



Autumn 2023



Mayor Jody Carney
[Email](#)

Message from the Mayor

When I think of Fall in Plain City, I think of Friday nights cheering on the Pioneers, the beautiful changing leaves along the banks of the Big Darby, carving pumpkins and trick or treating with my children, and supporting our small businesses on Small Business Saturday.

As we prepare for the bounty of the holidays, it's important to note that October is World Food Month. I would like to invite residents to participate in our Community Food Drive, sponsored by the Mayors of Madison County. The competition will run from October 15-21. Collection bins for non-perishable food will be located in the lobby of the Municipal Building. Monetary donations are also welcomed and can be made during business hours at the front desk. All donations will go to the Plain City Food Pantry. We know Plain City is the best community, so let's show the entire county what we can do!

Fall is also a time for family traditions and one of my family's favorite events is attending Fall Fest at Pastime Park. This year it will be Saturday, October 21 from 4:00 to 7:00 PM.

As we wind down summer and begin the journey toward winter, let's remember to gather with our loved ones, enjoy the beautiful scenery, and enjoy all of life's blessings!



Haley Lupton
Village Administrator

Message from the Village Administrator

Water and wastewater services are a core service offered by municipalities – the goal of providing these services are to make you forget about their operations. This is achieved by reducing interruptions, keeping rates affordable, and providing excellent service consistently. However, the Village of Plain City is not alone in struggling to keep up with strict and costly operating procedures, while still endeavoring to provide affordable services to residents.

The Big Darby Creek is one of our area's best amenities, and with that come firm state and federal regulations on our utility services. These guidelines, as well as aging facilities and a desire to provide high quality water to residents, have reached a point where

the Village has decided that regionalizing utility systems with Madison County is the best path forward to leverage resources. To this end, the Mid Ohio Water & Sewer District (MOWSD) has been created and is in operation. Soon, residents will begin to receive bills from this provider instead of the Village. The employees of MOWSD have been working with the Village water and wastewater plants for years and we have the upmost confidence that they will be able to manage the current plants, provide reliable services, and provide a successful path forward for utilities as the Village experiences growth.

Be on the lookout for additional communication regarding this update to water and sewer services. The Village will still be billing separately for trash pickup. For the time being, you will still also be able to drop off water and sewer payments at the Municipal Building. And, of course, you can call us with any questions that you may have or stop by for anything else you might need.

The Village looks forward to a successful partnership with MOWSD and ensuring reliable utilities for years to come.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Get Ready to Fall into Fun at the 2023 Plain City Fall Festival!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 21, because we're turning Pastime Park (370 North Chillicothe Street) into a bewitching wonderland from 4:00 to 7:00 PM. It's time for the spooktacular extravaganza you've all been waiting for, and you're cordially invited to join in the fun!

What Can You Expect? Prepare for a hauntingly good time!

- **Hayrides:** Hop aboard our hayrides and explore the park in style!
- **Trick-or-Treat:** Fill your treat bags with delicious goodies as you stroll through our trick-or-treat alley.
- **Costume Contests:** Show off your fantastic costumes in our costume contests with fantastic prizes up for grabs!
- **Face Painting:** Transform into your favorite ghoulish character with our talented face painters.
- **Archery:** Try your hand at archery and see if you've got what it takes to hit the bullseye!
- **Bounce Houses:** Bounce, jump, and laugh to your heart's content in our awesome bounce houses.
- **Live Giant Pumpkin Carver:** Watch as a master pumpkin carver turns pumpkins into jaw-dropping masterpieces!
- **COSI on Wheels:** Dive into the world of science with interactive exhibits from COSI on Wheels.
- **Craft Vendors:** Discover unique items from local craft vendors, perfect for early holiday shopping!
- **Food Trucks:** Satisfy your taste buds with a delectable variety of eats from food trucks, including Biscuit Boss, Guelaguetza Mexican Street Food, Rocky Mountain Coffee Co., and Shake it Up Lemonades.

Interested in becoming a sponsor for this spooktacular event? Reach out to Denton Kitts at dkitts@plain-city.com or call 614-873-3527 ext 108.

More event information can be found on [our website](#).

Mayor Jody Carney Declares Halloween Night Trick-or-Treat Hours

Get ready for a spooktacular Halloween night as Mayor Jody Carney has officially declared that Trick-or-Treat will take place on October 31 from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM!

As the ghosts and goblins come out to play, we encourage residents to keep a watchful eye on the streets during this time. Let's make sure Halloween is safe and fun for everyone! Whether you're joining the trick-or-treaters or welcoming them to your doorstep, your vigilance will ensure a safe and fun evening.

So, decorate your homes, stock up on candy, and join in the Halloween spirit! Let's make this year's Halloween the best one yet!

Village Obtains Silver Award for Encouraging Environmental Excellence in Communities (E3C)

The Encouraging Environmental Excellence in Communities (E3C) award, granted by the Ohio EPA, recognizes an organization's exceptional achievements in environmental stewardship. To be eligible, the Village of Plain City demonstrated its commitment to the Ohio EPA's three pillars of sustainability: environment, economy, and social.

The Village strives to maintain sustainable practices wherever possible and is grateful for the Silver Level Award from the Ohio EPA. The Village is continuously committed to seeking new and improved sustainable practices that protect our environment and community for future generations.

Village Connectivity Town Hall Meeting

The Village held a Connectivity Town Hall on September 21. During this presentation, staff covered several projects that are in the works including crosswalks at US 42 and West Avenue and a new sidewalk over the West Avenue bridge. There is also a revamped emphasis by the Village to require multi use paths through new developments that are safe, well-lit and connect to existing neighborhoods. The discussion was very positive and well attended, and the attendees noted a strong desire for new and reinvented public spaces in the Village, where residents and visitors alike can gather, shop, eat, and just enjoy our community.

Explore Our New Website: Your Gateway to Community Information

Have you heard the news? Our [Village website](#) has undergone a transformation, and it's now more user-friendly and community-focused than ever before. If you haven't already, we invite you to visit our newly-redesigned website today.

Designed with residents in mind, our website is your one-stop hub for accessing essential community information with ease. Here's what you can discover:

- **News and Announcements:** Stay updated on the latest happenings, important news, and upcoming events right at your fingertips.
- **Utility Payments:** Conveniently make utility payments online, simplifying your transactions and saving you time.
- **Community Events:** Explore a comprehensive calendar of community events, ensuring you never miss out on the fun.
- **Meeting Reminders and Packets:** Access meeting schedules, agendas, and important documents.
- **Report Issues:** Our Citizens Request Portal makes it easy to report issues like broken street lights and potholes.
- **Online Permit Filing:** Easily file and track permits for new fences, decks, or sheds.
- **Departmental Contact Information:** Find contact details for various departments, making it easy to get in touch when you need assistance.

And that's just the beginning. Our new website offers a host of additional features and resources tailored to enhance your experience as a Plain City resident. We're committed to serving you better, and our website is just one of the ways we're making it happen. We look forward to connecting with you online.

THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO CONNECT
WITH THE VILLAGE OF PLAIN CITY!

VILLAGE WEBSITE
WWW.PLAİN-CITY.COM



VILLAGE MOBILE APP

WEATHER ALERTS
POLICE ACTIVITY
STREET CLOSURES
URGENT NEWS

Download from your app store!

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Plain City, OH Police & Gov't.



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@plaincitypolice



OR JUST GIVE US A CALL!

614.873.3527

UPCOMING EVENTS



Plain City Farmers Market

Final Day

October 5

4:30 - 7:00 PM

Bicentennial Park

Haunted Library

October 13

8:00 PM

Public Library

(RSVP Required)

Plain City Fall Festival

October 21

4:00 - 7:00 PM

Pastime Park

Trick-or-Treat

October 31

6:00 - 8:00 PM

Citywide



Veterans Day Ceremony

November 10

10:30 - 11:30 AM

JA High School

Holiday Lights Recycling

Program Begins

November 20

Municipal Building

Small Business Saturday

November 25

Support Small Businesses!

Holiday Lights at Pastime

Park Begin

November 27

Pastime Park

Santa's Mailbox Begins

November 27

Bicentennial Park



Route 42 Holiday Hop

December 2

9:00 - 12:00 PM

Participating Businesses

Christmas Under the Clock

December 2

4:00 - 7:00 PM

Bicentennial Park

Santa's Parade

December 2

7:00 PM

Various Neighborhoods

More holiday events coming
soon!

Looking for fun things to do this fall? Be sure to visit our special [Autumn webpage](#) for a list of seasonal events and attractions!

For more information about Village events, please [visit our website](#) or contact the Parks & Recreation Department by calling 614-873-3527 ext. 118. You can also download the Plain City Mobile App!

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Holiday Fun!

Route 42 Holiday Hop

This year's holiday festivities kick-off on December 2 with the Route 42 Holiday Hop from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Be sure to hop on out to Route 42 and enjoy drawings, goodies, and special sales at participating businesses. And don't forget to visit Santa Claus at ACE Hardware and enjoy some refreshments.

Christmas Under the Clock

The wonderful tradition of celebrating the season together as a community continues on December 2 from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM with the annual Christmas Under the Clock! You won't want to miss Plain City's own Starlight Twirlers, carolers, live reindeer, lighting of the Christmas Tree, and an appearance by Santa Claus. Be sure to visit local businesses for open house specials, deals, and discounts. Finally, after the festivities, Santa rides through Plain City neighborhoods before returning to the North Pole!

MEETINGS

Council Meetings

Village Council meets the second and fourth Mondays of every month at 6:30 PM.

Council Work Sessions

Village Council Work Sessions occur on the first Wednesday of every month at 6:30 PM.

Communication & Marketing Advisory Committee

The CMAC Committee meets on the third Tuesday of every month at 6:30 PM.

Board of Zoning Appeals *

The Board of Zoning Appeals meets on the third Tuesday of every month at 6:30 PM.

Design Review Board *

The Design Review Board meets as needed. Meetings are held at 6:30 PM.

Economic Development Committee

The Economic Development Committee meetings on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 11:00 AM.

Parks & Recreation Committee

The Parks & Recreation Committee meets on the second Tuesday of every month at 6:30 PM.

Personnel / Finance & CIP Committee *

The Personnel & Finance/CIP Committee meets as needed.

Planning & Zoning Commission *

The Planning & Zoning Commission meets on the third Wednesday of every month at 6:30 PM.

Tree Commission

The Tree Commission meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 6:30 PM.



All meetings are being held in person at the Plain City Municipal Building.

If you would like to speak at a Council or Committee meeting, please [email us](#).

[Click here](#) to watch a live stream of Council meetings on the Village YouTube Page.

Interested in serving on a board, committee, or commission?

The Village accepts applications at any time, regardless of open opportunities. Anyone interested in serving can visit [our website](#) to file an application.

* indicates meetings are scheduled dependent on agenda items.

DEPARTMENT NEWS

Development Services Planning & Zoning

New Economic Development Strategy Nears Completion

Following several months of work, Plain City's first economic development strategy is nearing completion with Council approval expected in October. In January, the Village partnered with the Montrose Group to develop a clear framework for the Village's economic development initiatives. The resulting strategy provides a number of objectives designed to help the village realize its full economic potential. The strategy focuses on business retention, expansion, and attraction; preparing sites for future economic development, revitalization of the Uptown District, and improving organizational capacity.

The Village wishes to thank the members of the steering committee and residents and business owners who assisted with the project.

The Economic Development Strategy will be available [online](#) soon.

Permit, Zoning, or Project Questions? We're Here to Help.

The Planning & Zoning Department offers these friendly reminders:

- Residential – Common required Zoning Permits include, but not limited to; fences, sheds, decks, pergolas, pools, and additions. This includes the installation of a new structure or the replacement of an existing structure.
- Commercial – Required Zoning Permits include, but limited to; any new occupancy or relocation, exterior building change, exterior painting or repainting, modification, addition or any signage (temporary or permanent). Many commercial permits require review/approval from Planning Commission or Design Review Board as well.

Any questions regarding the Zoning Code or to discuss an upcoming project, please contact the Planning Department.

For zoning questions, please contact Colin Powers, Zoning Specialist – cpowers@plain-city.com or 614-873-3527, ext. 120.

For planning and development questions, please contact Derek Hutchinson, Village Planner – dhutchinson@plain-city.com or 614-873-3527, ext. 105.

Applications Sought for Committee Membership

The Village is accepting applications from residents interested in serving on two recently-created committees, the Housing Council and the Tax Incentive Review Council. Both councils, while separate entities, assist Village administration with ensuring compliance with the terms stipulated in various economic development incentive agreements. They also meet to review new requests for assistance and provide recommendations to Village Council.

To be eligible for membership, individuals must be residents of Plain City. Members cannot have any active incentive agreements in place with the Village. Individuals with business, finance, tax, or development experience are preferred, however, all residents are invited to apply. Members do not receive compensation.

For more information, or to apply, [visit our website](#) to download the Committee Interest Form. Please direct questions to Jason Stanford, Development Manager, by [email](#).

Small Business Saturday is just around the corner on November 25, 2023. This day not only ushers in the holiday shopping season, but it also presents a fantastic opportunity to show our unwavering support for local businesses. By choosing to shop, dine, or patronize Plain City businesses, you're making an investment in our community. In these challenging economic times, your support has never been more important. Be sure to join us on Small Business Saturday (and throughout the year) and celebrate the spirit of Plain City's business community!

Parks & Recreation

New Dog Park at Jackson Street

The Parks & Recreation is excited to announce the arrival of the first ever Dog Park in the Village! Currently in the design phase, the Dog Park at Jackson Street will be a 2-acre paradise for pups and owners alike! The dog park will have both a small and large dog area, and will include a walking path, benches, large open play areas, a large shelter house, and a pooch splash area for the pups who love water. This project was created in direct response to the community's input from the 2020 Parks & Recreation Master Plan, where residents voiced their priorities and wishes. Construction is anticipated to begin next spring with opening anticipated early summer.

Madison Meadows Community Park

Nestled in the heart of the new Madison Meadows neighborhood is a brand-new Village Park. The park will have a dedicated parking lot, a rentable shelter house with attached bathrooms, youth sports fields, and a new playground. The playground received partial funding through an ODNR NatureWorks grant, and we are thrilled to be able to offer some new play facilities to the community. The project will be completed by late spring 2024.

Park & Aquatic Center Improvements

As summer winds down, you may notice that improvements are being made in Plain City's parks, thanks to the hard work of our Public Works Department. Various park improvements include:

- New paved driveway access to McKittrick Park for safer entry and exit
- Paved walkway around the Youth Building at Pastime Park
- New gravel parking area adjacent to the Youth Building
- New concrete flooring in the Cattle Barn makes it much more usable
- Two new dog waste stations at Pastime Park

While not as visible as many of the other park projects, investing in ongoing maintenance and upgrades at the Aquatic Center is equally important. Some of the projects being done at the pool include:

- Repair of play structures in the kiddie area
 - Improvements to electrical in the concession stand
 - New stanchions for swim team flags
 - Complete replacement of the filter media and tank fittings that will help to improve the filtration of pool water
 - Improvement to the Splash Pad infrastructure
-

Police Department

Halloween Safety Tips

- Place reflective tape on clothing or use glow sticks, so you can easily be seen at night.
- A responsible adult should accompany young children, at all times.
- Instruct children to travel only in familiar, well-lit areas and to stick with their friends.
- When possible cross the streets at corners, using traffic signals and crosswalks, watch for people crossing the street and walking on curbs.
- Never enter a home or car for a treat,
- Don't eat candy until you have inspected it.

We will be doing Boo with the Blue this year! We will pick a neighborhood, set up our events trailer, play fun Halloween music and pass out candy. Closer to Halloween, we will announce where we will be located, so stop on by and see us!

Public Works

Leaf & Brush Collection Reminder

September 29 will be the final day for brush pick up. After this date, residents may take their brush to Kurtz Brothers or arrange collection with Local Waste. Leaf Collection typically begins in mid-October, however, it will depend on when leaves begin to fall.

Utilities

Winter Water Pipe Preparation

As winter approaches, it's important to prepare your pipes to prevent costly and inconvenient water breaks. Below are some helpful reminders:

Insulate Exposed Pipes

- Identify and insulate any exposed pipes in your home, especially those in unheated areas like basements, crawlspaces, and garages.
- Use pipe insulation sleeves or heat tape to keep the pipes warm and prevent freezing.

Drain Outdoor Faucets and Hoses

- Disconnect and drain garden hoses, and store them indoors during winter.
- Shut off the outdoor water supply and open outdoor faucets to allow any remaining water to drain.

Seal Leaks and Cracks

- Inspect your home for gaps, cracks, or holes near pipes that could let cold air in. Seal them with caulk or insulation to keep the area around pipes warmer.

Know the Location of Your Main Water Shut-Off Valve

- Familiarize yourself with the location of the main water shut-off valve in case of an emergency. Knowing how to turn it off can save you from major water damage.

Consider Professional Inspection

- If you live in an older home or an area with extreme cold, consider hiring a professional to inspect your plumbing system for vulnerabilities.

Taking these steps can save you time, money, and the inconvenience of dealing with water breaks during the colder months.

Is Your Utility Information Updated?

If you have recently moved into a new home or are planning to move out of our community, please make sure to contact the Village to register your utility information. This is an important step that helps prevent any future billing issues, disputes, delinquencies, and shut-offs. Registering or updating your utility information will ensure that you receive accurate bills and avoid problems with your utilities. So don't forget to give us a call at 614-873-3527, [visit our website](#), or stop by the Municipal Building at 800 Village Boulevard to update your information.

CONTACT US

Useful Links

[Village Website](#)

[Facebook - Primary](#)

[Facebook - Parks & Recreation](#)

[Facebook - Plain City Farmers Market](#)

[Facebook - Police Department](#)

[Facebook - Pleasant Valley Fire District](#)

[Twitter - @PlainCityOhio](#)

[Twitter - @PlainCityPolice](#)

Plain City Mobile App

Visit your favorite app store and search for the *Plain City Mobile App*. After installing it on your device, be sure to set your settings to allow notifications. If you need assistance, please call the Village at 614-873-3527.

Mailing Address

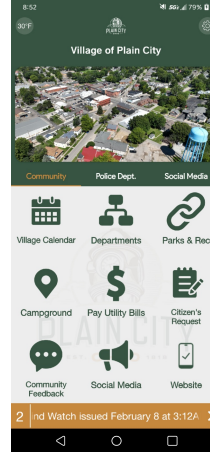
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