

# CITY OF UNION

City of Union  
founded 1816

## SUMMER 2022 NEWSLETTER

### Future Home of the City of Union POLICE DEPARTMENT

Several years ago, the City of Union purchased the property located at 201 West Martindale Road, formerly used as a church. The city maintenance employees have been working at updating the building and as it is getting closer to completion, the landscaping has been added around the structure this spring.



The Union Police department will be located in the building. It will have police offices, property storage areas, and a large room for meetings and training. The location of the building, across from the City of Union Fire Station and close to city hall will help all the departments continue to function together.

The police department will move into their new offices later this year. With the new parking lot and landscaping being added recently, the city is already receiving favorable comments on the changes.



### FALL GARAGE SALE September 8, 9, & 10

If you didn't have time or were on vacation for our June city-wide garage sale, or if you have emptied more of your closets, you have a second chance to turn your unwanted items into cash!

The City of Union will be having an additional garage sale event in September, on September 8, 9, and 10th. No permit fees are necessary for those three days. Anyone wanting to have a sale has the option of calling city hall at 937-836-8624 to add your address to a list. The list of all the sales will be posted on the city's website and residents can pick up a list of the sales at city hall, along with a map, if needed.

### Spring Egg Hunt

After being cancelled for the last two years due to the pandemic, the spring egg hunt in the City of Union has returned!

The event was held on April 16, at the Phillipsburg-Union Road community park. Despite being a little cold and rainy, there was a good turnout and the children enjoyed racing towards collecting the 4,000 eggs filled with candy. There were cookies provided and donations collected for the FISH organization.

Thanks to Mayor O'Callaghan who enlisted multiple volunteers to help out, including the North Dayton Diamondbacks for preparation of the fields and hiding of the eggs, the City of Union Fire Department for giving the Easter Bunny a ride, the friendly presence by the City of Union Police Department and special thanks to the Easter Bunny who was able to make a comeback this year!



# WATER QUALITY REPORT

The City of Union 2021 Consumer Confidence Report for water is available on the City of Union's website at [www.unionoh.org](http://www.unionoh.org) or you can view the report using the following links:

<https://bit.ly/38ECaY3>

[https://www.unionoh.org/sites/g/files/vyhlf3961/ff/pages/ccr\\_report\\_2021\\_final.pdf](https://www.unionoh.org/sites/g/files/vyhlf3961/ff/pages/ccr_report_2021_final.pdf)

If a paper copy is preferred, it can be obtained by calling 937-836-8624. This annual report includes important information about water quality in our community. We have a current, unconditioned license to operate our water system.

# SPIRIT OF UNION NOMINATIONS

Every year, the City of Union Park Board chooses a property that has done an exceptional job of beautifying their homes. It can be improvements to the house or new landscaping, adding a gazebo or deck, whatever is eye catching and an asset and improvement to the neighborhood.

If you notice a neighbor or person on your street has worked hard and made improvements on their property, why not give them the recognition they deserve and nominate them for the Spirit of Union award? All you have to do to nominate someone is call Union city hall and provide the address. The staff and park board will do the rest. They will check out all the nominees and choose the most outstanding property.

Wouldn't it be great to see a special property pictured in the next City of Union newsletter?



# HYDRANT FLUSHING

Every year, the City of Union Fire Department participates in "spring cleaning" and flushes out all of the City of Union fire hydrants. This cleans all the water lines of any minerals that have settled in the water mains and is considered as preventative maintenance.

As the firemen move through your neighborhood flushing the hydrants, some of the minerals that get stirred up can show up in the line when you turn on your water. The minerals are harmless but you might want to wait until the firemen move to the next area, and then if you run your cold water for a moment, the water should run clear.

If by chance, the discolored water is used in a wash cycle, it can leave a stain on white articles of clothing. The city does have some detergent that should remove that, which they will provide at no cost. This year, the Union Fire Department will be starting in May and usually they have completed all the hydrant flushing within a month. If anyone has any questions, call city hall at 937-836-8624.

# Congrats to Union Homes

CHOSEN BY THE CITY OF UNION PARK BOARD FOR MOST BEAUTIFUL LIGHTING & DECORATIONS FOR DECEMBER 2021

The City of Union always looks so bright and festive along Main Street with all the pear trees decorated in white lights. The residents living at the addresses listed below have added to the festive look of the town with outstanding displays of light, color, and holiday favorites. The city receives many compliments from people driving through the town and touring through the city streets enjoying the view.

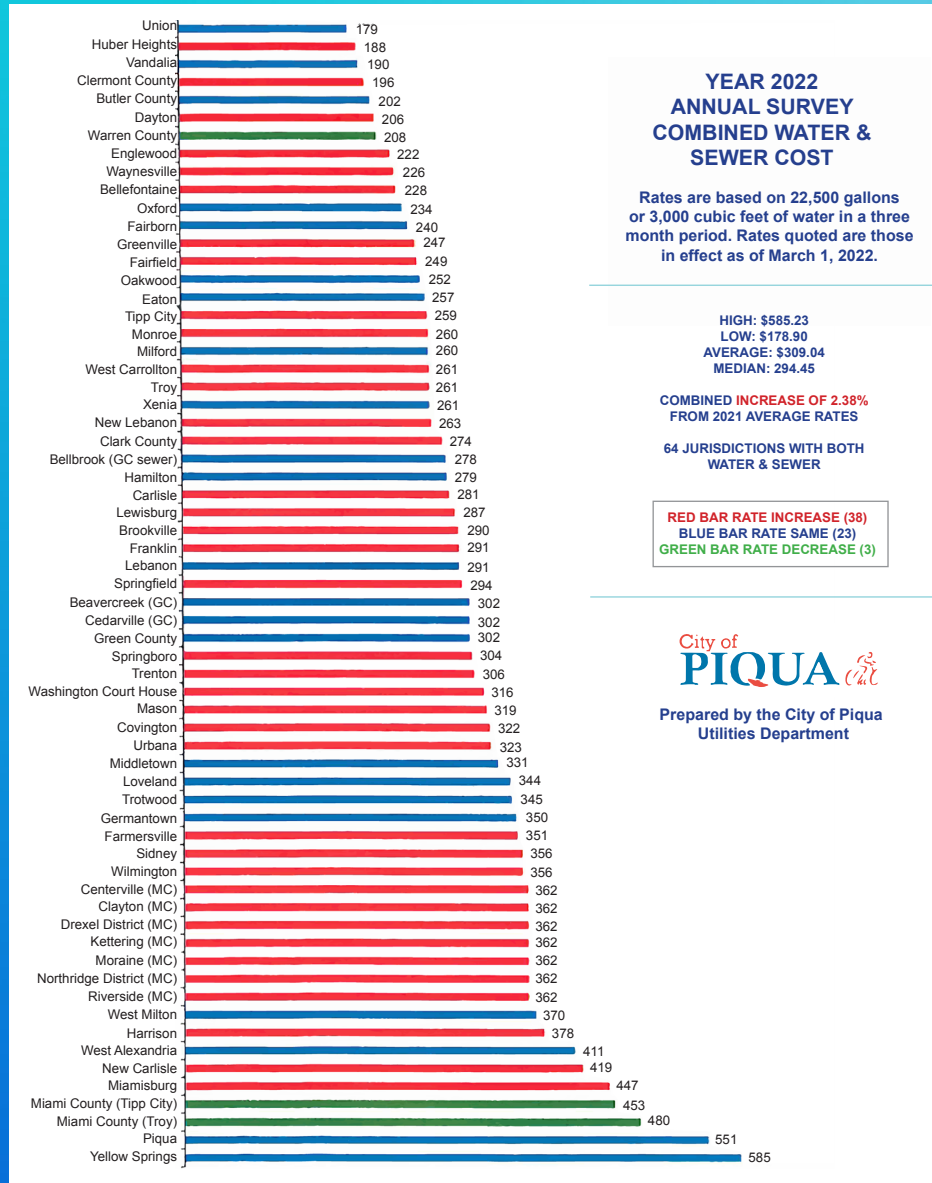
The families listed below have all received an acknowledgement and appreciation letter from Union Mayor and Park Board President, Michael O'Callaghan. Thanks for brightening up the holidays! This list is also posted annually on the City of Union website.

198 Carol Lane • 14 Hitching Post Road • 104 Irongate Drive • 108 Krug Drive  
109 Krug Drive • 119 Krug Drive • 123 Lightner Lane • 630 Morning Glory Lane  
199 Preakness • 201 Riesling Drive • 204 Riesling Drive 101 Sande Court  
107 Shaw Road • 108 Shoemaker • 137 Union Ridge • 104 Venetian Way  
107 Venetian Way • 100 Waldwick • 102 Westrock Farm • 154 Westrock Farm

# UNION'S WATER & SEWER RATES

A survey of water and sewer charges in the area, looking at over sixty communities was done for years by the City of Oakwood and recently was taken over by the City of Piqua. This year the colorful chart shows all of the same information as before but has a color code of what rates have remained the same, decreased or increased.

Union is once again one of the communities with the lowest water rates and lowest combined water and sewer rates. Below is a copy of the combined water and sewer rates chart. All of the charts will be posted on the City of Union's website.



## Please add my address to the Do-Not-Solicit List

You can sign up any time and your address will be added to the list. **Every five years**, a new registration list will be created and everyone will have to re-confirm that they want on the list.



Once a person is signed up, your address will remain on the Do-Not-Solicit list until the next time a new registration list is created (which is every five years) but you always have the option to withdraw or add your address at any time.

To fill out the form in person, stop by the City of Union building or sign up online at: <https://www.unionoh.org/building-zoning-department/webforms/do-not-solicit-signup>

# TIPS FOR USING LESS LAWN FERTILIZER

**Stormwater runoff can be affected by residential lawn fertilizers. Help keep the Stillwater River safe and clean with these lawn tips:**

It's Spring again! Time to get your lawn in such good shape that the neighbors are envious.

More fertilizer? Maybe not. With an eye to preserving the environment and the nearby rivers and creeks, we should consider using less fertilizer. This author uses very little, and yet my lawn grows rather well. Let's consider what type and how much fertilizer is necessary.

Those three numbers on bags of fertilizer (the ones that look like "22-0-4") are always in the same order and they stand for the amounts of "Nitrogen," "Phosphorous," and "Potash" that are in the bag. Fertilizer companies are required to put this information on the bags, and they typically have other useful info on the bags, as well.

Applying too much fertilizer to your lawn will cause the nitrogen and salt levels in the soil to increase too much, which can damage or even kill the grass. When this happens, it is known as "fertilizer burn" and looks like yellow and brown strips or patches of dead grass.

An established lawn needs only a little Nitrogen fertilizer each year, no additional Phosphorous, and only perhaps a little Potash. If you leave your clippings on the lawn when you mow, the lawn gets all the Phosphorous it needs from the clippings. If you are trying to start a new lawn, you do need some additional Phosphorous, but once established the best source for the phosphorous is the lawn clippings themselves.

For new lawns, or troubled lawns, it might be good to contact an expert at the area "Soil and Water Conservation District 937-854-7645. They have "Soils test kits" for free. The samples need to be sent to Spectrum Analytic, Inc. in Washington Court House, Ohio.

The cost is about \$20 per analysis for the information that would be useful for lawn care. They offer several soil testing packages based on what you would like analyzed. The Montgomery County Soil and Water Conservation District has free soil sample bags and instruction sheets available at their office at 10025 Amity Road in Brookville, Ohio. Call ahead to make sure that they have enough on hand.

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**In short I recommend that you experiment with using less fertilizer overall:**

- Applying the high Nitrogen fertilizer sparingly where the grass looks "thin".
- Leave the grass clippings lay (thus supplying the Phosphorous).
- Aerate your lawn periodically. Aerating is a process that removes cores for the soils to stimulate grass root growth, enhances oxygen levels in soils and loosens compact soil to increase the absorption of rain water and nutrients.



## HELP KEEP OUR TOWN BEAUTIFUL

Please find below a guideline for several property maintenance regulations for the City of Union. Union residents are very proactive and protective of their neighborhoods. Listed below are some important guidelines all residents should follow to help keep our neighborhoods looking great. If residents have any questions, please call UNION CITY HALL at 937-836-8624.

### Property Maintenance Requirements

Here are a few of our key property maintenance items:

**Lawn maintenance/mowing** - Properties should be maintained, with lawns, hedges, and bushes kept from becoming overgrown or decayed. Grass may not exceed a height of 6 inches. All trees and bushes along sidewalks and streets should be trimmed back to provide a clear height of 10 feet above the surface of the sidewalk and 12 feet above the surface of the street. Overhanging branches should be trimmed back to the property line. If a property backs up to a City- owned greenspace, that area may not be used for gardening, planting of bushes, flowers, trees, etc.

**Trash receptacles** - Containers for all residential garbage and residential rubbish and recycling materials shall be placed at the street curb or alley right-of-way line not sooner than twelve hours before the beginning of the day of normal collection thereof. For the purposes hereof, the beginning of the collection day shall be considered to be at 7 a.m.

**Removal of empty receptacles.** Empty containers shall be removed from the street curb or alley right-of-way line within twelve hours after the end of the collection day. For the purposes hereof, the end of the collection day shall be considered to be 10:00 p.m.

**Inoperable/unlicensed vehicles** - All operable vehicles should be parked on a paved surface. Parking or storing any truck or commercial vehicle more than 11,500 pounds is prohibited in the front yard, including on the front driveway.

**Boats and RV storage and utility trailers** - Trailers, recreational vehicles, tents, garages, or temporary buildings cannot be used as residences. RVs, trailers, and boats more than 6 feet in height cannot be parked or stored in the front or side yard of residential properties, except for a loading or unloading period, not to exceed 48 hours. RVs, trailers, and boats less than 6 feet in height may be parked or stored in the side yard of residential districts if screened by a 6-foot solid or privacy fence. Temporary parking of a motor home is permitted for up to 48 hours; it cannot be used as a residence.

## DO I NEED A BUILDING PERMIT?

### Permits Are Required for:

Sheds • Pools • Electrical Work • Driveways • Pods • Furnace • Generators  
Sidewalks • Fences • Air conditioning • Gas Piping • Curbs • Remodeling  
Room additions • Garages • Decks



## 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 Jay Niemann**  
937-414-7529

**Councilwoman Jean Kyle**  
937-832-2811

**Councilwoman Helen Oberer**  
937-832-3269

**Councilman Ken Prunier**  
937-751-4073

## PETS IN UNION

Residents enjoy walking on many of the city's sidewalks, bike paths, and park areas and are frequently accompanied by their dogs, who also benefit from the exercise and fresh air. The City does have regulations on pets, for protection of both property owners and their pets. Dogs are not allowed to run loose while on walks; they should be tethered on a leash no longer than 6 feet. Pet owners must immediately pick up after their pets on walks and in public areas and also routinely take care to keep their property clean of pet waste. This is not just people being considerate of others but is in the city regulations.

Dogs and cats should be kept safe and secure on the owner's property, either by way of leash, fence, or contained inside the home. Also, owners should take measures to prevent a dog's prolonged howling or barking. Vicious animals, including vicious dogs, are prohibited in the City of Union. Vicious animals are those that bite or have a propensity to cause harm to humans or animals. Residents must limit the number of dogs and cats to no more than two of each per household. The city sometimes is asked about other animals such as chickens, ducks, and other farm type animals, but those are not permitted in residential areas in Union.

## UPDATES IN THE CITY

- The upgrades on the City of Union wastewater treatment plant have been completed and the plant is operating at peak efficiency. This was a major project required and approved by the Ohio EPA.
- As requested by the Ohio EPA, water lines have been run to Audubon Aullwood Center and Farm due to that area having contaminated private drinking wells. The city also was able to supply water to several other locations that needed it.
- The industrial park is growing and a variety of facilities will be built, bringing in much needed jobs to not only Union, but also Dayton and Montgomery County.
- As that area grows, the City of Union, working with Montgomery County Transportation Improvement District will continue to improve and widen roads to handle any additional traffic.
- State Route 48 has been resurfaced as part of an Ohio Department of Transportation Department project, postponed from last year.