



December 2019 Newsletter

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Plastic Bag Ban

Cuyahoga County's Bag Ban takes effect January 1, 2020. Grocery/convenience stores, retailers, service stations and drug stores will no longer give you plastic bags for your items at checkout. Now's the time to start getting in the mindset of utilizing reusable bags in your day-to-day life. To learn more about the ban and the Bring Your Own Bags campaign, visit the [BYOBag webpage](#).

DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHT

Animal Shelter/Dog Licensing

The County Animal Shelter receives almost 2,000 dogs per year from being picked up as strays off the streets and works to connect dogs of all kinds to loving owners.

Having a license for your dog isn't only a law, it's also a lost dog's ticket home! To buy or renew a dog license, from December 1 through January 31 you can [purchase one online](#), visit a [neighborhood location](#) or [download the application](#).

FROM OUR BLOG AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Homestead Exemption

You may be eligible for a lower tax on your home—in 2018 residents saved over \$57 million through state reimbursement by filing for homestead exemption. A full list of qualifications can be found on the [Fiscal Office website](#), and if you meet the criteria, apply by December 31 to file for the 2019 tax year.

Census 101

The Census takes place every 10 years and strives to count everyone living in the United States. **The Census is safe, easy and important.** In March 2020 you will receive info on how to take the survey online or a paper form to complete in March of 2020. The Census determines funding for programs like:

- Medicare
- SNAP/food stamps
- Head Start
- Special Education Grants

For more info on the importance of the Census and key dates to keep in mind, visit the [Cuyahoga County Census website](#).

EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DATES

County Council Meeting

December 10, 5 p.m., Council Chambers—2079 East Ninth Street, Cleveland

[Watch the live stream.](#)

Solar United Neighbors Cuyahoga County Solar Co-Op Community Info Session

December 4, 6-8 p.m., Strongsville Library—18700 Westwood Dr., 44136

December 5, 6-8 p.m., Shaker Heights Library—16500 Van Aken Blvd.

Learn about how solar works, how you can save money and energy, and how it can be installed in your home.

Construction and Maintenance Notices

Towpath Trail, Stage 4 in the City of Cleveland: Work has begun near Literary Street. Traffic on Literary Street will be maintained by flaggers.

Mastick Road in Fairview Park: The project is substantially complete, and all lanes are open to traffic.

Adele Lane and Westwood Lane Culvert replacements in Olmsted Township: Work is nearly complete. Both culverts will be open to traffic in early December.

West 130th Street from Bagley Road to Snow Road in the cities of Parma, Parma Heights, Middleburg Heights and Brook Park: Plan to open all lanes to traffic by early December. Work will resume in the Spring to complete the final section from Huffman to Snow.

Lewis Road Culvert Rehabilitation in Olmsted Township: Construction has begun, and one-way traffic will remain through December while construction takes place on the culvert.

Sprague Road in the Cities of Middleburg Heights, Strongsville, North Royalton and Parma: Traffic is being maintained in the eastbound direction only. A detour is posted for westbound traffic and work on the new water line and storm sewer will continue.