



NEWSLETTER

Fall 2025 | Volume 41 : Number 2

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Fall/Winter 2025

SEPTEMBER 14

Harvest Handmade Market
Chardon Square Association
10 a.m.-4 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 27

Trash Day

OCTOBER 4

Fall Fest
(Rain date October 5)
12-2:30 p.m.

OCTOBER 31

Halloween Festivities
5:30-7:30 p.m. Trick-or-Treat
7:30 p.m. Parade followed by
cider and donuts (Sponsored by
the Police Department)

NOVEMBER 4

Election Day
Please exercise your right to vote!

NOVEMBER 11

Veterans Day Memorial Service
11 a.m. on the Square

NOVEMBER 27

Turkey Trot to Stop Trafficking
5K Race & 2 Mile Walk
8:30 a.m. on the Square



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BENJAMIN YOUNG SELECTED AS CITY OF CHARDON CITY MANAGER



The City of Chardon is pleased to announce the appointment of Benjamin Young as the new City Manager and Director of Public Safety.

Mr. Young most recently served as Deputy Director of Administration for the City of North Canton, Ohio, since June 2024. He also served as the Public Policy Analyst, the IT Systems Manager, the Director of Legislation/ Clerk of Council and the Civil Service Secretary, all for the City of North Canton. Mr. Young earned a Bachelor of Arts in Government and Foreign Affairs from Walsh University and a Master of Public Administration from Ohio University. He plans on moving closer to the City of Chardon with his wife Katharine.

Young started work with the City of Chardon on August 11 and will be replacing the current City Manager, Randy Sharpe, who is retiring after 23 years serving the City, first as Assistant City Manager and then as City Manager for the past 14 years.

"Randy has been an amazing asset to our City, to the residents and businesses, to our community partners and to our City Council. His enthusiasm for City improvements, for assuming local leadership roles aside from City administration, and for his dedication to planning for the City's future are greatly appreciated. We thank him for his service and wish him all the best in retirement" says Chardon Mayor Chris Grau.

Please join us in welcoming Benjamin Young to the City of Chardon and thanking Mr. Sharpe for his exceptional service to our community.

Fall Fest

Saturday, October 4 | 12-2:30 p.m.

Hot Dogs and Cider | S'mores | Scarecrow Making
Balloon Artist | Face Painting | DJ | Hayrides

Thank you to our sponsors

Rotary Club of Chardon, Chardon Area Kiwanis, Chardon Square Association, City of Chardon



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Fall/Winter 2025

NOVEMBER 29

Shop Small Saturday

Support & celebrate our local businesses
Chardon Chamber of Commerce
10 a.m.-4 p.m.

NOVEMBER 29

Christmas Lighting Program

Activities begin at 6:30 p.m.
Lighting begins at 7 p.m.

DECEMBER 13

Home for the Holidays

Chardon Square Association
11 a.m.-4 p.m.



CITY ADOPTS .GOV DOMAIN FOR GREATER SECURITY

The City of Chardon is excited to announce its transition from **chardon.cc** to **cityofchardon.gov**, a process that is expected to be complete in the coming weeks. This strategic move is aimed at enhancing the security, privacy, and trustworthiness of the City's online presence, aligning with the latest recommendations from the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA).

The .gov domain is exclusively available to U.S.-based government organizations, ensuring that any website with this domain is an official government site. This exclusivity is a key reason for the transition, as it greatly reduces the risk of cyberattacks and phishing attempts.

While visits to the City's '.cc' webpages and emails sent to City staff at '.cc' addresses will automatically redirect to their corresponding .gov addresses, community members are encouraged to update their contact information for City staff and officials to reflect the change. They are also encouraged to use the new domain when visiting the City's website. Please update your bookmarks and contact lists as needed.

By embracing the .gov domain, the City of Chardon is taking a significant step towards a more secure digital future for its citizens, ensuring that government communications remain authentic and protected from cyber threats.

NEW website address: **cityofchardon.gov** • NEW email addresses: **@cityofchardon.gov**

PUBLIC SERVICE DEPARTMENT



SNOW PLOWING RULES REMINDER

Please be advised that pursuant to Section 521.06, moving or plowing snow from any drive, parking area or sidewalk onto the public street or sidewalk is prohibited. This includes private snowplow contractors you may retain for this service. Those individuals or contractors found to be in violation of this section shall be guilty of a fourth-degree misdemeanor.

SNOW PARKING BAN

In order for City snow plows to clear snow efficiently from parking lots and parking spaces, motorists are asked to refrain from having vehicles parked in these areas between the hours of 12-6 a.m.

Please be aware that this includes all municipal parking lots at City Hall, 106 Water Street, and parking spots adjacent to the Alley, south of Court Street.

Overnight parking will be permitted between the hours of midnight and 6 a.m. at the north and south sides of Short Court Street between Main Street and East Park Street, in the five parking spaces immediately south of Short Court Street on the west side of East Park Street, and in the gravel parking lot behind the Geauga Theater.

Please contact the Public Service office with any questions or concerns at (440) 286-2655 or publicsrv@cityofchardon.gov.



MAILBOX REPLACEMENT POLICY

Since 2014 the Department of Public Service has utilized a Mailbox Replacement Policy to aid residents in understanding and reporting damaged mailboxes. The intent of this policy was to establish a uniform process to reimburse citizens for "mailbox damage" caused solely by City staff or equipment during snow and ice control or any other maintenance activity.

During the winter months, one of the City's primary obligations is to ensure safety by keeping roadways free of snow and ice. Damage to mailboxes is often unavoidable due to their close proximity to the roadway. Because mailboxes are generally located inside the public right of way, and the service of plowing streets is for the public good, this policy assumes there is a shared responsibility between the City and citizens when mailboxes are damaged during City operations.

All mailboxes should be installed (and maintained) in a fashion as to absorb the impact of snow coming off the face of a plow blade. Citing these criteria, the City's policy shall be to grant "no" reimbursement for a mailbox failure due to impact of snow or projectiles coming from the road.

Should it be determined that said damage was a result of a mailbox being struck by City equipment, then the following reimbursement rate for damaged mailboxes would be authorized:

- Mailbox only:** \$35.00
- Post only:** \$45.00
- Complete Post and Mailbox:** \$80.00

A full copy of the Mailbox Policy and Mailbox Claim Form can be obtained from City Hall or viewed online at the City of Chardon's website at cityofchardon.gov.

REMINDER TO RESIDENTS: NO PARKING ON LAWNS

City residents are reminded that the City of Chardon forbids parking vehicles on tree lawns. In response to residents' complaints, a ban was added to the parking ordinance in 2016. Residents had reported that vehicles parked on lawns created visual blight in their neighborhood, lowered property values, and, in some cases, raised safety concerns.

The Chardon Police Department enforces the parking requirements outlined in Section 1155.25 of the Codified Ordinances, which states that parking is only allowed in designated areas. All motor vehicles – such as cars, trucks, boats, campers, recreational vehicles, and motorcycles – must be parked on driveways or in designated parking spaces. The regulation prohibits parking on tree lawns, yards, and sidewalks within the City and may result in a parking citation issued to the registered owner.

The Police Department would like to remind residents that on-street parking is also prohibited. Occasionally, the police may authorize short-term on-street parking at the request of a resident. These requests are considered by a police supervisor on a case-by-case basis. Requests are typically related to special events, garage sales, small parties, etc. The Police Department will need to know the date, time, location, number of cars, and the specific block of time requested. Consideration is given to the location, traffic volume, number of cars, and potential hazards before parking is authorized. Residents wishing to request short-term parking should call the Police Department directly during business hours at (440) 286-6123.

For residents interested in adding additional off-street parking or widening driveways, a permit is required through the City of Chardon Planning & Zoning Department. Any new parking spaces or driveway widening must be constructed in concrete or asphalt. Regulations may vary by neighborhood and zoning district. For questions, please contact the Planning & Zoning Department at (440) 286-2654.

RESIDENTIAL LEAF COLLECTION

As in past years, the City is conducting a roadside leaf collection program. Leaf collection begins in the fall and continues through December 1 or until weather no longer permits. Those leaves not collected this fall will be collected next spring (typically scheduled for the second week in April).

GUIDELINES:

- Leaves should be raked close to the curb but not onto the street, in long, narrow rows.
- If you have a ditch in front of your house the leaves should be raked onto the edge of the road or the drive apron. Do not rake leaves into the ditch, or place on top of drainage grates and refrain from blocking drive culverts.
- Do not put leaves in bags or put tarps on leaves.
- Do not mix brush, sticks or ornamental grass with the leaves as this will plug the leaf vacuum.
- No other yard waste will be collected at this time.
- No rocks, cinder blocks or metal objects should be mixed with the leaves. These items will cause damage to the equipment.
- Leaves should be free of pet waste or other forms of trash.

By following these simple guidelines, leaf collection will be expedited, allowing City staff to make more frequent and additional trips around town to collect your next batch of leaves.

Please feel free to contact the Public Service office at (440) 286-2655 for further clarification on this service.



2025 TRASH DAY REGULATIONS

The City's RESIDENTIAL curbside trash collection will take place on Saturday, September 27, beginning at 6 a.m. Since this is a City program, we ask that friends or relatives from outside the City not be invited to bring trash for collection.

Waste Management WILL enter private streets: Burlington Oval, Burlington Green, Bridgewater Village, Village Square and Colonial Park Condominiums. Residents may put out items at the same location as their regular trash pickup location. Waste Management will not enter onto commercial properties, including apartment complexes.

To have items removed, residents MUST comply with the following regulations:

- All items must be as close to the curb as possible by 6 a.m. the morning of September 27.
- No loose items. Everything must be boxed, bundled or bagged.
- Appliances with Freon must have Freon removed and tagged.*
- Lumber is to be cut and bundled in 48" lengths, 40 pounds maximum and no nails.
- Carpet is to be cut, rolled and bundled in 36" lengths, 40 pounds maximum.
- Windows, glass and mirrors must be less than 3' x 4' in size and taped or wrapped in cardboard. Items not properly secured will not be collected.
- Mattresses and cloth furniture must be wrapped in plastic.
- All items must be light enough for two people to carry.

UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS that will NOT be collected:

- Appliances with Freon not removed
- Propane/gas tanks
- Tires
- Car parts/engines/batteries
- Household garbage – food waste
- Dirt/rocks/sod/concrete/bricks and blocks
- Dead animals
- Brush/yard waste
- Hazardous materials
- Ashes
- Paints/paint cans/solvents
- Items over 5' long/3' wide/3' high – weighing over 100 pounds
- Entire basketball hoops
- Dehumidifiers (unless inspected)
- Air conditioners

* FREON REMOVAL is available through HVAC contractors. As an alternative, Geauga-Trumbull Solid Waste Management District accepts appliances with Freon for free, every Wednesday at their locations in Claridon and Warren, Ohio.

ATTENTION City Residents age 60 and over: Limited assistance is available to place trash for collection. Please contact the Geauga County Department on Aging at (440) 279-2130.

DORA DISTRICT COMING SOON TO CHARDON SQUARE



A soon-to-be-established Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA) is coming to Chardon Square! This one-year pilot program aims to enhance our community by allowing patrons aged 21 and over to purchase an open alcoholic beverage from one of four participating establishments—Cremona, Element 41, Noce, and Square Bistro—leave the premises with the drink, and continue consuming it within the designated area.

City Council approved the application to establish the DORA on July 10 and is awaiting the issuance of permits from the State of Ohio to the participating establishments.

The DORA will be available for patrons on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 4-9 p.m. This initiative encourages residents and visitors alike to gather, socialize, and soak in the charming atmosphere of our beautiful historic square while enjoying a beverage. The DORA aims to bring more people to Chardon Square, fostering a sense of community and vibrancy.

Chardon joins a growing list of communities in Ohio, including Madison Village, Fairport Harbor, and Geneva, in embracing outdoor refreshment areas.

Please note specific rules and guidelines apply to the DORA area to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone. Detailed information can be found at the participating establishments and on the City's website at cityofchardon.gov/dora.



CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION

The City of Chardon is offering Christmas tree collection from December 29-January 18. The collection site will be at the service garage material storage facility located at: 499 N Hambden. Signs will be posted directing residents as to where to go. (The road is directly across the street from NEO Lighting.) There will be an empty material storage bin just north of the large salt barn for the trees. This program is for City of Chardon residents only. Address verification may be requested. Residents may bring in trees to be discarded between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. All ornaments, lights, tinsel, garland, etc., must be removed from the tree before it is permitted to be placed in the bin.

As an alternative, residents can have their Christmas tree collected with next spring's brush collection.



WELCOME NEW EMPLOYEES



Joe Chiacchiero – Joe recently joined the Lands & Buildings crew as a part-time maintenance worker. He is a skilled woodworker and carpenter with knowledge in both plumbing and electricity. He is currently also an Industrial Arts Educator for Ashtabula County Technical & Career Campus. Joe is a resident of Austinburg.



Christopher Tate – Chris was hired in July as a part-time maintenance worker in the Parks & Recreation Department. He has a wide variety of experience as a wiring technician and an HVAC installer. In addition, he previously worked for WomenSafe as the Donations Coordinator / Development Associate. Chris lives in Rock Creek with his wife and young son.



Alexa Musgrave – Alexa is a new Victim Advocate for the Chardon Municipal Court. She is currently pursuing her Bachelor's degree in Social Work through Youngstown State University. In her spare time, she loves spending time with her family and enjoys crafts, puzzles, Legos, watching Guardian games and serving at her church on Sunday. Alexa just got married in June and lives in Chagrin Falls with her new husband.

2025 Summer Fun



The City of Chardon



VOTE!

November 4



PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CHARDON, OH
PERMIT #24

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. located at 111 Water Street. Watch replays on demand at cityofchardon.gov

STAY CONNECTED!

cityofchardon.gov

 @CityofChardon

 [facebook.com/cityofchardon](https://www.facebook.com/cityofchardon)
[facebook.com/chardonpolice](https://www.facebook.com/chardonpolice)

 @chardonrec

CITY ADMINISTRATION

City Manager

Benjamin Young – byoung@cityofchardon.gov

Finance Director

Mark Iacofano – miaacofano@cityofchardon.gov

Community Development Administrator

Steven Yaney – syaney@cityofchardon.gov

Director of Public Service

Paul Hornyak – phornyak@cityofchardon.gov

Chief of Police

W. Scott Niehus – sniehus@cityofchardon.gov

Director of Parks/Recreation

Adam Rogers – arogers@cityofchardon.gov

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor

Christopher Grau (440) 321-1119
cgrau@cityofchardon.gov

Vice Mayor

Heather Means (440) 477-5618
hmeans@cityofchardon.gov

Council Members

Andrew Blackley (216) 780-6964
akblackley@cityofchardon.gov

Deborah Chuha (440) 487-7268
dchuha@cityofchardon.gov

David Lelko (440) 226-0012
davelenko@yahoo.com

Kyle Martin (440) 479-4150
kmartin@cityofchardon.gov

Daniel Meleski (440) 286-8959
dmeleski@cityofchardon.gov

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Administration(440) 286-2600

Water & Sewer(440) 286-2657

Planning & Zoning.....(440) 286-2654

Streets.....(440) 286-2656

Finance(440) 286-2470

Park & Recreation(440) 286-2630

Public Service(440) 286-2655

Police Non-Emergency(440) 286-6123