

City of Milford Newsletter

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February 2012 – March 2012

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745 Center Street
Milford, Ohio 45150
513-831-4192

Business Incentive Rebate Program

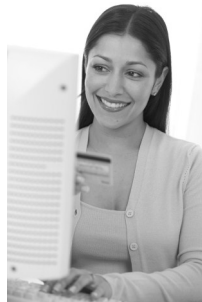
City Council has adopted a new economic development program for 2012, the Business Incentive Rebate Program. The City realizes that by incentivizing owners of commercial properties or the owners of small businesses to make improvements to their buildings, Milford will be a more competitive location for existing small businesses to stay and the City will be a place that additional businesses will be attracted to. The City recognizes the value of actively working with property owners and businesses to reinvigorate different areas of the City by assisting business owners with façade improvements and the correction of code violations. The improvements lead to revitalized commercial areas, elimination of blight and enhanced livability of surrounding neighborhoods.

The City will be offering grants of 50% of a capital improvement project's costs, up to \$5,000. Commercial properties in historic, downtown Milford and the business corridors of Lila Avenue and Main Streets will be eligible.

With very few undeveloped, commercial properties and even fewer opportunities to expand our boundaries, staff and City Council agree that it is critical to reinvigorate existing commercial properties. With that in mind, the City is exploring a few ways in which we can encourage the redevelopment or rehabilitation of underutilized, vacant, or underperforming sites.

A limited amount of funding will be available each year. For additional details of eligible projects or to obtain an application, please visit the City's website at www.milfordohio.org or call City Hall at 831-4192.

Electronic Utility Payments



The City of Milford will begin offering our Utility customers the convenience of paying their invoice by credit card or electronic check on April 1, 2012. The payments will be processed by a secure web portal and

the City will not see or retain any of the credit card or banking information. This change is a direct response to surveys and inquiries from our Utility customers.

The new electronic payment options will give our Utility customers the flexibility to pay their invoice at their convenience including evenings and weekends when our office is closed. We will distribute more information about this change with the April Utility invoices.

Mayor:

Geoffrey Pittman

Vice-Mayor:

Laurie Walter

Council Members:

Charlene Hanners

Amy Brewer

Ralph Vilardo Jr.

Jeff Lykins

Lisa Evans

Clerk Pro Tem:

Sharon Waldmann

Law Director:

Michael Minniear

City Manager:

Jeff Wright

The City Council Meetings for February – April will be held at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall on the following dates:

- Tuesday, February 7**
- Tuesday, February 21**
- Tuesday, March 6**
- Tuesday, March 20**
- Tuesday, April 3**
- Tuesday, April 17**

Events Calendar

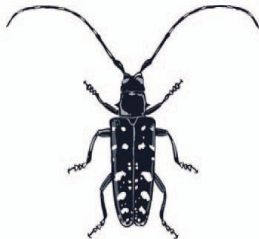
February 20	Office Closed - Presidents Day
February 21 (7-8 PM)	Parks and Recreation sponsored Painting Class-Call 513-831-5557 for details.
March 10 (9AM-1PM)	Parks and Recreation sponsored First Aid Class-Call 513-831-7777 for details.
March 11	Day Light Savings Time
March 31	Easter Egg Extravaganza-Riverside Park

Asian Longhorned Beetle



As if the Emerald Ash Borer wasn't enough, now comes the Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB)! The ALB grows within hardwood trees, particularly maple, birch, horsechestnut, willow and elm. The tunneling larvae eventually kill the tree. Adult beetles start to emerge as the weather gets warmer and are most active during summer and early fall, when they can be seen on trees, branches, walls, outdoor furniture, cars and sidewalks.

An ALB is usually 2 inches in length, have six legs and a shiny black body with distinctive white spots.



The ALB has been spotted in Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York and Illinois and they are now in Ohio. If you observe beetles or signs of infestation, immediately contact Wendi Van Buren, Ohio Department of Natural Resources at (513) 932-6836 or you can also go to www.BeatleDetectives.com to report what you have found.

Valley View Community Garden

Exercise your green thumb this year and reserve a garden plot for the 2012 season! All levels of gardening experience are welcome.

The garden is located on the Valley View Nature Preserve property located behind Pattison Elementary School 5330 South Milford Road. Garden plots offer 6' x 25' of space for individuals, families or friends to plant, grow and enjoy fresh produce. An 8' deer fencing and automated irrigation are included.

For additional information, please call Vanessa Hannah at 218-1098 or visit To reserve a plot visit www.valleyviewcampus.org.

Riverside Ball field

Many projects have been occurring at your Milford Parks over the past few months! The City has installed several picnic tables, benches, and recycling containers along with providing necessary maintenance to the concession stands and restrooms.

For you baseball enthusiasts, you will be happy to know that Riverside baseball diamond will be ready in the Spring for players to enjoy. The Service Department has been working closely with the Parks and Recreation Commis-

sion to complete this project by April 2012.

Walking Trail

Milford's Urban Trail provides a walking tour of our unique shopping community, historical assets and pocket parks. The trail consists of developed and undeveloped areas to choose from.

Enjoy the warm weather by inviting your family and friends to explore our City through our Urban Trail system. The maps are available on line at www.milfordohio.org.

Easter Egg Extravaganza

Bring your family and friends down to Riverside Park on March 31 for an Easter Egg Hunt along with additional children's activities. For more information about the times and activities, visit www.milfordohio.org.

Household Hazardous Waste

Milford and Clermont County are working with Environmental Enterprises to offer a free drop-off program for household hazardous waste materials that are difficult to dispose. For additional information please call (513)732-7894.

April 18 is the Deadline for 2011 City Taxes

The Regional Income Tax Agency (R.I.T.A.) sent postcards to inform taxpayers that they were discontinuing the automatic mailing of tax forms.

To obtain a tax return, please go online at www.ritaohio.com, click on the Individual tab, and then, forms and instructions. You can call R.I.T.A. at 1-800-860-7482. Forms are available in the Milford Income Tax Office located at 745 Center Street, Suite 220. The 2011 Milford income tax return (R.I.T.A. Form 37) is due on or before April 18, 2012.



The Milford tax return can be electronically filed online at www.ritaohio.com or at the Milford Tax Office. A paper return can be mailed to R.I.T.A. at P.O. Box 6600 Cleveland, Oh 44101-4801.