

Quarterly
Newsletter
Fall 2019

The City of Niles



CITY OF NILES

34 West State Street,
Niles, Ohio 44446
330.544.9000
www.thecityofniles.com

Departments by extension:

Administration.....	1100
Auditor.....	1120
Billing.....	1150
Treasurer.....	1130
Light.....	1160
Engineering.....	1170
Zoning.....	1180
Street.....	1190
Water/Sewer.....	3101
Park/Cemetery.....	1140
Wellness Center.....	1300
Law Dept.....	1501
Senior Center.....	2555

NILES CITY COUNCIL

President of Council:
Robert Marino, Jr.

Council At Large:
Michael Lastic
Barry Profato
Ryan McNaughton

1st Ward: PJ Kearney
2nd Ward: Sheri Smith
3rd Ward: Linda Marchese
4th Ward: Al Cantola

Clerk of Council:
Nicole Bacak

Message from Mayor Mientkiewicz



I hope everyone enjoyed the beautiful Northeast Ohio summer and recognized one of the many improvements made throughout the city. Changes in the season always bring out joy and excitement within The City of Niles, as our citizens and businesses embrace the upcoming holiday season. Please take some time to relax and enjoy your friends, family and our great community. Throughout the Autumn months, the Niles-Greenway bike trail provides beautiful scenic views. Whether biking alone or with your family, take the time to enjoy the bike trail and all that it has to offer. You won't be disappointed! You will see all new "No Truck" signs along the intersections on Robbins Ave. This is an effort to alleviate truck traffic complaints on residential streets. If you notice a heavy flow of truck traffic in the third ward neighborhoods, please feel free to notify the police department. Finally, I would like to recognize all of our Niles men and women who have served on Veteran's Day, Thank You!

As always, feel free to stop in the Mayor's Office to say hello...

~ Mayor Mientkiewicz

The City of Niles will hold Trick-or-Treat on Thursday, October 31 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. The annual community parade will take place on Sunday, October 27 at 1:00 p.m.



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CITY ORDINANCE:

Off-street parking limited to hard surfaces: All motor vehicles, campers, boats, trailers, semitrailer, truck, vehicle and construction equipment shall be parked in an area consisting of asphalt, concrete or other impervious surface approved by the Building Inspector.

Niles City Ord. 351.18

Important Reminders:

- Election Day is Tuesday, November 5th. All second ward residents will now vote at the school administration building. All third ward residents will now vote at the First United Methodist Church.
- Friendly reminder that all tobacco and vaping products are prohibited in the City's public parks.



Online bill pay is available to all Niles utility customers. To create an account, make a payment, or view your monthly utility statements, please visit the City's website.

Flooding Tips

As the fall weather approaches, The City of Niles will make routine stops in your neighborhood to preform preventative maintenance on the city storm water and sanitary systems to alleviate flooding. This includes cleaning out catch basins and jetting out sewer lines. The most common cause of flooding is blockage in the storm sewer lateral lines from the house to the street, which is the resident's responsibility. Make sure your lateral is checked every three years by a contractor registered with the Niles Building Department. Always keep gutters and downspouts clean and free flowing. Make sure landscaping beds are sloped away from your house. This will help avoid ponding near the foundation of your house. Keep all exterior drain covers clear of leaves and other debris. Clean out driveway drains at least once a year. Do not pile leaves, branches, or other yard waste in the swale ditches around your property or along the edge of the roadway. Finally, do not blow leaves into the street or into storm sewers or catch basins.

Updates from the Safety Departments

Niles Police- Chief Jaison Holland

The Niles Police Department has received delivery of four 2020 Ford Police Interceptor Utility's. They have been fitted with emergency equipment and are patrolling the streets.

As of October 1st, department has logged 10,746 calls for service.

The new two-officer Street Crimes Unit is up and running. You can email any drug/criminal activity tip directly to Streetcrimes@thecityofniles.com.

Niles Fire- Chief Dave Danielson

The Niles Fire Department was awarded the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) in the amount of \$95,238.09. As a condition of this grant, the city is required to contribute matching funds equal to or greater than 5.00 percent of the Federal funds awarded, or \$ 4,761.91 for a total approved budget of \$ 100,000.00. These funds will be earmarked for an exhaust system in the garage bay.

Did you Know???

Leaf and branch pick-up are included as a part of your trash service through Republic Services. During the autumn season, we are all hard at work to make our yards are looking great. Make sure to bag your leaves and place them at the curb on trash day. Try to limit your bags of leaves to ten per household, to avoid a special pick-up.

TIP: purchase paper biodegradable bags from your local hardware store.

Cut branches no longer than four feet and bundle them with the cut ends toward the street. Piles of branches should not be higher than four feet.

For more information on yard waste & debris removal please visit www.republicservices.com.

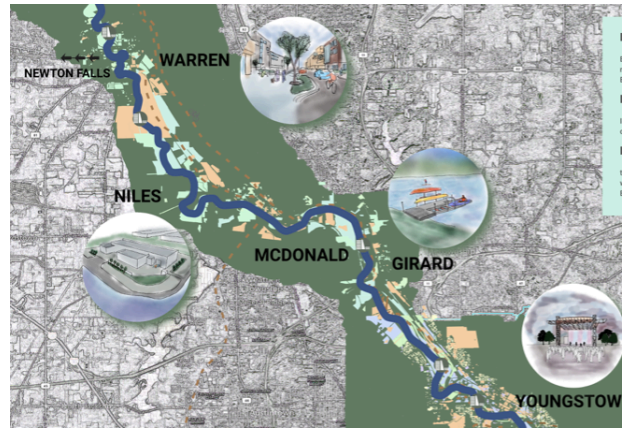
Are you signed up for NIXLE???

Niles residents can register to receive text alerts for severe weather, community events, and emergencies including power outages, water break/boil alerts, traffic delays, and AMBER alerts. To sign up, visit the homepage of the city website.

Mahoning River Corridor

The Mahoning River Corridor Initiative was created to promote economic development, recreation and conservation on the sites along the banks of the Mahoning River. Once the heart and soul of the Mahoning Valley, the

Mahoning River Corridor is now challenged by abandoned industry and underdeveloped infrastructure. The river was dammed up in numerous places to provide cooling water for the big steel industries that settled along the Mahoning River. From the 1960s to the early 1980s the big steel industry began to close its doors to the Valley, leaving behind memories for its hard workers and a legacy of pollution for the river that sustained them. Led by the corridor Mayor's, State officials, Eastgate, and the Port Authority, the goal of this initiative is to restore the Mahoning river as an asset, not a liability, to our region by offering quality water and recreation along the river. From Newton Falls, to Niles to Lowellville, the Mayor's are working collaboratively to remove the remaining low-head dams and restore the river to its natural, free flowing state. The first dam is currently being removed in Lowellville. This initiative is leveraged through state and federal funding, in hopes to attract a higher population not only on the river, but in many of the downtown areas along the Mahoning River, including Niles!



Park News

Notice to Residents:

Those homeowners with portable basketball hoops are asked to keep them off of the street, sidewalk and not block the public's right-of-way. Portable hoops are legal on your own property, but not on the street. Most importantly, there may be a safety concern with kids playing basketball in the street. Thank you for helping keep Niles great!

The second annual "Light Up the Night" event will be held on Saturday, November 16th. The event will be held at the wellness center in Waddell Park. This is a FREE family event featuring hayrides throughout the park, bon fires, food trucks, crafts, bounce houses, holiday singers, dancers, twirlers and more. Santa will be there to take pictures with the kids.

Online registration is available for the second and third indoor soccer sessions. Visit the wellness center website or Facebook page to register.

THANK YOU: We would like to thank the many people, community members, businesses, sponsors and vendors who helped make possible park experiences such as farmers markets, movie nights, touch-a-truck, Harry Stevens Day and athletic leagues. We would also like to recognize the local schools for using our parks for their athletic events throughout the year.



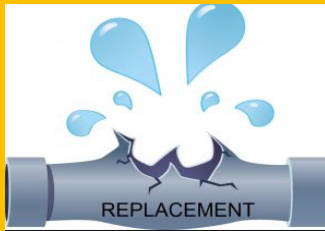
The City of Niles

>Vision

>Planning

>Success

The Difford Drive waterline replacement project will commence in October and will be completed by years end.



The North Road waterline replacement project will commence in the early part of 2020.

Updates from the Service Departments

The Niles Street Department has been preparing snow and ice removal vehicles for the winter season. The street department has stocked up on nearly 1,000 tons of road salt throughout the summer and fall months. Through a purchasing consortium with Trumbull County, the city was able to purchase road salt at a price of \$68.00 per ton. This cost-saving measure allows us to purchase more, for less in an effort to keep our streets safe during winter.

The Niles water department continues to replace inoperable hydrants throughout the city. This is another progressive step that the city is taking to upgrade its' aged infrastructure. Please be patient as water service can be temporarily affected.

The Niles Light Department was recently recognized by AMP Ohio for job safety awareness. The department stays informed of the latest safety/OSHA regulations and policy changes. Employees are well versed on the newest and most effective equipment and tools, including grounding items, flame resistant (FR) gear, shot gun sticks, elbow pullers and lineman fall harnesses/climbing gear.



Update from the Court

The Niles Municipal Court continues to upgrade court technology. The court has installed court and probation kiosks together with a court monitor displaying the daily docket. This improvement, paid from court probation funds, has increased the efficiency of the court's experience with its customers.

Auditor:

Giovanni Merlo

Treasurer:

Stephen Telego



Visit the Ohio Online Checkbook to see all city expenditures.

Quarterly Financial Report

The City of Niles was recently awarded a clean financial audit from the Ohio Auditor of State for the 2018 fiscal year. Residents can view the full audit by visiting www.ohioauditor.gov/audits.

City finances continue to rebound strongly. At the beginning of the month, the General Fund balance was \$8,865,127.18. Through September, the city was at 74.37% of the total yearly budget with three months remaining in the fiscal year.

Total income tax net collected by R.I.T.A. as of Oct. 1, 2019 is \$8,109,195.47, including \$47,473.87 of penalties & interest collected during the Administrative Subpoena process that was recently conducted in our City. The City of Niles is ahead of 2018 tax collections by \$108,374.03, up to this point in the year. At this time last year, October finished out at a net of \$8,000,821.44. We are expecting the 2019 year-end collections to finish out higher!

The City has earned \$356,834.74 to date on its 2019 Interest Investments. This figure is \$209,952.31 more than last year for the same time period, where the City earned only \$146,882.43. We are on course to earn \$469,000.00, plus, for 2019, unless there is a dramatic shift in interest rates over the next three months.

NILES

BUSINESS

SPOTLIGHT

The Ski

Chalet

and

Treasure

Cove

Scuba

1041 Youngstown-
Warren Rd.
Niles, OH 44446
330-652-7913

*Hours~ Mon-Fri: 10-8
Sat: 10-5*



THE SKI CHALET TREASURE COVE SCUBA

THE SKI
CHALET and
TREASURE
COVE SCUBA

is a longtime
Niles business

that specializes in outdoor recreational equipment and merchandise. Store owners Gary, Tom and Sheryl Hoff have nearly forty years of experience in sales, service and expertise in the industry. Since opening, the family store has grown into one of the leading specialty businesses in not only Niles, but the tri-county area.

Located on the strip in Niles, The Ski Chalet is a one-stop-shop for all of your winter recreation needs. The store offers a full selection of alpine/cross country ski and snowboard equipment and apparel from all of the top brands. For divers and snorkeler's, the store is fully stocked with scuba tanks, dive watches, wet suits, fins, masks, buoyancy compensators, regulators, accessories and much more. To be competitive in today's retail market, the store also offers on-line sales through their website.

Whether you're an adult or child, novice or expert The Ski Chalet has a trained, friendly staff who can deck you out in all the right gear and have you on the slopes or in the water in no time. For those who want to dress the part, the store offers a large selection of unique apparel for men, women and children.

The Ski Chalet offers in-store service for skis and boards. Let one of the professional staff members tune your equipment with a hot wax and sharpen so that you are safe on the slopes. The Ski Chalet also offers ski and snowboard rental, a variety of dive classes, and both ski and scuba trips.

Owner Gary Hoff says that he is happy to continue to do business in the Niles community and appreciates everything that his loyal customers have done over the years to keep his store competitive with larger retail sporting goods stores.

For more information about The Ski Chalet and Treasure Cove Scuba, please visit their website at www.skiandscuba.com or check them out on Facebook and Instagram.

Also, visit The Shop Streetwear & Skate located directly next to the Ski Chalet to check out the area's latest trends in urban streetwear, shoes, and skate gear.

Niles Civil Service will hold a police entry-level exam on November 20th at 6:00pm. The exam will be given at the Niles Middle School. For additional information or applications, please visit the Mayor's office.

Need Help Fixing Up Your Home?

The City of Niles was recently awarded \$350,000.00 to improve housing within our neighborhoods. The Community Housing Impact and Preservation (CHIP) grant is income based. Generally, projects are awarded to four-or-more person families with a combined income of \$52,000.00. Funds can be used for home improvements, such as furnaces, windows, siding, roofs, and more. For questions about eligibility or the application process, you can contact Neighborhood Development Services, Liz Atkinson 330-297-6400 ext. 248, latkinson@ndsohio.org or the Niles Housing Department 330-544-9000 ext. 1180.