

Community Update

Spring 2012



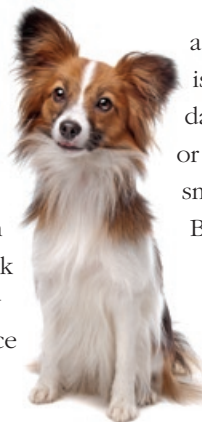
Come and Enjoy Our Parks

The City of Riverside welcomes and encourages everyone to visit our parks for year round fun! The City has several parks throughout the community: Community, Drennen, Pheasant, Rohrer and Shellabarger. Each park offers different activities for every season of the year; whether it is organized sports, playing on the playground equipment or just a leisurely stroll on the walking paths; our parks offer something

for everyone. Picnic shelters are available at Rohrer, Community and Shellabarger and can be reserved by contacting the Service Department, 233-1801 or submitting a reservation online at www.riverside.oh.us. To ensure continued enjoyment of our parks, we ask that you contact the Service Department at 233-1801 in the event you notice damage to equipment or an overflow of trash and debris.

Attention Dog Owners!

The City would like to invite those dog owners throughout the City to come on down to Community Park and try-out the recently completed Bark Park. The Bark Park, located on the northeastern side of the park near the picnic shelter, is nearly a half-acre of fenced green-space for the purposes of socializing



and exercising dogs. The Bark Park is open for use everyday, with odd dates given to large dogs (21 pounds or heavier) and even dates reserved for smaller dogs (20 pounds or less). The Bark Park, which utilized volunteer efforts and surplus items from the City's inventory, was a joint venture between the Health & Safety and Parks & Recreation Commissions.

Active Code Enforcement

The City of Riverside Code Enforcement Team is gearing up for another productive season of active enforcement. This period will begin the first week of April. In recent years these efforts have resulted in hundreds of properties being maintained to a community acceptable standard that otherwise might go unattended. In 2011 the City of Riverside abated noxious weeds and high grass at 143 properties city-wide. In addition 1,053 inoperable vehicles have been addressed by the City and removed in the same time period. Because of the presence of unoccupied homes in residential areas, occurrences of high grass, unattended yard debris and inoperable vehicles sometimes follow. To help keep these occurrences at as low a level as possible, the City has relied on the partnership of our citizens to inform us of those properties that we may not identify in routine patrol. Please never hesitate to alert the City of Riverside of conditions that you feel fall below the acceptable standard of this community for property maintenance. Your voice is always valued and your call is confidential. We simply would not be able to deliver this quality level of code enforcement throughout our City without the vigilance and attentiveness of our citizens.

Hydrant Flushing

To help ensure that fire hydrants are ready during an emergency, the Fire Department will be conducting fire hydrant inspections and flushing. Residents will be alerted to when this will take place by utilizing the marquee sign located in front of City Hall as well as the local news media. The Fire Department will be checking hydrants between the hours of 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. Discoloration of water may occur as a result of the flushing of hydrants; residents are encouraged to let their water run until it is clear. If you notice the Fire Department flushing hydrants in your neighborhood, you should refrain from doing laundry or washing dishes until the inspection is complete. If residents have any questions, please call the City building at 233-1801.



Income Tax Due April 17

City income tax returns are due by April 17 to the Regional Income Tax Agency (R.I.T.A.) for all City residents with current earnings. If you do not have taxable income to report, you may file a declaration of exemption for the tax year. If you move during the year, you must file a return for the period that you lived in Riverside. Riverside taxes wages, commissions, bonuses, earnings from self employment, rental income, and gambling winnings. Investment earnings,

pensions, social security, unemployment, and workers compensation payments are not taxed. Riverside allows a tax credit up to the amount of the Riverside tax (1.5%) on income that has already been taxed by a workplace city. Be sure to attach your W-2 showing the tax paid. Tax forms are available at the Municipal Building or online at R.I.T.A.'s website, www.ritaohio.com. You may also e-file your return through the R.I.T.A. web site.

Proper Disposal of Yard Waste

Grass cutting season will soon be upon us again. In an effort to avoid roadway safety hazards and clogged storm drains, residents are urged to not place any waste, be it yard or other waste materials on the street, in drainage ditches or catch basins. Yard waste may be disposed of by placing all grass clippings in bags which can be taken out with your regular trash. If you have a large quantity of yard waste, you may call and sched-

ule a bulk pick-up by calling City of Dayton Waste Collection at 333-4800. In order to have your yard or other waste materials removed through bulk pick-up, you must follow these guidelines:

- Cut into lengths between four and five feet
- Be bundled, with no bundle weighing more than 25 pounds
- Not contain limbs or stumps larger than 18 inches in diameter



Harshman Road Improvements Planned

Late this January, the City received notice from the Ohio Public Works Commission that its grant request of \$780,000 for repairing the intersection of Harshman Road and Valley Pike was approved. The total project is estimated to cost approximately \$1.95 million and will include reconstruction of Harshman Road from Transportation Drive to just south of the McDonalds located on the corner of Harshman Road and Valley Pike. The City has also pledged an addition-

al \$1.6 million from its reserves to provide for the resurfacing of Harshman Road from Transportation Drive north to the City Limit near Meijer, as well as Harshman Road from the McDonalds at Valley Pike south to the City Limit near State Route 4. Engineering for this project is now underway and it is anticipated that construction will begin late this Summer and conclude in mid-Fall. Updated information on this project will be available in the City's Summer Newsletter.

Cooking Fire Safety

Many families gather in the kitchen to spend time together, but it can be one of the most hazardous rooms in the house if you don't practice safe cooking behaviors. Cooking equipment, most often a range or stovetop, is the leading cause of reported home fires and home fire injuries in the United States. A few tips to make sure you choose the right cooking equipment and use it properly is to always use cooking equipment that is tested and approved by a recognized testing facility.



Following manufacturers' instructions and code requirements when installing and operating cooking equipment ensures that cooking unsafely is avoided. Another way to use cooking equipment correctly is to plug microwave ovens and other cooking appliances directly into an outlet. Never use an extension cord for a cooking appliance, as it can overload the circuit and cause a fire. Keeping flammable materials, such as paper or plastic bags, towels and curtains away from heat sources can also aid in stopping home fires and home fire injuries. Another way to diminish the likelihood of a fire is to keep the stovetop, burners and oven clean. Whether you are cooking the family holiday dinner or a snack for the children, practicing safe cooking behaviors will help keep you and your family safe.

Spring Safety Bike Rodeos

The Riverside Health and Safety Commission would like to invite everyone to their annual Spring Safety Bike Rodeos. The Rodeos provide an opportunity for children within the community to learn how to properly wear a bicycle helmet and to practice bike safety skills. The Commission will be handing out free bike helmets, safety lights, and bicycle safety information to all the children. There will also be a drawing for a free bicycle at each Rodeo. Children must be in attendance to receive a helmet, as all helmets are personally fitted



for the size of the child. The Commission handed out approximately 200 bicycle helmets last year and looks forward to distributing more this year. Children are encouraged to bring their bikes and ride through the rodeo course.

The whole family is welcome to join us for free hot dogs, chips and drinks while learning important bike safety tips. The two Bike Rodeos are scheduled for Saturday, May 19, 2012 at Rohrer Park and on Saturday June 9, 2012 at Beverly Gardens Elementary School, 5555 Enright Avenue; both from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Side Notes

Call Before You Dig!

Prior to digging in the ground for those spring construction and home improvement projects, please call the Ohio Utilities Protection Services at 1-800-362-2764 in order to avoid a ruptured gas line or electric service.

Street Light Repairs

If you have a street light that is out in your neighborhood, please contact the Public Services Department at 233-1801. You will need to report the light pole number and the address where the light is located.

Outside Storage

The City of Riverside's Zoning Ordinance prohibits the outdoor storage of items like wood, lumber, building materials and debris as well as the parking of inoperative or unlicensed motor vehicles. As the active enforcement cycle begins for the City, please ensure that your yard is free of any such items. Firewood that is stacked in a compact and orderly fashion within the side or rear yard of a property and is limited to amounts intended for use by the property occupant in the current or upcoming heating season is exempt provided that such storage is compliant to all fire regulations. A bulk pick-up can be scheduled to remove outside storage by calling City of Dayton Waste Collection at 333-4800.



Community Update

Spring 2012



► City Council Meetings

Council Work Sessions are held on every first and third Thursday of the month at 6pm located at 1791 Harshman Road.

Council Meetings are held on every first and third Thursday of the month at 7:30pm located at 1791 Harshman Road.

► City Administration

City Manager
Bryan R.H. Chodkowski

Director of Finance
Robert Gillian

**Director of Planning
and Economic Development**
Robert Murray

Director of Public Services
Mitch Miller

Acting Fire Chief
Robert Turner

Chief of Police
Mark Reiss

► Elected Officials

Mayor
William R. Flaute

Council Members
Beverly Campbell
Kenneth W. Curp
Mike Denning
Steven C. Fullenkamp
Edward Schock
Michael Smith

VISIT US ONLINE:

www.riverside.oh.us

► Important Numbers

Waste Collection333-4800
(City of Dayton)

Water & Sewer 781-2688
(Montgomery County)

Police & Fire Dispatch233-2080

Area Two Court 496-7231

EMERGENCY 9-1-1