

CONTACT with Kettering

Community Magazine Fall 2022



Annual Report
available on
Labor Day


CITY OF KETTERING *is home*

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- Kettering Police Department
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Mayor's Welcome

Dear Neighbors:

Thank you for being a part of such a wonderful Kettering summer. While we are still enjoying summer fun, we are beginning to feel the pull toward autumn as students and teachers return to their classrooms and City programs shift to fall offerings. There is a certain excitement in the air, no matter your age, as the summertime slowdown gives way to a new routine and the priorities that accompany learning, athletics, friendships and growth.

When I was a child heading back to school, I begged for the opportunity to take violin lessons. My parents made my dream a reality by finding an old violin they could afford and a teacher I'll never forget. A prodigy I was not; however, looking back, I can't imagine the patience my teacher must have had teaching me from ground zero, and the sacrifice my parents made allowing me to try something new and adding another activity to the calendar.

Not much has changed regarding people wanting to try new things; and, the City of Kettering offers a wide variety of programs that cater to all ages. Whether it's team sports, swim lessons, art programs, environmental education and even ice arena options, our Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department (PRCA) has it. To me, these offerings make Kettering most unique both in the vast number of options available and the memories my family will forever hold because of the experiences we were fortunate to have close to home.

Unfortunately, a few of our programs have been impacted by staff shortages; and, I have no doubt that some of you have experienced the disappointment of reduced class sizes or decreased hours for some of the activities. Our PRCA team is phenomenal, and I am asking you, as members of our community, to consider offering a few hours a week to be part of it. Schedule your own hours, and add a new skill to your set! We are flexible and willing to teach you what you need to know to join our Aquatics, Ice Arena or Sports staff.

The Aquatics Team is responsible for oversight and operations at the Kettering Recreation Complex indoor pool. We're currently hiring lifeguards and swim instructors. We provide American Red Cross lifeguard training and certification throughout the year for those who need it. The training program is free of charge for those who join our team after becoming certified.

Ice Instructor Aides use their knowledge of ice skating to help community members build skills that will last a lifetime. Ice Guards help our arena patrons have a safe, fun skating experience. If you retired your skates for a slower pace, please consider lacing them up again for a stress-free ice experience. Or, if skating is out of the question, cashiers and positions off the ice can be yours.

Kettering's sports leagues and programs have a direct and meaningful impact on hundreds of youth and adults each year. We're currently looking for part-time coordinators to join our Sports program team.

Without my violin teacher, I would still be pining for my inner virtuoso to emerge. Because of her, I was able to check that off my list and welcome other interests and impactful teachers and coaches throughout my life. Please consider helping to keep our program options strong by joining our PRCA team and assisting fellow residents in reaching their potential. If you have a few hours each week to spare and you want to help carry on the Kettering tradition of offering an unmatched variety of programs for our residents, please apply online at www.playkettering.org/jobs or call 937-296-2446.

Thank you for your consideration.

Take care.

Peggy Lehner, Mayor

PS Did you know that workers older than 65 make up the fastest-growing segment of the labor force and 34% of retirees have thought about returning to the workforce, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and ResumeBuilder? Our exciting positions offer fulfillment and purpose, along with flexibility and training. Your extraordinary talent could offer fellow residents the experiences of a lifetime.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Community Block Party
Tuesday, August 30, 6 – 8 p.m.
Lincoln Park Civic Commons



Shred Day

Saturday, October 1, 9 a.m. – Noon
Fairmont High School Parking Lot,
3301 Shroyer Road



Residential Leaf Pickup Begins
Monday October 17



Make A Difference Day

Saturday, October 22, 9 a.m. – Noon



DEA Drug Takeback

Saturday, October 29, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Kettering Police Dept.,
3600 Shroyer Road



Beggar's Night

Monday, October 31, 6 – 8 p.m.



CITY OF KETTERING

Kettering Mayor & Council

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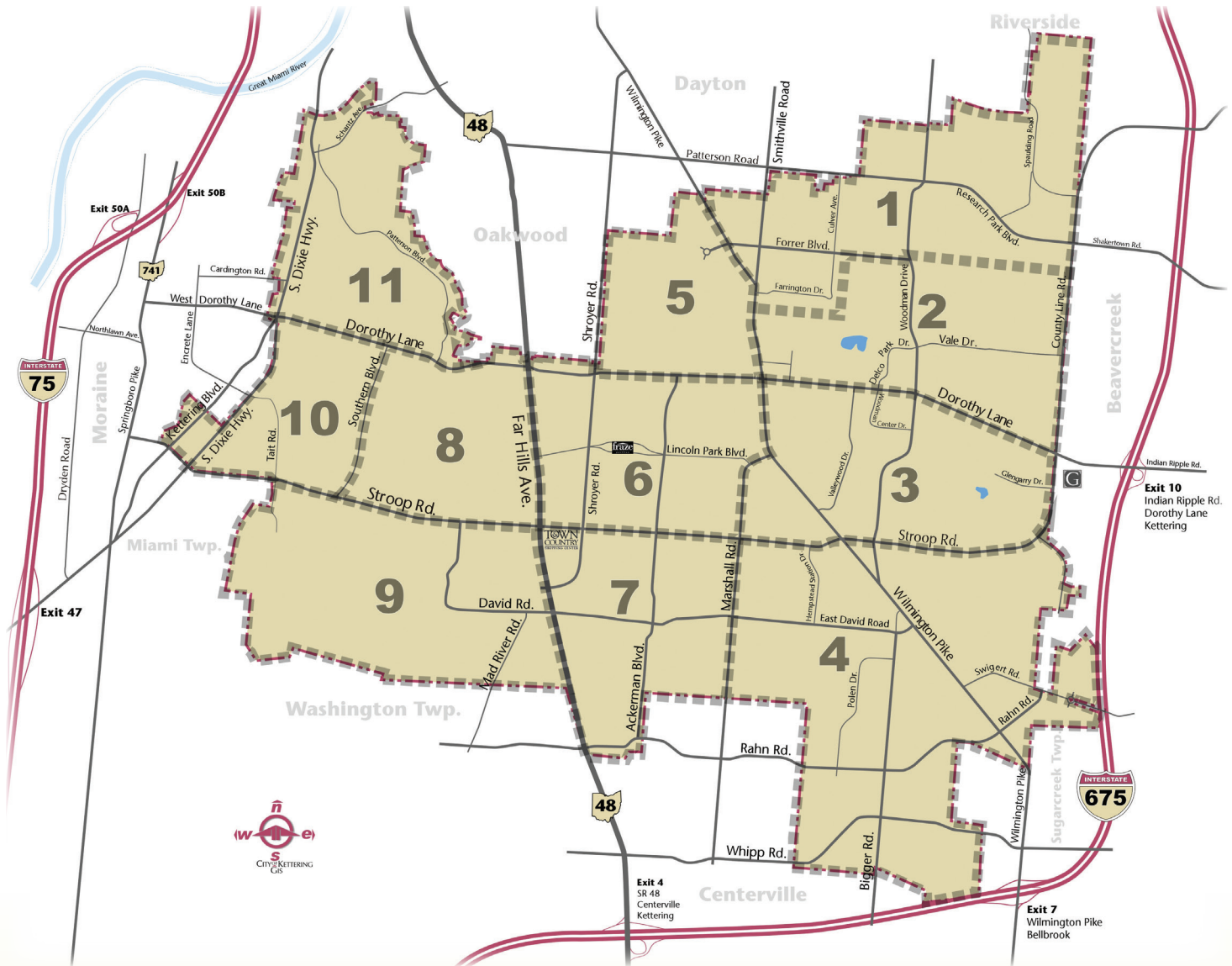
@Kettering_OH

City of Kettering, Ohio – Government

Visit www.ketteringoh.org and sign up to receive **The Starter**—Kettering's monthly e-newsletter.



Leaf Collection Begins October 17!



One of the most unique and highly valued services the City of Kettering offers residents is free curbside collection of 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 17, and will continue leaf pickup until early December. Please note that all leaves should be raked to the curb by Monday, November 28, for the final pass for 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)**, check the Kettering website or follow us on Facebook 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 pickup. 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 pickup on your normal trash collection day.

FEMA Flood Mapping Updates

Summary

FEMA is updating flood mapping documents in Montgomery County, including the City of Kettering. The FEMA mapping documents for the portion of Kettering in Greene County were completed this past spring. The maps and related information are used to reduce flood impact and to assign risk for insurance purposes. The primary impact to certain Kettering property owners will be potential development restrictions and possible requirement of flood insurance by mortgage companies. The specific documents updated are the Flood Insurance Study and Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs).

Explanation

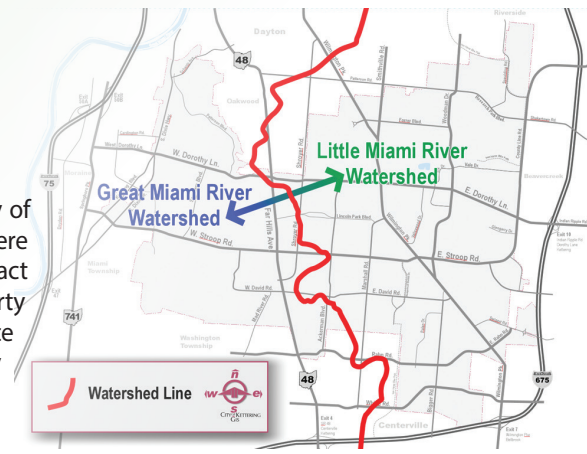
Kettering drains in two directions: to the Great Miami River on the west and to the Little Miami River on the east. The Great Miami Watershed is under study, and maps may be updated in the next several years. The Little Miami Watershed has been studied, and final maps will become effective on October 27, 2022.

The new maps were created using more advanced and accurate technology to determine the land form. The analysis identifies waterways and projected elevations during flood events. The four key technical terms when evaluating flood maps are floodplain, floodway, flood fringe and base flood elevation.

The floodway can be understood as a waterway swelling up to overflow the banks. Development in the floodway is essentially prohibited by the City's Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance.

The floodplain can be understood as the area where stormwater overtops the banks of the waterway, including the floodway, and floods the surrounding lowlands as shown in the graphic below. The flood fringe portion of the floodplain is an essential part of the waterway that stores substantial amounts of water until the flood waters recede. The floodplain is determined by identifying a storm of certain magnitude (a severity of storm with a one percent chance of happening in any one year) and then calculating the anticipated height of flood waters--the base flood elevation. To determine this storm event, historical storm information is applied with the intensity and duration of the precipitation. The term 100-year storm was previously used, but this nomenclature has been abandoned by FEMA due to confusion on the perceived frequency of significant flooding events.

Development in the flood fringe is permitted with the restrictions that it will neither cause a substantial negative impact to the flow of flood waters nor cause significant damage to a structure.



Kettering participates in the National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System. This effort reduces risk for flood damage and, in return, qualifies property owners for discounts on flood insurance.

The maps, which were created with more accurate information and modeling techniques, show modified floodway and floodplain areas for certain neighborhoods in Kettering. Some properties that were not previously shown in the floodplain will be soon, and vice versa. If a property is newly classified in the floodplain, the property owner may wish to hire a surveyor to determine the lowest adjacent grade at the structure and compare that to the base flood elevation. If the lowest adjacent grade is higher than the base flood elevation, the property owner would typically apply to FEMA for a Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA). Upon receiving the approved LOMA, a mortgage company is likely to waive its requirement for flood insurance. The property owner can still obtain flood insurance, but likely at a reduced rate.

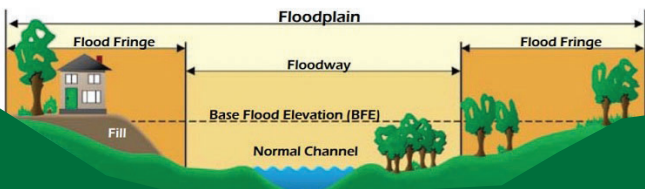
If an owner does not have a mortgage or other type of loan against the property, then flood insurance may not be immediately required if it is located within the floodplain. However, when the owner goes to sell the property or attempts to obtain an equity loan from a bank, obtaining flood insurance would likely be a condition of the mortgage or loan.

FEMA has requested Kettering assist with communicating this map updating process to the community and particularly impacted property owners who may not be aware of the flood hazard to their structures.

Engineering (937-296-2436) and Planning and Development (937-296-2441) staff regularly assist property owners with flood plain concerns and will continue to do so as the new flood maps become effective. A similar update to the FEMA flood maps last occurred for Montgomery County and Kettering in 2005.

To research flood risk at a specific property, go to msc.fema.gov/portal/search.

Characteristics of a Floodplain



To protect their investment, mortgage companies typically require flood insurance for properties with structures in the floodplain. The rates for flood insurance vary by risk. To put this in perspective, the average cost for flood insurance in Ohio is \$1,099 per year. For properties in low-risk areas, the cost can be as low as \$200 per year.



KETTERING CONSERVATION TEAM

Our mission is to empower the Kettering Community to be actively engaged with the care of natural spaces and resources through service, leadership and education.

Join a group of like-minded volunteers with the mission to empower the Kettering Community to be actively engaged with the care of natural spaces and resources through service, leadership, and education!

We invite ALL members of our community to take part in this initiative. There are projects everyone can participate in such as:

- Invasive plant removal
- Native plant installation and care
- Local waterway monitoring and cleanup
- Educational programs
- Citizen Science projects

Ready to get involved?

Contact the City of Kettering Volunteer Office at 937-296-2433 or visit www.ketteringoh.org/volunteer-department to complete a volunteer application.



Kettering Sustainability Committee

The City of Kettering is committed to incorporating environmentally sustainable practices and initiatives through active research, education, discussion with residents and business owners and continuous review of emerging technology and best practices.

In response to a recent planning retreat, the Kettering City Council determined that sustainability is a priority issue. To facilitate the process of determining the direction and scope of projects recommended to City leaders, the City of Kettering is seeking a team of dedicated volunteers willing to serve as an advisory body. The scope of the Sustainability Committee will include research, discussion, written communication, and advocacy.

Individuals interested in this committee should:

- Be committed to providing two years of service to the committee. This includes availability to actively and regularly participate in monthly committee and subcommittee meetings at a time convenient to committee members.
- Be willing to serve on a subcommittee group to investigate a specific topic or project.
- Engage in respectful, open discussion of topics presented with the goal to find common ground for the benefit of the City of Kettering residents and business owners.

If you would like to be considered for this committee, please fill out an application found at www.ketteringoh.org/kettering-sustainability-committee, or stop by the Volunteer Office to fill out a paper application.

Shopping for Electric

Since June 1, we have all added the increase in electricity rates to our list of worries. Because Ohio is a de-regulated state, every utility goes to auction annually. As the 2022 auction closed for AES Ohio, we learned rates would increase as a result. The City of Kettering has been working to mitigate the potential financial impact this could have on residents.

In anticipation of the news that AES intended to increase their rates, the City of Kettering immediately began looking into alternatives to help residents. We are currently exploring the benefits of using larger buying power by partnering with surrounding municipalities to negotiate a better energy price for residents. We are cautious in our search to ensure the terms and conditions attached to these alternatives are beneficial, as well. Always remember to read the fine print.

For now, we encourage residents to research electric suppliers to find the one most suitable for their needs. The Apples-to-Apples resource from the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio can help you compare prices between providers. Please visit energychoice.ohio.gov/ApplesToApplesCategory.aspx?Category=Electric to get started. Meanwhile, be assured that the City of Kettering has made this a top priority, and is working with surrounding communities to find the resource that will best serve everyone. If we choose to join forces and move forward, we anticipate this occurring in the first half of 2023. We will report updates in our publications and on social media to keep you informed.



City of Kettering Shred Day

Saturday, October 1, 2022
9 a.m. – Noon

Fairmont High School Parking Lot
3301 Shroyer Road



Kettering



Sunday, September 4 and
Monday, September 5



This year's Holiday at Home theme is *Dog Days of Summer*. We are glad this treasured annual tradition is back in 2022. Join us on Sunday and Monday of Labor Day weekend for fun, multi-generational activities that include a parade, arts and crafts sale, children's zone with inflatables and face painting, auto show, live entertainment, 5K run, kids fun run and so much more.

For more information about
Holiday at Home, visit:
www.holidayathome.org

Kettering Block Party

August 30
6 – 8 p.m.

Lincoln Park Civic Commons
and Frazee Pavillion

Learn more about City of Kettering departments and services, enjoy free entertainment on the Frazee stage and meet your friends and neighbors.



Kettering Residents Benefit from City's Partnership with Day Air Credit Union

More than 31 Kettering residents have benefited from two programs the City implemented in partnership with Day Air Credit Union to help residents achieve affordable homeownership and also complete home rehab improvements.

First-Time Homebuyer Assistance Program

Under the First-Time Homebuyer Assistance Program, renters and low to moderate income households can reduce the financial burden of obtaining their first home. The program provides up to 10% down payment and cover closing costs up to \$20,000 when paired with a Day Air Mortgage product. Day Air has agreed to provide special financing and terms for the remainder of the program.

Elom Dossa – pictured here with Mayor Lehner – was one of the first participants in the program when she closed on her new home this past February; since then, 14 additional applicants have taken advantage of this program.



Home Improvement Assistance Program

Meanwhile, the Home Improvement Assistance Program aims to help Kettering residents make needed and wanted home upgrades that enhance property value. Program funds can be put toward a large list of exterior and interior home improvements as approved by the City of Kettering. Kettering residents utilizing this program will get a special low rate home improvement loan from Day Air in addition to a forgivable loan of 40%, up to \$20,000.

Kaitlyn Nielsen – also pictured here with Mayor Lehner – is one of 17 Kettering residents who have applied for this program.

According to City Manager Mark Schwieterman the City is passionate about providing resources to enhance the lives of everyone who chooses to call Kettering home. "We're excited to partner with Day Air to provide affordable and sustainable opportunities for Kettering residents to enjoy homeownership," he said.

Program information including qualification details are available at dayair.org/improvehome.





Kettering Police Department Updates

Retirement Announcement

After 29 years of service to the City of Kettering, Captain Mike Gabrielson retired July 29, 2022. Mike rose through the ranks of the Kettering Police Department, and he has given countless contributions to the Kettering community through his work. Mike will serve as Chief for the Loveland Police Department. We wish him the very best and are grateful for his service.



KPD Welcomes New Officers



Carissa Ferrell joined the Kettering Police Department in May. Carissa graduated from Tippecanoe High School in 2018, and went on to graduate from Wright State University earlier this year with a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice. Officer Ferrell also completed an internship with KPD during her last semester in college while she was in the hiring process. Carissa began the Criminal Justice Training Academy at Sinclair Community College in June and will begin field training upon completion.

Tyler Johnson came to Kettering from Warren County Sheriff's Office and the Village of Anna Police Department. Tyler graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Ohio University in 2017, where he also played football.



Officer William Justice joins Kettering after serving four years in the U.S. Marine Corps, three years in the Kenton County (KY) Detention Center and almost three years at the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office.

KPD's Newest Emergency Response Vehicle

With the help of Miami Valley Communications Council, member cities including Kettering, Oakwood, Moraine, Centerville, West Carrollton, Miamisburg, Springboro and Germantown, welcomed the arrival of the Lenco BearCat G3, the newest member of the Kettering Regional Special Response Team's vehicle fleet. This armored vehicle will help ensure the safety of the regional SWAT team members and the citizens in the communities they serve. The BearCat G3 provides Lenco's proven armor system in a ruggedized, off-road platform. The G3 utilizes the same body design, interior features and tactical options as the G2, but it comes standard with a heavier duty upgraded suspension and off-road tires, rims and run flats to provide enhanced off-road performance. The increased ground clearance and robust suspension allows for emergency response in rural regions and natural disaster scenarios where standard armored SWAT vehicles would experience challenges.



Mail Fraud Alert



Jurisdictions all over the country have recently seen an increase in check thefts from post office drop boxes, and Kettering has seen the same trend. In 2022, KPD

has responded to 45 incidents where a check was stolen from a USPS drop box, forged and used to purchase items or deposited for cash. If you use USPS to deliver your filled out checks, there are a few things you can do to protect yourself from becoming a victim. KPD suggests that instead of using the stand alone drop boxes, usually located in the parking lot of most USPS location, walk your check inside the post office and drop your mail with an employee. Once a check is in the mail, consider tracking the transaction through your bank to ensure that the check was deposited for the appropriate amount and by the intended person/company. If a check never reaches the intended party, is deposited for the wrong amount or by the wrong person, please contact KPD at 937-296-2555 to report the incident.

Fire Prevention Week



Fire Prevention Week is October 9-15, 2022.

This year's campaign is "Fire Won't Wait. Plan Your Escape™". It works to educate everyone about simple but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe from home fires.

Today's homes burn faster than ever. You may have as little as two minutes (or even less time) to safely escape a home fire from the time the smoke alarm sounds. Your ability to get out of a home during a fire depends on early warning from smoke alarms and advance planning.

It is important for everyone to plan and practice a home fire escape. Everyone

needs to be prepared in advance, so that they know what to do when the smoke alarm sounds. Given that every home is different, every home fire escape plan will be unique.

Have a plan for everyone in the home. Children, older adults and people with disabilities may need assistance to wake up and get out. Make sure that someone will help them!

Smoke alarms sense smoke well before you can, alerting you to danger. Smoke alarms need to be in every bedroom, outside of the sleeping areas (like a hallway) and on each level (including the basement) of your home. Do not put

smoke alarms in your kitchen or bathrooms.

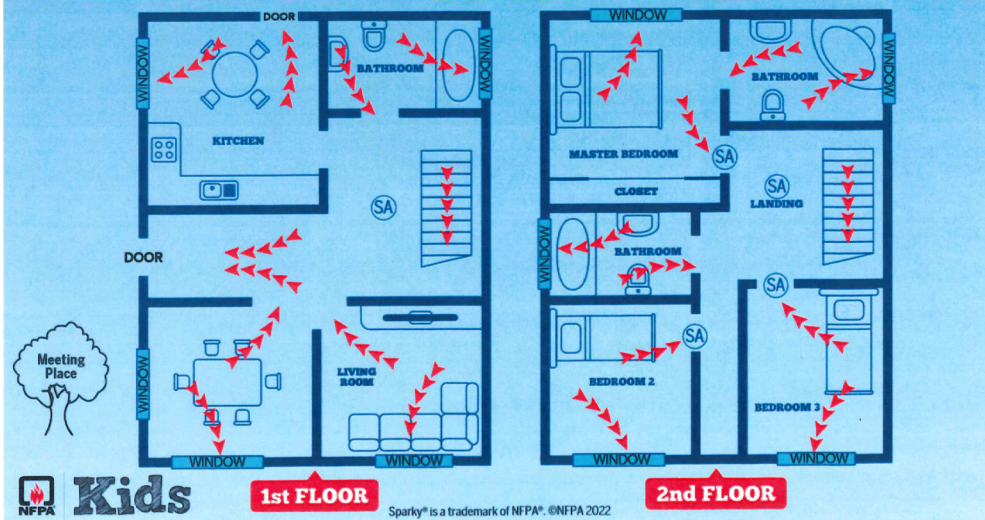
Choose an alarm that is listed with a testing laboratory, meaning it has met certain standards for protection.

For the best protection, use combination smoke and carbon monoxide alarms that are interconnected throughout the home. These can be installed by a qualified electrician, so that when one sounds, they all sound. This ensures you can hear the alarm no matter where in your home the alarm originates.



- Draw a map of your home. Show all doors and windows.
- Visit each room. Find two ways out.
- All windows and doors should open easily. You should be able to use them to get outside.
- Make sure your home has smoke alarms. Push the test button to make sure each alarm is working.
- Pick a meeting place outside. It should be in front of your home. Everyone will meet at the meeting place.
- Make sure your house or building number can be seen from the street.
- Talk about your plan with everyone in your home.
- Make sure everyone in your home knows how to dial 911 or your local emergency number.
- Practice your home fire drill!
- Make your own home fire escape plan using the grid provided on page 2.

Sample Escape Plan



Recreational Fires

Recreational fires are permitted in the City of Kettering. However, these fires must meet a few criteria to prevent unfriendly fires or a neighborhood nuisance. All of these requirements can be found in the Ohio Administrative Code 1301:7-7-03.

- Permission must be received from the owner of the property where the recreational fire is taking place.
- Recreational fires shall not be conducted within 25 feet of a structure or combustible material.
- If the fire is contained in 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.
- Fire shall be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished. A portable fire extinguisher with a minimum of a 4A rating or garden hose, bucket of sand or other suitable means for extinguishing the fire must be provided.
- The total fuel area shall not exceed three feet in diameter or two feet in height.
- Fuel shall only consist of clean dry firewood. (No yard waste or rubbish materials or prohibited materials defined by the Ohio Administrative Code may be burned at any time).
- Fire shall not create an offensive or objectionable situation to neighboring property owners.

For more information, visit www.ketteringoh.org/permits



1st FLOOR

2nd FLOOR

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Welcome to Kettering!

Kettering Mayor, City Council Members and City Staff had the pleasure to welcome two businesses to Kettering.

Dished! is a healthy meal connection located at 5860 Bigger Road. Dished! offers a weekly rotating menu featuring health-focused, individually-portioned meals and snacks, as well as meal kits with very little assembly required!

They use only whole foods that are fresh, and whenever possible, locally sourced and organically grown.

Set your healthy habits up for success and let Dished! do the meal prep for breakfast, lunch, dinner or snacks.



Dished!



Willow Women's Health is located at 15 Southmoor Circle, NE, providing women a safe, person-centered, holistic environment inclusive of shared decision making.

Willow Women's Health

Kay's School of Dance Celebrates 70 Years in Kettering

The City of Kettering congratulates Kay's School of Dance celebrating its 70th anniversary this year. In honor of the milestone, Kay's School of Dance hosted an open house and dance recital as part of their 70 years at Town & Country Shopping Center on Saturday, August 6.



Kay's School of Dance was founded by Kay Jacobus in 1952, which is the same year that Kettering became a village. The company has remained at this location for 70 years and is now run by Cheryl Jacobus, Kay's daughter. Cheryl has been certified by the Chicago Association of Dance Masters and has choreographed and staged many acts during her distinguished career.

Kay's School of Dance is one of the longest-established businesses in Kettering, but we know there are many other businesses with similar stories in Kettering. If your business is celebrating a milestone anniversary or has been in business since 1952 (or longer) please email econdev@ketteringoh.org. The City may connect with you to share your story.

Kettering Businesses Awarded Micro-Enterprise Grants

The City of Kettering's Community Development Division has awarded grants to four Kettering business owners as part of the Minority Business Micro-Enterprise Grant program. Applications continue to be accepted for eligible businesses at this time, with eligibility criteria expected to be expanded later this fall.

Grants were awarded to Lopez & Associates, which provides IT services; Jolorah's Beauty which provides luxury hair extensions and custom hair color services and products; DFL Nutrition, which offers açai bowls, meal replacement shakes, cold pressed juice, energy boosters and vegan snacks; and Mackbrand Clothing, an online shop for t-shirts, hats, hoodies and jogger sets.

According to Angela Rahman, the City's Community Development Manager, the grant recipients can use the funding for

business equipment, inventory, necessary fixed assets, marketing and business promotion or other necessary business improvements.

To be eligible for the grant, applicants must be: located in Kettering; a registered taxpayer and current on their tax payments; and a designated microenterprise which is defined as a business with five or fewer employees, one of whom is the owner of the business. Eligibility is also contingent upon income limits (see chart for details) and the businesses location having no property maintenance violations.

Due to strong interest in this program, the City will continue to accept applications from eligible minority-owned businesses at this time and then also expand the program later to include eligible women-owned businesses, veteran-owned businesses and disabled-owned businesses.

If you have questions about this program, please contact the City's Community Development Division at 937-296-2524 or email econdev@ketteringoh.org with eligibility questions or requests for more information.



| Household Members: | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Low-Income (80%) | \$47,150 | \$53,850 | \$60,600 | \$67,300 | \$72,700 | \$78,100 | \$83,500 | \$88,850 |
| Very Low-Income (50%) | \$29,450 | \$33,650 | \$37,650 | \$42,050 | \$45,450 | \$48,800 | \$52,150 | \$55,550 |

Ten Years Later: How the Wilmington Pike Improvement Plan Drives Investment in Kettering

If you're traveling in Kettering to shop, dine, work or even run a quick errand, it's likely that Wilmington Pike will be part of your commute. This important commercial corridor stretches four miles throughout our city, linking travelers to various amenities not only in Kettering, but to our neighboring communities like Dayton and Centerville, making this corridor one of the most heavily traveled in all of Montgomery County.

More than ten years ago, City leaders noticed disinvestment along Wilmington Pike and decided it was time to act. Some sections of this corridor had poor land values, undesirable property appearances, vacancies and were home to low-rent businesses. In August of 2012, the City formed a committee of business owners, City Council and Planning Commission members, and city staff to come up with a plan to reverse the disinvestment. Chartered as the Wilmington Pike Improvement Committee, this group was tasked with coming up with a plan to spark redevelopment and encourage economic development.

While there is still more work to do, since that first meeting over 10 years ago, Kettering has seen some success as a result of this initiative.

The first major investment came through the City's capital improvement program, as street improvements, improved pedestrian and bike path connections, new street lights and landscaping were added to the corridor. The City also demolished old buildings that had outlived their utility, taking down sites like the former Wonder Bread bakery and Crawdaddies Pub. The demolition of these lots made way for vacant lots at 3701 and 3613 Wilmington Pike, sites that are owned by the City and available to be purchased and developed. City leaders are optimistic that these properties will be developed soon, as the City has received a number of inquiries that would work well on those sites.

The Wilmington Pike Improvement Committee also enacted policies to incentivize the private sector to re-invest in properties. Known as a "public-private partnership", the grant programs reimburse property owners with a City grant to offset the cost of improvements made to their properties.

The Wilmington Pike Demolition Program, provides funding to commercial and residential property owners to assist in the demolition of structures and clearance of



Eudora Before

Eudora After



Grismer Tire



Warehouse 4



We Care Arts



Robert K. Jones Insurance

sites to be redeveloped or to remove non-conforming structures or blight. Property owners can enter into an agreement with the City and be reimbursed for up to 50 percent of the demolition cost, up to \$25,000.

Meanwhile, the Wilmington Pike Façade and Site Improvement Plan, which is available for exterior building façade or site improvements to bring buildings and site into conformance with the Kettering Zoning Code. Commercial and residential land owners are eligible to be reimbursed for up to 50 percent of improvement costs, up to \$25,000.

Numerous businesses and property owners have taken advantage of the Façade & Site Improvement grant program over the past ten years including:

- Eudora Brewing Company
- Game Runners Ohio
- Grismer Tire
- Robert K Jones Insurance Agency
- We Care Arts

In some cases, City grant funds have sparked additional investment. Kettering has seen construction of new projects along Wilmington Pike, such as the Dayton Metro Library location, the Key Terrace Apartments, and renovations to buildings like Sky Asian and others.

If you are interested in learning more about the eligibility requirements for either program or sites available along Wilmington Pike, contact City staff at econdev@ketteringoh.org or 937-296-3342.



Make a Difference Day

Make A Difference Day is Saturday, October 22 from 9 a.m. to noon. We will offer two opportunities to make an active difference in our community. For individuals looking to spend time outside, join us at Van Buren Park (Scottsdale Dr.) to help with the installation of a rain garden. This beautification project in the 2022 Cities of Service Neighborhood, will have a long term impact by reducing the amount of standing water after rain events and will incorporate a variety of native plants. If you prefer to stay inside, head over to Christ United Methodist Church (3440 Shroyer Rd.) to make greeting cards sent to

active service men and women thanks to Blue Star Mothers, or make holiday place mats for area nursing homes. If you prefer to work from home, card kits will be available to pick up starting Monday, September 19 from the Volunteer Office. Please call (937) 296-2433 for details. Everyone is welcome to participate in these activities! To help us plan for refreshments for the in-person activities, please sign up at our events page found at www.ketteringoh.org/volunteer-special-events.

Kettering Leadership Academy Class of 2022

Congratulations to the 2022 Kettering Leadership Academy graduates! We wish you much success as you take on future leadership roles within our community!

The primary goal of the Kettering Leadership Academy (KLA) is to build a resource of community leaders on a continuing basis. The Academy is designed to identify, educate and develop potential community leaders; expand leadership potential; enhance the quality of life in our community; and provide access to leadership and personal growth opportunities.

In September, 14 class members began their KLA experience with an overnight retreat comprised of classroom activities, outdoor learning experiences, leadership development and teambuilding exercises. Participants met once a month to learn about local government,

education, health care, volunteering, public safety, history and our business community. Participants were required to design and complete a project addressing a need in our community.

The Academy was created in 2003 by Councilman Bruce Duke and administered by Volunteer Office staff. Over 75% of KLA graduates serve in some capacity in our community.

For additional information about KLA, please contact Volunteer Administrator, Dawn Kirchner at 937-296-2531.



Back row (L-R): Dr. Candy McCoy, Dr. Vicki Colon, Aaron Smith, Sgt. Dan Gangwer, Eric Evans, Nate Wynn, Jack Crotty
Front row (L-R): Dr. Pamela Ellis, Kristi Smith, Paula Spicer, Tracy Goodpaster, Theo Hale, Jenny Smith, Tracy McElfresh

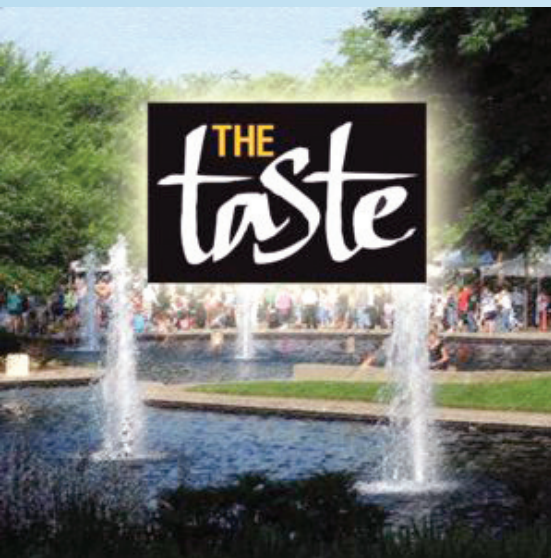
Neighborhood Pride Program

The City of Kettering has completed its 34th year of the Neighborhood Pride Program! It has been a fantastic year for the Neighborhood Pride Program with hundreds of nominations submitted and reviewed by the committee members. The award winners demonstrate significant improvement or upkeep to their properties year after year. Mayor Peggy Lehner will recognize all award winners on September 27 at the City Council meeting. Thank you to all award winners for showing such beautiful pride in Kettering with the impeccable care of your home or business.

This program would not be possible without the time, talent and commitment of the Neighborhood Pride Committee! Thank you to co-chairs Rob Jahn, Gail Carone, Mark & Carol Messer, and committee members Kathy Waker, Jim Bolton, Del and Ginny Herbeck, Maureen Willits, Chuck Dickerson, Gale Heller, Pat Ferguson, April Mason and Donna Speers. Your involvement is appreciated and is vital to the success of the Neighborhood Pride Program!



4444 Royal Ridge Way



The Taste

Wednesday,
August 31
6 to 9 p.m.

Tickets On Sale Now:
\$25 – In Advance;
\$30 – Day of Event;
\$10 – Children under 10

Join us for the 35th annual **The Taste** festival presented by the Kettering Moraine Oakwood Chamber of Commerce! It promises to be a fun evening of good food and entertainment. Hosted in Lincoln Park Civic Commons the 2022 Taste has new participants to try alongside Taste favorites from previous years. Enjoy samples of delicious food from a variety of local restaurants. It's sure to be taste-sational! Watch frazee.com for the restaurant list.

Please note: Sorry, no pets please. Coolers will not be allowed for any Frazee event. Note that bag/purse size is limited to 12" x 12" x 6" and any bag larger than 12" x 12" x 6" must be returned to a vehicle and will not be item checked.

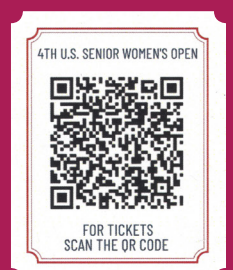


Kettering Welcomes the U.S. Senior Women's Open Championship

Kettering will see a boost to the local economy when golfers and fans from across the nation arrive at NCR Country Club for the U.S. Golf Association's 4th Annual U.S. Senior Women's Open Championship.

As a result of this event, 120 golfers and thousands of spectators are expected to descend on our city for the USGA's Senior Women's Open Championship which will take place August 25 – 28 on NCR Country Club's famed South Course.

The City is currently working closely with NCR Country Club, the KMO Chamber of Commerce, and staff from the USGA to ensure this will be a flawless event for the community and that our restaurants, shops and other businesses will benefit from the crowds, as well as the positive national exposure that comes from hosting a USGA event. Please watch the City's website and Facebook page for more exciting updates as they are announced.



Rosewood Arts Center's Community Mural is Complete

As part of Rosewood Arts Center's renovation project, which is currently underway, a community mural now adorns the exterior of the building. Designed by Atalie Gagnet, the mural is made possible through a special partnership with the Dayton Printmakers Cooperative, students in the Kettering City Schools, and Kettering residents.

Three Fairmont High School students, chosen from a pool of 21 applicants from across the Miami Valley, apprenticed with Gagnet and helped to paint the mural. The apprentices were Fairmont High School 2022 graduates Yara Chaouali and Haley Franklin and rising senior Lily Rueckhaus.

Gagnet is an artist and mural painter with over a decade of experience. Her notable murals are numerous and include commissioned works with the Levitt Pavilion, the Downtown Dayton Partnership, ArtWorks Cincinnati, and the Gem City Market.

Rueckhaus enjoyed: "Learning about the process involved in painting a mural, overcoming my fear of ladders, and learning to paint with a broken elbow. It was really great to see professional artists at work, since that is the field I want to pursue in the future. Both were amazing to work with! I am really grateful to be a part of this group and work on this project!"

"Working on this mural has been an amazing experience!" Chaouali agreed. "It feels really great to be able to contribute and do something for everyone in the City of Kettering. The constant encouragement of people going into Rosewood made this all worth it. I never

thought I would be able to make such an impact on my city, but seeing all of our hard work makes me so proud of us. With the help and support of my mom, and my art teacher, Meghan Fay, I'm so honored to be able to say I painted a mural for my hometown! Working with Atalie and Chase was so fun; they never made it feel strained, instead created a fun work environment for all of us together, and taught us so many things. I am so grateful to have had this opportunity and experience, and can't wait to see it with the completed renovation of Rosewood!"

"The connection to the community the mural brought was a great experience," Franklin said. "It was so cool to see people walk by and watch us, encourage us and our work ethic, and the mailman who would stop by every single day and watch us paint. Some of the younger campers who would leave during the day loved watching us paint. The coolest memory was when Atalie asked a little boy, who sat with his grandma and watched us for a while, if he would like to help. Now let me tell you, seeing his face light up painting a yellow square was so heartwarming to watch!"

The mural was officially completed on Thursday, June 30, 2022! The mural is titled 'Blooming through the Waves' and was named by Chaouali. "...I feel like it encompasses both parts of the wave and the flowers. It shows the flowers blooming through the colorful waves," she said. "...like the flowers bloomed in the waves despite the adversity it faced. Kind of like a community together." Everyone who has passed through Rosewood's doors since has enjoyed its colorful, vibrant presence. Landscaping and site cleanup will take place throughout the next few months. During this time, Rosewood will also be preparing for Phase II of the renovation process.

Rosewood's new main entrance is open as of July 25 – stop by to see our progress and to check out the beautiful mural!



Discover Membership at the Charles I. Lathrem Senior Center

The Charles I. Lathrem Senior Center (CIL) offers a wealth of opportunities for activity, education, connection and fun for active adults ages 55+.

The CIL is located on the campus of the Kettering Recreation Complex, so members also have access to the attached swimming pool, fitness room, gymnasium, walking track and ice arena for discounted fees.

Still looking for a reason to join? According to recent research conducted by the National Council on Aging, older adults who belong to senior centers learn to manage and delay the onset of chronic disease and experience measurable improvement in their physical, social, spiritual, emotional and economic well-being. The majority of them also report receiving helpful information, lifelong learning and acquiring new skills that contribute to their continued independence.

Upgrades are underway for the CIL and its adjacent outdoor spaces, courtesy of a generous gift from the Doug Lathrem family, and we can't wait to share our refreshed facility spaces with you!

Stay active. Stay connected. Join us today! Find complete details, including membership rates, by calling 937-296-2480 or on our website at playkettering.org/cil-senior-center.



Kettering Ice Arena Reopens on August 23

Our 2022-2023 Kettering Ice Arena season is almost here. We're looking forward to welcoming everyone back as hockey, Learn to Skate USA lessons, figure skating, and open skate get underway. Enjoy a fresh calendar of public skates, plus our popular holiday-themed skates. We hope to see you on the ice starting Tuesday, August 23!



Play Dates

Join your Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts for fun this spring!

These events are family friendly and free.

Details are at www.playkettering.org

EcoFest 2022

Saturday, September 17

11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Lincoln Park Civic Commons



Wag-O-Ween

Saturday, October 29

11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Kettering Recreation Complex



Holiday Arts & Crafts Show

Saturday, November 12

9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Lathrem Senior Center



Mayor's Tree Lighting & Santa Paws

Friday, December 2

6:30 – 8 p.m.

Lincoln Park Civic Commons



Rosewood Arts Center presents
A Rosewood Holiday Arts Festival

Saturday, December 3

11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Rosewood Arts Center



CITY OF KETTERING

3600 SHROYER ROAD • KETTERING, OHIO 45429-2799

937-296-2400 • FAX 937-296-3242

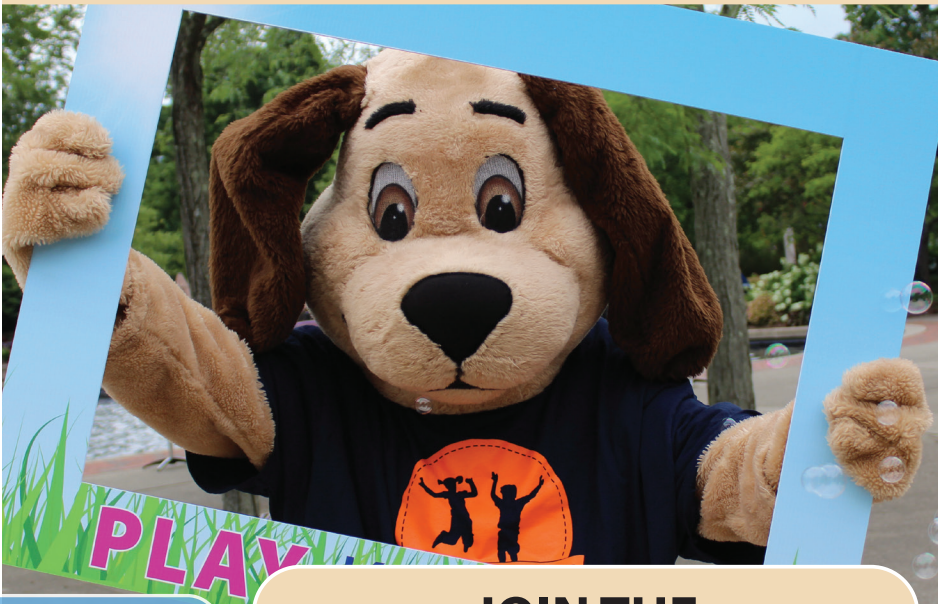
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CITY OF KETTERING
PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS DEPARTMENT

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PLAYKETTERING TEAM!**

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SCAN ME

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EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



CITY OF KETTERING

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 Center 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
Abby Beneke, Design

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.