



VILLAGE OF GAMBIER

November 2020

A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR KESSLER

I arrived in Gambier 20 years ago in the middle of a contentious election and a year later, the nation was shocked by a terrorist attack that ushered in years of global uncertainty. I remember so vividly the disconnect between these larger events and my immediate surroundings. From here in Gambier, buffered by natural tranquility and comforting ritual, we can feel cut off from the world and yet when these periods of uncertainty arise, we are reminded just how connected to the rest of the world we are.

We are in another period of uncertainty and if there's any comfort to offer it is that in this village, made up of people from across the world and dedicated to education, art, and the creation of a common life, we are able to face whatever comes our way together. Our collective efforts to protect each other from the ongoing pandemic, to welcome students back to this hill, and to preserve our historic fire department is a testimony to that common purpose. In the coming weeks and months, I encourage



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In the coming weeks and months, I encourage everyone to renew that commitment to one another, and to remember that we are all each other's neighbors in a world that frequently tries to draw lines of division and mistrust.

everyone to renew that commitment to one another, and to remember that we are all each other's neighbors in a world that frequently tries to draw lines of division and mistrust.

This has been an unpredictable year but Gambier excels at preparing us to handle uncertainty and unpredictability and I remain convinced, as I was 20 years ago, that this is one of the best places to be to weather any storm and I'm proud to do so with all of you.

Leeman Kessler

Mayor of Gambier, Ohio

COUNCIL NEWS

The Village welcomes Councilmember Alec Wood. Alec was appointed at the October council meeting to fulfill former Councilmember Ben Nutter's unexpired term.



Alec Wood, Village Council

Alec Wood is an Information Technology Specialist, working primarily on programs facilitating access to community resources. Alec is excited to join Village Council, and, as a proponent for Open government data, he hopes to make use of his professional experience to promote improved availability of electronic records and data for public use. Alec holds a B.A. from the University of Chicago, where he studied the History of Science. Outside of work, he spends time on various digital humanities projects, cooking, and brewing beer.

COMMUNITY GARDEN

The Columbus Dispatch Backyard Garden Awards Best Community Garden 3rd Place

Gambier's Community Garden has been recognized as "one of the most outstanding backyard gardens in town" by the annual Dispatch Backyard Garden Awards.

Out of the 494 Garden entries this year, Gambier's Community Garden came in third place. The contest was judged by The Ohio State University Master Gardeners program.



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Community Garden, Village of Gambier

Congratulations to the community gardeners who earned Gambier this high recognition!

Current gardeners may contact Courtney DeCosky to renew their plot for 2021 at utlityclerk@villageofgambier.org or 740-427-2061.

The deadline for renewing is March 1.

Those interested in being placed on the waitlist should also contact Courtney. Garden plots are for Village and College Township residents. Plots will be released to the waitlist after March 1.

COVID-19 WASTEWATER TESTING

Village of Gambier Wastewater Testing

The Village of Gambier, in collaboration with Kenyon College, have embarked on a twice-weekly testing of the wastewater plant influent for the presence of COVID-19.

Testing began June 8.

Wastewater influent is the flow that comes into the village treatment plant from the sanitary sewer collection system of village homes, businesses, and the College facilities which means the shed virus could come from residents, workers or visitors to the village.

Gambier and Kenyon are at the forefront of this testing concept as health experts believe the presence of the virus in wastewater sampling could help public health officials prepare for a possible outbreak of cases. Subsequent tests have revealed an increased prevalence in the wastewater stream.

Those interested in more scientific details can refer to this link:

http://biology.kenyon.edu/slouc/covid/Gambier_Wastewater_Report.html

The Village can also provide the raw testing results from Source Molecular, the Florida testing lab, to anyone that requests it by emailing villageadministrator@villageofgambier.org.

“Please continue maintaining safe hygiene practices such as hand washing, social distancing and the wearing of masks, particularly in the shared spaces in the village,” Mayor Leeman Kessler stated.

COVID-19 Resources

Knox County Coronavirus Information: knoxhealth.com/index.php/public-health-issues2/infectious-disease/coronavirus

Kenyon Covid-19 Dashboard: [Kenyon.edu/covid-19/dashboard/](https://kenyon.edu/covid-19/dashboard/)

Mount Vernon City Schools Covid-19 Dashboard:

<http://www.mvcsd.us/COVID19.aspx>

Local Call-In for COVID-19

Knox Public Health and Knox Community Hospital have joined forces to open a call-line for local residents to talk directly with a medical professional about their symptoms and concerns. The call-line number is 740-399-8014. The call-line is operational from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday.

The call-line is for medical questions only. For other questions regarding COVID-19, residents are requested to call the state hotline at 833-4-ASK-ODH (833-4-275-634). The state hotline is open daily from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.



Wiggin Street Halloween Parade, October 30, 2020

SEWER RATE INCREASE

While there is an ordinance establishing an automatic 2% sewage increase annually, the Village of Gambier did not raise the sewage rate in 2019 and 2020. However, there will be a 2% increase in January 2021, bringing the cost per 1000 gallon from \$11.31 to \$11.55.

NEW OHIO HOME RELIEF GRANT OFFERS HELP TO DELINQUENT WATER/SEWER CUSTOMERS

The state of Ohio, working with local Community Action Agencies, will help eligible Ohioans who are behind on rent, mortgage, and water and/or sewer utility bills catch up on past payments back to April 1, 2020 and provide additional assistance through December 30, 2020. Those who have lost their jobs or experienced reduced income due to COVID-19 hardships may qualify.

Knox County residents will be able to apply for assistance through their local Community Action Agency, Kno-Ho-Co-Ashland Community Action Commission.

For more information about the Home Relief Grant program and income limits, please visit <https://businesshelp.ohio.gov/>.

Kno-Ho-Co-Ashland Community Action Commission
120 N 4th Street
Coshocton, OH 43812
(740) 622-9801
<http://knohoco.org>



VILLAGE OF GAMBIER AUCTION NOVEMBER 4 – NOVEMBER 19

Ohio Revised Code allows for an internet auction as one of several ways for a municipality to dispose of surplus items. The Village of Gambier currently has an online auction for its surplus items through GovDeals. The auction is open now through Thursday morning, November 19. Residents interested in bidding on items can go to <https://www.govdeals.com/gambierohio>.

GAMBIER COMMUNITY LIBRARY

LIBRARY HOURS:

MONDAY - FRIDAY 9 – 5

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY CLOSED



The Library is now open offering a full range of services. Masks are required. For questions call (740) 427-2665.

FOOD FOR FINES NOV 12 – DEC 14

Pay your library fines with food. All proceeds go to the Knox County Food for the Hungry drive. All Public Library of Mount Vernon and Knox County libraries will be accepting food donations of non-perishable, non-expired, and unopened food items as well as pet food and supplies, November 12- December 14. We can make a difference in Knox County.

[#LibrariesChangeLives](#)



Newly remodeled office, Village of Gambier

Upcoming Dates and Reminders

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS COUNCIL CHAMBERS, COMMUNITY CENTER 115 MEADOW LANE

Tuesday, November 17, 7:30 p.m.
Planning & Zoning Commission

Monday, November 30, 5:00 p.m.
Police & Personnel Committee

Monday, November 30, 6:00 p.m.
Buildings & Grounds Committee

Monday, November 30, 6:45 p.m.
Streets & Utilities Committee

Monday, December 7, 7:00 p.m.
Village Council Meeting

UPCOMING HOLIDAYS

Wednesday, November 11 – Veterans Day



Village Offices Closed Nov. 11

Garbage will be picked up on schedule, Friday, Nov. 13

Thursday, November 26 – Thanksgiving

Village Offices Closed Nov. 26 and Nov. 27

Garbage pick up will be delayed one day to Saturday, Nov. 28



Friday, December 25 – Christmas



Village Offices Closed at 12:00 p.m. on Dec. 24 and Dec. 25

Garbage pick up will be delayed one day to Saturday, Dec. 26

Friday, January 1 – New Year's Day

Village Offices Closed Jan. 1

Garbage pick up will be delayed one day to Saturday, Jan. 2



FINAL LEAF PICK-UP

Monday, November 23

Meadow Lane
Center Street
Duff Street
Wiggin Street

Tuesday, November 24

E. Brooklyn Street
W. Brooklyn Street
Quarry Chapel

Wednesday, November 25

N. Acland Street
S. Acland Street
Scott Lane
Chester Lane

Monday, November 30

Ward Street
Kokosing Drive
Rand Drive

Tuesday, December 1

W. Woodside Drive
Chase Avenue
Gaskin Avenue

Wednesday, December 2

E. Woodside Drive
Allen Drive

Please rake your leaves to the edge of the road in piles free of sticks and other debris. Please, do NOT place leaves in bags.

RECYCLING AND WASTE INFORMATION



RECYCLING CURBSIDE PICK-UP

The Village's recycling pick-up is on Thursday mornings. Your recycling must be curbside by 8:00 a.m. It does not need to be sorted. Please rinse out aluminum cans, cartons, glass food and drink containers, plastic bottles, and food cans. Place them in a container with holes at the bottom, allowing for drainage. Cardboard should be flattened.

If you miss pick-up, materials may be dropped off in the bins at the Gambier Maintenance Barn located at 141 Meadow Lane.

Recyclable Items

- Aluminum cans
- Cardboard
- Cartons (milk and juice)
- Glass food/drink containers
- Magazines, newspapers, office paper (no hardcover books)
- Plastic bottles/jugs
- Steel & bi-metals (food cans)

RESIDENTIAL RECYCLING GUIDE KNOX COUNTY 2020

For detailed recycling information for Knox County go to:

https://www.co.knox.oh.us/images/recycling/2020/2020_Residential_Recycling_Guide.pdf

This will include information on recycling batteries, cell phones, bulbs, carpeting, and much more.

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

Co-hosted by Kenyon College, electronics recycling takes place the first Saturday of every month from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Drop off is located near the dog park in a shipping container. There is a charge of \$20.00 per television any size and \$5.00 per computer monitor or laptops. Drop offs for most other items are free of charge.

TRASH COLLECTION

BULK ITEMS

To arrange pick up of any bulk item, call RUMPKE Waste and Recycling Services at 800-828-8171.

The Village contracts with **RUMPKE Waste and Recycling Services** to collect residential trash. This service is provided at no cost to the residents. Your trash should be curbside by 8:00 a.m. on Friday mornings. Large bulk items may be placed curbside for an additional charge, which will be billed to the resident directly from RUMPKE. Please call RUMPKE at 800-828-8171 to arrange pick up of any bulk item. Note, upholstered items must be wrapped in plastic. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to give the Village a call at 740-427-2061.

PHOTO GALLERY



GAMBIER, Ohio — Election Day in the village, Episcopal Bishop of Ohio The Right Reverend Mark Hollingsworth, Jr (right) talks to Kenyon students there to help fellow students with questions about voting, outside the community center voting location for the Village of Gambier and College Township, Tuesday, November 3, © 2020 Graham H. Stokes/Photographer



Tree Planting Ceremony, November 2, 2020



Trick or Treat, October 31, 2020



"That you need a village, if only for the pleasure of leaving it. Your own village means that you're not alone, that you know there's something of you in the people and the plants and the soil, that even when you are not there it waits to welcome you."

Cesare Pavese, The Moon and the Bonfires

VILLAGE STAFF AND CONTACT INFORMATION

R.C. Wise, Village Administrator

740-427-2063

villageadministrator@villageofgambier.org

Kathi Schonauer, Fiscal Officer

740-427-2051

taxadministrator@villageofgambier.org

clerk-treasurer@villageofgambier.org

Courtney DeCosky, V.A. Assistant/ Utility Clerk

740-427-2061

utilityclerk@villageofgambier.org

Maintenance:

Jeremiah Denuit

Josh Miller

Randy Wells

After Hours Emergency

740-397-3333

Gambier Community Center

115 Meadow Lane

Post Office Box 1984

Gambier, Ohio 43022

740-427-2671

740-427-2073 fax

www.villageofgambier.org

AREA BUSINESSES

Campus Auto & Tire—740-233-3015

101 W. Brooklyn Street

Chilitos Tex Mex

108 Gaskin Avenue

Gambier Deli—740-233-3031

110 Gaskin Avenue

Gambier House (B&B)—740-427-2668

107 E. Wiggin Street

Kenyon Bookstore—740-427-5652

106 Gaskin Avenue

Kenyon Inn—740-427-2202

100 W. Wiggin Street

The Rogan House (B&B) - 740-427-3203

401 Chase Avenue

The Village Inn—740-427-2112

102 Gaskin Avenue

Village Market—740-427-2801

109 Chase Avenue

Wiggin Street Coffee—740-233-3009

101 E. Wiggin Street

The Weather Vane—740-427-3636

Women's Clothing Store

103 Scott Lane