



VILLAGE OF BARNESVILLE NEWSLETTER

Published by the Village of Barnesville, Ohio

Winter 2025 Edition – Volume 4 | Issue 4

www.barnesvilleohio.gov

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK



BARNESVILLE

Hello Barnesville,

Winter is here, and our village is shining. Thank you to everyone who helped with Christmas in the Ville, the Lighted Christmas Parade, and Christmas in the Park; your time and spirit keep our traditions strong and our downtown full of cheer.

It has been a great year for our village. From the 61st Annual Barnesville Pumpkin Festival to our selection as one of Ohio Magazine's 2025 to 2026 Best Hometowns, the credit belongs to our volunteers, small businesses, schools, churches, and neighbors who look out for one another. The spirit of Barnesville shows up in big moments, and in the everyday kindness we see on our streets.

Our village crews are ready for snow and ice. Please give plows room to work, park legally, and be patient during storms; this keeps everyone safe and helps us clear streets faster. A word of thanks to our employees across all departments for the steady work they do behind the scenes in every season.

Please keep shopping local through the winter, check on a neighbor, and lend a hand where you can. You are always welcome at our biweekly council meetings; your ideas help guide the future of our village.

"Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us." Matthew 1:23
Merry Christmas!

Have a safe and peaceful winter. God bless you and our community.

Warmest regards,

Jake Hershberger

Jake Hershberger
Mayor of Barnesville



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Police
740-425-1976

Fire Dept. (Non-Emergency)
740-425-3054

EMS (Non-Emergency)
740-425-3368

Emergency
911

Mayor
740-619-0279 or 740-425-3444

Fiscal Office/Income Taxes
740-425-3444

Water Dept.
740-425-3672

Street Dept.
740-425-4501

Parks & Recreation
740-425-3012

Upcoming Village Council Meetings 2025

This newsletter edition includes the 2026 Village Council Meeting Schedule on page 6. The final council meeting for 2025 is scheduled for Monday, December 29, 2025, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers. The public is welcome to attend.

Christmas Tree Pickup

The Barnesville Street Department will be picking up Christmas Trees left curbside by residents starting on December 26, 2025 and will continue until January 9, 2026. No particular schedule will be followed and trees will be picked up as time allows.

Income Tax Reminder

The Village of Barnesville contracts with the Regional Income Tax Agency (R.I.T.A.) to manage our municipal tax collections. R.I.T.A. offers residents and businesses free online filing and payment options. For questions or additional information call 1-800-860-7482 or visit ritaohio.com, or contact the Fiscal/Income Tax Office 740-425-3444.

CodeRED Transitioning Companies & Annual Test

CodeRED has officially transitioned to a new service provider, Crisis24. At this time, there is no action required from the community regarding updates to the new system. We will provide further details as they become available. The annual CodeRED test is scheduled for March 1, 2026, at 1:00 PM, subject to Crisis24's transition timeline. During this test, subscribers will receive a notification via phone call, text, and email. This helps us verify that the system is functioning properly. As in previous years, an optional survey will be available after the test to collect feedback. To register or update your information in CodeRED, please visit www.alerts.barnesvilleohio.com or text "Belmont" to 24639.

Permit Spaces Available – East Main Parking Lot

The Village of Barnesville has several permit parking spaces available in the East Main Street Parking Lot, located between Cheffy's and Avenues of Barnesville. The cost is \$20 a month or \$120 a year. Parking permits are valid Monday through Saturday 8am–6pm, except special events and for maintenance. Permits are sold on a first come basis. For more information or to purchase a permit, contact the Barnesville Police Department 740-425-1976.

Follow Us



@VillageofBarnesville
@BarnesvillePolice
@BarnesvilleFireAndEMS



@BarnesvilleOH



Go Shamrocks!

RITA makes online filing easy with MyAccount and FastFile.

Online filing is:

- Easy
- Fast
- Secure

RITA
REGIONAL INCOME TAX AGENCY

File online at ritaohio.com

❄️ Winter Has Arrived ❄️

- ❄️ Please do not shovel or plow snow into the roadway or onto neighboring properties without permission from the property owner.
- ❄️ Sidewalks must be kept free of snow and ice. Please do your part and remember to shovel your sidewalks this winter. Property owners are responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of their sidewalks during the winter and year round.
- ❄️ Use caution when driving during snowfall and this winter as roads could be slick. Always remember your headlights during rain, snow & fog to create better visibility.
- ❄️ No parking in the downtown area if snowfall exceeds three inches or greater, to allow for the downtown streets to be plowed. villeohio.com
- ❄️ Do not leave your vehicle running unattended with keys inside it to heat up. Doing so creates the perfect opportunity for the vehicle to be stolen.
- ❄️ Do your part and help public works by keeping the roadways clear and allow room for the plows to move through.
- ❄️ Off-road vehicles, including 4-wheelers, and snowmobiles, cannot be operated on the public streets, even if under a snow level or snow emergency. However, with proper inspection Utility Vehicles (UTVs) may now be permitted under the updated ordinance.
- ❄️ During snow/ice events village crews will be working diligently to ensure that roads are clear, please be patient as crews treat and plow the roadways.

Snow Levels

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
▪ Roadways are hazardous ▪ Roads may also be icy ▪ Drive with caution	▪ Roadways are hazardous ▪ Roads may be very icy ▪ Only drive if necessary ▪ Contact your employer before reporting to work ▪ Use extreme caution	▪ Roadways closed to non-emergency personnel ▪ No one should drive unless absolutely necessary or a personal emergency exists ▪ Contact your employer before reporting to work ▪ Those traveling on roads may be subject to arrest

Snow levels are set by the Belmont County Sheriff Department. To find out if we are on a snow level please visit the Belmont County Sheriff Facebook page or website: www.belmontsheriff.com, or call 740-695-7933.

OHGO

Planning to travel this winter and want to check real-time road conditions and traffic information? Check OHGO before you go. OHGO reports current road activity, speeds, incidents, travel delays, closures, and severe weather conditions for all of Ohio's Highways. You can download the OHGO app today or visit: www.ohgo.com



We're HIRING



The Village of Barnesville is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a drug-free workplace

No Current Job Postings as of release of the Winter Village Newsletter. To check for employment opportunities visit barnesvilleohio.com/jobs or scan the above QR code.



The Barnesville Police Department recently received Safety Pup Pillow Pups from the National Child Safety Council to give to children during calls and other situations as needed.

Congratulations to Matt Sellers on being named Firefighter of the Year and Don West on being named EMT of the Year!



A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped decorate and set up displays for the Barnesville Area Chamber of Commerce's Christmas in the Park at Barnesville Memorial Park!

A special shout-out to the Cemetery Crew: Jason Martin, Harold Sturgeon, and Christian Carpenter and the Park Crew: Guy John and Rich Wells for their hard work in making the park truly magical this holiday season. Your dedication and teamwork made all the difference!

Be sure to take a drive through the park and enjoy the beautiful decorations, which will be up until January 2, 2026!



How Snow Removal Works In Barnesville

As winter weather sets in, the Village of Barnesville would like to help residents better understand how street clearing operations work during snow and ice events. Our goal is always to keep roads safe while using our crews and equipment as efficiently and responsibly as possible.

Street Clearing Priorities

During a snowstorm, streets are cleared based on safety, traffic volume, and access to essential services.

First Priority: Main Roads and Critical Routes

Main streets are always cleared first, especially routes that lead to the hospital, healthcare facilities, and nursing homes. These roads must remain accessible for emergency vehicles and essential travel. Barnesville utilizes both salt routes and grit routes. Not all streets receive salt, as it is reserved for the most heavily traveled and critical roadways. Other streets may receive grit to improve traction.

Second Priority: Side Streets

Once primary routes are cleared and maintained, crews move to residential and secondary streets. These streets are important, but they cannot be safely addressed until main routes are open and under control.

Third Priority: Alleys

Alleys are always the last areas to be cleared because they experience the least traffic. During ongoing or heavy snowfall, it may take additional time before crews are able to reach them while continuing to keep priority roads passable.

Why Timing Can Vary

Winter weather is unpredictable. Snow squalls and sudden bursts of snowfall can quickly undo clearing efforts. In many cases, crews finish clearing roads, return home, and are called back out shortly afterward due to changing conditions.

Our street crews often work long hours—sometimes with very little rest—while also working their regular scheduled shifts. They operate in the same icy and hazardous conditions as the rest of the community, all while focusing on keeping roads safe.

How Residents Can Help

We kindly ask residents to:

- Be patient during snow events
- Give plows plenty of space while they are operating
- Avoid crowding or following plow trucks
- Understand that crews are working as quickly and safely as conditions allow

If you see one of our drivers grabbing a quick coffee or taking a short break, a simple “thank you” goes a long way. These employees sacrifice personal and family time to serve the community.

A Community Effort

We understand that it can be frustrating when your street or alley has not yet been cleared. Please know that our crews are working hard in difficult conditions to reach every area as safely and efficiently as possible.

This winter, let's choose patience, respect, and gratitude. The dedication of our street crews is one of the many reasons Barnesville continues to be the **Best Hometown**.



Notify online using Remote
Ticket Entry to call dial
8-1-1 or 800-362-2764



Barnesville Area Food Pantries Information

St. Vincent De Paul Thrift Store and Food Pantry

First Thursday of month 10am-1pm
116 S Gardner (behind Catholic Church)
Phone: 740-425-9438

Barnesville Mobile Market

Returns Jan. 2nd
First Friday of Month
9am-Noon
Location TBA

Beyond Barnesville:

Bethesda Mobile Market
40601 Bethesda-Belmont Rd
Phone: 740-484-1194
1st & 3rd Thursday 10-Noon

5 Loaves Food Ministry

Generally 3rd Saturday every month
11am-12 New Life Center
First Christian Church, 219 W Church
Pantry & carry out lunch
Phone: 740-425-2480

Village of Barnesville Observed Holidays

Village Offices will be closed the following dates in observance to holiday -
Public Safety Offices will remain open:

- December 24, 2025- Offices Close at Noon
- December 25, 2025 - Christmas Day
- January 1, 2026 - New Year's Day
- January 19, 2026 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- February 16, 2026 - President's Day
- April 3, 2026 - Good Friday
- May 25, 2026 - Memorial Day
- July 3, 2026 - Independence Day
- September 7, 2026 - Labor Day
- October 12, 2026 - Columbus Day
- November 25, 2026 - Offices Close at Noon
- November 26, 2026 - Thanksgiving Day
- December 24, 2026 - Offices Close at Noon
- December 25, 2026 - Christmas Day
- January 1, 2027 - New Year's Day

MEETING AGENDAS
MEETING MINUTES
MEETING SCHEDULE
UPCOMING EVENTS
NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS
IMPORTANT FORMS
AND MORE....

WWW.BARNESVILLEOHIO.COM



Village Council Meeting Schedule 2026

Council Meetings are open to the public. Meeting schedule is available at the Fiscal Office, posted outside Council Chambers and is available online at www.barnesvilleohio.com. Council Meetings are held every other Monday at 7:00 PM at the Municipal Building in Council Chambers, 132 N Arch St, Barnesville, OH. The public is welcomed to attend.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------------|----------------|
| • January 12 | • May 18 | • September 8* |
| • January 26 | • June 1 | • September 21 |
| • February 9 | • June 15 | • October 5 |
| • February 23 | • June 29 | • October 19 |
| • March 9 | • July 13 | • November 2 |
| • March 23 | • July 27 | • November 16 |
| • April 6 | • August 10 | • November 30 |
| • April 20 | • August 24 | • December 14 |
| • May 4 | | • December 28 |

*Denotes Tuesday due to Holidays

Winter in Barnesville: A Season of Cheer & Dedication

As winter settles in, Barnesville is glowing with holiday spirit. Downtown is beautifully adorned with Christmas trees, wreaths, and sparkling snowflakes, thanks to the hard work of our Village crews. Special thanks go to the Cemetery and Street Departments, as well as Travis Kaiser of KSGR Solutions, who generously donated his time and equipment to help hang the snowflakes after the Village's bucket truck was out of service. These decorations, part of a project by the Barnesville Area Chamber of Commerce, bring warmth and cheer to our community throughout the season.

The holiday fun continues with Christmas in the Park, a beloved tradition made possible by the Chamber of Commerce and supported by our Village crews. From December 3rd to January 2nd, visitors can enjoy a drive through the park while listening to festive music. A walk through downtown Barnesville is a perfect way to admire the beautifully decorated windows of local businesses, the twinkling lights, and the Village Christmas Tree. For an extra festive experience, don't forget to visit the Belmont County Mansion Museum, beautifully decorated for the season. These traditions highlight the strength of our community and the spirit of the holidays.

Looking ahead, the Barnesville Bike & Pedestrian Path is nearing completion. This trail, following the historic B&O Railroad corridor, will offer a safe and accessible route for both walkers and cyclists. The restoration of the historic railroad tunnel beneath East Main and South Arch Streets is a key feature of this project, preserving a piece of our town's history while creating a new community space. Additional street improvements, including new crosswalks and fencing along Railroad Street, are expected to wrap up in the coming months. This project is a great example of how our community is embracing progress while honoring our past.

Winter weather can be unpredictable, but our Village crews are always ready to keep our roads safe. The recent snowstorm marked the first significant snowfall of the season, and our crews did a fantastic job putting the salt spreaders and snow plows to work. These hardworking teams were out early and late, making sure streets were clear and safe for everyone. Salt spreaders were deployed across key routes, and plows worked tirelessly to clear roads quickly. It's no easy task, but our crews continue to rise to the occasion, ensuring our streets remain safe during the winter months. Please be patient, as snow removal can take time—sometimes requiring late-night work to keep roads clear and accessible.

The Water Department also faces challenges during the winter months, especially when it comes to water line breaks caused by freezing temperatures. Our crews are always on hand, ready to respond and restore service as quickly as possible. If you experience low water pressure or no water, check your pipes for any frozen sections before contacting the Water Department for assistance. These efforts are critical to making sure that our residents continue to have access to clean, safe water during the colder months.

While winter can be a slower season for some departments, the Park Crew and Cemetery Crew continues to maintain public spaces and assists with repairs to holiday decorations. Together, these departments ensure that Barnesville stays safe, clean, and beautiful throughout the season. Their behind-the-scenes work is essential to keeping our community running smoothly, no matter the weather.

As we look toward the new year, we are reminded of the incredible dedication of our Village crews and departments. Their hard work, day in and day out, helps shape Barnesville into the Best Hometown. From street repairs to snow removal, from water line repairs to maintaining our Christmas displays, these employees go above and beyond to keep our village running smoothly. Their teamwork and commitment are the backbone of our community, helping Barnesville grow stronger, year after year.

Wishing everyone a safe and joyful Christmas season, and a heartfelt thank you to all who work to make Barnesville a great place to call home! Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!



CODERED

By **CRISIS24**

Emergency Alert Test MARCH 1, 2026 @ 1:00 PM*

*subject to Crisis24's transition timeline

The Village of Barnesville will be sending out a test Emergency Alert through CodeRED. Subscribers will receive a test alert by phone call, text, and email. This allows us to ensure the system is operational.



DID YOU KNOW?

- The downtown area is recognized as the Barnesville Historic District on the National Register of Historic Places. The Bradfield Building is especially notable and is considered one of the best examples of Richardsonian Romanesque architecture in Ohio.
- Back in the late 19th century (around the 1880s), Barnesville was famous not for pumpkins, but for strawberries! Shipments grew to as much as 1,000 bushels per day, and the "Barnesville strawberry" was known across the country and even into foreign countries.
- The Watt Center for History and the Arts is housed in the former office of the Watt Car and Wheel Company, a business that gained prominence for inventing the self-oiling mine car wheel to support Belmont County's coal industry.



Stay Informed: Get Email Updates on News & Announcements



UNDER-SPEED VEHICLE ORDINANCE REMINDER For Golf Carts, Utility Vehicles, and Mini Trucks

An ordinance was passed by Barnesville Village Council that allows for the legal operation of Golf Carts, Under-Speed Vehicles, Low-Speed Vehicles, Utility Vehicles, and Mini-Trucks on public roadways within the Village of Barnesville.

Important Requirements:

- All vehicles must be inspected by the Barnesville Police Department prior to operation on village roadways.
- Operators must be at least 16 years old and possess a valid driver's license.
- Drivers and passengers are required to adhere to all Ohio traffic laws and the Codified Ordinances of the Village of Barnesville.

Speed Limit Restrictions:

- These vehicles may not be operated on any public roadway where the posted speed limit exceeds 35 miles per hour.
- They may cross intersections of streets or highways where the posted speed limit is greater than 35 mph.

Inspection Details:

- Inspection Fee: \$50
- Inspections are required to obtain a title and license for the vehicle.
- The inspection ensures compliance with both Ohio state laws and Barnesville ordinances.

How to Schedule an Inspection:

- Contact the Barnesville Police Department at 740-425-1976, or
- Visit the department in person to pick up an inspection packet and arrange for an appointment.

Download the Inspection Packet:

Visit www.police.barnesvilleohio.com to download the inspection packet and information

Questions?

Contact the Barnesville Police Department Monday-Sunday 8:00am-Midnight 740-425-1976



Scan the QR code
above to obtain
the Inspection
Packet

Tips to AVOID FROZEN PIPES



If your pipes do freeze or burst, **DO NOT CALL 911**. If you need assistance by the Barnesville Water Dept. please call 740-425-3672 Monday-Friday 8am-4pm. After hours, please contact the Barnesville Police Dept. 740-425-1976. Service fee for call-out may apply.

Before the Cold Sets In:

- Eliminate sources of cold air near water lines. Seal any cracks or openings around windows and doors.
- Know how to shut off your water in the case of an emergency.
- Protect your pipes by wrapping them with insulation.
- Remove, drain and store garden hoses.

When Temperatures Stay Below Freezing:

- Keep the heat in your home at a minimum of 55 degrees.
- If pipes run through cabinets, open the doors to let warmer room temperatures flow in.
- Allow faucets to drip.

If your Pipes Do Freeze:

- Shut off the water immediately.
- Thaw pipes with a hair dryer or a space heater. Do not leave space heater unattended and do not use kerosene heaters or open flames.
- Be careful turning the water back on. Once pipes are thawed, slowly turn the water back on and check pipes and joints for any cracks or leaks.

Put a **FREEZE** on Winter Fires

Home fires occur more in winter than in any other season. As you stay cozy and warm this winter, be fire smart!



Water your Christmas tree every day.

A dry tree is dangerous because it can catch on fire easily.



Half of all home heating fires occur in December, January and February.



Heating equipment is involved in **1 in every 6** home fires and **1 in every 5** home fire deaths.



Keep anything that can burn **at least 3 feet** from any heat source like fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators or space heaters.



Keep portable generators **outside, away from windows, and as far away** from your home as possible.



Install and test carbon monoxide alarms **at least once a month**.



Plug only **1 heat-producing appliance** (like a space heater) into an electrical outlet at a time.

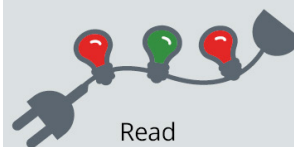


Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney and vents **every year**.



Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container, and keep it **outside at least 10 feet** from your home and any nearby buildings.

As you deck the halls this season, be fire smart.



Read manufacturer's instructions for the number of light strands to connect.



Make sure your tree is **at least 3 feet away** from heat sources like fireplaces, radiators and space heaters.



U.S. Fire Administration



Did you know?



More than **1 in every 5** Christmas tree fires were caused by a heat source too close to the tree.

Scan the QR code for more fire safety tips this winter or visit www.nfpa.org/winterfreeze





MAXIMIZE YOUR SAFETY WITH CodeRED

CodeRED is the FREE community notification system available to the Village of Barnesville and Belmont County residents that will send you alerts concerning time-sensitive and/or emergency information that may impact your area via phone calls, text messages, emails, and social media.

The Village of Barnesville and Belmont County encourage you to actively participate in emergency preparedness by remaining informed. Safety is a two-way street, so be sure to register today to receive the information you need, when it matters, regarding events such as:

MISSING PERSONS/CHILDREN
EVACUATION NOTICES
NATURAL DISASTERS
BOIL WATER ADVISORIES
INCLEMENT WEATHER WARNINGS
CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES
ROAD CLOSURES/TRAFFIC ALERTS
SHELTER IN PLACE/LOCKDOWNS

www.alerts.barnesvilleohio.com

Don't wait! Start receiving notifications that could save your life. Sign up today!

Visit www.BarnesvilleOhio.com and click on the CodeRED icon to enroll, or download the CodeRED Mobile Alert app available in the

Follow us on social media!



www.facebook.com/VillageofBarnesville
www.facebook.com/BarnesvillePolice



@BarnesvilleOH

LOCK IT OR LOSE IT



Lock your vehicle



Hide Valuables



Take it with you

To report a crime or suspicious activity in the Village of Barnesville call 740-425-1976 or if its an emergency, dial **911**

The key to help prevent theft from vehicles, starts with YOU!

HELP US HELP YOU

Make sure your house numbers can be seen from the road. Clearly display your house number so emergency responders can quickly find you.

Barnesville Ordinance Chapter 1371

Wipes Clog Pipes - Don't Flush Them!

It might seem convenient to flush wipes down the toilet—but doing so can lead to costly plumbing repairs and serious damage to our wastewater systems. Even wipes labeled “flushable” don’t break down like toilet paper. Instead, they can block household pipes, jam equipment at treatment facilities, and contribute to massive sewer clogs.

This includes:

- Baby wipes
- Makeup wipes
- Disinfecting wipes
- Cleaning wipes
- “Flushable” wipes
- Paper towels and more



Only toilet paper and human waste should be flushed. Everything else belongs in the trash.

Flushing the wrong items doesn't just affect your home—it can impact the entire community. Help keep our pipes clear and our water systems working by making smart flushing choices. When in doubt, throw it out!



fastfingerprints
a National Background Check, Inc. company

Barnesville Police Dept.

**FAST.
ACCURATE.
PEACE OF MIND.**

**Monday - Friday
9:00 AM - 5:30 PM**

Scan the QR code to book your appointment:




www.fastfingerprints.com
740-425-1976

Barnesville PD Electronic Fingerprinting Services

The Barnesville Police Department offers electronic fingerprinting services, providing enhanced convenience for local residents and businesses. The department offers fingerprinting services from 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM, Monday through Friday. Other hours or weekend hours may be requested by calling 740-425-1976.

Available Services:

- **Ohio BCI and FBI Database Webchecks:** Secure checks for various purposes, including employment and licensing.
- **Florida Level 2 Background Checks:** Comprehensive background screenings required for certain Florida-related clearances.
- **Fingerprint Capture:** High-quality electronic capture of fingerprints.
- **Fingerprint Cards:** Physical fingerprint cards for applications and records.

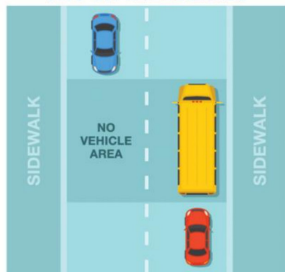
Appointments are required and can be scheduled online via Fast Fingerprints website by visiting www.fastfingerprints.com. Businesses and Organizations that may prefer to be billed for Fingerprinting Services must complete a Direct Bill Client Application or call 1-877-932-2435 to set up a direct bill account.

For any questions or further information, please contact the Barnesville Police Department at 740-425-1976.

STOP means STOP for school buses



TWO OR THREE LANES



FOUR OR MORE LANES



ONE WAY ROAD



Racing past the arm puts young lives in danger.



YELLOW FLASHING LIGHTS =
Prepare to stop



**RED FLASHING LIGHTS &
EXTENDED STOP ARM =**
Stop at least 10 feet away & wait
for the lights to stop



Online Payments Available



Pay Mayor's Court Tickets



Pay Water Bill



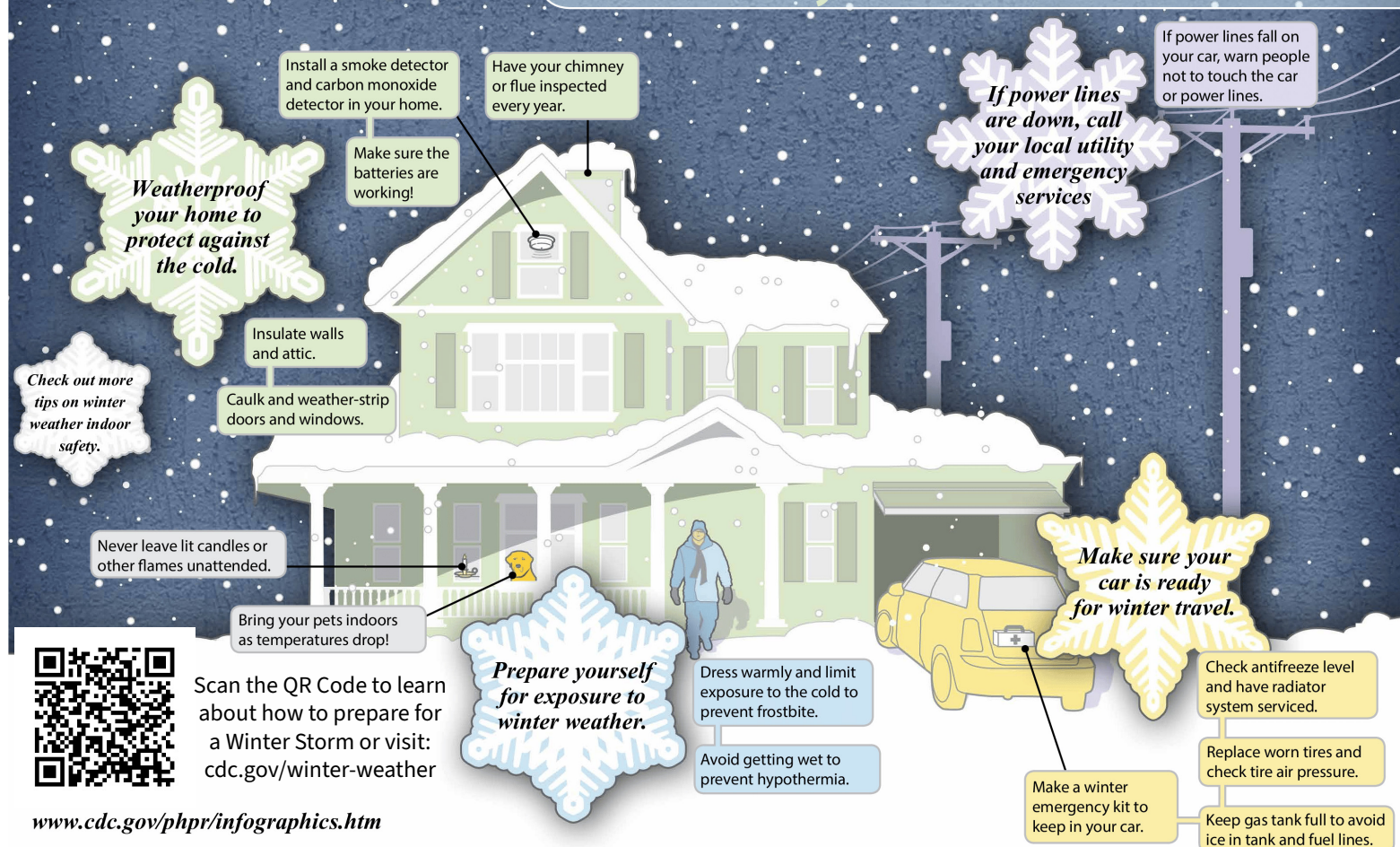
Pay Income Taxes



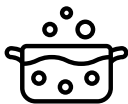
www.pay.barnesvilleohio.com

Online payments are not accepted yet for: Police Department fees (parking tickets, parking permits, golf cart inspections, record requests, or background checks), Park Rentals, EMS Billing, or Fiscal Office Payments.

Be Ready! Winter Weather



BOIL WATER FOR:



- Drinking
- Brushing teeth
- Washing fruits & vegetables
- Preparing Food
- Mixing baby formula
- Giving water to pets
- Coffee Makers
- Dish washing by hand, rinsing with bottled, boiled or chlorinated water

USE CAUTION:



- Water filters in most kitchens and households DO NOT remove bacteria or viruses
- Bathing babies and young children (give sponge bath; use boiled water that has been COOLED!)
- Use caution when doing laundry as staining could occur

DO NOT NEED TO BOIL WATER FOR:



- Washing clothes in washing machine (use caution in case of staining)
- Taking showers (adults & older children; do NOT drink water)
- Flushing toilets
- Household Cleaning
- Car washing
- Dishwasher with a Sanitizing cycle (this will bring the temperature high enough to destroy bacteria if present)

HOW TO BOIL WATER DURING ADVISORY



Fill a pot with water and heat the water until bubbles come from the bottom of the pot to the top



Once the water reaches a rolling boil, let it boil for 1 minute



Turn off the heat source and let the water cool



Pour the water into a clean container with a cover for storage

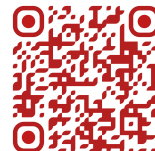
CODERED

By **CRISIS24**
Be Safe. Remain Informed.

**Text
"BELMONT"
to 24639 to
Sign Up**

Sign-Up Today for automated weather alerts and Emergency or General alerts issued by the Village of Barnesville or Belmont County 911.

Visit to Enroll Online:
alerts.barnesvilleohio.com





Barnesville: Best Hometown Christmas

As snowflakes fell, Barnesville, named "Best Hometown," was transformed into a holiday postcard. This wasn't just due to the twinkling lights, but the community spirit uniting the town.

The unforgettable Christmas celebration centered on the annual Christmas in the Ville events, beginning with the grand tree lighting in the downtown, which brought neighbors together in a burst of cheers and joy. Children met Santa, while parents shared hot cocoa and conversation.

At the Christmas in the Ville, local artisans offered handmade gifts and baked goods. The air was rich with the scents of cinnamon and gingerbread, creating a charming atmosphere of warmth and togetherness.

Barnesville's celebration proved why it's the Best Hometown: it's not just celebrating a holiday, but **the best of what it means to be home**—a community that feels like family.



Eat, Shop, and Support Local in Barnesville This Christmas!

This holiday season, let's make a difference by supporting the local businesses that make Barnesville, Ohio so special. When you eat, shop, and support local, you're not just purchasing a gift or a meal—you're helping to create jobs, strengthen our community, and keep the heart of our village alive.

Local businesses are the backbone of Barnesville. They offer unique gifts, delicious meals, and personalized service that big-box stores simply can't match. Plus, every dollar you spend stays in the community, supporting local families and funding important community projects.

Whether you're picking out a thoughtful gift at one of our charming shops, enjoying a meal at a local restaurant, or grabbing your favorite holiday treat from the bakery, you're helping to ensure that Barnesville continues to thrive. This Christmas, let's spread the holiday spirit by shopping and dining locally. Together, we can keep our town vibrant, warm, and full of holiday cheer.

So, let's make this Christmas the most meaningful yet—

Eat, Shop, Support Local - Barnesville!



Celebrating 35 Years of Service: Happy Retirement, Kathy Norris!

The Village of Barnesville would like to extend its deepest gratitude and warmest congratulations to Kathy Norris as she retires after an incredible 35 years of service as a Police Dispatcher.

For over three decades, Kathy has been the calm voice on the line, the essential link between our community and emergency services, and the steadfast heart of the Barnesville Police Department.

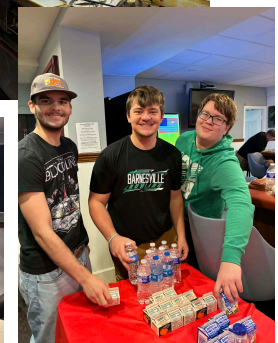
Her dedication, professionalism, and unwavering commitment to the safety of our residents have left an indelible mark on the Village. She has truly been the unseen hero in countless situations.

We wish Kathy a retirement filled with joy, relaxation, and all the time she can now spend pursuing her favorite hobbies. Thank you, Kathy, for your extraordinary service. You will be deeply missed!



Barnesville PD Pancakes with the Grinch Highlights

Thanks to everyone who took part in this year's Pancakes with the Grinch! Special thanks to our sponsors: Barnesville Elks Lodge, Denny Phillips and Lakeland Foods, Jason Fisher and Combined Property Management, and Brenda Brown. Huge thanks to Mr. Grinch and the help from the Barnesville High School Bowling Team. Last but certainly not least our community for all of your continued support!! This year's breakfast grew about as many times in size as the Grinch's heart, so we apologize and appreciate your patience. Congratulations to our winners of the drawing and hope to see you next year - Merry Christmas!!

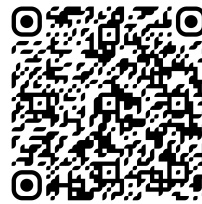


Ohio Magazine Honors Barnesville - Best Hometown 2025



Thank you to everyone who came out to help us celebrate Barnesville being named one of Ohio Magazine's 2025 "Best Hometowns!" The honor was celebrated during the Christmas in the Ville event, where representatives from Ohio Magazine presented the framed Barnesville cover, featuring a family at the Pumpkin Festival.

Barnesville is one of only five towns selected across the state, a recognition of our rich history and strong community spirit. Special thanks to Jim Vickers and Bryan for presenting this honor, and to everyone who makes Barnesville such a special place to live!



A Big Thank You to KSGR Solutions!

The Village of Barnesville would like to extend our sincere appreciation to Travis Kaiser of KSGR Solutions for generously donating his bucket truck and time to help us hang the Christmas snowflakes downtown.

With our own bucket truck out of service, Travis stepped up without hesitation to make sure the village was ready for the season. In the bucket helping get the job done was Village employee Harold Sturgeon, and together they made quick work of the decorations.

Thank you, Travis, for coming to the rescue and helping keep Barnesville looking festive and bright!



This registry allows police to quickly access vital contact information for key holders for your home or business during alarm drops. Business owners with or without alarms are encouraged to register. Residents with alarms are also encouraged to register your information. Be sure if changes need made to your registry, to submit a new form.

BarnesvilleOhio.com

SHOP LOCAL • EAT LOCAL • ENJOY LOCAL

Support the businesses that make Barnesville thrive.

From unique local shops to great hometown dining, choosing local keeps dollars here and strengthens our town.

Discover local. Support local. Enjoy local.

Christmas IN THE Ville



What a joyous sight it was to see our community come together on Saturday, December 6, 2025, for the spectacular "Christmas in the Ville" festivities downtown! Our town was buzzing with holiday spirit and activities for everyone.

From the wonderful parade to the special visit from Santa Claus, the turn out was truly magnificent! Residents enjoyed gliding across the ice skating rink and savoring the delicious offerings from the fantastic food trucks, making the atmosphere fun and festive.

A huge shout out goes to Director Jill Hissom of the Barnesville Area Chamber of Commerce for her dedication in organizing and executing this wonderful community event. It was a perfect start to the holiday season!

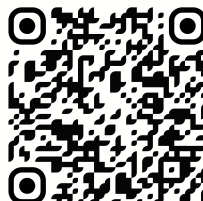
If you missed it, or just want to relive the fun, check out more photos on the Barnesville Area Chamber of Commerce Facebook page!



Rewatch the Barnesville Lighted Christmas Parade by Scanning the QR code or visiting the Chamber Facebook page!



Barnesville, Ohio
Barnesville
 Area Chamber of Commerce
BarnesvilleOhioChamber.com



Don't miss a thing! For all the latest details, event photos, and news on upcoming events, be sure to follow the Barnesville Area Chamber of Commerce Facebook page.

Ohio Outdoor Fire Laws: What You Need to Know

Ohio Revised Code 1503.18 Regarding Kindled Fires

O.R.C. 1503.18 is under the authority of the Ohio Division of Forestry.

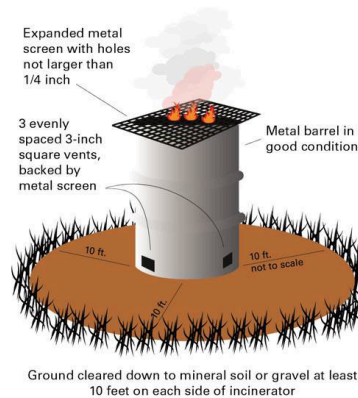
This law prohibits outdoor open burning statewide in unincorporated areas during the months of March, April, May, October, and November between the hours of 6 a.m. and 6 p.m.

This ban includes burning of yard waste, trash, and debris, even in a proper burn barrel.

During spring, wildfire danger is high before plants have turned green, and in fall, fire danger is high due to abundant dry leaves and dead grass. Warm, windy weather in both seasons also contribute to elevated fire risk. Always be sure to use a proper burn barrel when burning outdoors during legal hours.

Call your fire department for info about local burning regulations.

Call ODNR Forestry at 877-247-8733 with questions.



Ohio Administrative Code 3745.19 Regarding Outdoor Burning



O.A.C. 3745.19 is enforced by the Ohio EPA. EPA notification is required for many types of open burns in Ohio.

Call 614-644-2270 with questions or visit: www.epa.ohio.gov/dapc/general/openburning.aspx for complete rules and to find your local EPA office or air pollution control agency.

EPA Basics for Homeowners

Materials **NEVER** to be burned at any time or any place in Ohio:

- Food Waste
- Dead Animals
- Materials containing rubber, grease, asphalt, or made from petroleum

OTHER RESTRICTIONS:

- Fires must be more than 1,000 feet from neighbor's inhabited building
- No burning when air pollution alert, warning, or emergency is in effect
- Fire/smoke cannot obscure visibility on roadway, railways, or airfields
- No waste generated off the premises may be burned
- No burning within village or city limits or restricted areas



The Barnesville Police Department participated in the Barnesville High School Career Fair on November 25, 2025. Thanks to everyone who stopped by!



BARNESVILLE PD DRUG DROP OFF BOX

The Barnesville Police Department has a drug drop off box for prescription drugs and syringes located conveniently in the lobby of the Municipal Building at 132 N Arch St, Barnesville. You may dispose of unwanted prescription drugs in this box. We do not accept over counter medicines, trash, bags, large containers, etc. Lobby is open Monday-Sunday 8:00 AM-Midnight. For questions, call 740-425-1976

Retirement of Chief Hall and Assistant Chief Giffin

At the December 15th council meeting, Fire Chief Tim Hall and Assistant Chief Harvey Giffin announced their retirements, effective this January.

Chief Hall has been with the department for 42 years, having joined in 1982 and served as Fire Chief since 2018. His departure concludes a family legacy within the department that dates back to 1956. Hall stated at the meeting that he plans to focus on his family during his retirement.

Assistant Chief Harvey Giffin also confirmed his retirement for January. With these departures, the village will begin the process of transitioning leadership within the Fire Department for the new year.



Scammers Invading Ohioans' Smartphones Via Text Message

Scammers are working overtime to send out phony package-delivery notices falsely claiming to be from UPS, FedEx, or the U.S. Postal Service.

Although the real package couriers send out legitimate notices to customers, the scammers operate to confuse and mislead consumers into clicking on bogus links that request money and/or personal information. The scammers often falsely suggest that there is a "problem" with an upcoming delivery that could divert or delay the package delivery.

To avoid becoming a victim of such scams, the Federal Trade Commission advises you to:

- Always verify information about your expected delivery using the retail websites from which you bought the product or service — it's typically where the legitimate shipping and tracking information can be found.
- NOT click on any links in text messages that might be a hoax; they could infect your device with malicious software.
- Determine whether your mobile device has filters to block text messages from unknown senders or other options to alter the delivery of junk text messages. For example, some devices allow you to send unknown texts to a special "Spam & blocked" folder.
- Report junk and scam text messages. If your device has an option available to report it, do so. If not, forward the suspicious text messages to 7726 (SPAM). For more information about this reporting function and how to forward a text message, click [here](#).

Additionally, many Ohioans have reported receiving fraudulent text messages demanding that they immediately pay an unpaid toll fee or parking ticket. Such messages often claim to be from the Ohio Turnpike, E-Z Pass or another state's toll authority. The Ohio Attorney General's Office reminds readers:

- Do NOT click links or provide payment information.
- Verify directly by contacting the toll authority or parking service through official channels.
- Report scams to the Ohio Attorney General's Office at 800-282-0515.
- Stay alert and stay informed.

Also, check out the Attorney General's Phone Scams Checklist as well as information and tips from the FTC "to help you weed out spam text messages, phishing emails, and unwanted calls."

Consumers who suspect a scam or an unfair business practice should contact the Ohio Attorney General's Office at www.OhioProtects.org or 800-282-0515.

The Grinch, Safety Pup, & Barnesville PD Team Up To Spread Christmas Cheer

The Grinch and Safety Pup joined forces on Friday, December 19, 2025 with Chief Sirianni and his officers to crash several parties at the Elementary School! The students, as well as their teachers, appeared ready for a little break – From our family to yours: Merry Christmas to all!



Barnesville Halloween Survey Results

A huge thank you to the **260** people who responded to the Barnesville Halloween Survey! Your feedback is incredibly valuable as we plan for future festivities. For the past two years, we've held two separate events—the traditional Trick-or-Treat and the Spooktacular Downtown—and the majority of you agree this split offers the best flexibility and allows you to enjoy both!

Highlights from Your Feedback:

- **Two Events, Two Favorites:** You enjoy having separate nights for door-to-door fun and downtown festivities.
- **Perfect Timing:** The 5:30–7:00 PM time slot for Trick-or-Treat was a big hit!
- **Future Fun:** Your suggestions for longer downtown hours, a costume contest, and more family activities/food trucks are already being considered for future planning.

We separate the events to give families the chance to fully enjoy both without feeling rushed or overwhelmed, and we prioritize weeknights for the safety of our children.

Mark Your Calendars for 2026!

The Village of Barnesville and the Barnesville Area Chamber of Commerce are excited to announce the dates:

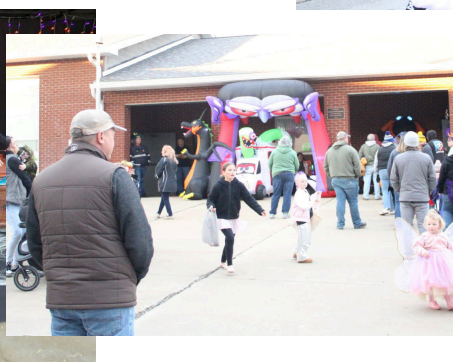
- **Barnesville Trick-or-Treat (Traditional):** Tuesday, October 27, 2026, 5:30–7:00 PM
- **Barnesville Spooktacular (Downtown):** Thursday, October 29, 2026, 5:30–7:00 PM

View the Full Results: You can read the complete survey results on the Village of Barnesville website by visiting www.BarnesvilleOhio.com or by scanning the QR code. Thank you once again to everyone who submitted valuable feedback!



HALLOWEEN HIGHLIGHTS

The Barnesville Trick-or-Treat and Spooktacular Downtown events were a huge success this year! We're glad we moved the Spooktacular to Friday to dodge the rain. A massive THANK YOU to all residents, participating businesses, the Barnesville Area Chamber of Commerce, and Trunk-or-Treat participants. Your hard work made Halloween fun and safe for everyone! We appreciate all the feedback from the Halloween Survey and can't wait to plan next year!





Christmas IN THE Park

December 4, 2025 - January 2, 2026
Experience the magic of Christmas in the Park! Drive through our stunning light displays and tune your radio to 88.9 FM for festive music. Proudly sponsored by Baker IT Services LLC.

KEEP'EM CLEAR

If there's a **fire hydrant** near your house, help keep it accessible this winter:

DO YOUR PART SO THEY CAN DO THEIRS

