



Streets, Parks & Sewer crew members preparing Gaunt Park Pool for the upcoming season.

Photograph by Ben Guenther.

Manager's Report

Johnnie Burns, Village Manager

May 19, 2025

Village of Yellow Springs

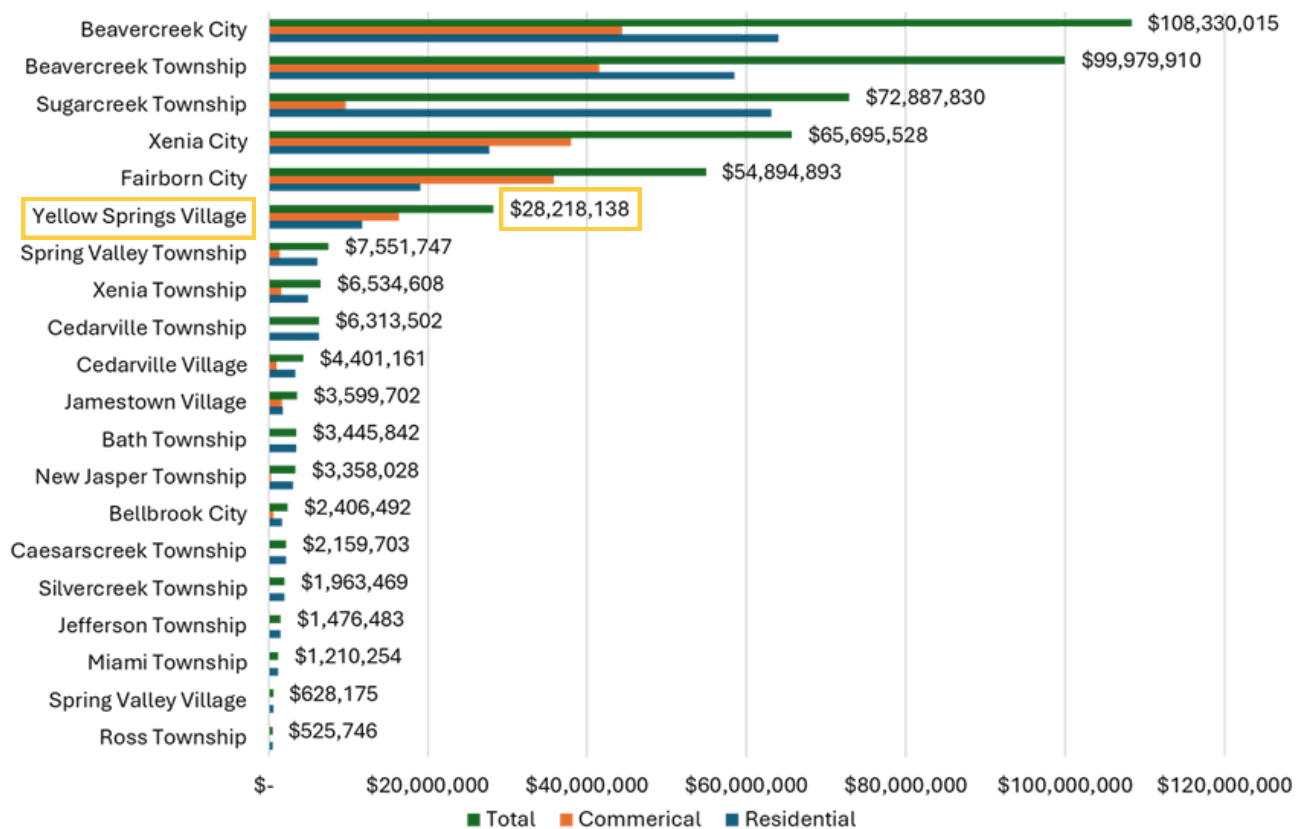
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2024 Construction Valuations

On May 2, I attended the Greene County Annual Breakfast, which included the presentation of the county's annual report. As part of the report, Greene County shared a breakdown of 2024 construction valuations by municipality.

The chart below shows the values broken down into residential, commercial, and the combined total for each category. The Village of Yellow Springs ranked sixth in the county, with \$11,799,891 in residential construction and \$16,418,247 in commercial construction, for a total of \$28,218,138.



Ohio Rural Water Annual Training Conference

On May 6, I attended the Ohio Rural Water Annual Training Conference in Dublin, Ohio, along with Ben Sparks, Brad Ault, Jeff Horn, and Kevin Martin. The conference provided a valuable opportunity to connect with industry peers and stay up to date on the latest developments in Ohio's rural water and wastewater systems.

As part of the event, we also participated in the annual Water Tasting Competition. Entries were judged based on clarity, taste, and smell. It was a great chance to showcase the quality of our water and take pride in the work our team does to maintain high standards.

MANAGER'S DESK

Welcome Matt Hull

We're excited to welcome Matt Hull to the Village team. A longtime resident of Yellow Springs, Matt recently joined us as a Utility Service Worker and will be working with Tanner Bussey's team. We're glad to have him on board and look forward to the contributions he will make in his new role.



Welcome, Matt!

May Anniversaries

We would like to take a moment to recognize and celebrate the service milestones of several dedicated team members this May. Their continued commitment and contributions play a vital role in our success. Thank you to each of you for your hard work and dedication.

Tanner Bussey – 13 years; **Jeff Horn** – 11 years; **Danielle Franklin** – 4 years
MacKenzie Baird – 4 years; **Amani Wagner** – 3 years; **Ben Guenther** – 2 years.



Celebrating Don Cipollini

Don Cipollini, creator of The Naturalist on Yellow Springs Community Access Channel 5, was recently honored with the Wright State Presidential Award for Faculty Excellence in Community Engagement. Don shared that the award was largely inspired by his work on the show.

The Naturalist with Don Cipollini is a walk-and-talk program where he explores local woods and nature preserves, offering insights into the natural world around us. You can check out new episodes of the show on Tuesdays at 4PM on local cable Channel 5, and past episodes on his YouTube channel: youtube.com/@TheNaturalistWithDonCipollini



Congratulations, Don!

MVECA Gaunt Park Pool Phone

We are grateful to the team at MVECA, including Thor Sage, Shawn Fowler, and Mike Wheeler, for their help in setting up a new phone line at the Gaunt Park Pool ahead of the upcoming season. We previously used AT&T as our provider, but MVECA was able to offer a much more affordable option. We appreciate their quick work and support in getting this done on a short timeline.

Internal Audits

Since the beginning of the year, Village leadership and staff have been actively engaged in a series of internal audits. These efforts focus on gathering data to help identify opportunities for increased efficiency and overall improvement. As the audits progress, recommendations for policy updates may be brought forward to Council. Further updates will be provided as this work continues.

Exploring Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Assessments

At the Annual OCMA Conference in February, I attended a presentation by Shawn Waldman, CEO of Secure Cyber. I recently followed up with Shawn to learn more about the cybersecurity services his company offers to local governments. He is currently preparing a proposal for a cybersecurity assessment for the Village. This assessment would result in a report with recommended action items and key findings.

I also recently met with Justice M. Chambers from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA). CISA offers free programs to local governments, including a Cyber Hygiene assessment and a physical security evaluation. Chambers is also a Yellow Springs resident.

Mercy Health Mobile Mammography Truck

On May 2, the Mercy Health Mobile Mammography Truck visited the John Bryan Center, offering free mammogram appointments from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. We are grateful to Mercy Health for providing this important service to our residents. This is an annual offering, and we look forward to welcoming the truck back next year.

Greater Dayton Mayors and Managers Meeting – Oakwood

On May 7, I attended the Greater Dayton Mayors and Managers Meeting, hosted by the City of Oakwood. Bevan Schneck, Director of Public Affairs at the Ohio Municipal League, gave a presentation on upcoming legislation and preemption bills being considered by the Ohio House and Senate.

Key items to watch include:

- **Senate Bill 104:** Would limit the authority of local governments to regulate short-term rentals.
- **House Bill 92 / Senate Bill 118:** Would shift responsibility for unpaid utility bills from property owners to the individual ratepayers who incurred the charges.

These legislative developments could have important implications for local governance.

Police Update: 5/1/25 - 5/15/25

Calls for Service	760
9-1-1 Calls	21
Non-emergency Calls	576
Noise Complaints	2 - (1) Unfounded, (1) Advisement/Action taken
Traffic Stops	25

Lexipol Gold - 2nd year

We know policy is a big part of the equation as Yellow Springs Police Department strives to meet high standards of professionalism and service for the Village of Yellow Springs community. Based on five key metrics, the Lexipol Connect program has recognized us for excellence in policy maintenance and training. This is the 2nd year in a row we have received this distinguished honor!



Lexipol Gold recognition.

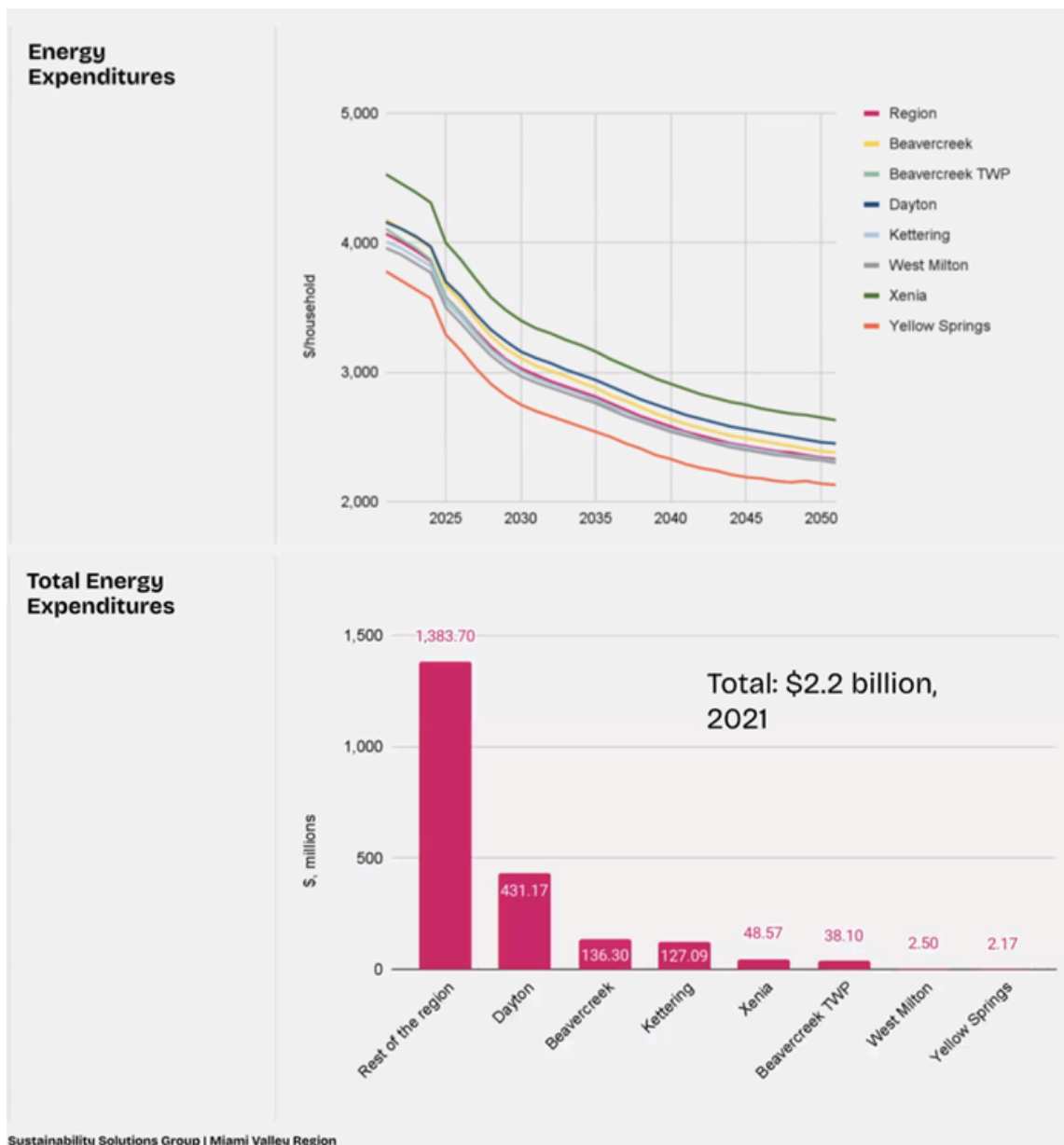
Community Outreach Officer Update: 5/1/25 -5/14/25

Bus Tokens	2
Case Follow-Ups	3
COS Referrals	22
Food Vouchers	7
Gas Cards	2
Homeless / Housing	2
Mental Health Needs	6
Rent Assistance	2
Utility Assistance	2
Use of Phone	1
Welfare Check	7
Victim Advocate	8

YS or Township Residents Served	51
Visitors or Non-Residents Served	3
Homeless or At-Large Served	9
TOTAL SERVED	64

MVRPC Water & Energy Subcommittee Meeting

Meg Leatherman and Aaron Arellano attended the May 14th meeting of the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC) Water & Energy Subcommittee. The agenda included a facility planning area (FPA) boundary change request submitted by the City of Piqua, with an agreement in development between Piqua and the City of Troy. Notably, during the review of the draft Comprehensive Climate Action Plan, regional energy data was shared, and Yellow Springs was recognized for having the lowest municipal energy expenditures among participating communities — a commendation that underscores our Village’s continued commitment to sustainability and climate-conscious operations.



The Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP) for the Miami Valley is a new regionwide plan to identify measures to improve the region's impact on climate change. Yellow Springs participated with several other villages and cities (Dayton, Beavercreek, Beavercreek Township, Kettering, West Milton, and Xenia) to create our own Local plan. The slides are available to download and the presentation begins at about the 17:55 mark in the meeting recording.

The DRAFT CCAP will be available for public review and comment in early June – with a target release on June 2, 2025. This will be a regular 30-day public comment period seeking input from stakeholders, advocates, and the general public on the goals and strategies for reducing GHG emissions in our region. Please keep an eye open for more information on links to the DRAFT CCAP document.

Yellow Springs Instruments (YSI) Tour & Meeting

On May 12, Village staff members Meg Leatherman, Johnnie Burns, and Elyse Giardullo met with the leadership team at YSI for a guided tour of the YSI campus and a discussion on current operations, infrastructure needs, and anticipated challenges.

YSI, a subsidiary of Xylem Analytics, is a global leader in water measurement solutions. Xylem Analytics' portfolio of brands is recognized worldwide, with a presence in over 150 countries, providing advanced water and laboratory instrumentation. YSI collaborates with industry and government professionals to deliver innovative monitoring and sampling solutions aimed at process optimization and the protection of natural resources. The YSI campus (located off of Xenia Ave at 1725 Brannum Ln.) is home to more than 130 employees, and the Village is proud to support the company's continued growth and success.

YS Chamber Board Meeting

Aaron Arellano attended the May 8th Chamber Board Meeting, where key updates were shared regarding ongoing marketing and operational efforts. Highlights included preparations for the upcoming Street Fair, with digital and print advertising initiatives already underway, along with support from the Greene County Convention and Visitors Bureau for billboard promotion. The Chamber also reported progress on several major projects, including the launch of the new website and updated wayfinding signage, both scheduled to launch on May 29. Additional efforts were shared around member engagement, including the introduction of an Accelerator Program for enhanced listings, planning for a Member Benefits Clinic, and development of tools to support sponsorship and membership growth.

PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Planning Commission (PC)

On May 13th the PC held a public hearing on three separate applications. They voted to approve a Conditional Use for Kelsie Cooley at 213 N. Winter St. For a professional law office and approved the Preliminary PUD application for the Windsor Companies to convert the Kettering building into 43 multi-family dwelling units. The Preliminary PUD for the Old Student Union property was continued to June 10th for an updated plan after the owner committed to reducing the total number of units from 128 to 96. The next Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for June 10th in which the Preliminary PUD for the Old Student Union will be re-visited and a Conditional Use for 545 Dayton will be heard as well as, potentially, an application for the Mill Works property.

Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA)

The Board of Zoning Appeals will be held on June 4th at 5:30pm for variance requests at 145 Kenneth Hamilton Way and 309 ½ W. Whiteman St.

Action Transportation participation at Mills Lawn Elementary

Meg Leatherman and Brian Housh collected input on potential enhancements to the pedestrian and bicycle network from attendees of the annual Mills Lawn bike/walk to school event on May 14th.

Ohio Economic Development Course

Aaron Arellano will attend the Ohio Economic Development Course in Dublin, Ohio, from June 2 to June 5. Upon completion, he will earn a certificate and gain training in a wide range of topics, including regional economic development strategies, business retention and expansion (BR&E), small business and entrepreneurial development, professional ethics, and more. The course draws economic development professionals from across the state and offers daily opportunities for networking with peers from a variety of municipalities.

Permits

Since last reported:

- **10 Zoning permits:** 3 fence, 3 decks, 2 single family homes, 1 site plan, 1 ROW.
- **10 Building permits:** 2 decks, 2 single family homes, 2 tents, 1 porch slab, 1 revisions, 1 basement, 1 electric.

FINANCE & UTILITIES

Health Insurance Renewal

The May health insurance renewal has finished, and employees should be receiving their new insurance cards.

New Time Keeping System

Lynda has started the process of working with EPNB Solutions providing our employee data to start the implementation process for the new timekeeping software.

Utility Software Training

On May 8th CIVICA completed a one-day training with the utility office employees.

COBRA Administration

We are currently in the process of onboarding with a new COBRA administrator. We are hopeful this will be completed very soon.

Utilities Department

- **Pool Fills:** Any Villagers who are filling a pool may apply for a credit for sewer by contacting the utility office and giving 24 hours notice. They will then have 48 hours to fill up their pool before we take a second read.
- **Summer Sewer/Gardening Program:** Our Summer Sewer program sign-up is open and applications are due by August 15th for any new participants.
 - This is a program where homeowners (or renters with landlord permission) who garden may receive a sewer credit for extra water used for gardening, watering plants, outdoor water usage, etc.
 - If you have registered at your current address at any time since May 2018, you do not need to re-register. There is a short form to fill out available online or at the Utility Office. Please feel free to contact us with any questions.

Water Plant Update

Completed	• Repaired mechanical seal on caustic pump# 4 with help from Seepex sales manager. • Staff attended the Ohio Rural Water state conference.
Ongoing	• Preparing 2024 Metrics data for OEPA due June 30. • Finished 2024 water quality report (CCR) and posted it on website. A link will be on all monthly bills and notice in the YS News. Once all have been completed i will submit to OEPA. https://www.yellowsprings.gov/egov/documents/1744898163_02282.pdf • Blew down softener and added sand to other one. • Conduct daily and weekly cleaning, monitoring and sampling.
Upcoming	• Working with OEPA to start the process of drilling new monitoring wells outlined in the Village source water protection plan. • Preparing to start acid washing softeners and pipe.

Water Plant and Billing Totals (2025)

MONTH	WTP TOTAL (MG)	BILLING TOTAL (MG)	WATER LOSS (MG)	WATER LOSS %
JAN	10.019	6.064	3.955	39.47%
FEB	9.027	6.185	2.842	31.48%
MAR	9.768	5.948	3.82	39.11%
APR	9.428	6.754	2.674	28.36%
MAY				
JUN				
JUL				
AUG				
SEP				
OCT				
NOV				
DEC				
TOTAL	38.242	24.951	13.291	34.75%

Wastewater Update

Completed	• Treated 20.311 million gallons in March. • 3.98 inches of rain in March. • Repaired broken thiosulfate feed line going into chlorine contact tank. • Submitted monthly report for April to OEPA. • Installed new sump pump at LS. • Ran sludge press to remove over 70,000 gal of liquid sludge. • Cleaned up INF building. • Completed weekly sampling for Covid-19.
Ongoing	• Looking to replace ORP probes in aeration tanks. This will help us better monitor phosphorous treatment process. • Chris Davis out to repair effluent sampler. Have loaner sampler in place and operating until parts arrive for repair. • Cutting grass at plant. • Waiting for quotes to repair seals on LS pump, Phosphorous supernatant pumps. • Continuing to run microscopic bug counts on MLSS. Microorganisms look good. • Running daily samples of aeration to check operation/effectiveness of biological phosphorous removal. Adjusting treatment based off results. • Conduct daily tests to determine plants detention time, treatment time and F/M ratio to monitor plant performance and operation. • Conduct daily and weekly cleaning, monitoring and sampling.
Upcoming	• Trimming up trees around plant to complete mowing. • NPDES renewal.

Water Distribution Update

Completed	• Add gravel to where curbstop was cut in 172 E Herman St. • Add riser ring to pit and backfill around it 1325 President St. • Shut off curbstop so plumber can change inside shutoff. • Change fire hydrant at 580 W Limestone St • Change fire hydrant at corner of Whitehall and Northwood. • Keep up with locates. • Keep up with GIS. • Continue meter change-out project. • Mow Sutton farm. • Clean shop and power wash floors. • Clean break room.
Ongoing	• Keeping up with locates. • Finding the rest of the curb stops for meter changeout. • Installing the rest of the water meters (approximately 35).
Upcoming	• Valve exercising (Springtime). ◦ This is on hold. • Changing out fire hydrants. ◦ Have changed out two in the last two weeks. • GIS more of our water system. ◦ Crew is GISing all assests street by street making maps more accurate.

ELECTRIC



Recent fire hydrant replacement project.



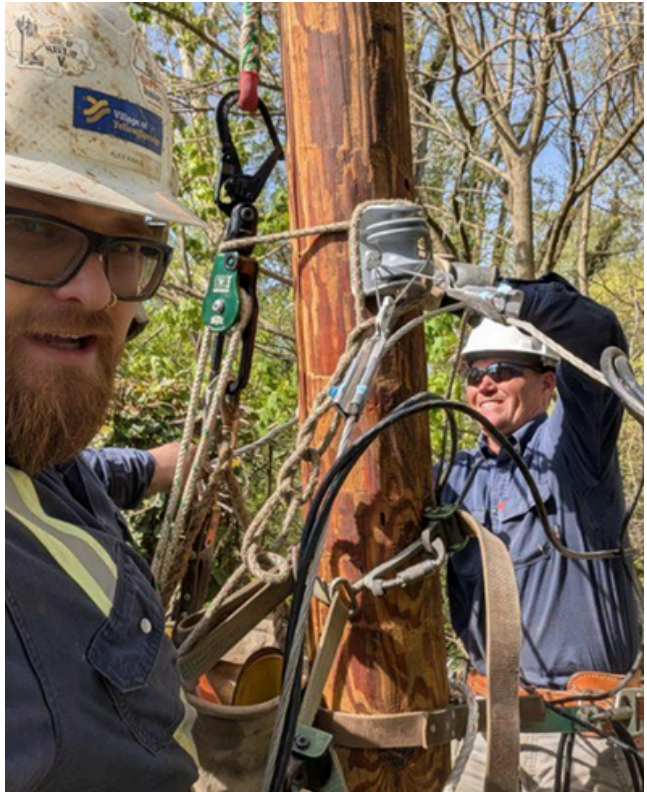
Electric Update

Completed	• E. Enon tree on primary and outage. • S. High St outage with TX reconnect and tree removal. • Phillips St. permanent connections and service release. • Spring Meadows service releases. • Various service releases. • Planning for switch station expansion. • W. S. College tree on OVHD. • Omar and E. Enon tree on open wire secondary. • BC car charger troubleshooting. • Kingsfield Ct meter pull and secondary pedestal raising. • Edgefield streetlight pole and fixture replacement. • Dawson Alley 3-phase pole installation. • Dawson Alley cut-out installation on for circuit tie. • 1345 Corry xfmr outage. • Cascades xfmr energizing and meter installations.
Ongoing	• Center circuit build out of switch station. ◦ Choice One engineering is working on Right of way. ◦ Received and reviewing new drawings from Encompass. • Poly phase and Demand meters are being changed out. ◦ Should be done by end of July. ◦ Had meeting with Tunenet and we will be installing two new VCs in town to gather the meter information.
Upcoming	• Set new Three Phase pole at corner of Dayton and Kenneth Hamilton for new center circuit. • Keep working with AT&T on new poles on Dayton St. • Keep working on PRP (pole replacement packets). • Planning out installation of new banner poles. • Installing reclosers at switch station. • Installing reclosers on main line. • Installing voltage regulators in switch station. • Installing new controls in the switch station.

ELECTRIC



Recent electric department projects.



Metering Update

Tantalus Users Conference

Travis and Rose spent three days at the Tantalus Users Conference in Indianapolis, where they connected with other Tantalus users and staff, and learned about data analytics.



Travis Hotaling and Rose Pelzl at the Tantalus Users Conference.

Ongoing

- Daily checks of high reads and potential water leaks and datalog high usage and contact customer.
- Potential High Water Use Causes:
- Toilets, Spigots, Water Softeners, Whole House Humidifiers, back-up sump pumps, service line leak.
- Residential Electric Meter Change-outs, 406 left to change-out
- Commercial/Demand Electric Meter Change-outs on hold, need more collectors to collect all the reads. Tantalus is working on plan.
- Replacing 5/8" and 1" water meters – Water Dept changing inside water meters. Meter dept updating work orders and billing records and decode values for decimal place.
- EPA Service Line Inventory – send “Galvanized Requiring Replacement” letters and make inventory available to the public with new GIS company Mapped Out
- GIS new water and electric meters
- Inspect and install new water services in Spring Meadows neighborhood.
- Commercial Water Meter Change-out – acquired inventory of five 2" meters.

Streets & Sewer Update

Completed	• Removed dead tree from Beatty-Hughes Park. • Mowed all municipal properties four times. • Prepared baseball & softball diamonds. • Repaired Ram 2500 battery cable. • Installed new street sign at Green/W. Limestone. • Bush hogged around perimeter of Wastewater Plant. • Assessed 3 street trees. • Met with Kleingers Group about sanitary extension/tap at Cascades. • Mostly completed install of deer fence for Community Gardens at Bill Duncan Park. • Power washed big pool, baby pool, adjacent sidewalks & main entrance. • Turned water on at pool. • Painted swim lanes & stop bars at each end. • Turned on all exterior drinking fountains at JBC, Hilda Rahn, Ellis & Gaunt Parks. • Took brine system & applicator offline for the season. • Removed all remaining snow equipment from trucks. • Removed cab from Ventrac. • Repaired sign at "Food Forest." • Repaired AC unit in Train Station. • Delivered wood chips to bike path. • Repaired fence at pool. • Onboarding of new employee Matthew Hull.
Ongoing	• Street sweeping. • Utility locates. • GIS information gathering of Spring Meadows. • Empty trash/ litter pickup every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. • Problematic sanitary sewer checks every Friday.
Upcoming	• Install decorative signpost at Dayton/Corry.



New deer fence for the Community Gardens at Bill Duncan Park.

Youth Center Update

Completed	• Average 15 youths per day. • 110 dinners per night with some being provided by The Beloved Community Project and Who's Hungry. • Accepted a donation of pizza from Florence Randolph for our movie night • We have finished our tutoring with Greene County Public Library for the 2024-2024 school year, thank you to all tutors who participated in the program in this session • We are going to collaborate with the Yellow Springs division of the Fairborn chess club to host a chess camp, we will provide 4 scholarships to interested youth free of charge • Our new computers are up and running properly • Attended the Greene County Public Health Pool School with one of our new managers, always a good information session on pool sanitation and chemical care and dosing • Cleaning of pool has begun with new gate attendant staff, all staff available will be on hand Saturday to do more • Streets crew has cleaned the pool to prep for painting and tidied up the lawn • Thank you to Todd Pultz for his generous donation for lifeguard certifications and recertifications
Ongoing	• Craft Wednesdays take place from 5:30-7:30pm for ages 10 & up. • Thursday movie nights 5:30-8:30pm for ages 10 & up.

**KIDS SUMMER
CHESS CAMP**

JULY 14-18
FROM 11AM-2PM



AT THE JOHN BRYAN CENTER
REGISTRATION FEE \$200
EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION: \$180
**EMAIL YELLOWSPRINGSCHESS@GMAIL.COM FOR
REGISTRATION LINK**



John Bryan Youth Center activities.

Digital Media Update

Completed	• Covered Village Council meeting on Monday, 5/5. • Covered Board of Zoning Appeals meeting on Wednesday, 5/7. • Covered Planning Commission meeting on Tuesday, 5/13. • Attended AMP safety training on Wednesday, 5/7. • Attended “What If?” training session on Tuesday, 5/13.
Ongoing	• Finalizing story ideas for next edition of Village newsletter. • Continuing weekly Public Works Updates.
Upcoming	• Producing various internal and external videos.

Media Stats

Since 5/5/2025

Facebook Followers

5,898

+13 Followers



New Non-
Emergency
Alert System
**COMING
SOON!**

YouTube Subscribers

742

+3 Subscribers

