



Fall Newsletter

Halloween

Development

Leaf Schedule



City Newsletter - Fall 2023

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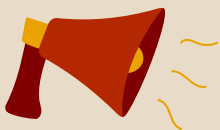


Message from the Mayor

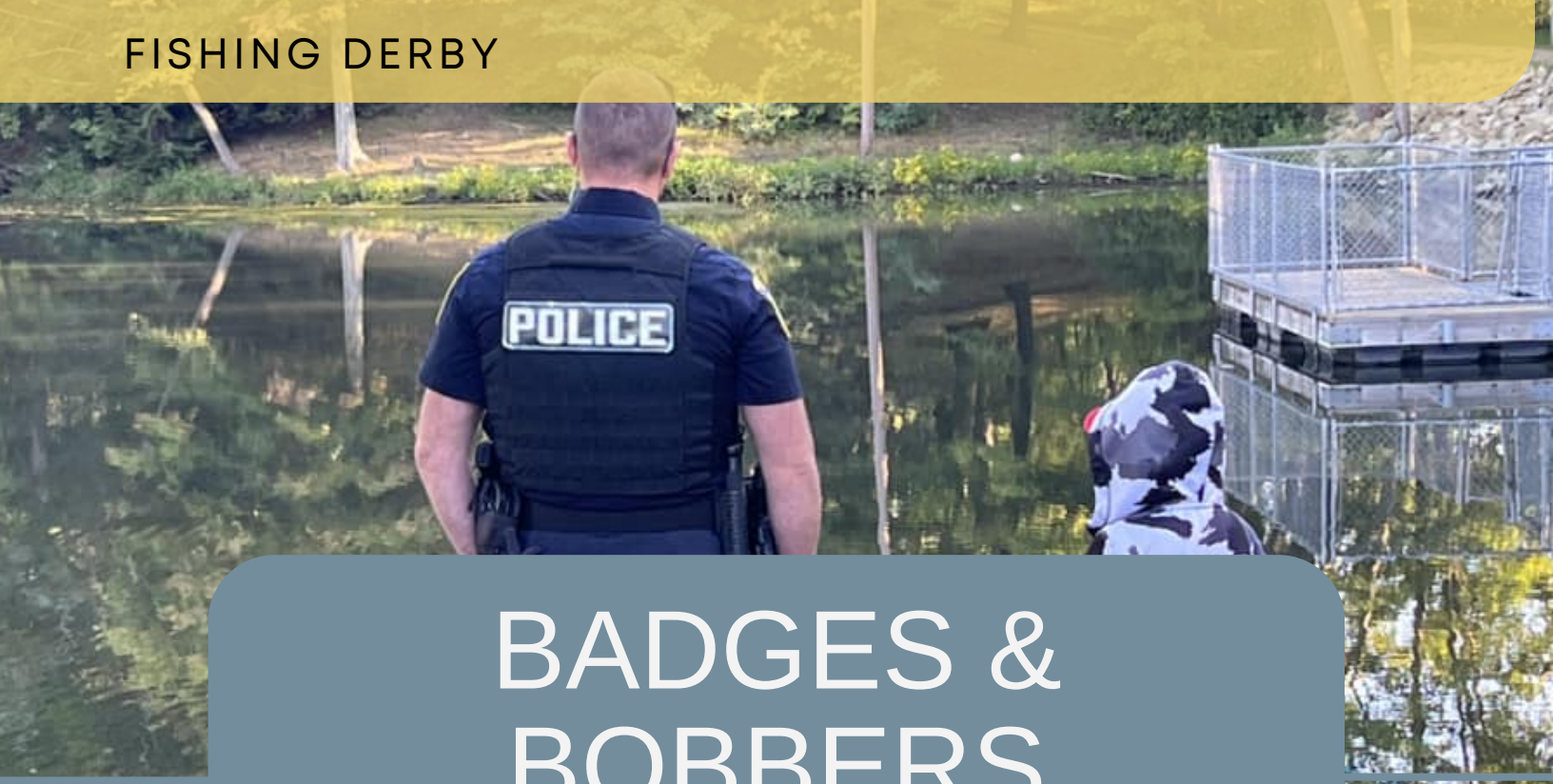
As this is most likely the last newsletter to come out while I am Mayor, I want to take a moment to reflect on what an Honor and Privilege it has been to be the Mayor of Wooster. What an Amazing Community we get to live and work in, raise our families, and enjoy each other's company and friendships. We've made many strides forward as a city over the last three decades, with many other adventures yet to come!

Thank You for allowing me to help guide our city for the last 30 years (4 years on the Planning Commission, 10 years as a City Councilman, and 16 years as Mayor). We have a Wonderful, Caring Community. Let's make sure we keep it moving Forward!

Bob Breneman, Mayor



330-263-5200



BADGES & BOBBERS



The Wooster Police Department held its second annual Badges and Bobbers Fishing Derby on September 16th. Each child was given a free Zebco fishing pole with a miniature bait box. The turnout was quadruple the number from the first year.

The star of the day was a 7 year old little boy who caught a monster 15 pound fish (carp) and needed assistance from Officer Timko and the boy's father to finally bring the fish in. The video of the catch was posted on our FB page and is at 2 million views worldwide. The story made local and statewide tv news.





Halloween Message

As we near the Halloween holiday, the City of Wooster would like to provide information for the safe trick-or-treating of our children. The City has periodically been asked by some residents about dedicating one day for the entire City to hold trick-or-treat events. The City has also found that many neighborhoods prefer to establish their own trick-or-treat events around Halloween. The most common day selected by neighborhoods over the years has been the last Saturday of the month.

That being the case, the city is encouraging all trick-or-treat events be scheduled between 4 PM and 8 PM on the last Saturday of October and will recognize that day and time as the City-wide trick-or-treat event.

While we understand that not all neighborhoods will observe the suggested date and time, having one, city-wide recognized event will help with police coverage and hopefully provide a safe and fun Halloween for all. We will continue to keep a list on the City website of any neighborhoods or organizations who prefer to establish their own trick-or-treat events around Halloween and who notify the City.

A listing of Neighborhood Trick or Treat events can be found at
www.woosteroh.com





Our Annual Daddy Daughter Dance is on November 4th!

Tickets are on sale NOW!

All dads and daughters are invited to this special event held at the Wooster Community Center. The night will be filled with fun activities, dancing, crafts, and more!

Santa and his helpers are excited to announce that Santa's Mailbox will be located on the downtown square beginning November 7th and ending on December 8th.

Be sure to include a self-addressed envelope so Santa can send his reply.



SANTA'S MAILBOX

NOVEMBER 7 - DECEMBER 8
DOWNTOWN WOOSTER



SUBMIT LETTERS WITH
PRE-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE

QUESTIONS?
WOOSTEROH.COM/RECREATION

Leaf Pick-up begins Monday, October 30th, and runs through Wednesday, December 13th. The street-by-street schedule and other important information are on our website at

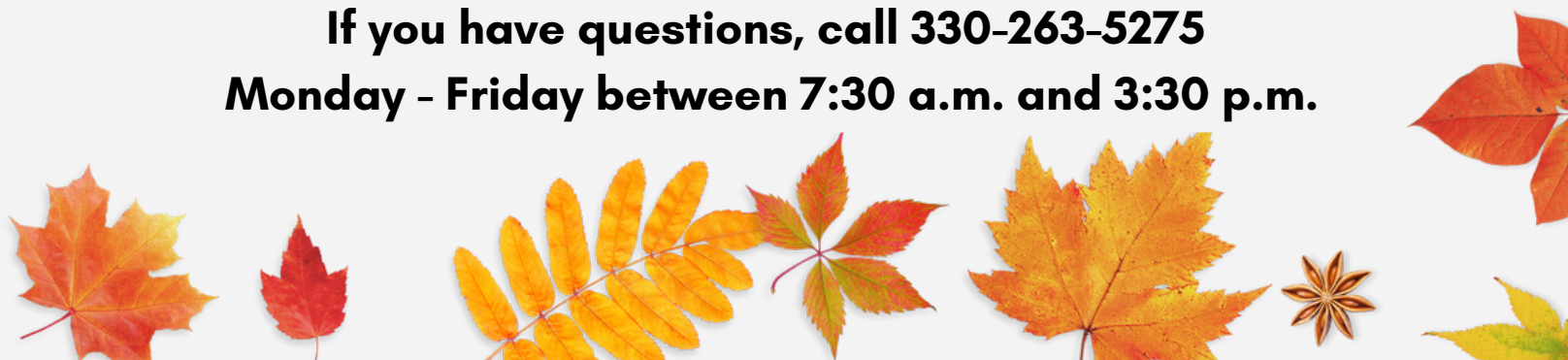
www.woosteroh.com/ppm/leaf-collection

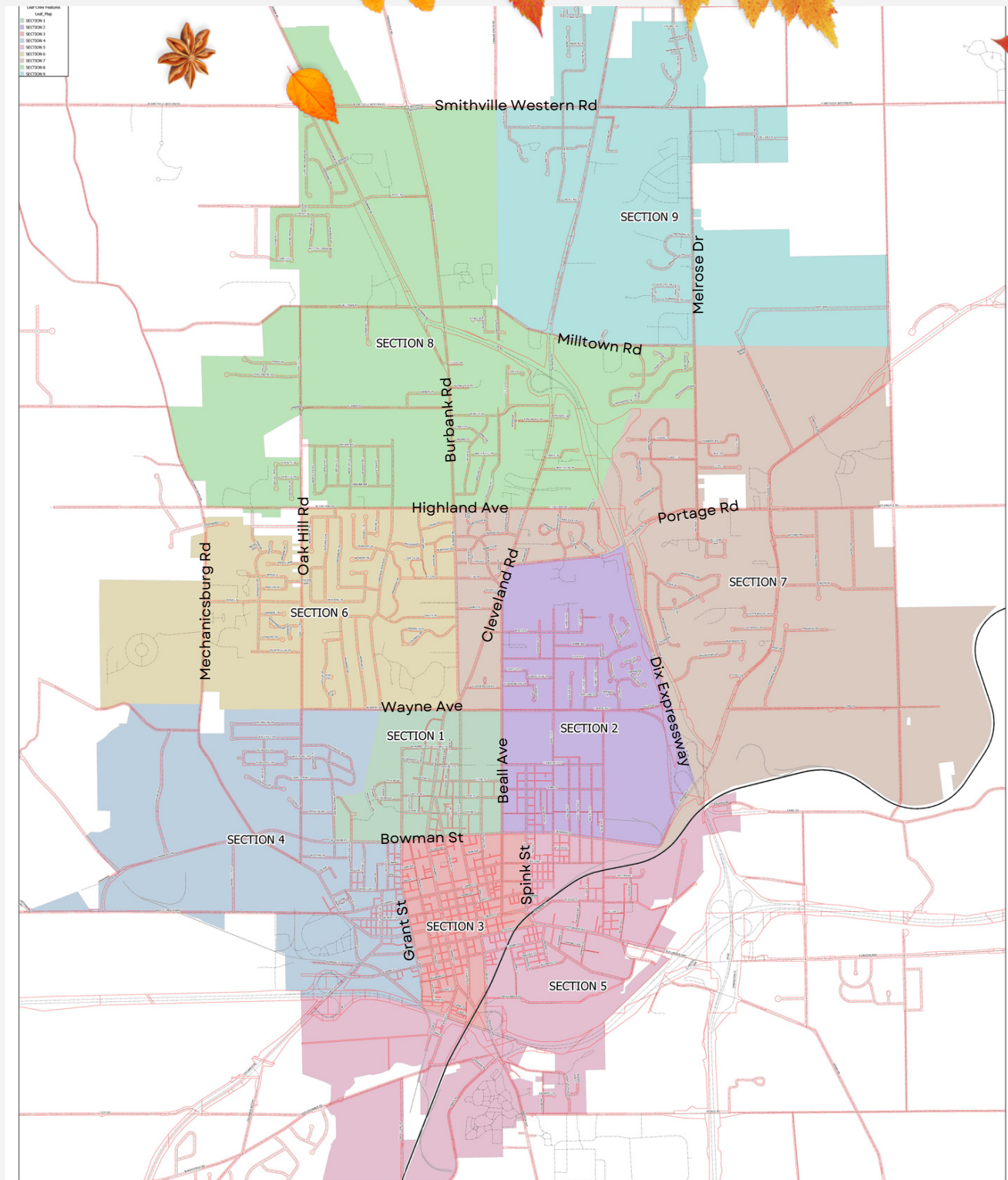
Please follow these guidelines to help us protect our equipment and employees.

- All leaves should be at the curb the day before your scheduled pickup
- Rake leaves to the tree lawn or at the road edge in 3 to 4 ft wide windrows
- Remove all vehicles from the street by 7:00 a.m. on your scheduled day
- Do not put sticks, branches, stones, trash, garden debris in the leaf pile

City crews will do their best to keep to the schedule; however, be aware that such things as severe inclement weather or equipment breakdowns do occur, and we sometimes fall behind.

**If you have questions, call 330-263-5275
Monday - Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.**





Economic Development Strategic Plan

Our economy is rapidly changing with new technology, the need for specialized skills, and shifting supply chains. To stay ahead of the curve, Wooster recently launched a new roadmap to creating prosperity for its residents and businesses. With the help of a national consulting firm, BusinessFlare, Wooster obtained a detailed analysis of how its services compare with healthy economies.

Opportunities for improvement include better support for branding, place-making, and entrepreneurship.

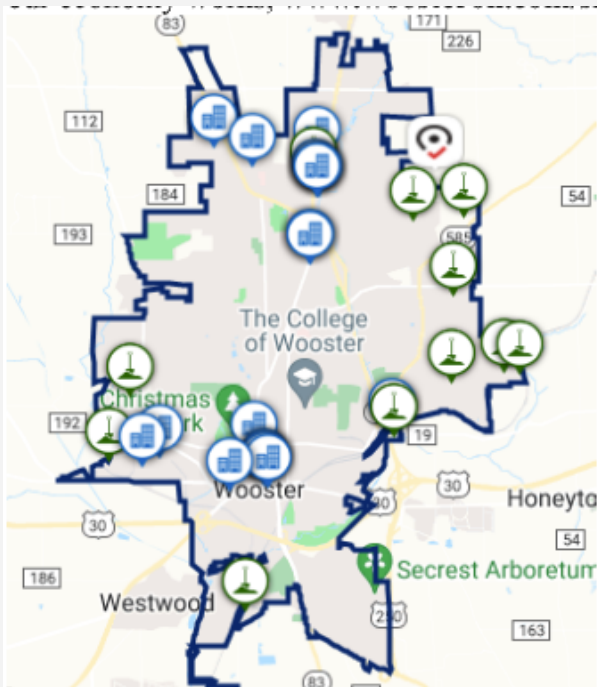
The plan challenges the City to support our economy more intentionally. We can accomplish this by creating more public spaces for gathering, focusing on the quality of our built environment, providing better outreach and communication with our business community, and supporting opportunities for entrepreneurs.

Some of these efforts, such as enabling more mixed-use development and residential opportunities in Downtown, are being examined more closely with Wooster's ongoing Comprehensive Plan Update. Most of all, the plan challenges the community to recognize that our best business incentive is our quality of life. Wooster's diverse array of businesses, parks, rapid-response emergency services, recreation, utility system, thriving Downtown, bustling North End, and our top-ranked schools and hospitals make it the best place for long-term prosperity.

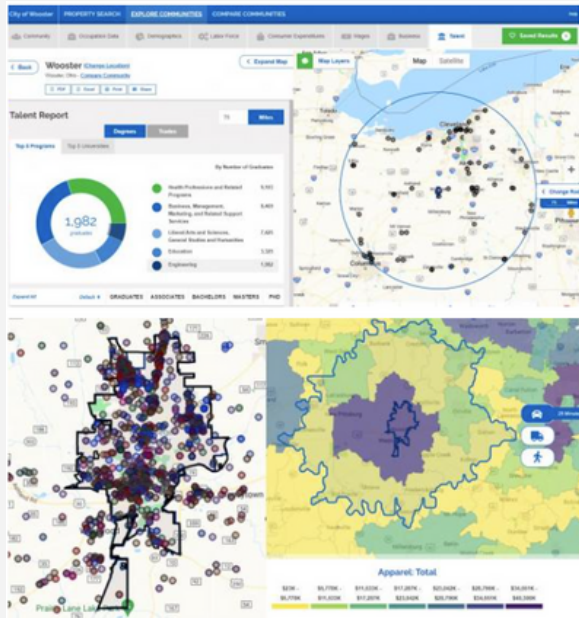
Strategy Areas



View sites on a map



Use the map tools and layers to compare available properties



Find a Business Property

Wooster's Economic Development Office has launched a new commercial property listing service. Whether an entrepreneur looking for storefront space to launch a new business, or a major industrial firm seeking land to expand, or a small-business owner wanting to make office space available for lease, www.woosteroh.com/sites provides space for Realtors, individuals, and businesses to exchange information on available spaces. With permission, the City's site aggregates listing information from across various services, and even welcomes individual businesses to list spaces on their own. The City's new page also offers an assortment of data, from traffic counts along Wooster's many roads, to consumer spending in different retail categories, to an inventory of employers.

For instance, 7,188 cars travelled daily on W. Liberty Street in 2022, approximately 158,024 households within a 35-minute drive of Wooster will collectively spend \$378 MM on full service restaurants by the end of 2023, and there are 108 banking, finance and insurance agencies in the Wooster area employing 688 people. Whether looking to locate or expand a business, or for possibly finding customers or business partners, or simply to learn more about how our economy works, www.woosteroh.com/sites offers a fantastic array of data.

Find more information at: www.woosteroh.com/sites

Major Construction Projects

Our Engineering Division has been busy overseeing several major construction projects this summer.

Complete:

- Oak Hill & Oldman Roundabout opened Thursday, October 5th, after three months of construction.

Under Construction:

- North End Sanitary Sewer installation from E. Milltown and Cleveland, up Cleveland, and across to Friendsville Road. This will make sewer available to over 200 acres for housing and mixed-use development.

Coming Soon:

- Christmas Run Blvd Sanitary Sewer Replacement along Christmas Run Blvd (Brookside Drive to Skylark) and Skylark Avenue (Christmas Run Blvd to Monterey Street). Construction is planned to start by the end of this year. This will increase capacity to facilitate additional housing development to the north.

Private:

- Omni Fiber- continuing to build a City-wide network, mostly underground. Additional information can be found here:
<https://www.omnifiber.com/construction/>



**Melrose Drive
Reconstruction**



**Oak Hill/Oldman
Roundabout**

Fire Station #1

Renovation Project

Renovations are underway for Fire Station #1. Most of the demolition, remediation, and underground external utilities are complete. Crews are currently preparing for the north side addition footings and building pad as well as the underground electrical work and interior plumbing. Station #1 crews are operating out of a temporary station on Mechanicsburg Road. This marks one of the last city facilities to be updated since construction in the 1960s.



City Financials

3rd Quarter 2023

City finances are in good shape going into the 4th quarter of 2023.

- General Fund Revenue is UP 13.5%
- General Fund Expenses are DOWN 5.5%
- Net Income Tax Receipts are UP 12.2%
- Water consumption is UP 48.3 million gallons from the same period in 2022

Lodging tax collected through the end of August totaled \$249,659; an 12.6% increase over last year at this time.

Building Standards & Planning/Zoning Activity

3rd Quarter 2023

- Construction Permits Issued: 418
- Zoning Permits Issued: 106
- Fees Collected : \$83,440
- Value of All of the Construction Projects Permitted:
 - \$20,344,675
 - This figure is down 25% from 3rd quarter 2022

Citizens Academy

Our Citizens' Academy class recently toured our Public Properties Maintenance facility and were able to get hands-on with the equipment.

If you would like to learn more about this nine-week academy, contact [Amy Hamilton](#) or [Joel Montgomery](#).



Boards & Commissions

The City has 16 boards and commissions that are always looking for volunteers. Contact the Mayor's office if you are interested in serving. 330-263-5242



Window Wonderland
November 17th, 2023

Historic Downtown Wooster.

HOP ON-HOP OFF
Downtown Church Tour



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1ST
4:00 TO 7:00P.M.



Wooster

EST. 1808 OHIO

