



The TREE CITY Bulletin

VOLUME 30:1 – SPRING 2025

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The TREE CITY Bulletin

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Who To Call At The City of Kent...

Emergency – Police, Fire, Ambulance	9-1-1
After Hours Non-Emergency Concerns	330.673.7732
Building Division – Building Permits	330.678.8107
Income Tax Division	330.678.8103
Clerk of Council	330.678.8007
City Manager’s Office	330.676.7500
Door-to-door solicitation, special event permits	
Community Development Department	330.678.8108
Economic development, housing rehab, zoning	
Engineering Division – Street and Sidewalk construction	330.678.8106
Fire Department - Non-Emergency	330.673.8814
Health Department	330.678.8109
Animal bites, birth/death certificates, food service inspections, pest control	
Parks & Recreation Department	330.673.8897
Police Department - Non-Emergency.....	330.673.7732
24-hour calls, stray animals	
Police Department - Investigations.....	330.673.7733
Police Department - Administration.....	330.673.3221
Republic Services of Ohio Hauling, LLC - Residential Trash and Recycling.....	1.800.247.3644
Portage County Recycling Center.....	330.678.8808
Service Department.....	330.678.8105
Yard Waste Transfer Site, signs, traffic lights, street maintenance, trees, water/sewer problems	
Utility Billing – Water, sewer, stormwater and recycling bill.....	330.678.8104

Trash Collection Reminder

Please be reminded that City Ordinance 521.08 states:

Collection Time Period: Each container placed at the curb or alley, and each other item set out for collection, shall be placed at the location no earlier than 7:00 pm of the day before collection, in the locality as established by the City’s Refuse and Recycling Contractor.

Container Retrieval: The empty solid waste receptacles and recycle storage containers shall be removed from the curbside by 7:00 pm the day collection has taken place.



SIREN TESTING

The City of Kent tests the siren system twice per month:

1st Wednesday at 11:00 am
3rd Wednesday at 6:30 pm

The tests run for 3 minutes each time. In the event of a real emergency, the sirens will be set off 3 times for a total of 9 minutes.

The Tree City Bulletin is published semi-annually by the City of Kent, and is provided to inform residents and businesses regarding City programs and services. Questions or comments regarding the newsletter may be directed to the City Manager’s Office - 301 S. Depeyster - Kent, Ohio 44240 – 330.676.7500. Unless otherwise stated, all programs and services described in this publication are intended and provided for City of Kent residents only. **This publication is printed on recycled paper.**

The TREE CITY Bulletin



CITY OF KENT BOARD AND COMMISSION VACANCIES

IMMEDIATELY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

All Applicants must appear for an interview to be considered for the position.

BOARD OF BUILDING APPEALS

Two (2) Vacancies: For General Public and General Contractor There is hereby established a Municipal Board of Building Appeals which shall consist of five members as follows:(a)One General Contractor, need not be an elector of the City.(b) One architect, registered in Ohio; need not be an elector of the City. (c) Two members who are registered as plumbers, electricians, or heating and air conditioning contractors, none of which need be an elector of the City. (d) One member shall be an elector of the City, selected from the general public, who shall not be actively engaged in any of the above-mentioned trades. TERM: Three (3) years

FAIR HOUSING BOARD

Two (2) Vacancies. The Board is responsible to initiate or corroborate complaints of unlawful housing practices and refer any incidence of an alleged violation of fair housing law to the City of Kent's designated fair housing provider agency for consideration and review. The Board may collaborate with the designated fair housing provider agency to facilitate a voluntary meeting between the person(s) reporting the alleged fair housing violation and the person(s) identified as the alleged violator(s) in an attempt to resolve the issue. This Board also handles complaints of unlawful housing practices, housing discrimination complaints, and any alleged violations of fair housing laws. Term: Three (3) years.

LOAN REVIEW BOARD

One (1) Vacancy (Local Realtor.) The City's Loan Review Board is responsible for reviewing loan applications from qualified businesses seeking Economic Development Administration (EDA) funding to assist with needed commercial start-up or production expansion costs. TERM: Five (5) years.

STORMWATER DISTRICT REVIEW AND APPEALS BOARD OPEN UNTIL FILLED

Two (2) Vacancies. The Board will hear appeals regarding disputes brought by owners and non-owners concerning the application of the city's Stormwater Utility Chapter and will have the authority to adjust and provide relief due to unique circumstances which reduce the burden of operating, constructing, repairing, and maintaining the Stormwater utility system. Term: Two (2) years

NOTE: By statutory definition, "elector" means anyone of voting age and a resident of the City. The Kent City Charter Section 8.01 mandates that all appointments to City Boards and Commissions shall be electors of the City, with the exception of the Board of Building Appeals.

1. Fill out the online application at www.kentohio.org/184/Boards-Commissions

2. Or, print, complete and sign a Boards and Commissions application and return to Kathy Coleman, Clerk of Council

• Email **signed** application to councilclerk@kentohio.gov

OR

• Mail application to 301 S. Depeyster St. Kent, OH 44240

Questions? Contact the Clerk of Council at (330) 678-8007 or Email councilclerk@kentohio.gov

All vacancies subject to availability based on timing of publication

The TREE CITY Bulletin

Welcome to the New Kent City Hall!

Melanie Baker, Service Director
Dave Ruller, City Manager



Good news, the much-anticipated new City Hall is scheduled to open its doors to the public in late Spring/early Summer 2025. We've patiently worked through all the supply chain delays but the building was worth the wait.

When we started, City Council challenged the architects to come up with a signature design that would be a point of pride for the community, and they hit their marks.

The new City Hall is approximately 28,000 square feet and will be home to the following departments:

- The Mayor, Kent City Council, and Clerk of Council.
- The City Manager Office
- The Law Department
- The HR Department
- The Finance Department including Utility Billing and Income Tax Assistance
- The IT Department
- Civil Service
- Economic Development Director
- Community Engagement Coordinator

Based on City Council and community members input during the design phase of the building, the architects worked hard to emphasize accessibility and transparency in both the operation and look of the building -- and those values are the cornerstone of the new building with an impressive 2-story glass atrium as the front entryway, and wall-to-wall windows in the new Council Chambers and City offices.

The architects provided a designated Community Room on the first floor that will be available to be used by Kent seniors, youth groups, sports teams, brownies, scouts, etc., and we hope to use the room (and the atrium) to periodically showcase student artwork, displays, etc., with special meaning to Kent residents.

The first floor has another smaller meeting room that will be used by Council members to meet with constituent groups as needed -- and it will also double as the Executive Session meeting room for Council, which will allow public attendees at the Regular Council meeting to stay in the Council Chambers rather having to awkwardly get up and leave during the Executive Session.

For the first time, Council members will have a shared office to use to check their mail, email, return phone calls, and hold individual meetings with constituents or staff.

The Finance Department and Utility billing is easily accessible directly off the parking lot as you enter the building from the rear. Most utility customers pay their bill online but there will be a drop-off box and a pass-through payment window for customers that prefer to pay in person.



The Community Engagement Coordinator, Human Resources, and Civil Service share the second floor with Finance. The architects put some thought into making it as easy as possible for City job candidates to pick up and drop off applications and to meet with the staff for specific testing and hiring questions.

The third floor includes the Mayor's Office, the City Manager's Office suite, the Economic Development Director and the City's Law Department staff offices. Arguably the most impressive room in the building is the 3rd floor conference room that sits above the atrium and looks out over downtown Kent through curved floor-to-ceiling windows.

Thanks to a lot of public input received during the design of the building, the result is a modern, state-of-the-art building that was designed to LEED Silver environmental standards and is ready to take Kent into the next century. Within the ceiling and walls of the building is the technology infrastructure supporting the next tier of cyber-security, data protection, and automation of City services.

The building includes swipe key entry with controlled access to sensitive data areas, motion sensor lighting to preserve electricity, and an intelligent HVAC system that ensures comfort while optimizing heating and cooling elements. Extra space was designed into the building for the community to use and to grow with the staff in the future.

Speaking of the future, we're proud to have 2 Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations on site that can charge up to 4 vehicles at a time.

Once fully open, we hope to host a grand opening event which will include public tours of the building. Stay tuned for more details. See you soon!

The TREE CITY Bulletin

Main Street Kent Update



Main Street Kent staff and volunteers are planning events, promotions, beautification and public art projects and more, as we continue our work to make downtown Kent a fun, vibrant and thriving community. We look forward to lots of festivities and a beautiful downtown in 2025!

Kent In Good Company - In partnership with host Katy Thomas, Main Street Kent launched a podcast about Kent's small business owners and there are now three seasons of episodes for all to enjoy! Tune in to your favorite podcast platform to listen, and learn about some hidden gems in Kent, what makes our small business owners choose to do business here and more. <https://mainstreetkent.org/discover/in-good-company/>



American Roots Music Festival - Presented by Crooked River Arts Council and Wayside Furniture, this annual event will take place on **April 25**, featuring live music at multiple indoor and outdoor venues in Kent. <https://www.kentamericanroots.com/> Grab dinner downtown and make a night of it, or stay overnight for a "staycation" at the Kent State Hotel.

Crafty Crawl - On Sun., **April 27** we're partnering with Bell Tower Brewing, North Water Brewing and MadCap Brew Co. to present the fourth annual Crafty Crawl, featuring our local breweries and dozens of area artists — crafty goods and craft beers, the perfect mix. It's becoming the new Sunday Funday in Kent, so join us!

Adopt A Spot - Once the snow starts to melt, we'll see tulips and daffodils blooming in the flowerbeds surrounding Hometown Bank Plaza and Dan Smith Community Park. At the end of May, dozens of volunteers will be planting thousands of flowers in the beds throughout the downtown district. Plus, hanging flower baskets will be hung from light posts, thanks to our city, our sponsors and many volunteer gardeners. A full list of sponsors and volunteers can be viewed on the MSK website. <https://mainstreetkent.org/about/>



Downtown Walking Tours - Main Street Kent introduced "Talk of the Town" walking tours last summer, and these tours will be offered again this spring! The plan is to host a tour every other weekend on Saturdays, with two alternating themes. Subscribe to the weekly e-newsletter and follow MSK social media so you don't miss out. Visit <https://mainstreetkent.org/> and enter your

email address where it says "Stay Up to Date" at the bottom of the page.



KENT Sign Redesign - The public art sculpture located at the corner of N. Water St. and the Fairchild bridge will feature a new design this spring! Installed in 2021, the KENT sign was intended to be a rotating art sculpture, featuring a new design every year or two. Main Street Kent is

partnering with Each + Every and we look forward to seeing the new design once winter is over.

Art & Wine Festival - This signature MSK event, presented by The River Merchant, will return on Sat., June 7, featuring Ohio wineries, local food trucks/vendors, live music, and an incredible selection of art. Full details will be shared as the event approaches, so stay tuned to MSK social media and website for information.



Putt Around Downtown - On **June 21**, our downtown businesses will set up miniature golf holes inside and outside their businesses, creating a special putt putt course for this event. Play golf with family and friends, and enjoy lunch and shopping along the way!



Blues Fest - On **July 12**, Crooked River Arts Council and Wayside Furniture will present this annual event, featuring live music at dozens of venues in Kent. Grab a DORA beverage and work your way around town to experience a great sampling of blues and rock in Kent. Musician bios, schedule

and all details will be available at kentbluesfest.com.

Wizardly Weekend - We are excited to bring the magic back to downtown Kent this summer on **July 18 & 19** with family-friendly events, activities, decorations, photo opportunities and entertainment. Stay tuned to MSK social media and our website for details.



polka, dancing, steinholding competitions, German-inspired local food and lots of fun. Prost!

Kent Oktoberfest - Save the date for **Oct. 4** as we plan for the annual Kent Oktoberfest, a growing community event complete with

For information and updates about what's happening in downtown Kent, including events, activities, beautification projects and more, follow us on Instagram and Facebook, and subscribe to our e-newsletter. To contact Main Street Kent, call 330-677-8000 or email info@mainstreetkent.org.

The TREE CITY Bulletin

City Update

By Dave Ruller, City Manager

Time is sneaky fast, and it's already been over a decade since downtown Kent went through its latest renewal and redevelopment.

There's a whole generation that only knows the current version of downtown Kent, so I thought I'd start with a short walk down memory lane and share a few before and after pictures of the same section of downtown streets in 2009 and 2024.

A Lot Can Happen in 15 Years... But the Work Goes On

I wanted to share some highlights from 2024 in the community priority categories that residents have identified through plans like Vision 2020 and the award-winning Kent Bicentennial Plan.

Community Priority: Financial Health and Economic Development
"To be a prosperous and livable city for all residents."

Sampling of Success:

Government Finance Excellence Award received (39th year in a row)
Voter passage of the City Levy - \$340,000/year for Police, Fire, Streets, etc. (Thank you!)
Debt bond refunding resulted in \$1 million savings
Added two new budget funds for improved accounting and transparency
Upgraded City Utility billing software to be more customer-friendly and accessible
Klaben Auto: \$7.4 million investment for a new Lincoln dealership and service bays
Davey Tree SEED Campus construction underway (\$41 million project)
New Helix Tech company opened in 2nd floor offices of Acorn Alley
City land sale for new Magdalena's Italian Restaurant on N. Water Street
New small businesses: Federales Street Tacos, Alley Mac, Black Squirrel Pub, Lee Angelo's

Community Priority: Support for Natural Resources
"To protect and promote the city's natural resources."

Sampling of Success:

Hired a full-time Sustainability Planner
Contracted a firm to complete a "City Buildings Decarbonization" study
Launched the Municipal Energy Management Plan (part of the City Climate Action Plan)
Installed four public electric vehicle charging stations at the new City Hall
Secured \$48,800 in NOPEC Energy Grants for energy efficiency upgrades
Coordinated river clean-up events
Participated in soil remediation at former RB&W and Triangle Cleaner sites
Signed a new City/Portage County Water Service Area Study agreement

Community Priority: Superior Quality of Life

"To enhance lifestyle choices through the physical and social environment."

Sampling of Success:

Partnered with the Chamber to host the 2024 Eclipse Weekend events
Expanded DORA boundaries and closed Franklin Street for the summer season
Signed City/Akron Water Trail Agreement for a new segment of the Hike and Bike Trail
Adopted a new Parks and Recreation Master Plan
Designated two properties as "Historic" buildings (at property owner request)
Invested in Main Street Kent for community, entertainment, and arts events
Worked with Land O'Lakes on equipment upgrades to reduce neighborhood noise
Provided \$15,000 in grants to local organizations supporting downtown events

Community Priority: Community Safety

"To be an exceptionally safe city."

Sampling of Success:

Hosted the annual Citizen Police Academy
Adopted a new Safe Routes to School plan
Extended the pilot Paramedicine program
Developed new Adult Use Marijuana business regulations
Partnered in the development of the new Safety Town Kent project
Allocated \$8,000 to assist the homeless during hazardous weather conditions
Continued the Police School Resource Officer position, including a new K9 unit
Provided \$62,000 in social service grants to Kent social service agencies
Launched Health Department campaigns for tobacco cessation, West Nile virus prevention, flu vaccinations, and more

Community Priority: Communities Within the City

"To strengthen the quality and enhance the value of city neighborhoods."

Sampling of Success:

Created a full-time Community Engagement Coordinator position
Adopted new restrictions on semi-tractor trucks in residential neighborhoods
Continued the rental housing inspection and licensing program
Collaborated with the Land Bank and Hometown Foundation to restore blighted properties
Provided Neighborhood Grant funding to support Kent neighborhoods
Community Priority: City and Kent State University Synergy
"To expand collaborative opportunities that enrich the community/university experience."

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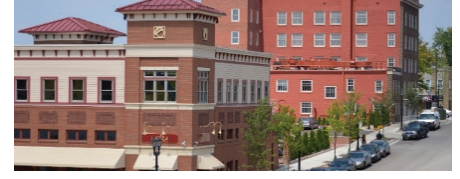
(Top)
S. Water Street, between
Main Street and Haymaker Parkway, circa 2009

(Bottom)
S. Water Street, between
Main Street and Haymaker Parkway, circa 2024



(Top)
Haymaker Parkway, between
Water Street and S. Depeyster Street
across from the Fire Station circa 2009

(Bottom)
Haymaker Parkway, between
Water Street and S. Depeyster Street
across from the Fire Station circa 2024



(Top)
S. Depeyster Street, between
Haymaker Parkway and Main Street, circa 2009

(Bottom)
S. Depeyster Street, between
Haymaker Parkway and Main Street, circa 2024



Fire Prevention

Lieutenant Rob Jacob

As spring rolls in and the days get longer, we look forward to being outdoors again. But, here at your Kent Fire Department, we

want to remind you that warmer weather means different things to think about. From fire safety to ensuring your home is prepared for the season, we've put together some important reminders to help keep you safe.

First, let's do a quick review of fire department activity. Last year, our department saw its busiest year ever! We responded to 5,876 calls, a 20% increase from 2019 and a staggering 32% increase since 2014. Of those, 1,717 were fire-related calls, including 63 building fires and 158 car accidents. Plus, we handled 1,122 other emergencies and hazardous situations. But it's not just fires that keep us busy — we also responded to 4,002 medical emergencies. Our community paramedicine provider, Sara Slanina, made 157 visits to help folks in Kent, reducing the number of calls for emergency medical services. All of these are critical parts of what we do every day, which is why we train hard between runs to make sure we're ready for anything.

Here's some good news for you. A limited number of free smoke alarms and combination smoke & carbon monoxide detectors are

available! The Fire Prevention Bureau purchased smoke alarms and combination smoke & carbon monoxide detectors. These are available for free to members of our

community who may not be able to buy or install them on their own. They're battery-operated (not hard-wiring compatible) and come with a 10-year battery life — meaning you don't need to do much besides keep them dust-free and press the test button occasionally to make sure they're still working. If you have a newer home with hardwired detectors, we recommend buying the same brand or type to match. If you rent your home, check with your maintenance to see if they provide these for you. And if you need help with installation, just let us know!

As we start to see our yards again after the snow melts, remember when it comes to burning outside, the only thing you should be burning is clean, dry, seasoned firewood. Burning leaves, branches, or other debris is a no-no. If the smoke from any open burn causes a problem for others, we'll have to respond and assess the situation, even if you've let us know ahead of time. Be considerate of your neighbors — they'll appreciate it! Also, never use gasoline or other accelerants to start a fire.

Finally, spring cleaning isn't just for your yard. It's a good time to make sure your hallways and doorways are clear of clutter. Not only will it make your home easier to move around in, but if we ever have to respond to an emergency at your house, it will help us find you and your pets more quickly.

So, as we enter spring, stay safe, stay smart, and don't hesitate to ask for help!

Celebrating 50 Years: The Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority

By: Jim Bowling, PE – Deputy Service Director/Superintendent of Engineering



PARTA is marking its milestone anniversary this year, so I thought I would use my column to talk more about this important community resource.

As the Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority marks its 50th anniversary, it's an excellent opportunity to reflect

on the transit's journey from inception in 1975 to the present. PARTA has become a vital asset for the city of Kent and wider Portage County community, connecting residents to essential services, educational institutions, and economic opportunities.

PARTA's origins are closely linked to Kent State University's Campus Bus Service. In the mid-1970s, there was a pressing need for reliable transportation options in the Portage County area, for students commuting to and from the university as well as those living on campus. Recognizing this need, in 1975 local leaders established PARTA as a Regional Transit Authority (RTA) to serve not only the university but also the broader community. This legal foundation laid the groundwork for PARTA to work with local, state, and federal partners to develop public transit services

in and around Kent, as well for residents of the predominantly rural communities located throughout the county. Over the past five decades, PARTA has demonstrated its unwavering commitment to enhancing mobility for all residents. All PARTA services are open to the public and are fully accessible to elderly and disabled populations. The agency has developed programs and services to ensure access to essential resources like healthcare, fresh food, and social activities. By providing traditional fixed-route bus services and countywide Dial-A-Ride options, PARTA makes it possible for individuals to maintain their independence and improve their quality of life.

Moreover, PARTA plays a crucial role in supporting the local economy. According to United Way, Portage County ranks among Ohio's top ten for largest transit ridership per Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE). The term ALICE describes households that earn above the federal poverty level yet struggle to afford basic expenses.

By facilitating access to employment opportunities and educational institutions, PARTA helps residents secure jobs and gain valuable skills. This, in turn, benefits the entire community by boosting economic activity and reducing unemployment rates. The impact of PARTA extends beyond just transportation; it also promotes environmental sustainability. By encouraging the use of public transit, the agency reduces the number of vehicles on the road, leading to lower emissions and less traffic congestion. In addition, its use of low-emission diesel and Compressed Natural Gas/Renewable Natural Gas (CNG/RNG) fueled vehicles also benefit the environment.

As PARTA celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2025, it looks to the evolution of its system. This year the transit authority will conduct a feasibility study which will be used to inform a transit development plan to guide the system's future. The goal is to identify opportunities to improve existing service while possibly adding new routes and moving toward innovative mobility solutions such as micro-transit.

As Kent's needs evolve, PARTA remains committed to adapting and improving its offerings to ensure that all residents have access to flexible, safe, and reliable transportation.



City of Kent Service Department

930 Overholt Rd
Kent, OH 44240
(330) 678-1688

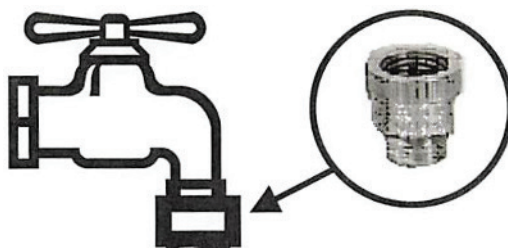
The City of Kent makes every effort to ensure that our customers enjoy a continuous supply of safe drinking water. We appreciate the help of our customers to maintain the quality of our water supply.

What is a cross-connection? Any physical connection created between a possible source of contamination and any drinking water system piping.

What is backflow? It is the flow through a cross connection from a possible source of contamination back into the drinking water system. It occurs when a cross-connection is created and a pressure reversal, either as back siphonage or backpressure, occurs in the water supply piping.

Why be concerned? ALL cross-connections pose a potential health risk. • Backflow can be a health hazard for your family or other consumers if contaminated water enters your water supply plumbing system and is used for drinking, cooking, or bathing.

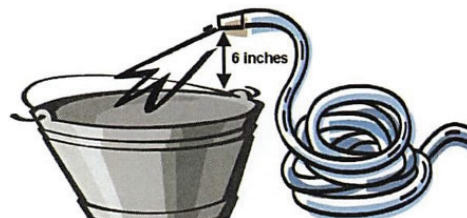
The City Of Kent has a backflow preventer built into the residential water meters. This protects the public water system from possible contamination. Once the water passes through the meter, the water cannot backflow into the public water system.



One simple way to stop backflow is by using an air gap. An air gap can be created by arranging your hose so that the end is

at least six inches above the top rim of the container it is being used to fill. This air gap will prevent the contaminant from being siphoned into the water supply.

Another method of preventing backflow with a garden hose is using a device known as a vacuum breaker. Vacuum breakers are inexpensive



devices that can be screwed onto your outside faucet. These devices will prevent contaminants from being siphoned back into your plumbing and the public water system.

What are some common backflow hazards that threaten the homeowner and other consumers?

- Hose connections to chemical solution aspirators to feed lawn and shrub herbicides, pesticides or fertilizers.
- Lawn irrigation systems.
- Chemically treated heating systems.
- Hose connections to a water outlet or laundry tub.
- Swimming pools, hot tubs, spas.
- Private and/or non-potable water supplies located on the property.
- Water-operated sump drain devices.
- Feed lots/livestock holding areas or barnyards fed through pipes or hoses from your water supply plumbing.

What are examples of cross-connection and backflow scenarios?

- Soapy water or other cleaning compounds backsiphon into the water supply plumbing through a faucet or hose submerged in a bucket or laundry basin.
- Pool water backsiphons into the water supply plumbing through a hose submerged in a swimming pool.
- Fertilizers/pesticides backsiphon into the water supply plumbing through a garden hose attached to a fertilizer/pesticide sprayer.
- Chemicals/pesticides and animal feces drawn into the water supply plumbing from a lawn irrigation system with submerged nozzles.

For more information on preventing cross connections and protecting our water supply, contact The City of Kent Service Department at 330-673-1688.

REMEMBER: Never submerge your garden hose in anything you would not want to drink!

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Third Annual Historic South End Health Fair

Joan Seidel, KCHD Health Commissioner



While it may feel that June is a long way off, it will be here before we know it. The Kent City Health Department is eagerly anticipating and has

been meeting to plan the next Historic South End Health Fair on June 21st. The health fair is free and open to all of Kent. There are no income limits, improving health is important for everyone.

We look forward to many of our partners returning this year including University Hospitals Portage Medical Center, Kent State University, AxessPointe, Mental Health and Recovery Board, Portage Metropolitan Housing Authority as well as many others. We hope to have cholesterol, blood sugar, and blood pressures screenings. Also, last year Kent State College of Podiatric Medicine foot screening was a big draw and well received. There are multiple agencies bringing resources and

giveaways. Activities for children will be held again so your children can learn and play while you browse and find out more about what Kent has to offer. We also hope to have music DJ'd by incomparable Harry Dukes. You can enjoy listening to his fantastic musical selections or get up and dance!

If you are not familiar with the Historic South End, this is a great day to come down and get acquainted with this warm and welcoming community that has so much to offer. Consider stopping by to see the beautiful Thomas Anderson Memorial Garden on Cedar Street, just a few blocks away.



Kent Parks and Recreation has generously allowed us to use their recreation Center space at 1115 Franklin Avenue. We will open on Saturday June 21, 2025, at 11:00am and close at 1:00pm. Stop by to get screenings, information, giveaways, and sign up for raffle prize!



Bengt George
*Communications Manager
Kent Historical Society &
Museum*

The year 2025 marks a very special anniversary for our community. This summer, it will have been 150 years since the opening of the iconic Erie Depot on Franklin Avenue. Right from its 1875 construction, the building spurred local development as an influx of industry and business helped Kent grow into a true destination on the long rail line between the cities of New York and Chicago. Railroads hold a central importance to our town's early years. Marvin Kent, acting as President of the Atlantic & Great Western Railroad, had been instrumental in bringing the first railroads through his hometown, which was called Franklin Mills until it was renamed in honor of him in 1867. Past the turn of the century, the city of Kent prospered in newer ways and eventually became known as a college town. Old photographs show a large white sign on the Depot that greeted travelers with the words "Home of Kent State University." Fast forward

to 1971 and the Erie Depot sports boarded-up windows and is under threat of demolition. This is the year that Kent Historical Society (KHS) is founded for the express purpose of saving the building, with the generous help of many community members. KHS has since maintained the building and allowed it to house several popular restaurants, while its unique façade continues to endure as a recognizable symbol of Kent. Now, in 2025, KHS is organizing a celebration downtown as we look back on 150 years of history and look forward to many more. The events to be held on Sunday June 1st will be open to the



public. There will be an informative talk, live entertainment, family-friendly activities, and free refreshments. Mark your calendars now! Find more information about KHS and the Kent Depot's 150th anniversary celebration at <https://www.kentohiohistory.org/>

Kent City Health Department, Striving to Keep Kent Clean

Eric Gorczynski, Kyle Kelly, Joan Seidel

Everyone in Kent makes some amount of trash on a regular basis. So, trash, also known as solid waste, should be everyone's concern and responsibility. The majority of residents would probably agree that having a clean appearance to our neighborhoods and spaces is much more appealing than having it littered with trash. Unfortunately, solid waste continues to be a major concern for the Kent City Health Department. A business owner and Kent resident for over 30 years, Tom Simpson, stated "Downtown Kent is far cleaner now than ever. However, the entire city still has a way to go because of some fundamental issues with trash." Too often, one or more of the following issues occur in our community:

- Excessive trash litters tree lawns, front porches, or front yards.
- Empty solid waste containers sit along the tree lawn for several days after pickup.
- Discarded trash or furniture remains along the tree lawn for several days waiting for pickup.

The Kent City Health Department's Solid Waste Program is complaint-based but does proactively provide warnings when violations are observed, and time permits. Most solid waste related violations involve rental properties and include containers being left on the curb after collections, improperly stored solid waste, loose litter, bulk items not being reported to the hauler prior to collection, and non-recycling being placed in the recycling container.

If you are interested in being a courteous neighbor and improving the aesthetics of Kent, please remember the following tips:

- Pick up loose litter from your tree lawn, yard, and front porch.
- Do not take trash to the curb more than one day prior to the assigned pickup day.
- Retrieve your empty containers the same day as pickup.
- Ensure that active trash service is always in place with your provider.
- If a special pickup is needed (i.e., mattress or furniture) call your trash service provider prior to pickup to make a request.



- Ensure that you have adequately sized containers, and the frequency of pickup is sufficient for your solid waste needs.
- If you own rental property in Kent, ensure that your tenants have a clear understanding of their solid waste responsibilities.

It's not uncommon for streets near campus or other more densely populated areas to have multiple properties where the containers remain on the curb a few days after collection. Containers are supposed to be placed on the curb after 7pm the day prior to collection and brought back by 7pm the day of collection. On non-collection days, containers are supposed to be stored behind the front edge of the home with some leeway granted due to parcel layout constraints.

Solid waste containers are to be leak proof and have tight fitting lids. When lids are not properly closed it invites wildlife, the wildlife may remember the container as a food source and even chew through the containers or knock them over to gain access creating a mess and potentially incurring expenses to remediate/repair pest nesting areas in or near homes.

Loose litter is another significant problem whether the days after a party or due to overflowing containers. Not only does litter look terrible, it blows all over the place, it poses obstruction problems for storm sewers, from there it gets into our streams and the river. Additionally, wildlife can get entrapped by litter, and our pets can get cut by broken glass.

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Removal of large or bulk trash items need to be arranged with the solid waste hauler prior to the date of collection. Cloth or stuffed material items like mattresses and couches must be wrapped in plastic wrap to prevent water saturation and help to prevent pest infestations like bedbugs. Not only is a waterlogged couch or mattress heavy for the collectors and increases the likelihood of injury but it also increases the tipping fees for the disposal.

The recycling collector will not collect the contents of the recycling container if it contains non-recycling items. One of the most common non-recycling items observed are plastic bags. Recycling must be sorted, so bagging recyclables waste labor hours for the collector resulting in an overall higher expense. Recycling is only collected every other week. Please see Republic's instructions for recycling at: <https://www.republicservices.com/residents/recycling-and-solid-waste/recycling-basics>.

Most people put forth an excellent effort in helping to keep Kent beautiful. However, it only takes a few instances



to create an eyesore that can then lead to serious environmental, health, and public safety concerns under certain circumstances. Due to this, the City Council adopted an ordinance penalizing violators of the citywide trash ordinances with citations up to \$250.

These measures were put in place to encourage compliance with citywide trash ordinances and to improve neighborhood aesthetics.

Kent City Ordinances outline rules and regulations to follow regarding solid waste in sections 521 and 933. In addition to obeying a citywide ordinance, the solid waste concern can be solved if everyone takes pride in their community. Participation is needed by everyone that lives in Kent, works in Kent, or goes to school in Kent. Everyone must work together to help keep Tree City beautiful.

City of Kent's Climate Action Plan (CAP) – Resources for receiving updates on the City's Sustainability Work

Are you interested in learning more about the City's CAP and other sustainability efforts? Be sure to visit the City website's Sustainability Overview page and sign up to receive the Sustainable Kent News e-newsletter!

The Sustainability Overview page can be found under the Business, Building & Development section of the City's website. It provides access to the full 2023-2028 Climate Action Plan, as well as CAP implementation timelines, the City's greenhouse gas inventories, sustainability legislation passed by the City, and access to associated plans and studies as they become available to share. As more items are developed out of the CAP and the City's overall sustainability work, they will continue to be added to this website. Be sure to visit often for the latest information at: <https://www.kentohio.gov/business-building-development/sustainability-overview/>



www.kentohio.gov/business-building-development/sustainability-overview/.

Another option for receiving detailed information about the City's sustainability work is to sign up for the Sustainable Kent e-Newsletter, which is sent out quarterly via the City's sustainability email list-serv. While these newsletters are posted to the Sustainability Overview website, signing up for the list-serv allows the City to send not only the e-newsletter, but additional sustainability related information out to the community as needed. To find instructions for how to sign up, please visit: <https://www.kentohio.gov/business-building-development/sustainability-overview/sustainable-kent-e-newsletter/>

If you have any questions (or suggestions), or would like to connect around the City's CAP, feel free to contact the City's Sustainability Coordinator, Julie Morris, at: julie.morris@kentohio.gov.

A Resource in Our Own Backyard – The Kent State University Design Innovation Hub

Eric Helmstedter
Economic Development Director

As Economic Development Director, one of my primary duties is to provide support to our local businesses. One of the ways that I do this is by making our businesses aware of the resources available to them. Resource is a very broad term that can include everything from grant programs which provide financial support for small businesses to vocational schools that are training the next generation of our workforce. One such resource is Kent State University's Design Innovation Hub.

The Design Innovation Hub, also known as the DI HUB, is one of the region's premier makerspaces. As such, one of the primary components of the DI HUB is its twelve shops and labs, which contain a wide array of specialized equipment ranging from 3D printers to laser cutters. Since membership to the DI HUB is open to community members and alumni, local Kent businesses can take advantage of all the space has to offer at a very reasonable cost.

At the core of the DI HUB is the open-access, multi-faceted space, known as the Reactor Shops and Labs. The Reactor is comprised of a series of nine shops which include: 3D Print/Laser Cut Shop, CNC Shop, Wood Shop, Metal Shop, Sewing/Textile Shop, Industrial/Robotics Shop, Paint/Glue Shop, Resource

Library, Electronics/Prototyping Shop. Each shop is equipped with state-of-the-art tools and equipment. Just beyond the Reactor are a series of five labs which include: Blank_Lab, X_Realm, XR_Collaboratory, PrintLab, and MuseLab. These labs support research and exploration related to emerging technologies.

All these spaces are available for use by members. The equipment and tools are specific to the shops and labs. The Metal Shop, for example, boasts equipment such as a 15-ton Jet hydraulic press and a DVR drill press that can be used by a variety of manufacturers. The PrintLab has a Textart RT-640 dye sublimation printer and a digital heat press which can be used to create custom banners or apparel. This is just an example of the specialized, state-of-the-art equipment available to DI HUB members. For a complete list of available equipment, please visit <https://www.kent.edu/designinnovation/equipment>.

With its range of equipment and tools spread across the shops and labs, the DI HUB is an excellent resource that can provide support to a wide variety of local Kent businesses. Whether you operate a business that upcycles clothing and you need to use a heat press, or you are a manufacturer interested in 3D printing a prototype before a production run, the DI HUB has you covered. For those interested in learning more about membership and associated fees, please visit <https://www.kent.edu/designinnovation/di-hub-membership>. You can also contact the DI HUB by phone at (330)-672-3420, or email at DI@kent.edu.

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STORMWATER: WHAT IS IT AND WHERE DOES IT GO?

What is stormwater runoff?

Stormwater runoff is rainfall or melting snow that flows over the ground surface. It is created when rain falls on roads, driveways, parking lots, rooftops and other paved surfaces that do not allow water to soak into the ground.

Stormwater runoff is a leading source of water pollution and excess surface runoff to streams and rivers.

Where does stormwater runoff go?

When stormwater cannot sink into the ground, it has nowhere to go but to flow across the surface of the ground.

Most stormwater runoff flows either: directly into streams, rivers, ponds, lakes and wetlands or down the nearest storm drain and then into the nearest waterway without any treatment.

What's the difference between storm drains and sanitary sewers?

City storm drains are separate from sanitary sewers and do not drain into municipal wastewater treatment facilities but carry stormwater runoff from a catch basin (a.k.a., storm

drain inlet, curb inlet) into streams, rivers, ponds, lakes and wetlands.

The sanitary sewer is a system of underground pipes that carries sewage from bathrooms, sinks, kitchens, and other plumbing components to the wastewater treatment plant where it is filtered, treated and discharged.

How can stormwater runoff be reduced or prevented?

A significant amount of stormwater pollution is caused by everyday human activities - washing and maintaining cars, littering, fertilizing and watering lawns, etc. There are many simple, basic steps people can do each day to help reduce and prevent stormwater pollution:

- Never dump anything down storm drains or in ditches
- Compost yard waste and sweep grass clippings out of street gutters after mowing
- Pick up after your pet and equip yourself with bags to properly dispose of any waste
- Check your car for leaking fluids and recycle your motor oil
- Use fertilizers sparingly and sweep driveways and sidewalks after application
- Wash your car at a commercial car wash that is plumbed to a treatment plant instead of washing your car on a

driveway or street

- Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces; consider installing a rain barrel or rain garden
- Don't litter! Pick up trash you see on the ground (even if it is not yours) and participate in a river or watershed clean-up



CHARM

COLLECTION GUIDELINES

- Portage County Residents ONLY
- ID Required
- NO BUSINESSES
- NO SMOKING
- Drive in, follow instructions please stay in your vehicle.
- Payments can be made by cash or check ONLY
- Electronics (TV's, CRT monitors and printers) make checks to Greenboard IT
- Tires make checks to Portage County Solid Waste Management District

CHARM services are guided by state law and this is not a trash service.



**3588 Mogadore Road
Kent, OH 44240
330.678.8808
portagerecycles.com**

CHaRM Hours:

Monday OR Thursday 10-2
First Monday of the month 10-5
(excluding Federal Holidays)

All prices & hours are subject to change.

ACCEPTABLE MATERIALS APPLIANCES

- PORTABLE/WINDOW AC UNITS
- COOKTOPS
- MICROWAVES
- DISHWASHERS
- RANGES/STOVES
- WASHER/DRYERS
- REFRIGERATORS
- FREEZERS
- WALL OVENS
- ICE MAKERS
- DEHUMIDIFIERS



ELECTRONICS

\$20 TV'S & CRT Monitors

\$10 Printers (cash/check Greenboard IT) NO charge for all other electronics, see list below for acceptable items:

- CELL PHONES
- STEREOS
- VCR/DVD PLAYERS
- ROUTERS
- PC'S
- LAPTOPS
- PHONES
- SCANNERS
- LCD MONITORS
- KEYBOARDS
- PAPER SHREDDERS
- UPS
- HARD DRIVES
- SERVERS
- NETWORKING EQUIPMENT
- MP3 PLAYERS
- CAMERAS
- GAME CONSOLES & ACCESSORIES
- UNUSED PRINTER CARTRIDGES & TONER



PAPER SHREDDING

Remove all paper clips, binder clips, rubber bands, folders and any kind of binding

SCRAP TIRES

Passenger tires only
\$0.50 per tire (cash/check)
LIMIT 10 tires per household per year
ALL tires MUST be clean, Tires with rims accepted



NOTE: By Ohio law anyone transporting more than 10 tires on one load must possess an Ohio Transporter's license.
Funded partially by Ohio EPA

AUTOMOTIVE*

Motor Oil, Antifreeze and Transmission Fluid, MUST be in CLEARLY marked container with lid



BATTERIES

Lead Acid (car batteries*) and household batteries (AA, AAA, C, etc) -TAPE ends of batteries



SCRAP METAL*

Ferrous and non-ferrous metals including wires, pipes, motors, parts etc.



COOKING OIL*

Must be in a CLEARLY marked container with lid



PLASTIC BAGS*

Plastic bags, film, ice bags, bubble wrap, etc.



LATEX PAINT

Latex paint only will be accepted during CHaRM hours



HHWCOLLECTION

The first Monday of every month (excluding federal holidays)

*Also available at the drop-off 24/7

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YOUTH PROGRAMS



JUNIOR ADVENTURE CAMP

This camp is designed with outdoor adventure in mind, partnering with KSU Adventure Center & CVNP to provide a unique summer experience.

WHEN: June 9th-Aug 8th
TIME: 8:30AM - 4:30 PM, Monday-Friday
WHERE: Plum Creek Park
WHO: 4th-6th graders
COST: \$162/week +\$10 Non-Resident Fee

BABYSITTER TRAINING

American Red Cross Babysitting Course; certificates will be provided with the successful completion of the course. We are offering two different sessions this spring.

WHEN: April 5th & May 3rd
TIME: 9:30AM - 3:00PM
WHERE: Kent Free Library
WHO: Ages 12+
COST: \$65

KPR SUMMER CAMP @ DAVEY

Field trips, swimming, a movie and special guests are included each week. Small groups combine learning and fun in the arts, recreation, reading nature, team building, STEAM, health and wellness, and leadership activities.

WHEN: June 9th-Aug 8th
TIME: 9:00 AM- 4:00 PM, Monday-Friday
WHERE: Davey Elementary
WHO: Going into 1st-3rd Grade
COST: \$145/week +\$10 Non-Resident Fee



SCAN ME 

KPR SUMMER CAMP @ THE REC CENTER

Field trips, swimming, a movie, special guests, gardening and volunteer opportunities are included each week. Small groups combine learning and fun in the arts, recreation, reading, nature, team building, STEM, health and wellness, and leadership activities.

WHEN: June 9th-Aug 8th
TIME: 8:30 AM-4:30 PM, Monday-Friday
WHERE: Kent Recreation Center
WHO: Going into 1st-6th Grade
COST: \$165/week +\$10 Non-Resident Fee

KIDS NIGHT OUT

Dinner, gym games, music, arts & crafts, computers, video games, and a movie are all included. Each month features a unique theme.

WHEN: April 5th & May 3rd
TIME: 5:30 - 9:30 PM
WHERE: Kent Recreation Center
WHO: Ages 4 - 11
COST: \$29 First Child/\$19 Additional Child
+\$2 Non-Resident Fee

KPR LIL LEARNERS PRESCHOOL CAMP

Your preschooler will have the opportunity to play in Fred Fuller Park, walk the Hike and Bike Trail, create arts and crafts, sing songs, read stories and make their first friendships each week this summer!

WHEN: June 9th-Aug 7th
TIME: Mon-Thurs, 9 AM - 12:30 PM
WHERE: Roy Smith Shelterhouse
WHO: Ages 3 - 5
COST: \$75/week +\$10 Non-Resident Fee

SPRING BREAK CHILDCARE

Still working during Kent City School's Spring Break? Send your kiddos to this all-day childcare program where they will play games, make crafts, and more.

WHEN: March 24th, 25th, & 26th
TIME: 6:30 AM - 6:00 PM
WHERE: Kent Recreation Center
WHO: Kindergarten - 6th Grade
COST: \$40 Residents +\$2 Non-Resident Fee

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YOUTH ATHLETICS

ON TARGET FENCING

Learn the basics or build advanced skills, this program is open to any skill levels. All equipment included.

WHEN: Saturdays, April 26th - June 14th

BEGINNERS: 2:00 - 3:30 PM

INTERMEDIATE: 3:30 - 5:00 PM

WHERE: Kent Recreation Center

WHO: Ages 7+

COST: \$80 Resident +\$10 Non-Resident Fee

MOXX 101 BASKETBALL CLINIC

Participants will go through drills and games to help build the fundamentals of basketball catered to each age group.

WHEN: Mon & Thur, April 14th-24th

TIME: K-2nd 6:15-7:15 PM

3rd-6th 7:30-8:30 PM

WHERE: Kent Recreation Center

WHO: Kindergarten-6th Grade

COST: \$45 Residents +\$10 Non-Resident Fee



PITCH, HIT, & RUN

Online registration required for participation. Join other Kent area ballplayers to show off your skills and attempt to earn a chance to move on to the next round.

WHEN: Sunday, April 6th

TIME: 11:00 AM-3:00 PM

WHERE: Kramer Ball Fields

WHO: Ages 6-14

COST: FREE registration, must register online

SPORTS SUMMER CAMPS

Kent Parks & Rec has partnered with several local coaches to offer a variety of sports camps this summer. For more information on costs, times, and locations, visit our website at kentparksandrec.com.

Youth Field Hockey Camp - 1st-8th Grade - June 9th-June 30th

Youth Volleyball Camp - 3rd-8th Grade - June 9th-June 12th

Youth Girls Lacrosse Camp - 1st-9th Grade - June 9th-June 12th

Youth Cheerleading Camp - 1st-9th Grade - June 16th-June 20th

Youth Soccer Camp - 2nd-8th Grade - June 23rd-June 26th

Youth Boys Lacrosse Camp - 1st-9th Grade - June 23rd-June 26th

Youth Swimming Camp - 2nd-8th Grade - Aug 4th, 6th, & 8th

Youth Ice Hockey Camp - Ages 5-14 - Aug 11th-Aug 14th



ADULT ATHLETICS

SUMMER ADULT SOFTBALL

Men's, Women's and Co-ed leagues offered. Limited spaces available in each league. Visit our website for additional league info.

WHEN: Games begin week of July 8th
7 weeks of doubleheaders

WHERE: Kramer Ball Fields

WHO: Ages 18+

COST: \$200 Team Fee

FALL ADULT SOFTBALL

Men's, Women's and Co-ed leagues offered. Limited spaces available in each league. Visit our website for additional league info.

WHEN: Games begin week of September 9th
5 weeks of doubleheaders + tournament

WHERE: Kramer Ball Fields & Allerton Fields

WHO: Ages 18+

COST: \$300 Team Fee

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SPECIAL EVENTS



KENT ACOUSTIC FEST

Celebrate local Acoustic music in Fred Fuller Park. Grab food from a local food truck and check out the craft vendors at this second annual event.

WHEN: Saturday, July 26th

WHERE: Fred Fuller Park

WHO: Open to the public

COST: Entry is FREE

ADULT EGG SCRAMBLE

Collect eggs filled with raffle tickets for your chance to win one of many different prizes.

WHEN: Friday, April 18th

TIME: Hunt starts @ 7:30 PM

WHERE: Fred Fuller Park

WHO: Ages 21+

COST: \$30 - \$5 early registration discount before March 14th



YOUTH EASTER EGG HUNT

Join us for a FREE egg hunt! Every egg has a prize, with several larger, age specific prizes as well. Don't forget a visit from the Easter Bunny!

WHEN: Saturday, April 19th

TIME: Hunt starts @ 1PM

WHERE: Fred Fuller Park

WHO: Ages 9 & Below

COST: FREE, no registration required

CUYAHOGA RIVER DAYS

River Days is a series of celebrations of the Cuyahoga River! Discover new ways to explore, experience and learn about the river and our water trail community.

WHEN: Saturday, May 17th

TIME: 9:00 AM-1:00 PM

WHERE: Haymakers Farmers Market & Tannery Park

WHO: Open to the public

COST: FREE

30TH ANNUAL ART IN THE PARK FESTIVAL

The 32nd anniversary of this two-day event features over 100 artists, food vendors, a silent art auction, two stages of live music, and interactive activities for all ages. Don't forget to make a purchase from one of the many talented artists while you're here!

WHEN: Sept 6th & 7th

TIME: Saturday 10AM - 6PM; Sunday 11AM - 5PM

WHERE: Fred Fuller Park

WHO: Open to the public

COST: FREE entry



CUYAHOGA RIVER CLEANUP

If spending the morning wading or floating the Cuyahoga River with a group of people who love nature and want to give back to the community sounds appealing, this is the place to be.

Since 2012 volunteers have removed dozens of tons of solid waste from Kent section of the Cuyahoga River including over 500 tires, a few hundred railroad ties, mattresses/furniture, and even part of a headstone from 1843.

WHEN: Saturday, August 30th

TIME: Meet at 8:00 AM

WHERE: John Brown Tannery Park

WHO: Open to the public

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Kent State University Hosts Free Electronics Recycling Event: MARCH 5, 12, 19, 26

The 2025 E-Cycle Drive at Kent State University is open to students, faculty, staff and the community of Kent. Electronics recycling will be open March 5, 12, 19, 26 from 7:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. in the Kent State University R-17 Parking lot, between S. Willow Street and S. Lincoln Street. Members of both the campus and city of Kent community can recycle used electronics through Dynamic Lifecycle Innovations an R2v3 and E-Stewards certified company, where materials are handled in an environmentally and socially responsible way.

Materials permitted at E-Cycle Drive include: flat screen TVs, personal computers, laptop computers, servers and storage devices, monitors (LCD), iPads and tablets, flat screen TVs docking stations, floppy drives, DVD/CD burners, VCRs, circuit boards, scanners, copiers,

printers, cables, wires, extension cords, digital cameras, cellular phones, string lights, DVD players, game consoles, network and telecom equipment and small kitchen appliances. Items that are NOT ACCEPTED include: kitchen appliances larger than a microwave are not acceptable (Microwaves are accepted), CRT Monitors, CRT TV's, Projection TV's, Copiers, Medical Equipment, Lab Equipment, Freon Containing Devices, Toner/Ink Cartridges.

Large drop offs by local businesses are accepted but must be scheduled in advance. Call 330-672-8704. For a complete list of accepted items and more information about E-Cycle Drive visit: tinyurl.com/KSUElectronics E-Cycle Drive is hosted by Kent State University's University Facilities Management and the Office of Sustainability. The public electronics recycling drop-off event contributes to Kent State University's standings in the Campus Race to Zero Waste competition. This is the 16th year Kent State is competing in Campus Race to Zero Waste. For more information visit: www.kent.edu/sustainability.

FLASHES
RECYCLE
ELECTRONICS

FREE OPEN TO CAMPUS + COMMUNITY
Electronics Drive

MARCH 5, 12, 19 & 26 • 7:30AM - 3:00PM

KSU R-17 PARKING LOT
between S. Lincoln St. & S. Willow St.
tinyurl.com/KSUElectronics

powered by University Facilities Management & Office of Sustainability

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY | Office of Sustainability

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Birth and Death Records from Vital Statistics

Linda Grimm, Deputy-Registrar
Joan Seidel, Health Commissioner

Do you need a copy of a birth record for school, compliant driver's license or a new job? Do you need a death certificate to help with responsibilities after the death of a loved one?

The Kent City Health Department holds the Vital Records for Portage County. You can obtain Ohio birth certificates from across the state and Ohio death certificates from 1909 – present for those who have died in Portage County. Vital Statistics is open Monday through Friday 8am until 4pm, except for most major holidays. Records can be purchased online from the “Birth and Death Records” page listed under “Living Here” on the City of Kent website www.kentohio.gov. We recommend selecting tracking for your USPS order. The cost is \$24.00 for each record, there is a fee for use of credit card. We are also happy to help you in person. We are

located on the second floor of the Kent Central Gateway, 201 East Erie Street, Kent, Ohio 44240. The entrance is on the West end of the building. There are stairs and an elevator to take you to the second floor. There is free 15-minute parking in the deck or \$1.00/hour charge if longer. On street metered parking just outside the building is also accessible.

The Kent City Health Department Vital Statistics office is very pleased to announce the Ohio Department of Health Vital Statistics



Bureau has been working to modernize a new all electronic Ohio Vital Records System for the State of Ohio. The anticipated launch date is later in 2025 and will make Ohio death certificates filed in the new system available from any county statewide.

Yard Waste Transfer Site Info

Located at the entrance to Plum Creek Park
(across from Cherry Street)

**The City of Kent Yard Waste Transfer Site will reopen
Tuesday, April 1, 2025 (weather permitting).**

2025 Hours of Operation

Tuesdays, 9:00am - 1:00pm

Wednesdays, 5:00pm – 8:00pm

Saturdays, 9:00am – 12:00pm

During 2025 mulch like material (*shredded / ground up material dropped off by residents at the City's yard waste facility*) will be delivered to residents while supplies last. Please complete the Yard Waste Material Delivery Program Waiver form on the City's website. The form is available only during open seasons for the facility. If you do not have access to the internet, please call the Service Department at 330-678-8105.

Drop-Off Yard Waste Rules

- Non-residents are NOT permitted on the site
- No charge for City residents to drop off yard waste
- No commercial use of site is permitted
- No commercial vehicles permitted
- Unauthorized equipment prohibited on premises

The Yard Waste Transfer Site is open to Kent residents only. Residents will be required to show proof of residency, a valid driver's license or state ID with their City of Kent address at the gate prior to admission to the site. Residents must live in and show proof of residency within the City of Kent Corporation Limits (this will be strictly enforced).

Acceptable Material List

Brush
Grass
Firewood
Leaves
Weeds

Not Accepted

No lumber or wood pallets
No construction debris
No trash of any kind
No logs/stumps
No full trees
No large root balls
No RR ties

Please remember to empty bags of yard waste and take the bags with you.

If you have any questions regarding the Yard Waste Transfer Site, please call (330) 678-8105



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Spring 2025 Brush Collection

The City of Kent's Central Maintenance Division collects brush at the curb twice each year. The 2024 Spring Brush Collection Program will commence Monday, May 5th, 2025.

Brush will be collected in the Southwest section
Monday, May 5th, to Friday, May 9th, 2025

Brush will be collected in the Northwest section
Monday, May 12th, to Friday, May 16th, 2025

Brush will be collected in the Northeast section
Monday, May 19th, to Friday, May 23rd, 2025

Brush will be collected in the Southeast section
Tuesday, May 26th, to Friday, May 30th, 2025

Please see page 23 to reference your street's location.

Residents are asked to please place brush at the curb or edge of street before Monday of their street's scheduled week to ensure collection.

Crews will make only one pass down each street during the scheduled week.

Please do not wait until later in the week to place your brush at the curb, as there will not be a second pass in your neighborhood. Chipping crews will spend a maximum of thirty minutes at one residence. Residents that miss the collection or have an excessive amount of brush will be responsible to dispose of their brush on their own. It may be taken to the City Yard Waste Transfer Site located on Plum Street near the entrance to Plum Creek Park, see the City's website for hours and access information.

Placement of brush should be on the tree lawn and close to the curb or the edge of pavement with the cut ends facing the street. If possible, leave the brush in longer lengths, brush that is too long may be placed lengthwise. Stacked brush must not block the sidewalk or extend onto or over the roadway pavement. Stacked brush containing foreign objects will not be collected. City crews will notify homeowners by placing a notice on their door for any piles of brush that are refused because it is not stacked properly or contains foreign debris. Once the pile of brush has been rejected it must be corrected immediately or the removal will become the responsibility of the homeowner to dispose of.

If a commercial contractor has been hired to trim or remove trees, the contractor is responsible for the brush removal and it is not to be placed at the curb.

Please note the beginning date of the Brush Collection Program for your location and make sure to place brush to be chipped at the curb prior to the start date for your neighborhood.

Brush is collected at the curb during the months of May and October each year. During the remaining months residents can take brush to the City of Kent Yard Waste Transfer Site on Plum Street near the entrance to Plum Creek Park. Please see page X for updated information about the yard waste site and hours of operation.

If you have questions or comments please call the Service Department at 330-678-8105.



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2025 Spring Cleanup

**TO GUARANTEE PICK UP, ITEMS MUST BE PLACED ON THE CURB BY 7:00 AM
ON MONDAY OF THE WEEK IN WHICH YOUR SECTION IS SCHEDULED**

ITEMS WILL BE PICKED UP IN THE NORTHWEST SECTION BEGINNING MONDAY, MAY 5th AND ENDING ON FRIDAY, MAY 9th

ITEMS WILL BE PICKED UP IN THE NORTHEAST SECTION BEGINNING MONDAY, MAY 12th AND ENDING ON FRIDAY, MAY 16th

ITEMS WILL BE PICKED UP IN THE SOUTHEAST SECTION BEGINNING MONDAY, MAY 19th AND ENDING ON FRIDAY, MAY 23rd

ITEMS WILL BE PICKED UP IN THE SOUTHWEST SECTION BEGINNING TUESDAY, MAY 27th AND ENDING ON FRIDAY, MAY 30th

See street listing on page 23 to reference your street's location by section.

Please read this article carefully for items that are acceptable and will be picked up. Non-acceptable items will be tagged, rejected, and left on the curb. If you have questions about a particular item please contact the Service Department at 330-678-8105 prior to Monday of your scheduled pickup week for clarification.

PROHIBITED ITEMS: Regular Household Trash, Tires, Yard Waste, Concrete, Household Hazardous Waste (Paint, Batteries, Motor Oil, Pesticides, Aerosol Cans, Gasoline, Explosives, and Solvents), Light Bulbs, Pianos (due to weight), Propane/Oxygen Pressurized Tanks, Railroad Ties and Loose/Broken Glass will not be taken.

RESIDENTS MUST CALL THE SERVICE DEPARTMENT AT 330-678-8105 IN ADVANCE OF THEIR SCHEDULED WEEK FOR THE REMOVAL OF ITEMS CONTAINING FREON.

ALL APPLIANCES SHOULD BE IN A SEPARATE PILE. DOORS SHOULD BE REMOVED FROM FREEZERS AND REFRIGERATORS. SCRAP METAL SHOULD BE PLACED WITH APPLIANCES. PLEASE PLACE APPLIANCES ON THE CURB BEFORE 7:00 AM MONDAY OF YOUR DESIGNATED WEEK TO GUARANTEE PICKUP.

**LOOSE ITEMS MUST BE PLACED IN BAGS OR CONTAINERS
CONTAINERS AND CONTENTS WILL BE PICKED UP. LOOSE ITEMS WILL NOT BE PICKED UP**

TRASH CANS THAT ARE PLACED AT THE CURB CONTAINING ITEMS INTENDED FOR COLLECTION DURING THE SPRING CLEANUP WILL NOT BE EMPTIED AND RETURNED TO THE CURB. ALL CONTAINERS AND/OR CANS WILL BE COLLECTED AND DISPOSED OF WITH THE UNWANTED ITEMS.

TRASH CANS THAT CONTAIN REGULAR HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE PLACED AT THE CURB AS PART OF THE WEEKLY TRASH COLLECTION PROGRAM WILL BE RETURNED TO THE CURB.

Items must be small enough for two men to handle; furniture, electronics, toys, bikes carpet, etc. **All upholstered furniture, mattresses and carpeting placed at the curb must be wrapped in plastic.** Building materials will be collected in small amounts and only if contained for easy handling. Construction materials placed at the curb for pick up must be cut into lengths of four feet or less and bundled to ensure pickup. Construction/demolition debris (drywall, lumber, fencing, etc.) must also be bundled, weigh less than fifty pounds or placed in sturdy containers (no cardboard boxes) that weigh less than fifty pounds for pickup. Both the container and debris will be taken. Construction materials placed at the curb that have not been bundled or put into sturdy containers will be tagged, rejected and left at the curb.

AUTOMOBILE TIRES WILL NOT BE PICKED UP AT THE CURB.

The City of Kent will be collecting automobile tires (rims removed) from City of Kent residents ONLY on Thursday, May 29th from 7:00am until 7:00pm. Four tires per household will be accepted. Tires can be dropped off at 930 Overholt Road, behind the City's Service Administration Complex on Thursday May 29th only (please note new time and location for tire drop). Residents will be required to show proof of residency, a valid driver's license or state ID with your City of Kent address prior to dropping off tires. Residents must live in and show proof of residency within the City of Kent Corporation Limits (this will be strictly enforced).

City personnel will be checking ID's and assisting with tire drop off and loading. This program is being run entirely by the City of Kent.

Please try to donate, find a reuse, or recycle unwanted items before placing them at the curb for collection. Once a rejection tag has been placed on items left at the curb, those items will not be picked up later.

If you have any questions regarding Spring Cleanup, please call the Service Department at 330-678-8105.

The TREE CITY Bulletin

NORTHWEST

Adamle Drive	Delores Drive	Kevin Drive	Nottingham Circle	Shorewood Circle
Admore Drive	Earl Avenue	Lakewood Circle	Park Avenue	Stonewater Drive
Adrian Drive	Edgewater Circle	Longcoy Avenue	Pearl Street, N	Stinaff Street (West of Hudson Rd)
Allen Drive	Erin Drive	Lowell Drive	Phillip Drive	Sunset Way Circle & Blvd
Bruce Drive	Evergreen Drive	Majors Lane	Pioneer Avenue	Verona Avenue
Bryce Road & Way	Fairchild Avenue	Mantua Street, N (Main to Crain)	Prospect Street, N	Whetstone Drive
Catlin Court	Fieldstone Drive	McKinney Boulevard	Quay Boulevard	Whitewood Drive
Chestnut Street, N	Forest Drive	Michaels Drive	Randall Drive	Whittier Drive
Clarkview Circle	Gouglar Avenue	Nathan Drive	Red Fern Circle	Windward Lane
Cottage Gate Drive	Governors Circle	Naturewood Circle	Robert Drive	Woodard Avenue
Crestview Circle	Harold Street	Newcomer Road (East side only)	Rockwell Street	Wrens Hollow Circle
Cuyahoga St (West of Hudson Rd)	High Ridge Lane	Nicholas Drive	Rollins Circle	
Deleone Drive	Hollister Drive		Roy Marsh Drive	
	Hudson Road		Shady Lakes Drive	

SOUTHWEST

Ada Street	Eton Road	Jessie Avenue	Meadow Drive	Sheri Drive
Akron Boulevard	Francis Street, N & S	Judith Street	Meredith Street	Short Street
Beech Drive	Gale Drive	Laurel Drive	Middlebury Road	Silver Meadows Boulevard
Brentwood Drive	Gardenview Street	Lawrence Court	Munroe Falls-Kent Road	Spaulding Drive
Carol Drive	Garrett Street	Leonard Boulevard	Norwood Street	Stow Street
Chelton Drive	Garth Drive	Longmere Drive	Overbrook Drive	Sunrise Boulevard
Chestnut Street, S	Gill Drive	Louise Street	Parmalee Street	Suzanne Drive
Colleen Drive	Grove Avenue	Lower Drive	Paulus Drive	Tallmadge Avenue
Deidrick Road	Hampton Road	Manchester Avenue	Pearl Street, S	VFW Parkway
Denise Drive	Hughey Drive	Mantua Street, S	Prospect Street, S	Yacavona Drive
Elno Avenue	Irma Street	Main Street, W	River Street	
Emich Drive	Janet Drive	Marilyn Street	Roosevelt Avenue	

SOUTHEAST

Allerton Street	Cedar Street	Ivan Drive	Oak Street, E & W	Sunnybrook Road
Artemis Drive	Chadwick Road	Joyanne Court	Olympus Drive	Valleyview Street
Athena Drive	Cherry Street	Lincoln Street, S	Overholt Road	Vine Street & Court
Avondale Street	Currie Hall Parkway	Loop Road	Pine Street	Walnut Street
Beal Court	DePeyster Street, S	Mae Street	Primrose Lane	Water Street, S
Benjamin Court	Dodge Street	Maple Street	Rellim Drive	West Street
Berkeley Street	Elm Street, E & W	Marigold Lane	School Street, E & W	Williams Street, E & W
Beryl Drive	Franklin Avenue	Martinel Road	Shaw Drive	Willow Street Ext, S
Bowman Drive	Hall Street, E & W	Meloy Road	St. Clair Avenue	
Burnett Road (5439 only)	Harris Street	Mogadore Road	Statesman Place	
	High Street	Morris Road	Summit Street, E & W	

NORTHEAST

Anna Avenue	Davey Avenue	Highland Avenue	Orchard Street	Stinaff Street (East of Hudson Rd)
Beechmont Place	Day Street, E & W	Holly Drive	Overlook Drive	Temple Avenue
Beechwood Drive	DePeyster Street, N	Horning Road	Perry Street	Tonkin Street
Birchwood Circle	Dominion Drive	King Avenue	Pleasant Avenue	University Drive
Brady Street	Doramor Street	Lake Street	Portage Street	Virginia Avenue
Burns Court	Edgewood Court	Lincoln Street, N	River Bend Boulevard	Walter Street
Burr Oak Drive	Elizabeth Drive	Linden Road	River Edge Drive	Water Street, N
Carthage Street	Elmwood Drive	Lock Street	River Park Drive	Willow Street, N & S
Cindy Circle	Erie Street, E & W	Luther Avenue	Riverside Court	Wilson Avenue
College Avenue, E & W	Fairview Drive	Main Street, E	River Trail Drive	Wolcott Avenue
College Court	First Ave (1600 block only) Frances Drive	Mantua Street, N (North of Crain)	Roscoe Drive	Woodhill Drive
Columbus Street	Gatun Street	Marvin Street	Rustic Bridge Drive	Woodside Drive
Costley Court	Glad Boulevard	Mason Avenue	Rustic Knoll Drive	
Crain Avenue	Graham Avenue	Miller Avenue	Sherman Street	
Cuyahoga St (East of Hudson Rd)	Grant Street, E & W	Needham Avenue	Standing Rock Avenue	
Dansel Street	Harvey Street	Oakwood Drive	Starr Avenue	
			Steele Street	

**City Manager's Office
301 S. Depeyster
Kent, Ohio 44240**

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We Want To Hear From You...

Please write your questions, comments or suggestions regarding city government on this form. Return the form either by mail, or drop it off at the City Manager's Office at 301 S. Depeyster, Kent, Ohio 44240. If you provide your name and address, we will respond to you directly. With your permission, the response may be published in a future issue of the Tree City Bulletin. If you prefer to comment anonymously, we may attempt to respond in a future issue.

Optional Information:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____



May we publish your questions/comments/suggestions? YES NO

May we publish your name? (Address will NOT be published) YES NO