



The **TREE CITY** Bulletin

VOLUME 26:1 – SPRING 2021

WHAT'S INSIDE...

- Council Members (2)
- Board & Commission Positions (3)
- Time to Look Ahead (4)
- Main Street Kent Update (5)
- Furnace Replacement & Hot Water Tank Replacement (6)
- Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program (6)
- Health Department (7-8)
- COVID-19 Protocols (9)
- Parks and Recreation (10-11)
- Restoring Habitat for Kent's Original Mascot (14)
- Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report (15-18)
- Stormwater:
What is it and where does it go? (19)
- The High Cost of Keeping our Rivers Clean (20)
- Spring Brush Collection (21)
- Spring Clean up (22)



The TREE CITY Bulletin

Council Members

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Who To Call At The City of Kent...

Emergency – Police, Fire, Ambulance	9-1-1
After Hours Non-Emergency Concerns	330.673.7732
Building Division – Building Permits	330.678.8107
Income Tax Division	330.678.8103
Clerk of Council	330.678.8007
City Manager’s Office	330.676.7500
Door-to-door solicitation, special event permits	
Community Development Department	330.678.8108
Economic development, housing rehab, zoning	
Engineering Division – Street and Sidewalk construction	330.678.8106
Fire Department - Non-Emergency	330.673.8814
Health Department	330.678.8109
Animal bites, birth/death certificates, food service inspections, pest control	
Parks & Recreation Department	330.673.8897
Police Department - Non-Emergency.....	330.673.7732
24-hour calls, stray animals	
Police Department - Investigations.....	330.673.7733
Police Department - Administration.....	330.673.3221
Republic Services of Ohio Hauling, LLC - Residential Rubbish Removal.....	1.800.247.3644
RecyclingCenter.....	330.678.8808
ServiceDepartment.....	330.678.8105
Yard Waste Transfer Site, signs, traffic lights, street maintenance, trees, water/sewer problems	
Utility Billing – Water, sewer, stormwater and recycling bill.....	330.678.8104

Trash Collection Reminder

Please be reminded that City Ordinance 521.08 states:

Collection Time Period: Each container placed at the curb or alley, and each other item set out for collection, shall be placed at the location no earlier than 7:00 pm of the day before collection, in the locality as established by the City’s Refuse and Recycling Contractor.

Container Retrieval: The empty solid waste receptacles and recycle storage containers shall be removed from the curbside by 7:00 pm the day collection has taken place.



SIREN TESTING

The City of Kent tests the siren system twice per month:

1st Wednesday at 11:00 am
3rd Wednesday at 6:30 pm

The tests run for 3 minutes each time. In the event of a real emergency, the sirens will be set off 3 times for a total of 9 minutes.

The Tree City Bulletin is published semi-annually by the City of Kent, and is provided to inform residents and businesses regarding City programs and services. Questions or comments regarding the newsletter may be directed to the City Manager’s Office - 301 S. Depeyster - Kent, Ohio 44240 – 330.676.7500. Unless otherwise stated, all programs and services described in this publication are intended and provided for City of Kent residents only. **This publication is printed on recycled paper.**

The TREE CITY Bulletin

OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COUNCIL BOARD AND COMMISSION UPDATES

On September 16, 2020, City Council passed legislation to update advertising methods for open Board and Commission vacancies. There were several reasons for this change, one being the increase and ease of accessing information on the City of Kent's newly redesigned website. The Council Standing Rules have been updated to include the following means of advertising for positions:

ADVERTISING

All announcements or notices for openings on Boards and Commissions shall be advertised using all available methods of communication to the Clerk of Council, including but not limited to the following methods:

1. Announcement on social media
2. Post on City of Kent website
3. Announcement made by President of Council at City Council Meeting
4. Posting on the Service Administration Complex Bulletin Board
5. Posting on Electronic Community Sign
6. Notify residents in Tree City Bulletin to view vacancies on website and apply there

Applications will be accepted for 30 days. Applicants will be made aware of the deadline to apply and the date when a mandatory in person interview will take place during Committee Meetings.

APPLICATION

All vacancies can be viewed on the City's website located at <https://www.kentohio.org/184/Boards-Commissions>. All appointees must be residents of the city of Kent and can apply using the online application located here, or can print and mail the application.

Current Positions Available:

- Board of Zoning Appeals - One (1) Position Vacant
- Design and Preservation Committee - One (1) Position Vacant
- Loan Review Board - One (1) Position Vacant for a Local Attorney
- Stormwater District Review and Appeals - Two (2) vacancies
- Fair Housing Board - One (1) position vacant

Future vacancies:

- PARTA Vacancy: June 2021- Application due by 5/24/21

RECENT APPOINTMENTS

Please join us in welcoming new and reappointed members of our Boards and Commissions. Your work is a great value to the City and your service to your community is greatly appreciated.

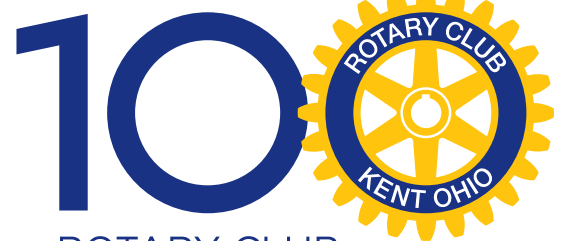
Howard Boyle - Architecture Review Board (Reappointment)
Deborah Douglas - Board of Zoning Appeals
Christine Klein - Civil Service (Reappointment)
Garret Munroe - Design and Preservation Committee
Michael Harrison - Fair Housing Board
Janet Dauber- Fair Housing Board
Denise Mote - Income Tax Review Board
Tara Murphy - Loan Review Board (Reappointment)
Eric Decker - Loan Review Board (Reappointment)
Kathleen Wiler - Parks and Recreation Board (Reappointment)
Steve Mitchell - Parks and Recreation Board
Amanda Edwards - Planning Commission (Reappointment)
Nickolas Bellas - Planning Commission
Rick Hawksley - Sustainability Commission
MaryJayne Stone - Sustainability Commission



Kent Free Library, in collaboration with the State of Ohio, Kent Rotary Foundation, and the Portage County United Way, is proud to offer the Imagination Library book program to Portage County families. This program provides

one free book each month to children age 0-5 years old to increase reading and literacy in the Kent community. Parents can sign up for delivery of these free books by enrolling at <https://ohioimaginationlibrary.org> or by contacting Stacey Richardson from the Kent Free Library at 330-673-4414

100TH
ANNIVERSARY



ROTARY CLUB
OF KENT

The TREE CITY Bulletin



Time to Look Ahead

By Dave Ruller, Kent City Manager

Nothing like a pandemic to hammer home the old saying – “you don’t know what you’ve got until it’s gone” -- but did the hammer have to be so big?

At times in 2020 it felt like the virus was everywhere and disappointment was never far behind. Each new outbreak led to more cancelled events, new business

closures, and another round of postponements.

It’s never been more apparent that we’re a social bunch who need our “together time” as much as we need our alone time. Take that away and frankly we become unhinged.

Why would a City Manager think about this stuff? Because we’re always trying to be more thoughtful in the design of our community and in the services we offer. Plus, whenever we get knocked down we try to pick something up that will help the next time we get an unexpected kick in the teeth.

One of the biggest takeaways from 2020 has been as great as the new and renovated buildings are downtown, it’s not the space alone that makes it special -- it’s what we bring to it and how we engage in it that is the game changer. We’re the secret ingredient that infuses all the concrete, bricks and glass with a personality that separates Kent from anywhere else.

Our best feature isn’t the revitalized downtown or the river that runs through it. It isn’t the historic renovation of the Franklin Hotel, the miles of hike and bike trails, or the public art displays. It’s not even the third largest public university in Ohio.

Kent’s best feature is us. The sometimes crazy, often eclectic people who come together to mix in all the great public spaces that Kent has to offer. It’s the unmistakable jumble of colors, ages, ethnicities, and backgrounds that each of us contribute that makes Kent... Kent.

No doubt, living together can be messy, but living in isolation was crushing. The pandemic was a reminder that life is short and despite our imperfections, we’re worth it, scars and all.

The good news is it’s also in our nature to plan a comeback, to look to the future in anticipation of better days. There’s joy in having something to look forward to and seeing tomorrow as a gift.

It’s in that spirit that we start 2021 off with a renewed sense of optimism and gratitude for all things Kent. Landing on our feet after everything 2020 threw at us was an accomplishment so let’s reward ourselves with a look at the good stuff coming our way in 2021.

The pandemic took down some of our favorite local businesses

but 2021 promises to introduce us to a new generation of favorites. From my office window I can see contractors working inside of the former PizzaFire property to prepare for the opening of Uncle Maddio’s Pizzeria. I can see a crane installing the foundation for the new bakery/restaurant/apartment building on Franklin Avenue at the corner of Erie Street.

Around the block I can see workers expanding Barrio’s on South Water Street to include restaurant seating in the former Yogurt Vi space. I can see Wendy’s on East Main Street undergoing a major renovation that includes a facelift and much improved on-site traffic circulation.

I don’t have a direct line of sight but I know that construction trucks are working on North Water Street (between Fairchild and Main Street) as part of the City’s \$1.3 million improvement project which promises to usher in a new era of pedestrian activity with passive and active “people space” and new amenities in this popular “Mill District.”



After a successful neighborhood “Better Block” project, the Mill District is in the midst of a renaissance noted by increased property sales, private investment, and new business openings like the locally owned and operated North Water Brewing Company – the hometown brewery that we’ve all been waiting for.

Places like the North Water Brewing Company and the new River Merchant on N. Mantua Street are a testament to the popularity in Kent for homegrown dining and drinking options, and we’re particularly excited to see those options spreading outside the downtown core. Good product, good ambiance, and good service will draw people wherever the location happens to be in Kent.

More brewing options appear to be on the horizon as the Bell Tower project on Park Avenue is picking up momentum and transforming the First Congregational Church into a new brew pub. All this activity in the Gougler/Mantua corridor is another reason to be excited about the next phase of the City’s Hike & Bike Trail improvement project which will kick off in 2021, providing wider trails, new lookouts along the river, night lighting, and most importantly a convenient connection from the trail running from the Fairchild Bridge up to Main Street at West River Place.

Continued on page 5

The TREE CITY Bulletin



Main Street Kent Update

At Main Street Kent, we continue to work with our downtown businesses and community members to lift spirits and keep moving forward throughout these crazy times. We've been impressed by our community's loyalty and support over the past year. We're sad to have lost some local businesses, as this is the end of a dream for some of our friends and neighbors. We're hopeful this sparks a new adventure for them. This is also an exciting time for a few new businesses that have opened in Kent. This is an opportunity for us all to evolve and grow in many ways.

We realized some opportunities to help our community through Story Walks over the past several months. We were able to pass along generous donations to the Rough Riders Read program, and a truckload of non-perishable items to help our friends at Kent Social Services. This community really is the best and we love being a part of it! Plans are in the works to continue creating activities that encourage physical activity, literacy and community support in the coming months.

As spring approaches, we're excited to plan for the 2021 Adopt A Spot program. In April, keep an eye out for 1,000+ tulips in four of the flowerbeds at the intersection of Water and Main Streets, near the Hometown Bank Plaza. Thanks to dozens of sponsors and volunteer gardeners, 35 flowerbeds and planters will be filled with color and life at the end of May.

We're working with local artist Kelly Dietrick on the next phase of the "GROW" mural. The first phase was installed on the back of the Hall-Green Agency building last fall, and the next phase will include elements contributed by community members through "Cultivating Community" grow kits. Once weather permits, you'll see this public art project continue to evolve and bloom. Lots to look forward to this spring!



This edition of the Tree City Bulletin is typically the time when we get to share an exciting list of upcoming events. Since we don't yet have the green light from the state, we are working on tentative plans in the background, coordinating with other organizations like the Kent Jaycees and the Chamber, to bring some events back to Kent when it is safe and sensible to do so. When this can happen and what this will look like, we do not yet know. What we do know is that the minute we are able to host community fun with live music and good times, we'll be ON IT!



Meanwhile, please remember our restaurants need your support and are happy to cook for you any day of the week, offering curbside pickup and delivery options. As the weather breaks, you can always enjoy the DORA (Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area) with some local carryout. Mask up, bundle up, and do your best to support the small businesses that make Kent such a wonderful place. We're in this together! Follow Main Street Kent on social media at facebook.com/MainStreetKent/ and instagram.com/mainstreetkent/ for daily updates about downtown Kent and visit the website mainstreetkent.org/ for info about shops, bars, restaurants, activities/events and more. We look forward to seeing everyone again soon!

Continued from page 4

It's encouraging to see the new City Hall construction drawings finishing up because that means bidding for the demolition of the old police station and the new construction is just around the corner. The architects are suggesting a May 2021 timeframe for the bids to go out so we're hoping for a late summer to early fall ground breaking.

This is a great time for a "feel good" project and the City's engineers have been working with Davey Tree to build one. We had an opportunity to take advantage of underutilized City property behind the Kent Police building to create a new pocket park. With a short trail through wildflowers and seating area beneath mature trees, this urban park is designed to be a mini-nature preserve supporting Kent's bee and bird population. We're including a new habitat structure for our favorite endangered species, Chimney Swift birds. Come summer when those Chimney Swifts are eating 12,000 mosquitoes a night, they'll be your favorite birds too.

New projects are great but frankly we're just as excited about the return of the Downtown Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA) and the expansion of outdoor dining and drinking. Raise a DORA cup to closing Franklin Avenue Thursday through Sunday evenings to eat, drink, listen to local bands, and be merry. After 2020, we've earned it.

The Kent Chamber and Main Street Kent have become best in class when it comes to serving up events and festivals of all sizes, tastes and dispositions. Nobody does it better and we're constantly planning ways to make their events even better. That may be the only good thing I'll say about COVID; it pushed us outside our box to come up with new ways of experiencing downtown Kent and some of those ways turned out great and will become permanent features of Kent.

As stressful as the pandemic turned out to be, it's given us A LOT to look forward to.

Community Development FURNACE REPLACEMENT & HOT WATER TANK REPLACEMENT

FREE to qualifying households

The Kent Furnace Inspection and Targeted Replacement Program is available to income-eligible homeowners living within Kent City limits.



This program provides:

- 1) FREE furnace inspections, cleaning, tune-up, repairs and possible furnace replacement;
 - 2) possible replacement of hot water tank and/or installation of expansion tank;
 - 3) one combination carbon monoxide/smoke alarm and additional smoke alarms, as needed;
 - 4) referral to additional energy conservation programs; and
 - 5) energy conservation education to further increase energy efficiency and reduce heating costs.
- Replacement of an inefficient furnace is one of the simplest and most effective ways to improve energy efficiency and reduce the impact on the environment.**

The Community Action Council of Portage County operates this program through a grant from the City of Kent Community Development Department. Licensed heating and plumbing contractors obtain permits and inspections issued by the City of Kent Building Department. In order to qualify for the program, you must (1) own and occupy your single family home, (2) meet low-to-moderate income guidelines, and (3) complete the application and provide all required documentation. Elderly applicants, disabled applicants, and families with minor children are given priority. The program is designed to offer a one-time service. To obtain additional information and an application, contact Gloria Haven via email: ghaven@cacportage.net or telephone: 330-297-1456, Ext. 229; Holly Newlove via email: hnewlove@cacportage.net or telephone: 330-297-1456, Ext. 269; Kayla Prisby via email: kprisby@cacportage.net or telephone: 330-297-1456, Ext. 258, or visit our website on-line at www.cacportage.net, or stop by in person at Community Action Council, 1036 W. Main St. in Ravenna, open 8-4:30.

Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program

The City of Kent Community Development Department administers a federally-funded Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program, which provides financial assistance to income qualified homeowners for the correction of substandard conditions and non-code compliant issues that may be present in some homes. Owner-occupied housing rehabilitation assistance has been offered by the City since 1984 and has assisted hundreds of Kent City residents.

The types of eligible rehabilitation activities may include: replacement or upgrade of mechanical systems, such as heating and cooling, wiring, and plumbing; correction of structural and foundational problems; replacement of roofs, doors, and windows, and lead abatement.

Funding is provided for this program by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The funding is provided to the homeowner through a 0% interest deferred loan that is used to cover the costs of the needed repairs. The actual loan amount, per household assisted, will vary based on the scope and nature of the substandard conditions that will need to be corrected.

Eligible households will have a reported annual household income that is at 80% or below the area median income as determined annually by HUD. Any household seeking assistance through the program will need to own and occupy the home. The income limits used in the program adjust annually and are based on family size. For example, the 2021 household income limit for a family of four is currently at \$61,050.



If you have questions concerning the City's Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program or if you would like to request an information packet, please contact Kathy Petsko, Grants & Neighborhood Programs Coordinator at 330-678-8108 or via e-mail at PetskoK@kent-ohio.org.

The TREE CITY Bulletin



Health Department

Joan Seidel, City Health Commissioner

2021 potentially carries hope for better days than we experienced in 2020. One reason for newfound optimism is the distribution of a very safe and efficacious coronavirus vaccine. Currently, there are two approved vaccines to prevent COVID-19, and they have been approved through an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, a branch of the Centers for Disease Control. Pfizer and Moderna, the two vaccines authorized and recommended by the CDC, are both mRNA vaccines. “Both vaccines are made using a newer technology called messenger RNA. An mRNA vaccine works by encoding a portion of the spike protein found on the surface of SARS-coV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19,” the CDC explains. Johnson & Johnson has recently asked for a EUA Hearing. Some vaccines have not made the grade and four have been abandoned. They will not make it into the market. Some have questions about how the mRNA vaccines could be made so quickly and still be safe. Part of the answer is this innovation is not really new. Since the first SARS outbreak in 2003, and again during the spread of MERS in 2012, scientists started working on these vaccines. But those outbreaks resolved without requiring a vaccine and instead of continuing to move forward, the work was abandoned. More recently, similar science has been used to treat cancer. It was also helpful that the genetic sequence of the virus was released eight days after it was determined to be the cause of this new illness. Scientists around the world worked together to face the need for a vaccine. Bureaucratic red tape was also loosened to allow pharmaceutical companies to move forward more efficiently. Instead of the three standard phases of research following one after the other, all three were run concurrently. No safety measure were skipped. The other favorable feature of an mRNA vaccine is that they are just as quick to manufacture as the more traditional protein-based types. Protein-based vaccines take time to develop and manu-

facture. In the future, we will have vaccines from several different types of scientific categories, but mRNA vaccines are felt to be the direction all vaccines will move toward in the future.

Some people wonder which vaccine they should take or which is better. Because of availability and how effective they are, you should take which ever vaccine is offered to you. You should make sure if you receive a two-dose vaccine, both doses are from the same manufacturer. Vaccines that contain mRNA are not interchangeable. In extenuating circumstances, it would be alright to have one of each type, but it is not recommended as a standard practice.

In short, we know mRNA vaccines are:

- Safe and effective
- Will provide protection against getting ill with COVID or at least make your illness less severe
- Thoroughly researched and tested

We also know that mRNA vaccines:

- Do NOT interact with your DNA; it never enters the nucleus of your cells
- Do NOT contain micro or nano chips; that technology is only used in cellular devices
- Do NOT cause you to get ill with COVID
- Do NOT cause Autism
- Do NOT cause infertility

If you have already had your COVID vaccine, continue to practice all safety measures. If you are not in a tier for the vaccine yet, determine whether or not you are going to take it as soon the vaccine is offered to you. Make plans for 2021 to be a safe and healthy new year.

If you have more questions about the COVID-19 vaccines, please go to <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/index.html> or [KentOhio.org](https://www.kentohio.org)

The TREE CITY Bulletin

Child Immunization Clinics Held Monthly

Is your child fully immunized? Immunizing children on time is the best protection against dangerous childhood



diseases. Vaccines protect children against potentially disabling and life-threatening diseases such as hepatitis B, pertussis (whooping cough), diphtheria, tetanus, haemophilus influenzae B, pneumococcal infections (meningitis), measles, mumps, rubella, rotavirus, chicken pox, polio, and human papilloma virus.

The Kent City Health Department works closely with the Portage County Health Department to provide child immunizations every month.

When: Every 3rd Wednesday of each month
3:00 - 5:00pm

Where: 414 East Main Street
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY call 330.298.4490

Who: All children, 2 months- age 18 years

Cost: \$10 per shot, FREE to those who can't pay!
Medicaid, Buckeye, Care Source, and United Health accepted

Immunization Schedule

Recommended Age	Vaccine
Birth	Hep B
2 Months	DTaP, Hep B, Hib, PCV, Polio, Rotavirus
4 Months	DTaP, Hib, PCV, Polio, Rotavirus
6 Months	DTaP, Hep B, Hib, PCV, Rotavirus, Flu
12 Months	Hep A, MMR, Varicella
15 to 18 Months	DTaP, Hep A, Hib, PCV, Polio
4 to 6 years	DTaP, MMR, Polio, Varicella
11 to 18 years	Meningococcal, HPV, Tdap, Hep A

Tips for Discarding your Unwanted Medications

Got Drugs?

Turn in your unused or expired medication for safe disposal here



Have you ever wondered what to do with your unused, unwanted

or expired medications? Don't allow your medicine cabinet to become cluttered with unusable, unnecessary medications. There are easy, safe ways to dispose of all kinds of medications.

One option is to mix unused pills, capsules and liquid medications with an undesirable substance such as kitty litter or used coffee grounds. Place the mixture inside of a sealable plastic bag or other container, and throw the sealed container away with your weekly trash.

Another option is to use the 24-hour drop box designated for unwanted medications located behind the Kent Police Department at 301 S. Depeyster Street. This drop box allows residents anonymity when disposing of unwanted/unused medications. The drop box does not accept injectable solutions or needles, nor does it accept illegal substances such as marijuana or methamphetamines. Be sure to scratch off all personal information on your prescription labels before you throw them away to ensure that your health information remains private.

DO NOT flush unused medications unless the label specifically instructs you to do so!

If you are still unsure of how to dispose of your unused medications, ask your local pharmacist.

Source: How to dispose of unused medicines. (2013). US Food and Drug Administrative Home Page. Retrieved September 19, 2013, from <http://www.fda.gov/forconsumers/consumerupdates/ucm101653.html>

The TREE CITY Bulletin

Kent's Outreach to those in Need

Family & Community Services

provides food, emergency housing and useable clothing at no charge through the following services:



Kent Social Services

1066 S. Water Street – 330.673.6963

KSS is the only hot meal site in Kent. Meals served weekdays 11:30 am to 12:15 pm except Thursday (4 to 5:15 pm) – Sunday 5 to 6 p.m. (except for the third Sunday)

The Lord's Pantry distributes basic grocery staples once a month to families and individuals who meet federal income eligibility requirements. Call for eligibility and pick-up.

Donations accepted include perishable and non-perishable food, personal hygiene products, gift cards and other items.

Facebook: Kent Social Services

Miller Community House

1211 Anita Drive - Kent

Miller Community House provides emergency shelter and supportive services to men, women and children. Donations accepted include bedding (twin size), towels, pillows, groceries and gas gift cards. Hours: 24/7 - 365 days a year. Volunteers: YES.

Facebook: Miller Community House

Freedom House

1213 Anita Drive - Kent

Freedom House provides emergency shelter and supportive services to male veterans. Donations accepted include bedding (twin size), towels, pillows, groceries and gas gift cards. Hours: 24/7 - 365 days a year

Facebook: Freedom House Kent

The Phyllis Zumkehr Portage County Clothing Center

3377 State Route 59 - Ravenna

This facility offers gently used clothing and household items as available at no cost. Donations accepted include men's, women's, and children's clothing, baby items, maternity clothes, uniforms, plus sizes, shoes, bedding, silverware, pots and pans and other kitchen items. NOTE: Clothing and other donated items should be in wearable or workable condition.

Hours: M-F 10:00 am-2:00 pm. Tues-Thurs. evenings 6: 00 - 8:00 pm. Volunteers: YES

Family & Community Services – 330.297.7027

<http://fcsserves.org>



COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

By Capt. Jim Prusha, Kent Police Department

Kent Police Department is participating with all other city departments in an effort to reduce the spread of COVID-19. This article will focus on the procedures in the Kent Police Department, specifically.

Much of our contact with the public starts with our dispatchers. They are asking callers (especially for ambulance calls) screening questions to determine whether they are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms or if they have been in contact with an infected person. They can relay this information to the responding members of the police or fire department. Dispatchers are also physically distancing within the dispatch center; cleaning and sanitizing equipment, washing their hands frequently, and wearing masks.

Police officers are wearing masks whenever they have contact with members of the public, are washing their hands frequently, and cleaning the police cruisers every shift. Officers are physically distancing within the police building during roll call, when writing reports, or when having a lunch break. They are wearing masks in the building except when eating. They are also taking police reports over the phone when feasible. Detectives and administrative members of the department have also worked remotely part-time to reduce personal contact. Although we place great value on a team approach with the citizens of Kent to keep the city safe, we have had to reduce our face-to-face contacts during the pandemic, even for community policing purposes.

We have been trying to reduce the number of people we arrest and bring to the jail. Officers have been issuing a summons or citation when people violate a law whenever feasible. When circumstances require an arrest, we have masks for the detainee and for all employees. We also use gloves for personal contact within the jail, sanitize our cruisers after anyone has been in them, and sanitize our jail after someone is released or transferred to another facility.

We are waiting for a vaccine to become available for members of the police department and everyone else in Kent. We are anxious for the pandemic to end and to discover what lasting effects remain in the future. We have developed strong partnerships with our community and we hope we may soon return to our practice of meeting with others in the community to work together for the good of Kent.

The TREE CITY Bulletin



SPECIAL EVENTS

ART IN THE PARK ARTIST APPLICATIONS: CALL TO ARTISTS!

WHEN: Festival dates September 11 and 12
WHERE: Fred Fuller Park
WHO: Any Youth or Adult Artist
COST: Youth App \$25;
Adult App \$125 by June 1 & \$150 by June 30

SEASONAL PHOTOGRAPHY CONTESTS: We want to see what Kent looks like to you. Practice your photography skills on the Kent Portage Hike and Bike trail or Parks located in Kent. Share your favorite seasonal photo with the community and compete for prizes! Visit the KPR website for more details.

ADULT PROGRAMS

KENT BLACK SQUIRREL 5K WALK/RUN CLUB

Choose to run or walk approximately 3 miles along the beautiful Hike & Bike Trails in Kent! Meet new friends and enjoy the safety of a friendly group.

WHEN: Sundays at 8:30am from May 2 to October 31
WHERE: Receive weekly email with starting location
WHO: All ages welcome. (14 & under must be with a parent.)
COST: \$60 includes t-shirt, snacks and a season's end brunch
DEADLINE: Sign up anytime

SPRING & SUMMER ADULT SOFTBALL LEAGUES

Tuesday, Friday & Sunday leagues available for Men and/or Co-Ed with NEW Thursdays for Women's teams! 5 weeks plus tournament.
WHEN: Spring - May through June; Summer - check KPR webpage for updates
WHERE: Kramer Fields (600 Stow St)
WHO: Men & Women COST: \$400/team
DEADLINE: Spring - Returning teams by Feb 5, Open to public March 1; Summer - visit KPR website for updates

YOUTH PROGRAMS

KID'S NIGHT OUT

WHEN: Saturday, April 10 & May 1 from 6-10 p.m.
WHERE: Kent Recreation Center (1115 Franklin Ave.)
WHO: 4-11 yr. olds
COST: \$10 - \$20
DEADLINE: The Friday before each event.

HAWAIIAN HANGOUT

School Age Spring Break Child Care: KPR Kidz Club provides care all day Spring Break Care with a tropical twist! Enjoy Luau parties, games, crafts, a big-screen movie and daily themes!

WHEN: March 29 - April 1; from 6:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.
WHERE: Kent Recreation Center (1115 Franklin Ave.)
WHO: K-6 grades
COST: \$144 resident; \$152 non-res for all 4 days
DEADLINE: March 19

HAWAIIAN HANGOUT JUNIOR

Preschool Spring Break Child Care: Lil' Learners provides Spring Break Care with a tropical twist!

WHEN: March 29, 30 & 31; from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
WHERE: Roy Smith Shelter House (602 Middlebury Rd.)
WHO: 3-5 years
COST: \$46 resident; \$54 non-res for all 3 days
DEADLINE: March 19

BABYSITTER'S TRAINING

Certified babysitter training. Gain experience in our Kid's Night Out and Lil' Learners programs! The class includes First Aid basics for emergency response with a fun and easy to follow booklet. Teens will receive a National Certification through the Academy of Pediatrics.

WHEN: March 20 & May 15; 10am-2pm
WHO: 12-16 yr. olds
COST: \$60
DEADLINE: 5pm on the Friday before each training

KENT YOUTH FOOTBALL & CHEER

Tackle football and cheer programs with the assistance of Kent Roosevelt coaches. Registration to begin in May. Visit the KPR website for updates.

SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS

KPR & RHS High School Coaches offer a variety of sports camps to choose from: basketball, track, volleyball, soccer, etc. Sign up today for one or multiple camps & have your kids stay active this summer! Visit the KPR website for updates.

SUMMER DAY CAMPS

Visit the KPR website for updates about camp dates, times and activities.

Lil' Learners Preschool Summer Camp

Children will have the opportunity to experience the beauty of Fred Fuller Park, enjoy walking the Hike and Bike Trail, express creativity through art projects, sing songs and enjoy fellowship and first friendships each week.

KPR Kidz Club Camp at Davey

Spend the summer enjoying the beautiful Davey neighborhood! Small groups combine learning and fun in arts and crafts, recreation, reading and outdoor activities! The children receive a P.M. snack.

The TREE CITY Bulletin

KPR Kidz Club Camp at Kent Rec

Working families will love this camp that provides care all day long! Small groups create their own fun with arts and crafts, recreation, reading and outdoor activities. The children receive breakfast, lunch and an afternoon snack.

Junior Expedition Camp

Is your child looking for outdoor adventures? This camp will provide opportunities for your child to learn to overcome obstacles, take risks, rely upon themselves and others, develop strong character and community, and explore the world.

'21-'22 KPR KIDZ CLUB

Register for next school year!

WHEN: Kent City Schools school-year;
6:30-8:30 a.m. and 3:15-6 p.m.

WHERE: Davey, Longcoy & Kent Rec

WHO: K-6th grades

'21-'22 LIL' LEARNERS PRESCHOOL

Register for next school year!

WHEN: Dates TBD; 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

WHERE: Roy Smith Shelterhouse

WHO: 3 - 5 years

KENT P&R FITNESS CENTER

"ON TARGET" FENCING

Learn fencing from head coach Tom Nagy! Classes will focus on techniques with footwork, skills specific to each class level, and bouting practice. 6 week session.

WHEN: Session 2: March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 10 & 17; Session 3: May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 & June 5; Saturdays; Beginners from 2:30-4 p.m. Intermediate 4 -5:30 p.m.

WHERE: Kent P&R Fitness Center

WHO: 8 yrs. to adults

COST: \$80 res. / \$88 non res.

DEADLINE: The Wednesday before each session begins.

MARCUM'S MARTIAL ARTS

This traditionally structured program teaches students the tools for success, leadership skills, fitness and conditioning, self-defense, stress management, conflict management and self-defense. 8 week session.

WHEN: Wed. 6:45-7:45pm; Session 2: March 3 - April 28 (no class March 31); Session 3: May 5 - June 23

WHERE: Kent P&R Fitness Center

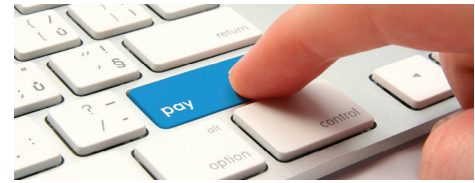
WHO: 7 yrs. - Adults

COST: \$62 (res), \$70 (non res)

DEADLINE: The Friday before each session

New From Utility Billing

Paperless Billing Now Available



Go green by registering your utility billing account today at <https://kentohio.smartpayworks.com>.

-Follow prompts and instructions for registering your utility billing account on the site.

-View, print, and save current and past bills (beginning with 2021 billing cycles only).

-Link multiple utility billing accounts.

*Note: Once registered, you must manually change your billing method from mail to email.

For questions or concerns, contact the Utility Billing office at 330-678-8104 or utilitybilling@kent-ohio.org.

Still Available!

Online Payment

Convenient online payment of your Utility Bill is still available. Save gas, a stamp, and time and pay online at <https://kentohio.ezsecurepay.com>.

-No convenience fee.

-Email receipt/confirmation.

-Access to bill payment 24/7, not just during utility billing business hours.

-Credit card, debit card, or bank issued check payment options.

Utility Billing Forms

The following forms can be found on the utility billing website at kentohio.org:

-Application for Services

-Automatic Draft Authorization

-Senior Disabled Discount Application

-Swimming Pool Credit Application

The TREE CITY Bulletin

Yard Waste Transfer Site Info

Located at the entrance to Plum Creek Park
(across from Cherry Street)

The Yard Waste Transfer Site will reopen during the spring of 2021. The timing will depend on weather conditions.

For updated information, please check the City's website at www.kentohio.org or call the Service Department at 330-678-8105.

Days and Hours of Operation

Tuesdays, 9:00am - 1:00pm
Thursdays, 5:00pm - 8:00pm
Saturdays, 9:00am - 12:00pm

During 2021, mulch-like material (shredded/ground up material dropped off by residents at the City's yard waste facility) may be delivered to residents while supplies last. Please complete the Yard Waste Material Delivery Program Waiver form on the City's website. If you do not have access to the internet, please call the Service Department at 330-678-8105 to place your order.

Drop-Off Yard Waste Rules

- Non-residents are NOT permitted on the site
- No charge for City residents to drop off yard waste
- No commercial use of site is permitted
- No commercial vehicles permitted
- Unauthorized equipment prohibited on premises

The City of Kent Yard Waste Regulations

The Yard Waste Transfer Site is open to Kent residents only. Residents will be required to show proof of residency, a valid driver's license or state ID with your City of Kent address at the gate prior to admission to the site. Residents must live in and show proof of residency within the City of Kent Corporation Limits (this will be strictly enforced).

PLEASE REMEMBER TO EMPTY BAGS OF YARD WASTE AND TAKE THE BAGS WITH YOU

If you have any questions regarding the Yard Waste Transfer Site, please call 330.678.8105.

Acceptable Materials List

Please review BEFORE attempting to deliver to the site!

Accepted

Brush
Grass
Firewood
Leaves
Weeds
Any type of yard waste



NOT Accepted

NO lumber or wood pallets
NO construction debris
NO trash of any kind
NO plastic bags of any kind
NO logs/stumps
NO full trees
NO large root balls
NO railroad ties



Please remember to empty bags of yard waste and take the bags with you.

The City is working on alternative access and hours of operation.

Please check our website for up to date information.

If you have any questions regarding the Yard Waste Transfer Site, please call (330) 678-8105.

The TREE CITY Bulletin

Draft Authorization Form for Utility Bill

Save check writing, postage and/or personal trips to City Hall!

3 Simple Steps to Automatic Bill Payment...

1. Clip, complete and sign this form
2. Enclose a **VOIDED** check or saving deposit slip
3. Mail to: **City of Kent Utility Department**
930 Overholt Road
Kent, Ohio 44240

I authorize the City of Kent Utility Billing Division to automatically deduct the monthly payment of my utility bills from my checking/saving account on or about the 15th of the month. If the 15th falls on a Saturday or Sunday, my account will be charged the previous Friday for the amount of my utility bill.

I understand that I control my payments. Should I decide to discontinue this payment service, I agree to notify the City of Kent in writing, at least 10 days prior to the billing date.

I have read the above statements and fully understand that by signing this agreement, I authorize the City of Kent to debit and/or credit my checking/savings account as necessary to reconcile my utility payment.

Signature

Date

Phone Number

Name

as it appears on your bill

Name

If other than as it appears on your bill

Mailing Address

Account Number

as it appears on your bill

Service Address

as it appears on your bill

Financial Institution

Checking/Saving Account Number

Include a voided check when using a checking account, or a deposit slip for savings account only

Office Use Only

Entered (initials) _____ Date _____

Restoring Habitat for Kent's Original Mascot

By Rhonda Boyd, P.E., P.S., Senior Engineer



Kent State University Libraries
Special Collections & Archives.

Many people know the story of the black squirrel in Kent, but did you know long before we had black squirrels there was the Chimney Swift?

At one point in time, this little bird was the most prevalent bird on Kent State's campus and inhabited the air shafts of older buildings. It was so important to Kent State history, that it was placed at the top of the KSU seal as a symbol of leadership. Ralph Warren Dexter, Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences at Kent State, spent four decades studying the swift on campus. He received world-renowned recognition as an ornithologist and was THE authoritarian of the swift.



© David Brown/ Macaulay Library at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology (ML98915921)

The Chimney Swift is a small, cigar shaped bird with gray-brown feathers that is often confused for a bat. They are one of the fastest flying birds in the world, reaching up to 150 mph, and spend most of their life in flight. They eat, bathe, and collect nesting material while in flight. Swifts build nests by attaching loosely woven twigs cemented with sticky saliva. Their diet consist exclusively of flying insects. A nesting pair of swifts can eat over 12,000 mosquitos, termites, flies and other insects each day, making them one of nature's best pest controllers. They have tiny feet with four hooked shaped toes all facing forward in a pamprodactyl arrangement. Swifts are unable to stand, walk on the ground, or even perch on a branch. Thus, they cling to vertical surfaces such as trees and masonry walls. Their tail feathers are stiff and have small barbs on the tips which help provide support.

Swifts migrate in April and September. In the spring they will travel from South America to Eastern Canada and the United States. They group together in large colonies as they prepare to make the over 4,000 mile trip back and forth to Peru. During migration, colonies can be seen at dusk when they swarm over the chimney roosting site before descending inside to spend the night.

Prior to the 17th century, swifts nested in large hollow trees and caves. Overtime, the swift adapted to using masonry chimneys as the mature forests and hollow trees were removed by development. Today the swift has evolved to nesting in almost entirely manmade structures. Here in Kent, there has been a noticeable decline in the chimney swift population. The loss of large chimneys at RB&W and Gougler Industries, and the frequent practice of capping chimneys or installing metal flue liners, has made finding nesting sites difficult. Soon we will be demolishing yet another known chimney that, at one time, was a site for swifts; the former Kent Police Station.

The City of Kent is making plans to replace habitat lost to development by constructing a chimney swift tower downtown. The installation will help raise awareness of urban biodiversity and foster a local stewardship ethic. Conservation and recovery is possible when we invest in restoring habitat. The community at large will benefit from reducing the need to use pesticides to control flying insects, which in turn will help with soil and water quality. Being a bird friendly community can promote tourism, especially during migration. Birding can be enjoyed by people of all ages and it's a free, family-friendly activity.



Continued on page 18

The TREE CITY Bulletin



Division of Water

Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report

The City of Kent remains committed to providing our residents with a safe and reliable supply of the highest-quality drinking water. We continue to test our water using sophisticated equipment and advanced procedures. In year 2020 we had an unconditional license (OH6701812) to operate our water system. The City of Kent water meets all state and federal standards for both appearance and safety. As a matter of record, all City of Kent Water Plant Operators possess Ohio EPA Operator Certification. In addition, three personnel are Ohio EPA certified to do bacteria testing. This annual "Consumer Confidence Report," required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), tells you where your water comes from, what our tests show about it, as well as other things you should know about drinking water.

We are proud to report that the water provided by the City of Kent continues to "meet or exceed" all established water-quality standards.

We encourage public interest and participation in our community's decisions affecting your drinking water. Regular City Council Meetings are held on the first and third Wednesday of each month, at 320 South DePeyster Street, in the Kent Council Chambers at 7:30 p.m. We invite and welcome the public at these meetings.

Overview

The year 2020 was a year of many challenges for not just us, but for everyone. Just like with most people, we had to deal with working around a pandemic that presented new challenges at every turn. Staff safety, reducing budget, and maintaining safe drinking water was the main focus for the majority of the year. We postponed all major projects that could be delayed due to the pandemic and reduced budgets. It allowed us to evaluate our priorities moving forward. We focused on small upgrades and repairs that could be performed safely without outside vendors. We were able to remove and replace the gravel at our recharge pond for the wellfield, as this allows us to artificially recharge the wells during dry periods.

That's not to say we avoided any emergencies or breakdowns. One of our production wells had a major failure of the pump, which also caused a motor failure. We were able to repair/replace this without any issues, maintaining water to the City of

Kent. 2020 also had one last surprise for us; one of the pumps supplying the city with water decided to fail the last week of the year. We expect it to be back in service sometime in February.

We are proud to have another year under our belts with no operational deviations from the State or Federal EPA. We look forward to continue serving Kent with the world's best potable water.

Water Source Information

The City of Kent is supplied by groundwater, which is pumped from several wells located very close to the water plant. Our well field is known as the "Breakneck Creek Well field", which taps into the "Buried Valley Aquifer". The exception is Well No. 13. It is considered a rock well, as it taps into a formation of water bearing sandstone. The high purity well water is first delivered to your water plant where it is treated. The treatment includes softening, filtration, stabilization (to prevent it from being corrosive), disinfection, and fluoridation, for your benefit. Ohio EPA recently completed a study of the City of Kent's source of drinking water to identify potential contaminant sources and provide guidance on protecting the drinking water source. This assessment indicates that the Kent City PWS's source of drinking water has a high susceptibility to contamination because of 1) the sand and gravel aquifer has a shallow depth to water, less than 15 feet below the ground surface, 2) the topography is relatively flat and the soils are loams and sandy loams, allowing for a moderate to significant amount of precipitation to infiltrate into the ground instead of running off, 3) no confining layer exists in many areas, which could act as a barrier between the ground surface and the aquifer, and 4) potential significant contaminant sources exist within the protection area. This susceptibility means that under currently existing conditions, the likelihood of the aquifer becoming contaminated is relatively high. The City of Kent has taken some proactive steps to monitor and protect this precious resource. More information is available by contacting the Ohio E.P.A., Northeast District Office, 2110 E. Aurora Road, Twinsburg, Ohio 44087-1969, phone number 330-678-8105.

Water Quality Data

The following table lists the only drinking water contaminants that were found during or prior to the 2020 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. It is important to understand that the treatment process our water undergoes, makes it far safer than most water supplies anywhere in the world. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table

The TREE CITY Bulletin

is from testing performed January 1st through December 31st, 2020. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

How to Read This Table

It's easy! Our water is tested to assure that it is safe and healthy. The column marked "Level Found" shows the highest test results during the year. A "Source of Contaminant" shows where this substance usually originates. Footnotes explain important details. Columns headed MCL, AL and MCLG refer to:

Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which, there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirement that a water system must follow

The data presented in this report is from the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations.

We have performed testing for many different potential contaminants, but only the listed substances were found. Of those substances that were found, all are below the MCL limit. We also collected 384 routine samples for bacteriological examination throughout the city during the year of 2020. We are pleased to report that each of these samples were negative (no bacteria present).

Contaminant	Sample Year	Unit	MCL or MRDL	MCLG or MRDLG	Level Found	Range of Detections	Sources of Contaminants	Violation
Inorganic Contaminants								
Fluoride	2020	ppm	4	4	.93	.79 – 1.02	Erosion from natural deposits, additive in water which promotes strong teeth, discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	NO
Lead	2020	ppb	AL = 15	0	<2.0	<2.0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems	NO
Copper	2020	ppm	AL=1.3	1.3	.014	<0.010 – .030	Corrosion of household plumbing systems	NO
Volatile Organic Contaminants								
Total Trihalomethanes TTHMs	2020	ppb	80	N/A	53.2	38.8-79.8	By-Product of drinking water chlorination	NO
Haloacetic Acids HAA5	2020	ppb	60	N/A	7.6	6.2-14.7	By-Product of drinking water chlorination	NO
Residual Disinfectants								
Total Chlorine	2020	ppm	4	4	1.11	0.20 – 2.20	Water Additive to control Microbes.	NO

Key to Table

AL = Action Level
MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level
MRDL = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level
MRDLG = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal
MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
pci/l = picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
ppm = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)
ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/l)
The "<" symbol: A symbol which means 'less than'. A result of "<5" means that the lowest level detected was below 5 and the contaminant in that sample was not detected.

The TREE CITY Bulletin

Disinfection Byproducts

Disinfection byproducts are the results of providing continuous disinfection of your drinking water and form when disinfectants combine with organic matter naturally occurring in the source water. Disinfection byproducts are grouped into two categories: Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) and Haloacetic Acids (HAA5). USEPA sets standards for controlling the levels of disinfectants and disinfectant byproducts in drinking water, including both TTHMs and HAA5s.

TTHM's Health Effects

Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have increased risk of getting cancer.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Additional Water Quality Monitoring

Our water system participates in the Ambient Ground Water Monitoring Program, which is administered by the Ohio E.P.A.'s Division of Drinking and Ground Waters. As a result, our ground water source is subjected to additional extensive analysis every six to eighteen months. While this analysis is not used to fulfill our monitoring requirements, it does provide us with additional assurance of the quality of our source water.

Additional Information That May Be Of Interest:

Chemical Analysis (Annual Average 2020)

	Raw Water (untreated)	Tap Water (treated)
Alkalinity	219 mg/l	49 mg/l
Hardness	309 mg/l	92 mg/l
Non-Carbonate	90 mg/l	44 mg/l
Calcium (as Ca)	97 mg/l	19 mg/l
Magnesium (Mg)	16 mg/l	11 mg/l
Fluoride	0.13 mg/l	0.94 mg/l
P.H.	7.47	9.17

Sources of Contamination in Drinking Water and Additional Health Information

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Source Water Protection

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- (A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- (B) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- (C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- (D) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organics, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can, also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems.
- (E) Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Lead in Drinking Water

"If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of

The TREE CITY Bulletin

Kent is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap from 30 seconds to two minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about the lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>."

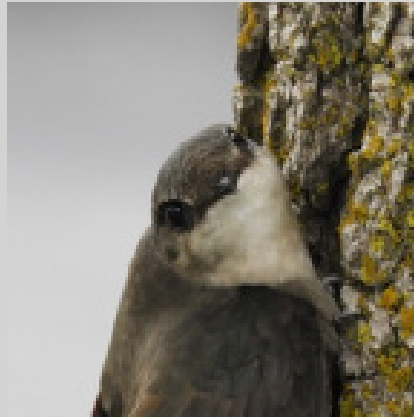
Special Information Available

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as persons with cancer who are undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune disorders, some elderly people, and infants can be particularly at risk from infection. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate ways to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). In order to insure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Additional Questions?

In addition to the testing that we are required to perform, our water system voluntarily tests for hundreds of additional substances and microscopic organisms to make certain our water is safe and of high quality. For more information, call the City of Kent at (330) 676-6333. We are here to serve YOU! Please feel free to call us with any questions that you may have.

Continued from page 4



© Paul McKenzie / Macaulay Library at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology (ML102883031)

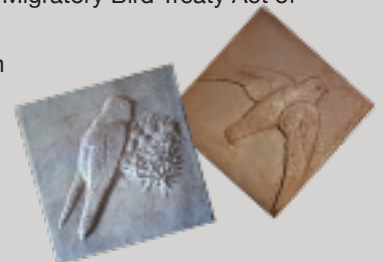
America's bird population is in steep decline. Nearly 30% of America's birds have disappeared in the last 50 years.

StateOfTheBirds.org lists habitat loss as the leading cause of decline. I hope you will join me in making an investment in the future of birds by providing a place for them to nest or by planting bird-friendly landscaping on your property. You can help the swifts by building a tower to house a nesting pair or just leave your chimney open so they can have a place to roost. If you have a metal lined chimney, make sure it stays capped, because there is nowhere to cling and would result in a deadly situation for the swift. If you are lucky enough to get a pair of swifts, they will reward you with their aerial acrobatics, chattering songs, and lots of pesticide-free flying insect removal.

More information on the Chimney Swift can be found at Chimneyswift.org.

Swifts are protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918. It is against the law to disturb their nest or harm them in any way.

Thank you to Metis Construction for donating the beautiful rendering for this project and to Emily Ulm from Emu Tile for all her work to create special art tile depicting the swift for the chimney.



Stormwater: What is it and where does it go?

What is stormwater runoff?

Stormwater runoff is rainfall or melting snow that flows over the ground surface. It is created when rain falls on roads, driveways, parking lots, rooftops and other paved surfaces that do not allow water to soak into the ground.

Stormwater runoff is a leading source of water pollution and excess surface runoff to streams and rivers.

Where does stormwater runoff go?

When stormwater cannot sink into the ground, it has nowhere to go but to flow across the surface of the ground.

Most stormwater runoff either flows directly into streams, rivers, ponds, lakes and wetlands or down the nearest storm drain and then into the nearest waterway without any treatment.

What's the difference between storm drains and sanitary sewers?

City storm drains are separate from sanitary sewers and do not drain into municipal wastewater treatment facilities. City storm drains carry stormwater runoff from a catch basin (a.k.a., storm drain inlet, curb inlet) into streams, rivers, ponds, lakes and wetlands.



The sanitary sewer is a system of underground pipes that carries sewage from bathrooms, sinks, kitchens, and other plumbing components to the wastewater treatment plant where it is filtered, treated and discharged.



How can stormwater runoff be reduced or prevented?

A significant amount of stormwater pollution is caused by everyday human activities - washing and maintaining cars, littering, fertilizing and watering lawns, etc. There are many simple, basic steps people can do each day to help reduce and prevent stormwater pollution:

- Never dump anything down storm drains or in ditches
- Compost yard waste and sweep grass clippings out of street gutters after mowing
- Pick up after your pet and equip yourself with bags to properly dispose of any waste
- Check your car for leaking fluids and recycle your motor oil
- Use fertilizers sparingly and sweep driveways and sidewalks after application
- Wash your car at a commercial car wash that is plumbed to a treatment plant instead of washing your car on a driveway or street
- Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces; consider installing a rain garden
- Don't litter! Pick up trash you see on the ground (even if it is not yours) and participate in a river or watershed clean-up

The TREE CITY Bulletin



Project Spotlight

The High Cost of Keeping our Rivers Clean

By: Jim Bowling, PE, Deputy Service Director/Superintendent of Engineering

We give little thought to what happens after we flush our toilets and I must confess, I don't give it much thought either. However, there are people and processes that have to do the dirty work and clean up our sewage. Frankly, I cannot think of a more thankless, less appreciated job in the City. The Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) and its staff run 24 hours a day, seven days a

week keeping our rivers and waterway clean from OUR own waste. It's the single most important facility in Kent built to help keep the environment clean and its showing its age.

The current WRF was built in 1967 and underwent a major rehabilitation in 1985. The facility is comprised of numerous processes that start with screening out large waste at the headworks, to filtering out "solids" and floatables (Yuk!), treating the liquid wastes with "bugs" and finally aerating the final effluent before it can be safely discharged into the Cuyahoga River. The last 35 years have taken a toll on the buildings, processes and equipment. Frankly, the WRF is in need of significant repairs. More specifically, we are looking at approximately \$15 million over the next five to 10 years to rehabilitate several major buildings and processes. We ask ourselves, can these projects wait? It is not a good time for such costs. Unfortunately, these improvements cannot be put off any longer. Two significant processes became inoperable in 2018/2019. A primary clarifier, one vital process that broke, is still inoperable. It has been out of service as the repairs have been designed and bid. Specialized parts are being manufactured now to complete the repair. The rehabilitation of the Primary Clarifier #2 is in construction now and anticipated to be completed this October for a total cost greater than \$500,000.

Unfortunately, the rehabilitation of Primary Clarifier #2 is the first of at least seven major projects at the WRF that are desperately needed. So the next time we flush the toilet, do laundry or wash dishes, let's take a moment and be grateful that the WRF and its staff are doing the dirty work to keep the Cuyahoga River clean from our waste.



Primary Clarifier #2's 30 foot long skimmer/scrapper arm bent beyond repair in late 2018. The repair from all damage is appx. \$.5 million.

Free Electronics Recycling: March 3, 10, 17, and 24

The 2021 E-Cycle Drive at Kent State University is open to students, faculty, staff, and the community of Kent. Electronics recycling will be open on March 3, 10, 17, 24 from 7:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. in the Kent State University R-17 parking lot behind Starbucks, between S. Willow Street and S. Lincoln Street. Members of both the campus and city of Kent community can recycle used electronics through Infinite Electronics Recycling, LLC. Infinite Electronics Recycling is an R2 certified recycler, meaning materials are handled in an environmentally and socially responsible way. Materials permitted at the E-Cycle Drive include: flat screen televisions, personal and laptop computers, servers and storage devices, monitors (CRT, LCD), flat screen docking stations, floppy drives, DVD/CDS burners and players, VCRs, circuit boards, scanners, copier, printers, cable, wires, extension cords, digital cameras. Cellular phones, network and telecom equipment and small kitchen appliances. Kitchen appliances larger than a microwave are prohibited at E-Cycle Drive.

All items will be put in large boxes by the public. Kent State staff will not be removing items from vehicles and will watch from a distance. Everyone should wear a mask as well. For more information about the E-Cycle Drive, visit <https://www.kent.edu/sustainability/e-cycle-drive>.

E-Cycle Drive is hosted by Kent State University's University Facilities Management and the Office of Sustainability. The public electronics recycling drop-off event contributes to Kent State University's standings in the Campus Race to Zero Waste competition. This is the twelfth year Kent State is competing in Campus Race to Zero Waste. The competition is friendly and a benchmarking tool for college and university recycling programs to promote waste-reduction activities to their campus communities. Over 300 colleges and universities compete annually. For more information, visit www.kent.edu/sustainability.



The TREE CITY Bulletin

Spring 2021 Brush Collection Program

The City of Kent's Central Maintenance Division collects brush at the curb twice each year. The 2021 Spring Brush Collection Program will commence Monday, April 26, 2021.

ITEMS WILL BE PICKED UP IN THE NORTHWEST SECTION BEGINNING MONDAY, APRIL 26th AND ENDING ON FRIDAY, APRIL 30th

ITEMS WILL BE PICKED UP IN THE NORTHEAST SECTION BEGINNING MONDAY, MAY 3rd AND ENDING ON FRIDAY, MAY 7th

ITEMS WILL BE PICKED UP IN THE SOUTHEAST SECTION BEGINNING MONDAY, MAY 10th AND ENDING ON FRIDAY, MAY 14th

ITEMS WILL BE PICKED UP IN THE SOUTHWEST SECTION BEGINNING MONDAY, MAY 17th AND ENDING ON FRIDAY, MAY 21st

**RESIDENTS ARE ASKED TO PLEASE PLACE BRUSH AT THE CURB OR EDGE OF STREET BEFORE
MONDAY OF THEIR STREET'S SCHEDULED WEEK TO ENSURE COLLECTION.**

CREWS WILL MAKE ONLY ONE PASS DOWN EACH STREET DURING THE SCHEDULED WEEK.

Please do not wait until later in the week to place your brush at the curb, as there will not be a second pass in your neighborhood. Chipping crews will spend a maximum of 30 minutes at one residence. Residents that miss the collection or have an excessive amount of brush will be responsible to dispose of their brush on their own. It may be taken to the City Yard Waste Transfer Site located on Plum Street near the entrance to Plum Creek Park. See the City's website for hours and access information.

Placement of brush should be on the tree lawn and close to the curb or the edge of pavement with the cut ends facing the street. If possible, leave the brush in longer lengths. Brush that is too long may be placed lengthwise. Stacked brush cannot block the sidewalk or extend onto or over the roadway pavement. Stacked brush containing foreign objects will not be collected. City crews will notify homeowners by placing a notice on their door for any piles of brush that are refused because it is not stacked properly or contains foreign debris. Once the pile of brush has been rejected, it must be corrected immediately or the removal will become the responsibility of the homeowner to dispose of.

If a commercial contractor has been hired to trim or remove trees, the contractor is responsible for the brush removal and it is not to be placed at the curb.

Please note the beginning date of the Brush Collection Program for your location and make sure to place brush to be chipped at the curb prior to the start date for your neighborhood.

Brush is collected at the curb during the months of May and October each year. During the remaining months, residents can take brush to the City of Kent Yard Waste Transfer Site on Plum Street near the entrance to Plum Creek Park. Please see page 12 for updated information about the yard waste site and hours of operation.

If you have questions or comments, please call the Service Department at 330-678-8105.



The TREE CITY Bulletin

2021 Spring Cleanup

ITEMS WILL BE PICKED UP IN THE NORTHWEST SECTION BEGINNING MONDAY, MAY 3rd AND ENDING ON FRIDAY, MAY 7th

ITEMS WILL BE PICKED UP IN THE NORTHEAST SECTION BEGINNING MONDAY, MAY 10th AND ENDING ON FRIDAY, MAY 14th

ITEMS WILL BE PICKED UP IN THE SOUTHEAST SECTION BEGINNING MONDAY, MAY 17th AND ENDING ON FRIDAY, MAY 21st

ITEMS WILL BE PICKED UP IN THE SOUTHWEST SECTION BEGINNING MONDAY, MAY 24th AND ENDING ON FRIDAY, MAY 28th

ITEMS MUST BE PLACED ON THE CURB BY 7:00 AM ON MONDAY OF THE WEEK
YOUR SECTION IS SCHEDULED TO GUARANTEE PICK UP

See street listing on page 23 to reference your street's location by section.

Please read this article carefully for items that are acceptable and will be picked up. Non-acceptable items will be tagged, rejected, and left on the curb. If you have questions about a particular item, please contact the Service Department at 330-678-8105 prior to Monday of your scheduled pickup week for clarification.

PROHIBITED ITEMS: Regular Household Trash, Tires, Yard Waste, Concrete, Household Hazardous Waste (Paint, Batteries, Motor Oil, Pesticides, Aerosol Cans, Gasoline, Explosives, and Solvents), Light Bulbs, Railroad Ties and Loose/Broken Glass will not be taken.

RESIDENTS MUST CALL THE SERVICE DEPARTMENT AT 330-678-8105 IN ADVANCE OF THEIR SCHEDULED WEEK FOR THE REMOVAL OF ITEMS CONTAINING FREON.

ALL APPLIANCES SHOULD BE IN A SEPARATE PILE. DOORS SHOULD BE REMOVED FROM FREEZERS AND REFRIGERATORS. SCRAP METAL SHOULD BE PLACED WITH APPLIANCES. PLEASE PLACE APPLIANCES ON THE CURB BEFORE 7:00 AM MONDAY OF YOUR DESIGNATED WEEK TO GUARANTEE PICKUP.

LOOSE ITEMS MUST BE PLACED IN BAGS OR CONTAINERS
CONTAINERS AND CONTENTS WILL BE PICKED UP LOOSE ITEMS WILL NOT BE PICKED UP

TRASH CANS THAT ARE PLACED AT THE CURB CONTAINING ITEMS INTENDED FOR COLLECTION DURING THE SPRING CLEANUP WILL NOT BE EMPTIED AND RETURNED TO THE CURB. ALL CONTAINERS AND/OR CANS WILL BE COLLECTED AND DISPOSED OF WITH THE UNWANTED ITEMS.

TRASH CANS THAT CONTAIN REGULAR HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE PLACED AT THE CURB AS PART OF THE WEEKLY TRASH COLLECTION PROGRAM WILL BE RETURNED TO THE CURB.

Items must be small enough for two men to handle; furniture, electronics, toys, bikes, carpet, etc. **All upholstered furniture and mattresses placed at the curb must be wrapped in plastic.** Building materials will be collected in small amounts and only if it is contained for easy handling. Construction materials placed at the curb for pick up must be cut into lengths of four feet or less and bundled to ensure pickup. Construction/demolition debris (drywall, lumber, fencing, etc.) must also be bundled or placed in containers for pickup; both the container and debris will be taken. Construction materials placed at the curb that has not been bundled or put into containers will be tagged, rejected and left at the curb.

AUTOMOBILE TIRES WILL NOT BE PICKED UP AT THE CURB.

The City of Kent will be collecting automobile tires (rims removed) from City of Kent residents **ONLY** on Wednesday, May 26th and Thursday, May 27th from 3:00 p.m. till 8:00 p.m. Four tires per household will be accepted. Tires can be dropped off at 641 Middlebury Road, behind the office to the City's Waste Water Reclamation Facility.

Residents will be required to show proof of residency, a valid drivers license or state ID with your City of Kent address at the gate prior to admission to drop off tires. Residents must live in and show proof of residency within the City of Kent Corporation Limits (this will be strictly enforced).

City personnel will be checking ID's and assisting with tire drop off and loading.

This program is being run entirely by the City of Kent.

Please try to donate, or reuse and recycle unwanted items before placing them at the curb for collection. Once a rejection tag has been placed on items left at the curb, those items will not be picked up at a later date. If you have any questions regarding Spring Cleanup, please call the Service Department at 330-678-8105.

The TREE CITY Bulletin

NORTHWEST

Adamle Drive	Delores Drive	Kevin Drive	Nottingham Circle	Shorewood Circle
Admore Drive	Earl Avenue	Lakewood Circle	Park Avenue	Stonewater Drive
Adrian Drive	Edgewater Circle	Longcoy Avenue	Pearl Street, N	Stinaff Street
Allen Drive	Erin Drive	Lowell Drive	Phillip Drive	(West of Hudson Rd)
Bruce Drive	Evergreen Drive	Majors Lane	Pioneer Avenue	Sunset Way
Bryce Road & Way	Fairchild Avenue	Mantua Street, N	Prospect Street, N	Circle & Blvd
Catlin Court	Fieldstone Drive	(Main to Crain)	Quay Boulevard	Verona Avenue
Chestnut Street, N	Forest Drive	McKinney Boulevard	Randall Drive	Whetstone Drive
Clarkview Circle	Gougler Avenue	Michaels Drive	Red Fern Circle	Whitewood Drive
Cottage Gate Drive	Governors Circle	Nathan Drive	Robert Drive	Whittier Drive
Crestview Circle	Harold Street	Naturewood Circle	Rockwell Street	Windward Lane
Cuyahoga St	High Ridge Lane	Newcomer Road	Rollins Circle	Woodard Avenue
(West of Hudson Rd)	Hollister Drive	(East side only)	Roy Marsh Drive	Wrens Hollow Circle
Deleone Drive	Hudson Road	Nicholas Drive	Shady Lakes Drive	

SOUTHWEST

Ada Street	Eton Road	Jessie Avenue	Meadow Drive	Sheri Drive
Akron Boulevard	Francis Street, N & S	Judith Street	Meredith Street	Short Street
Beech Street	Gale Drive	Laurel Drive	Middlebury Road	Silver Meadows
Brentwood Drive	Gardenview Street	Lawrence Court	Munroe Falls-Kent Road	Boulevard
Carol Drive	Garrett Street	Leonard Boulevard	Norwood Street	Spaulding Drive
Chelton Drive	Garth Drive	Longmere Drive	Overbrook Drive	Stow Street
Chestnut Street, S	Gill Drive	Louise Street	Parmalee Street	Sunrise Boulevard
Colleen Drive	Grove Avenue	Lower Drive	Paulus Drive	Suzanne Drive
Deidrick Road	Hampton Road	Manchester Avenue	Pearl Street, S	Tallmadge Avenue
Denise Drive	Hughey Drive	Mantua Street, S	Prospect Street, S	VFW Parkway
Elno Avenue	Irma Street	Main Street, W	River Street	Yacavona Drive
Emich Drive	Janet Drive	Marilyn Street	Roosevelt Avenue	

SOUTHEAST

Allerton Street	Cedar Street	Ivan Drive	Oak Street, E & W	Sunnybrook Road
Artemis Drive	Chadwick Road	Joyanne Court	Olympus Drive	Valleyview Street
Athena Drive	Cherry Street	Lincoln Street, S	Overholt Road	Vine Street & Court
Avondale Street	Currie Hall Parkway	Loop Road	Pine Street	Walnut Street
Beal Court	DePeyster Street, S	Mae Street	Primrose Lane	Water Street, S
Benjamin Court	Dodge Street	Maple Street	Rellim Drive	West Street
Berkeley Street	Elm Street, E & W	Marigold Lane	School Street, E & W	Williams Street, E & W
Beryl Drive	Franklin Avenue	Martinel Road	Shaw Drive	Willow Street Ext, S
Bowman Drive	Hall Street, E & W	Meloy Road	St. Clair Avenue	
Burnett Road	Harris Street	Mogadore Road	Statesman Place	
(5439 only)	High Street	Morris Road	Summit Street, E & W	

NORTHEAST

Anna Avenue	Davey Avenue	Highland Avenue	Oakwood Drive	Starr Avenue
Beechmont Place	Day Street, E & W	Holly Drive	Orchard Street	Steele Street
Beechwold Drive	DePeyster Street, N	Horning Road	Overlook Drive	Stinaff Street
Birchwood Circle	Dominion Drive	King Avenue	Perry Street	(East of Hudson Rd)
Brady Street	Doramor Street	Lake Street	Pleasant Avenue	Temple Avenue
Burns Court	Edgewood Court	Lincoln Street, N	Portage Street	Tonkin Street
Burr Oak Drive	Elizabeth Drive	Linden Road	River Bend Boulevard	University Drive
Carthage Street	Elmwood Drive	Lock Street	River Edge Drive	Virginia Avenue
Cindy Circle	Erie Street, E & W	Luther Avenue	River Park Drive	Walter Street
College Avenue, E & W	Fairview Drive	Main Street, E	Riverside Court	Water Street, N
College Court	First Ave (1600 block only)	Mantua Street, N	River Trail Drive	Willow Street, N & S
Columbus Street	Frances Drive	(North of Crain)	Roscoe Drive	Wilson Avenue
Costley Court	Gatun Street	Marvin Street	Rustic Bridge Drive	Wolcott Avenue
Crain Avenue	Glad Boulevard	Mason Avenue	Rustic Knoll Drive	Woodhill Drive
Cuyahoga St	Graham Avenue	Miller Avenue	Sherman Street	Woodside Drive
(East of Hudson Rd)	Grant Street, E & W	Needham Avenue	Standing Rock Avenue	
Dansel Street	Harvey Street			

**City Manager's Office
301 S. Depeyster
Kent, Ohio 44240**

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We Want To Hear From You...

Please write your questions, comments or suggestions regarding city government on this form. Return the form either by mail, or drop it off at the City Manager's Office at 301 S. Depeyster, Kent, Ohio 44240. If you provide your name and address, we will respond to you directly. With your permission, the response may be published in a future issue of the Tree City Bulletin. If you prefer to comment anonymously, we may attempt to respond in a future issue.

Optional Information:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

May we publish your questions/comments/suggestions? YES NO

May we publish your name? (Address will NOT be published) YES NO

