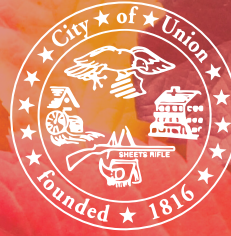


CITY OF UNION



2020 CENSUS RESULTS

The results of the 2020 Census are in! The City of Union's population is listed as 6,859 citizens. It was a difficult year to collect the data with all of the Covid restrictions so thanks to all the people that both collected the data and participated in filling out the forms. For more information, check out the Census website at www.census.gov/2020census

COUNCIL NEWS

Two City of Union council members are retiring from their positions on city council this year. David Blackwell served on the City of Union council from February 25, 2008 until his term ends on December 31, 2021. Robin Perkins served from January 10, 2007 until her term ends on December 31, 2021. Both council members did a great job for the City of Union and the staff thanks them for all their support and work over the years and hope they enjoy their next challenge.

SIGN UP TO GET YOUR UTILITY BILL BY EMAIL

Union is encouraging residents to have their utility bill directly emailed to their computer or phone. Utility bills are processed the last working day of the month and the bills delivered by email reach the customers by that afternoon. This option is available because some post office issues have caused the utility bill postcards to not be delivered. You can choose to only get the bill emailed or have both an email sent and a postcard mailed to your residence. If you are interested in this, please contact the city office at 937-836-8624 or you can email your information to mwright@unionoh.org.

WHERE DO I GO TO VOTE?

For all the newcomers to the City of Union, if you need to know where you go to vote, you can log in the Montgomery County Board of Elections web site, and fill in your address and it will tell you what precinct and where to vote. This is the link: [Street Address Search - Montgomery \(ohio.gov\)](http://Street Address Search - Montgomery (ohio.gov)). Miami County has a similar set up. This is the link to their polling location search: [Street Address Search - Miami \(ohio.gov\)](http://Street Address Search - Miami (ohio.gov)). While in the websites you can also find out what is on the ballot for your area, times the polls are open, and different ways to cast your vote. Your vote counts so for Montgomery County Board of Elections, call 937-225-5656 and their website is www.montgomery.boe.ohio.gov and for Miami County Board of Elections, the phone is 937-440-3900 and the website is www.boe.ohio.gov/miami/.

Leaf Collection for 2021

The City of Union started collection on Monday, October 18 this year. Leaf pick up will continue until the week of Thanksgiving, finishing on Wednesday, November 24. Leaves can be raked in rows and go onto the street, in front of the curb. Rows should not be higher than four feet or wider than six feet. Remember only leaves should go out for pick up on the street: no branches, rocks, or other debris in leaf piles that will damage the equipment.

The crew will start on one street and keep going until they pick up the leaves on all the streets in town. Sometimes, depending on the volume of leaves, they can make it through the town in one day, and sometimes it may take them a week.

If cars are parked on the street, the leaf collection truck will not be able to get your leaves but they will come back the following week.

For all residents, it is not necessary to call the city if you did not get your leaves out in time or a vehicle was in the way. The truck will not retrace their route or go back but instead will get them the following week. The crew will be working for six weeks so there should be time for everyone to get their leaves out to the curb.

Other options are composting the leaves and putting leaves out in bags for the trash hauler.



TRASH COLLECTION DELAYS & BULK ITEMS

Union's regular trash delivery is picked up first thing on Tuesday morning. In case of a holiday for Rumpke, trash will be delayed by one day and picked up on Wednesday morning. Sometimes this creates confusion because Rumpke only recognizes five holidays, New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. If one of the above holidays falls on a Monday, Union's trash will be delayed one day.

If the holiday falls on a Wednesday through Sunday, it would not affect the city's regular Tuesday trash collection day.

The next trash delay is posted on the sign in the entry way of the City of Union office and is also on the calendar and announcements sections on the city's website at www.unionoh.org. The next trash delay for Union will be on Memorial Day, 2022! Also, if you have any doubts on when to put out your trash, you can call the city at 937-836-8624.

For a bulk item pickup, residents are permitted to put out ONE item every week. There are a few restrictions such as anything that is fabric or upholstery like a chair or mattress needs to be wrapped in plastic. The city has mattress sleeves that will hold a king size mattress and box springs. You may purchase these for \$7.00 at the city building.

There is no need to call and notify the city unless you have a question about the item that is being set out.

PROTECTING STORM SEWERS FROM LEAF DEBRIS

Who can imagine that it's time to be concerned about the falling leaves again?

The City of Union provides leaf pickup for leaves placed out "by the curb." Just be careful, please, to put them where they are not likely to wash into the storm drains.

The very best solution, instead of raking them up into piles, is to use the lawn mower to mulch them into pieces evenly distributed around the lawn. Then they will rot over the winter and improve the lawn by adding humus at the surface of the lawn. Humus provides an easy path for new roots in the winter and spring. A light application of high nitrogen fertilizer late in the fall on top of the chopped leaves will assist the decomposition of the leaf bits. (Follow the application rates shown on the cheapest high Nitrogen fertilizer bags.)

Come Spring, the leaf nutrients will promote vigorous growth of the grass. You will be delighted at the result. And we will, too; because fewer leaf piles to collect will save the City money.

AULLWOOD AUDUBON CENTER AND FARM NEEDS WATER

In October of 2020, The Aullwood Audubon Center, at 9101 Frederick Pike started offering bottled water to their staff and visitors because they discovered that the water from their private well was contaminated with a chemical called PFAS. A study was done of other private wells in the area and a few had traces of the chemical but none had any that required immediate action.

Governor Mike DeWine brought in the Ohio EPA and health department to enact a plan to provide water to Aullwood and the surrounding area. As a result of the studies conducted by the EPA, including a “No Significant Impact” study, the City of Union was approached by the Ohio EPA to provide water to the Aullwood Center and Farm, and other residents in the area.

The Ohio EPA and Aullwood, agreed that connecting to Union’s water supply system was the best solution. The City of Union is fortunate that they have an abundant, safe water system. An extension of the water line on East Martindale has been in the long range plans for the city to provide a second feed to its industrial park.

A 1.7 million state forgivable loan will cover the material and installation costs of the portion of the water line along Frederick Pike to Aullwood. The project is being managed by the Montgomery County Transportation District (TID). The government bodies involved have all worked together to help resolve the problems experienced by the Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm.

The twelve inch water line installation started at the Stillwater River on East Martindale Road to Frederick Pike and will go along Frederick Pike and under State Route 40 to Aullwood. The estimated completion date for the project is the end of November, 2021.

A safe water supply has always been one of Union’s top priorities and they are happy to cooperate in this effort to provide much needed safe water to this long- established nature center and working farm that has always been used for the preservation of nature and education and open to the public.

FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

“Clayton, Englewood and Union have formed a fire department collaborative to improve emergency services through an innovative cooperative partnership, while maintaining independence. The fire department collaborative, through highly coordinated efforts, will ensure the closest most appropriate response to an emergency regardless of City boundaries.

The three fire departments were facing different challenges that included staffing shortages, needed capital expenditures, training, supervision, etc. A comprehensive MOU was approved by all three Cities that addressed staffing shortages, improved response times, allowed for more effective use of supervisory personnel, coordinated training opportunities, improved emergency radio communications and potentially reduces the capital expenditures by 5.2 million dollars based on the current capital expenditure plan. This unique and outside of the box thinking will deliver an effective, efficient and improved emergency service to all three cities.”



TRICK OR TREAT IN THE CITY OF UNION

The date for Halloween Trick or Treat night in the City of Union will be on **Sunday, October 31, from 6-8 p.m.** Please watch out for all the children in costumes running about in the dark.

If homeowner's want to participate in passing out candy or treats, light up your porch so the kids know they can stop and get some sweets.

Adults, please monitor what the children collect, and follow the latest guidelines from the health department, like putting out individually wrapped candy.

Please check out the Union website at www.unionoh.org and any new details from the health department will be posted there.

2021 Holiday News



The City of Union, along with other communities, have had to change some of their popular traditions in order to keep citizens safe during this time when people are still being affected from the Covid virus. The gathering of families at the firehouse for the tree lighting will be cancelled for the second time.

We have arranged to have Santa still visit Union, possibly driving through town on a fire truck on **Saturday, December 18!** Please check back on our City of Union website www.unionoh.org for more information closer to the holiday.

"SPOOKY" 2021 SPIRIT OF UNION AWARD

The Horine Family's 2021 Halloween decorations are the gems among tombstones and goblins! This year the retired couple has gone all out with the extra help from their 15 year old grandson, Cole Oppie. Cole actually called his grandfather, Fred Horine, and volunteered to help out with this year's decorations. That could earn him favorite grandchild status amongst the nine grandchildren of Fred and Jeanie Horine who live at 123 Woodard Drive. The Horine's have a longstanding tradition of decorating for Halloween. For the past twenty years Fred and Jeanie have enjoyed decorating for the holiday and passing out candy to trick or treaters. Fred claims it's a team effort but admits that he puts in most of the labor and his wife Jeanie is creative at planning the layout. Jeanie has even crafted some of the tombstones that surround the tree in their front yard. They estimate that this year's decorations took two full days to complete and were glad to have Cole's help.

Fred and Jeanie are both retired. Fred is a retired City of Dayton Police Officer, where he served for twenty-eight years and he also worked for the Department of Homeland Security for sixteen years. Jeanie retired from a successful career in Corporate Training. They have lived in their home since 1985 where they've enjoyed raising three children, Brandy, Gidget, and Eric. Their children now have families of their own that live in the area. They're blessed with nine grandchildren and one great grandchild.

The Horine's like living in Union and are happy that



their children were educated in the Northmont School System. They give the school system credit for providing them with a solid educational foundation for their many accomplishments as adults.

The Horine's enjoy music and going to concerts. Since Covid-19 they have had to put that on hold. They will be glad when they feel comfortable enough to get back to enjoying that part of their lives.

They also enjoy gardening and they have a backyard pool where they host many summer holiday gatherings, creating lots of fun, family memories. They've even created a small sand beach on their back deck. This is attributed to their love of traveling to Key West.

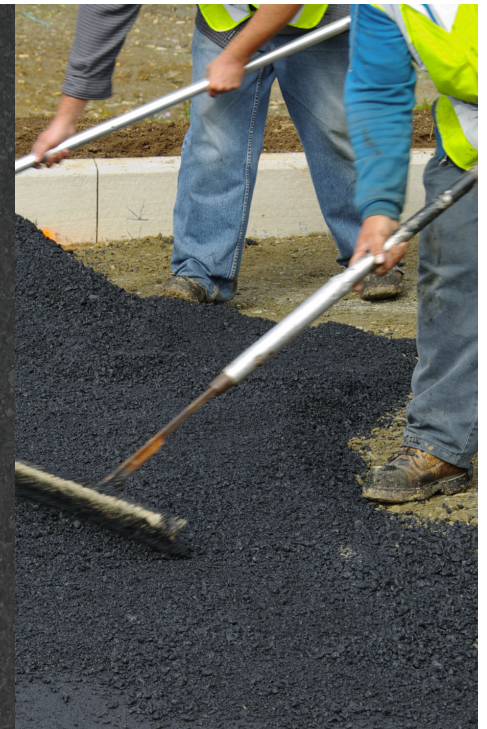
The City of Union wishes everyone a safe and happy Halloween. If you are Trick or Treating on October 31, don't forget to stop by 123 Woodard Drive, it's SPOOKTACULAR!

PAVING STREETS

The City of Union thanks the Union Voters for passing the 0.50% (half percent) income tax increase in 2020. With this additional revenue the City has been able to resurface close to 8 miles of streets since 2020. This year alone the City resurfaced an estimated 3.5 miles of streets at a cost of approximately \$631,000. In 2020 the city expended approximately 518,000 on street resurfacing.

While we can't fix every road overnight, our infrastructure investments are paying off in substantial improvements to our roadway network and we will continue to build on this progress. In creating the resurfacing list each year, the city grades the conditions of the streets, paving in priority order and taking into account traffic conditions and cluster streets to minimize mobilization costs and increase efficiency. We are keeping our commitment to spend \$500,000 annually on street resurfacing from Union's 1.5% city income tax revenues.

Additional Street resurfacing is also taking place during the month of October on State Route 48 between Phillipsburg-Union Rd., north to Montgomery County Line Rd. While this is an Ohio Department of Transportation project the City also has a cost share in this roadway resurfacing.



POSSIBLE BENEFITS FOR TENANTS & LANDLORDS

The Dayton Mediation Center recently made a presentation to the City of Union Council. The center was awarded Emergency Cares Act Grant Funds as part of Covid-19 relief. The funding is to serve all of Montgomery County. If you are a tenant in need of getting back on track with your rent payments or a landlord seeking to create a plan for tenants to catch back up on rent please call 937-333-2349 and ask for Aaron. Or you can send an email message to aaron.primm@daytonohio.gov. More information can be found on their website at daytonmediationcenter.org.

TAX PAYER ASSISTANCE

Central Collection Agency (CCA) has set up times where they will be in the area to assist people in completing their city income tax forms. There is no charge for this service and no appointments are necessary. The CCA representatives will be present for four hours at each location.

On the list below, CCA has provided us with the dates, time, and locations when they will be in the area. The time for Union is highlighted but Union residents can go to any of the locations and have their taxes done. So, if the time in Union is not convenient, residents can go to Clayton, West Milton, etc. The attached spread sheet covers the rest of year and starting into 2022.

MEMBER	DATE OF VISIT	FROM	TO	HOURS	LOCATION
Clayton	10/18/21 MONDAY	10:00 AM	2:00 PM	4	City of Clayton, 6996 Taywood Rd, Clayton OH 45322. Council Chambers.
Clayton	11/08/21 MONDAY	8:00 AM	12:00 PM	4	City of Clayton, 6996 Taywood Rd, Clayton OH 45322. Council Chambers.
Union	11/16/21 TUESDAY	10:00 AM	2:00 PM	4	City of Union, 118 N Main St, Union OH 45322. Council Chambers.
West Milton	11/18/21 THURSDAY	10:00 AM	2:00 PM	4	Village of West Milton, 701 S Main St, West Milton OH 45383. Council Chambers.
Clayton	11/30/21 TUESDAY	12:00 PM	4:00 PM	4	City of Clayton, 6996 Taywood Rd, Clayton OH 45322. Council Chambers.
Clayton	12/20/21 MONDAY	10:00 AM	2:00 PM	4	City of Clayton, 6996 Taywood Rd, Clayton OH 45322. Council Chambers.
Clayton	1/11/22 TUESDAY	10:00 AM	2:00 PM	4	City of Clayton, 6996 Taywood Rd, Clayton OH 45322. Council Chambers.



The City of Union Newsletter

118 North Main Street, Union, OH 45322
937-836-8624
www.unionoh.org

Mayor Michael O'Callaghan
937-836-0177

Vice Mayor John Bruns
937-832-0912

Councilwoman Lynne Thomas-Roth
937-671-6613

Councilman David Blackwell
937-470-6695

Councilwoman Jean Kyle
937-832-2811

Councilwoman Helen Oberer
937-832-3269

Councilwoman Robin Perkins
937-832-3902
Robin.perkins.council@unionoh.org

PLEASE REMEMBER TO VOTE ON NOVEMBER 2, 2021

Voting Polls open from 6:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m. For more info on where to vote please visit www.mcboe.org or call 937-225-5656.

REPORT STREET LIGHT

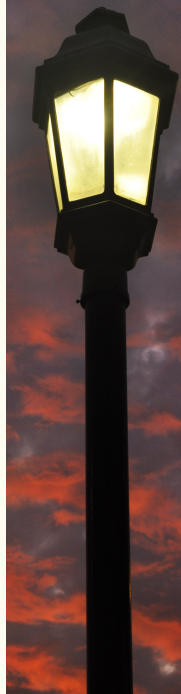
OUTAGES

If you notice that a street light is out, you can call in the pole number and location (street address) to the City of Union, at 937-836-8624 or contact us through our website, www.unionoh.org.

The city will notify Miami Valley Lighting to make the repairs. It also helps to know if the light is out, flickering, or damaged.

Miami Valley Lighting is also responsible for the walk way lights in Concord Farms North and West. The pole number, closest address, and problem can be reported to the city just like for the street lights.

If you find a pole or electrical wires are down, please call 911!



SNOW EMERGENCIES IN THE CITY OF UNION

What is a snow emergency? Anytime a snow fall is predicted for two (2) inches or more or in drifting and blowing conditions, all cars have to be off the street. This is so city crews can plow the streets from curb to curb. For the safety of citizens, city crews, and for prevention of property damage, all vehicles must be off the road or the city may have them ticketed and towed.

If residents hear a forecast of heavy snow, please move the vehicle the night before, even if it is necessary to park in the yard.

That will help the snow plowing crews remove all the snow and will make the driving conditions safer throughout the day which is best for everyone.