



October 2019 Newsletter

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Tree Canopy Grant Program Award Notifications

One of the actions identified in the County's [2019 Climate Change Action Plan](#) was the contribution of \$1 million dollars annually for the next five years to revitalize the tree canopy in Cuyahoga County. This month the County funded 26 projects for tree plans and tree planting and maintenance projects in some of your neighborhoods. Many of your municipalities indicated they had lots of need for tree revitalization but little ability to plan for where or how to plant trees. The funding made possible this year will allow communities to lay the groundwork for subsequent planning in a sustainable and responsible way. A total of 1,165 trees will be planted throughout the county during this first phase. The full list of awards and locations can be found on the [County Planning Commission website](#).

DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHT

Sheriff's Department

The Sheriff's Department provides local police assistance, court security, jail operations, a detective bureau, a narcotics task force, a sex offender unit, SWAT teams and even a marine patrol. Deputies serve warrants and subpoenas and conduct sales of foreclosed properties. The Sheriff's Department also handles investigations of certain matters within Cuyahoga County or upon request of a local police agency.

The Sheriff's Department is hosting its sixth annual **Operation Safe Halloween Party** Friday, October 25 from 6-8 p.m. at the Justice Center on Lakeside Avenue. Sheriff David G. Schilling Jr., the Sheriff's Department and more than 30 other law enforcement and safety agencies will be handing out candy from their decorated cruisers, rain or shine. Kids should come in costume and bring trick-or-treat bags so they can grab candy, meet law enforcement, enjoy the K9 unit, hear bagpipes and play games. Free parking will be available across the street at the Huntington Garage.

FROM OUR BLOG AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Deadline for Voter Registration

The deadline for voter registration is quickly approaching—Monday, October 7 is the last day you can register. If you've never voted before, had a change in address or name, check out our [map of locations](#) and addresses of registration places near you.

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

Cuyahoga County is participating in National Prescription Drug Take Back day on October 26. This event aims to provide a safe, convenient and responsible means of disposing prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of medications. Take-back programs are the best way to dispose of old drugs, as drugs thrown in the trash can be retrieved and abused or illegally sold, and drugs flushed contaminate the water supply. To see where you can dispose of your unused or expired drugs, visit our [Cuyahoga Drug Drop Locations Map](#).

Witness Victim Service Center and Family Justice Center

The Department of Public Safety & Justice Services oversees services for victims of crime through both the Witness Victim Service Center (WVSC) and the Family Justice Center (FJC).

WVSC provides court-based advocacy for any victim of violent crime whose case is in the County Court of Common Pleas or Cleveland Municipal Court. Nearly 70 percent of the cases handled by WVSC are domestic violence cases. Victim advocates work with police, prosecutors and others to ensure that a victim's rights are upheld throughout the court process. If you have an active criminal case and would like to talk to a victim advocate, please call **216-443-7345**.

While most people helped by Witness Victim have active criminal cases, there are options for people who do not want to seek charges. If you or someone you know is experiencing violence at home or in the community, please call the Family Justice Center at **216-443-7345** to speak with a victim advocate who can help you find your way.

The FJC also operates a walk-in service for victims of domestic violence, stalking, sexual assault or other family or intimate partner violence. No appointment is needed, and all services are free. FJC is staffed by Witness Victim advocates who can inform you about your options within the criminal justice system, or who can assist you with civil protection orders. An advocate can also help you to create a safety plan and link you to additional resources. **Note: When coming for a Civil Stalking Protection Order, please bring a photo ID and the name, date of birth and address of the person you are seeking the order against. You do not need to visit the Clerk of Courts before coming. Obtaining an order of protection takes several hours. Please arrive early in the day if possible.** The Family Justice Center is located at 75 Erieview Plaza, 5th Floor, Cleveland.

Digital C

The County has partnered with non-profit DigitalC to place an antenna on top of the Juvenile Justice Center, which will provide a portion of the Fairfax neighborhood with access to a low-cost internet service. Access to internet is frequently required to apply for jobs, do homework and pay bills. This pilot project will determine if the DigitalC model will work to provide digital access to neighborhoods. You can read more about the County's work to enhance digital inclusion on [our website](#).

EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DATES

In an effort to get everyone counted, the County is partnering with the Center for Community Solutions and other key partners to host **"Be Counted: A Conversation About Seniors and the U.S. Census."** This event will discuss why the census is important for older adults, how to reach older adults and who are the groups at risk of being undercounted. This event will be held October 8 from 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. at the Jerry Sue Thornton Center, 2500 East 22nd Street, Cleveland. Visit the [event's page](#) to sign up.

The next **Cuyahoga County Council Meetings** will be held **October 8 at 3 p.m.** and **October 22 at 5 p.m.** in the Council Chambers on the 4th Floor of the Administrative Headquarters at 2079 East Ninth Street, Cleveland. [Live stream](#) the County Council Meetings.

The Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS) continues its **In Your Neighborhood** event throughout 2019 to help residents get to know DCFS staff, learn what they do and how community members can work together to help families. Each event will have focused discussion topics and staff will be available to address specific cases and personal questions. The next In Your Neighborhood event is Thursday, **October 10 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.** at the Fatima Family Center, 6600 Lexington, Cleveland, 44103.

Join the **Social United Neighbors Cuyahoga County Solar Co-Op** by attending a **Community Information Session**. At these sessions you can learn about how solar works, how it can be financed, and how it can be installed in your home. Sessions are **October 2** (Cuyahoga Community College West Galleria from 12-1 p.m. and Cuyahoga Community College Westshore SLT 310 from 6-8 p.m.), **October 3** (Cuyahoga Community College East Campus MBA 209 from 12-1 p.m. and Cuyahoga Community College EEC Lobby from 6-8 p.m.), **October 22** from 6-8 p.m. (Granite City Brewers, Legacy Village, 24519 Cedar Road, Lyndhurst), **October 23** (Cleveland State University Student Center Room 313, 2121 Euclid Ave, Cleveland from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and Lexington-Bell Community Center, 7724 Lexington, Cleveland from 6-8 p.m.) and **October 24** from 6-8 p.m. (Bay Village Library, 502 Cahoon Rd, Bay Village). Click [here](#) for more information, or email ohsteam@solarunitedneighbors.org. [Watch this video](#) to hear about the impact of the solar co-op.

Construction and Maintenance Notices

Royalton Road in the City of North Royalton: Work has begun in the second section of the project (Abbey to York). Two-way traffic will be maintained at all times.

Rehabilitation of Bridges 156, 157, 158 and 226 on Highland Road in the City of Euclid: Work on the bridges will continue. Bridges 156 and 157 are nearly complete. Highland Road is closed at Bridge 226 due to unsafe conditions. Highland Road will remain closed until the Spring.

Bradley Road Culvert in the City of North Olmsted: Project is substantially complete and open to traffic.

Eddy Road and Shaw Road Resurfacing in the City of Cleveland: Repairs to the pavement base are being performed. Both streets will remain one way until the project is completed later in October.

Mastick Road in Fairview Park: Road is open to two-way traffic, with the exception of the areas where base repairs are being performed. A detour is posted.

Cedar Road from SOM Center Road to Chagrin Road in Gates Mills and Hunting Valley: Cedar is currently closed to thru traffic. A detour is posted. Widening near Chagrin River Road will take place in the next 30 days. Final asphalt surface and project completion is anticipated for November 1, 2019.

Adele Lane and Westwood Lane Culvert replacements in Olmsted Township: Both roads are closed to traffic, with a detour posted.

Lewis Road Culvert Rehabilitation in Olmsted Township: Work is expected to begin in October. A detour may be needed to complete some of the work. If so, message boards will be in place to notify drivers.

Sprague Road in the Cities of Middleburg Heights and Strongsville: Traffic is being maintained in the eastbound direction only. A detour is posted for westbound traffic. Work on the new water line and storm sewer on the west half of the project has begun.