



Another spectacular fireworks display for the Fourth of July at Gaunt Park.

Photo by Ben Guenther

Manager's Report

Johnnie Burns, Village Manager

July 20, 2026

Village of Yellow Springs

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A Summer of Events

Since our last Manager's Report in mid-May, the Village has enjoyed a full calendar of summer events and community celebrations. From the June Street Fair, to the Fourth of July festivities, to Juneteenth and Pride celebrations, these gatherings have provided opportunities for residents and visitors to come together, celebrate, and experience the unique community spirit that makes Yellow Springs special.

We are fortunate to have many partners who help make these events possible. The Chamber of Commerce, the Yellow Springs Community Foundation, and Miami Township Fire & Rescue all play important roles in supporting and strengthening these community efforts. I also want to recognize our Police Department and Public Works crew for the work they do behind the scenes to help ensure events are safe, accessible, and run smoothly. Their preparation, coordination, and commitment allow our community to gather and celebrate with confidence.



Left to right: Juneteenth, YSPRIDE, Fourth of July.

Ohio Cyber Range Institute

Staff training through the Ohio Cyber Range Institute (OCRI) has begun. OCRI is a statewide cybersecurity initiative that provides training and resources to help organizations strengthen their cybersecurity practices and better prepare for evolving cyber threats. Employees will have a little over a month to complete this online training, which is designed to increase awareness and provide staff with the tools needed to recognize and respond to potential cybersecurity risks.

Strategic Planning – Request for Qualifications

The Village's Strategic Planning Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process is nearing its conclusion, with all submissions due July 29. Staff have continued to engage with interested consulting firms, providing additional information and answering questions throughout the process.

Following the submission deadline, staff will work with Council President DeVore Leonard and Council Vice President Hsu to identify firms for potential interviews and evaluate proposals. A recommended firm will ultimately be brought forward for Council consideration at the August 17 meeting.



Social media graphic for the RFQ for strategic planning.

Second Housing Retreat

On June 25, Council and staff held the Village's second Housing Retreat as part of ongoing efforts to continue conversations around housing needs, opportunities, and priorities in the community. Staff participants included Village Manager Johnnie Burns, Assistant Village Manager Elyse Giardullo, and Planning & Zoning Director Nía Holt. The retreat provided an opportunity for Council and staff to further discuss housing-related initiatives, review ongoing work, and continue identifying potential strategies to address the Village's housing goals.

Joint Meeting with Yellow Springs Schools and Miami Township

On July 9, the Village held a joint meeting with representatives from Yellow Springs Schools and Miami Township. The meeting provided an opportunity for the three local entities to share updates and discuss ongoing initiatives.

The meeting was productive and reinforced the value of maintaining regular communication between our local government partners. Moving forward, the group plans to hold these joint meetings annually to continue sharing important updates, identifying opportunities for collaboration, and working together toward the best outcomes for the Yellow Springs community. During this meeting, the Village provided updates on current operations, upcoming initiatives, and ongoing projects, while also receiving updates from the School District and Miami Township.

Police Update: 5/15/26 - 7/16/26

Calls for Service	4479
9-1-1 Calls	69
Non-emergency Calls	2792
Noise Complaints	16
Traffic Stops	122
Business Checks	1068

Welcome Back, Brother!

Our Service Dog in Training (SDiT), Brother, has returned from his first phase of Advanced Training and is back staying with us at the station. He will be attending daily school to master his specific service skills as he works toward his upcoming graduation.

Fleet Modernization & Green Initiatives

We received our newest cruiser, which is currently awaiting outfitting. As the third hybrid vehicle in our four-marked-cruiser fleet, this unit replaces an aging vehicle to lower maintenance expenses while moving our department closer to a fully environmentally friendly patrol rotation.

Phase II Training Completed

All officers successfully completed Phase II of their annual required training, covering critical skills such as CPR, weapons qualification, and de-escalation. This milestone marks the completion of two-thirds of their core annual requirements, which represent just a fraction of the ongoing training our officers undergo to sharpest serve our community.

COS Monthly Activity Report: 4/1/26 - 4/30/26

Community Outreach Specialists - Monthly Activity Report

Community Outreach Services (COS) experienced its busiest month of 2026 in June, providing 432 total services between June 1 and June 30, 2026. Overall service volume increased compared to May.

June activity was driven by increased demand for food assistance, mental health support, case management, and community outreach services. Significant increases were also seen in welfare checks and support for individuals experiencing homelessness, reflecting the continued need for comprehensive social service intervention. Average service delivery for the month was approximately 14 services per day.

Month-to-Month Comparison

- May: 330 services
- June: 432 services
- Net Change: +102 services
- Percent Change: +30.9%

Significant Increases

- Food & Vouchers: +24 (+49%)
- Mental Health Checks: +11 (+21%)
- COS Referrals: +35 (+292%)
- Case Follow-up: +9 (+21%)
- Welfare Checks: +33 (+330%)
- Use of Phone: +3 (+16%)

Interpretation: June saw substantial growth in both direct services and case management activities. The increases in welfare checks, food assistance, and referrals suggest a rise in clients requiring immediate support as well as longer-term service coordination.

Year-to-Date Summary (January–June 2026)

- Through June 30, 2026, COS has provided:
- 402 Food & Voucher services
- 274 COS Referrals
- 236 Case Follow-up contacts
- 223 Mental Health Checks
- 206 Victim Advocacy services
- 143 Housing assistance contacts
- 106 Utility assistance contacts

COS Monthly Activity Report: 4/1/26 - 4/30/26

SERVICE	MARCH TOTALS	YTD TOTALS
Gas Cards	8	38
Bus tokens/Transportation	16	142
Case Follow-up	51	236
COS referrals	47	274
Food & Vouchers	73	402
Homeless/Housing	20	143
Mental Health Check	63	223
Rent assistance	10	47
Use of phone	22	57
Utility assistance	22	106
Victims Advocate	47	206
Welfare check	43	84

YS or Township Residents Served	299	1,503
Visitors or Non-Residents Served	34	182
Homeless or At-Large Served	88	325
Veteran	-	1
TOTAL SERVED	421	2,010

Planning & Zoning Update

- Nia Holt assisted with the review of the draft Bowen Housing Study and provided feedback. This enabled her to draft the memo that was provided in the packet for the most recent Housing Retreat.
- The Village of Granville reached out to our Planning & Zoning staff to inquire about short term rentals, accessory dwellings units (AUDs), and designated outed refreshment areas (DORAs).
- Nia serves on OKI (Ohio Kentucky Indiana) Regional Planning Conference Organizing Committee. The committee held meetings on June 17th and July 8th. The Conference will take place on September 30th – October 2nd. We will encourage all Planning Commissioners and Board of Zoning Appeals members to attend the Citizen Planners Bootcamp on September 30th.
- After the diligent work of Aaron Arellano, the Village was awarded an active transportation grant from ODOT. This grant will allow us to update our current Active Transportation Plan. Staff has begun this work with support from the consultants at GFT and Active Transportation Committee (which serves as the steering committee).
- Participating in the Technical Team Kick-off Meeting (June 18).
- Coordinating the Steering Committee/ meeting (July 9).
- Staff have worked with DDC Management Group to move the Spring Meadows Phase 3 & 4 forward by reviewing and coordinating the draft Development Agreement. They have also responded to residents' concerns regarding construction debris in neighborhood streets.
- There has been a transition code enforcement responsibility within the Planning & Zoning Department. Inspections and citations will now be overseen by Aaron instead of Chelsey.
- Nia has initiated regular Planning Commission Chair packet review meetings. The first one was held on July 6th.
- Gavin and Nia conducted interviews with 5 candidates to fill 4 vacancies on the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) on July 7th. There were 2 regular positions and 2 alternate positions.

Economic Development Update

- Aaron took part in the Business First! meeting on May 21st to discuss local business needs and economic development initiatives.
- Village Staff supported local business growth and Chamber activities by taking part in ribbon-cutting ceremonies for:
 - Golden Good Thrift & Repair (June 5th).
 - Springs Market (June 16th).
- Aaron and Nia conducted a Downtown walkthrough on June 29th. They stopped and connected with several local business owners. They also met with Philp O'Rourke to an upcoming food truck rally and future coordination opportunities.
- Aaron has prepared an Economic Development Memo outlining recommendations for roles for the various economic development entities in the Village. Village leadership is still reviewing the recommendations.



OKI Conference logo.

Permitting Update (Since 5/18/26)

Staff completed research and developed recommendations regarding building permit fee updates.

31 Zoning permits: 10 fence, 7 working in ROW, 4 single-family home, 3 sign, 2 zoning compliance, 2 addition, 1 shed, 1 deck, 1 replat

25 Building permits: 5 electric, 4 single family home, 3 HVAC, 2 addition, 2 damage repair, 1 emergency responder system, 1 deck, 1 fire alarm system, 1 tent, 1 revisions, 1 fire sprinkler system, 1 shed

FINANCE & UTILITIES

Utility Round-Up

A total of \$412.04 in Utility Round-Up assistance was processed for May, and \$1,514.84 was processed for June, bringing the current fund balance to \$16,119.70.

Ohio Association of Public Treasurers

Michelle attended the Ohio Association of Public Treasurers, Public Finance Officer Training for the 2nd year of the 3-year program. We will soon be starting the 2025 audit with the State of Ohio.

Utilities Department

Utilities Staffing

Kori Whittaker is back part-time as a Utility Clerk, and Rose Pelzl is still supporting Utilities and continuing her meter reader duties.

Disconnects & Extended Hours

Disconnects are on Tuesday the 28th and we will have extended hours (8-4:30) on July 15th, 27th and 28th .

Rumpke Yard Waste Pickup

Yard Waste Pickup runs from April through November, the last Friday of each month. Customers must use Rumpke/Biosave yard waste bags, available only at the Utility Office. The price of these bags is \$4.29/each, which includes pickup fees.

Water Plant Update

Completed	• Monthly lab standardizations in water lab. • Purchased NEW HSP motor. • Both Transfer pump #2 and HSP #1 are back and in service. • WaterTA completed second round of PFAS testing. Testing this round showed PFOS in Well #3, this is a new development. • Final draft of 2025 Water Quality Report distributed. • Pool filled in early May. May account for some water loss that month. • Replaced pumpheads on all four chlorine pumps. These had been in service for about 15 months. After some research 12-18 months is average life expectancy. Plan to keep on a 12 month rotation from now on to keep consistent chlorine levels in water. • Replaced faulty level sensor in Detention Tank #1.
Ongoing	• Blew down softener and add sand to the other one. • Working with EPA for Water Technical Assistance program on PFAS treatment plan. Attending regular monthly meetings and providing water quality data. • Will probably conduct another PFAS testing with CDM Smith. • Conduct daily and weekly cleaning, monitoring, and sampling. • Started Acid wash of Softener #1. • Old HSP motor also being repaired to have as backup for future use.
Upcoming	• Reaching out to contractors for possible heavy cleaning of softeners and piping. • Video and cleaning of well #5.

WATER PLANT

Water Plant and Billing Totals (2026)

MONTH	WTP TOTAL (MG)	BILLING TOTAL (MG)	WATER LOSS (MG)	WATER LOSS %
JAN	8.184	6.625	1.559	19.05%
FEB	7.384	6.282	1.102	14.92%
MAR	8.161	7.108	1.053	12.67%
APR	8.592	5.639	2.932	34.12%
MAY	8.779	6.589	2.042	23.26%
JUN	8.043	7.079	0.648	8.06%
JUL				
AUG				
SEP				
OCT				
NOV				
DEC				
TOTAL	49.143	39.322	9.266	18.86%

Wastewater Update

Completed	• Treated 31.602 million gallons in May. • Treated 14.5 million gallons in June. • 7.08 inches of rain in May. • 3.46 inches of rain in June. • Covid-19 sampling for May and June. • Chlorine feeding for summer season. • Thio running for summer season. • Ran belt press 9 more times for total of 15 this year so far. • Got quote and repairs are being started on Mixed D. • Cleaned weirs on clarifiers. • Moved peristaltic pump (From Rare Earth feed) to feed Sodium Thiosulfate after several issues with old pump. • Ordered and replaced rare earth peristaltic pump. • Ordered and replaced HACH Colorimeter to measure chlorine levels in effluent water. Old colorimeter was out of service life and had severely corroded battery terminals.
Ongoing	• Looking to replace ORP probes in aeration tanks. This will help us better monitor the phosphorous treatment process. • Continuing to run microscopic bug counts on MLSS. Microorganisms look good. • Meeting scheduled with Wessler to discuss PER Draft. • Cleaning out and organizing work areas and storage areas in garage. • Quoting repairs for filtrate wetwell and aeration tank C gate.
Upcoming	• Working on getting quotes for new trucks.

Water Distribution Update

Completed

- Repaired and painted the fire hydrant at 218 N. Stafford Street.
- Repaired and painted the fire hydrant at Ellis Park.
- Completed setup and teardown for the Yellow Springs Street Fair.
- Replaced the water valve at 150 E. South College Street.
- Completed the water meter replacement at Antioch Midwest.
- Mowed the solar field and maintained surrounding access paths.

Electric Update

Completed

- Concrete work at switch station.
- Loaded and hauled gravel.
- Loaded 40 ft. wood pole and spotted at high school.
- Drilled hole and set new pole framed pole and transferred all 3 primary phases and neutral.
- Returned all old wood at shop.
- Installed new 25 kva transformer at new pole and installed service.
- Pull forms off concrete.
- Safety meeting.
- Remove and repair banner post.
- Installed pole tag on pole.
- Changed crossarm and cut pole.
- Responded to voltage sag at Livermore St.
- Met with electrician for Mills Lawn demo work.
- Opened riser at Mills Lawn and removed transformers and cut cable to be all clear.
- Met with tree trimmers.
- Made up outlets for short street.
- Responded to wire down call spliced wire and installed new street light with led.
- Set line truck up for drilling at train station and drilled hole cut vines from pole on Xenia Ave.
- Set tracks out at suncrest and set 40 ft pole.
- Installed riser for outlets on Short Street.
- Responded to several squirrel outages on W. South College St.
- Disconnected service at Shawnee.
- Reconnected service for later time for trimming.
- Repaired traffic light at Xenia Ave.
- Loaded all equipment from high school and unloaded at shop.
- Worked on Street Fair.

Electric Update**Completed**

- Installed panels on Walnut St.
- Transfer barricades for Street Fair
- Responded to car accident on Corry St.
- Cleared guy wire from primary and picked up circuit at reclosure.
- Loaded 40 ft. pole and delivered at switch yard
- Responded to outage on Northwood repaired wire and reenergized.
- Made permanent connections at Gardendale.
- Removed banners and installed Juneteenth banner.
- Removed street fair panels at Walnut St.
- Refused branch line at Elm Street.
- Reported to job and opened urd primary installed grounds and performed all switching procedures to isolate primary cable.
- Installed new transformer and secondary pedestal prepared all terminations for job.
- Removed more banners from Xenia Ave.
- Performed all switching to put urd lateral back to normal and identified and tagged terminations for out of phase tie.

Metering Update

5/8" Water Meter Replacement Update

- Total 24 meters have not been upgraded.
- 6 meters with bad valves, (all inside, one village owned)
- 13 inside water meter customers have been unresponsive and made no contact to schedule their meter changeout.

Completed	• Added remotes to the large water meters that have wires.
Ongoing	• Potential High Water Use Causes: Toilets, Spigots left on or frozen, Water Softeners, Whole House Humidifiers, RO systems, back-up sump pumps, service line leaks. • Travis is collecting the data from the ALFX system every other Thursday. • Hand deliver Payment Plan notices for 7/21/27, • Electric disconnects 7/28/27 • Meter Audit: putting eyes on each water meter once a year, datalogging, checking ERT and meter numbers, checking service line material • Scheduling inspections for Material Unknown service lines, have completed 13 inspections. • Working with Morgan Saunders from Arcadis on next steps for meeting all EPA requirements for the lead service line inventory. • Finish changing out FM2S electric meters • GIS service lines – Unknown and Galvanized maps • Water Reads – both manual and electronic • Working with Mapped Out to update and streamline Water Meter - Service Line Inventory map. • GIS new water and electric meters • Inspect and install new water services in Spring Meadows neighborhood. • Commercial Water Meter Change-out – inventory acquired and labeled, will schedule and create work orders for Water Dept to do changeouts. Three commercial meters changed out in the last two weeks.

Streets & Sewer Update

Completed

- Tanner attended third & fourth sessions (6 total) of CLG. Leadership Academy.
- Mowed municipal properties 10 times including WTP & WWTP.
- Trimmed trees on bike path.
- Mowed ROW's (right-of-way's).
- Trimmed branches in ROW's.
- Fabricated new flange for pool pump.
- Installed resurfaced diving boards.
- Rebuilt baby pool pump.
- Repaired AC for PD on unit 111.
- Fabricated new housing for baby pool filter.
- Installed new gate closers to baby pool.
- Installed new gate lock on baby pool gate.
- Mulched pool.
- Installed canopies at pool.
- Adjusted amperage on main pool pump.
- Serviced mowers.
- Summer softball league began.
- Serviced chainsaws.
- Street swept 5 times.
- Downtown cleanup 6 times.
- Resurfaced picnic tables at pool.
- Serviced lawn mowing equipment.
- Repaired golf cart.
- Painted curbs & crosswalks throughout down.
- Seal coated & painted Corry Street parking lot.
- Repaired refrigerator at pool.
- Setup/ cleanup from Street Fair.
- Setup/ cleanup from Juneteenth.
- Setup/ cleanup for PRIDE.
- Setup/ cleanup for the Fourth of July.
- Setup/ cleanup from FIFA on Short Street.
- Trimmed sycamores overhanging Kieth's Alley parking lot.
- Trimmed low hanging trees on Wright.

Streets & Sewer Update

Completed	• Trimmed trees at Bill Duncan. • Trimmed trees at Beatty-Hughes. • Installed Wheeling Gaunt signs at Hilda Rahn & Gaunt. • Trimmed village owned ROW's with flail mower. • Trimmed downtown trees. • 5 potential sanitary backups. • Jetted Xenia Ave/Glen Street storm line. • Mulched downtown tree boxes & Dayton St. Flower bed. • Mulched JBC. • Flail mowed E. Enon ditch. • Installed new skate park signage. • Removed three large wasps nest. • Repaired air handler 2 in JBC. • Regraded various alleys including foliage trimming. • Welcomed new employee Toran Hochstettler. • Removed 4 fallen trees into roadway. • Patched utility cuts.
Ongoing	• Street sweeping. • Utility locates. • GIS information. • Empty trash/litter pickup every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. • Problematic sanitary sewer checks every Friday. • Empty trashcans/ cleanup Short Street.
Upcoming	• Mulch playgrounds at JBC & Gaunt. • Continue ROW clearing. • Continue ally grading. • Full depth repairs on large potholes. • Continue park tree trimming.

STREETS & SEWER COLLECTION

Streets & Sewer Update



Various Streets, Parks & Sewer crew accomplishments around the village new accessible parking.

Gaunt Park Pool

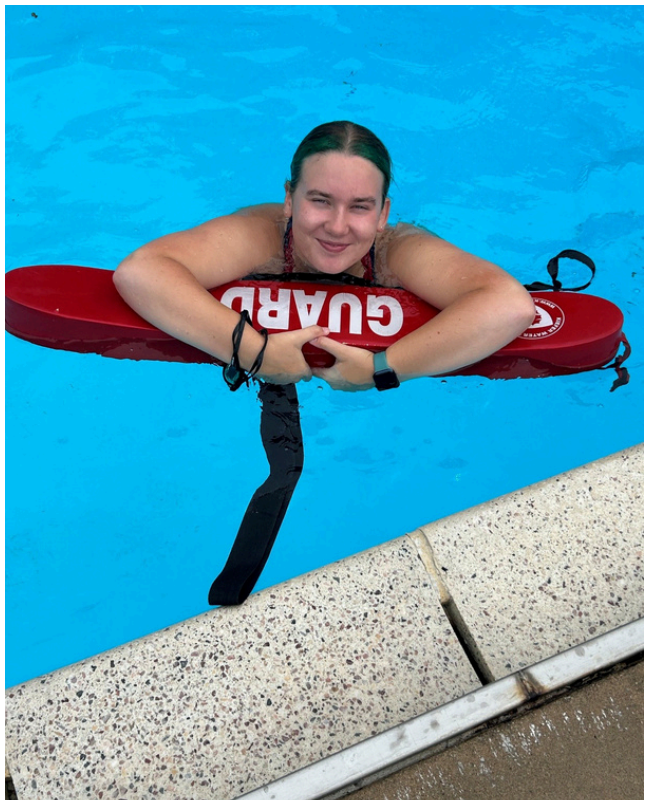
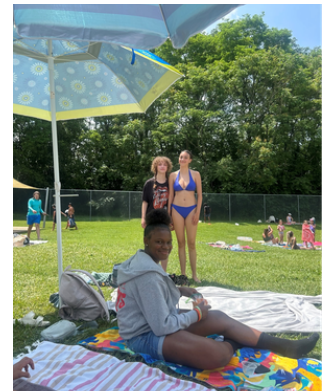
Thank you to Carol Cottom for providing funding for lifeguard recertifications! Lifeguard training generously funded by our community brought us 8 new lifeguards. Pool inspections for fully passed for opening and have been since Finished hosting the Sea Dog's for their 2026 season. We have finished our yearly swim lessons.

Additionally, we have sold out of passes twice. Guard staff will continue to keep their skills with bi-weekly training courses

Youth Center Update

Completed	• An average of 12 youths were served per day, with 3-4 dinners provided each night. • Accepted deliveries of dinners and extra grocery donations from the Food Pantry and Beloved Community Project. • Accepted prepared dinners from Who's Hungry on Monday and Wednesday. • Accepted burritos from Beloved Community Project for evening dinners. • There have been 123 rentals in the building. • Game room and office have been fully re opened after fixes and remodeling. • Summer activities for the youth center include: Tuesday outside play days; Wednesday pool days; Friday movie nights. • Raised \$4,458.00 in parking donations for the John Bryan Youth Center to help with food, field trips and transportation. • One student came out to help us park cars for community service.
Ongoing	• Collaborating with The Little Art Theatre, NCCJ and MLS PTO for Summer movie night at Gaunt Park. • With Green County Public Library, the summer tutoring program was Tuesdays and Thursdays.

YOUTH CENTER & PARKS



Recent Ganut Park and JBC Youth Center activities.

Digital Media Update

Completed	• Covered regular Village Council meeting on Monday, May 18. • Covered regular Village Council meeting on Monday, June 1. • Captured photo and video content at Street Fair on Saturday, June 13. • Captured photo content at Juneteenth celebration on Friday, June 19. • Covered Village Council Housing Retreat on Thursday, June 25. • Recorded America 250 Speaker Series event on Friday, June 26. • Captured photo and video content at YS Pride celebration on Saturday, June 27. • Captured photo and video content at Fourth of July celebration on Saturday, July 4. • Covered regular Village Council meeting on Monday, July 6. • Covered joint meeting of Village Council, Miami Township Trustees, and Yellow Springs Schools Board of Education members on Thursday, July 9. • Recorded WYSO live radio play on Sunday, July 12. • Covered Planning Commission meeting on Tuesday, July 14.
Ongoing	• Website redesign project. • Village Grapevine newsletter.

Digital Media Update

Village Facebook Followers

7,682

+455 Followers



YSPD Facebook Followers

552

+28 Followers



YSCA Facebook Followers

277

+12 Followers



YSConnect Downloads

1,885*

*Unique downloads
(75 SMS Contacts)



YouTube Subscribers

855

+10 Subscribers

