted planning efforts set innovative new directions for Beechmont Avenue, the establishment of the Anderson Trails network, and the creation of a “center of community” near Anderson Towne Center.

Developed with comprehensive public commentary, these plans provided clear policies on land use, infrastructure and community development strategies within Anderson Township.

Anderson’s newest citizen committee, the Anderson Township Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee, brings together volunteers from the township’s previous Economic Development, Transportation and WeTHRIVE! (public health/wellness) committees to work collectively to translate goals into action.

Committee accomplishments in recent months include:

RECYCLING

Increasing recycling participation and recycling opportunities is the focus of one subcommittee. One outreach effort targeted contacting apartment and condominium communities without recycling services.

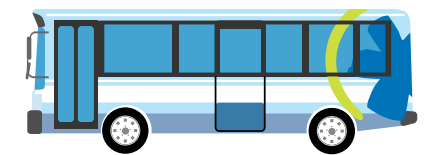
The township and committee members also worked with Rumpke to identify current Rumpke customers who do not have a recycling cart. A mailer was sent to these households to explain that, under Rumpke’s agreement with Anderson, trash and recycling services are offered at one price. That means customers who do not currently have a recycling bin can receive one as part of their current subscription.



Sarah Donovan, assistant director of the Planning and Zoning Department, said that since the mailer was sent to residents, Rumpke reported that nearly 10 percent of eligible customers had requested a bin. Today, nearly 90% of Rumpke’s Anderson customers also utilize the recycling option.

That statistic is a figure well more than the 3 percent increase Rumpke has seen from similar prior efforts in other communities.

REVITALIZED ANDERSON CENTER STATION



A transportation subcommittee has helped Anderson Township plan for the opening of the revitalized Anderson Center Station. The park and ride site operates in the lower level of the Vantage apartments community. A ribbon-cutting ceremony is planned for December. METRO routes offered in Anderson include: 24, 30X, 75X and 81X.

NATIVE PLANT INITIATIVE

The Native Plant Initiative, originated by this committee, kicked off its debut event this year in July, selecting the Black-Eyed Susan as its Native Plant of the Year. Their first event drew a large crowd of interested gardeners. Other events are being organized for 2026 and a new native plant of the year will be announced in the spring.



SIDEWALK ASSESSMENT POLICY

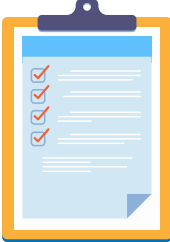
Anderson Township has prepared a process for residents to request the installation of sidewalks on a street or highway currently not included in the Anderson Trails Plan.



The draft policy involves residents circulating a petition and legally defining the sidewalk assessment area. The process is then followed by public hearings and consideration by the Anderson Township Board of Trustees. Although residents have not requested a sidewalk project yet, committee members reviewed several scenarios to test a fair funding method for any proposed projects. Funding could involve resident assessments and a contribution from the township.

BUSINESS SURVEY AND OUTREACH

Local businesses were surveyed this spring by the Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee and township staff. The survey assessed the community’s economic climate.



Topics covered included employee retention and workforce availability, sales trends and the value of having an Anderson Township business location.

This is the fifth business survey distributed in the past two decades. Township planners observe trends to inform future decisions. See survey results at [AndersonTownshipOH.gov](https://www.andersontownshipoh.gov), keywords: business survey.

Additionally, the subcommittee is evaluating business survey responses to identify individual situations where the township may be able to provide assistance.

“The township-adopted plans (i.e. 2022 Comprehensive Plan, Beechmont Plan, Trails and Walkways, etc.) contain implementation matrices that give short-term, mid and long-term goals. One of our responsibilities as planners is to make sure our township plans do not sit on a shelf and get stagnant,” said Donovan. “With the help of the implementation committee, we can more effectively work to advance the goals of our plans.”

Township's Longtime Greenspace Inspector Retires



Suzanne Clingman

Suzanne Clingman, Anderson's first and only Greenspace inspector, retired this fall after serving the community for 24 years.

Clingman started in 2001 when the township had already acquired 53 Greenspace properties. She was a critical component in maintaining this township investment by marking boundaries (and uncovering numerous surprises, both good and bad), and working with the management of these properties, as well as facilitating relationships with hundreds of abutting neighbors. During her decades with the program, she worked to protect, acquire and educate the community about not only Greenspace, but all things nature

in our community. Twenty-four years later, the Greenspace program now includes 72 properties, totaling 780 acres.

In 2010, Clingman also began conducting street tree evaluations and assisting with the township's fall planting program. In the last 14 years, she has coordinated the removal of more than 900 hazardous trees from street right-of-way and green space edges, and assisted with overseeing the planting of more than 1,100 trees.

As the Greenspace inspector, she was also an integral part of the History to Schools program, presenting the nature segment during the annual field trips to Anderson Center by Anderson's second- and third-grade students. That program began in 2013. In recent years, she helped with the founding and growth of the Heritage Center Arboretum at Eight Mile and Forest roads.

Chadwell Joins Township as New Greenspace Inspector



Todd Chadwell

Todd Chadwell is Anderson Township's new Greenspace inspector, a position that now lies within the township's Planning and Zoning Department. His most recent job was as operations manager for Our Land Organics Ecological Landscapes.

Chadwell brings extensive experience, spanning both local projects and those national and international, including 12 years as an environmental consultant.

Chadwell is a graduate of Ohio University with a bachelor's degree in environmental and plant biology. He also earned a master's degree in ecology from the University of Maryland.

Comments Sought on Updated Township Design Guidelines Next Year

Interested in the aesthetics of new construction in Anderson? An opportunity to discuss this issue is upcoming in 2026.

Next year, residents will be asked for feedback on new design guidelines for commercial, industrial and multifamily development in our community.

In 2014, Anderson Township's Planning and Zoning Department developed its Design Guidelines document to direct the appearance, form and function of those new developments. "The Design Guidelines extend beyond the legal requirements of the Anderson Township Zoning Resolution to encourage aesthetic and functional development," noted Planner Eli Davies. Recent developments influenced by these guidelines include Beechmont-based businesses Skyline Chili, Firestone Complete Auto Care and the Anderson Towne Center expansion.

As 10 years have passed since the original document was created, township staff members believed the document was due for refreshment, Davies said. The updated guide improves upon the original chapters on site planning, architecture, landscape, lighting and signage by adding to the original photos, The update also brings the guide a sleeker design with more graphics and less text.

More information about the project will be announced in early 2026 as the Planning and Zoning Department begins its public comment period.

"The Design Guidelines have served our township well in the last 10 years, and with your feedback, they can continue to bring aesthetically pleasing, functional developments to Anderson into the next decade," said Trustee Dee Stone.



Skyline Chili



Firestone Complete Auto Care

New Businesses Opening Around Town

Now Open

Crisp & Green
7414 Beechmont Ave.

Inner Light Therapy
Anderson Wellness Center
7733 Beechmont Ave.

Mt. Washington Florist
1967 Eight Mile Road

Scott's Auto Service & Sales
7196 Beechmont Ave.

ABC Pediatric Therapy
8118 Beechmont Ave.

Tom Yum
7466 Beechmont Ave.

Design With Amy- Bathroom & Kitchen Remodeling
8315 Beechmont Ave.



Crisp & Green ribbon cutting



7 Brew Coffee under construction

Coming Soon

7 Brew Coffee
7743 Beechmont Ave.

Kings Furniture & Mattress
8576 Beechmont Ave.

Nothing Bundt Cakes
7474 Beechmont Ave.
UDF
5275 Beechmont Ave.

CPR and First Aid Classes Available Through Fire and Rescue

The Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department offers several options for CPR training. Classes are taught by certified instructors from the American Heart Association.

Heartsaver CPR/AED
(Instructor Led-First Aid Optional)

This instructor-led course teaches you how to recognize and treat cardiac arrest and choking for adults, children and infants. It also covers the use of an AED. Cost per student is \$60 CPR/AED or \$80 (CPR/AED/First Aid book and certification card).

Heartsaver CPR/AED
(Blended Learning-First Aid Optional)

This blended learning course covers the same material as the instructor-led course. Students purchase the online classroom portion from the American Heart Association. Upon completion of the online class, the student will take hands-on training at one of the fire stations. Cost is \$10 per student, including a certification card.



Families learn about CPR during Emergency Services Day.

The American Heart Association determines the online class fee per student. Other classes are available for healthcare providers.

Call Lisa Farrar at 513.688.8620 for questions and registration. Visit AndersonTownshipOH.gov for class information and search for CPR.

Pay Attention to What You Throw in Recycling Bin

It's easy to casually toss your cans and bottles in your recycling bin, without thinking about what happens next.

Once recycled materials enter the Rumpke recycling area, several issues can arise if patrons do not correctly sort their recycling before placing it in their bin.

"Your recycling makes an important difference to the environment and to Anderson," noted Anderson Plan Implementation Committee Member Jim Willis.

"The purposeful participation in recycling rests with each resident of Anderson," he said. Representatives and volunteers from Anderson Township recently toured the Rumpke recycling center in St. Bernard. "We assure you, your recycling is gathered and sorted for re-use and is not simply dumped in the landfill," Willis added.

Visit rumpke.com to learn more about the recycling program.



Members of the township's recycling subcommittee visited the Rumpke recycling center.

The four main no-nos that Rumpke prohibits from entering the recycling stream are:

PLASTIC BAGS

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

TANGLERS

SCRAP METAL

ReNew Program Collects Hard-To-Recycle Plastics

Looking for additional ways to recycle some of your household trash? The Hefty ReNew Program, a targeted recycling program that complements existing curbside service, is available to Rumpke customers.

The ReNew program offers a recycling mechanism for hard-to-recycle plastics, including plastic bags and Styrofoam, by utilizing a designated orange bag. Startup kits may be ordered for free at hefty.com/hefty-renew. In our area, bags can be



purchased at Kroger, Target and Walmart, and once filled, put out on the regular trash day for pick up by Rumpke.

Everyday plastic items are accepted through the program, including chip bags, cookie box liners, granola wrappers, shredded cheese bags, foam cups and to-go boxes, foam egg cartons, plastic wrap and more.

There is no extra charge for residents to use the service. For a detailed list or more information, visit hefty.com/hefty-renew/accepted-items.

Tips to Prepare Your Vegetable Garden for Winter



The sunny warm days of summer gardening are a memory, so now it's time to complete fall garden cleanup. Here are a few suggestions to get you on the way.

Remove Debris

First, remove dead plants and other debris because they invite disease and pests. Plants that are diseased should be removed and disposed of in the trash, never in the compost.

Do One Last Weeding

Never let any weeds remain in your garden beds. One weed left to mature can produce hundreds, if not thousands, of seeds that will grow into weeds to plague you next year, so weed the garden one last time before you call it quits.

Utilize Fall Leaves

Fall leaves become a natural mulch for your garden and a reliable source of soil nutrition. Rake them onto your lawn, run over them multiple times with the lawn mower, and then rake them back into the beds for great fall and winter mulch. Whenever possible, keep undisturbed piles of leaves in your yard and in less-trafficked areas. Leaves offer essential shelter for overwintering pollinators, beneficial insects and wildlife.

Feed the Soil

Soil should be replenished with compost, rotted manure or organic matter in the fall because the microorganisms will break it down throughout the winter. The garden's soil should not be left bare over winter.

Test and Improve Your Soil

Fall is a great time to get your soil tested to see if it's lacking in nutrients or has a pH that isn't ideal for growing the plants you have chosen. Take a representative sample by mixing scoops of soil from several beds located around the garden instead of from just one spot.

Contact the Hamilton County Cooperative Extension online at extension.osu.edu/hamilton-county-office which can provide a test kit. Armed with recommendations from the test, you can apply the right amounts of the proper amendments this fall so they will break down and be available to your plants next spring.

Information provided from the Anderson Township Urban Farm and the Anderson Township Native Plant Initiative.

Oxygen Users: Be Prepared for Backup Power

A note to home oxygen users: It's essential to have a backup plan in place during power outages.

Fire Chief Rick Martin of Anderson Township Fire and Rescue notes that during the township's flood and power outages this spring, he was concerned that some residents



did not have the necessary supplies to care for themselves in an emergency.

Having readily available oxygen tanks or cylinders, batteries, and spares, and a backup power source is critical, he notes. First responders do not have these

supplies, so Martin said that oxygen-dependent residents and caregivers should be aware of what is needed in an emergency.

"Reduce the risks associated with power outages by implementing an emergency plan," he added.

TOWNSHIP NEWS

Giving Back Brings Big Results in Township

Anderson Township offers a range of opportunities to invest your time in activities that positively impact your community.

Although committee volunteers will not be chosen again until fall 2026, there are other ways to give back.

The Volunteer Corps provides an opportunity for individuals who want to help with township events. Options through the corps include helping with the July 4 parade, the township garden tour, cleanup events and the holiday festival. Local businesses and their employees are also encouraged to volunteer for these longstanding township activities.

Check out service options at *AndersonTownshipOH.gov*, keyword: volunteer. The event’s designated sponsor will supply more detailed information on specific assignments.



Anderson Township’s Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee

Anderson Township Citizen Committee Volunteers

Anderson Township Betterment Committee	Steve Long	Viki Beck	Zach Peterson	Jon Butcher
	Mary Nicholson	Katie Buchmann	Jeff Rosa	John Halpin
	Ronald Edgerton, President	Sharon Schneider	Karen Schwamberger	Carol King
	Amy Broghamer	Paul Vest	Paul Sheckels	Timothy Kloppenborg
	Christy Cauley	JoAnne Young	Paul Sian	Chris Pfetzer
Anderson Township Senior Center Advisory Committee	Katie McCabe	Michael Doenges	Karl Sieber	Jim Rompke
	Dee Stone, Trustee	Duane Donohoo	Cynthia Sieber	Ron Trenkamp
	Board of Zoning Appeals	Steve Feagins	Susan Wheatley	Rick Voss
		Peg Fenner	Jim Willis	Joe Willging
		Brian Gay	Greenspace Committee	Zoning Commission
Anderson Township Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee	John Halpin	Andrea Granieri		
	Scott Lawrence	Lindsey Griffiths		
	Jeff Nye	John Halpin	Ronald Edgerton, Chair	Anne McBride
	Paul Sheckels	Nicole Hunter	Paul Braasch	Brian Elliff
	Paul Sian	Phillip Kiley	Russ Romme	Jonathon Gothard
Anderson Township Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee	Greg Heimkreiter, Alternate	Jay Lewis	Rick Voss	Jay Lewis
	Jennifer Barlow, Alternate	Elizabeth Maier	John Halpin	Susan Ward
	Anderson Township Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee	Anne Miller	Tree Committee	Molly DeFosse, Alternate
		Dan O'Rourke		Jason Brewer, Alternate

Volunteers Sought for Township's Adopt-A-Roadway Program



Summit Elementary School volunteers

Anderson’s clean streets and litter-free community green spaces are a point of pride for residents.

You can help keep the township green and clean by volunteering with the Adopt-A-Roadway program, a project tackling litter on township roads and green spaces.

Anderson Township invites residents, businesses and organizations to participate in litter pickup on a designated road or area every month, or at periodic intervals.

It is easy to volunteer and you can complete your assignment at your convenience. Contact Planner Stephen Springsteen at 513.688.8400 ext. 1180 to discuss details or email him at *sspringsteen@AndersonTownshipOH.gov*.

Learn more about the program at *AndersonTownshipOH.gov* and search for Adopt-A-Roadway.

Ticket Fee for Public Safety Services Approved

Starting in the fall of 2025, Anderson Township has collected a \$1 fee on every admission to Riverbend Music Center or PNC Pavilion to be used for local police, fire and emergency medical services.

This “protect and serve charge” was approved by the Ohio Legislature as a legitimate assessment in April this year and passed by Anderson Township trustees in July.

The goal is to provide additional revenue from admissions tickets for events at large entertainment venues or concert halls (excluding schools) to help townships recover the extra costs associated with providing public safety services.

Administrator Vicky Earhart said the move was necessary to address additional costs to the township, particularly when sold-out Riverbend concerts can swell the township’s 44,500-person population by 46.5%.



Riverbend Music Center

“The Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department has a standing policy to assign an extra two-person medic unit, to lessen the impact on its ability to provide services to Anderson Township and the Village of Newtown, which it also serves,” she said. On occasion, the department has also staffed a backup engine with two personnel on overtime due to the type of concert, she added.

Earhart also noted that the township may incur additional overtime costs during large events, depending on the situation and the number of requests for assistance.

As an example of what occurs during a sold-out Riverbend concert, Earhart said the first concert of the 2024 season generated seven emergency responses within just a few hours.

Calls to emergency responders are wide-ranging at the venues, including illness, intoxication, car accidents, water rescues, missing persons and heat-related issues.

The Hamilton County Sheriff’s Office has been dispatched to Riverbend 128 times since June 2022.

Consider the Health of the Watershed as You Clean Your Yard

With 15 miles of rivers surrounding the majority of Anderson Township, stormwater runoff has a direct impact on the health of these waterways.

Many miles of creeks traverse the community, often in the valleys of steep wooded slopes that lead to these rivers. As stormwater flows across land and roadways into sewers and streams, it can gather significant amounts of debris that may harm human health and the watershed ecosystem.

This is where residents’ help is needed, to safeguard the waterway system by taking precautions around storm sewers.

“Everybody lives in a watershed and all our activities in that watershed contribute to the health of our waterways,” noted Sarah Meadows from the Hamilton County Conservation District. “The blue and white signs at stream crossings are a reminder of that. Sometimes our actions contribute to pollution indirectly (such as what we do in

our yard or a park) and sometimes directly (by illegally dumping pollutants down a storm drain),” she noted.

“By being thoughtful about our actions, we can collectively lessen the burden on our local rivers and streams.”

Lessen the pollution burden on streams and rivers by taking precautions around storm sewers.

Public Works Director Eric Luginbuhl said water is the only acceptable product that should be in storm sewers. “That means do not put chemicals, dog waste, cigarettes, hazardous waste such as motor oil or other chemicals, leaves or yard waste into your neighborhood storm sewers,” he said.

Blocked storm drains can obstruct the system, leading to flooding and drainage problems in neighborhoods, he said.

The recent efforts of private property owners working with Anderson Township



to ensure the safe operations of stormwater detention and retention facilities have greatly helped as well, he added. “Stormwater basins, which have been required with new development since the mid-1990s, not only help manage stormwater quantity, but quality as well,” Luginbuhl said.

For questions, contact Luginbuhl at 513.688.8400, ext. 1188 or *eluginbuhl@AndersonTownshipOH.gov*.

TOWNSHIP NEWS

Tree Canopy Receives Boost Through Fall Tree Program



Tree planting continues this fall.

Anderson’s tree canopy gets a boost every fall through the township’s 16-year-old tree planting program.

The township’s volunteer Tree Committee, working with Anderson Township staff, offers trees in the fall for homeowners whose

properties are located on the township’s road maintenance program. Residents along new Anderson Trails sidewalks also are eligible. In that improvement program, curbs, sidewalks and roadways receive maintenance and street signs are upgraded.

Property owners whose land is located along those streets are eligible to receive a free tree if desired. The program is voluntary.

Since 2009, Anderson has planted more than 1,100 trees. The township also maintains street trees, which are trees planted in the township-owned right-of-way.

Rick Voss, a member of the Tree Committee, said the program is a win-win as it allows residents an opportunity to secure an appropriate tree in conjunction with the paving process. “The tree program helps add aesthetic and environmental value to homeowners and also improves the tree canopy and diversity for the township,” he said.

Street trees are inspected on a five-year cycle and examined for their condition and growth. A goal is to assess how the trees in the overall program are doing, Voss noted.

Suppose a property owner is interested in a tree. In that case, Anderson Township will work together with the owner to find a suitable location for a new tree, considering details like sewer lines and other utilities. Residents are asked to water the tree for the first two years and are provided a “gator bag” to assist with hydration.

Residents are offered a choice of small and large trees. However, “The committee prioritizes native trees that do well in our soil conditions,” notes Planner Stephen Springsteen.

Trees are planted during late fall into early winter to allow root establishment and a growing season before the stress of summer.

For further details about the Anderson’s tree management plan, visit AndersonTownshipOH.gov and search for “tree planting.”

Three Winners Named for Beautiful Landscapes

Anderson’s annual program which recognizes beautiful spaces and outstanding native plantings has announced three winners for 2025.

The awards for home gardens and commercial landscapes that serve as sources of inspiration are classified into two distinct categories. A newer award recognizes the use of native and pollinator-friendly plants to create a beautiful landscape.

The beautification award winners were selected by members of township staff and of the Anderson Township Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee. Nominations for next year will be open in June.



Outstanding Native Plantings: 2731 Newtown Road



Outstanding Commercial Landscaping:
Native Roots: 6840 Clough Pike



Outstanding Residential Landscaping: 7308 Ticonderoga Road

Learn About Regulations Before You Burn at Home

State and federal regulations specify the types of fires permitted in Anderson Township. In suburban settings, most open burning is prohibited under numerous fire codes.

Cooking fires, considered recreational fires, or the use of a barbecue grill or chiminea are permitted under the burning regulations. However, residents should be aware of nearby combustible materials, such as wood decks or siding, and avoid them. You cannot burn leaves, brush or construction debris in a burn barrel under current regulations.

Learn before you burn! Visit AndersonTownshipOH.gov and search for “open burning” for more information or to apply for an open burning permit. To use an online tip form, visit hcsa.org/community-services/submit-a-tip/.



Anderson Township Zoning Resolution Text Updated

Anderson Township has initiated a series of text amendments in its Anderson Township Zoning Resolution.

The changes update formatting and further define terms used in the document. Additionally, changes to temporary sign regulations are introduced, amending sections that have been difficult for enforcement. The changes also alter placement of signs adjacent to each other on residential property and time limits on the temporary signs.

Another amendment addresses commercial lighting in windows that may cause distraction to motorists or pedestrians.

To view the township’s zoning resolution, go to the news section of AndersonTownshipOH.gov.

Using Button Batteries Around Children Can Be a Hazard



Toys that blink, beep and buzz, flashing headbands and those interesting TV remote controls are just a few of the electronic items powered by dangerous lithium-ion button batteries.

Especially around the holidays, stores are filled with a wide variety of products featuring these shiny, tiny items. Button battery-powered items include calculators, car fobs and key finders, kitchen and bathroom scales, toys such as robots and flashing wands, light-up sneakers, flameless candles and gaming headsets. “These dangerous cell batteries can be found in every room of the house,” said Fire Chief Rick Martin from Anderson Township Fire and Rescue.



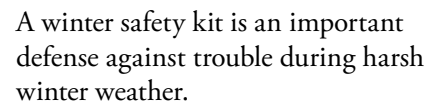
Protect children from the small batteries, especially those kids who might mistake them for candy, by taking precautions around your home. As the button batteries are tiny, these dangerous items can be easily swallowed and can cause choking or internal burns that can be serious or even fatal.

Martin reminds parents and caregivers to keep all button batteries, including spare ones, stored and out of reach of little hands.

“One way to protect children is to ensure products with button batteries have secure compartments that require tools to open the product,” he noted.

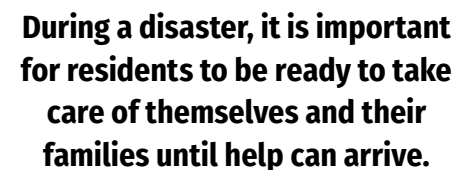
Look for batteries in child-resistant packaging, he said. Move products that have button batteries away from children, he added.

If you suspect a child has eaten a battery, do not induce vomiting, call 911. Contact the National Battery Ingestion Hotline at 800,498.8666 for guidance and more information.



The Hamilton County Emergency Management Agency suggests having these items on hand for emergencies:

- Rock salt or other environmentally safe products to melt ice on walkways. The Environmental Protection Agency offers a list of recommended products.
- Sand to improve traction.
- Snow shovels and other snow removal equipment.
- Sufficient heating fuel and/or a good supply of dry, seasoned wood for your fireplace or wood-burning stove.
- Adequate clothing and blankets.
- Flashlights and batteries.
- Several days of necessary medications.



Generally, it would be best to be prepared to take care of yourself and your family for at least three days. Assembling supplies in an emergency preparedness kit will help! Consider keeping a kit at home, at work and even in your vehicle, so that you are prepared wherever you are.

What Do You Need in an Emergency Preparedness Kit?

- Non-perishable food items
- Water—at least one gallon per person per day
- Manual can opener
- First aid supplies
- Any special items for family members, such as infant formula, eyeglasses and medications
- Change of clothing

- Copies of important documents (birth certificates, licenses and insurance policies.) Be sure also to include recent photos of family members, pets and household items of value. Consider keeping a copy of these documents on a password-protected USB drive.
- Sleeping bag or blanket
- Battery powered radio
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Whistle
- Waterproof matches
- Comfort items (toys, books, puzzles and games)
- Extra house keys and car keys
- List of contact names and phone numbers
- Food, water and supplies for pets

Find details at hamiltoncountyohioema.org.

Hamilton County will issue directives when the snow starts blowing this winter. As a reminder, here are the three snow emergency levels:

Level I Snow Alert: Roadways are hazardous with blowing and drifting snow. Roads may also be icy. Motorists are urged to drive very cautiously. Unnecessary travel is discouraged.

Level II Snow Advisory: Roadways are hazardous with blowing and drifting snow. Roads may also be very icy. Only those who feel it is necessary to drive should be out on the roads.

All employees should contact their employer to see if they should report to work.

Level III Snow Emergency:

Ice, blowing and drifting snow has created extremely hazardous road conditions. Low visibility, extremely low temperatures and worsening road conditions may have caused the closing of all or certain county roads to all but emergency and essential persons. No one should be on roadways unless absolutely necessary.

All employees should contact their employer to see if they should report to work. Those traveling on the roads may subject themselves to arrest.

A state website offers weather-related road closures and restrictions. Visit the Ohio Department of Transportation's traffic website at *ohgo.com*.

Anderson Township may also issue a snow emergency under extreme conditions, but this would only restrict parking on township-maintained roadways.

Whenever snowfall is forecasted, the township requests motorists not park on the street, if possible. This helps expedite efforts to treat roadways and ensures the safety of Public Works drivers.

Please do not plow, shovel, or blow snow into the roadway. This courtesy helps township crews clear the streets. These situations can impair driver safety and hamper township, county and state plow drivers as they clean the roads. Blown snow in the road also creates liability for the property owners as this situation can create a dangerous situation for the traveling public.

Anderson Township is home to more than 475 cul-de-sacs on its more than 120 miles of roadways. These cul-de-sacs present several challenges during snow removal efforts. The township's road crew consists of just 10 plow drivers. In trying to clear the most snow as quickly as possible and to safeguard main roadways, hills and curves are cleared first and cul-de-sacs are passed by.

Under normal conditions, cul-de-sacs are not plowed until after a storm has

passed. Crews return to the cul-de-sacs and try to avoid piling up snow in driveway areas, mailboxes and fire hydrants. Sometimes it is not possible to avoid creating a pile of snow. Your understanding is appreciated.



Not all Anderson roadways are maintained by the Anderson Township. While Anderson manages more than 120 miles of mainly subdivision streets, Hamilton County maintains 73 miles of through township roadways including Clough Pike, Salem Road, Eight Mile Road and more.

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) is responsible for state or U.S. highways totaling more than 20 miles in Anderson, including S.R. 32 (Batavia Road), S.R. 125 (Beechmont Avenue), U.S. 52 and Interstate 275.

WINTER FOCUS

Cozy Fireplaces and Festive Candles Pose Safety Hazards

Electric heating products, cozy home fireplaces and festive colored candles all pose specific safety hazards when misused. Be smart when burning a fire at home or when using a space heater.

Here’s some information to consider:

ELECTRICITY

- Always place a space heater on a flat, stable surface at least 3 feet from any flammable materials like furniture and curtains.
- Plug only one heat-producing appliance (like a coffee maker, space heater or microwave) directly into a wall outlet at a time.
- Never use an extension cord with a heat-producing appliance.
- Never leave heaters unattended.
- Only use heaters with a tip-over switch.

FIREPLACE SAFETY

- Keep anything that can burn, including décor, at least 3 feet from your fireplace or wood stove.
- Do not burn paper, old wreaths or old Christmas trees in your fireplace or wood stove.
- Have your chimney inspected and cleaned each year by a professional.
- Place cool ashes in a metal container, which should be outside and away from other combustible items.
- Never leave your fire unattended.
- Use only seasoned firewood.
- Install a spark screen.
- Keep a fire extinguisher close by and know how to use it.
- Make sure all smoke alarms have working batteries.

Illustration of three lit candles.

Almost half of the home decoration fires in December are started by candles.

Illustration of a battery-operated flameless candle.

Think about using battery-operated flameless candles.

Illustration of a calendar page for December 25.

Christmas is the peak day for candle fires.

Illustration of a candle on a table.

Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that burns.

Illustration of a Christmas tree.

A dry Christmas tree can burn very hot and very fast.

Illustration of three Christmas trees.

More than 1 in every 5 Christmas tree fires were caused by a heat source too close to the tree.

Illustration of a string of Christmas lights.

Read manufacturer’s instructions for the number of light strands to connect.

Illustration of a Christmas tree next to a heater.

Make sure your tree is at least 3 feet away from heat sources like fireplaces, radiators, space heaters, candles or heat vents. Also, make sure your tree does not block exits.

Illustration of a Christmas tree in a recycling bin.

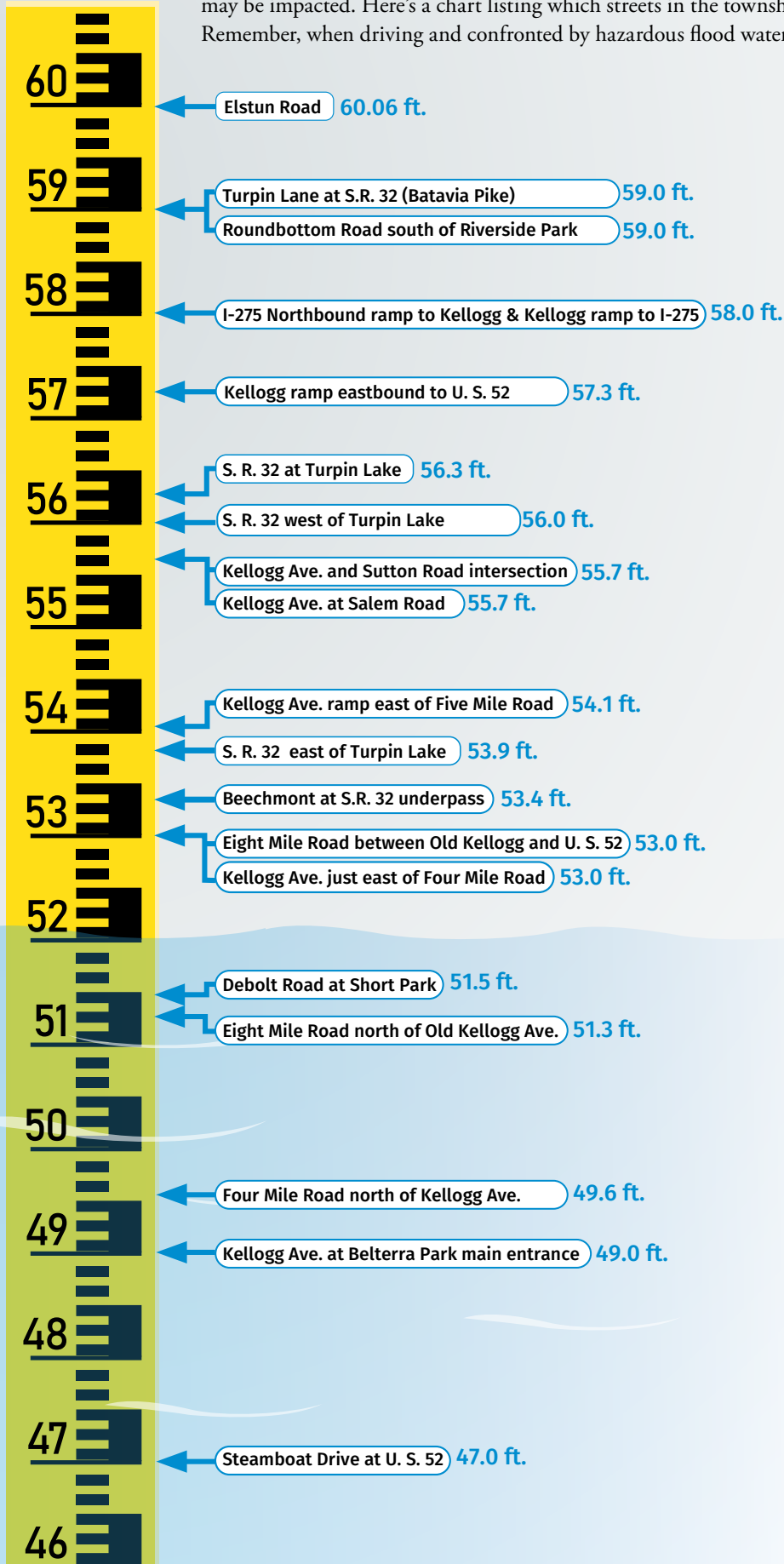
Get rid of your tree soon after Christmas before it gets too dry.

CANDLE SAFETY

- Use electric candles instead of burning candles.
- Make sure candles are in stable holders and containers and place them where they cannot be knocked down easily.
- Blow out candles when you leave a room or when you go to bed.
- Don’t use lit candles in bedrooms, bathrooms and sleeping areas.
- Use flashlights, not candles, if you have a power outage.

Keep in Mind Roads That Flood

With winter and early spring rains and snow melt, and as the Ohio River rises, Anderson Township’s roads may be impacted. Here’s a chart listing which streets in the township flood first and at what Ohio River water level. Remember, when driving and confronted by hazardous flood water, turn around, don’t drown!



Sutton Road and Kellogg Avenue



S.R. 32 at Clearcreek Park



S.R. 32 and Beechmont Avenue

AROUND ANDERSON



Walk and Ride to School Days



Emergency Services Day



America's River Roots Festival patrolled by Anderson Township Fire and Rescue personnel



Recycling electronics and chemical waste in Anderson at special drop-off events

Seniors Celebrate the Season with Special Events

Anderson Township's Senior Center is a hub of special activity and entertainment during the holiday season. If you are not a member, consider joining to enjoy the benefits of all these holiday activities.

Joining is easy! Visit the Anderson Township Senior Center for a tour and additional information. It's located at 7970 Beechmont Ave., behind Anderson Township Fire Station 6. Hours are weekdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call 513.474.3100 for details on membership and more.

Here's the lineup for November and December's special events. **Please note these are for members and advanced signup may be required.**

Dancing Grandmas
November 11

Thanksgiving luncheon
November 21

Forest-Aires holiday concert
December 8

Holiday Pops
December 12

Diane Shields on Hanukkah
December 15

Ukulele class and senior center choir holiday concert
December 16

Dancing Christmas Trees
December 17

Noon Year's Eve
December 30



Sign up now to enjoy all the year-end benefits, and to begin some new friendships taking you to 2026!

AWE Women's Event Returns in February 2026



A day focused on women of all ages and stages of life returns to Anderson Center on February 11, 2026.

Sponsored by the Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce, the Anderson Women's Event (AWE) aims to provide strategies to help women enhance both their personal and professional lives.

This one-day annual event includes interactive workshops, networking opportunities and inspirational speakers.

For details, early-bird pricing and registration, visit Andersonwomensevent.com.

Why Join the Chamber of Commerce? Here are Benefits



Did you know, Anderson Township has an active chamber of commerce that helps small, large and home-based businesses achieve their goals?

Membership in the Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce includes a variety of benefits, including:

- Boost credibility and visibility.
- Consumers trust chamber members and are more likely to support them.

- Monthly membership meetings, Business After Hours, Morning Mixers, Women Connect and more.

Save money

- Member discounts on health care programs, workers' comp, credit card processing, and a 401K program.

Professional development

- Access workshops, speaker series, and training opportunities to strengthen business skills.

Promote your business

- Advertise in the Monday Minute e-newsletter, Chamber Magazine, website and at events.
- Post job openings and special deals for free on the chamber website.

"Joining connects you to people, ideas and resources that help your business thrive while strengthening the Anderson community," noted Executive Director Sarah Celenza. For more information, visit Andersonareachamber.org or call 513.474.4802.

CONNECT

Reminder: Anderson Holiday Fest Scheduled for December 6

Start your holiday fun at the Anderson Towne Center on Saturday, Dec. 6, as the Anderson Holiday Fest returns.

The streetscape of the center is lit up and full of activities, along with entertainment, seasonal festivities and an opportunity to visit with Santa.

The family-friendly event kicks off at 4 p.m. and Santa arrives at 4:15 p.m. on a township fire engine. Children are welcome to visit him throughout the evening. Additionally, stay and ring in the season with outdoor entertainment as local organizations take the stage on multiple venues.



At 6 p.m., gather around the Christmas tree for the annual lighting ceremony. Anderson Towne Center businesses provide refreshments during the evening,

or participants can patronize one of several restaurants in the area.

Visit Anderson Towne Center at 7500 Beechmont Ave.

Newtown Winterfest Returns on December 13

Fireworks, festivities and holiday entertainment are all on the schedule this year at the annual Newtown Winterfest, set for Saturday, Dec. 13.

The event on Church Street kicks off at 2 p.m. with a 5K race. At 4 p.m., enjoy the Winterfest Parade with Santa and Mrs. Claus, plus food trucks, craft vendors, entertainment and carriage rides.

Fireworks light up the winter sky at 7:30 p.m. For details, go to newtownwinterfest.org.



Don't Forget to Stuff the Medic This Season

During this holiday season, are you looking for a place to give? The annual township effort called Stuff the Medic collects toys and non-perishable food items for Interparish Ministries. The collection runs through December 6.

The Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department is collecting the new, unwrapped toys and food to be donated to the ministry in Withamsville.

"Thanks to the support of our amazing communities, we once again surpassed 1,000 donations in 2024, with a total of 1,055 toys and food items collected," said Lt. Doug Eagan with Anderson Township Fire and Rescue.

Drop off donations at the decorated medic unit at the Beechmont Avenue fire station,

7954 Beechmont Ave, or any of the other three fire stations in Anderson and Newtown.



EVENTS

NOVEMBER

Merit Theatre Company- *It's a Wonderful Life*

Anderson Center Theater
7850 Five Mile Road,
November 20-22
Info: merittheatre.org

Anderson Community Band

Anderson Center Theater
7850 Five Mile Road
November 23, 3 p.m.
Free

De La Dance - *The Nutcracker, Jazzed Up!*

Anderson Center Theater
7850 Five Mile Road
November 28-29
Info: deladancecompany.org

DECEMBER

Le Jeune Dance Company- *The Nutcracker*

Anderson Center Theater
7850 Five Mile Road
December 4-7
Info: lejeunedance.com/tickets

Anderson Holiday Festival

Anderson Towne Center
7500 Beechmont Ave.
December 6, 4-6:30 p.m.
Free

De La Dance - *The Nutcracker, Jazzed Up!*

Anderson Center Theater
7850 Five Mile Road
December 11-13
Info: deladancecompany.org

Performing Arts Inc.- *Mama Mia!* *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer* *101 Dalmatians Kids*

Anderson Center Theater
7850 Five Mile Road,
December 15-20
Info: performingartsinc.net

Newtown Winterfest

Downtown Newtown
December 13, 4-8 p.m.
Free

JANUARY

Performing Arts Inc.- *Oliver! Jr.,* *Descendants the Musical,* *Shrek the Musical*

Anderson Center Theater
7850 Five Mile Road
January 27-31
Info: performingartsinc.net

FEBRUARY

De La Dance- *Dance Cincinnati*

Anderson Center Theater
7850 Five Mile Road
February 3-15
Info: deladancecompany.org

Beechmont Players- *Love Letters*

Anderson Center Lower Level Meeting Room
7850 Five Mile Road
February 6-14
Info: Beechmontplayers.org

AWE-Anderson Women's Event

Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road
February 11, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Info: AndersonAreaChamber.org/events



Anderson Women's Event

Le Jeune Dance Company- *Don Quixote*

Anderson Center Theater
7850 Five Mile Road
February 27-28
Info: lejeunedance.com/tickets

MARCH

Dance Like a Man - *Rangmanch Cincy and* *Nrityarpana School of* *Performing Arts*

Anderson Center Theater
7850 Five Mile Road
March 6-7
Info: Nishant Wasnik- 513.886.8928

Anderson Community Band

Anderson Center Theater
7850 Five Mile Road
March 22, 3 p.m.
Info: Andersoncommunityband.com
Free



Anderson Community Band



Anderson Holiday Festival



Anderson Insights

The Newsletter of Anderson Township
Anderson Center
7850 Five Mile Road
Anderson Township, OH 45230

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Anderson Township Mission Statement

To provide services which protect
and enhance the quality of life
in our community.

Government Services at Anderson Center

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Administration

Anderson Township
Senior Center

Finance

Fire and Rescue

Hamilton County
Sheriff's Office

Planning and Zoning

Public Works

Fiscal Office

Anderson Insights represents
a continuing effort to improve
communication between you
and your township officials.

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Anderson Center's Plaza Reimagined as a New Community Gathering Spot



Anderson Center Plaza

Anderson Center's Plaza, the outdoor space visible from Five Mile Road and Anderson Center Drive, is being reimagined as a more welcoming Third Place that encourages informal gatherings and fosters connections.

A new Anderson Township project is enhancing the plaza area to become a more comfortable and community-oriented area for residents and visitors. Additions include rocking chairs, high top seating, conversation sets and decorative lighting on the upper balcony area. On the lower level, enjoy new outdoor café tables with chairs and umbrellas. The area will be WiFi accessible.

Third Places are defined as a welcoming location outside the home or work where people gather, socialize and experience a sense of belonging. Examples of Third Place locations include coffee shops, gyms, libraries, parks and places of worship.

"The outdoor area of Anderson Center has never been fully utilized as a public space,"

noted Planning and Zoning Assistant Director Sarah Donovan. "We want to create an inviting space for residents, visitors to Anderson Center and our staff and employees in Anderson Center."

During the construction of the Vantage Apartment community nearby, the township paused its development plans, as well as public and private events on the south plaza. Now that residents are moving into the apartment community and are already using the space, Donovan says the township has moved ahead with the improvements.

Trustee Chair Lexi Lausten noted, "Enhancing this area just makes this space more inviting and accessible for residents to utilize."

"As trustees, anytime we can improve an area, especially outdoors, we further some of our big picture community goals to create spaces that foster community and improve overall quality of life for our residents."