

ANDERSON Insights

September 2020
THE VOICE OF ANDERSON TOWNSHIP

Fall Levy Request Avoided Due to Passage of Senate Bill 4

Delay of road levy until at least 2022 means township residents will save.

A portion of Anderson Township's road maintenance costs will soon be covered from a new source, thanks to a bill recently passed that allows townships to draw road funding from certain Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Funds.

Governor Mike DeWine recently signed Senate Bill 4 into law, which allows townships to temporarily use a portion of unencumbered TIF funds to cover costs associated with road repair and maintenance. This bill allows those expenses to be paid through 2021.

TIF funds, derived from new construction, are typically limited to capital improvement projects and cannot be used for operating and maintenance expenses, according to Fiscal Officer Ken Dietz.

"Anderson Township stretched its current road levy 22 years," Anderson Township Administrator Vicky Earhart noted. "However, this levy only generates a portion of the funds it did in 1998, when adopted by the voters. At the same time, the township's maintenance responsibilities have increased dramatically, so we anticipated needing to return to the voters this fall to renew this levy."

The road maintenance portion of the bill was championed by Trustee Chair Josh Gerth. "The Board of Trustees was faced with asking our constituents to consider a levy this fall, a measure we did not wish to take given the hardships many of our residents are facing due to the COVID-19 pandemic," Gerth noted.



A road levy will not be on the November ballot, thanks to alternative funding sources initiated this year.

Gerth worked with the Ohio Legislature, State Representative Bill Seitz, as well as Chip Gerhart, an Anderson resident and lobbyist, in pursuing a creative approach to utilize its TIF funds to stretch the levy and meet growing township maintenance needs.

"Through strategic planning and sound fiscal management, we had amassed a healthy balance in our TIF budget, but yet these funds could not be used to address our road maintenance needs," Gerth said. Townships have little opportunities, other than property tax, to generate funds for operations, he noted.

"Simply stated, this bill helps our community and will save our taxpayers money," Gerth added.

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From Your Trustees

High-Quality Services Maintained During Challenging Times

During the last few challenging months, Anderson Township has committed to doing its best to keep services as normal as possible. All township operations have continued (even if in a slightly new format), Anderson Center is open for business with citizens provided opportunities for public commentary during meetings, and progress is being made on many fronts in the township. We appreciate the support of our residents and businesses as we have made these changes to continue to provide the highest level of service!



In recent weeks, the Board of Trustees has taken several actions that have staved off a Public Works levy that could have been placed on the ballot this November. See page 1 and a story on this page for more details.

Construction projects, some spanning two years, are winding down ahead of schedule, as one of the side “benefits” of the pandemic has been a lower level of traffic. See the list of what’s been accomplished on pages 6-7. Beechmont Avenue has been resurfaced, and traffic signals have been adjusted (page 10) with the goal of providing a smoother driving experience along the busy corridor.

Anderson Township's Senior Center continues to innovate to help older residents stay connected while the senior facility is closed. For photos and a story, check out page 18.

And finally on page 3, the seven-month renovation of the Anderson Parks RecPlex is complete, and the timing actually worked out that so that this project caused little impact to the community. All that’s missing is an opening date so you can visit and plan your future recreational activities.

As we reminded you at the beginning of the pandemic, we will be here for you Anderson Township. Together we will be stronger! If ever you have questions or comments about Anderson Township’s programs and services during these extraordinary times, please contact us at 688-8400, info@AndersonTownship.org, or send us a message at [facebook.com/AndersonTownshipOhio](https://www.facebook.com/AndersonTownshipOhio).

From your elected officials: Chair Josh Gerth, Vice Chair Dee Stone, Trustee Andrew Pappas and Fiscal Officer Ken Dietz.

Motor Vehicle License Fee Renewals To Bring Cash to Our Community

Five dollars from each license renewal will be retained for roadway maintenance.

A \$5 fee collected from motor vehicle license renewals from Anderson Township residents will help the township maintain its public roads.

The Ohio Legislature passed a provision in 2019 which allows local governments another source of revenue based on a license fee. Jurisdictions have faced decreased revenues due to the elimination of the estate tax and significant reduction of local government funds since 2011. Those two funds alone brought about \$2 million to Anderson Township annually.

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Anderson Township Trustees approved the measure this summer. Funds collected from this fee would be retained in the township for purposes of construction, improvement and maintenance of township roadways.

Approximately 45,000 registered motor vehicles are owned by Anderson residents. Early estimates show revenue collected from this fee could be somewhere around \$222,000, according to information from Vicky Earhart, township administrator. The measure passed after three online public hearings.

“In conjunction with other measures, these funds will help to stretch the township’s 1998 Public Works levy until 2022 and maintain the high quality of public works services residents have received,” Earhart said.

Trustee Vice Chair Dee Stone noted that, “Although no one likes costs to go up, this modest change in the licensing renewal fee will delay a levy for a couple of years and allow us to continue the same level of service that our residents expect.”



Indoor Fun on the Horizon in Renovated Recplex

Project nets lighter, brighter recreational facility; opening date not set yet.

Renovations to the Anderson Parks RecPlex are complete, now just awaiting a go-ahead from health experts for the Anderson Parks District to resume indoor recreation programs and classes.

At the end of a seven-month facelift, much of during the COVID-19 shutdown, Anderson Township’s collaborative redo of the 50-year-old indoor recreational building now is only missing local residents who are eager to return to their favorite recreational activities.

The facility was purchased by Anderson Township in 2018; it is leased to the Anderson Park District and serves as the home of the park district’s Recreation Department. Under the 2018 agreement, Anderson Township committed to renovate the facility, with Forest Hill Schools contributing a portion of new Tax Increment Financing (TIF) revenue toward the upgrades.

The total cost of the renovation was about \$2.7 million. The Anderson Park District continues operating the facility and providing day-to-day recreational programming there.

“We obviously did not know it when we planned the renovations, but the timing was perfect to make this project happen this year, as pandemic guidelines had park district recreational activities shut down. Meanwhile construction could proceed on the renovation,” said Township Chair Josh Gerth. “This project came along beautifully, and it is a great example of public partners working together for a big goal. We are excited to open the doors to our residents once the time is right,” he said.

Improvements are evident in the gym and classrooms that are used year-round for summer camps, adult and youth sports leagues, programs and special events, according to Ken Kushner, executive director of the Anderson Park District.



The Anderson Parks RecPlex project is complete and awaiting users.

“The facility renovations are sure to improve the recreational experience for participants and spectators of all ages,” he said.

“Returning visitors will immediately notice significant changes to the front office and gym entryway. Restrooms have been renovated to meet ADA accessibility standards, including the addition of family style restrooms,” Kushner said. The multi-purpose Buckeye Room has been redesigned for better function and form, featuring a new layout, flooring and lighting.

“I am positive residents will be pleasantly surprised by enhancements made to the building,” Kushner said. “With these changes we have created a recreational facility that will better serve the community into the future.”

Opening plans for the facility will be found at [AndersonTownship.org](https://www.AndersonTownship.org) once they are complete.

Fall Levy Request Avoided *(continued from page 1)*

The 2021 Public Works budget is \$4,539,700. Additional funds provided by Senate Bill 4 for operating expenses are \$1.5 million, according to Dietz.

Had Anderson Township voters adopted an anticipated two mil levy that was being discussed this fall, a property owner’s tax bill would have

increased by \$70 a year per \$100,000 valuation. Dietz estimated the passage of the Senate bill will save the owner of a home with a \$250,000 auditor valuation a total of \$350 for 2021 and 2022.

Gerth also was joined by Green Township Trustee Tony Rosiello who worked on the safety levy components of the bill.

(See story on page 2 about another new source of funding for township roads.)

2021: Comprehensive Look at Anderson's Next 20 Years

Update process to guiding planning document to tap into resident, business, organizational involvement.



More diverse new housing is one of the goals of the 2016 Comprehensive Plan; pictured is new construction of Stonegate Apartments Phase 3.

Anderson is shaping an update to its Comprehensive Plan, last modified in 2016 and first written in 2005. This will be the third update to the original plan.

A comprehensive plan looks at the various elements of the township and creates a series of broad policies to help guide future decisions about the physical, economic, and social aspects of the community. Comprehensive plans are general in nature and are purposely long-term, recognizing that some visions cannot be achieved immediately but take years to accomplish, noted Paul Drury, Planning and Zoning director.

In the next few months, Anderson Township will begin a process that will revolve around the questions: What will the Anderson of 2040 look like? How can we chart a better future for our community?

(Although information about the start of the Comprehensive Plan update was not available at press time, check out AndersonTownship.org for further details or to learn how to get involved.)

"Every five years we have the opportunity to stop and evaluate just how far we have come in the past few years and also to realign our goals and rethink what we want this community to become," said Planner Sarah

Donovan. "This exciting process is both creative and also very specific in its nature, drawing visionary thinking and also concrete solutions to problems."

In the five years since the plan was updated, Donovan said many of the goals outlined in the 2016 Anderson Plan have been met. Some of the bigger projects include:

Economic health- Completed Downtown Anderson and Towne Center Way improvements, making Anderson a more attractive community for new business and residents.

People and Housing- Encouraged the development of a more diverse housing stock including increased senior housing, multi-family and cluster single-family. Promoted opportunities for residents that create a sense of community.

Transportation- Added numerous sidewalk-trail connections, with an emphasis on pedestrian and bike-friendly elements. Worked with agencies to ensure that traffic congestion is addressed. Also worked with neighboring communities to create complete regional trail connections.

Land Use- Initiated the current Clough Pike Study and Kellogg Gateway Study, as well as completed and adopted the Beechmont Plan.

"This is where the direction for our community is established. It is a great opportunity for residents to have input on what Anderson Township will look like over the next 20 years," noted Trustee Vice Chair Dee Stone.



Anderson's trails program is identified as important to the community's high quality of life.

Entertainment District, California Area Upgrades Coming

A group of stakeholders and consultants, buoyed by public commentary received in online surveys, is recommending steps to take to expand marketing, improve traffic flow and update lighting and landscaping for the Entertainment District and beyond.

Conducted by Anderson Township and the city of Cincinnati, the eight-month study examined the area from Belterra Park gaming into the city of Cincinnati's California business district. More than 300 respondents shared their thoughts about ways to improve the area during this project; information was gathered through virtual meetings, a business district walk-thru and an online survey.

"The Kellogg entertainment corridor is often the first way guests to our area experience all the wonderful things Anderson Township has to offer," said Trustee Chair Josh Gerth. "We believe this effort will pay off in a better experience for residents and guests alike."



Improvements include the following elements:

- » Streetscape, landscape, lighting enhancements
- » Interchange upgrades
- » Unified signage
- » Better defined bike lanes through California
- » Shuttle service between California and events at Coney Island, Riverbend, Belterra Park
- » Roundabouts at key intersections
- » Underpass lighting to improve pedestrian experience at night
- » Rideshare pick-up/drop off locations
- » Re-energizing the intersection of Sutton and Kellogg to encourage economic development
- » Safety improvements at Waits/Kellogg intersection

The two neighborhoods are quite different from each other; one has a regional draw while the other is a local business district, said Planning and Zoning Director Paul Drury. "However, our goal is to introduce ideas benefiting both to bolster economic growth. This area presents a great opportunity for collaboration between the city of Cincinnati and Anderson."

As of press time, a virtual meeting was planned for September with business and property owners to obtain commentary on the plan. Also, an online presentation will be open in late September where the public can provide feedback on design ideas. Check AndersonTownship.org for project updates and information. The study will wrap up in late fall.

Clough Survey Study: Community Opinion Driving Future Plans

Guided by more than 375 survey respondents, an online open house and consultant studies, Anderson is planning upgrades to the corridor.

Property owners along Clough Pike and thoroughfare users have been very vocal in recent months regarding a shopping list of upgrades suggested this summer for the busy road.

With a goal of improving signal timing, safety and intersection design on the five mile-stretch of Clough, Anderson Township shared several proposed project designs this summer and asked for public comment.

According to Planner P.J. Ginty, one message loud and clear was that residents are concerned about pedestrian safety and how any intersection changes might affect them.

A second important finding, according to Ginty, was that a sidewalk segment linking the M.E. Lyons YMCA to Eight Mile Road north side was highly supported by respondents. This proposed sidewalk segment connects many community amenities such as Juilfs Park, a neighborhood business district and the M.E. Lyons YMCA.

Seven intersections were evaluated along Clough, with traffic counts completed before traffic dropped off during the beginning of the COVID-19 shutdown. Almost 60 percent of respondents indicated the Newtown Road intersection as one of their top three unsignalized intersections needing improvement. One proposal on Newtown Road suggested adding turn lanes to help ease traffic buildup in rush hour.

Three roundabout scenarios were put forward for community discussion. Locations were: at Newtown-Bartels-Clough, Five Mile and Clough, and Wolfangel and Clough. "Proposed roundabouts in the township were a very polarizing issue, with nearly half the respondents being supportive while the other half opposed," Ginty noted.

Signal timing changes and improvements in signage and road striping along Clough will be included in upgrades.

Ginty said staff members are taking the community's opinions seriously and "we spent a lot of time going through this. We certainly appreciate the community's feedback on this important corridor."

Final proposals and a summary report were not available at press time; however, check online at AndersonTownship.org. Public comment on the final recommendations from the report will be sought. Anderson's trustees will review final recommendations at the end of this year.



Board of Township Trustees BOARD MEMBERS WELCOME YOUR CALLS!



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Virus or No Virus, Anderson Stays on Track During Summer Construction

Continued momentum delivered Anderson Trails projects, Beechmont improvements, road upgrades.

Summer construction projects did not fall behind this year in Anderson Township, as crews stayed on target and completed some major work in and around the township this season.

I-275/471 Road Rehab and Bridge Repair– A more than two-year road rehab project that caused driver rerouting and tackled 1.6 miles of resurfacing and pavement repair on two interstates is almost complete.

The Ohio Department of Transportation/Kentucky Transportation Cabinet’s \$1.6 million project repaired five mainline twin bridges, including the Combs-Hehl Bridge that connects Anderson to Kentucky. Driving restrictions have been eliminated and minor repairs will be completed this fall.

Ohio River Trail Connection– A new Ohio River Trail connection was introduced in 2020 from the city/township boundary at Sutton Road, west to the existing trail that ends at Magrish Riverlands Preserve on Salem Road. Funding came from a \$4 million federal transportation grant secured by the city of Cincinnati. The local match was paid for with the help of Anderson Township, the Hamilton County Transportation Improvement District and Interact for Health, who each committed \$100,000. The 1.5-mile portion of the Ohio River Trail in Anderson Township’s Entertainment District between Sutton and Five Mile Roads now links to the overall Ohio River Trail.



Beechmont Avenue was repaved and restriped this summer.

Beechmont Paving/Restriping and Signal Timing– An Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) project restriped and resurfaced nearly three miles of Beechmont Avenue this summer, including a new highlighted bike lane on a portion of the road. That, along with an enhanced signal system, will help increase safety, reduce congestion and compliment the many streetscape enhancements along the corridor that have been added in recent years. Other upgrades included the addition of bike lanes, on-street parking in the residential area west of Salem, safer and more defined bus stops, handicap accessible ramps, and a safer crosswalk signal system for pedestrians. Five lanes of traffic are still maintained through the entire corridor, created by slightly narrowing travel lanes.

About 12 miles of bike lanes have been added since 2019, including five miles on Beechmont Avenue and seven miles on Kellogg Avenue.



Work on a Nordyke Road sidewalk link began in late summer.

Township Road Repair, Curb and Rejuvenator– Fourteen township streets received new curbs/gutters during the township’s annual curb-sidewalk repair cycle. In addition, pavement rejuvenation applications or sealing occurred on 36 township roadways. Next year those roads that received new curbs this year will be repaved.

Eight Mile Road Sanitary Sewer Project– The Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati (MSD) and its contractor, MAC Construction and Excavating, Inc., are installing sanitary sewers to eliminate the existing Dry Run pump station and Ivy Trail flush station. The project will improve water quality and ongoing maintenance costs for these facilities. This ongoing effort extends sanitary sewer service on Eight Mile Road from Whiting Way to just south of Stoney Bridge Drive.

Anderson Parks RecPlex– Renovation of the Anderson Parks RecPlex was completed this summer through a partnership between the Anderson Park District, Anderson Township and the Forest Hills School District. Facelifts to the facility added a lighter, brighter feel and included upgraded classrooms and restrooms. The 50-year-old multi-purpose building hosts a gym and classroom space for year-round indoor activities and features heavily in the township’s youth sports leagues, camps and special events. Check www.andersonparks.com/anderson-parks-recplex-info for updates and a planned virtual tour.

Sidewalks: Woodruff Road– A new sidewalk will be built on the north side of Woodruff Road, from Sandker Lane (in the new Enclaves of Woodruff subdivision) to Elderwood Drive in the Britney Acres subdivision. The segment is approximately 330 feet long with a crosswalk at the Sandker Lane and Woodruff Road intersection.

Nordyke Road– The existing sidewalk on Nordyke Road is being extended approximately 365 feet to the south, to Koszo Drive. Currently, the sidewalk ends near Nottingwood Drive and this new segment will link residents on Koszo to Anderson’s sidewalk network.

The Nordyke Road and Woodruff Road sidewalks are projects outlined as high priority in the Anderson Trails plan. Both projects were partially funded through alternative sidewalks approved for the Enclave at Woodruff and Nordyke Estates. Construction is expected to be complete this fall.

Crosswalk at Forest Road and Eaglesknoll Court– A crosswalk connecting to a gravel path leading to Anderson High School was completed this summer. The 90-foot pathway will provide greater accessibility for walking students who live in this nearby neighborhood.



About 12 miles of bike lanes have been added since 2019 in Anderson.

NEWS & NOTES



Don't Trash Storm Drains; They're Not for Leaves, Garbage

Did you know? Those stormwater drains on your street go directly in our community's creeks, rivers, streams and lakes. Anything that ends up in the drain, however, is not treated before it hits the water.

That means motor oil, pet waste, chemicals and leaves are not removed before they move through to the waterways.

These wastewater sewers channel rainwater directly into our natural waterways and play a vital role in protecting property during a heavy rain.

Help yourself and your neighbors and keep our waterways clean by removing litter that plugs grates and inlets. Keep your storm sewer free of leaves, plastic bottles and debris, especially during fall. Report damaged or clogged drains to the Public Works Department at 688-8400.

Speaker Series Continues

Three former addicts will share their personal stories at the November meeting of the Anderson Mental Health Collaborative.

During its speaker series meeting set for 6:30 p.m. November 9, presenters will share their stories on addiction related to alcoholism, vaping and drugs and how this has impacted their lives. The format of the meeting has not been determined. Go to AndersonTownship.org for updated meeting information.



Orange Bags Retired: Textile Recycling Program Discontinued

In case you have recently put your orange Simple Recycling bags outside on trash day and no one has picked them up, there is a reason for this occurrence. Simple Recycling closed its Cincinnati curbside recycling service this spring during COVID-19, bringing an end to this program in Anderson Township and several other area communities. The program had been offered at no cost to Anderson and other jurisdictions.



Donations are no longer being collected curbside or at the 24/7 recycling box formerly located at the Anderson Township Recycling Center on Beechmont Avenue. Steve Sievers, assistant administrator for operations, reminds residents to donate lightly used items to local non-profit entities. Township officials will continue to search for opportunities to address this demand for textile recycling, Sievers said.

I Spy? Crime Prevention Effort Utilizes CCTV Footage

Anderson residents are invited to join a new program that helps the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office identify suspects engaged in criminal activity. Through voluntarily offering Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) footage when a crime is committed near your camera, residents can help law enforcement target vehicle theft, property crime and other law enforcement issues.

"This new community policing tool works in concert with both our Neighborhood Watch and Business Watch Groups," said Deputy Brian Hayes, crime prevention officer.

Hayes said the Security Camera Registration Program will only use captured footage supplied by both residents and businesses who choose to participate. "CCTV camera owners will only be contacted if it is believed that their system may have images of criminal activity caught on tape," Hayes said. The program is voluntary and free.

To learn more about the program or to sign up, contact Hayes at 688-8618. By email: bhayes@AndersonTownship.org.



Yes, Door-to-Door Solicitations Legit in Township

Although formerly prohibited locally, door-to-door for-profit vendors have been allowed for several years in Anderson Township, after a ruling from the Supreme Court.

If residents do not wish to be contacted by door-to-door salespeople or non-profit organizations, a "No Soliciting" sign can be posted on a door or near the driveway.

Deputy Brian Hayes with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office District 5 noted, "If vendors refuse to leave, or return after being told not to come back, the property owner has the right to file criminal trespassing charges, which would involve a police report being made, as well as a court appearance downtown at a later date."

"While there is no violation for anyone to be on a public roadway or to solicit as a private business, the Sheriff's Office can still investigate to make sure that individuals are conducting legitimate business," Hayes said. "That is why we recommend reporting this activity to the Sheriff's Office non-emergency number at 825-2280 if a resident has concerns, so we can evaluate and or retain appropriate information if necessary."



Lights Out? Call It In

Notice a streetlight that is out in your neighborhood?

Now that it's getting dark earlier in the evening, you might have wondered what to do to have a streetlight lightbulb replaced.

Request a light repair on Duke Energy's upgraded tool which makes it easy to report malfunctioning lights.

Go to duke-energy.com/customer-service/request-light-repair or call Public Works at 688-8400.



Planner a Recent Grad



Sarah Donovan

Planner Sarah Donovan recently graduated from Penn State University with a master's degree in community and economic development. She has been working full time for the township while completing her degree the last two years.

Donovan received her undergraduate degree from the University of Cincinnati in urban planning and has worked for Anderson Township since 2017. Current projects include work on the WeTHRIVE! Anderson committee, Economic Development Committee and Zoning Commission.

Fire Investigator to Retire



Lt. Jeff Weber

Lt. Jeff Weber, a 30-year member of the Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department and the department's lead fire investigator, retires on November 5, 2020.

Weber started his career as a volunteer firefighter in April 1987, going fulltime as a career firefighter in 1990. During his tenure, he earned numerous certifications including that of a Certified Fire Safety Inspector, Haz-Mat Technician and Water Rescue Instructor. Weber was promoted to

lieutenant in 1997 and was named the American Legion Post 318 Firefighter of the Year in 2010.

In 1992, Weber attended his first arson investigation class and then volunteered his time with the Specialized County Arson Team starting in 1995. He was the team commander from 2006-2009, in what is now known as the Hamilton County Fire Investigation Unit. To gain more credibility while testifying in court and to enhance his fire investigation skills, Weber became a member of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department, where he serves with the Special Deputy Unit. He also has worked with a variety of arson-related committees, including the Greater Cincinnati Regional Arson and Fire Investigators Seminar Committee since 1997. Weber continues to serve as the Anderson fire investigation manager, a role he has held since 1996.

Longtime Sign Inspector Retires

Jim Lewis, Anderson Township's longtime sign inspector for nearly 30 years, has retired. Lewis was hired in 1990 after retiring from his first career as an air traffic controller.

During his tenure Lewis helped clean up Beechmont Avenue in the 1990s when the corridor was flooded with temporary signs that often ended up being a permanent part of the landscape. He also played a role in keeping election signage within township parameters during each of the following election cycles.



Jim Lewis

His job included reviewing new sign applications, posting zoning hearing signs, Home Improvement Loan (HIP) inspector, and many other duties. Anderson Township interns from the University of Cincinnati often spent some of their workdays riding with Lewis and learning about the job of sign control in the township as well as the history of township development. Many residents may recognize Lewis as the voice on the Anderson Township voice mail system.

Check Out AndersonTownship.org for the latest township news and event changes.

Beechmont Commuters: Have You Been Saving Time?

Upgrade last month sought to better coordinate traffic signals to make your drive safer, smoother.

Traffic signals on Beechmont Avenue, as well as on Five Mile Road approaching Beechmont, recently have been upgraded to coordinate a more fluid and safe driving experience along the busy Beechmont corridor.

The signals were adjusted based on a traffic signal timing study undertaken by a consulting firm hired by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT). Funded by ODOT, the project is a multi-agency collaboration to optimize traffic signal operations along Beechmont from Salem Road into Clermont County and on Five Mile Road from I-275 to the Anderson Towne Center.

“This study undertaken (to prepare for the upgrade this summer) during the last year was the most comprehensive look at Beechmont Avenue from a traffic perspective in more than a decade,” said Marc Grake, traffic operations engineer with ODOT. “Engineers also took



into account daily and season changes, nearby intersections, and other traffic factors to identify ways coordinated traffic signals could ease congestion and continue to improve safety on the corridor.”

The signal timing optimization insures signals are up-to-date and performing at their peak given the existing infrastructure. As part of this retiming project, the controller equipment was updated and remote communications were added. ODOT will continue evaluating and fine-tuning the new system.

Assistant Administrator for Operations Steve Sievers said the new system provides pedestrians crossing Beechmont with “protected” time to begin crossing the roadway, like the heavily used crosswalk at the Five Mile Trail at Clough Pike. “This is aimed at improving pedestrian safety at these key crossings,” Sievers added. “These intersections have unfortunately been the location of several vehicle/pedestrian accidents, so this will help improve the visibility of pedestrians to motorists.”

“We are anticipating a positive change along Beechmont, which may be noticed by regular Beechmont drivers once the new traffic signal timing devices are fully coordinated,” said Trustee Andrew Pappas. “We also appreciate ODOT’s investment in this new system and efforts to further improve traffic flow on our main thoroughfare.”



Little Miami Trail Completion Anticipated in 2022

Beechmont Bridge over the Little Miami River to become more cyclist and pedestrian friendly with new designated lane; riders could ultimately bike from Lake Erie to Downtown on the trail.

A long-awaited link in one of Anderson’s popular regional bike trails could be completed within the next two years.

With the construction of this final link, cyclists and pedestrians would have a dedicated lane of their own on the Beechmont Bridge over the Little Miami Scenic River. The improvement means cyclists could someday ride on the Little Miami Trail from the Ohio River all the way to Lake Erie in northern Ohio via the Ohio to Erie Trail, including the 78-mile portion of the trail in southwestern Ohio.

Closer to home, through this improvement, Anderson Township will be linked via trail to the city of Cincinnati, the Lunken Airport Trail and the Otto Armleder Memorial Park Trail.

Jointly undertaken by Great Parks of Hamilton County and the city of Cincinnati, the project also includes a retaining wall underneath the bridge for pedestrian passageway and a tunnel under the westbound Ohio 32 ramp to Beechmont Avenue.

The south side of the 500-foot long Beechmont Bridge will be widened to provide a 14-foot wide hike/bike lane separated from traffic by a concrete barrier with a metal railing, according to Tim Zelek, Great Parks chief of planning.

Design of the project is expected to be completed this fall, with construction starting in spring of 2021 and an estimated completion date of summer 2022.



“We’re really excited to see this project realized,” noted Planner Brad Bowers, “Connecting this segment of the Little Miami Trail to the city of Cincinnati and the rest of the regional trails network has been a long-standing goal of ours.”

“This is yet another example of how our local government works across political boundaries and with other public entities for the greater good and betterment of our region,” said Trustee Chair Josh Gerth.

The project is funded by a \$4.3 million federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Grant, which provides 80 percent of the money for the project. The remaining 20 percent will be covered in a local match by Great Parks.

Electricity Aggregation- Fast Facts About Township’s Program



WHY AGGREGATION?
Competitive + stable pricing

PROGRAM
Can opt-in-opt-out any time

TRACK RECORD
More than
\$562,000
saved
since program’s beginning

COMPARE APPLES TO APPLES
www.energychoice.ohio.gov



GOAL
Residents save money!

Info
Anderson’s electricity aggregation program:
AndersonTownship.org, search FAQs.

2016
electricity aggregation program
YES!
Residents OK electricity aggregation program

Anderson Welcomes Robinway, Friar Tuck and All Things Sherwood Forest in Post-War Boom

Dramatic growth in housing during 1950-1979 added more than 8,800 new homes to township.

If you were a long-lived migrating bird who visited Anderson Township in the decades of the 1950s through 1970s, you would have experienced first-hand the dramatic developments as the number of new houses built increased and the population rose. From 1950 to 1979, more than 8,880 new homes were built, compared to some 626 constructed in the decade of the 1940s. (By comparison, 329 homes have been added in Anderson in the last 10 years.)

During Anderson's post-war boom, many farm fields and orchards became clusters of new homes with driveways, sidewalks and well-tended lawns. One of the remarkable residential developments was Sherwood Forest, constructed and sold by the Joe Graue Construction Company.



The symbol of Robin Hood with his bow and arrow was used for Joe Graue's Sherwood Forest development. This is the handsome cover of a full-color brochure explaining some of the house choices available from the Joe Graue Realty Company.

Joseph H. Graue (1921-2003) began building single homes after he returned from naval service in World War II. He acquired financial backing and built houses on streets he named Shangrila and Ticonderoga in honor of carriers on which he served in the Navy.

In September 1956 he acquired 50 acres of what became the 110 acres of Sherwood Forest. His wife Helen suggested finding a name that reflected the many trees on the property. Charley Floyd is said to have suggested Sherwood Forest. Graue's secretary Marjorie Snyder then started naming the streets and house models after characters in the tales of Robin Hood. The first models were shown on September 25, 1957, and more than 3,000 people attended. The houses along Little John Court were sold out in just days.

At that time Robin Hood was not just a character of folk legends; in the mid-1950s a popular TV series "The Adventures of Robin Hood" was produced in England. The U.S. series starred Richard Greene and ran weekly for four seasons.

To locate Sherwood Forest on a current Anderson map, look west of Five Mile and State roads, south of Clough Pike and Bridges Road, east of Berkshire and Paddison and north of Paddison. Street names recall the tales of Robin Hood such as Locksley Drive, Maid Marion Drive, Little John Court, Friar Tuck Lane, Kingsway Court and Robinway Drive.



Joe Graue and his team continued work on building houses in the Sherwood development for some 20 years, leading to more 600 homes built. One brochure from the company illustrated seven model homes. Potential residents could choose from "The Cambridge," which featured four bedrooms and two bathrooms in a split-level home; "The Princess," offering three bedrooms and two baths in a ranch-house style; "The Locksley," a spacious colonial with three bedrooms and two baths; and "The Little John," a two-story colonial with four bedrooms and baths.

Due to the influx and growth of families, the Forest Hills School District built and opened the Sherwood Elementary School on Grantham Way for full operation in the fall of 1970. Thanks to appreciative and caring owners over the decades, the homes of Sherwood Forest in Anderson continue to serve old and new generations of residents.



"The Allan-A-Dale" home appeared in a later brochure illustrated with photographs. It was described as a charming brick ranch with an attached two-car garage. The text mentioned the wood-paneled family room and three bedrooms, two bathrooms and an abundance of closets.



This sketch shows "The Riverdee," a four-bedroom brick two-story colonial home from one of the earlier brochures produced by Graue Realty Company. The home included a two-car garage and was shown with an optional New Orleans balcony.



This Site was developed to help residents to a better way of life

Many Sherwood Forest homes and their locations appeared in a large brochure. The development is located roughly west of Five Mile, south of Clough, east of Berkshire and north of Paddison.



The "Sir Richard" model was an imposing two-story colonial, designed for a large or growing family.

Images from the collections of the Anderson Township Historical Society. Text by Janet Heywood, research chair, Anderson Township Historical Society.

30 YEARS OF GREENSPACE

Get Away from It All This Fall on Protected Spaces

On November 6, 1990, the first Greenspace levy was approved by township residents, making Anderson Township Ohio's First Greenspace Township.



In November, look for signs on each Greenspace property celebrating this 30th anniversary and the 698 acres of Greenspace that help make Anderson Township beautiful. These protected natural areas are scattered throughout the township and improve wildlife habitat while also shielding air and water quality. A parcel of Greenspace may be found within one-half mile of about 95 percent of properties in Anderson.

Properties are natural areas so most have no developed trails; however, visitors are welcome to walk and explore by way of deer trails and old roadways. Who knows what you might find; a group of turkeys feasting on acorns or a beaver gnawing on a tree for that tasty inner bark?

Greenspaces provide a local opportunity to stop and reflect and explore the outdoors. "Go find your own trail and get away from it all," says Greenspace Inspector Suzanne Clingman. "Fall is so glorious, leave your worries behind and get out to enjoy it!"

Help for Township Flooding Issues May Come From Stormwater Basin Repair

New regulations to insure detention ponds working correctly.

A year-long review of the health of Anderson's stormwater detention/retention systems found almost a quarter of these drainage structures compromised or not working at all. Now, Anderson Township is taking the next step to encourage owners to get their drainage facilities in shape to help with rainwater runoff and erosion.

Township trustees may soon consider whether to include an enforcement tool in their efforts to maintain the structures.

In 2019, almost 130 stormwater basins were examined by township planners. It was learned that 30 basins were not doing their jobs. The assessment was the first comprehensive look of all Anderson's detention ponds. In recent months, basin owners and homeowners' associations that maintain these detention basins were contacted. Owners were provided educational materials and offered maintenance recommendations.

Steve Sievers, assistant administrator for operations, said by mid-July, half of the owners of basins in disrepair had made repairs or were in the process of cleaning up the detention ponds.

The proposed resolution to be considered by trustees would require basin owners maintain their structures, making sure the systems are free of obstructions, weed overgrowth and rubbish. If ultimately needed, and only after continued repeated attempts to work with owners to address the maintenance concerns, fines would be instituted.



before



after

Anderson is working to bring community stormwater facilities into good condition through educational efforts and proper maintenance.

"Basins play a key role in holding stormwater during heavy rainfall events, then slowly releasing it into creeks as water levels drop, reducing the possibility of downstream flooding and erosion," said Sievers.

"We have a responsibility to help minimize the impacts of development on downstream properties and public infrastructure and we anticipate this may be another helpful tool to fulfill that duty," said Trustee Vice Chair Dee Stone.

Census Bureau Counting to Finish Soon

Field work and self-response options end this fall.

Although exact details were uncertain as of press time, all counting efforts for the 2020 U.S. Census should be complete this fall.



Anderson Township has taken a lead in providing a robust response to the census, according to Planner P.J. Ginty, who worked locally to encourage a strong count. "We applaud our residents for self-responding to the census; Anderson Township has the highest self-response rate of townships in southwest Ohio."

Anderson Township has a 84.7 percent self-response rate.

The accuracy of the 2020 Census is important because federal funding and political representation are based upon information gathered during this once-a-decade count.

"U.S. Census officials are aiming to meet a similar level of household responses as collected in previous counts," Ginty said, which includes hard-to-count communities.

To date, nearly 95.7 million households, or 64.7 percent nationwide, have self-responded to the census.

It is not too late to complete the census online at my2020census.gov, by mailing in your completed form, or by calling (844) 330-2020 to complete the census over the phone.

National Fire Protection Week Reminder: Cook Up Kitchen Safety

During Fire Protection Week (October 4-10) the National Fire Protection Association reminds residents that cooking fires are the No. 1 cause of home fire and home fire injuries.

In an effort to educate about the theme to "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen," the Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department provides these kitchen safety tips:

- » Do not leave food unattended; unattended cooking is the leading cause of kitchen fires
- » Keep cooking area clutter free. Anything that can burn should be at least three feet from stove top
- » Keep kids safe from burns and scalds; ensure they stay at least three feet from hot surfaces
- » Use a timer to remind you of food when you are simmering, baking, broiling and roasting
- » Grab a lid using an oven mitt, not water, to put out a small grease fire



Learn more about the topic of keeping your kitchen safe from cooking fires at nfpa.org/cooking.

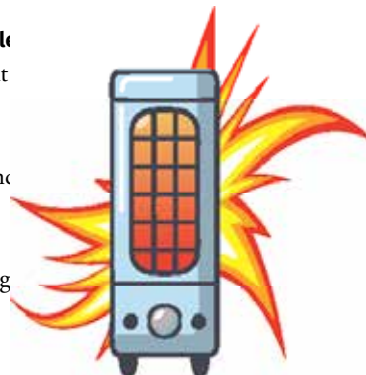
Safety First During Change of Seasons

Pump up your knowledge with nine tips for keeping your home and family out of harm's way with colder weather ahead and likely more time spent inside.

Suggestions are provided from the Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department.

1. Plug space heaters directly into outlets

As with any appliance or device that generates heat, never plug a space heater into an extension cord or a power strip. The high power demand of the heater can cause the power strip or extension cord to overheat or short circuit. Don't plug anything else into the same outlet being utilized by the space heater, either.



6. Carbon monoxide buildup

in your home can be deadly. This colorless, odorless, tasteless gas results by burning gasoline, wood, propane, charcoal or other fuel. Improperly ventilated appliances and engines, particularly in a tightly sealed or enclosed space, may allow carbon monoxide to accumulate to dangerous levels.

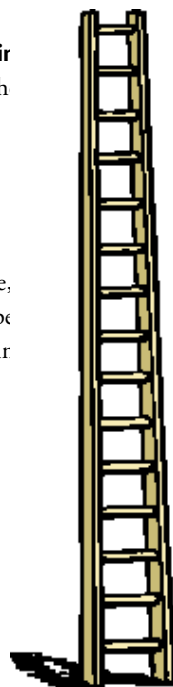


2. Use properly rated extension cords where necessary for outdoor decorating and lighting.

Carefully inspect each electrical decoration before use. Cracked or frayed sockets, loose or bare wires, and loose connections may cause a serious shock or start a fire.

3. Cleaning your gutters or putting up holiday lighting

Make sure you use your ladder safely! Many of the nine million people who are injured nationwide from falling off a ladder get hurt while cleaning gutters. Go to the National Safety Council, keywords: ladder safety.



4. Consider fall risks

by wet leaves and ice/black ice, especially for older adults. Wet leaves create slippery dangerous surfaces without grip that make slipping and falling more likely. Falls can lead to loss of self-confidence, muscle strength and balance.



5. Smoke Alarms

– Follow the annual reminder to change your clocks, change your batteries when you set your clocks during Daylight Savings Time. Consider this potentially life-saving practice as your fall “must-do” list each year.



7. Don't neglect chimney maintenance

– an important safety factor during the winter. Have chimneys cleaned and inspected for problems on an annual basis.



Electrical safety

– surge protectors should not be “piggy-backed.” From power strip overload to excessive cord length, inappropriate use of power strips can produce serious threats, including burns, fires, and shocks. If your power strip feels hot, unplug it.

9. Turkey fryer safety

– Don't be a Thanksgiving statistic or let your flaming turkey be a funny YouTube video. Keep kids and pets away from the fryer at all times. Defrost your turkey completely and keep a grease-rated fire extinguisher close to your work area. (Never use water on a fryer!) Keep the fryer away from your house and trees and keep it off the deck.



Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department will be able to answer your home safety questions.

Use Your Talents to Support Township Volunteer Committees



Open house discussing sidewalks, conducted with help from the Transportation Advisory Committee.

Make next year a year to give back to your community as a township volunteer! Anderson's seven volunteer committees are looking for new members to support activities related to the Anderson Township Senior Center, health and wellness issues, economic development, street trees and more.

Volunteers are being sought for township committees through October 31.

These committees are appointed by township trustees for a specific purpose and have a one-year term:

Anderson Township Senior Center Advisory Committee - ensures the Senior Center continues to foster a creative and intellectually stimulating environment that enhances the lives of Anderson seniors.

WeTHRIVE! Anderson Committee - works to create a healthier Anderson Township, where safety, health and vitality is promoted throughout the community. Topics of interest to the committee include health concerns in Anderson Township such as substance use/abuse, social health, injury prevention, environmental health, emergency preparedness, chronic disease, community art and community involvement.

Economic Development Committee - reviews the township's economic development strategy and makes recommendations to trustees on policy or project decisions regarding the township's business environment.

Tree Committee - promotes and manages healthy, safe, and appropriate trees along streets and on public grounds or roadways and makes recommendations to the township's tree planting program.

Greater Anderson Township Betterment Committee - non-profit organization working behind the scenes to facilitate community-wide improvements and projects.

Transportation Advisory Committee - provides recommendations on transportation matters and projects to trustees and assists with implementation of the Anderson Trails plan.

Two committees operate on a five-year term, with one-year alternates:

Zoning Commission - hears cases that involve modifying the Anderson Township Zoning Map or the Anderson Township Zoning Resolution.

Board of Zoning Appeals - reviews appeals to the township's Zoning Resolution, as well as other development-related applications.

For consideration, send a letter of interest to “Committees,” Anderson Township, Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road, Anderson Township, OH 45230. Via email, send a response to Steve Sievers at ssievers@AndersonTownship.org.

Please explain your interests and provide a brief overview of your experience which would make you a valuable member of the committee.

Public Meetings

The public is invited to participate in public meetings. For current information about the format of all public meetings, go to AndersonTownship.org and check out meeting information.

Board of Township Trustees (Times and dates subject to change with notice)

Interim Meeting: Thursday, Oct. 1, 2 p.m. • **Regular Monthly Meeting:** Thursday, Oct. 15, 5 p.m.

Board of Zoning Appeals
Thursday, Oct. 1, 5:30 p.m.

WeTHRIVE! Anderson Committee
Wednesday, Oct. 21, 6 p.m.

Zoning Commission
Monday, Oct. 26, 5:30 p.m.

Tree Committee
Monday, Nov. 9, 7 p.m.

Transportation Advisory Committee
Tuesday, Nov. 10, 6:30 p.m.

Anderson Township Senior Center Advisory Committee
Thursday, Oct. 15, 2 p.m.
Meets at Anderson Township Senior Center
7970 Beechmont Ave.

Greenspace Advisory
Meets as needed

Economic Development Committee
Tuesday, Nov. 24, 3 p.m.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Love of Gardening Plants More than Vegetables for Senior Center Members

With the Anderson Township Senior Center still shut down and attendees longing to get back together, some members have found there's nothing like growing vegetables to lift one's spirits.

A garden sown in April at the senior center is now bearing fruit. With the help of Zoom meetings and in brief excursions to the center to gather the veggies, senior center friends are growing more than vegetables, they're growing their friendships.

"Gardening is more than just planting as we have found out. We actually are developing a gardening community through the Anderson Township Senior Center vegetable garden," said senior center member George Zabrecky.

Garden plants were selected by a vote with the participants during one of our morning coffee Zoom meetings during the spring. The garden has generated a wide range of discussion and attendees assist other members who may not have broad knowledge about the topic during a "gardening quiz" where "fascinating information is shared about plants," he said.

"Our seniors have a wealth of information about gardening, and given the opportunity, love to share it," said Claire O'Connell, activities



Master gardener and member Diane Anderson helped with the Anderson Township Senior Center garden this summer.



Mary Ann and Walt Feige enjoy produce from the senior center garden.

manager. "In fact, we have even started a recipe book where the recipes generally include produce from the garden."

Member Phyllis Lowe said she has enjoyed the Zoom meetings covering the garden, and members are even kept up-to-date on the growth of the plants via images on the Zoom calls. "So glad it is possible for the center to share their garden through the Zoom application," said Lowe. The produce is shared with members periodically stopping by to pick the veggies.

organization and added new downtown events such as a farmer's market, The Canal Music Festival and HarvestFest.

According to Chamber Board Chair John Meyer, Owen brings a broad set of leadership skills to his new position, including business and economic development expertise, historic preservation, legislation and public policy advocacy, and workforce training and development.

He currently serves on the Southern Ohio Chamber Alliance Board of Directors and is an active member of Chamber of Commerce Executives of Ohio. He's also a Navy veteran and a graduate of the Modern College of Design and Liberty University.

New Director of Anderson Chamber Brings History of Community Leadership



Matt Owen

Matt Owen has been named the new executive director of the Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce, after the departure of Eric Miller earlier this year.

Owen has 20 years of experience in the Chamber sector. He comes to the Anderson Area Chamber from his previous role as director of Fairborn (Ohio) Area Chamber of Commerce.

Starting his career at the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce as director of marketing, Owen has served as Chamber president and downtown director in his hometown of Tipp City, Ohio. He helped spearhead the formation of a countywide young professionals'

Anderson Township Library Association Marks 40 Years of Giving Back

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Anderson Township Library Association (originally known as the Anderson Library Committee).

In the mid-1970s, a small group of library users and parents wrote to the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County asking that a new branch be built in Anderson Township. They believed the Mt. Washington Branch wasn't big enough to serve the growing population of nearby Anderson.

Eventually, the library purchased land at the corner of State and Five Mile roads, but funding hit a snag. Residents of the area were asked to help by raising money and the Anderson Library Committee was formed in 1979.

The committee decided to hold a used book sale. The first book sale was hosted at Beechmont Mall in October 1980, with another sale in early 1981. Letters were sent to business, schools, churches, asking for used books and monetary donations. Donation barrels were set up at the mall, at the Ohio License Bureau, and other spots; book donations also came from committee members' own collections.

The most touching donation was \$7.65 from a class of fourth-grade students at Summit Elementary School. According to an April 17, 1980, Cincinnati Post article, class president Pete Sweeney wrote in a letter, "We are anxious for the Anderson Library to open because we are nuts about books."

The Anderson Library Committee's first sale at the mall was one day and the books filled three card tables. Eager shoppers took home bags of books and \$1,024 was raised. Longtime area residents may even remember



Beechmont Mall served as the site of the Anderson Library Committee used book sale in 1980.

volunteers gift-wrapping books at B. Dalton Bookseller to raise money during the holidays.

Now, it's 40 years later, and the book sales continue, even during a pandemic. (The summer sale was conducted in August this year.)

The Anderson Township Library Association continues to give back to the library and the community with funds that are used for programming, furnishings and resources at the two branches.

Keep track of what's happening with the Anderson Township Library Association, and the Anderson and Mt. Washington branches, by liking the association's Facebook page.

Self-Guided Family Activities, New Rainout Line for Anderson Park District

Looking for something different to do in Anderson's parks? The Anderson Park District now offers self-guided activities for the whole family to enjoy. New COVID-19-friendly outdoor activities include the StoryWalk® program, Photo Scavenger Hunts and the Family Outdoor Adventure Backyard Nature Packet.

The StoryWalk® program that made its debut in August will travel throughout Anderson Parks this fall. Featured stories will be displayed on signs along the trail. Different ages and grade levels will be accommodated through the stories. The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library.

Program updates and new activities can be found at AndersonParks.com or by calling 474-0003. Participants should adhere to COVID-19 health recommendations and guidelines.



New weather status hotline

Anderson Park District has a new weather status hotline called Rainout Line.

This easy-to-use notification system allows users to learn the status of fields, facilities and park district programs and events. Notifications can be received instantly on a variety of platforms and options.

Notifications can be obtained five different ways:

- » Via AndersonParks.com/Weather-Status
- » The Rainout Line website: RainoutLine.com
- » The Rainout Line app
- » Email or text alerts
- » The Hotline number: (513) 443-3003

For question about the new program, call Anderson Parks at 474-0003.

Local Cardboard Recycling Increases as E-Commerce Transactions Rise

From online grocery purchases to home delivery of your favorite gadgets, cardboard boxes are being delivered to doorsteps across America with greater frequency. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the convenience of home delivery of boxed goods has been a lifesaver to many households.

But once your e-commerce item reaches your doorstep, what happens to all that packing material? In Hamilton County, the answer is that some of that cardboard is being recycled, but a higher percentage of it is not.

Michelle Balz, solid waste manager for the Hamilton County Recycling and Solid Waste District, said based on a 2018 audit of what is landfilled and recycled, “We estimate only 32 percent of available residential cardboard is recycled in Hamilton County.”

The concern is that “while residents are receiving more cardboard boxes at home with deliveries, not all of those boxes are recycled because residents do not always know how to prepare cardboard boxes for recycling.” (See sidebar on page 21.)

Over the last decade, Balz said residential cardboard recycling has risen. In 2011, cardboard made up 6.2 percent of the total recycling stream in Hamilton County. (In 2011, Rumpke started reporting cardboard separately from other paper.) In the fourth quarter of 2019, cardboard made up 17.47 percent of the total of recycled items, Balz said. “This trend results from an increase in residential cardboard packaging and a coinciding decrease of some other heavy materials such as newspaper,” she noted.



A NOTE TO RESIDENTS:

If you don't have a “free” recycling bin under Rumpke's program, you can call Rumpke to arrange for this option. A larger “toter” bin is available with your trash hauling services as well as the smaller red recycling bins. For residents without Rumpke service, or communities without curbside pickup, Anderson Township offers a popular free drop-off center at 7954 Beechmont Ave., the largest in southwest Ohio.

Breaking Down Cardboard Recycling Do's and Don'ts

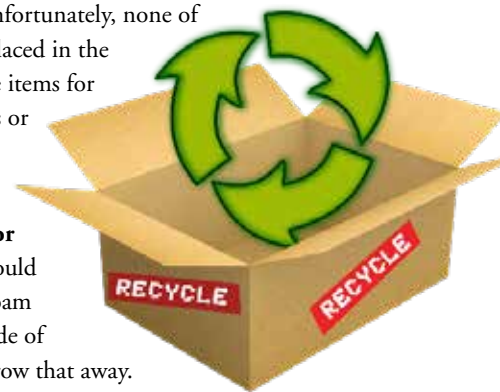
Package deliveries- It is important to note that for some packages that come in the mail, the only packing item that is recyclable is the cardboard box itself. Different kinds of tape, bubble wrap, plastic air bags, cellophane wrapping and foam peanuts keep your items safe during transport, but unfortunately, none of these materials can be placed in the recycling bin. Save these items for your own packing needs or place them in your curbside trash.

Preparing cardboard for recycling- Residents should remove all plastic and foam packaging from the inside of cardboard boxes and throw that away.

Break down the box into a reasonable size and try to fit it in the cart. If it does not fit into the cart, rest the cardboard against the recycling cart far away from the trash can so the driver knows it is meant for recycling, said Michelle Balz with the Hamilton County Recycling and Solid Waste District.

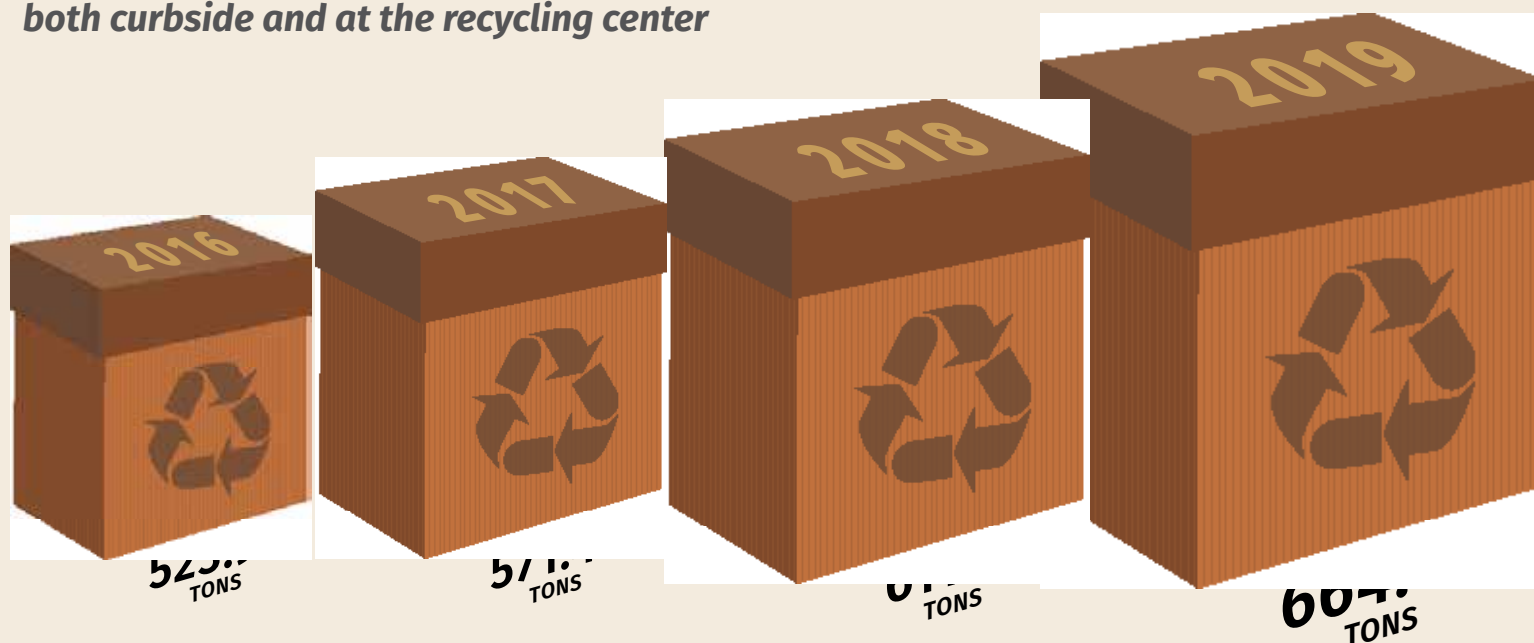
Pizza boxes- Although pizza boxes are recyclable, a greasy or dirty pizza box should not be placed in the recycling bin. Balz notes that Rumpke does not want food or excess grease in pizza boxes. “A good guide for a grease spot on a pizza box is if it is bigger than your hand, tear that part off and throw it away. Food contamination does cause problems with the downstream manufacturers,” she said.

Trustee Andrew Pappas reminds residents that recycling cardboard is an important part of the supply chain and keeps essential products like healthcare, medical and grocery items stocked during a pandemic. “Placing our recyclables such as cardboard boxes in our recycling bins puts us as consumers right in the manufacturing process to keep goods coming as we need them,” he said.



CARDBOARD RECYCLING BY ANDERSON TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS

both curbside and at the recycling center



Information from Rumpke Waste & Recycling

Local Yard Waste Site Takes Your Brush, Leaves

Cleaning your yard before the winter garden hiatus? Anderson Township is home to one of Hamilton County's free yard waste recycling sites. Located at Bzak Landscaping, 3295 Turpin Lane, the site is open seven days a week until its new hours begin on December 7.

Hamilton County residents can recycle brush, leaves, twigs, grass clippings and branches from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays and from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Check HamiltonCountyRecycles.org or call Bzak at 831-0907 for winter hours. Some restrictions apply.

Summer Construction, Expansion Seen in Anderson

Completed Projects

New Construction/Tenants/Expansions

Code Ninjas (Anderson Towne Center – Former Cabinetry by Design)

Marco's Pizza (Five Mile Center-7755 Five Mile)

Vein Center of Cincinnati (Anderson Towne Center – former Cabinetry by Design)

My Eye Dr. (8315 Beechmont Ave.)

City Bird (7893 Beechmont Ave. – former Crazy Bowls & Wraps)

Salem Shell Express Drive-Thru (6685 Salem Road – former Clark Gas Station and former Keegan's Seafood)

Projects in Development

New Construction

Harmony Senior Living (6201 and 6301 Clough Pike) – new assisted living and memory care facility

Stonegate Phase 3 (7911 Stonegate Drive) – new 120-unit apartment community

Clough Chase (7488 Clough Pike) – 15 lot subdivision

Building Modifications/Tenants

Salon Concepts (7181 and 7197 Beechmont Ave.)

TCF Learning Center (7373 Beechmont Ave.)

Anderson Township Family Pet Center (6666 Clough Pike)

Leg Up Equestrian (3730 Mt. Carmel Road)

Inspiring Purpose Adult Day Program (7577 Forest Road – former Kingdom Hall Jehovah's Witness Church)

Tropical Smoothie Café (8467 Beechmont Ave. – former Gold Star)

SEM Manor (1348-1350 Pebble Court)

Inspiring Hearts Learning Academy (8516 Beechmont Ave.)

Kroger (7580 Beechmont Ave.)

Bank of America (7765 Beechmont Ave.)

Simply Power Yoga (Five Mile Center - 7745 Five Mile)



Impressive Local Trees Cited for Beauty

Anderson Township celebrates its trees and tree program in many ways. For 2020, three “Great Trees” were named in a township effort that annually recognizes impressive trees within our borders.

Winners include:



ORNAMENTAL TREE

Goldenrain Tree (*Koelreuteria paniculate*)
Property Owner: Shelby Banks and Jesse Caldwell
Location: 919 Rosetree Lane



EVERGREEN TREE Eastern Red Cedar (*Juniperus Virginiana*)
Property Owner: Anderson Township
Location: 6840 Clough Pike



SHADE TREE Bur Oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*)
Property Owner: Gloria Timberlake
Location: 7249 Lawyer Road

Anderson also continues its work preserving and maintaining the tree canopy through its volunteer Anderson Township Tree Committee. This organization undertakes projects supporting the many roles trees play in enhancing quality of life.

Nominate your favorite tree for the Great Trees Awards for 2021 by sending your suggestions to the Anderson Township Tree Committee c/o pginty@AndersonTownship.org.

If You Love Fall, Plant A Tree Now

Keep Anderson’s tree canopy strong by planting trees to replace those lost to invasive insects or storms. Fall is a great time to plant because tree roots can get established while the tree is dormant over the winter.

Here are a few tips to make the task more effective:

Plant the right tree in the right place. Consider the space where you will plant your tree and understand how big your tree will grow.

Provide a three-foot diameter ring of mulch around trees, but do not mulch against the trunk. Avoid “volcano mulch” on a tree trunk.

A smaller tree will establish itself quicker than a large tree. A smaller tree will have less transplant shock and a higher survival rate. Avoid the temptation to plant the biggest tree you can.

Watering is important for a newly planted tree, especially in the first three years. Water slowly and deeply especially during droughts.

For further information:

Arbor Day Foundation: arborday.org/trees/index-planting.cfm

Ohio Division of Forestry; Ohio Common Trees:
forestry.ohiodnr.gov/trees

Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Gardens:
cincinnati.zoo.org/horticulture/trees-shrubs/

Awards Cite Exceptional Outdoor Spaces

Two places have been named Anderson Beautification Award Winners for 2020.

The WeTHRIVE! Anderson Committee offered awards this year to an outstanding residential design and to a notable commercial property in its annual beautification award program.

Here are the Winners:



7215 Royalgreen Drive-owned by Shannon Schmittauer
 Outstanding Residential Design



Anthology of Anderson Township (6849 Beechmont Ave.)
 Outstanding Commercial Design

Award winners were recognized during a virtual Anderson Township Board of Trustees meeting and winners received a small commemorative property sign for display.

Favorite Fall Activities: What’s Their Status?



As of press time, all township-sponsored activities are cancelled through November.

Those events include Emergency Services Day, the Anderson Towne Center Trick-or-Treat and the annual Veterans Day Celebration.

Regarding Halloween trick-or-treating in neighborhoods, Administrator Vicky Earhart has not yet asked the Board of Trustees to set a day/time for local trick-or-treating due to ongoing health concerns. “I am awaiting further guidance from the governor and Hamilton County Public Health to make a final decision,” she noted.

Check back for Halloween updates on AndersonTownship.org.

Also, check back on updates regarding the annual Anderson Holiday Festival at Anderson Towne Center scheduled for December 5. Information will be posted on AndersonTownship.org once it becomes available.

A Day on the Farm

Celebrate special activities of the harvest and fall season with the second annual Urban Farm Harvest Fair, scheduled from noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 17, at the Anderson Township Urban Farm, 2550 Bartels Road.

The 10-acre farm site, which is in its second year as a community garden center, also will serve as the location of the Anderson Township Historical Society’s annual Fall Country Store, which is normally hosted in September.



Urban Farm Harvest Fair
Saturday, Oct. 17
Noon to 5 p.m.

Enjoy live music, a pumpkin patch, a food truck and educational booths and demonstrations. On hand also will be a variety of local vendors and children’s activities. Admission is free but bring your own lawn chairs. COVID-19 protocols will be in place.

Notes Urban Farm Founding Member Daryl Meyerrenke, “The 10-acre Urban Farm setting is a great place where you can spread out and enjoy a day outside visiting our community garden and educational center on this historic property.”

This year the Urban Farm hosted about 70 community gardens, including a Victory Garden. During the summer, Daniel Creelman, a senior at Turpin High School, built four raised garden beds for an Eagle Scout project. The beds are for urban farmers whose mobility is challenged.

Photos from the 2019 Urban Farm Harvest Fair.
Top right: raised beds built for gardeners with disabilities.





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

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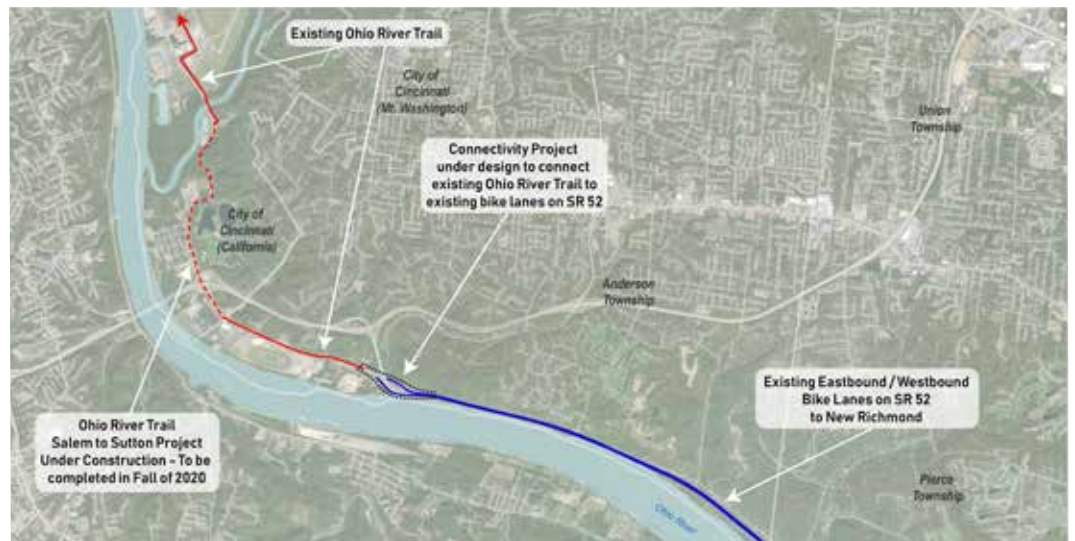
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Ohio River Trail to Be Linked to Kellogg Avenue's New Bike Lanes

Want to ride your bike on a trail all the way to the city? Planned improvements that "create connectivity" could make that possible.



Ohio River Trail improvements will connect downtown with New Richmond.

Anderson Township is working to "create connectivity" along the Ohio River Trail corridor with a link that will connect Kellogg Avenue's new bike lanes to the township's segment of the Ohio River Trail.

A proposal under development will tie the Anderson section of the Ohio River Trail, which ends at Five Mile Road, to the recently striped bike lanes on Kellogg Road/US 52 heading east towards New Richmond. Currently, a gap exists between the two bicycle-designated areas and leads riders to navigate on-ramps for the US 52/I-275 interchange. According to Planner Brad Bowers, the goal is to safely connect these areas.

"With the Ohio River Trail (Salem to Sutton) project soon to be complete, we believe our trails in the Entertainment District will begin to receive increased usership," Bowers said. The Ohio River Trail project

will eventually link Anderson Township with the city of Cincinnati, Lunken Airport Trail and all the way Downtown. In 2022, this link is planned to connect to the Little Miami Scenic Trail at Beechmont Avenue. Anderson's current Ohio River Trail section is about a mile and a half long and runs from Sutton Road to Five Mile Road. It was completed in 2010.

While the Ohio River Trail is not used as heavily as the Five Mile Trail or the Little Miami Scenic Trail, Bowers said he anticipates ridership will increase once a long-discussed connection to Cincinnati is established.

The portion of Ohio River Trail that opened in 2011 was largely funded by federal transportation funds. The township is designing the connectivity project now to position itself with a shovel-ready project which could be eligible for infrastructure funds, should they become available, Bowers said.

ANDERSON TOWNSHIP MISSION STATEMENT

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

**Government Services
 at Anderson Center**
 7850 Five Mile Road
 Anderson Township
 Ohio 45230
 688-8400

info@AndersonTownship.org

**Administration and
 Fiscal Office**

Planning and Zoning

Public Works

Fire and Rescue

**Hamilton County
 Sheriff's Office**

**Anderson Township
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