



**City of Loveland**

**Straight From The Heart**

# NEWSLETTER

Spring/Summer 2024 – Vol 5



## MORE WATER REPAIRS

Also this summer, the city will replace water main along Loveland-Miamiville Road. This work will coincide with the sidewalk installation from Sugar Tree Lane to Saddleback Drive.

This project is funded by the Water Main Replacement (WMR) Fee, which was added to all City of Loveland water accounts starting in 2023. The fee is specifically earmarked for water main replacement projects.

## Water Repairs Coming to Heights

In August, the city plans to begin a \$2.1 million water main replacement project in the Loveland Heights neighborhood. The area has an aging, undersized cast iron water main that is degrading, causing frequent breaks.

A public water main will be added along West Main Street between Cherokee Drive and Highland Street, where only a private main exists. Adding a public main will complete a looped system for what is now a dead end main along Englage Avenue / Florence Avenue / Highland Street serving several homes, apartment complexes, and a future multi-family development. A looped main provides a second water source during main breaks, reducing the number of residents experiencing water outages.

Additionally, the project involves replacing valves, modifying the storm sewer to improve drainage, and installing more fire hydrants.

Funding has been in the works for many months, noted City Manager David Kennedy. The city has been awarded \$1.72 million in federal and state grant funding, including a \$745 thousand grant secured by Congressman Greg Landsman. The remaining balance of the project will be paid from the Water Main Replacement (WMR) Fee fund, making this the city's first large-scale water main replacement project that will not require the city to incur debt.

"Kudos to city staff for securing more than 80% grant funding toward this much-needed but very expensive project. The ability for the city to pay the remainder through the WMR Fee, requiring no new debt, advances our fiscally responsible goal of reducing debt in our water program to zero," said Loveland Mayor Kathy Bailey.

## CITY COUNCIL



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## BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

### Rosé Boutique & Wine Bar

110 S 2nd St., Ste. B (Loveland)

Owners Colleen and Bob Coppola have created a unique sip-and-shop experience that can accommodate small groups — from a book club to a bridal shower.

Taste 16 different wines from the self-pour machine while browsing clothing and gift items, or take a seat at the bar to try a wine flight.

"Loveland has welcomed us with open arms. We love the small-town feel of Loveland and are so excited to begin this journey," Colleen said.



Rosé Boutique & Wine Bar in Loveland Station

### From the Mayor: Businesses Blooming This Spring

With any new business, it is more than just opening the doors. It's a dream coming true, new job opportunities, and supporting the local tax base.

Local businesses help create the heartbeat of Loveland. Please make it your priority to visit and support our new business neighbors who chose to set up shop in the city. Help me welcome:

The **National Alliance on Mental Illness of Southwest Ohio (NAMI SWOH)** at 420 W Loveland Ave., Ste. 101, is an advocacy organization supporting Clermont, Clinton, Hamilton, and Warren Counties.

**Bike Trail Books** located above Hometown Café at 111 Railroad Ave. The shop offers print books and audio books, as well as events like children's story time.

**Body Alive Lagree** offers yoga, Pilates, and barre classes and is located at 10565 Loveland-Maderia Road, near Starbucks.

**Rosé Boutique & Wine Bar**, located downtown next to Graeter's, allows customers to sip their favorite beverage while shopping.

**Playa Bowls** at 124 W. Loveland Ave., the former home of Loveland Sweet Shoppe, serves fruit bowls and smoothies.

**Cincy Shirts** returned to their former location in Historic Downtown, 295 W. Loveland Ave.

The **Habitat for Humanity ReStore** at 10681 Loveland-Maderia Road sells household items and building materials.

**DVD Brew**, a new microbrewery and taproom, can be found at 1555 Loveland-Maderia Road, the former site of Johnny's Carwash.

**Ulmer's Auto Care Center** moved into the former Ken Marcotte's Auto Service and Sales location at 301 Loveland-Maderia Road.

And coming soon — **Simply Zero** along West Loveland Avenue, selling package-free, sustainable, and eco-friendly products.



— Mayor Kathy Bailey

## Bike Trail Pedestrian Bridge Reopening in May

The O'Bannon Creek Bridge, the Little Miami Scenic Trail's pedestrian bridge near Nisbet Park, will reopen approximately May 15, 2024.

The former bridge closed in October 2023. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) stated the bridge had reached the end of its lifespan, noting it was one of the original bridges from the 1800s when the trail was a rail line for the Little Miami Railroad.

The new, pre-fabricated pedestrian bridge is constructed of steel with viewing platforms. It is more environmentally friendly, as it has no support structure in the river below.

ODNR will host a ribbon cutting ceremony this spring at the site. The event will be open to the public.



## Showcasing Local Art

Have you seen the art showcased at City Hall? The city's Arts Commission organized a gallery that will be rotated seasonally. The first display featured a collection of photography from the Loveland High School Art Department, specifically Photography I students and the Varsity Photo Squad instructed by teacher Jim Barrett.

# A New Parking Lot

Parking upgrades are coming to Historic Downtown Loveland. We've gathered popular questions received about the project...

## Where is the lot located?

The lot is located off First Street behind City Hall and The Works Brick Oven Restaurant.

## When did construction begin?

Construction began in February 2024.

## When will the lot be open?

The lot is anticipated to be open in late May 2024. Lighting is anticipated to be complete by July.

## Will there be a fee to park?

No, the lot will offer free parking.

## How many spots will the lot have?

The lot features 147 spaces.

## Will there be handicapped spaces?

The number of handicap parking spaces will be expanded, and they will be located closer to the businesses and City Hall.

## What is the build cost?

The total project cost is \$1,266,756. The city secured \$1,132,000 in state and federal grant funding, reducing the total city contribution to \$134,756.

## How is the city paying the \$134,756 balance?

The city's contribution will be paid through the general fund.

## Wasn't this supposed to be a parking garage?

Originally, the plan was to build a 270-space parking garage, which was estimated to cost more than \$7 million due to inflating construction costs. City Council decided a parking lot would be a more economical alternative, fulfilling goals to keep debt funding at a minimum.

## Will there be access from State Route 48?

Yes, there will be two access points for the lot. Vehicles can enter the lot from State Route 48 or from Harrison Avenue.

## Does the lot have a name?

In 2023, the city held a contest for name ideas. More than 100 unique names were suggested. The winning name will be announced this summer!

## How will the lot keep pedestrians safe?

More than 260 linear feet of sidewalks will be added along the new lot to connect State Route 48 to Harrison Avenue. Additionally, sidewalks will be added along Railroad Avenue to connect to Harrison Avenue.

## Will there be landscaping?

There will be landscaping along the lot's eastern and western borders.

## I heard there may be artifacts at the site. Did the city check this?

The city took steps to prepare the site for construction. An archaeological survey was conducted and determined the site is free of cultural artifacts. A wetland delineation study ensured there are no wetlands, streams, or water features on the site. The site also was approved for construction by the US Army Corps of Engineers and US Fish and Wildlife Service.

## What about the other parking lots in this area?

Adjacent to the lot, the existing lots surrounding City Hall will be reconfigured. Traffic flow will be improved, and spots will be repainted to create more parking.

## Will the City Hall Lot still charge?

City staff anticipates the \$1-per-hour charge will remain for a portion of the spots near City Hall. This is to help with spot turnover and discourage long-term parking in this lot.



## IN OUR PARKS

# HIKE LOVELAND

Loveland is a popular recreation destination for cycling and canoeing, but there are many hiking adventures, too. Explore the city's trails.

Dyson Trail

### Dyson Trail

Phillips Park - 11667 Rich Road

Opened this year, the Dyson Trail is a one-mile loop running alongside Fallis Road in Phillips Park.

### East Loveland Nature Preserve

227 E. Loveland Ave.

The preserve offers four small trails, which make for about one mile of hiking. There is a bird blind and a footbridge to access O'Bannon Creek. Visitors often spot deer, hawks, woodpeckers, and owls. Download a map at [LovelandOH.gov/434/East-Loveland-Nature-Preserve](http://LovelandOH.gov/434/East-Loveland-Nature-Preserve).

### Little Miami Scenic Trail/Buckeye Trail

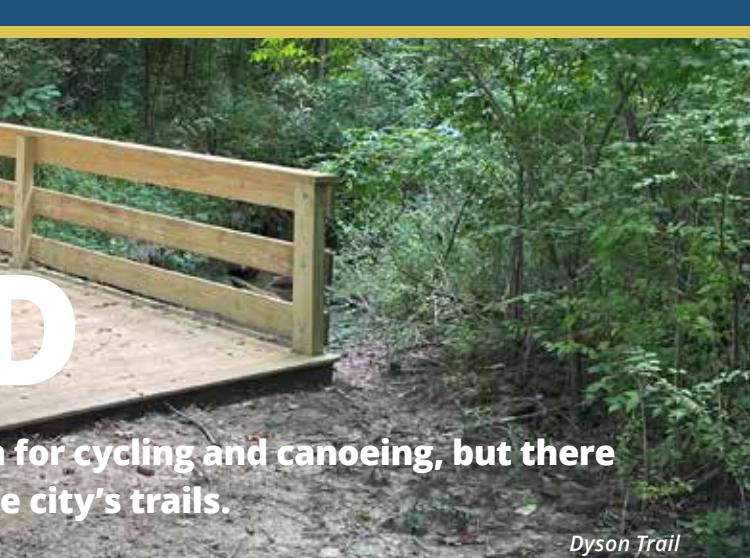
Historic Downtown

Visitors come from near and far to start at the Loveland trailhead of the Little Miami Scenic Trail. In total, the trail is more than 78 miles long! Part of the trail overlaps with the Buckeye Trail, which is a 1,444-mile path looping around Ohio. Loveland is officially recognized as a Buckeye Trail Town.

### Simpson Ridge Trail

Access from Phillips Park - 11667 Rich Road or entrance of Kiwanis Park - 240 Wall St.

The Simpson Nature Preserve is a remnant of largely untouched Old Growth Forest. Steep inclines and declines may make the trail challenging. Access from the rear of Phillips Park near the basketball court. The top loop is approximately 0.5 mile, leading downhill to the entrance of Kiwanis Park.



Buckeye Trail primitive campsite

### Hike & Camp!

Some trails offer free, primitive campsites. Make a reservation at [LovelandOH.gov/requesttracker.aspx](http://LovelandOH.gov/requesttracker.aspx).

**Buckeye Trail** - Two campsites are located along the Little Miami River about .25 miles past Nisbet Park in both directions.

**Simpson Nature Preserve** - Two campsites are located on the Kiwanis Park side of the preserve.

**West Loveland Nature Preserve** - The trail that crosses the creek leads to a picnic area and two campsites.

## Honoring Heroes

In November, the city's Hometown Hero Military Banner Program debuted. Proudly displayed are 33 banners on utility poles along Paxton Avenue/Oakland Avenue/State Route 48 and Loveland-Miamiville Road. In the future, the city's Veterans Committee plans to expand the program to honor more local heroes. The committee is compiling a waitlist of interested individuals. Join the list at [LovelandOH.gov/FormCenter](http://LovelandOH.gov/FormCenter).

## Welcoming New Hires

Welcome to Christopher Wojnicz, Assistant City Manager, and Kelsey Richards, City Engineer. Both joined Loveland in April. Previously, Wojnicz worked for the Warren County Water and Sewer Department, and Richards worked for the Montgomery County Engineer's Office.

## LPD NEWS



## Celebrating 75 Years of Service

2023 marked the Loveland's Police Department's 75th anniversary. To honor this milestone, residents will see LPD wearing special badges as a tribute to its tradition of service and devotion to the Loveland community.

Did you know LPD began as the Loveland Horse Thief Patrol in the late 1800s? As horses lost societal importance, these "vigilante" groups often morphed into enforcing laws and citizen conduct. In 1876, a town marshal was elected to serve as a "peacekeeper." This solo position's duties included serving warrants, transporting prisoners, cleaning streets, and lighting lamps. The peacekeeper was also the animal control officer and village engineer.

It was not until 1948 when Village Council created the Loveland Police Division and named John Fritz as chief. In 1958, the village authorized the hiring of a patrolman to support Chief Fritz. The next 65 years saw the village grow to earn its city status.



Now, LPD serves its community with an authorized strength of 24 full-time police officers including the police chief, assistant chief, five lieutenants, and 17 patrol officers. Many team members have multiple roles including three evidence technicians, two Taser instructors, six firearms instructors, a K9 patrol, four school resource officers, six bike patrol officers, one detective, and two defensive tactics instructors. Our administrative team is led by our systems manager and includes an operations assistant, records specialist, and property room specialist. In addition, LPD operates a Mayor's Court and is further supported by volunteers including two police chaplains.

For another 75 years and beyond, LPD pledges to uphold its mission to provide *Excellent Customer-Oriented Service with Integrity while Continuously Improving*.



# Stay Informed

## How do you keep up with city news?

This newsletter is published twice per year; in the meantime, the city has other ways to help residents stay informed. Please note all communication tools are free, but some require users to opt in. Notification preferences can be updated at any time.

## Newsflashes

You can be alerted when the city releases a news story, known on our website as a "newsflash." There are different topics you can subscribe to including

- City News (City operations, budgets, City Council, legislation)
- City Services (Leaf & brush collection, aggregation, trash service)
- Events
- and Public Safety.

If you subscribe to a topic and an alert is posted, you would receive an email and/or text message.

## Emergency Alerts

There are different alert categories you can subscribe to including

- Water Advisories (Main breaks, boil advisories)
- Construction Projects
- and Loveland Police Department (Crime alerts, missing persons).

If you subscribe to a category and an alert is posted, you would receive an email and/or text message.



## e-Newsletter

You can subscribe to Straight From the Heart, which is emailed twice per month to your inbox. On the first of the month, an event-focused message is sent. Mid-month, subscribers are sent a summary of recent city news.

SUBSCRIBE

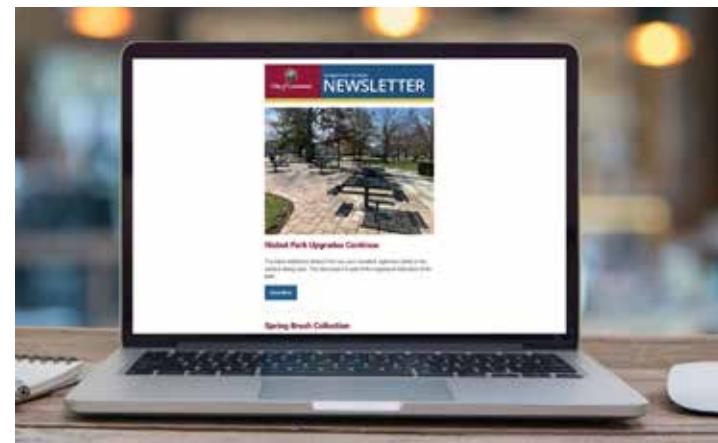


## LovelandOH.gov

Our website is updated frequently and has pages for all departments, utilities, construction projects, events, parks, etc. Visit [LovelandOH.gov](http://LovelandOH.gov) often to stay in the know!

## Alert Hamilton County

The Loveland-Symmes Fire Department has partnered with Alert Hamilton County (Alert HC), a mass notification system. Alerts can be provided via text message, email, or phone. City residents in Hamilton County and Clermont County can opt in to Alert HC to choose from 42 different alert notifications including National Weather Service Watches and Warnings. Sign up for free at [AlertHC.org](http://AlertHC.org).



## SIGN UP

Notifications for Newsflashes and Emergency Alerts require you to create a profile on [LovelandOH.gov](http://LovelandOH.gov) with your email address and/or phone number.



[LovelandOH.gov/list.aspx](http://LovelandOH.gov/list.aspx)

## Meetings

Curious about City Council meetings? Attend meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday each month at 7 p.m. at City Hall. To watch recordings or live streams, you can visit the city's YouTube Channel or [LovelandOH.gov](http://LovelandOH.gov).





## LSFD Offers Senior & Pediatric Programs

LSFD offers Senior and Pediatric Programs to Loveland residents. These program allows paramedics and EMTs the opportunity to review crucial information such as medical history, medications, allergies, hospital preference, primary care physician, closest family members, etc. This vital information will assist staff when treating a patient during an emergency.

Furthermore, during periods of inclement weather, LSFD will initiate phone calls to program members. During these calls, members can tell LSFD if groceries or prescriptions are needed to facilitate daily living. Also, members will be contacted every other month to update their information.

Once a citizen applies for the program, a home visit will be scheduled to gather medical history, a medication list, and perform a home safety evaluation. LSFD will give recommendations for accessing the home during



an emergency. Furthermore, if a resident has a lock box or door code, that information can be shared to assist firefighters with gaining emergency access.

*Enroll at [LSFD.org](http://LSFD.org) or call (513) 583-3001*

## AROUND TOWN



## LHS Students Jobshadow Local Government

The City of Loveland has joined Loveland High School's Tiger Pathways Experiential Learning Program, a hands-on career learning experience that pairs student interns with employers in the Loveland area for a semester.

"The Loveland City School District is very appreciative of the opportunities that have been created for high school students to learn about city government in Loveland. These meaningful internship experiences open doors for real-world insights and allow students the chance to give back to our community, while growing in their vocational pursuits," said Drews Mitchell, LHS Career and College Counselor.

Senior Will Kimnach was the city's first intern through the program. He worked in the Building and Zoning Department, learning everything from permit processing to digitizing records. He also helped with the city's parking lot naming contest and event promotion. Kimnach plans to study political science at Xavier University.



In January, senior Emily Velasco began her internship. She also worked on permit processing, document digitalization, and behind-the-scenes event prep. With an interest in graphic design, Velasco helped design artwork for events and the city's social media. She is enrolled at the University of Cincinnati and will pursue full-time coursework in the fall.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### KidFest

Oct. 5 - 2-4 pm - E. Loveland Nature Preserve

Save the date for the Loveland-Symmes Community Firefighters' Association's annual KidFest! There will be games, giveaways, and fun for kids of all ages.

### Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day

June 8 - 8-10 am - Loveland High School

Hosted by the Loveland Sustainability Council, this is your chance to dispose of aerosol cans, cleaners and other hazardous items for free. Must show proof of residency.



### Concert in the Park Series

Sundays - 6-8 pm - Nisbet Park Amphitheater

Enjoy a concert and have dinner in the park; pack a picnic or order takeout from a local business.

June 9 - Blacktop Rodeo (Country)

June 23 - The Lady Joya Band (Blues, R&B & Soul)

July 14 - The Belairs Show Band (1950s & 1960s)

Aug. 4 - Cincinnati Jump & Jive Band (Jazz)

Aug. 18 - Retrovention (A Tribute to The Doors)



### Independence Day

July 4 - 4-11 pm - Historic Downtown

Wear your red, white and blue to enjoy the city's parade, concert, and fireworks. New this year: old-fashioned, family fun activities such as a pie eating contest!

### Trailside Tunes Series

Saturdays - 1-3 pm - Nisbet Park Gazebo

Catch an acoustic performance.

June 15 - Chris Lee Acoustics (Blues & Rock)

July 13 - Anita and The Daves (Folk, Indie, Pop & Top 40)

Aug. 17 - Nylon & Steel Acoustic (Country & Top 40)



### Memorial Day Program

May 27 - 9 am - Veterans Memorial

This annual tradition begins with a community parade from Loveland Elementary School to Veterans Memorial, where a ceremony will be held with a guest speaker.

### Movie in the Park

Sept. 28 - 7:30-10:30 pm - Phillips Park

Don't miss a double feature under the stars! *The Jungle Book* will begin at 7:30 pm, and *The Princess Bride* will begin at 9 pm.



**LOVIN  LIFE**

[LovingLifeLoveland.com](http://LovingLifeLoveland.com)

**Discover  
More Events!**



Scan Now



### Tree Lighting Festival

Dec. 7 - 4-8 pm - Historic Downtown

Feel the holiday spirit as the city's tree comes aglow!



# City of Loveland

120 West Loveland Avenue  
Loveland, OH 45140  
(513) 683-0150  
[LovelandOH.gov](http://LovelandOH.gov)  
[LovinLifeLoveland.com](http://LovinLifeLoveland.com)



**Building & Zoning**  
(513) 707-1447

**City Manager's Office**  
(513) 707-1437

**Local Income Taxes**  
(513) 707-1452

**Fire/EMS/Police (Non-Emergency)**  
(513) 677-7000

**Public Works**  
(513) 683-0150

**Utilities Billing**  
(513) 707-1451

## Want Monthly News?

Receive city news straight to your inbox! Scan or visit [LovelandOH.gov](http://LovelandOH.gov) to sign up for the City of Loveland's monthly e-newsletter.



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**NOW ENROLLING**

**LOVELAND**  
An Interactive Adult Learning Program

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## COMMUNITY REMINDERS

### Parade Registration

Community groups are invited to participate in the city's Memorial Day and Independence Day parades. Apply at [LovelandOH.gov/FormCenter/Event-Participation-12](http://LovelandOH.gov/FormCenter/Event-Participation-12).

### Upcoming Curbside Services

Oct. 7: Fall Brush Collection begins

Oct. 14: Fall Leaf Collection begins

Jan. 2 - 15, 2025: Christmas Tree Collection

### Project Season

As you begin outdoor home projects this season, always do your research. Beware of contractors that say they "pulled a permit" as they try to make a sale. If you're unsure if your home project needs a permit or if you need to verify if a hired contractor filed a permit, please call City Hall at (513) 707-1447.

### Loveland U Citizens' Leadership Academy

Go behind the scenes of city operations in this unique 10-week adult learning program. Now enrolling for 2024! Learn more and apply at [LovelandOH.gov/365/Loveland-U](http://LovelandOH.gov/365/Loveland-U).