

ANDERSON Insights

FEBRUARY 2018

The Voice of Anderson Township

Accidents Reduced, Travel Delay Decreased in First Six Months of CFI

Officials say intersection goals met beyond expectations



Intersection of Five Mile and Beechmont

Six months after the opening of the newly configured Beechmont-Five Mile Continuous Flow Intersection, local officials and stakeholders say the project is a winner.

The primary goals of reduced vehicle delay, improved safety and accommodation of pedestrians all have been met, with accidents on track to potentially drop to one third of previous numbers.

“From our viewpoint the biggest success has been in the reduction of traffic accidents,” noted Eric Beck, deputy engineer/field operations at the Hamilton County Engineer’s Office. “While we are still monitoring crash reports, the first six months has shown a significant reduction in crashes. If the current numbers continue for the year, the number of crashes will be a third of what it was prior to construction.”

The project, which spanned more than a decade in planning and implementation, caused some concern for drivers who wondered how the new traffic pattern would work. But Steve Sievers, Anderson’s assistant administrator for operations, said after the first month, questions and comments about the CFI died down as residents used the intersection successfully and as minor adjustments to turning lanes were implemented.

Here’s what data shows about the first six months of operation:

Crash data compiled by the Hamilton County Engineer’s Office and recent reports from the Hamilton County Sheriff’s Office indicated accidents are down, and the average time interval between accidents has increased by 223 percent. Five accidents have been reported at the location in the six-month period, about one every six weeks since it opened in mid-May 2017. By comparison, Sievers noted that in the last 10 years an average of 29 accidents a year occurred at the site, about one every 1.8 weeks.



last **10-year average**
1 accident every
1.8 weeks

last **6 months** of 2017
1 accident every
6 weeks

“There is little indication of the accidents that were reported that the CFI configuration was a contributing factor,” Sievers noted. Like other Continuous Flow Intersections already in use, the potential for the most severe accidents has reduced, he said. This is another benefit of the design as it “reduces the possibility for angled crashes which

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2017 was Busy Year

225th Township Anniversary Celebration to Include Dedication and Historic Banners

Mobile "app" and videos to focus on township's rich heritage

Commemorating Anderson Township's 225th anniversary this year will involve new technology, local outdoor celebrations and historical tours, all tying back to the theme of "Anderson Township: 225 Years in the Making."

A volunteer committee leading the way is formalizing several events, online historical narratives and working through the creation of a possible photo project to document Anderson's present-day history. Additionally, a historic banner project of more than 100 images will share interesting tidbits from Anderson's timeline across the community.

Although specific dates are not yet available, and all plans are not complete, here's what is scheduled so far:

Anderson Township and community partners will host a special event at the Greenfield Plant Farm site where there will be refreshments and entertainment at the dedication of the Ohio Historical Marker awarded to the James Clark Stone House.

Organizers plan to highlight historic spots in the township via a free public tour planned for fall.

The committee is also working to create a historical "mobile app" to allow for independent tours in a go-at-your-own pace experience.

A series of notable narratives of people and places important to the history of Anderson Township will be posted on the township's YouTube Channel and produced by Anderson Township Community Television (ACTV).

Trustee Dee Stone noted, "We are grateful for this opportunity to reflect and celebrate all the great things about our township and remember its rich history during our 225th celebration," she said. "As one of the earlier townships in Ohio, it is important to remember our past as we plan for our future."

ANDERSON TOWNSHIP

225 YEARS



First CG&P Locomotive 1897

An example of more than 100 historic banners to be displayed around Anderson

Township, Wilson Elementary Collaborate on Safety

Pedestrian flag program planned for two school area crosswalks

It soon could be safer to walk or ride to Wilson Elementary School. Anderson Township and Wilson Elementary plan to roll out a new flag program aimed at making two crosswalks on Little Dry Run Road more secure for pedestrians.

The new program uses brightly colored flags to signal drivers and raise their awareness about people in the crosswalks. Walkers and bike riders pick up orange flags on one side of the street as they ready to walk, and alert drivers of their intent to cross. Once they reach the other side, they return the flags to their holder.

The new crosswalk program is part of a 10-year joint effort aimed at improving physical change at this and other crosswalks and educating students, parents, and motorists at the targeted intersections. This intersection upgrade also included assistance from Hamilton County.

Another initiative focusing on encouraging children to walk or ride to school, called "Walk/Bike to School Days," has been extremely popular and "we have seen a much greater receptivity from parents having their children walk to school," said Wilson Principal Bob Buck, who also serves on the township's volunteer Transportation Advisory Committee.

"We have had a steady increase in students walking and bicycling to school; however, the two crossings of Little Dry Run continue to be a concern in our community and are a barrier to even more students walking or bicycling to school," Buck noted.

Township and school leaders hope the new trial flag program will help address this concern. The Wilson Parent Teacher Association recently awarded a grant to the school administration

to purchase flags, holders and signage for the pilot program. Anderson Township will install the equipment and prepare the educational materials to be disseminated in both print and electronic forms at the area and in the community.

"This is a win-win opportunity to improve awareness, safety, and education on crosswalk crossings, in our school community and in the broader community as well," noted Buck.

Recent safety improvement efforts have included new sidewalks in this area, realigning the Little Dry Run and Wolfangel crosswalk, and expanding the school zone east of Wilson. Both crosswalks will be used for the trial flag program.

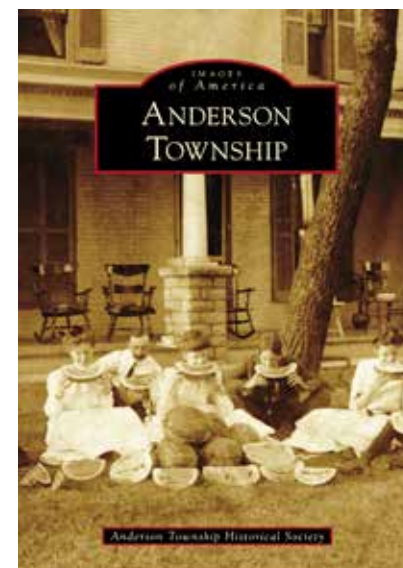
"This effort is twofold," said Assistant Administrator for Operations Steve Sievers. "It builds on the physical improvements that have been made here, and seeks to raise awareness of the increased numbers of walkers and bike riders using the Anderson Trails network near Wilson Elementary." Anderson Township also plans to educate trail users and motorists regarding crosswalk rules and safety.

The township's 2007 Safe Routes to School Plan and resulting state grant have fostered numerous safety improvements near all nine Forest Hills Schools buildings.



New Anderson Photographic History Book Now Available

What did Anderson Township look like 100 years ago?



If that question whets your curiosity, a pictorial history of those bygone days of Anderson is now available for you to purchase.

The book "Anderson Township," by the Anderson Township Historical Society, became available to the public this month. This Arcadia Publishing book is part of the history-based "Images of America" series, with photos and text selected from the extensive collections of the

society by longtime Anderson resident Janet Heywood, the society research chair. The book was released as the society commemorates its 50th anniversary this year and the township celebrates its 225th anniversary.

"Anderson Township" touches on local families, historic places, farms, businesses, daily life and more through about the 1930s.

How to Order or Buy a Book

Copies are available for \$21.99 on the Arcadia website: www.arcadiapublishing.com.

The Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce sells copies of the book for \$20 inside Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays.

The Anderson Township Historical Society sells the books for \$20 at the Anderson Township History Room. Hours are Sunday and Wednesday 1 to 4 p.m., and on Tuesday 6-8:30 p.m.



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Board members
welcome your calls!

Proposals Sought for Anderson Center Station Redevelopment

As interest in center of the community grows, township officials seek to tap interest by assessing mixed use options for very visible site



Anderson Center Station



Aerial view of Anderson Center Station

Anderson's centrally-located park and ride, a 5.6-acre site including the Anderson Center Station on Five Mile Road, could be changing to meet local demand for more mixed-use development locations.

Anderson Township officials are putting out feelers to see who might be interested in redeveloping the highly visible site into a development that will retain the township's park and ride facility, while adding something new. That new element to be added is what officials are calling a project they hope will bring "economic vitality" to that burgeoning area.

"We have witnessed an unparalleled level of private interest in development opportunities around the Beechmont and Five Mile intersection," said Anderson Township Trustee President Josh Gerth.

"We see the Anderson Center Station as an opportunity to both tap this demand with a

mixed-use development that capitalizes on its prime location along Five Mile in the center of our community."

The area's influx of some \$165 million in public and private investment in recent years has ushered in medical and professional offices, restaurants, health services and more into what had traditionally been a retail area. Within the last four years, key public infrastructure has been upgraded along Five Mile Road.

"Recent changes are instilling a long missing sense of vibrancy and economic vitality to this center of the community," said Gerth.

What has resulted is a "densification" of the area, a trend seen in other strong suburban markets across the country, he noted.

Township officials have worked with METRO, the Ohio Department of Transportation and other agencies in their request for development proposals.

The township's initial Comprehensive Plan, prepared in 2005, and updated in 2011 and 2016, all tapped significant public ideas and advocated for additional development on and around the Anderson Towne Center site, the center of the community. This helped lay the foundation for much of the recent development that has occurred, noted Steve Sievers, the assistant administrator for operations.

Even prior to construction of the current park and ride in 2005, township officials believed a parking structure or public-private mixed use of that site, incorporating park and ride spaces to meet project demand, would ultimately be a key puzzle piece

to realizing a vision of a vital multi-faceted center of the community, Sievers added.

"With the development activity we are seeing in this area, the board feels the time is right to act now and test the waters to see what may be possible," Gerth noted.

The township is seeking proposals before April 2, 2018; then staff and the trustees will review the submittals and determine next steps.

"Public comment and review of the opportunities will be a critical part to the next steps in this process," Sievers added.

"... the time is right to act now and test the waters to see what may be possible."

Trustee President Josh Gerth

Ohio River Trail Connection Back on Track-Thanks to Partners

Unexpected funding gap almost derails trail project discussed for more than 20 years

A long-planned connection in a bike trail linking Hamilton and Clermont counties looked like it hit a brick wall last September.

For a short time, it appeared a 2.2-mile Cincinnati portion of the 16-mile Ohio River Trail project, the proposed bike trail from the Lunken Airport Bike Trail through Anderson to New Richmond, was going to fade away from lack of a \$923,000 funding match that was due by the end of the year.

Today, however, the trail plan is back on track. It's moving towards construction in 2019, thanks to several communities and organizations that came together to fill a funding gap.

Anderson's Trustee President Josh Gerth noted, "Having this project come together is perhaps one of the greatest examples of government working together to solve a problem and meet the needs of its constituents," said Trustee President Josh Gerth.

Last fall, the city of Cincinnati announced that due to its inability to meet its matching grant, it was going to return \$3 million in federal grant money for the project that was allocated in 2010. City officials said their bike trail monies were needed elsewhere and this project, although in the works for years and just about "shovel ready," was to be shelved.

Anderson had already completed its adjoining 1.4-mile link in the 13-mile trail in 2011, a path running along Kellogg Avenue to the east. To the west, the city of Cincinnati completed a trail extension from



Proposed Ohio River Trail link in red



Existing Ohio River Trail link east of Sutton Road

Lunken Airport, along Kellogg Road over the Little Miami River to Salem Road, a few years later.

"Without the planned extension from the Lunken Bike Trail to hook up with Anderson's link, this important regional trail connecting eastern Hamilton County and Clermont County to the city of Cincinnati would be stalled for years," said Planner Tom Caruso, who has worked on transportation issues for Anderson for two decades. "If these funds were returned, they would be lost to the region for good," he added.

"Due to the unique nature of the city of Cincinnati's corporation line, this link, though in the city limits, connects two regional trails in Anderson Township, as well as the city's planned Oasis Trail and Great Parks of Hamilton County's Armlerder Park Trail. Thus, it's a critical component of our Anderson Trails planning efforts," Caruso said.

After working with other government and private entities in the region this past fall, Cincinnati ultimately committed \$425,000 back to completing this work, noted Steve Sievers, assistant administrator for operations. These funds were joined with \$300,000 from the Hamilton County Transportation Improvement District, \$100,000 in Riverfront TIF funds from Anderson and \$100,000 from Interact for Health, the regional non-profit dedicated to health improvement projects. Tri-State Trails, a trail advocacy group working with private and public entities in nine Cincinnati area counties, also lent its expertise in promoting this trail to county and city leaders to move the project forward, Caruso noted.

"This outcome is a huge win for not only the city of Cincinnati and Anderson Township, but the region and state," Sievers said. "It's a tremendous infrastructure investment and example of collaboration at its best," he added. "This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to make this key connection in the statewide Ohio to Erie trail."

HISTORY

Historic Places Serve as Markers to the Township's Past

A drive through the township reveals still-standing structures

As Anderson Township celebrates its 225th anniversary, historic places around Anderson serve as reminders of the area's past.

It's not so hard to be aware of details from long ago when traveling through the township. When driving along Clough Pike, try to imagine you are one of the chain carriers helping surveyor Ichabod Benton Miller lay out the roadway along the creek in 1805. At the corner of Clough Pike and Bartels Road, you can admire the log house Miller built on 440 acres of land he bought in 1796.

James Clark and his family arrived in Anderson in 1797; about five years later he built the impressive stone house you see along Clough at the corner of today's Hunley Road. Clough Valley was a fertile area; local family farms flourished in the 1800s. In 1874 a two-story district school was built on Clough Pike across from today's Berkshire Road.

After the Anderson district schools were consolidated in 1929, this school building was used by American Legion Post 484. In 1943, enterprising Flora C. Hess (1892-1986) bought the building and opened the Mt. Washington Tavern that she managed for 40 years. Since 1997, the building has been the location of the popular Clough Crossings restaurant.

More than two centuries ago, James Belvel (also spelled Bellville) bought 100 acres at the corner of Eight Mile and Forest roads. In

the 1820s he built the core of the house that is today's Anderson Township Heritage Center. Families can now rent this township property for their own events and celebrations.

At the Salem Community Church on the corner of the Salem and Sutton, the Ohio Historical Marker erected in 1969 recognizes the accomplishments of Francis McCormick (1764-1836). He established Methodist churches in the wilderness of southwest Ohio, first at Milford and then at the village of Salem that he founded in Anderson in 1805. The Salem Methodist Church complex was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1982.

When you drive along Five Mile Road, remember that settlers in the early 1800s cleared the hillsides to establish farm fields, grazing land and vineyards. In 1844, Jacob Markley donated property on Five Mile for the first United Brethren in Christ Church in southeastern Hamilton County. The building stones came from the nearby creek and hillsides. A bell tower and entrance were added in 1896. The Five Mile Chapel and cemetery were entered in the National Register of Historic Places in 1978.

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



A vintage photograph shows youngsters arriving at the Clough District School in about 1910. Today it is the restaurant Clough Crossings.



From 1943 to 1983, Flora C. Hess operated the Mt. Washington Tavern at the former school building at 6892 Clough. Photograph by Stephen Smalley, March 1968.



The Clark Stone House at the corner of Clough Pike and Hunley Road, seen in this 1971 image, will be the site of a celebration later this year when its Ohio Historic Marker is installed.



Salem Methodist churchyard. Photograph, 1959. Salem Community Church today offers services in the expanded church building at 6137 Salem Road.



Today's Anderson Township Heritage Center at Eight Mile and Forest, photographed 50 years ago by Stephen Smalley.



The Miller-Leuser Log House, 6540 Clough Pike, is owned by the Anderson Township Historical Society. Tours are offered in May through October and at special events. The Log House was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1974 and awarded an Ohio Historical Marker in 2010. Photograph, 1926.



In this early 1900s photograph, the hills above Five Mile Chapel were open fields. Today the property at 6975 Five Mile Road is owned by the non-profit Five Mile Chapel Society which rents the chapel for services.



New Markers Warn Drivers of High Water in Potential Flood Areas

Signs posted at key locations provide reminder: Don't drive through high water

Hamilton County recently installed eight signs with measurements that allow drivers to see how high the water has risen. Some past flood-prone locations in the township that have new markers include Debolt Road at Clear Creek, several locations on Eight Mile Road, Sutton Road at Two Mile, one on Four Mile Road, and on Berkshire Road between Maddux Drive and Clough Pike.



Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Chief Mark Ober noted that residents should follow the "Turn Around, Don't Drown" admonition when confronted with high water on roadways.

"People are not as cautious as they could be when it comes to high water," he said. "We want to alert our residents to the dangers out there. When it comes to high water, you can't see how deep it is and you can't always know what is in the water," he said. "This is even a greater concern in flash floods from storm events, with brisk moving water, and these situations do not afford time to advise motorists or erect signs."

Traffic Engineer Jeff Newby with the Hamilton County Engineer's Office noted depth gauges also will assist to determine if an emergency vehicle is able to drive through that section of roadway that is covered by water. "As a reminder, no vehicle should drive on a roadway that is covered by water, no matter what the depth."

More deaths occur due to flooding than from any other severe weather-related hazard, Ober noted and over half of all flood-related drownings occur when a vehicle is driven into hazardous flood waters. "People continually underestimate the force and depth of floodwaters," he said.

In Anderson Township in the past 15 years, there have been 22 rescues on roadways due to high water.

The cooperative effort between the township and the Hamilton County Engineer's Office comes after a relatively new statute went into effect prohibiting the operation of a motor vehicle on or onto any location that is temporarily covered by a rise in water level. The statute allows for an up to \$2,000 fine to be levied against a motorist driving through a marked flooded area.



Eight Mile Road has multiple high water signs warning of potential flooding.

Anderson's 2017 By the Numbers Depicts Progress



New electricity aggregation program implemented



Helped organize and fund link for Ohio River Trail from Salem to Sutton



Anderson Township Senior Center trips and program attendance increased **12%** since 2016



Households with Rumpke curbside recycling increased **21%** since 2016



Completed the Beechmont and Five Mile Continuous Flow Intersection and beautification efforts

Public Works

1,742 events



hosted in township venues



\$165 million in public and private investment in the Center of the Community

Hamilton County Sheriff's Office

16,494 calls for service

up **3%** from 2016

1,857 Vacation Checks
2,016 School Checks

Planning and Zoning

processed more than **656** zoning certificates



93 trees planted on private property

Nearly **100** trees planted on roadways, parks

Fire and Rescue

5,334 calls for service

2,900 inspections



Resolved **314** zoning or property maintenance complaints

Township Government Form, Evolved Over 200 Years

Structure gives communities authority over residents' basic needs, plus a measure of self-government

Anderson celebrates its 225th anniversary as a township this year, with a government whose functions and services have evolved over time.

Township government was brought to the New World by the Pilgrim Fathers in 1620, with the township governmental entity predating our state government. Townships are not found in every state but are in 20 states, known either as a town or township.

In Ohio, a township's size and shape were determined by the Congressional Acts, which established the various land grants. Support of religious institutions and land used for schools was set aside in certain sections within each of the Ohio land grants. From the early 1800s, township elected officials consisted of three trustees, a clerk, two overseers of the poor and highway supervisors. Also found within the township form of government historically were justices of the peace and constables. Today, as in the early 1800s, the township is a political subdivision of the state.

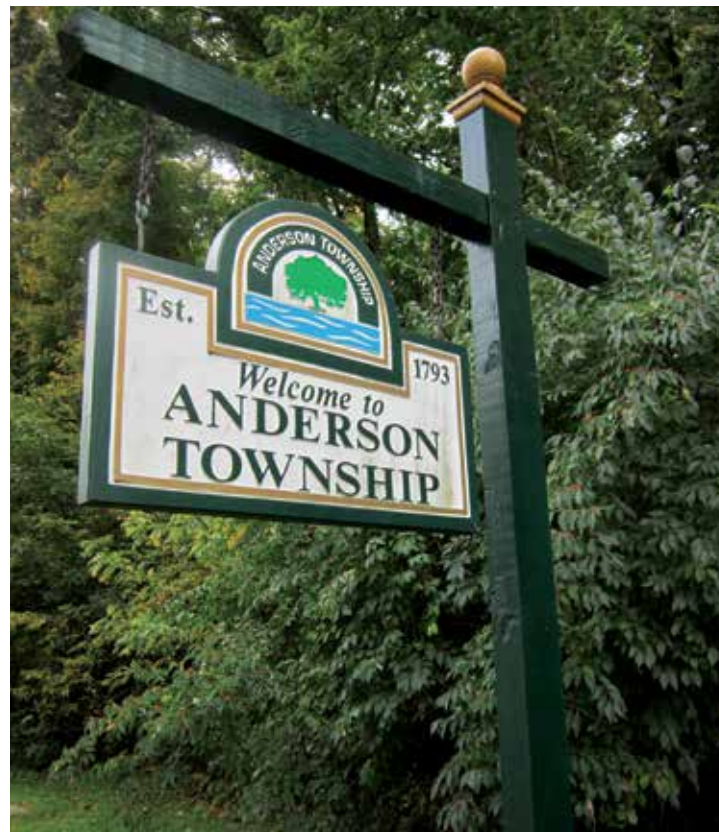
While this basic form of government continues in 1,308 areas of Ohio, Township government operates in a variety of realms, not limited to only roads, peacekeeping and social care, under the direction of three trustees and a clerk or fiscal officer. Functions provided through a township today include road maintenance, police and fire protection, parks and recreation, zoning, waste disposal and cemeteries.

Elected officials work part-time and remain close to the community, offering more personal service than any other unit of government.

Anderson also has an additional designation, that of being an "Ohio Limited Home Rule" township which gives it broader authority to exercise self-government, and to enforce civil fines. (In general, according to the Ohio Township Association, townships do not possess broad police powers or the ability to provide for public health.) According to Administrator Vicky Earhart, Anderson's designation as a Limited Home Rule township has allowed the

community to have more control over its own destiny in the last 15 years.

Trustee President Josh Gerth noted, "A limited form of government allows us as trustees to concentrate on the most important priorities and basic needs of our residents. Things such as safety and roads therefore take priority," he noted. "However, it also frees up elected officials to spend time being proactive on important subjects like community outreach and economic development."



Residents Can Review Trails Plan Update



Anderson residents are invited to review an update of the Anderson Trails Plan at an open house set for 4:30 -6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 22 at Anderson Center.

Every five years the award-winning Anderson Trails Plan undergoes revision with suggested links that will further connect township residents to neighborhoods and destinations in the community.

Residents are invited to comment on new sidewalk and berm segments that are scheduled for inclusion in the 2018 Trails Plan. Contact Planner Tom Caruso at 688-8400 or email him at tcarus@AndersonTownship.org for questions or comments.

New Planner I for Anderson Township



Brad Bowers

Brad Bowers is the newest addition to the Anderson Township Planning and Zoning Department. He was hired in late November as a Planner I after graduating in August from the University of Cincinnati with a bachelor's degree in urban planning. Bowers, of Pickerington, Ohio, was previously a co-op for the township in the spring and fall of 2016.

Red Plum Opt-Out Notification

Anderson residents who do not wish to receive the Red Plum advertising circular may opt-out by going to this website: <https://www.redplum.com/tools/direct-mail-preferences>. Simply submit a request on the website to be removed from the Red Plum mailer.

A Big Thanks from Anderson Township

Many residents have stopped by the township offices in recent weeks to offer gift cards or donations to our emergency service providers or employees as thank you gifts.

Your efforts are appreciated. However, under Ohio law and the Anderson Township Ethics Policy, township employees cannot accept money, gift cards, alcoholic beverages or similar items.

Nominal gifts such as fruit baskets may be accepted.

Thinking Spring Garden Plans? Garden Tour Seeks Participants

Already starting to think about your spring garden? If you are anticipating a beautiful oasis of blooms this year, the Anderson Garden Tour would appreciate your help! Gardens both large and small are invited to participate in the 12th annual Anderson Township Garden Tour, set for 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, June 3.

For questions or to learn more or about showcasing your garden/home, contact Sarah Donovan at sdonovan@AndersonTownship.org or 688-8400.



Don't Trash Your Batteries- Recycle Them

Most Anderson residents know not to put batteries in the recycling bin or in their regular trash bin. But where to recycle them that won't require a trip across town is another question.

The Hamilton County Recycling and Solid Waste District has compiled a helpful battery disposal guide, listing area businesses that accept all kinds of batteries (and some even take light bulbs, too). In Anderson Township, residents can recycle their batteries at Batteries Plus Bulbs, 7850 Beechmont Ave,

Some recyclers may charge a small fee per pound to take the items. Please note, before recycling batteries, seal them in bags or tape the terminals before dropping them off at a participating retailer or business.

Check out other retailers or businesses that recycle batteries at www.hamiltoncountyrecycles.org.



Responsibilities of Anderson Township



Operates Its **Own Fire and Rescue Department** with Paramedics Capable of Delivering Advanced Life Support

Contracts with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office for **Policing Services**

Maintains Four Cemeteries

Has Responsibility for **Maintaining and Clearing Over 120 Miles of Roadway**

Operates a **Greenspace Program**, the First in the State of Ohio

Operates a Planning and Zoning Department that Manages **Development, Plans for the Future, and Supports Nine Citizen Committees**

Owns and Administers the **Anderson Township Senior Center**

Hosts Numerous **Community Events**

Provides **Four Venues** Open to the Public as Rental Space

Employs A Township Administrator and Professional Staff to Plan, Coordinate and Implement Township Goals

Lead Pipes- Does Your Home Have Them?

Greater Cincinnati Water Works Program works with homeowners to eliminate lead's threat

It is estimated that some 150 homes and businesses in Anderson Township have lead water lines. Is your home or business one of them?

A Greater Cincinnati Water Works initiative is targeted at reducing the potential lead impacts to our community's drinking water. This multi-faceted program includes free lead testing, an interactive lead awareness map and infrastructure improvements to ultimately remove public and private lead service lines.

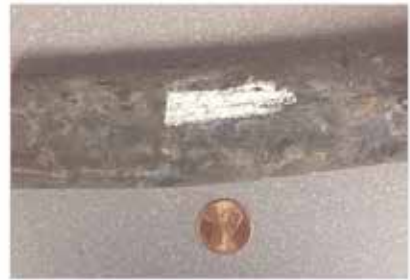
This effort has initially been targeted toward communities with an older housing stock (for lead lines were common up until the late 1920s). Lead can be harmful, especially for young children and pregnant women. It can interfere with brain/nervous system development and cause health issues from ingestion or inhalation.

Do you know status of pipes at your home or business? The Greater Cincinnati Water Works website can help you determine the service line material in your home or business.

The lead awareness site Lead.myGCWW.org is a helpful source for information about all aspects of the lead issue. It offers an interactive lead map to help you identify your service line material, lead test kit request, sample results from lead testing in schools and frequently asked questions and answers.

If property owners wish to replace the privately-owned portion of the lead service on their property, the water works will replace the public portion of the lead service line. For more information about the program, contact them at the Greater Cincinnati Water Works Lead Line at 651-LEAD (651-5323).

Once a test area is identified, test the service line to determine the material



Lead

If the scratched area is shiny and silver, your service line is lead. A magnet will not stick to lead.



Copper

If the scratched area is copper in color like a penny, your service line is copper. A magnet will not stick to copper.



Galvanized Steel

If the scratched area remains a dull gray, your service line is galvanized steel. A magnet will stick to this pipe.

Project List Still Growing in Business Community

Here are the latest completed or ongoing development projects around town

Projects Recently Completed or Under Construction

- TriHealth Surgery Center (7794 Five Mile) – Addition and parking garage
- Forest Hills School District – Wilson Elementary School (2465 Little Dry Run)
- Anderson Towne Center (Beechmont and Five Mile) – Skyzone, Bentley's Pet Stuff, Kay Jewelers, Starbucks, Verizon
- Shoppes at Anderson Towne Center (Beechmont and Wolfangel)
- Forest Hills Care Center Expansion (8700 Moran Drive)

New Quint Ready for Township Emergency Response

This vehicle uses a water tank and a pump to assist in firefighting

Anderson Township Fire and Rescue recently took delivery of a new "quint," a fire service vehicle with both an aerial ladder and a water tank.

"The 'quint' is a combination of a 'truck' (trucks historically are ladder units that do not carry water or pumps) and an 'engine,'" noted Fire Chief Mark Ober. "The quint has the tactical advantages of both vehicles, but through the purchase of one apparatus as opposed to two," Ober said.

A quint has both a water tank and a pump. Its ladder, which extends to 110 feet, can reach the highest structures in the township and provide water to those heights for firefighting, as well as rescues, Ober said. This vehicle operates on a typical truck frame which makes it more maneuverable and allows it to operate within the township's narrow and twisting streets and subdivisions.

"All of our personnel are medics," Ober noted, "and it will operate as a medic apparatus providing care until a medic unit is on scene for transport." Specialized rescue equipment not available on other vehicles is carried on this vehicle.

"It carries water as well as a pump, so it can supply its own elevated waterway as well as the different hose carriers it has onboard," he said.

The quint is stationed at the Hunley Fire Station, Station 101.



CFI Success (continued from page 1)

result in serious injuries," he said. Travel delay reduction was measured by TEC Engineering, a consulting engineering group, in recent weeks, with a reduction in average delay for the intersection during the **morning rush hour of 57.8 percent.** (Comparisons were drawn between 2004 conditions and 2017.) For the **evening rush hour**, the average delay per vehicle was reduced by 44.7 seconds, or **60.7 percent.** The largest improvement was noted in the eastbound Beechmont traffic during the evening rush hour.

Pedestrian access, another goal for the project, has increased, with crossing sequences now in place that do not conflict with automobile traffic. "Recently built and upcoming sidewalks on the south side of Beechmont connecting nearby neighborhoods will only make access more possible," Sievers noted. Today, many walkers, runners, wheelchair users and pedestrians with strollers have safely used the intersection, travelling from refuge island to refuge island,

Rush Hour Delay Decreases



↓ **57.8%**

↓ **60.7%**

with "no impact on traffic flow," he said.

Trustee President Josh Gerth acknowledged the driver changes necessary to maneuver the intersection might have been awkward at first. However, "the residents of Anderson Township and those who travel through here will hopefully be elated with the news of its success... Not only is the intersection logistically working but it is also dramatically decreasing the accident rate and therefore quickly becoming yet another positive beacon for our community."

"The continuous flow intersection was a unique solution that is helping to move traffic on SR 125 (Beechmont Avenue) more efficiently," said ODOT District 8 Spokesman Brian Cunningham.

"You can't argue with the numbers," noted Township Trustee Vice President Andrew Pappas. "While under construction it was a topic of much discussion, but in the end, it was designed to make this critical intersection safer and flow more smoothly. The proof is in the pudding."

What to Know About Snow

As a reminder, here are the hazardous road classifications as determined by the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office:

LEVEL 1: Roadways are hazardous with blowing and drifting snow. Roads may also be icy. Motorists are urged to drive very cautiously.

LEVEL 2: 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. Contact your employer to see if you should report to work. Motorists should use extreme caution.

LEVEL 3: All roadways are closed to non-emergency personnel. No one should be driving during these conditions unless it is absolutely necessary to travel, or a personal emergency exists. All employees should contact their employer to see if they should report to work. Those traveling on the roads may subject themselves to arrest.

Be Smart About Winter Weather Conditions

Winter Weather Watch: A winter storm is possible in your area. Follow local officials and media for tips and updates.

Winter Weather Advisory: Conditions are expected to cause major delays and may be hazardous. Use caution.

Winter Weather Warning: A winter storm is occurring or will occur soon in your area.



Even in Winter, Township's Greenspace a Beautiful Sight



Even in winter, protected Greenspace in Anderson Township's natural areas gives beautiful wintery buffers between our neighborhoods and gives wildlife a neighborhood of their own.

Greenspace provides vital food and shelter during Ohio's cold winter months for wild neighbors as unusual as a beaver or as common as a Cardinal. The new Greenspace property at Eight Mile and Hopper roads protects a habitat favored by Wild Turkey and other woodland-loving birds like impressive Pileated Woodpeckers and tiny Brown Creepers.

Without the glitter of snow or ice, winter Greenspace can look rather bleak at a glance; but by the first week in February, a closer look reveals that spring begins early in the woods and fields around Anderson Township.

Salamanders are on the move, Great Horned Owls are nesting, and spring bird migration begins, bringing Woodcocks back to perform their entertaining courtship flights high over our fields. By late February, Hepatica and Harbinger-of-Spring are often already in bloom. Make time to look for the first signs of spring hidden under February's winter shimmer.



Tree Planting Program Finishes Up Year with 93 New Trees

Anderson Township's 2017 street tree planting program concluded with the planting of 93 trees. The Street Tree Committee oversaw the program in which residents that live on streets included in the township's road maintenance cycle (resurfacing, curb repair, sidewalk repair, or new sidewalks) are offered a tree at no cost.

The trees are generally planted on private property to minimize conflicts with utilities, sidewalks, and limited area.

Natorps, contracted by the township, planted eight species of trees as part of Anderson's effort to diversify and increase the tree canopy.

New trees also were planted in Johnson Hills Park, Eight Mile/Woodruff Greenspace, and in conjunction with capital improvements such as the Continuous Flow Intersection. Through the collaboration of volunteers, non-profit groups, and township programs/projects, more than 200 trees were planted in 2017.



Anderson Township has been named a Tree City USA community eight years in a row. To continue that recognition, the volunteer Street Tree Committee promotes policies and projects that support Anderson's community forestry program.



40 Years Ago, Scout Troop Created Symbolic Township Flag

Early families, pioneer heritage recognized in original design



A Boy Scout project, largely forgotten from 40 years ago, still proudly stands in Anderson Township's History Room at Anderson Center.

The first Anderson Township flag, designed by Boy Scout Troop 476 in 1977, includes the names of four early families who settled in Anderson, the outline of the original boundaries of the township, a log cabin, a paddle wheel boat, and stars for

Newtown, Mt. Washington and California. Corn, squash and tomatoes were included in the design, representing the farming community and a buckeye symbol represented the state of Ohio.

According to articles in the *Forest Hills Journal* and in the October 1977 issue of *Boys' Life*, a magazine published monthly by the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 476 Scouts started their project to design and create the first Anderson Township flag in May 1976. Each Scout created one original design for the flag; the troop voted on the best designs and combined the three top designs to create the flag.

Historical information on the flag design was then authenticated by local historian Stephen Smalley. The troop raised the \$1,600 necessary to have two flags made with seven colors, one for the troop and one to be presented to the township. Decals of the design were sold as a fundraiser, printed in red and blue and sold door-to-door to raise the money.

On May 29, 1977, senior patrol leader Don Miller presented the completed Anderson Township flag to community officials at the Recreation Festival at the Beechmont Fire House. The flag, still in excellent condition, is on display in the Anderson Township History Room in Anderson Center.



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Resolve This Year to Use Your Library More

Libraries are great portals for accessing books, movies and music, but did you know there's so much more to them? Make a resolution this year to come into the Anderson Branch Library to discover everything offered to card holders.

Besides plenty of events to educate and entertain kids, did you know there is homework help available via the library? The library's webpage "Homework HelpNow" offers a variety of online services and resources for students at all levels.

Card holders also can access government and genealogy databases online. Whether creating a family tree or if you have a need to access government agencies, the resources page can help you out.

If going online seems too daunting, librarians are available for one-on-one sessions to assist through the "My Librarian" service. Additionally, the library now offers curbside service. Just call ahead and a librarian will check out your materials and deliver them to you at your car.

It all starts with coming in to get your library card. Apply in person or by phone if you're unable to come to the branch.

For more information, visit CincinnatiLibrary.org/account/getacard.html, or call 369-6030 and select option 2.



How Will You Be Notified of an Emergency?

Knowing how you will be notified of an emergency or a disaster before it happens is key to keep you and your family members safe.

Consider having more than one method of receiving alerts and warnings, including a NOAA Weather Radio, weather app, as well as local media and trusted social media accounts.

The most reliable way to receive weather alerts and warnings is to invest in a NOAA weather radio, which can be purchased online and at most hardware stores.

Do you rely on the Outdoor Warning Sirens to alert you about tornado warnings? Because the sirens remain outdoors, they are constantly exposed to the elements and other hazards that may cause them to malfunction.

Outdoor warning sirens are intended to alert people who may be outside, to take shelter indoors and seek additional information. Sirens should not be relied upon to provide sufficient warning indoors



NOAA Weather Radio

or in noisy areas. Ensure that you can receive weather alerts by obtaining a NOAA weather radio, turning in to the local media, enabling your phone's wireless emergency alerts or downloading an app-such as the Hamilton County EMHSA app, available on the iTunes App Store and the Google Play Store. To find this app, search for "Hamilton County EMA."

This app has a multitude of safety tips to help you and your family prepare for threats that may impact your community. It also sends weather alerts for the county.

Check the traffic and weather features of the app so you are prepared for your day: Coming soon: NOAA Weather Radio features.

Information supplied by the Hamilton County Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency.

Cincinnati Zoo Wings of Wonder Visits RecPlex



Encounter colorful birds from around the world with a visit to the Anderson Parks RecPlex from the Cincinnati Zoo's traveling bird experience. Learn about penguins, parrots and other exotic birds and see them up close and personal. Enjoy an educational and entertaining encounter with these special feathered friends!

All ages are welcome to attend this event hosted by the Anderson Park District on Friday, Feb. 23, 10-10:40 a.m. Space is limited, and advanced registration is required. Cost is \$3 per resident, \$8 per non-resident. For additional information, visit AndersonParks.com.

Cincinnati Area Senior Services Wins State Award

The social services organization that works with the Anderson Township Senior Center to provide amenities for the area's seniors has won a state award.

CASS, Cincinnati Area Senior Services, recently won the AAA Partnership of the Year Award for the Ohio Association of Area Agencies on Aging. The honor was given for its contributions, cooperation and innovative approaches used to improve elder services and the lives of older adults.

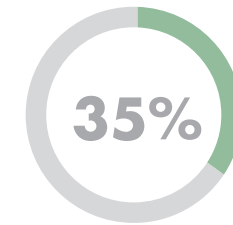
CASS can be found delivering meals and providing transportation, guardianship and financial case management services to thousands of seniors throughout Hamilton County. Operating for five decades, the agency was an instrumental partner in the transition as the operations of the Anderson Township Senior Center were assumed by the township in 2016.

Anderson's Senior Center, 7970 Beechmont Ave., uses the services of CASS to provide congregate meals for its members, home-delivered meals to those who need them, transportation services and social and recreational programming. CASS is the only contracted provider in the area that also maintains both an active Guardianship Assistance Program and Financial Case Management program, aimed at protecting vulnerable and isolated seniors.



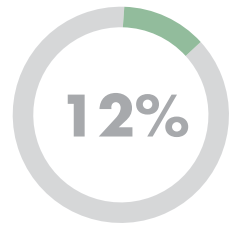
Anderson Township Senior Center

Meals served increased



2016 - 2017

Trips and programs increased



2016 - 2017

Seniors- Keep Your Focus on Fitness Through Classes This Year

Come experience the benefits of exercise in an enjoyable group setting at the Anderson Township Senior Center. The Senior Center offers a variety of exercise options weekdays all year long.

Mondays and Fridays at 9:30 a.m. - Silver Sneakers Cardio Class

A safe and heart-healthy aerobics class can energize your active lifestyle using low-impact movements that focus specifically on building upper-body and core strength plus cardio endurance.



Tuesdays at 10 a.m. - Silver Sneakers Strength and Balance Class

The Strength and Balance Class is designed to increase strength and improve balance. This class is designed for fall prevention and is suitable for nearly every fitness level. A chair may be used for balance and support.

Wednesdays at 1 p.m. and Friday at 10:30 a.m. - Tai Chi and Dance

Tai Chi involves a series of movements performed in a slow, focused manner and accompanied by deep breathing. These classes are not Silver Sneakers and nominal fees apply. Two line dancing classes are offered as well as a tap dancing group.

Thursdays at 10 a.m. - Silver Sneakers Yoga

Move through a complete series of seated and standing yoga poses. Chair support is offered so you can perform a variety of seated and standing postures designed to increase flexibility, balance and range of movement. Suitable for nearly every fitness level.

Fridays at 12:15 p.m. - Silver Sneakers Chair Yoga

This class is undertaken mostly in a chair, focusing on breathing, gentle stretching, and range of motion, meditation and relaxation. Suitable for all fitness levels.

Classes are no charge for Silver Sneakers members, cost for non-members is \$3. No pre-registration is required. Call 474-3100 for more information.

Public Meetings

(Times and dates subject to change with notice)

Board of Township Trustees

Regular Monthly Meeting
Thursday, Feb. 18, 6 p.m.

Interim Meeting
Thursday, March 1 p.m.

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

Betterment and Beautification Committee
Thursday, March 8, 4 p.m.

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

Economic Development Committee
Tuesday, March 27, 3 p.m.

Greenspace Advisory Committee
Meets as needed

Street Tree Committee
Monday, March 12, 7 p.m.

Transportation Advisory Committee
Tuesday, March 6, 6:30 p.m.

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

All meetings are held at Anderson Center
7850 Five Mile Road
Anderson Township,
Ohio 45230
688-8400

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

Publisher:
Vicky Earhart

Editors:
Steve Sievers
Nancy Caine

Consolidated Guide for Beechmont Development Underway

A consolidated guide for development along Beechmont Avenue called The Beechmont Plan is being prepared by Anderson Township.

Incorporated into the new plan will be the Beechmont Corridor Vision Plan, the Beechmont Landscape Plan, and Design Guidelines. The new plan is being produced by Anderson Township, KZF Design and the Ohio Department of Transportation.

To view the document, go to AndersonTownship.org and search key words: Beechmont Plan.

Goals for the Beechmont Plan include improved safety and reduced congestion along Beechmont, development of cross access, an improved sense of place and public policy changes. Public comment is welcome. For more information contact Anderson's Planning and Zoning Department at 688-8400 or Sarah Donovan at sdonovan@AndersonTownship.org.



Construction in the Downtown Anderson area

Brush up on CPR, First Aid Skills in Classes

Brush up on your CPR skills or basic first aid through classes offered each month by the Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department. Classes are also available geared toward health care professionals several times a year.

Classes are hosted at the Beechmont Fire Station (location of the Anderson Township Operations Center), 7954 Beechmont Ave.

All classes are hosted on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to noon. The cost for the lay rescuer CPR class is \$40, and the cost for first aid and health care provider class is \$50. (Class prices are subject to change without notice.) Classes include a book and a two-year certification card upon completion.

HeartSaver classes CPR/AED (lay rescue) are offered in the following months: January, March, May, July, September and November. Classes

geared toward the health care professional are scheduled in the following months: February, April, June, August, October and December. HeartSaver First Aid is offered only in May and November.

Group classes on CPR/AEDs or first aid instruction for individuals and civic organizations may be scheduled at a separate time for an additional fee. Call 688-8084 to sign up for the classes or make other class arrangements.



FEBRUARY

Le Jeune Dance - "Paquita and Enchanted Garden"

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road
Friday, Feb. 9, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 10, 2 and 7:30 p.m.
Tickets: \$20
Info: www.lejeunedance.com/tickets

Beechmont Players - "Suite Surrender"

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road
Friday, Feb. 16 and 23, 8 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 17, 8 p.m.
Sunday, Feb. 18, 3 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 24, 3 and 8 p.m.
Tickets: \$20; Seniors 60 and up and active military: \$18
Info: 233-2468 or BeechmontPlayers.org

Anderson Trails Plan-2018 Update Open House

Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road
Thursday, Feb. 22, 4:30-6:30 p.m.
Info: Tom Caruso at 688-6400 or tcaruso@AndersonTownship.org

MARCH

McNicholas High School - "The Pajama Game"

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road
Thursday, March 1, 7 p.m.
Friday, March 2, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, March 3, 7 p.m.
Tickets: \$12
Info: Tickets available online beginning February 12 at www.mcnhs.org

CNE Drama- "Beauty and the Beast"

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road
Thursday, March 8, 7 p.m.
Friday, March 9, 7 p.m.
Saturday, March 10, 2 and 7 p.m.
info: www.CNEdrama.org

Anderson Community Band

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road
Sunday, March 18, 7 p.m.
Tickets: Free
Info: John Fecker at 207-8506 or andersoncommunityband.com

Performing Arts, Inc.

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road
"Drop Dead Juliet"-Tuesday, March 20, 7 p.m.
"Showcase"-Wednesday and Thursday, March 21-22, at 7 p.m.
"Aristocats Kids"-Friday, March 23, at 7 p.m. and Saturday, March 24, at 6 p.m.
Tickets: \$10
Info: Tickets available at pai.seatyourself.biz one month prior to show

APRIL

"Forest-Aires-Encore! 2018"

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road
Friday, April 20, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 21, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, April 22, 3 p.m.
Tickets: \$14 adults; \$13 seniors and children
Info: 232-7504 or theforestaires.com

Great American Cleanup

Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road
Saturday, April 21, 8:30 a.m.-noon
Info: Sarah Donovan at 688-8400 or sdonovan@AndersonTownship.org

Drug Take Back Day

Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road
Saturday, April 21, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Free
No needles, aerosols, liquids, inhalers or plastic/glass bottles.
Info: 688-8400 or dboiman@AndersonTownship.org

Miami Valley Christian Academy- "High School Musical"

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road
Thursday, April 26, 7 p.m.
Friday, April 27, 7 p.m.
Saturday, April 28, 2 and 7 p.m.
Info: MVCA-OH.com/theatre

Ongoing Events

Anderson Township History Room

Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road
Open year-round: Tuesdays 6-8:30 p.m.
Wednesdays and Sundays, 1-4 p.m.
Sponsored by the Anderson Township Historical Society and Anderson Township
Info: 688-8400

The township does not endorse the purposes and policies of any renter or user of facilities at Anderson Center, Anderson Center Station, Anderson Township Senior Center, the Anderson Township Heritage Center or any other township-owned facilities.



Anderson Insights
 the Newsletter of Anderson Township
 Anderson Center
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 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:**

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
 Senior Center
 7970 Beechmont Ave.
 Anderson Township
 Ohio 45255
 474-3100

AndersonTownship.org
AndersonCenterEvents.org
 Facebook:
 Anderson Township, Ohio

Recycling at the Curb Could Include Textiles in New Township Program

Anderson plans to add new service by summer at no cost to residents

Curbside clothing recycling, available on your normal trash pickup day, is a program already underway in a few local communities. Now, Anderson Township is exploring its options and hopes to have a textile recycling program possibly in place by summer.

“Statistics show some 85 percent of clothing ends up in the landfill,” noted Assistant Administrator for Operations Steve Sievers. “We’ve seen data that shows the average person throws away 68 pounds of clothing per year,” he said. The goal of a textile recycling program would be to eliminate this portion of the municipal waste stream by making it easier to get clothing to a recycling bundler who then gets paid a price per ton for sales of the cast-off clothing.

Bids currently are being taken for the textile recycling services, Sievers said. Montgomery, Colerain Township and the city of Cincinnati have recently started the curbside service at no cost to taxpayers or the municipality. Those programs use colorful plastic bags that are available for free. Residents merely fill the bags and place them on the curb on their regular garbage day.

Township officials said they will continue to urge residents who donate clothing to local charities to do so, agencies such as St. Vincent de Paul, Goodwill, AMVETS, Vietnam Veterans of America and others. The program will focus on capturing those materials that would otherwise have been dumped in the trash can.

THE AVERAGE PERSON
TRASHES
 NEARLY
68 LBS
 OF TEXTILES
 EACH YEAR

“The abundance of textiles going into our landfill is increasing at an alarming rate,” said Trustee Dee Stone. “We see this as a win-win, as an opportunity to continue to increase the curbside recycling opportunities to our residents, yet also promote the local non-profits that accept these materials as well,” she added.

In 2017, township officials were instrumental in working with Rumpke, the largest waste hauler in the township, to offer a rate that essentially provides free curbside recycling to their customers. Residents can still sign up for the free curbside recycling by calling Rumpke at 1-800-828-8171. Anderson Township continues to provide the largest drop-off recycling site in Greater Cincinnati at 7954 Beechmont Ave.

Local textile recyclers include:

Store drop-off

St. Vincent de Paul

2300 Beechmont Ave. in Mt. Washington

Goodwill

4051 Commercial Blvd. in Withamsville

Schedule a pickup

Vietnam Veterans of America 1-800-775-VETS

AmVets 1-888- 518-VETS (8387)

