



BEXLEY TIMES

City of Bexley Quarterly Newsletter

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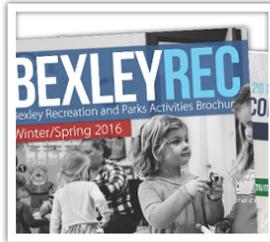
ON THE FLIP SIDE:



Water Line Service Info



Code Enforcement Corner



Recreation Registration



Calendar of Events

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK: 2015 IN REVIEW



Mayor Ben Kessler

A Look Back at 2015

2015 was full of some big changes and progress here at the City. Here's a look at some of the top milestones from Bexley's 2015:

A New City Hall and New Service Garage

In the early to mid part of the year, the City moved its offices and service garage function to new/remodeled facilities.

The move will be fully funded from new revenues from the upcoming Giant Eagle Market District project (see below). City Hall's location right next door to our old site is convenient, and our new single-floor and collaborative layout is allowing us to provide better service to residents in more of a one-stop-shop type of environment. If you haven't visited yet, stop in to say "hi" and check out our new space!



City Hall and David H. Madison Community Conference Room Dedication

Market District Grocery Store is Under Construction

Ground has been broken on the new Giant Eagle Market District Express grocery store, with an opening planned for later in 2016. The two-story store will have a full selection of fresh meats and produce, grocery items, prepared foods, and curated beer and wine sales. In addition to fully funding the City Hall/Service Garage relocation, this new development will bring in new tax revenue to the City and provide an amenity that residents have been asking for for many years.

Drexel's New Bathrooms

This might not typically fall under a traditional annual review, but these aren't typical bathrooms! Drexel's swank new accommodations are the first phase of a full renovation, with the next phase due early in 2016 and involving the renovation of the lobby, the theaters, and the marquee. This is a big and exciting moment for one of Bexley's cultural icons!



Many improvements to the City in 2015 were funded by the Bexley Community Foundation

Bexley Community Foundation Funded Projects

Projects this year that were funded by the Bexley Community Foundation include the new Jeffrey Mansion entryway, lights at Drexel Circle, new flower baskets for North Cassady, the Police Department honor guard and new AEDs for cruisers, equipment for 4th of July celebrations and support of the fireworks program, the community conference room amenities at City Hall, a level II electric vehicle charger at City Hall, the Bexley Block Party Activities Kit (BPAK) trailer and accessories, and the first phase of new trail along the new Alum Creek Park. As can be seen by this list, the Bexley Community Foundation continues to make a huge impact on what is possible in Bexley.

Bexley's Solicitor Permit Law Yields Results

One of the crime statistics we watch and combat most closely in Bexley is burglary. A couple of years ago the City launched a solicitor permit program to require solicitors to register for permits and receive background checks. This was done based on the observation that daytime burglars were posing as solicitors in order to scope out potential targets. Likely as a result of increasing awareness of solicitor permit laws, Bexley saw a drop in burglary of over 20% from

2014 - one of the lowest years in the trailing 15 year period that we track. Please call (614) 559-4444 to report unpermitted solicitors, or any suspicious activity in your neighborhood in general, to Bexley PD.

ODNR Approves \$81,000 grant for Athletic Fields

The City has been working over the past several years on the planning and development of the Alum Creek Park, spanning Main Street and Livingston Avenue. A part of this is the development of new athletic fields on City-owned property just north of Livingston. In late 2015, we learned that the development of the fields will be substantially supported by an \$81,000 grant from ODNR, opening the way for the first new athletic field space within the City of Bexley for many years.



The Bexley Base allows reporting and tracking of City issues

Bexley Base and BexALERT Launched

Two new communication tools that launched in 2015 are helping to further broaden our provision of services and information. The Bexley Base (www.bexley.org/base) is a way for residents to report issues to the City and receive up-to-date info on the status of the issue. BexALERT (www.bexley.org/bexalert) is a text/email/phone notification system that provides critical and timely info on a variety of important topics.

As you can see, we've been busy in 2015, and have a lot to be grateful for as we move into the new year. Here's to 2015, and to another year of progress both large and small. Until next time, see you around Bexley!

Mayor Ben Kessler



Water Service Lines Facts

With the age of many Bexley homes approaching 100 years, chances are you either have a recently replaced water service line or will need one replaced in the future. Over time, galvanized water service lines that extend from the City's water main to your home will corrode and will become prone to rupture.

A service line that fails is the homeowner's responsibility. Per Bexley regulation, galvanized service lines that have ruptured must be replaced with a new copper or plastic service line. Some water line insurance policies will not cover replacement of galvanized lines if the insurer determines the line could be repaired. Please be aware of our requirement to fully replace failed galvanized service lines when selecting a water line insurance vendor. Please contact the City's Water Department at (614) 559-4270 with any questions.



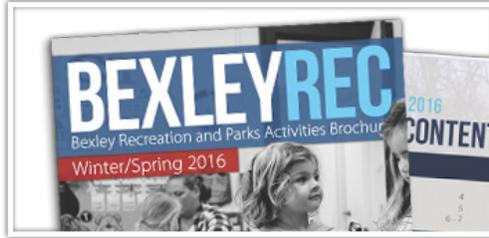
Bexley's Online Checkbook

Bexley has partnered with the Ohio Treasurer's Ohio Online Checkbook, to allow residents to easily search and view all transactions conducted by the City. Visit www.bexley.ohiocheckbook.com to check it out!



Vacation House Checks

Did you know that the Bexley Police Department offers vacation house checks while you're away? If you register your home for a house check, officers will provide a daily property check and keep an extra eye on your property while you're away. To register your home for a vacation house check, call (614) 559-4444.



Recreation Registration

The 2016 Winter-Spring Brochure is available to view online. We will be distributing the brochure through USPS to all Bexley Residents, so you should have received the brochure in your mail (note the change from distribution with ThisWeek News). If you are a non-resident or do not receive the brochure, there will also be hard copies available at Jeffrey Mansion, City Hall and the Library.

Activity Registration Dates:

Bexley Residents: Opens Monday, January 4, 2016 @ 12:00 noon

Non-Residents: Opens Wednesday, January 6, 2016 @ 12:00 noon

2016 Utility Rates

2016 Refuse Rates:

Refuse Rate: \$25.20 (no change from 2015)

Senior Refuse Rate: \$22.68 (no change from 2015)

Water and Sewer Rates:

As of April 1, 2016 water and sewer rates will increase by 4% (water) and 3% (sewer), which is a direct pass-through of Columbus rate increases for 2016.

2016 Water Rate: \$56.20 per 1,000 cubic feet

2016 Sewer Rate: \$69.50 per 1,000 cubic feet



2016 State of the Community Address

The 4th Annual "State of the Community Address" will be scheduled for late February/early March, with the final date and venue to be determined. Keep an eye on the City calendar at bexley.org for the finalized date and location.

At the State of the Community Address, attendees will hear updates and a look ahead from Bexley's major institutions. For more information on the Bexley State of the Community Address, visit www.bexley.org/soc.



Code Enforcement Corner

In the event that winter weather does eventually show up(!), please remember that Bexley has an ordinance requiring snow removal from residential sidewalks in addition to snow removal in front of businesses.

Removing snow goes a long way toward helping people move safely about our city to shop, go to school or visit neighbors. Your compliance with the ordinance is greatly appreciated. Residents are given a 24 hour period after a snowfall to clear sidewalks. Code enforcement issues warnings to property owners who are not complying with the ordinance based upon random checks of properties as well as reports by residents. Repeat violators may be issued citations for failure to comply with the City's sidewalk clearing code.

For questions, comments or complaints, please contact Code Enforcement Officer Dave Hrdlicka at dhrdlicka@bexley.org or 614-559-4247.



Mark Your Calendar

January 4, 12 noon:

Bexley Recreation Winter/Spring Registration Opens

January 28, 7:00 pm:

BexTalks at the Public Library Inaugural event feat. dynamic talks from Bexley natives

January 30, 9:00am @ Piccadilly Play Cafe:

"Coffee with the Mayor" - learn about what's happening in Bexley - kids are welcome to join/play!

February 27 & March 5 @ Jeffrey Park:

Bexley Maple Syrup Workshops / Jeffrey Woods Festival on March 5th / www.bexley.org/maple

Late Feb/early March (date/time to be finalized):

Bexley State of the Community Address

March 26, 12 noon:

Community Easter Egg Hunt

April 16:

Greater Bexley Cleanup Day

April 29:

Arbor Day Activities

For more events, visit www.bexley.org/events



To sign up for weekly email updates from the City of Bexley, visit: www.bexley.org/blast