



Yellow Springs'

Fall 2024

The Village Grapevine

A PUBLICATION OF THE VILLAGE OF YELLOW SPRINGS



Welcome to the inaugural edition of our revived Village Grapevine newsletter!

This initiative marks an exciting step in fostering greater communication and transparency within our community. Our goal is to keep residents informed on important updates, events, and projects happening in the village, while also providing a platform to celebrate local achievements.

As your Village Council President, I am committed to ensuring that your voices are heard, and that we continue to build a stronger, more connected community. We look forward to sharing more with you in future issues, and encourage your participation and feedback.

Kevin D. Stokes | Village Council President



I am deeply honored to step into the role of Village Manager after ten fulfilling years as Superintendent and Public Works Director. The overwhelming support I have received from the community in this new role has been incredible. While I have lived in Xenia all my life, Yellow Springs feels even more like home, and I am enthusiastic about contributing to this vibrant and welcoming community. As we embark on developing our first-ever strategic plan, our team is energized and ready to move forward. We are dedicated to driving meaningful improvements, from expanding housing options and enhancing the CBE business park, to ensuring our downtown remains a vibrant and thriving hub. Thank you for your continued support and for being a vital part of this journey. Together, we are shaping a brighter future for Yellow Springs.

Johnnie Burns | Village Manager



Greetings and welcome to the first edition of the Village Grapevine.

This will be yet another way to keep our citizens "in the know" about Village happenings. In my case, you'll be hearing news from the Office of the Mayor. This will include information concerning Mayor's Court and the more ceremonial duties I'm performing, along with other possible topics of interest in which I'm engaged as your mayor.

Looking forward to future communications with you!

Mayor Pam Conine

Community Alerts

**THE COMMUNITY SPOKE, THE VILLAGE LISTENED.**

After conducting community surveys and soliciting feedback re: how residents prefer to receive information from the Village, it was clear that the majority of villagers find text messaging to be the best option.

The Village now offers NON-EMERGENCY alerts via CivicPlus. This is an opt-in notification service that allows the Village to communicate with villagers directly about topics such as street closures, utility work, community events, and more. In addition to text messaging, this service also allows residents to receive notifications via email and landline telephone.

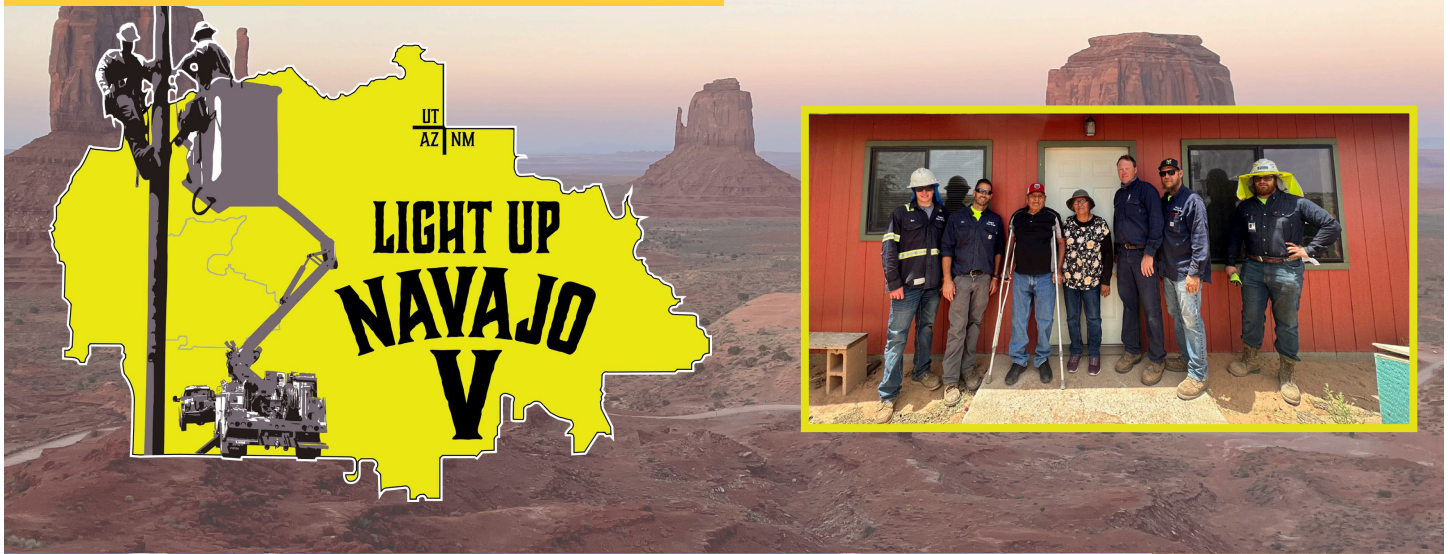
Scan the QR code **above** to sign up for non-emergency alerts today!

****CivicPlus specifically DOES NOT sell user information to third-party vendors.****

PLEASE NOTE: CivicPlus is meant to supplement – not replace – our emergency notification system, Hyper-Reach, which you can sign up for by scanning the QR code **below**.



Public Works



SCAN HERE FOR



MORE INFO!

In June, members of the YS Public Works team traveled to Monument Valley, Arizona, to participate in **Light Up Navajo**, an initiative of the **Navajo Tribal Utility Authority**. Their efforts helped to bring power to members of the Navajo Nation who had never before had electricity in their homes. This project was made possible by partnerships with the **American Public Power Association**, **American Municipal Power, Inc.**, and **YS Village Council**.



Public Works

DID YOU KNOW?...



#KeepingYourLightsOn

Recognized for reliable electric service in 2023

#CommunityPowered

Recognized by @PublicPowerOrg



The Village of Yellow Springs has award-winning public utilities that feature 100% renewable energy.

American Public Power Association's Reliable Public Power Provider (RP3) program recognizes public utilities that demonstrate high proficiency in reliability, safety, workforce development, and system improvement.

The YS Electric Department currently has a Gold Level designation from the APPA, and it is poised to move up to the Platinum Level by next year.



The Village's water treatment plant was awarded the best-tasting water in Ohio by the American Water Works Association in 2023.



●●● ongoing Public Works projects ●●●



WATER METER REPLACEMENT

Encoder-style meters with RF transmitters are being installed throughout the village. This project is funded primarily by a grant from the Ohio Public Works Commission, covering 84% of the \$886,550 cost.

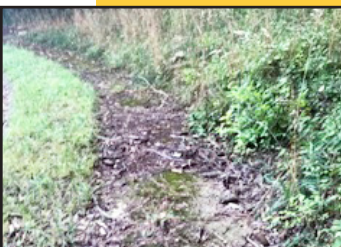


WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT

This project is funded entirely by grants awarded through House Bill 168 - totaling \$1,656,670 - as a part of the Ohio Department of Development's Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Grant Program.

Public Works

The Streets, Parks & Sewer crew has been busy this year!



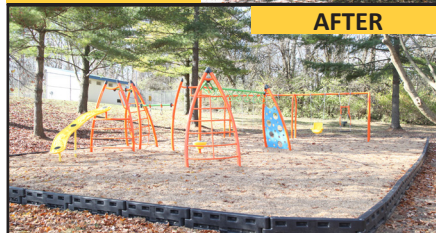
sidewalk clearing support



new safety signage



BEFORE



AFTER

Gaunt Park playground updates



Dayton St. multimodal path

Planning & Zoning

The Planning, Zoning, and Economic Sustainability Department is responsible for the functions of long- and short-range planning; maintaining the Village's zoning code; site plan and subdivision review; commercial mixed-use review; code enforcement; and building permit administration.

Our Building Department services the community of Yellow Springs. We use NIC to conduct our building plan review and building inspections. We do all disciplines (structural, gas, mechanical, electric, fire/life safety) except plumbing.



Scan the QR code for a list of all Village Building & Zoning applications.



Meg Leatherman
Planning & Zoning Administrator

All building permits and zoning applications can be submitted electronically at permits@yellowsprings.gov.

Youth Center

Monday-Friday
2:30PM-9:00PM

Saturday
12:00PM-4:00PM

To inquire about hours or special activities, please call 937-767-7209, or send an email to monitors@yellowsprings.gov.



Yellow Springs Police Department

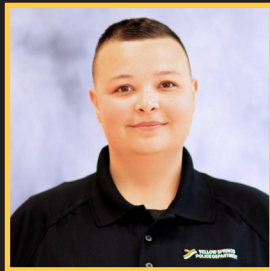


PAIGE BURGE

Chief of Police

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and tightening labor markets, law enforcement agencies across the country have faced a historic crisis in recruiting and retaining qualified candidates. The Yellow Springs Police Department has not been immune to this situation. In fact, as a small agency, we are often hit harder by these issues, being burdened by the restraints of smaller budgets, fewer benefits, and less competitive opportunities. I want to commend and thank the Village of Yellow Springs residents, Village Council, and Village Manager Johnnie Burns for their acknowledgement and support of these restraints by providing us with the support and tools to overcome them. Undoubtedly, we will continue to face obstacles related to recruitment and retention, competing with larger agencies along the way, but I want to take this opportunity to celebrate our wins and welcome our newest members of the Yellow Springs Police Department. As a 24/7/365 operation, it's hard to meet those of us that answer the call for help on nights, weekends, and holidays, but many of these new faces will be doing just that. We hope this introduction helps you learn a little bit more about the Department that protects and serves the Village of Yellow Springs.

New Hires



Dispatcher

**KIERSTIN
ARMSTRONG**



Officer

**ANDREW
BLUMA**



Officer

**LEANNE
CADDY**



Officer

**ALEX
CROASMUN**



Dispatcher

**DAYSI
CUSICK**



Officer

**JACOB
TURNER**



Corporal

**JOSH
VARBLE**



YSPD Service Dog Fund

Donations made to this fund help support the care and development of dogs fostered by the Yellow Springs Police Department for the 4 Paws for Ability service dog training program.

Scan the QR code to donate today!



YSPD Community Programs

YELLOW SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT



Safety Village is an annual, week-long interactive and educational experience for children entering kindergarten or first grade in the Yellow Springs School District.

YSPD officers and guest speakers provide age-appropriate instruction on various topics, including traffic safety, pedestrian and bike safety, fire safety, electric safety, stranger awareness, school and bus safety, pool safety, 911 usage, and gun safety.

Children are also able to enjoy our miniature town, where they can “drive” around the streets and walk along the sidewalks with crosswalks, stop signs, and traffic signals.



Scheduled Public Meetings at the Bryan Community Center

Village Council
First & Third Monday at 6:00PM

Planning Commission
Second Tuesday at 6:00PM

Environmental Commission
Second Thursday at 6:00PM

Public Arts and Culture Commission
First Tuesday at 6:30PM

Find more information at
www.yellowsprings.gov

Watch live broadcasts of
Village Council and Planning Commission meetings
on YouTube:



VILLAGE OF YELLOW SPRINGS

100 Dayton Street
Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387

Fall 2024

Village Council Members

Kevin D. Stokes, President
Gavin DeVore Leonard, Vice President
Carmen V. Brown
Trish Gustafson
Brian K. Housh

Johnnie Burns, Village Manager
Pam Conine, Mayor

Editor: Ben Guenther

Village Offices	767-7202
Clerk of Council	767-9126
YSPD, non-emergency	767-7206
YSPD, emergency	9-1-1
Fire, non-emergency	767-7842
Fire, emergency	9-1-1
Public Works	767-8649
Gaunt Park Pool	767-9172
Rumpke Waste	800-828-8171

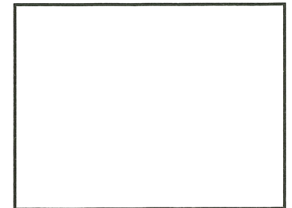


This newsletter is printed on recycled paper.



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100 Dayton Street
Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387



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Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387