



Community Connection, Spring 2016

7307 Avon Belden Road, North Ridgeville, OH 44039 Phone: (440) 353-0819 Visit us at www.nridgeville.org

Mayor's Message...

Is Our Drinking Water Safe?

With recent incidents of unsafe lead levels found in tap water in several communities, I have been approached by a number of residents asking if our tap water is safe. What better way to address this but in my column.

The city publishes annually, Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report, which is included in your May utility bill each year. Because we are part of a distribution system and do not treat our own water, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires our water be tested monthly for routine bacteria sampling. Based on the city population and Ohio EPA requirements, we have 31 sample sites throughout the city. What started as annual sampling for lead and copper at 60 sample sites, has now become 30 sample sites and conducted every three years (last done in 2014). This change was made by the EPA because of our consistent good results. There's a third set of tests conducted quarterly to insure the proper treatment process occurs and the by-product levels are at or below the allowable amounts.



The city is currently purchasing its water supply from the cities of Elyria and Avon Lake. Because these two cities treat the water, their treatment plants are under tremendous scrutiny and require additional testing and analysis on a more frequent basis (some are done as frequent as every hour) prior to water being distributed to our city.

The good news is with all of the testing and safeguards in place, we've had only one positive sample collected in our city in the past five years. To put that into perspective, that's one in 1,860 samples tested. When a sample tests positive, a set of four additional samples, both upstream and downstream, are collected and tested to insure there's no additional contamination. It was determined the sample that tested positive was confined to a sink at a commercial property.

If you have any questions regarding the Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report, please call our Engineering Department at (440) 353-0842.

Issue 8, Zoning Amendment

In recent weeks, literature was mailed out to residents by Redwood Living regarding Issue 8 on the March 15th ballot. Numerous calls came into my office regarding these mailers. I want to take this opportunity to explain why this issue is required to be placed on the ballot. The City of North Ridgeville's Charter requires a mandatory referral of rezoning to electors when a parcel of property is to be rezoned for multiple family dwellings. Redwood Living has requested two parcels of property located at Center Ridge Road and Meadow Lakes Boulevard be rezoned from B-2 Central Business District and R-1 Residence District to R-2 Multiple Residence District. Redwood Living would like to expand The Retreat at Stafford luxury apartments to the adjacent properties. Such rezoning proposal shall not become effective unless approved by a majority vote of the electors of the city and of each ward in which the property is located.

If you have any questions please contact my office at (440) 353-0811. Happy Spring!

Sincerely,

Mayor G. David Gillock



Two Mini-Grants Received from the Lorain County General Health District

The City of North Ridgeville recently received two mini-grants totaling over \$60,000 from the Lorain County General Health District in support of the city's initiative to increase physical fitness and healthy eating in the community.

The first grant will enhance the city's Safe Routes to School Program and will help link existing and new homes in the Aurensen Road area with sidewalks for better access to the library, schools and South Central Park. Secondary sponsors of the project include the Lorain Public Library System/North Ridgeville Branch Library and North Ridgeville City Schools which will also benefit from the new sidewalks and additional accessibility to their buildings.



North Ridgeville Seniors, Inc., which supports the North Ridgeville Office for Older Adults (Senior Center), received the other grant. Now older adults will have easy access to workouts geared towards their physical abilities and needs from the "Older Adult Fitness Station," which will be built right next to the Senior Center. Orthopaedic Associates and St. John Medical Center are secondary sponsors of the Fitness Station which also received support from North Ridgeville's Heart & Sole initiative. These entities will all work together with the Senior Center to promote wellness and independence for local older adults through workouts emphasizing balance, stability and coordination. The Motion Wellness System to be installed is the first in Ohio.

Both projects will begin later this year with the fitness station slated to be completed by mid-summer and the new sidewalks by August 31, 2016.

Traffic Maintenance

Because of the construction on the State Route 83 Ohio Turnpike overpass and the widening of Lear Nagle Road, Root Road has seen an increase in traffic. In an attempt to keep traffic on Root Road northbound flowing, the "no turn on red" sign on Root Road at Center Ridge Road was removed, and Ridgeview Boulevard was closed to southbound traffic at Center Ridge Road. With this closure, the time from the deactivated Ridgeview Boulevard signal light was added to the Root Road signal side. The city will continue to monitor the traffic flow and adjustments will be made as needed.

Ordinance Amended, Dogs and Other Animals Running at Large; Dangerous & Vicious Dogs

City Council adopted Ordinance No. 5315-2016 to amend Ordinance No. 4785-2010 because the original ordinance was ambiguous as to the requirement for dogs to be leashed within the public areas of the city. Below are only the changes/additions to the ordinance:

- Section 2, division (e) shall be amended to state the following: No owner, keeper or harbinger of any dog shall fail at any time to keep it either physically confined or restrained upon the premises of the owner, keeper or harbinger by a leash, tether, adequate fence, supervision or secure enclosure to prevent escape, or under reasonable control of some person. Failure to so confine or restrain shall be evidence of the animal being "at-large."
- Section 3, a new division (f) is hereby created by inserting the following language: No owner, keeper or harbinger of any dog shall fail at any time while that dog is off the premises of the owner, keeper or harbinger, or private property upon which express permission has been granted by the owner fail to maintain control of the dog by an adequate leash. The length of the leash must be no longer than that which is reasonably necessary to prevent the animal from chasing, attacking or coming into uninvited contact with any person, animal or vehicle. An exception to the leash requirement shall be granted during dog training upon lands on which there is adequate open space to avoid danger or disturbance to others, and is conditioned on the owner, keeper or harbinger maintaining complete control over the animal at all times.
- Section 5, division (k) (formerly division (l)), shall be amended to state the following: Whoever violates any of the provisions of divisions (d), (e) or (f) of this section shall be fined not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) or more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for a first offense. For each subsequent offense, such person shall be fined not less than seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) nor more than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) and may be imprisoned for not more than thirty (30) days. If the animal at-large has a prior conviction as a dangerous dog, a violation of division (d) of this section is a misdemeanor of the fourth degree and subject to the penalty in Section 698.02. If the animal at-large has a prior conviction as a vicious animal, a violation of division (d) of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree and subject to the penalty in Section 698.02.



Visit the city's website at www.nridgeville.org to view the ordinance in its entirety.

Safetyville Program, June 2016

The North Ridgeville Police Department is sponsoring its annual Safetyville Program. The program provides an educational setting in which children are exposed to various safety topics with regard to traffic, school bus, bicycle and pedestrian activity, stranger danger, 911, and drug, gun and fire safety. The children receive their lessons inside an enclosed classroom and then practice these lessons inside a realistic miniature village that is adjacent to the classroom. The miniature village includes streets, sidewalks, a working traffic light, railroad crossing and several miniature replica buildings.

Safetyville is designed for children entering Kindergarten in the fall, but it is not a pre-requisite for Kindergarten. It is open to North Ridgeville residents and non-residents are welcome to attend. Classes are set up as one week sessions, Monday through Friday, for one and half hours each day. Cost is \$25.00 per child which covers all classroom material, instruction and a Safetyville t-shirt. Payment is due upon registration.



Registrations are on a first come, first served basis at the North Ridgeville Police Department, 7307 Avon Belden Road.



Please select only one of the sessions being offered:

Session #1	June 6-10	8:30-10:00 AM - SESSION FULL
Session #2	June 6-10	10:15-11:45 AM - SESSION FULL
Session #3	June 6-10	12:00 noon-1:30 PM - SESSION FULL
Session #4	June 13-17	8:30-10:00 AM
Session #5	June 13-17	10:15-11:45 AM - SESSION FULL
Session #6	June 13-17	12:00 noon-1:30 PM

For more information, please contact Patrolman Calvin Cross at (440) 327-2191.

Storm Water Pollution Prevention Tips

Storm water runoff is conveyed to Lake Erie through sewers and ditches. To protect our Lake Erie drinking water quality and the environment, here are a few tips:

Concrete Work: Be sure to cover and store open cement and plaster bags and debris so that wind or rain will not carry the materials into the street or storm drain. Sweep instead of hosing down when cleaning up. Dispose of small amounts of excess dry concrete, grout or mortar in the trash. Collect and reuse excess gravel and sand or give them away to a neighbor. Rinse off mixers, tools and other equipment in a dirt or lawn area where the water can soak into the ground and won't go into the street or storm drain.

Pool and Spa Maintenance: Never discharge swimming pool and spa water into the street or storm drain. Discharge swimming pool and spa water into the sanitary sewer, preferably via a sewer cleanout on your property. Swimming pool and spa water may be slowly drained to landscaping or lawns as long as the water does not run off into the street or storm drain. Prior to draining, allow enough time since the last addition of chlorine to ensure that the chlorine has been broken down (usually two to three days). Do not clean a pool or spa filter in the street or near any type of storm drain.

Vehicle Washing: If possible wash your vehicle at a commercial car wash that recycles water. Use minimal amounts of soap and water if you must wash your vehicle yourself. Wash your vehicle in an area that does not drain directly into the street or a storm drain; for example, a gravel driveway, lawn, dirt or grassy area, or on pavement that slopes toward vegetated areas. Make sure that engine, brake or wheel cleaners and their rinse waters won't flow to a street or storm drain. It is better to wipe these products off with a rag or paper towel instead of rinsing them off with water. After washing dispose of the bucket of soapy water in the sanitary sewer, not into the street or storm drain. Even biodegradable soap is toxic to many types of aquatic life.



Community Calendar

- March 7, 8** **Bulk/Extra Trash Collection Days**
- March 7, 21** **City Council Meeting** at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall, 7307 Avon Belden Road.
- March 9, 16, 23** **North Ridgeville Heart & Sole, Walk This Way!**, from 6-7 PM at the North Ridgeville Middle School. A walking map of the interior of the building is available on the city's website.
- March 13** **Daylight Savings Time** begins. As a reminder, turn your clocks ahead one hour.
- March 15** **Election Day** – Exercise your right to vote. Polls open at 6:30 AM and close at 7:30 PM.
- Regional Income Tax Agency Municipal Taxpayer Assistance Event** from 1-7 PM in the Council Chambers at City Hall. RITA agents will work with taxpayers on a first come, first served basis to answer questions and assist with RITA municipal income tax return preparation.
- March 19** **Easter Egg Hunt** at 2 PM at the Ranger Stadium, North Ridgeville Middle School, ages 1-9. Gates open at 1:30 PM. Sponsored by the Rotary Club of North Ridgeville.
- March 22** **Coffee & Conversation with Mayor Gillock** from 8-9 AM at City Hall in the Conference Room. Stop in to enjoy a cup of coffee and casual conversation with the Mayor.
- March 25** **Good Friday** – City Hall will be closed in observance of the holiday.
- April 2** **Shred Day & Food Drive** from 9 AM-Noon at Lorain County Solid Waste Management District, 540 South Abbe Road, Elyria. Free to Lorain County residents with ID. Limit of 5 boxes or 5 blue grocery bags per vehicle. Non-perishable food items will be collected at the event and donated to the Second Harvest Food Bank.
- April 4, 5** **Bulk/Extra Trash Collection Days**
- April 4, 18** **City Council Meeting** at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall, 7307 Avon Belden Road.
- April 21** **Coffee & Conversation with Mayor Gillock** from 8-9 AM at Gourme Family Restaurant, 32775 Lorain Road. Stop in to enjoy a cup of coffee and casual conversation with the Mayor.
- April 29** **Spaghetti Dinner** at the Senior Center from 5-7 PM. Cost \$7 adults, \$6 seniors and \$4 children 10 and under. Take-out available.
- May 2, 3** **Bulk/Extra Trash Collection Days**
- May 2, 16** **City Council Meeting** at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall, 7307 Avon Belden Road.
- May 7** **Fishing Derby** at South Central Park from 8 AM-noon. The derby is free with donations of \$5 accepted the day of the event for Aluminum Cans for Burned Children. Bring your own rod and bait. To register, visit the Parks & Recreation Department website at www.nridgeville.org/parksandrec.
- May 19** **Coffee & Conversation with Mayor Gillock** from 4-5 PM at City Hall in the Conference Room. Stop in to enjoy a cup of coffee and casual conversation with the Mayor.
- May 21** **Lorain County Pride Day from 9 AM-noon.** Residents are encouraged to clean up, fix up, paint and spruce up our community. Interested organizations and individuals should contact Meredith Brescilli, Parks & Recreation Department, at (440) 353-1503 or mbrescilli@nridgeville.org.
- Discover the Ridge** – Family-friendly market and open house event throughout the city from 9 AM-3 PM. Start at the North Ridgeville Education Center at the market, pick up a brochure listing participating businesses and enjoy a spectacular day. Sponsored by the North Ridgeville Visitors Bureau at (440) 327-3737.
- May 28** **Splash Pad** at South Central Park opens daily from 10 AM-8 PM thru Labor Day.
- May 30** **Memorial Day** – City Hall will be closed in observance of the holiday; trash pick-up delayed one day.
- Memorial Day Parade** at 9:45 AM from Marc's parking lot to the Middle School. Memorial Day Ceremony at the Ranger Stadium immediately following the parade.
- June 4** **Touch-A-Truck** from 10 AM-noon at the North Ridgeville High School parking lot. Free event, ages 2-10 years old. To register, visit the Parks & Recreation Department website at www.nridgeville.org/parksandrec.
- June 6, 7** **Bulk/Extra Trash Collection Days**
- June 6, 20** **City Council Meeting** at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall, 7307 Avon Belden Road.

Senior Center

Please call (440) 353-0828 to make reservations for the following events or to obtain a complete listing of activities.

- March 31** **"Young at Heart" breakfast at 10 AM at the Senior Center. Cost \$3.**
- March 10; April 14; May 12** **Super Thursday Luncheon with entertainment at noon. Cost \$5.**
- March 17; April 7, 21; May 5** **Men's Breakfast from 9-10 AM at the Senior Center. Cost \$3.**
- March 24; April 28; May 26** **Women's Brunch from 10:30-11:30 AM at the Senior Center. Cost \$3.**