



# Know **OUR** AVON LAKE

MAY 2022

## CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

**9th Annual North Coast Business Expo**  
May 5 - 3:00 p.m., Ahern's Banquet Center

**EAAB Native Plant Give-Away**  
May 7 - 9:00 a.m., The Goddard School

**Citizen/Project of the Year Award Ceremony**  
May 19 - 6:30 p.m., Avon Lake Public Library

**Shred Day**  
May 21 - 9:00 a.m.-Noon, Aquatic Center

**Avon Lake Clean-Up Day**  
May 21 - See article on Page 2

**Memorial Day Parade & Ceremony**  
May 30 - 10:00 a.m.

**Independence Day Fireworks Celebration**  
July 1 - 5:30 p.m.

### Parks & Rec

Visit [AvonLakeRec.com](http://AvonLakeRec.com) for details on these and other summer programs.

**NEW Friday Flicks in the Park @ Bleser Park**  
June 10 - *Ghostbusters Afterlife*  
July 8 - *Encanto*  
August 12 - *Sing 2*

**Party in the Park Summer Concert Series**  
June 12 - Funkology  
June 23 - Thor Platter Trio with CLE MARKET  
June 26 - Jump the Gun  
July 1 - Seeing Scarlet, Anne E. DeChant, and Dave Matthews Tribute Band  
July 10 - Red Light Roxy  
July 21 - Cleveland Pops Trio with CLE MARKET  
July 31 - Michael Christopher  
August 14 - Follow the Sun  
August 18 - Acoustic Scotty with CLE MARKET  
August 28 - Bad JuJu

**Make Music Day**  
June 21, 2:00-9:00 p.m.

**For more info and updates, visit**  
**[www.AvonLake.org/Events](http://www.AvonLake.org/Events)**

To submit community event information for the City's website calendar, email [DigitalMedia@avonlake.org](mailto:DigitalMedia@avonlake.org)

## Safety Measures for Our Roadways

After recent incidents of bicycle-automobile accidents, the Public Safety & Health Committee recognized the need to improve the safety of our streets.

The City contracted with Mannik & Smith Group, Inc., a local consulting group, to conduct a safety study of the Lake Road corridor. The City also conducted a successful bike survey to get feedback from our cycling community and residents. Both provided very valuable information that determined next steps to make our roadways safer.

In coordination with the paving of Lake Road that will occur this late summer/early fall, the following improvements will be made:

- Bike lanes will be widened by one foot to meet the new five-foot standard bike lanes.
- Driving lanes will be decreased by one foot, which will help reduce speeding on Lake Road.
- Bike lanes will be added between Miller Road and Moore Road where none currently exist. The current roadway will be a two-lane road with a turning lane. This will create a continuous bike lane from one end of the City to the other.
- New bike lanes will be added to Moore Road when it is paved this summer.
- A new street sweeper will be purchased this spring, which will greatly help keep bike lanes free of debris. This expenditure is included in the 2022 capital budget.

The Mannik & Smith Group study also offered improvement opportunities for pedestrian safety. Currently, there are two crosswalks at the Avon Belden Road intersection at Lake Road. The crosswalk to the east (located in front of Christ Lutheran Church) will be eliminated. A pedestrian island will also be added to the center of Lake Road, similar to the pedestrian island located near Cahoon Park in Bay Village.

This spring and summer, survey crews will be seen collecting data to help determine additional safety considerations for Avon Lake, including interconnectivity within our community, safety near our schools, and placement of additional crosswalks.

Thank you to our residents for providing valuable feedback! ■

## New Fish Cleaning Station at Miller Road Park

When you think of fish cleaning stations, your first thought may be that awful fish smell. That will soon change with the \$580,000 grant that Avon Lake was awarded by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Division of Wildlife for the purchase and installation of a state-of-the-art fish cleaning station at Miller Road Park, which will be free for public use.

Available this summer during boat launch hours, the Barracuda Fish Cleaning Station allows as many as eight fishermen at one time to fillet fish and grind the fish parts, which are then flushed down a sanitary sewer, eliminating the long-time problem of foul-smelling fish entrails in garbage cans.

ODNR will provide 100% of the construction costs of the fish cleaning station and renovations of the restrooms and concession facilities. The City will only be responsible for paying maintenance costs after the Miller Road Park cleaning station is built.

After review of the bids, Avon Lake's Public Service Committee selected Northstar Contracting, Inc. - Cleveland, for installation of the Barracuda Fish Cleaning Station and renovations to the restrooms and concession facilities. ■



## Letter from the Mayor

We would like to recognize and thank the dedicated citizens who serve on the various boards and commissions vital to city government. From Civil Service and Parks and Recreation, to Zoning Board of Appeals, over 75 residents serve on our boards and commissions to help the Mayor's Office and City Council effectively manage the City. We extend our deepest appreciation to all who make Avon Lake a great place to live and work.

Now that we have seen the last of Old Man Winter, please remember to consult the Building department as you plan your home improvement projects. Compliance with building and zoning codes is essential to ensuring the health and safety of the community. The Building department can be reached at 440-930-4102 or [www.AvonLake.org/Building/Building-Permit-Applications](http://www.AvonLake.org/Building/Building-Permit-Applications).

The 48th annual Memorial Day parade and ceremony will be held on Monday, May 30th. The parade will kick off at Avon Lake High School at 10:00 a.m., followed by the ceremony at 10:30 a.m. at Veterans Memorial Park. American Legion Post 211 will hold a ceremony at Lake Shore Cemetery at 9:00 a.m. to recognize those who have served our nation. During the ceremony, residents will be invited to say the name and branch of service of a deceased family member who served in the military. It is a fitting way to pay tribute to those who have sacrificed so much.

The Avon Lake Independence Day celebration will be held on Friday, July 1st at Weiss Field. Entertainment kicks off at 5:30 p.m. with two Avon Lake performances: Seeing Scarlet, named "Best Band in the Land" at the 25th Tri-C High School Rock Off, and Anne E. DeChant. The American Legion Honor Guard will raise the flag during a performance of the National Anthem and America the Beautiful. The Dave Mathews Tribute Band will take the stage at 8:00 p.m., with fireworks beginning at approximately 10:00 p.m. Join us as we celebrate the birth of our great nation.

Save the date! Big Trucks is scheduled for Saturday, September 17th at the Avon Lake Safety Center. After a two-year hiatus, we are bringing back the hands-on experience that has made the event so popular. There will be plenty to explore with fire and police vehicles along with many other pieces of large equipment for kids and adults to enjoy.

Have a safe and happy summer!

Mayor

### Route 83 Culvert

The Heider Culvert replacement near Avon Lake High School is scheduled to begin June 13th. Avon Belden Road will be closed for 60 days. Please follow marked detours. Thank you for your patience and cooperation.

### Weiss Field Walking Trails

Ed Ward and his team are proud of the initial improvements they have made to the walking trails located on the south side of Weiss Field. The Public Works crew is using the material produced by chipping branches collected throughout the City. This is an ongoing project, which is expected to be completed next year.

### Composting Opportunity for Residents

The Rust Belt Riders Neighborhood food-scrap drop-off program is now available in Avon Lake. Bins are located at the Avon Lake Building Department, 750 Avon Belden Road, and will be available 24/7/365 for collection of household food scraps. Participation requires you to sign up online. Please visit [www.AvonLake.org/City-Services](http://www.AvonLake.org/City-Services) for details.

### Coming Soon: "Adopt-A-Drain" Program

The City of Avon Lake is seeking residents to help keep storm drains clean and free of leaves, trash, and debris. Through the new "Adopt-a-Drain" program, residents can help ensure that our roads are properly draining to our creeks and lake. Please visit [www.AvonLake.org/City-Services](http://www.AvonLake.org/City-Services) for details.

### Proper Draining of Pools/Hot Tubs

Water from swimming pools and hot tubs often contain high levels of chlorine. Discharging this water into yards, streams, drainage ways, ponds, etc., is harmful to fish and other aquatic life. For safe practices, visit [www.AvonLake.org/City-Services](http://www.AvonLake.org/City-Services)

## Avon Lake Clean-Up Day

This event is part of Lorain County Beautiful Day (formerly known as Pride Day), and will be held Saturday, May 21st. Individuals and groups are encouraged to take part in this year's event. Possible projects for volunteers include "Lake Erie Starts Here" drain stenciling, lakefront clean-up, and projects that can be completed with your neighbors. Public Works will be tracking planned projects to report to Lorain County Solid Waste Management District. Please call 440-930-4126 with your project information. ■

## Native Plant Give-Away

The Environmental Affairs Advisory Board will be distributing free native plants to Avon Lake residents in conjunction with the Avon-on-the-Lake Garden Club plant sale. Native plants provide many benefits to our environment, including deep roots for clean water and filtration of pollutants, habitats for butterflies and pollinators, and prevention of soil erosion. These plants stabilize our clay soil so it doesn't erode into our water; therefore, keeping our waterways and lake clean. Mark your calendars for May 7th, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. at the Goddard School. ■

## Stay Informed

### Power Plant Updates

In the upcoming years, the Avon Lake Power Plant transformation will be of interest to many people. The City of Avon Lake, although not in control of the future property, would like to keep people informed.

Visit [www.AvonLake.org/Economic-Development](http://www.AvonLake.org/Economic-Development)

### City Email Sign-Up

Sign up to get interesting news and updates delivered to your inbox.

Visit [www.AvonLake.org/How-Do-I](http://www.AvonLake.org/How-Do-I)

# Avon Lake City Boards and Commissions

Boards and Commissions play a vital role in Avon Lake's local government by evaluating matters of special interest and, when appropriate, making recommendations to City Council. Residents are encouraged to participate in their government by attending these open meetings or applying for open positions when available. To get a better idea of what is required to serve on a City board or commission, a brief summary is listed below, along with photos to put faces with names. Please visit [www.AvonLake.org/Government](http://www.AvonLake.org/Government) for meeting details, minutes, and agendas. For general information and openings, please call Valerie Rosmarin, Clerk of Council - (440) 930-4121 or [VRosmarin@AvonLake.org](mailto:VRosmarin@AvonLake.org)

## Citizens Tree Commission



(L-R) Terry L. Robison (Chair), Michael Thain, Amanda Cortes Brynes

- Studies urban forestry, planting, and caring for trees and shrubs; selects plants for biodiversity while maintaining the Tree City USA designation. In 2022, will focus on public education.
- Comprised of three resident members appointed by the Mayor (3-year term), the City Arborist, and the Chair of the Public Service Committee of City Council.

## Civil Service Commission



(L-R) Richard Tayek, Robert Baker (Chair), John Polinko

- Administers the City Charter, Ordinances, and the Civil Service Rules regarding the classified service; oversees entrance and promotional examinations; recommends to City Council classified, unclassified, or exempt job positions in the City according to City Charter, Ordinances, and the laws of the State of Ohio. In the fall of 2022, will pursue a Classification Study.
- Comprised of three resident members appointed by the Mayor (6-year term).

## Community Relations Board



(L-R) Ryan Smarsh, Sam Hemoud

- Works with the residents, businesses, organizations, faith-based institutions, and Building Department and/or Zoning to promote and enforce fair housing and ADA objectives, initiatives, and laws.
- Comprised of the Law Director, Finance Director, HR Director, Human Resources Committee Chair, and two resident members appointed by City Council (2-year term).

## Digital Media Commission



(L-R) Nick Perry, Weldon Rice, Chip Minnich  
Not pictured: Julie Short, Dave Updegraff (Chair)

- Oversees many of the City's established and emerging digital assets, including its website, social media content, cable access TV channels, and podcasts; and advises City Council on general policy in the operation of access channels while maximizing the variety of programs and services offered to viewers.
- Comprised of three resident members appointed by the Mayor and City Council (3-year term).

## Environmental Affairs Advisory Board



(L-R) Rob Shahmir, Jen Miller, Scott Cameron (Charah Solutions Rep.), Sam Naumann (Chair)  
Not pictured: Rita George, Kayla Goodwin, Marty Patton, Terry Robison, Terry Wyrock

- Studies and advises courses of action which City Council may take to formulate and promote general and broad codes of land, air, and water pollution control for the City; investigates other environmentally-related concerns of City Council and residents; and reports its findings and makes recommendations.
- Comprised of seven resident members appointed by City Council (2-year term) and six industry members.

## Historical Preservation Commission



(L-R) Douglas Rider, Sandy Garrett, Cheryl Lister, Deb Beard (Chair), Tom Tyler

- Fosters and shares Avon Lake's rich history and oversees the execution of the Preservation Plan.
- Comprised of five resident members appointed by the Mayor and City Council (2-year term).

## Community Reinvestment Area Housing Council

- Provides funding and advisory services to the citizens and businesses of Avon Lake for the advancement and promotion of economic growth.
- Comprised of five resident members appointed by the Mayor and City Council (3-year term).



## 9PM Routine Reminder

**Remove valuables from car & LOCK IT >  
Close and lock garage door & exterior doors >  
Turn on exterior light > See something, report it**

### Boards and Commissions (cont.)

#### Parks & Recreation Commission



(L-R) Kara Erdmann, Georganne Wolnowski, Amanda Ortiz Byrnes (Tree Commission Rep.), Stacy Jantz, Lynette Brausch (Chair), Brent Schremp (School Rep.) Not pictured: Richard Mack

- Serves in an advisory capacity to City Council, Mayor, and Recreation Director on matters affecting City-owned parks.
- Comprised of five resident members appointed by the Mayor (3-year term) with at least one member appointed from each ward. One member of City Council, one member of the Board of Education, and one member of the Tree Commission serve as ex officio members.

#### Planning Commission



(L-R) Christine Raymond, Holly Ma, Sean Plunkett (Chair) Not pictured: Bob Haas, Scott Orille

- Reviews all development applications to ensure that adherence to City regulations and strong planning principles are used.
- Comprised of five resident members appointed by City Council (5-year term), a City Council Representative, and the Mayor.

#### Zoning Board of Appeals



(L-R) Susanna Merlone, James Shook, William Heine (Chair), David Updegraff, Nicole Slivinski

- Hears arguments for zoning exceptions and decides the risk and merit of all zoning issues. Its purpose is to determine requests for exceptions, variances, and appeals from orders, decisions, and regulations of City officials regarding zoning ordinances.
- Comprised of five resident members appointed by the Mayor (5-year term).

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Mayor  
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Police  
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**Follow the City  
to find out what's  
happening!**



**www.AvonLake.org**