

2016

From The Desk of the Fire Chief, John Centers

Below are upcoming important dates. Meetings, unless otherwise indicated, are held in the Council Chambers located at.

233 S. Main St.
Monroe, OH 45050

Mayor's Court

March 8, 2016-4:00 p.m.
March 22, 2016-4:00 p.m.
April 12, 2016-4:00 p.m.
April 26, 2016-4:00 p.m.

Council

March 8, 2016-6:30 p.m.
March 22, 2016-6:30 p.m.
April 12, 2016-6:30 p.m.
April 26, 2016-6:30 p.m.

Planning Commission

March 15, 2016-6:00 p.m.
April 19, 2016-6:00 p.m.

Park Board

March 9, 2016-6:30 p.m.
April 13, 2016-6:30 p.m.

Finance Committee

Council Library—233 S. Main Street, Monroe, OH

March 22, 2016-5:45 p.m.
April 26, 2016-5:45 p.m.

Public Involvement

Committee (Bicentennial)

James Monroe Community Room-233 S. Main Street, Monroe, OH-

March 28, 2016-6:00 p.m.
April 11, 2016-6:00 p.m.
April 25, 2016-6:00 p.m.



On February 19th the Fire Department held a traditional “wet down” ceremony of the recently purchased Rescue Pumps.

The ceremony represented the historical process of unhitching the horses from the steamer engines, hosing down the horses and engines, and hand pushing the engine back into quarters.

Residents were on hand at both stations to assist in the wet down process, and to push the engines into the apparatus bay.

Both vehicles are now in-service and should serve the community for the next 20-25 years.

Happy Birthday Monroe!

Daylight Saving Time

We are looking for volunteers to be part of the Bicentennial Committee to help make Monroe's 200th birthday a success. If you would like to be a part of this send an email to cityhall@monroehio.org or call 513-539-7374 extension 1012. Watch our website and Facebook page for exciting announcements soon!

Sunday, March 13, 2016, your clocks are to be turned forward one hour starting at 2:00 am.

In conjunction with the Public Education Program, “ Change Your Clock, Change Your Batteries, ” the Monroe Fire Department encourages everyone to make it a habit to change the batteries in their smoke detectors.



From The Desk of the Chief of Police, Robert Buchanan



The latest scams are coming at us from many different angles. The scammers are using the internet, email, telephones, and any other means that they can think of to try and obtain your personal information and your money.

Many of these scams are coming with a promise to give you a large sum of money if you send them money, or they look to obtain your personal information with the promise of a large sum of money that is waiting on you. Also, with the tax season here, scammers will say that they are the IRS and that you owe a sum of money, they may even threaten you with arrest if you do not pay.

The best defense against scammers is to never give out your personal information to anyone that you did not contact first. Live by the rule that if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Finally, know that the IRS, any federal or state agency, or a reputable company will not contact you by phone and demand money. The IRS especially, will contact you by mail with any issues.

Do not hesitate to contact the Monroe Police Department locally at (513) 539-9234 if you have questions or concerns about a possible scam, or if you think your identity has been stolen.

Remember....

When in doubt, don't give your information out!

Update on Britton Lane Project

The Britton Lane project is scheduled to be completed late spring to early summer of this year, depending on the paving schedule. All of the new water main with service reconnections has been completed. Each tie-in of the new water main to the existing water mains at all of the cross streets have been completed except for the final tie-in at Macready Avenue, which will take place within a week. Next, the contractor will begin installing all of the storm improvements and then follow with complete reconstruction of the street. This project was just over a mile long and a complete improvements project costing just under \$2 million. With all of the cross streets into various neighbourhoods we will be working with the schools to reduce the effect the project has on the busing. This may require us to move the final pavement work into June so that it is completed once the school year is finished.

We apologize for any inconvenience this project has caused the residents in this area. We realize this is a long construction period to complete this type of project, but we look forward to a very nice new road for people to enjoy this year.

North Monroe and Mound Cemeteries

The Public Works Department continues to make efforts to prepare the cemeteries for the upcoming Holiday's in 2016. The week of April 4, 2016 we will be performing a heavy cleaning in a concentrated effort for the upcoming mowing season. Please keep in mind the City of Monroe's rules and regulations for our cemeteries which states the following:

No person shall wantonly or willfully remove, cut or break, or in any manner injure or destroy any tree, shrub or plant, or pick, gather, or in any way injure or destroy, any flower, or any herbage, fruit, or produce of any such tree, shrub or plant within the Cemetery.

Burial of pets is not permitted.

No debris shall be deposited in the Cemetery except in designated trash containers.

The Cemetery will be open from 8am till dusk.

No planting of flowers, trees, vines or shrubs will be allowed.

Hanging baskets, fencing, glass jars, and glass vases are prohibited.

The placing of toys, bottles, vases, glass, figurines, and other decorations on the grass are not permitted.

If any tree or shrub situated on any lot shall become detrimental to the care and maintenance of the grounds, the City has the right to remove at lot owner's expense.

The City may remove all flowers, potted plants or wreaths when they become frosted, faded, withered or otherwise unsightly. The City shall not be responsible for any memorials, including plants.

The City may remove fresh cut flowers when they have become dried, faded or withered.

If you need further information, please call the Public Works Department at 513-727-8953. Thank you all for your continued cooperation, help, and support of the Monroe Cemeteries.

Monroe Garden Club

The Monroe Garden Club will meet at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 15 at the home of Club President Judy Shillinglaw, 146 Wyndcrest Court, Monroe. We are looking forward to a flower arranging demonstration by Monroe Kroger Flower Shop. Our club will also be discussing the **Friday, April 22 Earth Day Celebration** at the Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, Inc. Spring Regional Meeting. This is an Open Meeting. Monroe GC, Liberty GC and Shovel & Hoe in Middletown are hosting this all day Event.

Monroe GC has chosen the **Theme: "Planting for Pollinators"**, our bees, butterflies and bats help our plants grow. We have confirmed two exceptional morning and afternoon speakers. Liberty GC has made the arrangements for the banquet room at Receptions in Loveland, Ohio and the buffet lunch caterer. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. and Business meeting 9:00 a.m.. All gardeners are welcome. Half Day Reservations are available. There will be six vendors with plenty of garden related items to purchase. A 'Basket Raffle' and Door Prizes are also included in the meeting. The per person price for the full day is \$18.00 and half day \$12.00. Call Judy 513-539-8644 for reservations. or e-mail:

jshillinglaw@cinci.rr.com. **You do not need to be a member of a garden club to enjoy this day.**

On Saturday, April 16 the club will enjoy a personal walking tour conducted by park naturalist, Barbara Conley, at Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum in Middletown. There is an outstanding display of spring wildflowers at this small park. Time permitting we will also include the Armbruster Nature Preserve, in Middletown.



Street Sweeping Schedule for 2016

Route 1: Weeks of February 29, June 6, September 6, and December 5, 2016

Ambergreen Ct., Apple Knoll Ln., Apple Ridge Ct., Autumn Oak St., Babbling Brooke Dr., Bayberry Ln., Bendel Dr., Blue Springs Dr., Brandon Dr., Bridgewater Ln., Buckeye Dr., Carol Anne Ln., Cherry Mill Ct., Churchill Manor Ct., Clark Blvd., DeBord Ln., Diamond Lop, East Brooke Dr., Forest Pond Dr., Granny Smith Ln., Green Oval Dr., Griffin Ln., Hailey Ln., Harbor Cove Ct., Heritage Trail Dr., Hollybrook Dr., Hollytree Dr., Jerri Ct., Kameron Dr., Kelsey Trail, MacIntosh Ln., Maya Ct., Meadowood Dr., Michelle Ln., Niederlander Ln., Northbrook Ln., Oaklawn Dr., Onyx Ct., Opal Ct., Riley Ln., Roden Park Dr., Ruby Ln., S. Main St., Sagewood Ct., Salzman Rd., Scarlet Oak Dr., Serena Way, Shanda Dr., Songbird Ct., Stone Ridge Ln., Sutton Ridge Ct., Tall Oaks Dr., Thomas Pointe Ct., Trey Ct., Twin Cove Dr., Valleybrook Dr., Winsesap Ln., Woodgate Ct., Woodland Ct.

Route 2: Weeks of March 7, June 13, September 12, and December 12, 2016

Bedrock Dr., Bernard Dr., Brittony Woods Dr., Brookhurst Dr., Canterbury Ct., Chaney Ct., Church St., (W of Main), Cincinnati Circle, Cincy-Dayton Rd., Cornerstone Dr., Deneen Ave., Douglas Ave., Doverdale Dr., Edgewood Dr., Enterprise Dr., Ethel Dr., Fox Run Pl., Heatherwood Ct., Heritage Green Dr., (S. of 63), Hickory Hill Ct., Hidden Creek Dr., Highland Dr., Hunterbrook Ct., Lee Ct., Lee Price Ave., Lena Dr., Lewitt Ct., Lynette Ct., Macready Ave., Mason Ave., Maumee Dr., Meadowlark Ln., Miami Dr., Moder Dr., Mt. Pleasant Dr., Muskingham Circle, N Sands Ave., Nightstar Ct., Northwestern Ave., Ohio Ave., Overbrook Ct., Parkview Ct., Paxton Circle, Pebblestone Dr., Penbrooke Ct., Rachel Ln., Ravenwood Ct., Raymond Dr., Ridge Wood Dr., Ridgeway Ct., S. Sands Ave., Sands Ave., Sandstone Ct., Scioto Circle, Scott Alan Dr., Seminary Dr., Slate Branch Ct., Sleepy Hollow Dr., Sunset Ct., Tarryton Ct., Todhunter Rd., W. Elm St., Wellington Ct., Wexford Dr., Wexford Way, Wicklow Ln., Willowbrook Dr., Winding Brook Ln., Winston Ln., Woodyard Dr., Wyandot Woods Blvd., Wyndham Pl., Xenia Ct.

Route 3: Weeks of March 14, June 20, September 19, and December 19, 2016

Austin Smith Dr., Backtrail Ln., Belmont Ln., Bluegrass Ln., Bobtail Way., Bridle Creek Dr., Bridle Pass Way, Buggywhip Ct., Church St. (East of Main), Coachside Ct., Corridor Park, Courtland Dr., Creek Ct., Davis Dr., Dobbin Ct., E. Arielle Ct., E Elm St. (East of Main), East Ave., Ferncliff Ct., Fieldstone Ct., Foalrun Ct., Forest View Ct., Furlong Ln., Gateway Blvd., Gorman Ct., Greentree Rd., (75 bridge), Helsing Dr., Hiteshue Ave., Jonah Ct., Joy Dr., Kenneland Ct., Kenwood Ct., Keswick Dr., Leah Ct., Lebanon St., Linn Ct., Meadowlands Dr., Meeker Ln., N. Main St., N. Union Rd., New Garver Rd., Obenour Ct., Old Carriage Ct., Old Orchard Ln., Old St., Paddock Ln., Pleasant Ct., Randy Ln., Red Fox Ct., Ridgepoint Dr., Ridgeview Ln., Rustic Ct., Sackett Dr., Saddle Ln., Senate Dr., Shady Ct., St. Rt. 63, Stablewatch Ct., Steeplechase Ln., Stewart Way, Stillpass Way, Stonemill Ct., Tam-O-Shanter Way., Timrick Pl., Trails End Dr., Trotter Ln., Turfview Ct., Vista Ct., W. Arielle Ct., Walden Ct., William K. Robinson Dr., Wm. Groth Dr., Woodsdale Dr., Wren Ct., Wyndcrest Ct.

PLEASE NOTE: The December street sweeping schedule will be completed weather permitting.

Monroe Lions Club Presents...



The Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Come join the fun at the Monroe Community Park, 500 South Main Street, March 26, at 12:00 Noon. Bring the children and meet the Easter Bunny.

The Artillery School

For the fifth year in a row, the Confederate Marine Artillery school training for the Civil War group will be held on April 9, at 9:00 a.m. at the Monroe Community Park, 500 South Main Street. This is an all day event, with limited canon shootings so as not to disturb the residents in the area. Please plan on attending this exciting event.



The Board of Elections

March 15, 2016 - PRIMARY ELECTION DAY

Polls open: 6:30 am - 7:30 pm Find your polling location, www.butlercountyelections.org

Early voting opened: Wednesday, February 17, at 8:00am*
 *NOTE: Military and Overseas Citizens' ballots mailed Saturday, January 30.

Last Day for In-Person Early Voting: Monday, March 14
 Office open 8:00am – 2:00pm.
 Applications to vote by mail must be received by
 Noon on March 12th

Voter Registration Deadline: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 Office open 8:30am – 9:00pm

For election results visit the Butler County website at: www.butlercountyelections.org



Monroe Historical Society News

The Monroe Historical Society has a busy year planned for 2016 as we gear up for our Society's 50th Anniversary and the Bicentennial of the City of Monroe in 2017! We want to sincerely thank our community and business members for helping us achieve our goals of sharing and preserving the proud history of Monroe. With your continued support, we promise to work harder than ever before. We are very fortunate to own three museum buildings – the log cabin in the park, the 1910 building and our main museum. It takes a lot of effort and dedication to keep them up and running, to plan our programs and events and accomplish all the behind the scenes duties. If you would like to get involved, we have several volunteer committees that would be happy to welcome you!

Our membership drive has begun and we hope each of you will join us. Our dues have remained unchanged at \$10.00 Single, \$25.00 Family and \$100.00 for Lifetime (you never pay annual dues again). Business sponsor levels are Bronze \$100, Silver \$250, Gold \$500 and Platinum \$1,000. Membership forms can be found on the Society's website: www.monroehhistoricalsociety.org

Our first community program this year is on Thursday, March 31, 2016 at 7:00pm. This exciting program will touch on Local Amusement Parks including a special presentation about LeSourdsville Lake and Fantasy Farm! Presenters will include The Cincinnati Museum Center and Scott E. Fowler. Mr. Fowler will also be selling and signing the books he wrote "LeSourdsville Lake Amusement Park" and Fantasy Farm Amusement Park". The program will be held at the Monroe Community Room, 6 East Avenue, next to the Lending Library. Yes, amusement park food will be included in your free admission!

If you want to schedule an appointment to visit our museums, just call us at 539-2270 or email us at info@monroehhistoricalsociety.org. Like us on Facebook: Monroe Ohio Historical Society



We're All A Little Mad Here

Join the Monroe Historical Society for an Alice in Wonderland inspired tea party on Saturday, May 7. Enjoy an assortment of savories and sweets for \$20.00 a person. Now taking reservations for 11:30 a.m., 12:00 p.m., 12:30 p.m. Due to the limited number of seats, small parties may be grouped together and all guests must pre-pay before May 7. Please contact Leslie Sumner @ 513-675-0137 with questions or to reserve your table.

Monroe Lending Library

Hours: Monday-Thursday 10:00 a.m-8:00 p.m. Friday-Saturday 10:00 a.m-2:00 p.m. Closed Sunday
 Address: 6 East Avenue, Monroe, Ohio 45050 Phone: 513-360-0100
 Reminder: if Monroe Local Schools are closed due to inclement weather, the Library will also be closed.

CHAIR YOGA-Instructor is Lisa Pratt
 Each Tuesday at 3:00 p.m. for seniors and those with physical limitations.
 Classes are free but \$5.00 donation is suggested.

BOOK CLUB
 Held the 3rd Monday of each month at 11:00 a.m. The club alternates between fiction and non-fiction books chosen by the members.

NEEDLECRAFT GROUP
 Thursday, March 10 and April 14 at 6:30 p.m. Bring your current project and sit by the fire with us.

March selection is FLIGHT BEHAVIOR BY Barbara Kingsolver
 April selection is BOYS IN THE BOAT by Daniel Brown

RAFFLEMANIA
 Saturday, March 12 and Saturday, April 9: Doors open at 6:15 p.m.; raffle begins at 7:00 p.m. Raffle items include gift cards, gift baskets, jewelry, toys, Pampered Chef, purses and more. To reserve a table or spot, contact Judy Mann at 513-594-4845. A snack bar is available. Rafflemania proceeds benefit the Monroe Lending Library Operating Fund. We appreciate your support of our local library.

BAG OF BOOKS BOOK SALE
 Purchase a grocery bag full of books for \$5.00 or adult hardback fiction and non-fiction books at \$1.00 each. Children's books are 25 cents each or 5 for \$1.00.

Southwest Ohio Air Quality Agency

Reducing Energy Consumption at Home

Reducing energy consumption around your home is an important way to go green and it could save you money. You can reduce your utility costs by being more conscious of your energy choices around your home. Here are a few simple ways to reduce costs and energy:

Unplug

Electronics like computers, TVs and cell phones will drain power even when they're turned off or fully charged. The U.S. Department of Energy says 75 percent of electricity used to power home electronics is consumed while products are turned off. Save energy by making sure you totally cut off power to your gadgets when they're not in use. Either routinely unplug devices from the wall or purchase power cords that can be switched on and off to cut off multiple power sources at once.

Wash Wisely

Your dishwasher and clothes washer and dryer are two huge sources of energy depletion in your home. Wash wisely by using cold water whenever possible, and make sure you gather a full load of laundry or dishes before washing to maximize each usage.

Don't forget to clean your lint filter after drying your clothes—a clean filter improves air circulation. Be conscious of how much you prewash your dishes; scraping off food, rather than rinsing is sufficient. Also let your dishes air dry.

Cook Consciously

If you're cooking for one or two, consider investing in smaller appliances, such as a toaster oven. A toaster oven can use one third to half as much energy as a full-sized oven, according to the U.S. Department of Energy.

Remember to keep range-top burners and reflectors clean. This will help reflect the heat more efficiently, and will save you energy.

Be sure to cover your pots when boiling or heating liquids. Not only will it get the job done more quickly, but you'll be reducing your energy output.

Do Daylight

Daylighting is the use of windows and skylights to bring sunlight into your home. Incorporate daylighting into your home to reduce the need for artificial lighting during daylight hours.

Pollen and Mold Counting Resumes in Preparation for Allergy Season

February is the time when some trees common in Southwest Ohio (cedar, elm) naturally pollinate. Pollen and mold counts are available each weekday by 10:00 a.m. at 513-946-7753 or SouthwestOhioAir.org.

High counts are also reported on Twitter [Twitter.com/SWOOhioAir](https://twitter.com/SWOOhioAir) and Facebook [Facebook.com/SouthwestOhioAir](https://facebook.com/SouthwestOhioAir).

The severity of allergy symptoms depends on the amount of pollen in the air and the degree of sensitivity of the person. To reduce exposure to pollen and mold, the Southwest Ohio Air Quality Agency recommends:

Minimize outdoor activity between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m. – when pollen levels are highest.

Contact an allergist or doctor for medical advice.

Track pollen and mold counts. The higher the pollen and mold count is, the greater the likelihood that particles will make their way into the nasal passages and lungs and induce allergic symptoms.

When the weather warms up in the spring, additional precautions allergy sufferers can take include:

Avoid areas with freshly cut grass and avoid lawn care activities.

After being outdoors, it is best to shower and change clothing, as pollen can adhere to clothing, skin and hair. Be aware that pets can also bring pollen into your home.

Keep windows closed and use an air conditioner in the home and car as much as possible to reduce the amount of allergens entering.

Don't hang sheets or clothing outside to dry. Pollens can collect on them.

The Southwest Ohio Air Quality Agency works with government agencies, businesses, communities and citizens to achieve and maintain healthy air quality for Southwest Ohio. The Agency is a division of the Hamilton County Department of Environmental Services (HCDOES) which also encompasses the Hamilton County Recycling and Solid Waste District. For more information, visit the Southwest Ohio Air Quality Agency online at SouthwestOhioAir.org or interact with us on [Facebook](https://facebook.com/SouthwestOhioAir) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/SWOOhioAir).

CITY MANAGER

William J. Brock

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

Kacey Waggaman

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

Kevin Chesar

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

Daniel Arthur

CHIEF OF POLICE

Bob Buchanan

FIRE CHIEF

John Centers

City of Monroe
233 S. Main Street
Monroe, Ohio 45050

MONROE **M**ESSENGER

Published bi-monthly and mailed to City of Monroe residents and businesses.

Download our app and sign up to receive text notifications.

We welcome your comments and questions

Please call 539-7374 ext. 1006

For past issues, visit www.monroeohio.org

City Administration Offices Closed

The City of Monroe Administration Offices will be closed on the following days in 2016.

- January 1st - New Year's Day
- January 18th - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- February 15th - President's Day
- May 30th - Memorial Day
- July 4th - Independence Day
- September 5th - Labor Day
- November 11th - Veteran's Day
- November 24th - Thanksgiving Day
- November 25th - Friday after Thanksgiving
- December 23rd - Christmas Eve
- December 26th - Christmas Day

MONROE
City Contact Information

Police and Fire Emergency	9-1-1
Police Non Emergency	539-9234
Detectives	360-2206
Crime Tip Line	360-2211
Records	360-2208
Fire Non Emergency	539-8380
Public Works	727-8953

The following offices can be contacted by calling 539-7374 and dialing the following extensions:

Mayor and Council	1012
City Manager	Option 7
Development, Planning & Zoning	Option 4
Finance and Income Tax	Option 3
Property Maintenance Hotline	2000
Water, Sewer, and Trash	Option 2

cityhall@monroeohio.org

Office Hours:
8:00am to 5:00p.m. Monday-Friday



CITY COUNCIL

Robert Routson, Mayor
Suzi Rubin, Vice Mayor

Dan Clark
Jason Frentzel
Keith M. Funk
Anna Hale
Todd Hickman