



MENTOR

Spring 2022

Community Newsletter for the Residents of Mentor



INSIDE

SAFETY TOWN RETURNS

BE PREPARED FOR SEVERE WEATHER

SEASONAL JOBS

...and much more!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

2022 Yard Waste Collection Program

Mentor's Yard Waste Collection Program begins April 4th. Residents can put out up to 12 units of yard waste each week on their regular collection day. A unit is a biodegradable bag or up to 32-gallon reusable container (marked YW) of grass clippings, trimmings twigs and leaves, or bundles of sticks (no more than 4 feet long and 3 inches in diameter). For more information visit cityofmentor.com and select the Waste Removal and Recycling page under the Resident Info tab.

Library Shred Day – New Location

The Mentor Public Library and Xpress Shredding will offer a free shred day for Library patrons and residents. Up to 5 boxes or bags of documents per car will be accepted for secure shredding on Saturday, April 9th from 9 AM to 1 PM outside of Xpress Shredding's headquarters, located off of Tyler Boulevard at 8001 Moving Way.

City Tax Assistance

April 18th is the deadline to file City taxes. If you need assistance with your tax form, you may reach the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA) online or by phone. Walk-in taxpayer assistance offices **remain closed at this time**. Help is available online at ritaohio.com or by calling 800-860-RITA.

Garage Sales

A permit is not required for a garage sale, but the city does restrict where signs can be placed. Garage sale signs are permitted only on the property where the sale is being held. They may not be posted at the street corner, on tree lawns, or utility poles. Illegally posted signs may be confiscated by city staff without prior notice.

Power Outage

Call the Illuminating Company's Automated Outage Reporting Line at (888) 544-4877. Doing so will allow the Illuminating Company to track outages and restore service. Please do NOT call the Emergency Dispatchers; the use of 9-1-1 is only to report a crime in progress, or a fire, or if an ambulance is needed.

Street Tree Requirements

Just a reminder that any trees located in the public right-of-way (tree lawn) must be trimmed so they don't create an obstruction for pedestrians and motorists. Branches that hang over the sidewalk or right-of-way should be kept at 7 feet above a sidewalk, and 14 feet above a public road.

Mentor Rental Inspection Program

The City's rental inspection program ensures that rental properties are safe, habitable, and assure that properties are maintained in compliance with Mentor's Property Maintenance Codes. Learn more about the Rental Inspection Program at cityofmentor.com.



COMING SOON: MENTOR CIVIC RECREATION CENTER

Mentor City Council recently approved the purchase of the Mentor Heisley Racquet & Fitness Club located at 6011 Heisley Road for \$5.15 million which includes the building, equipment, and approximately 8 acres of property.

Acquisition of this facility fulfills a long-standing goal of the City to provide flexible indoor space to expand and enhance health, wellness, and recreational opportunities for residents of all ages.

The 128,297 square foot complex is one of the largest of its kind in Northeast Ohio and

includes an indoor soccer field, basketball, tennis, racquetball, and pickleball courts, indoor and outdoor swimming pools, cardiovascular and weight training areas, group exercise rooms, a childcare room, and other amenities.

The facility has remained open over the winter months to accommodate programming that was already taking place. Effective April 30, 2022, the facility will close for several months so that renovations and improvements can safely take place. While all of the amenities will remain including the

pools, indoor soccer fields and sports courts, there will be some reconfiguration and re-purposing of space to offer even more recreational opportunities to members.

Affordable memberships to the new Mentor Civic Recreation Center will be available to both residents and nonresidents upon reopening in the fall. With diverse programs ranging from swim lessons to tennis, yoga to free weights and pickleball to water exercise, the new Mentor Civic Recreation Center will offer everything necessary to keep you fit, healthy, and having fun. More info to come!

SPRING IS FOR THE BIRDS

As the weather warms in Northeast Ohio, anticipation builds for the return of migratory birds to the area. Mentor's prime location on Lake Erie provides some of the best birdwatching in the state. In fact, over 260 species of birds were identified in the area over the past year.

The Mentor Lagoons Nature Preserve, Mentor Marsh, Headlands Beach and Dunes, and the open waters of Lake Erie are all part of the National Audubon Society's Grand River-Lower Watershed and Lake Erie Central Basin Important Bird Areas (IBA).

We're proud to also be a part of the Ohio Division of Nature Resources' Lake Erie Birding Trail. The trail includes 84 sites along Ohio's North Coast that attract and provide habitat for migrant songbirds as well as serving as a breeding ground for waterfowl and marsh birds.

If you're new to birdwatching, start by exploring the locations close to home. As you become more knowledgeable, expand your horizons by visiting other locations along the Lake Erie Birding Trail.

If you'd like to learn more about birding in Mentor, naturalists from the City's Natural Resource Division are offering a series of free guided bird walks and programs for those 10 and over. They include:

Seasons of the Marsh Spring Walk

April 28th from 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM
Mentor Lagoons Nature Preserve

Spring Bird Walk

May 4th from 8:00 to 10:00 AM
Springbrook Gardens Park

Spring Bird Walk

May 11th from 4:00 – 6:00 PM
Mentor Lagoons Nature Preserve

Migratory Bird Banding

May 21st from 8:00 – 11:00 AM
Mentor Lagoons Nature Preserve



Registration is required. For more information or to register call 440-974-5720 or visit cityofmentor.com for details.

SAFETY TOWN RETURNS

The unique safety awareness program for kids ages 4 to 6 returns this summer!

Safety Town is sponsored by the Junior Women's Club of Mentor with the support of the Mentor Fire and Police Departments, along with the Mentor Public Library, and Mentor Schools.

Parents rave about the week-long program that teaches children important lessons about fire safety, stranger danger, poisons/drugs, and school bus safety. And, preschoolers that attend are excited about it too! Not only do they get to meet first responders and see police cars and fire trucks up-close, they also get hands-on experience putting the lessons learned into practice.

One of the week's highlights is the child-sized "Safety Town" complete with working traffic signals, miniature buildings, cross walks, and traffic provided by children riding Big Wheels. The pint-sized drivers learn about pedestrian, traffic and bike safety.

The 2022 sessions of Safety Town will be held the weeks of June 6th and June 13th at Memorial Junior High, with both morning (9:00 AM - 11:15 AM) and afternoon (12:00 PM - 2:15 PM) sessions.

Cost is just \$40. Registration forms are available to download at mentorjuniorwomen.org, or pick up at the Mentor Public Library.



SEASONAL JOBS...APPLY NOW!

The City of Mentor ramps up the fun during the summer – but we can't do it alone! Every season, we hire hundreds of part-time workers to help in our pools, parks, and camps.

According to Recreation Superintendent Nita Justice, "Our seasonal positions are critical for the summer because they specifically affect operations and programming that we are able to offer the residents of Mentor."

Teens and adults looking for a summer job are encouraged to apply.

LIFEGUARDS

If you like to swim, are Red Cross certified in lifesaving, and enjoy spending time by the pool, then spend the summer getting paid at one of Mentor's outdoor pools.

Already trained? Great! But if you need to be trained, the City of Mentor offers a course at the start of the season. Best of all, the City will reimburse you for training and certification if you are hired to work at a City pool for the duration of the season.

The course includes Lifeguarding, First Aid, and CPR for Professional Rescuer. Students must be 15 years-old to register for the class and must pass both written and physical tests to become certified.

Please call the Mentor Recreation Department (440-974-5720) or visit cityofmentor.com in April for more information.

WATER SAFETY INSTRUCTORS

Our Learn to Swim lessons are an important component of the Mentor Recreation Aquatic Program. Patient, personable, and trained instructors, are needed to teach all levels of Red Cross swimming lessons. Applicants must be American Red Cross Water Safety Instructor and CPR certified. Instructors are required to be in the water during each class to demonstrate skills and strokes.

SUMMER CAMP STAFF

Mentor Parks & Recreation provides a fun and safe camp environment for all those who participate, and this experience starts with our camp counselors. We

are looking for adults and college students who have a passion for working with young people. We will also hire a few high school students to assist. Staff members are required to be CPR and first aid certified. Training will be provided. Camps run the first full week of June through the first week of August.

MAINTENANCE AIDES

Maintenance Aides are needed at Black Brook Golf Course, Mentor Cemetery, and Parks. Duties vary depending on the position.

- General duties at Black Brook include both Clubhouse Aides and Golf Course Maintenance.
- Cemetery Aides maintain the grounds at the Mentor Municipal Cemetery.
- Park Maintenance Aides work throughout the 1,200-acre park system assisting parks crews in projects and landscaping.
- Marina Aides help maintain the Lagoons Marina and Nature Preserve by mowing, weeding, painting, and general facility upkeep.

CASHIERS

Cashiers are needed at Black Brook Golf Course, Mentor Lagoons, and all City of Mentor pools. Hours vary. Basic computerized point of sale experience is desired.

WAIT STAFF (21+)

Work at the Black Brook Golf Course Snack Bar serving food and beverages including beer, liquor, and wine.

SPECIAL EVENT ATTENDANT (21+)

Work at the Mentor Civic Amphitheater assisting staff in point-of-sale operations for alcohol and merchandise.

The City of Mentor is an Equal Opportunity Employer. For complete job descriptions and applications visit the Employment Opportunities page at cityofmentor.com.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 9

Adult Flashlight Dash Egg Hunt

Black Brook Golf Course

7:30 PM - 10:00 PM

Residents: \$20 / Nonresident: \$25

Registration required.

April 18

Easter Egg Roll

James A. Garfield National Historic Site

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Free.

May 14

Wildwood Garden Club Plant Sale

Wildwood Cultural Center

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

May 19

Just Kids Stuff Garage Sale

Garfield Park 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

May 30

Memorial Day Parade & Ceremony

Mentor Cemetery 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

May 30

Paddleboard, Kayak & Canoe Rentals Begin

Mentor Lagoons Nature Preserve & Marina

Visit cityofmentor.com/calendar for the latest information.



A BEAUTIFUL GARDEN STARTS HERE

The Wildwood Garden Club will host their annual Spring Plant and Flower Sale on Saturday, May 14th from 10 AM to Noon at Wildwood Cultural Center, located at 7645 Little Mountain Road.

A wide variety of reasonably priced plants and flowers will be on sale to beautify your home and create a stunning garden to enjoy all year long. Plants are cultivated in Club member's gardens, and include flowering bushes, perennials, shrubs and even some annuals. Wildwood Garden Club members will also be on hand to answer questions and offer advice about creating and maintaining a beautiful garden.

The Spring Plant and Flower Sale will be held rain or shine.

REMEMBER...LOCK YOUR CAR DOORS

As you are probably aware, there has been a pretty dramatic increase in automobile thefts throughout Northeast Ohio over the past several years. Theft rings have been targeting neighborhoods by traveling in a transport vehicle and then canvassing the area for unlocked cars. In addition to the car and any valuables inside, they also look for garage door openers left inside vehicles to gain access to garages for additional vehicles or other valuables.

The common thread in all of these thefts is that they target **unlocked vehicles** and these incidents occur overnight.

Although Mentor is a very safe community to live in, we all should stay alert and take steps to protect ourselves and our property.

Lock Your Car Doors

The easiest thing you can do is lock your car door. Automobile theft is a crime of opportunity. If a thief finds that your car has been secured, they will likely move along to an easier target.

Don't Leave Your Keys in Your Car

Leaving keys and key fobs in your car not only make it easier to steal, but also provides an opportunity for thieves to access your home and other vehicles. Never leave your keys in your car.

Secure Your Valuables

Bring your valuables inside with you. If you leave them in your car, then place them out of view so that they don't make attractive targets.

Lock Your Garage Entry Door

Thieves that gain access to your car can

gain easy access to your garage and your home by utilizing your garage door opener. Be sure to lock the garage entrance to your home. While you're at it, also make sure all of your first-floor entry doors and windows are secured.

The Mentor Police Department and law enforcement agencies across the region are working together to break these rings – and they're making progress. In the meantime, let's do what we can to discourage this type of activity in our community by remaining aware and by locking our vehicles.



FRIDAYS, 2:00 to 6:00 PM

June 17 - September 23, 2022

Eleanor B Garfield Park

7967 Mentor Ave., Mentor, OH 44060

www.mentorfarmersmarket.com

LARGER RECYCLING CONTAINERS NOW AVAILABLE

Under the new contract agreement between the City of Mentor and Waste Management, residents that participate in the curbside waste and recycling collection program may now opt for a larger recycling container for the same cost as the smaller, current bin. This container is approximately the same size as the garbage container and will still be collected every other week.

Residents interested in switching to a larger recycling container should contact the Department of Public Works at (440) 974-5781 or pubworks@cityofmentor.com.

BE PREPARED FOR SEVERE WEATHER

We all look forward to spring. The days get longer, the flowers bloom, and we can put away those winter coats and boots. But spring weather can be unpredictable and the season is a prime time for severe weather. The chance for dangerous thunderstorms, flooding, and tornadoes, peaks during the months of March, April, and May.

The Mentor Fire Department wants you to be prepared for a severe weather event.

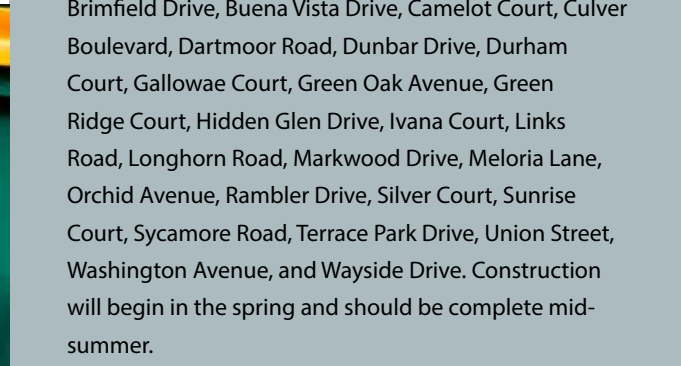
- Prepare an emergency supplies kit for family members and pets.
- Do not drive into flooded areas. Even water that is only several inches deep can be dangerous.
- Always assume fallen power lines are energized. Report any downed lines by calling 911 immediately.
- Unplug appliances and other electrical items, such as computers and televisions, to prevent damage from surges caused by lightning strikes. Make sure family members know how to turn off the water, gas, and electricity in your home.
- Create and practice an emergency plan for every type of severe weather. Know what to do before the storm hits.
- Make sure your house number can be seen from the street. If you need help, firefighters will be able to find you faster.



Being prepared also means being informed and planning in advance before an emergency occurs. Lake County offers a Reverse 911 Alert System to notify Lake County Residents of emergency information via landline, cell phone or text alerts. The WENS system also provides weather warnings as well as information specific to the Mentor community. Knowing about approaching bad weather can help you prepare and may save your life. Registration takes less than 60 seconds. Register at reverse911signup.info.

Residents who are living alone, elderly or disabled are encouraged to enroll in the City of Mentor's Well-Check Program. In the event of a long-term power outage or other large-scale emergency, safety personnel will call residents in the Well-Check program to make sure they are safe. If phone contact cannot be made, safety personnel will be sent to the home. Enroll in the Well-Check Program by calling Dispatch Supervisor, Nina Lombardo-Mylott at (440) 974-5760.

If your power goes out, call 888-LIGHTSS (888-544-4877) to report your outage. Do not call 911 for a power outage unless you or someone in your home is hurt or in danger.



UNDER CONSTRUCTION

MARCH – MAY 2022

I-90/SR 306 Bridge Deck Replacement

This project will reconstruct the bridge deck on the SR 306 bridge over I-90 in Willoughby. Traffic will be reduced to one lane in each direction for the duration of project which is anticipated to be complete by November 2022.

Brooksdale Road Reconstruction Project

This project will provide full reconstruction of Brooksdale Road from Lake Overlook Drive to Woodridge Lane. Storm sewer work will begin in the spring with construction anticipated to be complete by September 2022.

2022 City Street Repair Program

This project will provide concrete repairs or asphalt overlay on the following streets: Birchwood Drive, Brimfield Drive, Buena Vista Drive, Camelot Court, Culver Boulevard, Dartmoor Road, Dunbar Drive, Durham Court, Gallowae Court, Green Oak Avenue, Green Ridge Court, Hidden Glen Drive, Ivana Court, Links Road, Longhorn Road, Markwood Drive, Meloria Lane, Orchid Avenue, Rambler Drive, Silver Court, Sunrise Court, Sycamore Road, Terrace Park Drive, Union Street, Washington Avenue, and Wayside Drive. Construction will begin in the spring and should be complete mid-summer.

2022 Sidewalk Repair Program

Sidewalk replacement work will take place on 34 streets in Wards 2 & 3 of the City. The streets are: Adkins Rd., Bar Harbour Ln., Bauer Ln., Bay Point Cove, Bellflower Ct., Bellflower Rd., Brownell Dr., Bunker Cove, Connie Dr., Constantine Ct., Cornell Ln., Culver Blvd., Debonaire Dr., Elizabeth Ct., Ellington Pl., Enfield Dr., Eric Dr., Erie Dr., Farmingdale Ln., Fireside Ct., Hodgson Rd., Hulls Cove, Kittery Ln., Lakeshore Blvd., Malabar Ct., Maplewood Rd., Mentor Ave., Olde Farm Ln., Olde Field Ct., Olde Meadows Ct., Port Royal Ct., Reynolds Rd., Savannah Dr., and Shenandoah Ct. Construction will begin this spring should be complete mid-summer.

Mentor Lagoons Armor Stone Revetment

This project will lengthen an existing stone revetment wall along the western Lake Erie shoreline of the Mentor Lagoons Marina by approximately 377 lineal feet. In addition to the revetment wall, 1,200 lineal feet of earthen mound will be constructed along the north side of the Dock A access road. The mound will be approximately 3' high and 14' wide, and will provide additional protection from wave run-up across the access road. Final restoration to be completed by May.

Mentor Lagoons Park Marina Bulkhead Replacement Project

Bulkhead replacement will pick up just west of where the last bulkhead project left off on Dock D. Up to 436 lineal feet of bulkhead will be installed along with a paved walkway, finish grade, and overseeding. The completion date is scheduled for April 1, 2022.

THE MENTOR CHANNEL

Stay on top of what's happening in the City of Mentor including live broadcasts of City Council and Planning Commission Meetings, community bulletin boards, community news, and other great content. Watch it your way on Spectrum 1024, AT&T U-Verse 99.9, YouTube, or by downloading the free Mentor Channel app available for ROKU, Apple and Android devices. Download it today at thementorchannel.com.



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MENTOR

SPRING 2022 SPECIAL EDITION

WELCOME!

Are you new to Mentor?
Let us know and we'll send you a New Resident Guide.
Call (440) 974-5794 or email pubinfo@cityofmentor.com.

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"If wrinkles must be written on our brows, let them not be written upon the heart. The spirit should never grow old."

- James A. Garfield



MENTOR CITY COUNCIL

Seated: (L-R) Janet A. Dowling - Councilperson At-Large; Matthew E. Donovan - President of Council, Councilperson, Ward 2; and Scott J. Marn - Vice-President of Council, Councilperson-at-Large.

Standing: (L-R) Ray Kirchner - Councilperson at-Large; Mark T. Freeman - Councilperson, Ward 3; Sean P. Blake - Councilperson, Ward 1; and John A. Krueger - Councilperson, Ward 4.

Council meetings are held the first and third Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Mentor Municipal Center. Meetings are open to the public. To reach a member of City Council call (440) 974-5755 or email citycouncil@cityofmentor.com.

MEETING INFORMATION

Mentor City Council*
Mentor Municipal Center
April 5, 19 - 7:00 PM
May 3, 17 - 7:00 PM
June 7, 21 - 5:30 PM

Board of Building & Zoning Appeals
Mentor Municipal Center,
April 12 - 7:00 PM
May 10 - 7:00 PM
June 14 - 6:00 PM

Municipal Planning Commission*
Mentor Municipal Center, 7:00 PM
April 14
May 5, 26
June 16

Tree Commission
Mentor Municipal Center, 4:30 PM
April 13
May 11
June 8

Community Arts Commission
Wildwood Cultural Center, 3:30 PM
April 7
May 5
June 2

*These meetings are broadcast live on Spectrum Channel 1024, U-Verse Channel 99, online at thementorchannel.com and on our app.

LOW COST BIKE HELMETS AVAILABLE

Spring is here and it's time to pull out the bikes, trikes and scooters and hit the bike path. Did you know that wearing a bike helmet can reduce the risk of a serious head injury by over 85%? Bike crashes can happen at any time, so you need to be prepared to minimize injury by wearing the proper safety gear. And, bike helmets aren't just for kids. Riders of all ages should protect themselves by wearing a helmet.

To promote bicycle safety, the Mentor Police Department, in cooperation with the Greater Cleveland Safe Kids Coalition, and Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital, offers bicycle helmets at a significantly reduced cost. The helmets are name brands and are tested to exceed the stringent bicycle helmet standards set by the American Society of Testing

and Materials, and the American National Standards Institute.

Helmets in sizes ranging from toddler to adult extra-large are available. The cost of a helmet is \$9.00 each. To place an order, print out and complete the bicycle helmet order form available at cityofmentor.com/departments/police/resident-services/.

Mail the completed order form, along with a check or money order made payable to the City of Mentor to:

Crime Prevention
c/o Mentor Police Department
8500 Civic Center Blvd.
Mentor, Ohio 44060

Your check or money order must be made out to the "CITY OF MENTOR." You will be notified by telephone when your order is ready for pick up. Normal delivery time is two weeks.

Call Officer Scott Bell or Tracey Woodward at (440) 974-5760 ext. 4017 or 4018 if you have questions.



FREE GOLF CLINIC & OPEN HOUSE

Visit Black Brook Golf Course and Practice Center on Sunday, April 24 from 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM, for a preseason demonstration and open house to get golfers (or those interested in playing) back in the swing of things as the weather changes and the golf season begins.

Get some great tips to improve your game from Tim Ausperk, Head Golf Professional and Jay Schiffbauer, Head of Teaching. The one-hour demonstration features instruction on the full swing technique and short game. Additionally, learn about the many leagues, lessons and golf events available at Black Brook. Open to golfers of all ages and skill levels. Note taking is recommended and preregistration is required.

Call Black Brook at (440) 951-0010 to register or for additional information.

LAKE ERIE SPRING CLEANING

When doing yard work this spring, remember to help keep our waterways clean by following a few tips.

- Sweep up the left over salt, dirt, litter, and debris from the sidewalk and driveway. Do not let it all wash away with the next rainfall.
- If there is yard waste, leaves, and branches in your yard, properly dispose of the waste. Never dump waste at the banks of streams or in a storm sewer. This waste will clog the sewers and stream channels and is harmful to the flora and fauna in-and-around the water.

- Remove any pet waste that was left behind from the winter to help reduce the amount of bacteria entering our waterways. High amounts of bacteria in Lake Erie can lead to beach closings due to unsafe swimming conditions.

Keep in mind, storm water does not flow to a wastewater treatment plant like the wastewater plumbed inside our homes. Anything that flows down a storm sewer at the street will wash directly to Lake Erie, untreated. That is why we all should do our part to keep our waterways and Lake Erie clean!

For more information, contact the City of Mentor Building and Engineering Department at (440) 255-1100.