



Village staff members Rose Pelzl, Ben Sparks, and Travis Hotaling (left to right) at the recent AMP training session.

Photograph by Ben Guenther

Manager's Report

Johnnie Burns, Village Manager

October 6, 2025

Village of Yellow Springs

TABLE OF CONTENTS

MANAGER'S DESK	3-5
POLICE	6-8
PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	9-10
FINANCE & UTILITIES	11-12
WATER PLANT	13-14
WASTEWATER PLANT	15
WATER DISTRIBUTION	16-17
ELECTRIC	18-19
METERING	20
STREETS & SEWER COLLECTION	21-22
YOUTH CENTER & PARKS	23-24
DIGITAL MEDIA	25

AMP Bucket Rescue and Pole Top Rescue Training

On September 24, Public Works staff participated in AMP's Bucket Rescue and Pole Top Rescue training. This hands-on safety program prepares lineworkers to respond effectively in emergency situations while working at heights.



Village lineman Lane Dykman at the recent AMP rescue training.

PorchFest 2025

On Saturday, September 20, the Yellow Springs Arts Council hosted PorchFest, a community-wide celebration of music and togetherness. The event showcased live performances on porches across the Village, highlighting local talent and fostering connection among neighbors.



Another successful PorchFest featuring Village staff member Les Groby (left).

Musical Roots

On Saturday, September 27, the Yellow Springs Public Arts & Culture Commission hosted the first-ever Musical Roots event on the front lawn of the John Bryan Center. The program brought the community together for an evening of live blues music, featuring performances by Geoff Hohwald, Mark Babb, George Byrd, Sharon Lane, and Danny Sauers. Steve McQueen served as emcee. Musical Roots provided an opportunity to showcase local and regional blues talent in a community setting.



Artists performing at the recent Musical Roots event.

Street Fair – October 2025

Staff are preparing for the fall Street Fair on Saturday, October 11, in collaboration with the Yellow Springs Chamber of Commerce. We look forward to seeing the community out for this annual event.

Budget Work Session #1

On Wednesday, October 1, Council and staff, including department heads, held the first budget work session. The session was livestreamed and is available on the Yellow Springs Community Access YouTube channel. The second session is scheduled for Wednesday, October 15, from 4:00–6:00 PM in Council Chambers.



Budget session held in Council Chambers.

Personify Health

On September 30, Personify Health, a digital health platform, visited to introduce Village employees to their portal and available resources. Staff enrolled in the Village healthcare plan are eligible to use this benefit, which offers tools and support to help manage their health and wellness.

Feedback – Community Space @ Short Street

The Village is gathering community input on the Community Space @ Short Street pilot, which temporarily closed Short Street to vehicles to create a public gathering area after the first Summer Street Fair in June. The feedback will help the Village understand how the space is being used and guide future planning.

The survey has been shared via YSConnect, the Village website, social media, the Yellow Springs News, WYSO, and flyers around town. Responses will be anonymized, though personal identities may appear in open-ended comments. Results will be included in the Council Packet for the October 20, 2025, meeting.

The survey closes at 5:00 PM on Monday, October 13, 2025.



We would like your feedback! Please take the Community Space @ Short Street survey.

Police Update: 9/12/25 - 10/2/25

Calls for Service	1722
9-1-1 Calls	44
Non-emergency Calls	664
Noise Complaints	5
Traffic Stops	36
Business Checks & Community Policing	808 (735/73)

Gun Safety Initiative

Public Relations team members (Dispatcher Armstrong/Officer Beam) and Digital Media Manager Ben Guenther have started the work on our gun safety educational initiative. This initiative is in partnership with our local schools. The goal is to educate gun owners on how to properly store firearms in the home, keeping the guns out of the hands of our youth and out of our local schools.

**Gun Safety Initiative**

Public Relations team members (Dispatcher Armstrong/Officer Beam) and Digital Media Manager Ben Guenther have started the work on our gun safety educational initiative. This initiative is in partnership with our local schools. The goal is to educate gun owners on how to properly store firearms in the home, keeping the guns out of the hands of our youth and out of our local schools.

4 Paws For Ability - Good Effort, Zurg!

Our short-term foster, Zurg, has been officially declared a Fabulous Flunky! This wonderful boy was just a little too vocal for a future in service dog work. He will now have the rest of his life to live out chatting with anyone who will listen! We will continue fostering Zurg until we are notified of his permanent adoption.



Zurg gave it his best effort! We wish him the best in his new chapter.

Halloween Bonfires

October has arrived and Halloween is on its way! The YSPD will be providing hotdogs, condiments, and firewood to the to the following locations for this year's Halloween Bonfires. We hope to see you there!

2025 Bonfire Locations:

- Northwood Dr. & Whitehall Dr.
- 224 W. Davis St.
- Whiteman St., Livermore St., Davis St. Triangle
- 1415 Meadow Ln.
- 300 Block of Union St.
- 270 Kingsfield Ct.
- 110 Edgefield Dr. & Southgate Dr.
- 693 Omar Cr.

Community Outreach Officer Update: 8/28/25 - 9/10/25

Bus Tokens	14
Case Follow-Ups	4
COS Referrals	6
Food Vouchers	7
Gas Cards	2
Homeless / Housing	5
Mental Health Needs	6
Rent Assistance	2
Utility Assistance	1
Use of Phone	2
Welfare Check	9
Victim Advocate	8

YS or Township Residents Served	62
Visitors or Non-Residents Served	1
Homeless or At-Large Served	3
TOTAL SERVED	65

Exploring Tax Increment Finance (TIF)

TIF exempts owners from the real property taxes on the increased property value from a development project. The key distinction here is although property owners are exempted from paying real property taxes on improved values, they must pay service payments in lieu of taxes (commonly referred to as PILOTS) in amounts equal to the real property taxes they would have paid but for the authorization of a TIF. Remitted service payments (PILOTS) are collected by the county treasurer, just as with traditional tax obligations, but instead of payments being distributed to various taxing districts across the county, they are provided directly to the municipality.

From the TIF fund, service payments are used to pay the costs of public infrastructure improvements related to the development. The Village may authorize TIF'S to fund a number of infrastructure needs including public roads, highways, water and sewer lines, (and the maintenance of such roads, highways, water and sewer lines), remediation, provision of gas, electric and the enhancement of waterways (note-that police may sometimes be included after careful review). Most importantly, the Village can authorize TIF's that hold harmless impacted school districts and joint vocational school districts.

Please note that there are different types of TIFs available to municipalities, including TIF's for commercial projects that include multi-family structures, residential TIFs for single-family developments, and other, unique applications.

BusinessFirst! Update

The Business Walk has been scheduled for October 16th from 1:30–4:30 p.m. and will focus on engaging with around 100 local businesses throughout the community. With support from regional business professionals, this effort will provide valuable insight into the challenges, opportunities, and other thoughts business owners wish to share, while also connecting them with resources to support their growth and success. Letters have been sent to the businesses involved to invite their participation and share details about the event.

On September 25th, Meg and Aaron participated in the Oakwood Business Walk, which focused on engaging with Oakwood businesses. The event was a success, supported by many volunteers and regional business professionals who helped ensure the walk ran smoothly and provided meaningful conversations with local businesses.

YSDC Meeting

The Yellow Springs Development Corporation Board will meet on October 7th. With President Will Foster stepping down, the Board will vote to elect a new President at this meeting. The Board will also review marketing materials, continuing the discussion from last month, with an update expected at the next meeting. YSDC remains focused on supporting, incentivizing, and attracting economic development in Yellow Springs.

Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission Technical Advisory Committee

Aaron attended the MVRPC Technical Advisory Committee meeting on September 18th. The agenda included Regional Planning Commission action items such as Resolution 25-26, the 2026 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Revision, as well as Metropolitan Planning Organization action items, including Resolution 25-28, the recommended adoption of Revision #4 to MVRPC's SFY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Board of Zoning Appeals

Pamela Funderburg, 250 Allen Street, requested a eight-foot side yard setback variance in the R-A District to allow construction of an 18' x 24' garage two feet from the property line. The variance was approved by the Board of Zoning Appeals on September 24 to preserve driveway access and existing backyard trees.

Permits

Since last reported:

10 Zoning permits: 4 fence, 2 single family homes, 2 signs, 1 solar, 1 working in the ROW.

9 Building permits: 2 single family homes, 2 revisions, 2 electric, 1 gas line, 1 solar, 1 HVAC.

Time Keeping System

Lynda and Michelle have completed training sessions with employees on the new timekeeping system.

Levy Information

Please see the following page for important information regarding the upcoming renewal levy. This information will be included in the upcoming edition to of the Village Grapevine as well as on the Village website.

Utilities Department

Summer Sewer Credits

Summer Sewer credits are completed and on the October bills! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

2025 Levy Renewal Information

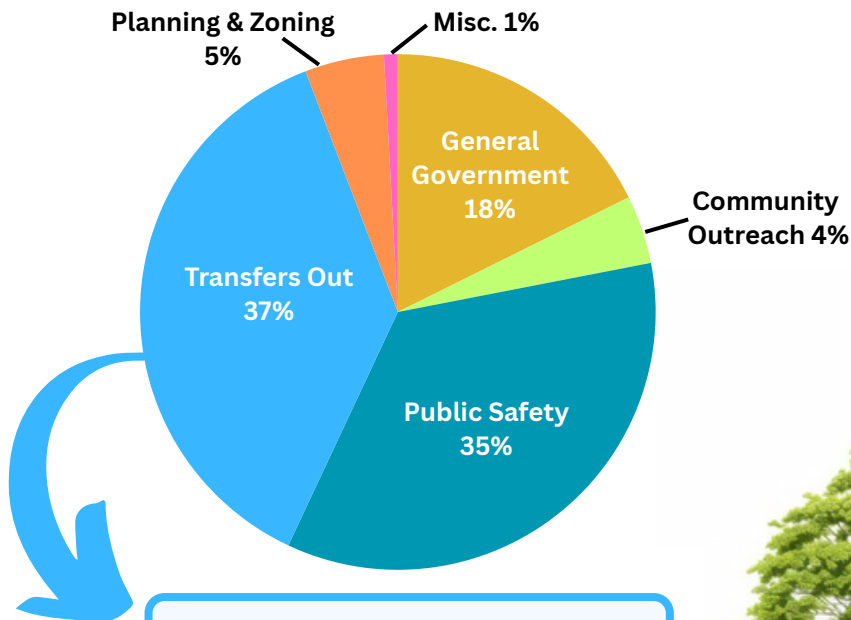
- **What is Issue 10?** – Issue 10 is a 5-year property tax levy renewal at the current rate of 8.4 mills. A mill is a unit used to calculate property taxes. This renewal does not increase taxes, except for new construction, and is estimated to generate approximately \$850,000 annually for the Village’s General Fund.
- **How is the General Fund used?** – In 2024, the General Fund totaled \$5,471,725. These dollars support essential Village services and provide transfers to other areas such as streets, parks, and capital improvements that do not generate enough funding on their own.
- **How has state funding changed?** – State funding for local governments has decreased significantly over time. In 2008, the Village received \$487,323 in state and local support; by 2024, this amount is \$130,269 due to reductions in local government funds and the elimination of the Estate Tax.

2024 General Fund Revenue Sources

Income Tax	Property Tax	Levy Proceeds	Other Sources
\$2,623,729	\$387,057	\$848,842	\$1,612,097

**THE LEVY PROVIDES
15.5% OF THE
GENERAL FUND’S
TOTAL FUNDING**

What did the General Fund support in 2024?



**Affordable Housing
Facilities Improvement Fund
Parks & Recreation
Police Pension Fund
Public Safety Capital
Streets**

**Homeowners would pay
\$168 per \$100,000 of
assessed value each year**



Water Plant Update

Completed	• Ran plant for hydrant flushing. Plant ran well and kept up with flushing and demand. • Dan Markle in to help solve malfunctioning IO input card. In the process of purchasing a spare card in case of future malfunctions. • Caustic transfer pump and motor malfunctioned. Ordered new motor and pump equipment. During replacement, plumbing parts cracked, we purchased new plumbing and replumbed caustic transfer pump. • Hauled away spent sand.
Ongoing	• Visit the link below to view the 2024 Water Quality Report. To request a hard copy please call 937-767-7208. https://www.yellowsprings.gov/egov/documents/1744898163_02282.pdf • Blew down softener and added sand to the other one. • Mowing and weed trimming around plant. • Received permission from Tecumseh Land Trust to drill 2 monitoring wells outside of well fields. Working with Moody's to complete the drilling. • Working with Ben Sparks on water loss. Created a new spreadsheet taking into consideration the total amount of unbilled water. • Conduct daily and weekly cleaning, monitoring, and sampling.
Upcoming	• Complete yearly calibration of flow meters and level sensors. • Acid washing softener #1 to remove buildup hardness scaling. • Video and cleaning of well #5.

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	10.33	6.145	4.185	40.51%
JUN	9.478	7.188	2.29	24.16%
JUL	9.772	6.623	3.149	32.22%
AUG	10.04	7.3	2.74	27.29%
SEP	11.171	8.486	2.685	24.04%
OCT				
NOV				
DEC				
TOTAL	89.033	60.693	28.34	31.83%

Wastewater Update

Completed	• Treated 7.64 million gallons in September. • 1.55 inches of rain in September. • Cleaned weirs on East clarifier. • Repaired door threshold on Administration building door. • Cleaned Phosphorous treatment building pump room. • Completed weekly sampling for Covid-19.
Ongoing	• Looking to replace ORP probes in aeration tanks. This will help us better monitor the phosphorous treatment process. • Cutting grass and trimming weeds around the 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 on 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 the plant to complete mowing. • Yearly calibration on flow meters and level sensors. • Completing yearly maintenance around WRF. • Completing prepping and painting of air header for aeration tank and digesters.

Water Distribution Update

Completed	• Keep up with locates. • Continue with GIS. • Continue with meter changeout project. • Flush hydrants. • Paint fire hydrants. • Shut off water and pull meter at 314 Dayton St. • AMP bucket truck rescue. • Mow solar field and paths. • Install led lights on water van. • Read AFLX sensors. • Burn brush pile at Sutton Farm and grade out. • Street Fair prep.
Ongoing	• Keeping up with locates. • Finding the rest of the curb stops for meter changeout. • Install the rest of the water meters. Approximately 23. • Reading the ALFX sensors every two weeks • Painting fire hydrants. • Installing new large water meters.
Upcoming	• Valve exercising (Springtime). ◦ This is on hold at this time • Changing out fire hydrants. ◦ Have one more scheduled ◦ This will be on Wright St. to accommodate an area with no hydrant • GIS more of our water system. ◦ Crew is GISing all assets street by street making maps more accurate.

WATER DISTRIBUTION



Mowing (top left), tap installation (top right), and hydrant flushing (bottom).

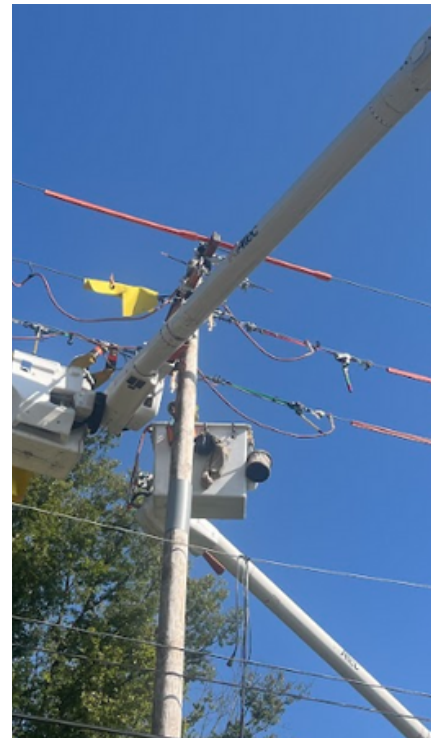
Electric Update

Completed	• Pole butt removal at West Center College St. and Xenia Ave. • Vegetation management at Suncrest. • Tree trimming coordination with Enoch's tree care. • Looked into numerous voltage alarms. • Install new guide pole at High St. and Whiteman St. • Installed down guy at West Center College St. and adjusted sag in overhead triplex. • Removed tree limb off of open secondary at Whitehall Dr. • Assisted grid power with installing reclosers. • Installed banners. • Put reclosers in one shot for tree trimming. • Changed out transformer at 1490 President St. • Service release at High St. • Spot pole for pole replacement at Randall St. • Rerouted streetlight cable on Limestone. • Omar circle service release. • Framed pole at Suncrest. • Various street light repairs.
Ongoing	• Tree trimming continues on the South side of Village. ◦ Should be done by next week. • Center circuit build out of switch station. ◦ Encompass will be getting drawings soon. ◦ Received drawings and reviewing now. ◦ Received all drawing and making plans for installation • Poly phase and Demand meters are being changed. ◦ Travis has been installing fm2s meters 90% done. ◦ Three phase is on hold.

Electric Update

Upcoming

- Keep working on PRP (pole replacement packets).
- Installing reclosers at switch station.
- Engineers will be coming next week to program so we can install these
- Installing reclosers on main line.
- These are scheduled to go up week of September 8th
 - These have been completed 4 out of 7 are online
- Installing voltage regulators in switch station.
 - Get prices for concrete pads.
 - Waiting on engineers on this still.
 - Met with contractors on this and should have pricing next week.
 - Received all pricing and trying to figure out how to do in house.
- Working with ATT on bad poles from section 5.
 - AT&T will be changing out 9 bad poles.



Electric Department training (center), and reclosure installations (left and right).

Metering Update

Water Meter Replacement Update

- 26 meters have not been upgraded.
- 6 meters with bad valves (all inside, one village owned).
- 15 inside water meter customers have been unresponsive and made no contact to schedule their meter changeout.

Ongoing

- Add remotes to the large meters that have wires. First one installed today.
- Water Reads – both manual and electronic
 - Daily checks of high reads and potential water leaks and datalog high usage and contact customer.
- Potential High Water Use Causes:
 - Toilets, Spigots left on, Water Softeners, Whole House Humidifiers, back-up sump pumps, service line leaks.
 - Spigots have been a particular issue this month, at least 5 customers, 51k gallons, 11k gallons, 5k gallons, 3k gallons.
- Electric Meter Infrastructure Update: We have received three new Collectors, programed them in the office and installed them with the Electric Department on poles. Waiting on response from Thor at MVECA to do the fiber connections.
- Residential Electric Meter Change-outs on hold pending more Collector capacity.
- Commercial/Demand Electric Meter Change-outs on hold pending more collector capacity and issues with connectivity.
- Working with Mapped Out to update and streamline Water Meter - Service Line Inventory map.
- 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 – Size and Lay Length list on Commercial Water Meters to order new inventory. Will start this in the next two weeks.

Streets & Sewer Update

Completed

- Mowed municipal properties 2 times.
- Continued elbow replacement in boiler system at JBC.
- Installed 30 yards of playground mulch at Gaunt Park.
- Installed new benches & trashcan at Dayton St. Parking lot.
- Had training deployment of new traffic barricades (8 hours).
- Dug locations for the 365 Project.
- Took over janitorial duties while janitor is on vacation.
- Brush cut island at end of W. Whiteman St.
- Continued trimming around & straightening street signs
- Regraded allies between E. Whiteman & E. Center College.
- Trimmed street trees on N. Walnut.
- Removed 5 dead trees for YSTC.
- Installed new televisions in Council chambers.
- Performed street sweeping of the entire town.
- Cleaned E. Enon drainage ditch.
- Cleaned downtown.
- Helped with setup of Blues Fest.
- Helped with setup Porchfest.
- 3 block parties.
- Poured new concrete sidewalk at Gaunt Park.
- Seal coated/ installed pickleball courts at outdoor basketball courts at JBC.
- Recertified in "Bucket Truck Rescue."
- Installed new curb at ADA mats for Safe Routes to School.
- Continued mowing ROWs.
- Removed dead trees/trimmed trees at Corry St. Gardens.
- Removed shed, basketball hoop, trash & concrete pad at Corry St. Gardens.

STREETS & SEWER COLLECTION

Streets & Sewer Update

Ongoing	• Street sweeping. • Utility locates. • GIS information gathering. • Empty trash/ litter pickup every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. • Problematic sanitary sewer checks every Friday. • Empty trashcans / cleanup Short Street.
Upcoming	• Root control sanitary sewer. • Install fence around softball dugouts. • Install hardscape adjacent to Pottery Shop.



Curb installation (top left), Corry St. garden repairs (bottom left), E. Enon Rd ditch cleaning (right.)

Youth Center Update

Completed	• An average of 16 youths were served per day, with 10 dinners provided each night. • Had a pizza night with a donation from Who's Hungry? • Accepted a donation of candy from Target for Trunk or Treat. • Stocked up our Youth center groceries for after school and tutoring activities. • Did some pumpkin crafting for the season. • Accepting volunteers for Trunk or Treat and parking fundraiser. • Attended Homecoming soccer game with youth. • Field trip to Mills Lawn playground. • Final softball game played on 9/23. • After a long season the Leftovers took home the trophy for the 4th season in a row.
Ongoing	• Craft night on Wednesday from 5:30-7 pm. • Movie nights will move to Friday from 5:30-8 pm for September. • Free Tutoring with Greene County Public Library Tuesdays & Thursdays 3:30-5 pm.



Congrats to the Leftovers for taking home the trophy four seasons in a row!

Youth Center Update



**JOHN BRYAN YOUTH CENTER
ANNUAL TRIP TO**

KINGS ISLAND

MUST BE 12+ TO ATTEND

**SIGN UP AND PAY NO LATER THAN
OCTOBER 15TH , 2025**

**THE TRIP WILL COST \$50 PER
PERSON**

**IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF A
SCHOLARSHIP PLEASE GIVE US
A CALL AS THEY ARE LIMITED**

937-767-7209

**TRIP WILL BE HELD ON
OCTOBER 25TH, 2025**

The annual trip to Kings Island is coming up! Deadline to sign up is October 15th, 2025.

Digital Media Update

Completed	• Photographed YS Porchfest (Saturday, 9/20). • Photographed AMP Bucket and Pole Top Rescue safety training (Wednesday, 9/24). • Covered Board of Zoning Appeals (Wednesday, 9/24). • Photographed Musical Roots (Saturday, 9/27). • Covered Village Council Budget Session #1 (Wednesday, 10/1). • Completed FAA Part 107 licensure test (Thursday, 10/2).
Ongoing	• Creating and editing content for new Village website.
Upcoming	• YSPD Gun Safety video.

