

CONTACT with **Kettering**

Community Magazine Fall 2020

To view the
City of Kettering
2020 Annual Report visit
www.ketteringoh.org/city-of-kettering-annual-reports/
September 8

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Mayor's Greeting

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

We are a few months into the survey process for the 2020 Census, and I am overwhelmed with pride as I watch our response rates continue to rise. Kettering was founded on progress; and our strong participation is a shining example that our community remains invested and proud to call Kettering home.

Even with some monumental life distractions along the way, we are responding to ensure we are counted.

More Than Just a Headcount — The true significance of the census is much more than just an accurate count of the number of people in our community. The results of the 2020 Census will determine:

- The number of seats given to Ohio in the House of Representatives.
- The boundaries of state and congressional legislative districts.
- The amount of money we will receive from state and federal sources over the next ten years for roads, bridges, hospitals, police and fire facilities, festivals, parks and other recreational facilities that add to the quality of life we have come to enjoy.

It is estimated that for every person not accounted for, the City of Kettering will lose between \$1,200 and \$2,500 per year in federal and state funding. Over the next decade that equates to a loss of \$12,000 – \$25,000 per person.

You should have received the survey by mail at your home between March 12 and 20. The questionnaire is short and should take just ten minutes of your time to complete. For the first time, the census can be completed online or by phone, in addition to the traditional response by mail. Census takers have begun visiting homes that have not completed their census forms; the best way to avoid a knock on the door is to complete the form.

Who is Counted? — Everyone living at your address should be counted, even if they are not related to you. Children need to be included, as well as babies born on or before April 1.

It's Confidential — The census is mandated by the U.S. Constitution and conducted by the US Census Bureau, a nonpartisan government agency. Census takers are sworn to confidentiality, and revealing your information is a federal crime!

Your effort will pay great dividends to our community over the next ten years by providing significant financial support and reducing your personal tax burden. As always, if I can ever be of assistance to you, please feel free to contact me by email at KetteringMayorCouncil@ketteringoh.org. You can also visit the census website for more info at www.2020census.gov.

I understand life has been more hectic than usual these past few months. Even so, your support has not wavered. I feel blessed and honored to be a part of this all-in community.

Sincerely,

Donald E. Patterson
Mayor

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



Beggar's Night

Saturday, October 31

*Dependent upon
State of Ohio guidelines
at that time*

2020 Census

September 30 – Last day for households to self-respond online, by phone or by mail.

**Visit my2020census.gov
for details and to respond.**



CITY OF KETTERING

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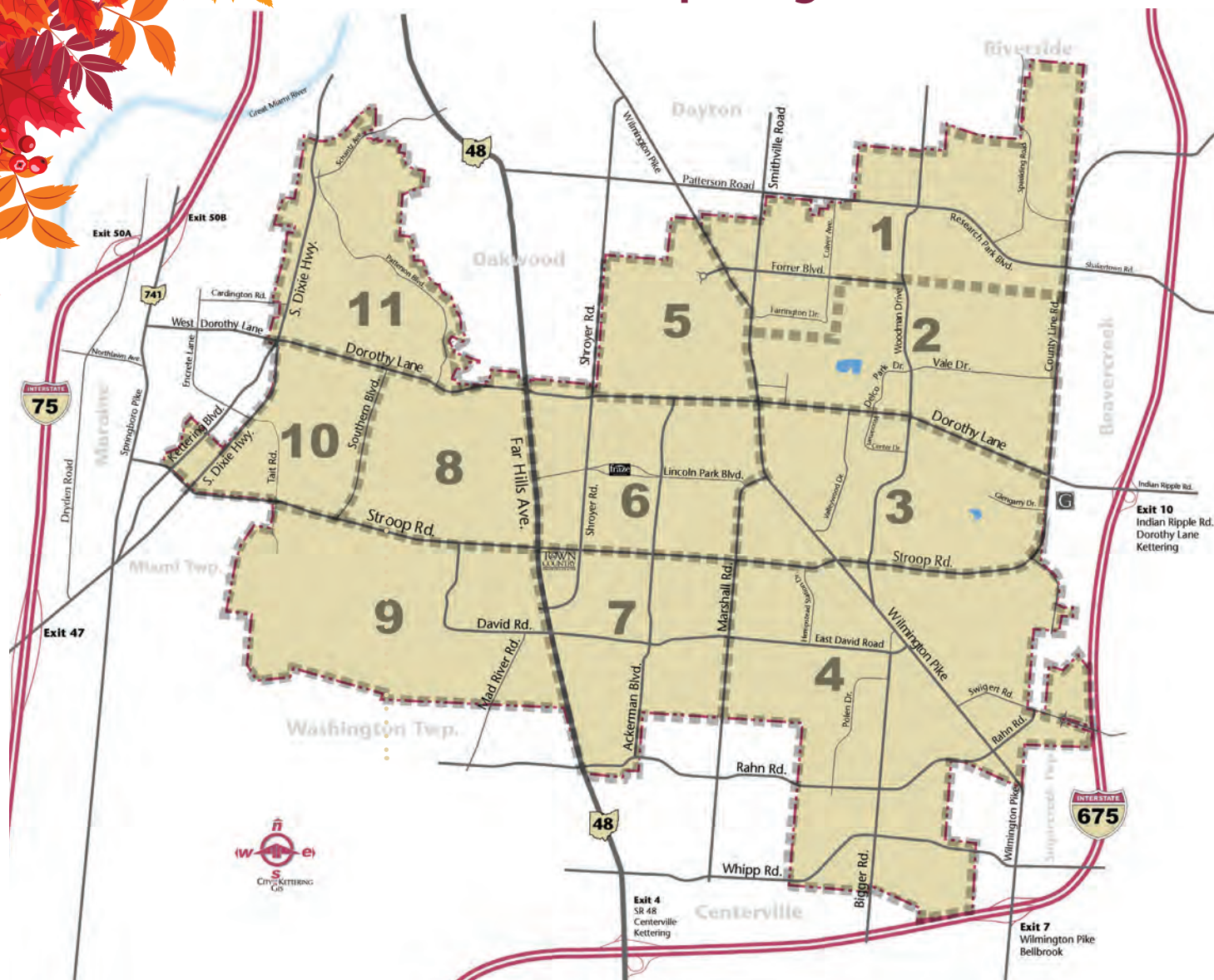
www.ketteringoh.org

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[f](https://www.facebook.com/CityofKettering) City of Kettering, Ohio – Government

 **KETTERING**
is home

Leaf Pick Up Begins October 19



One of the most unique and highly valued services the City of Kettering offers to our residents is free curbside collection of your leaves each fall. Leaves are picked up by City crews and taken to the City's leaf composting center where leaves will be converted to mulch and compost, then offered free of charge to residents each spring. The City will begin in District 1 on Monday, October 19, and will continue leaf pick up until early December. Please note that all leaves should be raked to the curb by Monday, November 30, for the final fall collection.

Please remember the following tips for leaf pickup:

- Know your leaf collection district. Reference the above map to find your district or visit www.ketteringoh.org and enter your address in the **My Services** tab on our home page.
- Don't wait until our crews are near your district to rake leaves. As leaves begin to fall, rake piles to the edge of your lawn. We

will make several passes through each district for collection.

- Call **937-296-3255 (FALL)** or check the Kettering website to determine the current location of leaf pickup crews.
- Prior to collection, rake your leaves to the edge of your lawn, but not into the street where they will block traffic and cause a hazard to storm drains. Do not block storm drains or waterways.
- Do not bag your leaves.
- Make sure leaves are not under, between or around parked cars.
- Don't rake anything except leaves to the curb for pick up. Branches, sticks, grass and other yard waste clog the machinery and throw the crews off schedule. Leaf piles containing branches, grass, etc., will not be collected. You may take your tree branches and brush to the City's Yard Debris Drop-Off Center located on Woodman Center Drive or put them in your Rumpke cart for pick up on your normal trash collection day.



Construction Updates

Wilmington Pike Improvements

The asphalt pavement on Wilmington Pike is being resurfaced from Stroop Road south to the corporation limit with Centerville. This work is scheduled for early September. In addition to resurfacing, the project includes construction of a sidewalk on the west side from David Road to Woodman Drive. Pedestrians and bicyclists will be pleased not having to traverse the worn dirt path, especially in poor weather. Kettering was awarded over \$900,000 in federal funds for this project.

Traffic Signal Replacements Phase 2

Kettering was awarded nearly \$1,200,000 in federal funds to reconstruct traffic signals at six intersections. The project will take up to a year and a half. Locations include:

- 1) East Dorothy Lane at Powhattan Place
- 2) East Dorothy Lane at Valleywood Drive
- 3) Woodman Drive at Adventure Drive
- 4) Woodman Drive at Aragon Avenue
- 5) Woodman Drive at Forrer Boulevard
- 6) Forrer Boulevard at Culver Avenue

Vectren Gas Main Replacements

Vectren planned five gas main replacement projects in Kettering this year. Because the work involves restoration of pavement and yards, Kettering requires Vectren's contractor to obtain permits for each location of work in the right-of-way.

For more information on these projects, and others, go to:

<https://www.ketteringoh.org/current-road-construction-project-updates/>

Roadway Projects for 2021

Far Hills Avenue Resurfacing

For the past three years, preparatory work has been underway on Far Hills Avenue. This work includes Vectren gas main replacement, curb ramp reconstruction, and repair to drainage inlets. Project limits are from David Road to north of Dorothy Lane. The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) will administer the project to resurface the asphalt pavement in the first half of 2021. Kettering costs will be leveraged with up to 80% funding through ODOT.

Ridgeway Road Bridge Replacement

Design and right-of-way acquisition for the Ridgeway Road Bridge project is now complete. Kettering will request bids this fall from contractors for construction. Kettering received \$2,400,000 in federal and state grant funding and \$400,000 in state loan funding for this project. For more information, see: <https://www.ketteringoh.org/ridgeway-bridge/>

County Line Road Widening

Design and right-of-way acquisition are nearly complete for the County Line Road Widening project. Kettering, in coordination with Beavercreek, will request bids this coming winter for construction in 2021. The project was awarded nearly \$2,500,000 in federal funds. **For more information, see:** <https://www.ketteringoh.org/county-line-road-project/>



Kettering is Awarded the Ohio Conference of Community Development President's Award

Ohio Conference of Community Development (OCCD), a statewide association of community and economic development practitioners, announced awarding the 8th Annual OCCD President's Award for Innovative Practices to the City of Kettering.

"The winner of the 2020 OCCD President's Award for Innovative Practices is the City of Kettering – COVID-19 Business Assistance Program. The City of Kettering is commended for their innovative and successful program – The COVID-19 Business Assistance Program – to meet the needs of businesses in the community. In the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, the City repurposed existing business loan funds providing a responsive lifeline to local businesses. The City created a forgivable loan product that was accessible, quick and easy to get into the hands of challenged businesses owners. With hard work and flexible thinking, the City assisted businesses and retained jobs. The project reflects outstanding performance in addressing significant and immediate needs in the community."

The 2020 award and scholarship recipients were honored at OCCD's Virtual Annual Summer Meeting held July 30, 2020.



City of Kettering Planning and Development department award team: Katherine Haynes, Angela Brown and Andria Perkins.

- OCCD is an association of more than 175 community and economic development professionals representing cities, counties, villages, non-profit organizations and consulting firms across Ohio. Its members are dedicated to improving the livability
- of their communities through various initiatives and collaborations that aim to eliminate urban blight and encourage planning practices that enable a healthy, sustainable, and equitable way of life for all citizens. The OCCD Member Awards were created to formally recognize those communities and community development professionals who have made the greatest difference in their communities and in Ohio.

FLOOD PROTECTION



Flood Protection information is available at:

www.ketteringoh.org/flood-protection/.

This website offers information on flood hazard areas, flood safety, protection of property/flood insurance, and efforts of city government to reduce flood risk. You may also contact City staff at 937-296-2436 for more information.



Yard Debris Management

Kettering is known for its beautiful landscapes and, with beautifully manicured properties comes yard waste. To protect the environment, please remember to keep grass clippings and other yard debris off of the public street and out of storm drains. Ultimately, debris washes into the storm sewer system, pollutes our streams, clogs our storm sewers, and can make travel on the roadway hazardous. Be a good neighbor and do your part.

Stormwater Pollution

- Yard debris (including grass clippings, leaves, plants, dirt) trash and pet waste are a significant source of stormwater pollution.
- Excess nutrients in streams or ponds can cause algae blooms.

When algae die, they sink and decompose in a process that removes oxygen from the water. Fish and other aquatic life can't exist in water with low dissolved oxygen levels. "Red Tide" is a common name for these algae blooms that kill local fisheries and make water smell foul.

- Debris that ends up in the storm sewers can cause flooded streets and impact creeks and ponds downstream.

Stormwater Pollution Solutions

- **COMPOST:** Grass clippings, thatch, sod, dirt and other yard waste can be used in your own compost pile, keeping excess nutrients in your yard or garden.
- **PLACE DEBRIS WITH YOUR TRASH:** Yard waste (including grass clippings, leaves and other organic plant materials) may be placed in your trash cart and can be comingled with your trash.



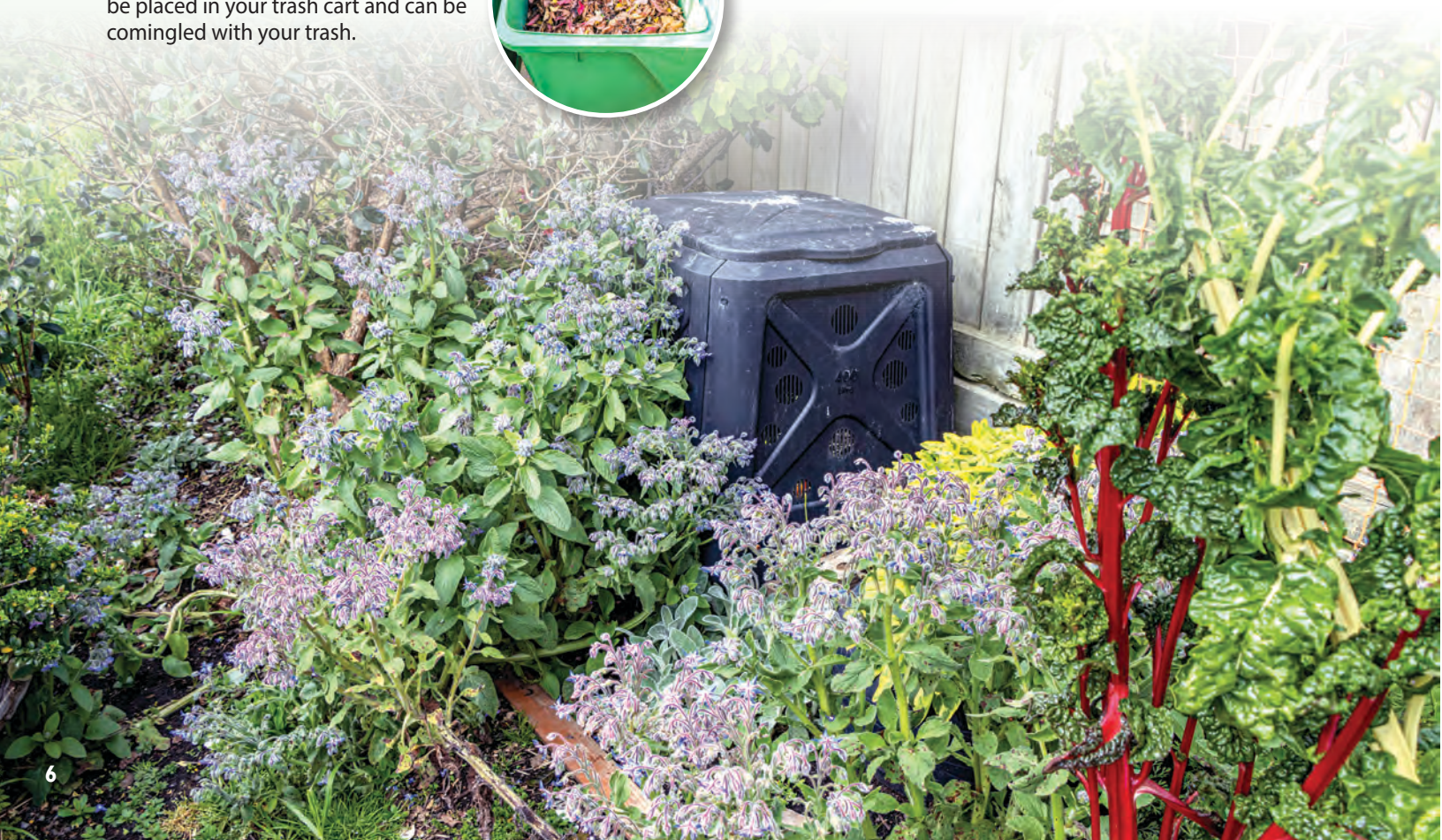
- **YARD DEBRIS CENTER:** Brush, limbs, and trimmings less than 6' in length and 4" diameter can be taken to the Kettering Yard Debris Center on 1840 Woodman Center Drive.
- **RAIN BARRELS:** Rain barrels collect rain and reduce the amount of stormwater to the system and redirect it to improve the health of your garden, lawn, and trees at a later time.
- If you would like more information about stormwater in the City of Kettering, please visit our website at www.ketteringoh.org/stormwater-control/ or contact the Engineering Department at **937-296-2436**.

Other Informative Sites :

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Division of Surface Water
www.epa.state.oh.us/dsw

Montgomery County Soil and Water Conservation District
<http://www.montgomeryswcd.org/stormwater.html>

Thank you for your support in protecting the environment.
Kettering is Home!



Medicare Open Enrollment – Kettering Connection is Here to Help

Medicare is a very complex program that offers people who are 65 years of age or older and disabled persons medical insurance at retirement or when they can no longer work due to their disability. Like all federal programs, there are many rules and regulations governing the system making it not so user friendly. Having a professional who understands the system can help you get the most out of your Medicare.

Individuals approaching 65 should start considering Medicare. The enrollment period begins three months prior to applicant's birth month, continues during individual's birth month and ends three months after the year applicant turns 65. Those who do not enroll during the aforementioned months relative to their 65 birthday may pay penalties unless there is coverage from other sources such as applicant's or spouse's employer.

Each year, Medicare coverage plans and offerings change; and, it is important to review plan choices annually to evaluate the impact of the changes and determine whether or not updates need to be made for optimal benefits.

The annual open enrollment period is October 15 through December 7. During this time, beneficiaries can change their Medicare for the coming year to keep up with those changes. Health care needs change from year to year, so what works best this year

- may not meet the needs for the future. With hundreds of choices, it is even more important to seek help from someone who knows those changes.

- Medicare-trained professionals will provide individual consultations by appointment at the Kettering Connection in Town and Country Shopping Center during the open enrollment period. Appointments are free and open to Kettering residents, City volunteers and Charles I. Lathrem Senior Center members on a first come, first serve basis.

- Kettering Connection staff will follow all CDC precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and video or phone counseling sessions are also available as well.

- **To schedule an appointment with a Medicare-trained professional, contact the Senior Service Coordinator by phone at 937-296-3330 or by email at vickie.carraher@ketteringoh.org.**



The City of Kettering offers numerous resources for older residents who need assistance with housing, transportation, meal delivery services and more.

The Kettering Connection, is located in Town & Country Shopping Center and is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., with safeguards in place to protect visitors during the pandemic

- Masks will be provided for those in need.
- Home visits are available for elderly citizens who are homebound.
- Computer equipment is available for use at Kettering Connection for seniors who have virtual meetings or physician appointments.
- Check-up calls are being made to seniors who are homebound.

For assistance, email vickie.carraher@ketteringoh.org or call 937-296-3356.



Kettering Police Department Updates



Meghan Yost, Crime Data Analyst

Meghan Yost, Crime Data Analyst, joined the Kettering Police Department team to manage the crime mapping and data gathering systems to keep our staff advised of important patterns and trends. In turn, Kettering citizens will be informed.

The Kettering Police Department has been focused on the ongoing renovation to the department, and the project is on schedule and moving along very nicely. The Dispatch Center and Community Relations section will temporarily move to Kettering Fire Department Headquarters and other City facilities. The second-level addition is slated to be completed September 2020.

In February, KPD successfully switched over all of its record keeping for dispatch, patrol and detectives to the Spillman/Flex software system. This software is designed to make reporting easier for patrol officers allowing more time to protect and serve.

Chief Protsman administered the oath of office as Sergeant David Warren was promoted. Sergeant Warren began his career with the Kettering Police Department in December 2003, after serving in Tipp City. Sergeant Warren has served as a Patrol Officer and Detective.

Sergeant Joe Domsitz completed his last call to end his final shift at KPD. Sergeant Domsitz served KPD with professionalism and integrity. He led with his heart and always put others before himself. We wish him the best in a well deserved retirement.



Ptl. Ryan Mason



Ptl. Logan Plas



Sgt. Joe Domsitz retires with XX years of service.

Two Patrol Officers joined the Kettering Police Department. Ryan Mason is currently in the police academy and Logan Plas is in the Field Training Officers process.



Chief Protsman administers the oath of office at the promotion of Sgt. David Warren



Kettering Police Department officers stayed busy helping protect citizens during the protests in Kettering and surrounding jurisdictions. We were fortunate to have no serious injuries to any of our officers or citizens. As fall approaches we are looking forward to better days.

Fire Prevention Week October 4 - 10



"Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen!"

Cooking is the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries. The most common cause of fires in the kitchen is unattended cooking. "Serve up Fire Safety in the Kitchen" has been chosen as the theme for the 2020 Fire Prevention Week. Follow the Kettering Fire Department on Facebook for more fire and injury prevention tips. Here are a few steps you can take to prevent fire and injury while you are cooking.

- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, boiling, grilling, or broiling food.
- If you are simmering, baking, or roasting food, check it regularly and stay in the home.
- Always keep a lid nearby when cooking. If a small grease fire starts, slide the lid over the pan and turn off the burner. Leave the pan covered until it has cooled.
- Keep anything that can catch fire away from your stovetop.



- Loose clothing can hang down onto stove burners and catch fire. Wear short, close-fitting, or tightly rolled sleeves when cooking.
- Have a "kid-free zone" of at least 3 feet (1 meter) around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried.

Recreational Fire

Fall is a popular time for recreational fires as the temperature begins to cool. Here is a list of rules that the State of Ohio has set for recreational fires or open burning.

- The only authorized fuel source is clean dry wood. (No yard waste or rubbish material)

- If the fire is confined to an approved container such as an outdoor fireplace, barbecue pit, etc. the fire must be at least 15 feet from a structure or combustible materials.

- For an open fire not contained, the fire must be at least 25 feet from a structure, wood fence, neighboring structure, or combustible materials. Conditions that could cause a fire to spread within 25 feet of the fire must be eliminated before ignition of a fire.
- An outdoor fire, where the fuel being burned is not contained in an outdoor fireplace, must have a fuel area of fewer than 3 feet in diameter and fewer than 2 feet in height.
- The fire must be constantly attended while burning and must be extinguished if it is not attended.
- A portable fire extinguisher with a minimum of a 4A

rating, garden hose, bucket of sand, or other suitable means for extinguishing the fire must be provided.

- The fire must not create an offensive or objectionable condition that interferes with the neighboring residents' use and enjoyment of their property. If this occurs, the Fire Department is required to order the person responsible for the fire to extinguish the fire.
- The Fire Department is required to extinguish fires which create hazardous conditions.

Often complaints are received from neighbors when a recreational fire is not conducted following these rules, or when a recreational fire produces smoke that migrates off of the property and into the residence of neighboring properties. Persons with chronic breathing problems can often be affected by these conditions.



RUMPKE Frequently Asked Questions

Why did Kettering choose Rumpke?

Rumpke provided the lowest and best cost proposal of the four vendors that submitted proposals through a competitive proposal process.

How do I sign up?

Rumpke became your new service provider beginning July 1.

There is no need to sign up unless you recently moved to Kettering and need to start new service.

Does Rumpke have qualified senior service?

Yes. Eligibility requirements include:

- Residents whose age is 65 years or older.
- Annual household income is less than \$35,000 AGI.
- The curbside rate is \$7.63 per month and house side is \$16.50 per month.
- Refuse and recycling carts are 65 gallons under this program. In lieu of 65 gallon carts, Rumpke will substitute 35 gallon carts, at no extra charge, upon request.

Is my service day staying the same?

Your service day will remain the same; however, pickup times may change.

Please place your carts by the curb or in their appropriate place for pickup the night before your service day.

May I change my cart size?

If you would like a different size cart, please contact Rumpke at 1-800-828-8171.

Why do I need overage bags?

All refuse and recycling must be contained in your Rumpke container. When your cart is full, you may use Rumpke-specific bags or rent additional carts.

Specially marked Rumpke overage bags are available for purchase at \$4 each from:

Grapes Wine and Beer Drive Thru
5884 Bigger Road

Dot's Market on Patterson Road

Handyman Ace Hardware at locations on Stroop Road and Wilmington Pike

What are the sizes of Rumpke carts?

Rumpke provides 95 gallon, 65 gallon and 35 gallon carts for both trash and recycling.

Can I still dispose of bulk items?

Yes. Rumpke will collect up to 3 bulk items each week. You are not required to contact Rumpke to schedule the pickup.

Will Rumpke pick up yard debris?

Yes. Yard debris may be commingled with refuse in the cart for all service levels.

How do I get additional carts?

Call 1-800-828-8171 to request additional carts for \$4 per month.

Does Rumpke provide service in alleys?

Yes. If you are currently receiving alley service, this will continue.

When is this happening?

Rumpke became your new service provider beginning July 1.

What is the price?

Regular Curbside service: \$15.25/month

Regular House side service: \$33/month

Qualified Senior Curbside service is: \$7.63/month

Qualified Senior House side service: \$16.50/month

What if I need senior service/house side service?

Rumpke will provide the same service that you had with WM. To have your service adjusted or updated, call 1-800-828-8171.

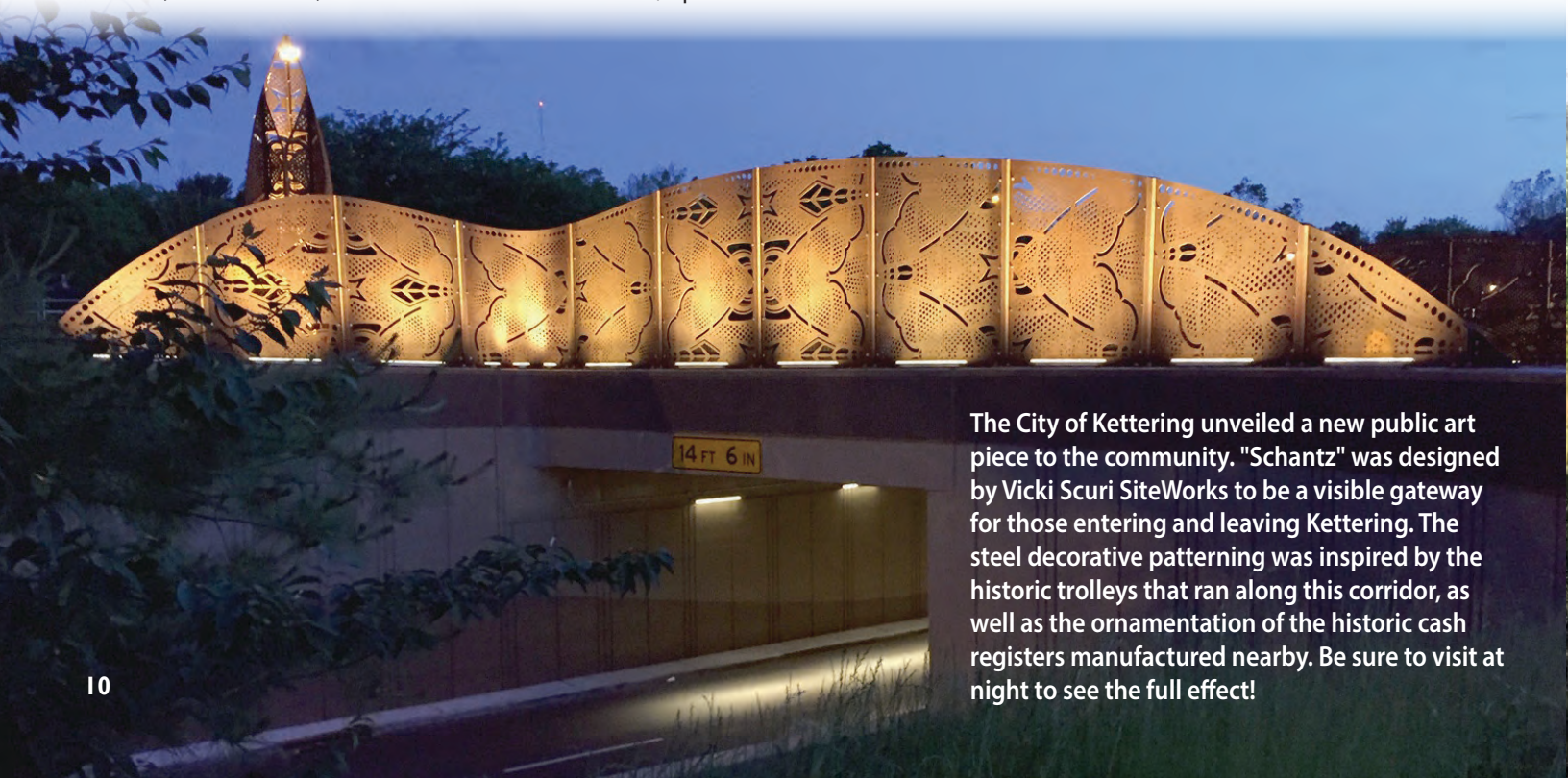
What are Rumpke holidays?

Holidays observed by Rumpke include:

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| • New Year's Day | • Memorial Day |
| • Independence Day | • Labor Day |
| • Thanksgiving Day | • Christmas Day |

If the holiday falls on a weekday before your regular service day, collection will be delayed one day.

If the holiday falls on Saturday or Sunday, collection will NOT be delayed.



The City of Kettering unveiled a new public art piece to the community. "Schantz" was designed by Vicki Scuri SiteWorks to be a visible gateway for those entering and leaving Kettering. The steel decorative patterning was inspired by the historic trolleys that ran along this corridor, as well as the ornamentation of the historic cash registers manufactured nearby. Be sure to visit at night to see the full effect!

Kettering Welcomes Life Connection of Ohio to Miami Valley Research Park

Life Connection of Ohio plans to relocate its regional office in Kettering. Life Connection of Ohio will breathe new life into nearly nine acres with innovative and profound service offerings.

Life Connection of Ohio is a non-profit organization that has promoted and facilitated organ donation in northwest and west central Ohio for 30 years. Last year, Life Connection of Ohio (LCO) coordinated the recovery of organs from 93 donors, providing 310 lifesaving transplants.

The move from their Wyoming Avenue office in Dayton will more than triple LCO's square footage, allowing for a larger workforce expected to nearly double from 58 to nearly 100 in 5 years. The Miami Valley Research Park location also allows LCO to work in close proximity with a broader group of businesses in the industry.

According to Matthew Wadsworth, CEO, projections over the next three to five years show that rate of expansion would increase the organization's \$5 million annual payroll to about \$9 million.

Community Tissue Services (CTS) broke ground on their 130,000 square foot expansion at Research Park in 2019 and hopes to move into the new building by the end of this year. CTS and LCO work toward similar missions, and their close proximity will only strengthen service provision for both companies.

According to Gregg Gorsuch, Economic Development Manager for the City of Kettering, Life Connection works closely with Community Tissue Services located on College Drive adjacent to this site in Research Park. "We think it will benefit both Community Tissue Services and Life Connection of Ohio, as well," he added.

While Life Connection of Ohio (LCO) has a regional site in Maumee, Ohio, the

Kettering location would be the primary office, according to Wadsworth.

LCO is purchasing approximately nine acres on the northeast corner of Woodman Drive and Research Boulevard. The land is part of the undeveloped acreage Kettering purchased in late 2017.

LCO's new location in Kettering is expected to be nearly 30,000 square feet among two stories. The site is also being planned to provide sufficient parking for administration, nurses, therapists, social workers and community services located there.

Wadsworth added, "We're here to serve the community and we really wanted space for our mission that would allow people to come in and gather and for us to provide education on donation and transplantation and also be able to serve other organizations that wanted somewhere to go off site."

"We're excited about going over to Kettering and being a part of Research Park — what that's going to offer for our employees...as far as a recruitment tool — so we can have the absolute best employees working for the organization...so we can save more lives."

According to Wadsworth, Life Connection of Ohio looks to break ground by the end of the year. In partnership with Shook Construction and MODA4 Design, LCO hopes to take occupancy by the end of 2021.

City of Kettering Supports Small Businesses

The City of Kettering Economic Development team recently distributed PPE Safety Toolkits, donated by JobsOhio, to assist small businesses throughout our community. These PPE Safety Toolkits will provide small businesses in Kettering PPE resources to stay protected and operate within the State's safety guidelines during the phased reopening of Ohio.



Kettering Leadership Academy Class of 2020

Congratulations to the Kettering Leadership Academy's Class of 2020! Class members began with an overnight retreat at Camp Joy last September. Their journey through the Academy consisted of outdoor learning experiences, classroom activities, leadership development and teambuilding exercises. Class members met once a month to learn about local government, education, health care and public safety. Although classes were cut short due to COVID-19, the Class of 2020 truly exemplified the leadership qualities necessary to strengthen and improve positive efforts in our community!

The Kettering Leadership Academy was created in 2003, by Council member Bruce Duke. It is administered through the City's Volunteer Office. The principal goal of the Academy is to build a resource of community leaders on a continuing basis. Now in its 18th year, over 75 percent of Academy graduates serve our community in some capacity.

In order to participate in the Kettering Leadership Academy, there is an application process. Applicants must either live or work in Kettering. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a 2020-2021



Back Row (L – R): Robert Baker, City of Kettering; Jyl Hall Smith, Dayton Realtors; Joseph Duncan, Kettering City Schools; Kari Backen, WilmerHale; Mike Perry, Worthington Industries; Robert Gray, Self Employed; Keith Uhlenhake, HEAPY; Front Row (L-R): Terri McFarland, Mast Global Digital – Lbrands; Michelle Wilkey, David's United Church of Christ; Ashley Runk, Day Air Credit Union; Margaret Pasqualone, City of Kettering, Alina Joseph, Kettering Health Network. Not Pictured: Megan Butcher, Heartland and Linda Cotrone, Christ Church United Methodist

- class will not be held. As we pause from
- the Academy, we will take every occasion
- to expand community partnerships
- and explore opportunities to further
- enhance the overall Kettering Leadership
- Academy experience. We hope to begin

- taking applications for the 2021-2022
- class in March of 2021. **For additional information about the Academy, please contact Volunteer Administrator, Mary Lou Randolph at marylou.randolph@ketteringoh.org or call 937-296-2531.**

Neighborhood Pride

While residents are spending more time at home this year, many took the opportunity to tackle home-improvement projects. These improvements have not gone unnoticed! Our dedicated volunteers serving on our Neighborhood Pride

- serves as an excellent way to recognize
- those who impeccably maintain their
- property year after year, or those who have
- made significant enhancements to their
- property's overall appearance.

Committee members select twelve residential and one commercial property in June, July and August. A sign is placed on the

- receive an award presented by Mayor Patterson.
- This program could not be possible without the help and commitment of our Neighborhood Pride Committee. These volunteers were able to continue this program with the modifications necessary to follow health and safety guidelines. Thank you to co-chairs Rob Jahn, Gail Carone, Mark and Carol Messer, and committee members Kathy Waker, Jim Bolton, Del and Ginny Herbeck, Chuck Dickerson, Gale Heller, Pat Ferguson, April Mason and Donna Speers. Your willingness and enthusiasm for the program is truly amazing! A special thanks to Bob Jahn, father of Rob Jahn, for the hours he spent repairing and painting the Neighborhood Pride yard signs!

Committee spent the summer reviewing hundreds of nominations submitted for the Neighborhood Pride Award! This award

- property identifying the home as an award
- winner, photos are placed on the City's website, and a video is made of all 2020 winning properties. Property owners also

- Watch for the next edition of Contact with Kettering for the list of all 2020 Neighborhood Pride Award winners!



Volunteer Drive-Thru

For the health and safety of our volunteers, many service opportunities and activities were not able to take place during the summer. This temporary pause did not stop the gratitude City staff has for our volunteers. The absence of our volunteers only makes our hearts grow fonder!

As a safe way to recognize and celebrate our volunteers, Mayor Patterson, members of City Council and the Volunteer Advisory Council distributed masks, made by our volunteers, and ice cream bars to volunteers as they drove through the parking lot at Fairmont High School. It was wonderful to see so many of our volunteers!



Your Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts

In March, when COVID-19 began to make an impact on our community, all of us here in Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts were challenged to be flexible, patient and creative to adapt to the ever-changing landscape. With our number-one goal in mind of keeping you and your loved ones safe, we had to close facilities and hold off on offering popular programs and camps.



Although our indoor facilities closed, our parks remained open. Our Parks Division has been coming to work and adapting every day since the changes due to COVID-19 started to unfold. Parks Superintendent Gary Schussler noted, "We've had to learn how to shift our focus with having reduced crews, but we've been business as usual maintaining all of Kettering's 21 parks."

Social-distancing restrictions were put in place to limit large gatherings at the parks, and playgrounds were closed for several weeks, but as new restrictions come and go, the



Parks Division has remained adaptable to make sure the parks stay accessible to all to keep nature a part of your and your family's life during a very stressful time.

Environmental Education Supervisor Kerri Miles has made necessary adjustments to the programs offered at Habitat Environmental Center to ensure safety for all. As with all our program offerings during this reopening time, Kerri reduced class sizes and enforces social-distancing rules. An example of a program she's had to tweak is **Archery Basics** for kids. She said, "The kids have been so great about following the new rules. They wear masks all the time

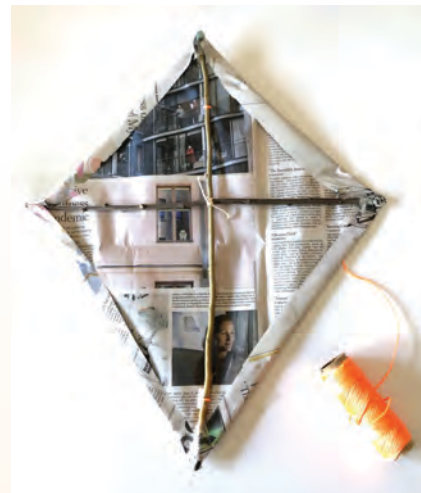


and think nothing of it and have a ton of fun." The Rosewood Arts Centre staff kept busy from home this spring by creating a robust

collection of **Art From Home** projects, including a homemade kite, a zoetrope and many more. They also presented a virtual

Art on the Commons event, which took place in August. Rosewood Gallery went virtual as well, with a grand total of four exhibitions currently housed online.

Rosewood oversees Kettering's large outdoor public art collection, which remained open for park visitors to enjoy during the shutdown. Visitors to the Haverstick neighborhood especially enjoyed **Bee Ambitious**, an interactive work by artist Jes McMillan. **Bee Ambitious** was dedicated in



Fall 2019 and includes a variety of sidewalk games, a fun and welcome addition to Kettering while playgrounds were closed. Rosewood staff has now pivoted to focus on the facility and new, limited program offerings, which resumed on July 6.

In early May, our indoor facilities began to reopen, starting

with the fitness centers at the Kettering Recreation Complex and Kettering Fitness & Wellness Center. Our full-time staff



stepped up to ensure that the facility ran smoothly and safely upon the public's return. PRCA's Recreation team was instrumental in ensuring that fitness and wellness facilities and programs opened in a safe, timely manner throughout the spring and summer months. Adult, Youth, and Family programs returned in a limited capacity in July for recreation, sports, art, fitness and environmental education, and have been a favorite option for those looking to enjoy some structured time out of the house.

We know this has been a trying time for everyone, and we thank you for your patience and understanding. It's our pleasure to bring a wide range of enriching programs to everyone,

and we look forward to life slowly returning to a place where we can do this again at full capacity. Until then, please know all of us here in Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts will keep working hard to serve you, keep you safe and offer spaces and programs to bring joy to you and your family.

Get Inspired for Those Fall Fitness Goals!



**WE ARE
PARKS AND
RECREATION**



During National Park & Recreation Month this July, we were excited to feature Kettering resident Jonelle Carroll. Jonelle is an active participant in the wide range of programs offered through Kettering Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department. Here's what Jonelle had to say about PRCA: "I believe it is one of the many things that makes Kettering such a special place to live and to work...I have been able to engage in activities from viewing art exhibits to cooking classes and everything in between. My membership has also allowed me to transform my life through heavy lifting at the fitness centers and taking specialized fitness classes such as Zumba and Step Aerobics. As an added bonus, I discovered I'm a total baddie at archery. We

are so fortunate to have access to these unbelievable amenities right here in our hometown!"

As we approach fall and get into a new routine — whatever that may look like for you in 2020 — it's important to stay active. Jogging and biking weather may be coming to an end, but our indoor fitness facilities at the Kettering Recreation Complex and Kettering Fitness & Wellness Center offer a safe, clean, state-of-the-art fitness experience. Not sure where to start your fitness journey? Our friendly, certified personal trainers are here to help. Whether you're into heavy lifting and cardio classes like Jonelle, want to de-stress during a yoga session or

spend some quality time on the treadmill, we have affordable options to suit every age and fitness level. Visit us at www.playkettering.org/fitness-wellness to get started!

Play Dates

Visit www.playkettering.org for the latest updates and safety guidelines!

Rosewood Gallery

Free and open to all ages



HWD 2020

Invitational Sculpture Exhibition
August 16 – September 25

Lori Kella, Erie: Lost and Found

October 5 – November 13

Caption: Lori Kella, Erie: Lost and Found series, vellum collage and photography



Wag-0-Ween

Free and open to all ages
Saturday, October 31
11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Adventure Reef Water Park Parking Lot
Pre-registration is required

To find out more about these programs and registration, visit us at www.playkettering.org or call 937-296-3344

KETTERING ICE ARENA



opens on
Tuesday, September 8

Visit www.playkettering.org/covidinfohub for the details on open skating, private and group lessons, stick time and group rentals!

Explore our Digital PlayKettering Guide



Like so many things in the year 2020, PlayKettering has gone digital! While we've transitioned back to mostly in-person programs and classes, we liked some of our online features so much, we decided to keep them.

We've offered a digital version of our seasonal PlayKettering Activities Guide for a few years now, but this year, we're moving away from the bulky hard copy guides of the past. Don't worry – the digital guide is easy to use! You can flip through it from your phone, tablet or computer,

and register for programs right from the guide. The enroll buttons in the guide will take you to our newly streamlined registration site – no more paper forms required!

Just visit us at www.playkettering.org to get started. You'll find the digital guide front and center on our homepage — choose the button for the months you're interested in and click to go directly to our current program guide.

Not tech savvy? No Internet access? No problem! We're back in our facilities, just a phone call or a visit away. You're welcome to give us a call to chat about program options or drop in to see us. If you stop by, we just ask that you wear a mask and keep a safe social distance from other visitors and staff.

Even if tech is not your thing or you don't have a computer at home, we encourage you to give our digital guide a try. Anyone with a smartphone can access it, and you're welcome to call us to register for the programs you discover if you're not comfortable registering online.

We're thrilled to be bringing programs to the community again, and we look forward to connecting with you! For the latest news and to learn when we post a new digital guide, follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/playkettering](https://www.facebook.com/playkettering), and on Twitter and Instagram @playkettering.



Contact Numbers

Emergency

Police/Fire/Paramedic Emergency..... 9-1-1

Non-Emergency

Police and Fire Dispatch..... 937-296-2555

Frequently Called Numbers

Animal Control 937-296-3266

Building Permits & Zoning 937-296-2441

City Income Tax 937-296-2502

Government Center..... 937-296-2400

Housing Rehabilitation 937-296-2441

Polen Farm 937-435-5787

Property Maintenance Hotline..... 937-296-3286

Recreation Complex/Water Park/Pool 937-296-2587

Rosewood Arts Centre..... 937-296-0294

Senior Adult Recreation 937-296-2480

Trash Information 937-29-TRASH

Volunteer Office..... 937-296-2433

Yard Debris Hotline..... 937-296-3255

Contact with Kettering is published quarterly by the City of Kettering to inform citizens about services, programs and issues in Kettering. Comments or suggestions are welcome and should be sent to the City of Kettering, 3600 Shroyer Road, Kettering, OH 45429.

Mary Azbill, Editor

Administrative Systems: Production

The City of Kettering invites people with disabilities to enjoy our programs, services, parks, and facilities. Please call 937-296-2439 for more information about accessibility or to request a modification. For TTY assistance, contact Ohio Relay Service at 800-750-0750.