Quarterly Newsletter *Spring 2022*



<u>CITY OF NILES</u>

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

Departments by ext	ension:
Administration	1100
Auditor	1120
Billing	
Treasurer	
Light	
Development	
Planning/Permitting	1180
Street	
Water/Sewer	3101
Park/Cemetery	1140
Wellness Center	
Law Dept	
Senior Center	
Human Resources	

NILES CITY COUNCIL

President of Council: Robert Marino, Jr.

Council At Large: Michael Lastic Jim DePasquale Jimmy Jullian

1st Ward: Doug Sollitto 2nd Ward: Sheri Smith 3rd Ward: Linda Marchese 4th Ward: Mindy DeVorich

> Clerk of Council: Nicole Bacak



<u>Message from Mayor</u> <u>Mientkiewicz</u>

Niles Residents,

Moving into the Spring season allows us to spend more time outdoors with friends and family. Enjoy the Niles-Greenway bike trail! Phase four of the Greenway bike trail will connect Warren to Niles and is scheduled to begin this year. We are addressing resident concerns, regarding restrooms in our parks. A new double comfort station restroom will be installed in Waddell Park and a single comfort station restroom in Kennedy Park. We are excited to move forward with the

pool demolition and splashpad project in Waddell Park. Design consulting will take place this year for the splashpad. We kept a promise to the residents that we would maintain at least a half million-dollar annual street resurfacing program, funded by license plate fees. This year's program will far exceed that amount with a combination of both local and grant dollars. Featured again this year are the Hometown Heroes banners in the downtown area, honoring our local Veterans. Banners will proudly be displayed starting the week prior to Memorial Day. Should you have any questions or concerns please feel free to give me a call.

~ Mayor Mientkiewicz

SAVE THE DATE:

The City of Niles will host the City-Wide Garage and Yard Sale on May 27, 28, and 29. There is no cost for registration and all permit fees have been waived.

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City Ordinance: No person or other person shall occupy, or let, or permit to be occupied, or let by another for occupancy any structure that has been declared to be a public nuisance without first applying for and obtaining the written consent of the Director of Public Service and Safety. NCO- 1402.17

Important Reminders:

- Online bill-pay is available through the city website (fee associated). You can pay online through your personal online banking to avoid a fee.

- Signing up for utility service? Applications for new service or to transfer service can be found on the "Billing" page of the city website. Please be sure the application is completed, signed, and returned with the specified documents.

City Income Tax

- During income tax season, please contact RITA Ohio for any income tax concerns: <u>www.ritaohio.com</u> or 1-800-860-7482

- City of Niles municipal income tax deadline is Monday, April 18, 2022.

Essential City Services



POLICE & FIRE

The Niles Safety departments take pride in keeping our community safe. Each department is budgeted for full strength personnel, with ongoing departmental improvements that provide the necessary resources to keep you and your family safe. Niles provides a street crimes police unit, first responder fire service, and dispatch communications among the basic safety services offered.



PARK & RECREATION

The Niles Wellness Center offers recreation, programming, and league play to Niles membership holders. The facility is equipped with new exercise machines, an indoor track, turf field, basketball/pickleball courts, batting cages, and conference rooms. Bring your children to Waddell, Stevens, or Kennedy Park for outdoor activities, including the story walk, playgrounds, or tennis courts.



PLANNING & PERMITTING

To apply for Building, Dwelling, and Zoning permits, visit the city website at <u>www.thecityofniles.com</u>. Niles residents can contact the department with concerns about setbacks, fence requirements, pool installation, housing maintenance codes and more. The department tracks annual contractor registration and provides homeowner improvement assistance through the CHIP Grant.

City-Wide Demolition

The City continues be aggressive with demolitions of vacant, condemned property. With the established demolition fund, the City will demolish six structures and outbuildings, beginning this Spring. Property that has been approved for demolition is as followed:

523 Ward, 113 Smith, 313 Hunter, 720 Battles, 760 Battles, 332 W. State

If you are aware of a condemned or vacant home in your neighborhood, please contact the housing office to check the status of the property.

The Niles Wellness Center is open to members only. To join, please contact the Park Office.

Did You Know:

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.

The city will be hosting two scrap tire drop-off's this year. The first will take place from: May 1st-15th

City residents may place up to ten tires in the bin located behind the Police Station.

City-Wide Street Sweeping Program

The Niles Street Department is responsible for the removal of dirt and debris from the city's 88- miles of street and preventative maintenance on the city's storm sewer system. Routine street sweeping occurs throughout the year, except for the months of December, January, February, and July. Sweeping occurs in each precinct for one period each month. Inclement weather, holidays, or additional departmental assignment may delay sweeping operations in a precinct. Make-up sweeping will take place on Friday's, when necessary. Sweeping occurs each week, from 7:00am. to 3:00pm. on the following schedule:

Week 1- Ward 1 (1A-Monday, 1C-Wendesday, 1D- Thursday)

Week 2- Ward 2 (2A-Monday, 2B-Tuesday, 2C-Wendesday, 2E- Thursday)

Week 3- Ward 3 (3A-Monday, 3C-Wendesday, 3D- Thursday)

Week 4- Ward 4 (4A-Monday, 4C-Wendesday, 4D- Thursday)

*For questions about the street sweeping program or to report a street that was missed, contact the Mayor's Office at 330-544-9000 ext. 1101.

*Do not blow grass clippings, leaves, or rubbish into the street.

*Do not park vehicles on the street during routine sweeping times.

*Do not place portable basketball hoops or trash receptacles on the street during routine sweeping times.

A clean swept street means a more attractive neighborhood and less pollution down the storm drain. Thank you for your assistance.

Keep Your Neighborhood Looking Good





Each Spring, city housing inspector's spend countless hours of time inspecting and documenting exterior code violations and sending notices to property owners. If the violations are not corrected, citations are issued, and the court process



begins. Keep your property up to code by ensuring residential lawns are maintained to a height of not more than six inches. Grass or weeds in excess of six inches may be declared a public nuisance. Also keep your street clean and help reduce neighborhood flooding throughout the Spring months. Please refrain from blowing grass clippings into the street and make

sure that catch basins are clear of debris. These issues can be a violation of Niles City Ordinance. Mattresses, couches, and other large furniture or appliances must not be left on the curb. To schedule a "bulk Pick-up" please contact Republic Services. Property owners who leave bulk items on the curb are subject to citation and a \$500.00 fine. Help keep your neighborhood looking good this Spring!



>Vision

>Planning

>Success

Notice to Residents:

Was your yard or sidewalk damaged? Property restorations from Winter waterline repairs will begin this Spring. If your property was affected by City excavation due to a water break, valve or hydrant replacement, please contact the Director of Public Service and the City will schedule the repair of your property.

Dragon Drive I&I Project

The City Sewer Department has undertaken a comprehensive approach to improve the city sanitary infrastructure, focusing flood mitigation and inflow and infiltration reduction in the Dragon Drive area (Wade/Helen/Wilson/Woodglen). The overall goal is to provide a reliable and safe sanitary system to the citizens of the City of Niles.

With the completion of an engineering study, the city has identified issues that is contributing to the I&I, which is leading to sanitary basement back-up. Deterioration of aged brick and mortar manholes, roof drains piped directly into the sanitary system, and uncleaned pipe are some of the leading contributors.

The city is working with an engineering consultant to develop a comprehensive approach to reduce I&I. A polyurea and foam application was recently installed on a manhole on Helen Street. This application has sealed the manhole from groundwater entering the system through deteriorating mortar joints. Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) and pipe cleaning is scheduled to take place in the Spring months. This will allow the city to identify blockages or separations in the pipes. A cured in place pipe (CCIP) process will take place to rehabilitate sections of deteriorated sanitary pipe.

WHAT IS I&I???

Inflow and infiltration is defined as groundwater and stormwater that enter a sewer system. Collection systems can be damaged when they are forced to transport more flow than they are designed to handle. Increased effluent also raises costs for wastewater treatment facilities, because harmless stormwater and groundwater mix with sewage.



Auditor:

Giovanni Merlo

Treasurer: Stephen Telego



Visit the Ohio Online Checkbook to see all city expenditures.

Water FYI's...

-NECO will be continuing the water meter transmitter (MIU) and register head maintenance program this Spring. If you receive a letter from NECO, please contact the company to schedule your appointment. This will ensure that you are receiving actual reads on your monthly water bill. Look closely to be sure your bill is labeled actual (ACT) and not estimate (EST). If you receive an estimated (EST) bill, immediately contact the Niles Utility Billing Office.

-The Water Department will be conducting the annual valve exercising program throughout the Spring months. This program is mandated by the Ohio EPA to ensure that all main valves are functioning properly. When valve exercising is occurring in your neighborhood you may experience discolored or cloudy water. Please run your cold water for a short period until the water runs clear. Contact the Niles Water Department about any concerns about the program. The Fire Department will also be conducting Spring hydrant flushing to evaluate the effectiveness of all hydrants. This may also affect the coloration and clarity of your water. You should use the same process to ensure clear water.