

**NEWBURGH HEIGHTS**

# **Living**

AUTUMN 2021



Hunting for Treasure at the  
Citywide Garage Sale

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Leaf Pickup Info

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# Fall Fest preview





# From the mayor •

It's only fair. It's fair that you know the truth about both the physical and personnel condition the Newburgh Heights Fire Department was in when I became Mayor. It was an abject disaster to be polite. An absolute mess, and you as the taxpayer were getting short-changed. The entire department, including the Chief was staffed with part-time employees. There were no full-time employees to anchor it or rely on. Sure, there were some good, well-meaning employees but, the department was in dire need of a culture change.

That change began in 2012 when I negotiated the amicable departure of the former Fire Chief and recruited the consummate professional and highly respected Chief Brian Higginbotham.

That culture began to change in 2012 when this Administration spent over \$100,000 on new turnout gear to replace the unsafe hand-me-downs the firemen were wearing.

That culture began to change in 2012 when this Administration ensured there were always 2 firemen on station, something that only happened about 50% of the time when my administration first took over operations.

That culture began to change in 2012 when I leveraged my relationships around the County to secure a quality used back-up squad that the department could rely on as a frontline vehicle when needed.

That culture began to change in 2013 when this Administration purchased new self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), something that had never been done before for the department.

That culture began to change in 2013

when this Administration increased part-time firefighter payrates from \$10/hour to \$12/hour and the night watch payrate from minimum wage to \$10/hour.

That culture continued to change in 2015 and 2016 when this Administration completed the due diligence and hard work to secure the funding and construction of a modern fire station.

That culture continued to change in 2017 when this Administration increased part-time firefighter night watch payrates from \$10/hour to \$11/hour.

That culture continued to change in 2017 when this Administration purchased a refill and charging station for our SCBAs.

That culture continued to change in 2017 when this Administration increased payrates for part-time firefighters again, across the board.

That culture continued to change in 2017 when this Administration appointed Chief Higginbotham as the first full-time Fire Chief in the history of the Village.

That culture continued to change in 2018 when this Administration increased part-time firefighter night watch payrates from \$11/hour to the same as regular duty payrates.

That culture continued to change in 2018 when this Administration increased part-time firefighter payrates from \$12/hour to \$15/hour.

That culture continued to change in 2019 when this Administration increased part-time firefighter clothing allowances from \$175/year to \$325/year.

That culture continued to change in 2020 when this Administration purchased 2 new ambulances for your protection.

That culture continued to change in early 2021 when this Administration increased part-time firefighter payrates to match the payrates of part-time police officers and retroactively applying time served, increasing most of the department's payrates to over \$18/hour with a minimum rate of \$16/hour for new hires.

That culture has now fully changed with the hiring of 13 full-time Firefighters who were willing to take the covid-19 vaccination for your protection. The firefighters don't have a dual loyalty to another community. Their primary employment is Newburgh Heights.

You now have a fire department staffed 24/7 with a minimum of 3 full-time firefighters rather than 2 part-time firefighters.

Since taking office in 2012, this Administration has increased the annual expenditure on our fire department from \$475,000 to more than \$1,000,000 annually by year's end, without increasing your tax burden one dime to fund these improvements.

Because of this Administration's commitment to you and changing the culture of the department, for the first time in the history of Newburgh Heights, you have a full-time fire department and a level of protection unprecedented for this Village.

Don't let anyone tell you we are not committed to our safety forces or do not respect the work they do. Our job is to serve you and we do that by doing the very best we can to take care of the personnel we have within the confines of our available resources.

*Sincerely,  
Mayor Elkins*

## Village Council



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# Citywide Sale •



## Treasure-hunting One Street at a Time

**At Newburgh Heights' Citywide Garage Sale, and first-ever Salvage Sale, the biggest attraction is variety—of finds, of people, and of stories**

You never know who you might spot at Newburgh Heights' Citywide Garage Sale.

Maybe former Congressman Dennis Kucinich's brother will be browsing a table of power tools. Or maybe you'll meet a state champion player of Monopoly the board game, purchasing an old-fashioned iron (her favorite Monopoly token).

You certainly never know what you might spot at the annual event, especially with dozens of households participating and sales on nearly every street in Newburgh.

Village Council member Dorene Kray says "Some years we get 10 people, some years we get 50" taking part, and this year Newburgh Heights felt like going big.

The enthusiasm was evident well before the sale officially began on Friday, August 6. One seller had customers browsing while she was still setting up, an hour before the official 9 a.m. start. Other sellers were ahead of the earlybirds; "I've been up since 4:30" in the morning, confessed Diana Lenz. Another resident said that she had started setting up on Wednesday.

"It's a lot of work to get rid of junk," said Sharon Lowe, although one person's junk is another person's treasure.

The variety at this year's sale was remarkable. Wares on offer included everything from vintage furniture, handmade earrings, clothes, tools, and motor oil, to DVDs, records, and even 8-track tapes. Some sellers went still further to offer something unique, for example touting CashApp or Zelle as payment options. One sale advertised credit card payments accepted, plus free local delivery of furniture.

The Housing and Building Department added to this year's variety with its first-ever salvage sale. Department Commissioner Kristine Pagsuyoin said that as some of the Village's older housing has been demolished, in recent years, her department wanted to preserve parts of Newburgh's past.

The result was a whole new category of architectural and other objects for sale: lighting, ironwork, leaded glass, a set of porch steps, doorknobs, a TV, the sculpture of a large marlin...

Finding new homes for life's odds and ends takes work, but at day's end it's the essence of every garage, yard, or salvage sale. Observing one shopper arriving with a tape measure, Building Department employee Addie Jensen remarked "That's what we like! Someone who knows what they want."



# FALL FEST

**Newburgh's Autumn celebration returns September 25, 12-5 p.m.**

Like a lot of us, Newburgh Heights' Fall Fest Committee had big plans before the pandemic rewrote them.

Village Council member Dorene Kray says that Fall Fest has grown little by little, since the first. "We started with a pumpkin patch," says Kray. Over the years Fall Fest expanded, from snacks and indoor games to outdoor games and a hayride through Village streets.

The pandemic canceled plans for a biggest-yet Fall Fest in 2020, and for Halloween trick-or-treating. A well-received drive-through event replaced both, last year.

This year, Fall Fest ambitions are getting a second chance. The event will be outdoors at Kathy Edwards park. Offerings will include music, food from area restaurants, a maze, kids' activities, and "open house" style appearances by Newburgh fire and police, as well as Metroparks' mounted patrol. "We are intending for it to be a really big thing for the residents," says Kray.

## FEATURED AT FALL FEST 2021 IN NEWBURGH HTS:

Music by Road Legends (local band), playing 1-5 p.m. with breaks

Petting Zoo

Bounce House

Face painting

Coloring table

Kids Olympic games with prizes

Hayrides

Girl Scouts lemonade stand

Beer Tent

Food

Pumpkin Patch

Hay Maze

Fire Department engine and ambulances for kids to crawl through and explore

Police Department cruisers to crawl through

Police Department Bike Patrol will be in attendance

Metroparks Mounted Unit will be in attendance





## Colder Weather Is on Its Way

# Winterizing Your Home & Required Permits

It has been a hot summer. Luckily, the autumn weather will return with the promise of cooler weather ahead along with the need to get your house ready for the drop in temperature. Although, you may not be doing a lot of exterior work on your house when it is colder, you may experience mechanical issues or have interior projects planned for over the winter. One of the number one items that should be on your to-do list is to make sure that your heating system is working properly. Check to be sure that your filter is clean, and if you sense there is an issue, don't hesitate to call a licensed HVAC technician to evaluate your furnace. Visit the Newburgh Heights Housing and Building Department our website for helpful tips on getting your house ready for cold weather.

Permits are required for most building, electrical, plumbing, heating, and cooling, excavating, concrete, painting, demolitions, and other projects except minor repairs. Either the contractor or the homeowner may purchase the permits from the Housing and Building Department; although it is preferred that the contractor obtain the permit. However, it is the homeowner's responsibility, ultimately, to ensure that any required permits are obtained. Permits must be obtained **before** work can begin and must be posted.

It is encouraged to contact the Housing and Building Department before you hire a contractor, make a deposit or when you are not sure a permit is required for your project.

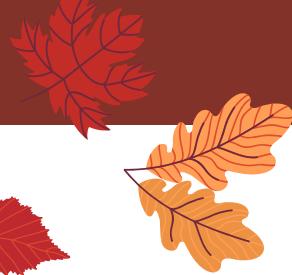
Ohio Laws allow 30 days for the Housing and Building Department to respond after a permit application is submitted. Every effort is made to try to respond to or issue permits within a few days of application; however, it may take longer during the busier

building season. It is important that you build at least 3-5 business days into your project's timeline. Submitting detailed plans with your permit application will speed up the process and increase the likelihood that your application will be approved the first time it is submitted.

### What is an Emergency Permit?

Often, we cannot easily predict when a hot water tank or furnace, for example, is going to stop working. So, what do you do when you need a permit when the Housing and Building Department is closed? No one should be without water or heat! The Residential Code of Ohio allows for emergency repairs; *102.10.1 Emergency repairs. Where equipment replacements and repairs must be performed in an emergency, an application for approval shall be submitted within the next working business day to the building official.*

Please keep in mind that the work must be completed by a certified contractor. The Housing and Building Department keeps a list of registered contractors on the Village website that are licensed and bonded. If you hire someone not currently on the list, be sure to see their license before they start the work. The contractor will still be required to get registered with the Village within the next working business day. All forms, pay links and instructions are on the website. The Housing and Building Department is open Monday-Thursday from 9am-3:30pm. If you have an emergency on a Friday, the contractor would be required to register and obtain a permit on Monday. Be sure to contact us after an emergency so that we can follow-up with an inspection.



# Leaves, Recycling & Refuse •

**Be ready for fallen fall foliage, and for other curbside pickup services year-round**

From leaves, to recyclables and household waste, to used tires and more, Newburgh Heights residents enjoy curbside collection of unneeded items. Help out our essential workers by knowing what to leave out, how, and when. For more information on leaf pickup, recycling, and refuse collection, please call the Service Department at (216) 641-2714

## Leaf Pickup

Leaves should be raked to the tree lawn when curbside pickup begins. Because of the large volume of leaves at certain times, there are no set dates or times for leaf pickup. Every effort will be made to provide a weekly pickup.

Do not rake leaves into the street. Raking leaves into the street creates a potential traffic hazard, and leaves washed into catch basins causes flooding conditions during hard rains, and heavy snowfall.

Do not mix yard waste, such as branches, vines, weeds, and grass clippings with the leaves. These items tend to clog up the vacuum tubes causing unnecessary delays in the leaf pickup process. Foreign objects, such as rakes, stones, rocks, etc., will break the vacuum fins disabling the machines.

The leaf vac. truck only picks up leaves during the fall season. Should you have any leaves in the spring season, bag or place them in your rubbish tote.

## Recycling

Kimble Companies provides Newburgh Heights residents with both rubbish and recycling totes. Residents are provided with one 95 gallon rubbish tote (dark green) and one 65 gallon (light green) recycle tote. Each Monday, Kimble provides collection for totes throughout the Village.

Newburgh Heights offers recycling of paper, cartons and boxes, glass, cans, plastic bottles and jugs. Tips for effective recycling:

- Empty and rinse bottles, cans and jugs.
- Plastic caps are recyclable, but too small to be recycled if loose. Place them back on bottles and jugs.

- Boxes and cartons should be clean and dry—greasy pizza boxes are not recyclable.
  - Leave recyclables loose, not bagged. Bags get tangled in the sorting machines at the recycling facilities. Plastic shopping bags can be recycled at many retail locations.
- Additionally, the Village offers pick-up of electronics, computers, tires, and household hazardous waste (excluding latex paint).

## Refuse Collection

Kimble utilizes an automated refuse collection.

Do not overfill the rubbish tote with rubbish sticking out over the rubbish cart. The automated truck cannot collect refuse containers blocked by parked cars or under trees with low-hanging branches. Items that do not fit in the cart should be placed next to your rubbish tote.



**CORRECT**

Please place the tote at the curb and away from other objects, such as mailboxes, trees, fire hydrants, parked cars, etc. Do not place the tote in the street. The lid must open towards the street and the lid must remain closed to discourage animals. See examples: [www.kimblecompanies.com/cart-placement](http://www.kimblecompanies.com/cart-placement)

Totes are Kimble Companies property and should not be defaced. The serial numbers on the front of the totes are registered to specific addresses and the totes must be left at the residence when moving out of the home.



## Reporting a Power Outage

Call 1-888-LIGHTSS (1-888-544-4877) or report an outage online at [firstenergycorp.com](http://firstenergycorp.com)

Stay away from all power lines. Assume they are live and dangerous.

## Junk Vehicle Awareness

The Village of Newburgh Heights has an ordinance prohibiting junk and abandoned vehicles in the village for longer than 72 consecutive hours. Owners can be cited for this offense but voluntary compliance is a preferred course of action. If you see a vehicle that may fall under this ordinance place call the Newburgh Heights Police Department at 216-641-5545.

# Newburgh Heights Resources

## Village Council Meetings

March: 1st Tuesday  
April: 1st Tuesday  
May: 1st Tuesday  
June: 1st Tuesday  
July: 3rd Tuesday  
August: NONE  
**September:** 3rd Tuesday  
**October:** 1st Tuesday  
**November:** 1st Tuesday (if an election day, may be moved to 3rd Tuesday)  
**December:** 1st Tuesday

## Village and Department Information

### Housing and Building Department

216-641-4654  
Business Hours:  
Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.  
Kristine Pagsuyoin, Housing and Building  
Commissioner

### Fiscal Officer / Clerk of Council

216-641-2717  
Cathleen Nagorski  
cnagorski@newburgh-oh.gov

### Newburgh Heights Fire Department

4105 Harvard Ave.  
216-641-2134

### Administrative Hours:

Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

## Newburgh Heights Police Department

Emergency: 9-1-1  
Dispatch: 216-641-5545  
Office: 216-641-2117

## Service Department

216-641-2714  
Business Hours:  
Mon.-Fri., 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m.  
Joe Milano, Service Director  
jmilano@newburgh-oh.gov  
newburgh-oh.gov/service-department

## Clerk of Court

Suzanne Molnar  
Officer Written Ticket Processing  
3801 Harvard Ave., 44105  
Phone: 216-536-4752, Fax: 216-641-2712  
court@newburgh-oh.gov

### Business Hours:

Mon.-Fri., 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.  
Clerk of Courts works remotely.  
Payments are accepted online at ohioticket-  
payments.com  
Or, mail personal check or money order. Or  
place payments in the drop box outside of  
Village Hall.

Payments are accepted in-person on the  
first and third Wednesdays of each month  
from 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

## Event space reservations

Pavilion and community room became  
available again this summer. Details are  
posted on newburgh-oh.gov. For questions  
contact Kayla Barfield at 216-641-2160



**Fair Housing Center  
for Rights & Research**

## Fair Housing Help for Tenants

The Fair Housing Center is now offering a  
free online fair housing training for tenants,  
which provides a comprehensive overview  
of fair housing law, including information  
on reasonable accommodations and  
modifications for persons with disabilities,  
emerging issues, and the goals of fair  
housing.

To take advantage of this opportunity,  
register at: [thehousingcenter.org/  
online-trainings](http://thehousingcenter.org/online-trainings) for the Fair Housing  
Overview for Tenants. After filling out the  
form, participants will receive more details  
about completing the course via email.

## home in the Heights! •

By Bill Dunman, Village Council  
member, Newburgh Heights

Welcome! This is a new column that I decided to add to the newsletter in order to afford an opportunity to highlight some of the exciting goings-on in the village and some of the residents that make it happen, as well as some insight to behind-the-scenes peeks for those that are interested.

Today I want to chat a little bit about Newburgh Heights Village Council. Council is composed of five at-large electors of the village and the President of Council which is the mayor. One of the five members is elected by Council to act as Pro Tempore. This is the member who will stand in for the mayor in the event that the mayor is unavailable or unable to perform his duties. Village Council is self governed through the "Rules of Council" which, along with the Ohio Revised Code, define our operating process, rules, duties and limitations.

The primary duties of council are to legislate and monitor Village funds and expenditures. But I think the most important responsibility of every Council Member is to represent residents.

Within council there are various committees. These sub groups

meet and perform duties, tasks and make recommendations to the whole of council for action or final disposition. The committees rely heavily on resident input and volunteers to achieve their goals.

More specific information is available in the "Newburgh Heights - Rules of Council" document. This is a public document, and you can request a copy from Village Hall or view online at [newburgh-oh.gov/councilrules](http://newburgh-oh.gov/councilrules).

Don't be afraid to reach out to your Council Members. We are all residents too!

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Bill Dunman: [bdunman@newburgh-oh.gov](mailto:bdunman@newburgh-oh.gov)

Have a great village day!





## Community Event Calendar Autumn 2021

### SEPTEMBER

**25 Fall Fest!** - Kathy Edwards Park, 12-5

**28 Book Locker ribbon-cutting reception**

### OCTOBER

**31 Trick-or-Treating**

### NOVEMBER

**25 Happy Thanksgiving!**

### Trick-or-Treating!

From 6 to 9 p.m., Oct. 31, Newburgh Heights will turn things over to the kids for trick-or-treating. Some streets will close:

- We close E 42nd from just north of Short Alpha to just south of Bridgeview.
- Additionally, E 41st will be closed at Short Alpha & Bridgeview as well.
- Gamma, Beta, and long Alpha will be closed at Washington Park Blvd.

Newburgh Heights Police will have a cruiser display and bikes to show off, as well as bike patrol in the event & surrounding streets. The Fire Department will be onsite as usual with the engine and a squad.

The Service Dept. will set up some of their equipment as a display onsite.

