

Clayton Living

FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF CLAYTON

Thank you

To the Residents of Clayton,

On behalf of the Clayton Fire and Police Departments, we want to extend our deepest gratitude to our community for your support in passing the fire and police income tax. Your trust and commitment to public safety are truly appreciated, and this decision will have a lasting impact on the services we provide.

Your support ensures that our firefighters and first responders have the resources necessary to continue protecting lives and property. The funding from this tax will allow us to maintain and improve emergency response capabilities, invest in essential equipment, and ensure the highest level of service for the citizens of Clayton.

This vote of confidence in our Fire and Police Departments reaffirms the strong partnership between our first responders and the community we proudly serve. We are committed to using these resources responsibly and effectively to enhance safety, preparedness, and emergency response across our city.

Once again, thank you for your support and trust. It is an honor to serve this community, and we remain dedicated to keeping Clayton a safe place to live, work, and raise a family.

With sincere appreciation,
Chief Brian Garver
Chief Matt Hamlin



Montgomery County Auditor, Karl Keith, announces Photo and Data Collection Project

2026 Property Reappraisal

In November 2024, Montgomery County Auditor Karl Keith kicked-off the 2026 Property Reappraisal. During this project, he will individually review each of the 250,000+ real estate parcels in Montgomery County and assign a new value to each one. Those values will be used for taxing purposes starting with the tax bills you receive in 2027.

The work begins with the collection of digital photos of every property in the county. Between Fall 2024 and Spring 2025, you may see these vehicles of different makes and models in your neighborhood, but all will be clearly

marked as being part of our photo and data collection project.

The cameras mounted on top will take photos automatically as they drive the county's 3,600 miles of roadways. After the photos are taken, a cloud-based application will integrate them with aerial photography and our property database, which will help the appraisers accurately determine each property's value.

If you have questions about the 2026 Property Reappraisal or the photo and data collection project, please give them a call during business hours at 937-225-4326.



Greeting Neighbors!

I hope everyone had a great start to 2025! It was brutally cold and there was lots of snow in January, but it looks like we made it through the worst. I don't know about you, but I'm looking forward to spring!

I would like to speak to a subject that none of us likes...taxes! Cities are funded almost exclusively through tax dollars. As you know, Clayton had a 1% earned income tax increase initiative, with a 100% reciprocity, on the November 2024 ballot. Voters in all three (3) wards backed the initiative and the increase will take effect in January 2026. I want to say a sincere 'Thank You' to our residents for your support, your trust, and the understanding that managing a city is a complex and expensive endeavor. We surely would have seen a further reduction of services and personnel without your vote. Again, Thank You!

Just a few specifics that this increase will support; the 1% increase is dedicated to our Police, Fire/EMS Departments. Both departments have managed 2023-2024 with personnel positions unfilled. The increase will allow for less transfers from our general funds so we can restore the non-vital services that have been reduced. We will continue our street and curb program. Community events like Breakfast

with Santa, our Halloween celebration, and the Labor Day fireworks are back. The leaf pick-up is back. We will be able to recruit and hire an Economic Development Director. Fiscal stability will help retain our excellent staff. I am proud to remind everyone Clayton has received the highest acknowledgement from the GFOA for our GAAP adherence and budget management 17 years in a row. Additional revenue will allow the city to grow, offer high value, and continue to be a great place to live. Again, on behalf of our Council, Staff, and Committees, I want to Thank You for your support.

I hope 2025 will be a prosperous and healthy year for each and everyone.

Best Regards,

Mike Stevens, Mayor
(937) 603-5211
mstevens@clayton.oh.us



Fire Chief Completes Credentialing Program



Fire Chief Brian Garver

The Clayton Fire Department is proud to announce that Fire Chief Brian Garver has successfully completed the Ohio Fire Chiefs Credentialing Program, marking a significant milestone in his career and further solidifying his commitment to professional excellence in fire service leadership.

The Ohio Fire Chiefs Credentialing Program is designed to recognize fire service leaders who demonstrate the highest level of proficiency and dedication in the field. It aims to enhance the professionalism of fire chiefs and provides a structured approach to leadership, decision-making, and operational performance. Chief Garver's completion of the program underscores his commitment to continuous learning and growth, ensuring that the Clayton Fire Department remains at the forefront of service to the community.

The Clayton Fire Department and the City of Clayton congratulates Chief Garver on this accomplishment and looks forward to the continued positive impact his leadership will have on the department and the community it serves.



Meet Two New City of Clayton Police Officers

OFFICER KYLE MARLETT

Hi, I'm Kyle Marlett, a dedicated Police Officer serving the City of Clayton. Raised in the Moraine/Kettering area, I've followed in my family's footsteps of public service.

I trained at the Sinclair Police Academy, which I attended with Clayton Officer Ashlee Shewman. With six years in law enforcement, including three years in South Charleston, I recently joined the Clayton Police Department, hoping to focus on community relations, mental health, and drug interdiction.

Off duty, I'm a devoted family man with my amazing wife Michelle, our children Kylee, Noah, Elliott, and a baby on the way. I feel blessed to provide for my family and be part of this strong community.

As I take the oath of office, I am honored to serve the City of Clayton, upholding justice, integrity, and excellence. ☀️



Police Officer Kyle Marlett

OFFICER JOSEPH PUGH

I grew up in Fairborn, where I currently live with my wife Alicia and three children. I want thank my wife for the love and support she gave before and after entering this career field.

From 2011 to 2014, I attended Wright State University and graduated with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice. In 2015 to 2016, I attended the Greene County Criminal Justice Academy, where I obtained my OPOTA certification. Shortly after graduating in 2016, I became an officer for the Village of South Charleston. In 2021, I was promoted to sergeant. After eight and half years, I felt it was time to grow my knowledge and experience while embracing new challenges. I'd like to thank Officer Marlett for advising of the opportunity to work with the community of Clayton. ☀️



Police Officer Joseph Pugh

2025 City of Clayton Calendar of Events

Below is the schedule of Clayton's 2025 events. Please follow the city on all its social media platforms or check out the city's website at www.clayton.oh.us for additional details and information on these events throughout the year as well as additional events as they are added.



Clayton's Easter Egg Hunt

April 12th, 9:30 am
Meadowbrook at Clayton,
6001 Salem Avenue

Bring your own baskets for Clayton's annual Easter Egg Hunt. Age groups are 0-3, 4-6 & 7-9. Clayton's Easter Bunny will be at the event to cheer on the participants as they look for eggs at Meadowbrook at Clayton. Rain or shine. Event starts right at 9:30 am and will go fast, so make sure you're there on time.



Sweep Clayton Clean

May 17th & October 18th
200 Woolery Lane

Dumpsters are available starting at 8:00am until the dumpsters are full with a hard cut off at 12 noon. Clayton residents may dispose of junk, storage, furniture, wood, tree limbs and yard debris. Refrigerators may be dropped off if the freon has been drained. Free to residents. *No Liquids, Paints, Freon, Tires, or Hazardous Items will be accepted. A chipper will be available for tree brush.

Movie in the Park

August 15th at 8:30 pm

Meadowbrook at Clayton, 6001 Salem Avenue

Celebrate the first week of the new school year with Clayton's annual Movie in the Park. Free to all community members. Please feel free to bring your own snacks and beverages. No alcohol is permitted. Families are free to bring blankets or chairs to enjoy the movie outside on Meadowbrook's driving range. Restroom facilities will be open.



Clayton Shredding Event

July 19th from 9:00-11:00 am

Clayton Government Center,
6996 Taywood Rd.

Items that may be shredded include: paper records, tapes, credit cards, cd's and microfilm. Shredding will be performed by Shred-It onsite. Residents are limited to 4-boxes/bags per resident. This event is free for Clayton residents. Absolutely no business or home business documents will be accepted. Please enter the Government Center from Taywood Road as vehicles will be exiting at the Old Salem Road access.



Labor Day Fireworks and Festival

August 31st at 7:00 pm

Meadowbrook at Clayton,
6001 Salem Avenue

The City of Clayton and the Clayton Parks Advisory Commission is hosting the return of the Labor Day Festival & Fireworks on Sunday, August 31st

at Meadowbrook at Clayton. Join us for free hot dogs, cotton candy, sno-cones, and popcorn and be entertained by Northmont's music program, face painting and bounce houses. After the festival, grab your blanket or lawn chair and enjoy the region's best fireworks starting at 9:00 pm. Festival begins at 7:00 pm.





**Fire, Police & Service
Community Open House**
October 7th from 4:30-7:00 pm
Clayton Government Center,
6996 Taywood Rd.

This family fun event is always free to the public and is a great opportunity for families to come out and interact with the police, fire & service departments. Kids and parents alike can play games, participate in activities, and enjoy light refreshments. Equipment is open to be looked at and staff is always available to talk and answer any questions you may have. Come on out and enjoy a relaxing and free evening with us.



Costumes and Carvings
October 26th from 2:00-4:00 pm
Meadowbrook at Clayton,
6001 Salem Avenue

All kids, grade K-8 are invited to this annual fall event. Pumpkin carving contest for all ages. Pumpkins and carving tools will be provided. Come dressed in your costumes for the costume contest following pumpkin carving. Goodie bags will be handed out at the end of the event.



**Breakfast
with Santa**
December 13th 9:00-
11:00 am
Meadowbrook at
Clayton,
6001 Salem Avenue

Clayton's annual Breakfast with Santa is back this year! Only 200 Tickets are being sold, and tickets go on sale November 18th. *No advance sales prior to November 18th and no holds. Tickets must be purchased in advance of the event at the City of Clayton Government Center; *Seating is assigned so if you'd like to sit with friends and family, please inform staff when purchasing tickets. Since seating is limited, we do not guarantee groups will be sat together but we will try our best. Purchase tickets at the City of Clayton Building, 6996 Taywood Rd.



Thank you!

Thanks to all who helped pass the November 2024 Income tax levy. Clayton can continue to provide the best services, parks and roads, due to this passage.

Please note that the changes in the income tax (2.5% tax rate and 100% credit for taxes paid to other cities) will not take effect until January 1, 2026.

As a result, the 50% tax credit and 1.5% tax rate will remain in effect throughout 2025.

Also, the State of Ohio mandated estimated payments for those who owe more than \$200 is still in place for 2025 and each year thereafter.

Please contact the City of Clayton at 937-836-3500 with any questions.

Refuse Service & Collection

The City of Clayton contracts its refuse and recycling services to Rumpke Waste and Recycling. Currently, residents are paying \$42.45 quarterly for trash and recycle service which includes a one 95-gallon trash cart and one 95-gallon recycle cart. On July 1, 2025, the rate will increase to \$44.16.

Here are a few reminders about residents' accounts:

- When you move out or move in, please remember to close or open your trash account with Rumpke by calling 1-800-828-8171.
- Confirm that Rumpke has your correct phone number and email so they can contact you if there are unexpected collection delays, issues with service, etc.
- Wrap your upholstered items in plastic prior to placing them at the curb for trash pick-up.
- If you have an issue and it is unresolved by Rumpke, please contact the Clayton Government Offices at 937- 836-3500.
- If payment is delinquent more than three quarters with Rumpke, the City assumes the amount owed and undertakes the collection of the debt owed by the residential unit. Therefore, if you owe for any quarters up to 2nd quarter 2024, you will receive an invoice from the City of Clayton. ☀️

Reminder: Springtime Means Fire Hydrant Flushing

The Fire Department will conduct their annual hydrant flushing program the beginning of April and it will run through June. Clayton has over 830 fire hydrants that will be inspected and tested during this process. During hydrant flushing, the water in your home may have a rusty appearance. The discoloration doesn't affect the safety of the water. If you notice discoloration, run cold water for several minutes to clear the lines. The water should run clear in a few minutes. Toilets should also be flushed once or twice. If pressure or volume seems low at faucet locations, check your faucet screens for trapped particles. If you see the Fire Department working on a hydrant, please drive carefully and provide the same courtesies you would any other road construction crew.

If you have any questions or concerns about the fire hydrant flushing process, please call the Fire Department at 937-836-3500.



Curb and Paving Projects

The City of Clayton will continue the yearly curb and paving projects in the spring of 2025. Six-month letters have been sent to residents informing them of the coming projects which were canceled in 2024 for a lack of funds.

A resident will have an option to replace the damaged curb once identified, or they can choose to have the city replace the damaged curb as part of the city's yearly concrete program which is typically cheaper for the property owner.

Once the inspector has identified each property owner's curb and approach, a contract will be advertised and sold, and the resident will get a 30-day letter of the amount of damage and the estimated cost for the city to repair.

As part of the 2025 curb and approach program, city officials will be inspecting sidewalk for any damage or trip hazards and will be repairing these as well. As most residents are aware, the ORC states that homeowners are responsible for all curb and sidewalk abutting their property.

The projects for 2025 are...

- Hilltop Drive will need a complete replacement of curb as the entire stretch is buried under many layers of asphalt. The concrete contractor will replace all the buried concrete and residents will have an option to replace their approaches if they wish to have a smooth low-profile entry into their driveway. Any approaches that are in very poor condition will need to be replaced to add the expansion between the curb and driveway approach.
- Once all the concrete is replaced, the asphalt contractor will pave the road.
- Additional roads for curb and paving will be Summersweet, Fall Gold, Mount Royal, Sterling Woods, Sterling Maple, Sterling Oaks, Clinton Road from Crestway to Salem Street, and Haber Road from National Road to Sweet-Potato Ridge Road.
- Other maintenance projects in 2025 will include crack seal in the Savina Hills and Seville area. ☀️

Open Burning

Spring is almost here, which means residents may want to conduct open burning. Open burning is defined as anytime you light an outdoor fire without a stack or chimney. Burning such items as leaves, twigs, and trash, plant materials and other types of debris.

Open burning contributes to the overall degradation of our air quality and causes breathing difficulties for those suffering from respiratory illnesses like asthma, emphysema, and bronchitis. It can also cause safety concerns with fire hazards that can cause further property damage and smoke that can reduce visibility on nearby roads, especially when there is limited access to water for fire protection.



Open burning is permitted within the City of Clayton for the following purposes: barbecues, campfires, cookouts, ceremonial fires, occupational fires. Open burning must be with clean, seasoned firewood or equivalent and no larger than three (3) feet in diameter and two (2) feet in height. The open burn must be attended at all times, along with a suitable extinguishing source such as a water hose or class A fire extinguisher.

Open burning outside the parameters set by the State of Ohio and the City of Clayton is a violation of Ohio law and substantial penalties can be assessed. If you have any questions, please contact the Clayton Fire Department at 937-836-3500. ☀️

Look Back at the Progression of Clayton's Electrical Aggregation Program

In the fall of 2022, Clayton voters approved an opt-out electrical aggregation program for residents and small businesses. This program allows a group to purchase electricity at a competitive rate on behalf of its members, often leading to savings on energy bills.

In an opt-out aggregation program, all residents and small businesses are automatically enrolled unless

they choose to opt out, meaning they would not be included in the program. However, residents who were already enrolled in another aggregation program at the time were not automatically transferred into the City's new program.

Residents and small businesses participating in the program are part of the Miami Valley Communications Council (MVCC) aggregation. When

the contract initially went into effect in the summer of 2023, MVCC's partner was Energy Harbor. In the fall of 2024, Energy Harbor was acquired by Dynegy, though the rate of 6.57¢ per kWh remained unchanged and continues to apply through the end of the contract term in December 2025.

For more details, visit [dynegy.com/municipal-aggregation/faq](https://www.dynegy.com/municipal-aggregation/faq) or call Dynegy at 888-682-2170.



P.O. Box 280
Clayton, OH 45315
(937) 836-3500
www.clayton.oh.us

City of Clayton Public Meetings

City Council

1st and 3rd Thursday of Every Month, 7:30 PM

Board of Zoning Appeals

1st Tuesday of the Month, 7:00 PM

Planning Commission

4th Monday of Every Month, 7:00 PM

Clayton City Council hold regularly scheduled meetings on the first and third Thursdays of the month, starting at 7:30 pm, unless otherwise noted. During the summer months, (June, July, and August) Council will meet only once each month. The first Thursday in June, and the second Thursday in July and August. To learn more about upcoming agendas, please visit the city’s website at <https://www.clayton.oh.us/175/City-Council>.

To learn more about upcoming agendas, please visit the city’s website at <https://www.clayton.oh.us/171/Government>. ☀️

Communication is one of the most important aspects of a growing and thriving community. Clayton releases triannual newsletters. Two, spring & fall, are mailed to each residents and the summer edition is released online. Sign up to receive the online summer newsletter by visiting clayton.oh.us and selecting ‘Notify Me’.



Mike Stevens, Mayor
mstevens@clayton.oh.us

Tim Gorman, Vice Mayor, Council Member Ward 3
tgorman@clayton.oh.us

Brendan Bachman, Council Member at Large
bbachman@clayton.oh.us

Tina Kelly, Council Member at Large
tkelly@clayton.oh.us

Greg Merkle, Council Member at Large
gmerkle@clayton.oh.us

Ryan Farmer, Council Member Ward 1
rfarmer@clayton.oh.us

Kenneth Henning, Council Member Ward 2
khenning@clayton.oh.us

CITY STAFF

Amanda Zimmerlin, City Manager
azimmerlin@clayton.oh.us

Brian Garver, Fire Chief
bgarver@clayton.oh.us

Matt Hamlin, Chief of Police
mhamlin@clayton.oh.us

Randy Sanders, Director of Public Service
dsanders@clayton.oh.us

Kevin Schweitzer, CPA, Finance Director
kschweitzer@clayton.oh.us

Elaine Wittman, Assistant to the City Manager
ewittman@clayton.oh.us

Barbara Seim, Clerk of Council
bseim@clayton.oh.us

Follow us on social media

