

CITY of MAUMEE

NEWSLETTER

Maumee City Municipal Building: 400 Conant Street • Maumee, OH 43537 • www.maumee.org

Fall 2019



The Top 10 Phone Scams And How To Avoid Them

1. *Pay or Be Arrested.* Scammers call a victim and claim to be affiliated with law enforcement and tell the person they have an active warrant. The scammer then instructs the victim to pay money using a credit card, gift card or prepaid debit card to clear up the matter. The reality is that the police will never call you on the phone and demand money to clear up active warrants. If you must clear up a warrant, call the appropriate court and inquire about the matter.

Also, be wary of those from "police-related" charities unless you have researched or checked with the actual agency prior to donating money.

2. *The Grandparent Scam.*

Scammers will call the victim pretending to be a grandchild (or other relative) and claim they are in jail and desperately need to be bailed out. An easy way to defeat the scam is to ask specific questions only that relative would know the answer to or call back the relative (using a known phone number) to find out if the information is accurate. A call to law enforcement where the relative "got arrested" may also help to clear up the matter.

3. *The Computer Fix-It Scam.*

A scammer pretending to be a computer/software expert will tell the victim that their computer has a "virus" and they must reveal passwords or other personal information so



that the expert (scammer) can fix the problem remotely from another location. This scam can result in your computer being hacked and per-

sonal information stolen. Never give out personal information over the phone unless you are 100-percent sure of the caller's identity.

4. *The Lottery Scam.* A caller/scammer tells the victim that they have "won" money in a contest or lottery. In order to get their winnings, they must first send money via debit card, credit card or gift card to complete the process. The victim will never see the "winnings" and lose whatever money they sent to the caller.

5. *The Utility Scam.* The caller claims to be from one of your local utility companies and that you are behind on payments. They threaten to shut off your utilities unless you make a payment over the phone with a credit card, gift card or prepaid debit card. Utility companies do NOT operate in the manner; instead, they send a written notice through the mail. Call them directly or use their website to pay if you believe there is an outstanding balance on your account. Be aware that scammers can "spoof" the phone number of a legitimate company to make it APPEAR that the call is actually coming

from THAT company when in fact, it is NOT.

6. *The IRS Scam.* A person (scammer) claiming to be an IRS agent or rep will call and demand payment of back taxes, threatening arrest over nonpayment. Or the caller will say the victim is OWED a refund but needs bank account information for a direct deposit. The real IRS uses written communication when money is owed or a refund due (on official letter-head/envelope).

7. *The Work From Home Scam.* Another popular scam is contacting people with offers to work from home as an online or "secret" shopper. They will contact you for work and then send you a check for your wages (to deposit) but instruct you to send some money back for fees. In the end, the check that you received/deposited is found to be fraudulent. The fees that were sent become a financial loss (theft).

8. *The Storm Chaser Scam.* Following severe weather, a so-called "home repair" firm will contact homeowners about fixing storm damage if the resident turns over their insurance check that was paid to them. In most cases, the work is never done and the money lost. Residents should get multiple estimates from legitimate BBB-rated repair firms and make the contact phone call TO them, never make large payments in advance and get a detailed, written contract with the company.

9. *Student Scam.* College students are vulnerable to scams that may offer them student loan relief, debt consolidation, part-time jobs, apartment rentals, etc.

Never pay anyone money up front for a job offer or

"money for nothing" offer that seems too good to be true.

10. *Online Shopping Scam.* A seller will ask you to send money for an item you bought online, after which you will likely not receive the item you paid for. Or a "buyer" will offer you a personal check and ask that you not cash it right away. In most cases, you will be left without the money OR the item you bought.

In short, ALWAYS be wary of person(s) contacting you on the telephone or via text/e-mail. It is important to double-check the caller's identity. They are very convincing and good at what they do.

The FTC (Federal Trade Commission) reports to consumers that GIFT CARDS and RELOADABLE CARDS are the No. 1 payment method for imposter scams. Scammers often send their victims to stores like Walmart, Rite Aid, Target, Walgreen's, Meijer, etc. to purchase iTunes or Google Play gift cards (42 percent of consumers).

Finally, scammers often make their need sound "urgent" and encourage the victim to act "immediately" in order to not allow them to think their decision through or contact anyone else for help.

Be smart and protect your hard-earned money from these deceitful and disgraceful individuals!



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

By: **Richard H. Carr**, Maumee Mayor

Mayor Discusses Future Of City Water Supply

Over the past four years, we have been actively exploring all potential alternatives for when our contract to purchase water from the city of Toledo expires in February 2026. These potential options have included a new contract with the City of Toledo, combining with the city of Perrysburg and Northwest Water to purchase water from the city of Bowling Green, combining with the city of Perrysburg and Northwest Water to construct a new water facility owned by the three entities, or to enter into an agreement with multiple communities to obtain water from an aquifer. Our service director, law director and I attended hundreds of hours of meetings to be in a position to offer Maumee City Council the costs for each option. In September, in an open meeting, council will be presented with all information that has been received.

The city of Toledo now charges every purchasing community a different rate. Ours is the second lowest. Sylvania is the highest. The negotiations with the city of Toledo were prolonged, extensive and sometimes contentious. There were certain issues with the city of Toledo that were unacceptable: 1) their wanting all area residents to share in the cost of lead removal from city of Toledo lines (Maumee has already paid to remove nearly 100 percent of the lead in our lines), 2) wanting all residents to share in the cost of subsidizing low-income residents in the city of Toledo (I do not believe as a customer of the city of Toledo we should have to subsidize their residents when we are paying to purchase water from the city of Toledo), 3) all area residents sharing in the cost of excessive leaked water in the city of Toledo, 4) the city of Toledo's failure to open their books so experts could determine the true

cost of producing water, and 5) Maumee would not immediately go up to Sylvania's rate or immediately even meet midway. Our residents' bills will not include a cost for either lead removal or low-income assistance, we will not share the cost of water leaked in Toledo that exceeds the national accepted standards, the books would be turned over to a commission which consists of Toledo/Lucas County having only three of 11 votes to set rates, and the proposal provides for annual increases over a seven-year period instead of going up to the full price immediately.

We have been adamant in making sure we had alternatives to consider for purchasing water for Maumee City Council to consider; if we had not done that, we would have had no leverage whatsoever in negotiations.

Throughout this process, we have worked very closely with the city of Sylvania and the city of Perrysburg to be united in our negotiations, and with the city of Perrysburg and several other communities to share costs of the investigation of alternatives.

For decades, area leaders were unable to ever come to an agreement on language for a regional water agreement for area governments to even consider. The city of Maumee was a strong advocate for our residents throughout this process. I was recently described as the most vocal in opposition to the terms being presented by the city of Toledo; as I told the mayors of all communities in our last meeting, Maumee was not in opposition to the city of Toledo, we were advocating for our residents, which is our responsibility.

Richard H. Carr
Maumee Mayor

City Offers Tax Reminders

Maumee Income Tax administration would like to remind all taxpayers that Estimated Tax Payments are mandatory for any taxpayer that owes \$200 or more for the tax year. The due dates for the third- and fourth-quarter payments are Sunday, September 15 and January 15 if you need to catch up on your 2019 payments.

The penalty rate for failing to pay estimated tax payments is 15 percent and the interest rate is 7 percent per annum for 2019. The due date for filing 2018 Maumee tax returns that are on Federal extension is Tuesday, October 15, 2019.

Tax return balances and estimated tax payments can be paid in person (by cash, check and credit/debit card with no fees), through the mail (by check), or online through Tax Connect (by credit/debit card or account debit).

The tax office is available to prepare tax returns or accept payments on weekdays between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please call (419) 897-7120, e-mail tax@maumee.org, or check out the website at www.maumee.org/city_departments/income_tax.php.

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POSTAL PATRON

Brush And Leaf Collection Dates Are Announced

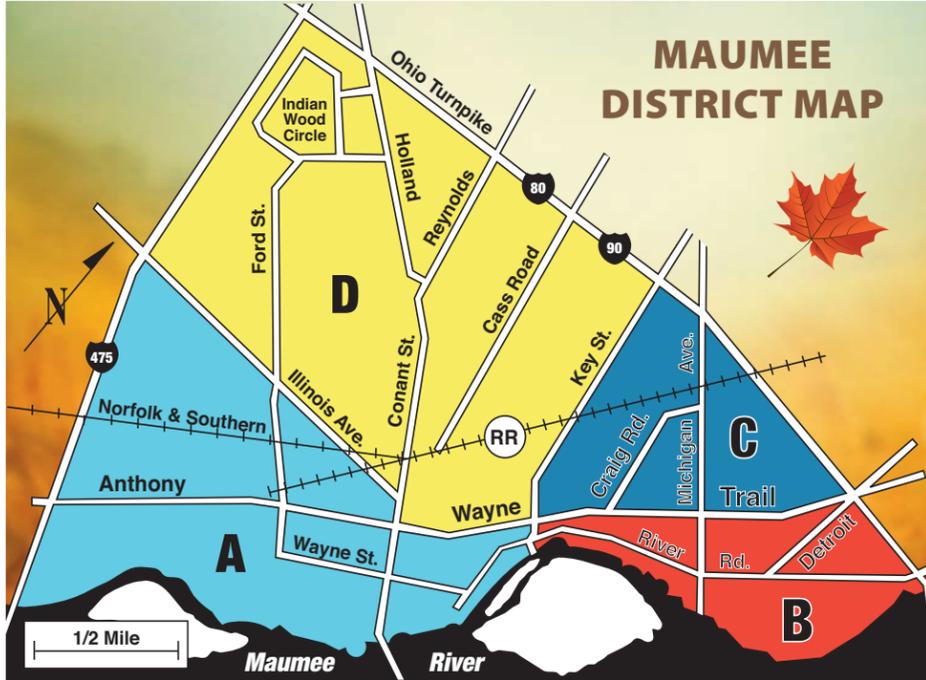
Fall 2019 Chippable Brush Collection

The City of Maumee's Fall Chippable Brush Collection starts the week of September 9, in District A. This collection is for Chippable Material Only. No yard waste bags or non-chippable material (leaves, grass, garden waste, weeds, etc.) will be collected as part of this program. The chippable material must be bundled and tied in 4-foot lengths, no more than 2 feet in diameter and weigh no more than 40 pounds. The material should be put out to the street by the Sunday before a district's pickup week.

Routes

District A: September 9-13. The area between the Anthony Wayne Trail and the Maumee River and west of Key Street through uptown beyond I-475 and including the area west of Ford Street and south of Illinois Avenue to I-475 and North Jerome Road.

District B: September 16-20. The area between the Anthony Wayne Trail and the Maumee River east of Key Street to the city limits at the



Ohio Turnpike.

District C: September 23-27. The triangle area north of the Anthony Wayne Trail, east of Key Street, and to the city limits at the Ohio Turnpike.

District D: September 30-October 4. The area north of the Anthony Wayne Trail, west of Key Street, east of I-475 and south of the Ohio Turnpike, not including the area west of Ford Street and south of Illinois Avenue to I-475.

All dates are approximate; weather, events, breakdowns and day-to-day operations will cause adjustments to the schedule.

If other items, such as ornamental grasses, weeds, sod or leaves are mixed in the brush pile, everything will be left and the homeowner will be responsible for removal of all items.

A supervisor will check daily to make sure all brush

piles were collected. Late brush becomes the responsibility of the homeowner for disposal.

2019 Leaf Collection Schedule

The 2019 fall leaf collection for Maumee residents will begin the week of October 21 in Districts A, B and C. The city is divided into four districts. If there is significant leaf drop prior to the posted schedule, the city may

begin work earlier.

On-street parking and portable basketball hoops cause problems in collecting leaves. Please avoid parking on the street and move your basketball hoop to your driveway when your district is scheduled for collection.

During the leaf collection season, leaves, NOT grass or sticks, should be placed behind the curb or just off the edge of the pavement on uncurbed streets within 6 feet of the street by the Sunday before a district's pickup week. Property owners must obtain another property owner's permission to deposit leaves on adjacent property. It may take two passes to pick up all the leaves. Do not place leaves on the pavement as they could block and plug sewers.

Routes

District A: October 21-25 and November 4-8. The area between the Anthony Wayne Trail and the Maumee River and west of Key Street through uptown beyond I-475 and including the area west of Ford Street and south of Illinois Avenue to I-475 and North Jerome Road.

District B: October 21-25 and November 12-15. The area between the Anthony Wayne Trail and the Maumee River east of Key Street to the city limits at the Ohio Turnpike

District C: October 21-25 and November 18-22. The triangle area north of the Anthony Wayne Trail, east of Key Street, and to the city limits at the Ohio Turnpike.

District D: October 28 through November 1 and November 25-27. The area north of the Anthony Wayne Trail, west of Key Street east of I-475 and south of the Ohio Turnpike, not including the area west of Ford Street and south of Illinois Avenue to I-475.

Final Citywide Cleanup – December 2-6

All dates are approximate. Holidays, weather, events, breakdowns and day-to-day operations will cause adjustments to the schedule.

A supervisor will check to make sure all leaf piles were collected. Leaves put out after final cleanup will not be picked up and the homeowner will be responsible for removal.

Here Are A Few Things To Keep In Mind As We Prepare For Winter

With winter weather soon approaching, we would like to share our practice on clearing the roadways of ice and snow.

The city has five designated plow routes. During lighter snowfalls, we initially focus on keeping the main streets, emergency fire routes and school bus routes open. However, during heavier snowstorms we move that focus more to the main streets and emergency fire

routes. In heavier snowfalls, the main streets and emergency fire routes – specifically the Anthony Wayne Trail, Cass Road, Conant Street/Reynolds Road, Crystal Avenue, Detroit Avenue, Dussel Drive, Fallen Timbers Lane, Ford Street, Holland Road, Illinois Avenue, Key Street, Kingsbury Street between Illinois Avenue and the Anthony Wayne Trail, Michigan Avenue, Monclova Road, River Road/Broadway

Street between Ford Road and the Ohio Turnpike, Russell Road and Saco Street – are addressed first.

Secondary streets and subdivisions are given equal priority and are worked on after the main streets have been opened. Crews first open the center of all secondary streets and then return to push snow to the curb. Citizens are encouraged to wait until after the second pass before removing driveway snow near the street. All streets in town will be cleared as soon as possible, so please be patient. De-icing salt is applied to streets as needed.

During prolonged snowstorms, it is necessary for the operators to make repeated passes on the main streets to keep traffic moving. This will delay the plows from getting into the neighborhoods. When the snow stops, the secondary streets receive our full attention.

We ask all residents to adhere to the following:

- If at all possible, please do not park in the street until it is cleared. Plowing around cars slows the plows down.
- Once we have cleared the street, do not put, push or blow the snow from your driveway back into the street. Passing motorists drive over the fresh snow and pack it down. When temperatures drop, that snow forms slippery patches, making it a driving hazard to motorists.
- When possible, wait until the second snowplow pass

before clearing your driveway. Most of our phone calls are from residents who have spent a lot of time clearing the driveway only to have the plow driver return for the second time to push the snow to the curb and it is back on the driveway.

- For your safety, and the safety of the snowplow drivers, give them plenty of room to make wide turns and do not tailgate or pass the plows.
- It is illegal for the plows to drive against regular traffic flow to clear the snow into the cul-de-sac. Due to the scientific principle of centrifugal force, snowplows cannot throw snow to the center of the cul-de-sac.

LEVEL ONE SNOW EMERGENCY

Roadways are hazardous and icy with blowing and drifting snow. Caution should be used when driving.

LEVEL TWO SNOW EMERGENCY

Roadways are extremely hazardous with ice, blowing and drifting snow.

Only those persons who feel it is necessary to drive should be out on the roadways. Employers should be contacted to see if you should report to work.

LEVEL THREE SNOW EMERGENCY

All roadways are closed to non-emergency traffic. Employees should contact their employer to see if they should report to work.

An employer may request that all essential employees report to work.

All other travel may be subject to arrest.

Sidewalk Snow Removal

All sidewalks must be cleared of snow and ice within 24 hours of a snowfall. Chapter 521.06(a) of the Maumee Municipal Code states, "each single residential, commercial, or industrial property and owners of any multiple residential, commercial, or industrial property ... shall keep and maintain the same free and clear of snow, ice ... debris." Violation of this standard of conduct will result in a Class B Civil Offense with an initial fine of \$125. Please do not shovel snow from your

driveway into the street. The plows will push it back into your drive approach. Remove the snow from your approach in the direction of travel. Cars parked in the street hinder the snow removal operation.

Fire Hydrant Visibility

The Water Division would like to ask residents to assist in making fire hydrants accessible. During snowfall, some hydrants become blocked by snow. We would like to request your help to remove the snow from around hydrants so they are visible and accessible. If you have a hydrant in your front yard, please clean a 3-foot circle around it.

City Of Maumee Yard Waste Options

Yard waste is not included in the regular refuse collection. Yard waste may be handled by the residents through home composting, through the yard waste collection service provided by Republic Service or through utilizing the available yard waste drop-off facilities.

Yard Waste Collection Service

Republic Services' brown yard waste bags are available for purchase at Walt Churchill's Market, Kroger and Rite Aid in Maumee for \$3.50 per bag. You must have the Republic Services seal on the side of the bag (generic bags will not be picked up by Republic Services). The bags must be placed at the edge of the pavement no later than 7:00 a.m. on the day of collection, but not before 7:00 p.m. on the day before collection, and weigh less than 50 pounds. The purchase price covers the cost of the collection service and composting of the item(s).

Yard waste bags should always be placed at the street. Collection occurs every Tuesday through December 3, 2019.

Material that can be placed in your yard waste collection bags includes:

- Grass.
- Leaves.
- Garden Waste.
- Apples and Pumpkins.
- Limbs or brush if they are cut in 4-foot lengths, bundled no more than 2 feet in diameter and weigh less than 50 pounds. The bag should be wrapped around or attached to the bundle with the Republic Services logo showing.



FREE for Maumee Residents. Proof of residency required. Not for commercial use.

10839 Sager Rd. (State Route 20A)
(419) 897-7807
www.OhioCompost.com

Hours of Operation April thru November
Monday thru Friday 8:00 to 6:00
Saturday and Sunday 9:00 to 5:00

Hours of Operation December thru March
Monday thru Friday 8:00 to 6:00
***weather permitting**

Material that can be dropped off:
Branches, Leaves, Grass Clippings, Limbs, Trunks, Stumps, Compost, Vegetative Material

From Maumee: Take State Route 20A (Illinois Avenue) west out of Maumee. Go approximately 8 miles to main entrance. Turn left (south) into the main entrance.

Maumee Police Division Offers Tips On Burglary Prevention

Burglary Prevention

1. *Avoid Hiding Spare Keys.* Never spend money on fake rocks, birdhouses, animals or other tools where you want to hide a spare key. Burglars are aware that it is a common practice to hide spare keys in these areas, and they are not naive as to where they should be looking. Instead, opt to give a spare key to a trusted neighbor, friend or family member.

2. *Buy Then Advertise Your Home Security Equipment.* If you've got it, flaunt it. Always have signs, decals and notices that advertise that you have home security equipment, and even animals. A burglar is less likely to target a home that they know is protected with home security equipment. Cameras are a huge deterrent.

3. *Stick to the Basics.* Never leave doors, windows or garages open or unlocked. Break-ins are often crimes of opportunity; a burglar saw an opportunity and they took

advantage of it. Don't give a burglar any sort of opportunity that they can take advantage of.

4. *Don't Answer to Strangers, But See Who They Are.* Many burglars will actually knock on a door to see who is home before committing a crime. If they realize that no one is home, they will go forward with their actions. If you hear a knock at the door, don't open to strangers, but look through your peephole and see who is there. You can ask what they want or tell them to leave your property.

Front doors should be reinforced with solid locks and deadbolts, because the majority of burglars gain entrance through the front door.

5. *Place Valuables in a Safe.* Important and expensive personal items should be placed in a home safe. These home safes should be anchored to the floor or a permanent shelf.

Items that are often placed in safes include guns, jewelry, money and other personal items. Remember that thieves aren't always strangers that are targeting your home. Sometimes thieves are relatives, friends, babysitters, housekeepers or friends of your children who get clever and curious.

6. *Make the Home Seem Lived in.* Timers, lights and televisions will give burglars the impression that someone is home. Since the majority of burglaries happen during the day, it's important to do whatever you can to give burglars the impression that you are home. When you're away for vacation, these tricks and tips will also come in handy.

7. *Make the Home Appear Well-Kept.* Burglars are more likely to target a home that isn't well kept, because it gives the impression that

homeowners are away, or that they do not care about their property. If you'll be away, put a stop to receiving mail, and if you need additional help, ask neighbors or family and friends to help with mail and trash.

8. *Avoid Posting on Social Media.* As excited as you are about your vacation, and as much as you would like to announce it to the world, posting about vacation on social media may lead to unwanted traffic to your home.

A number of social media sites are open for the public to see, and some opportunists in your friend circle may even try to take advantage of you being away. Wait until you return from your trip before you start posting about the vacation.

9. *Don't Place Valuables in Obvious Places.* Get creative

with your valuables. When burglars break-in, they are looking to find valuable property quickly. Common initial places they look are dresser drawers, bedside tables and medicine cabinets.

Throw off burglars by not placing valuables in these places, rather in safes, and by leaving old items that you don't want out in the open. This could be an old television or laptop, almost tricking the burglars into thinking that these items have value.

10. *Don't Ignore the Second and Third Floors.* Don't neglect the second or third story of your home under the assumption that someone won't put in the effort to break in. Many burglars are capable of climbing, often using tools they find in the neighborhood. Never leave ladders or other items out

that can be used for a break-in.

Finally, close your curtains/blinds at night so those driving by cannot see your valuables, such as a laptop or large flat-screen television set.

Follow These Important Helpful Tips:

The goal should always be to think steps ahead of a burglar. A burglar should never find a weakness in your home security plan, and if one were ever to approach your home, they should opt for another property once they see the difficulty in breaking into your house.

Remember: Always be aware of your surroundings. Pay attention to what's going on in your neighborhood. See if there is new or unusual activity, and be vigilant to report it to the police. You just never know.

Refuse, Recycle And Yard Waste Tips Offered

• Please report issues with toters or yard waste bags not being emptied or picked up by Wednesday morning at the latest so arrangements can be made for Republic to come back Wednesday afternoon. There is no guarantee of pickup after Wednesday.

• Toters should always be placed out before 7:00 a.m. on day of pick up or the evening before. Routes can be different every week and this

will reduce missed pickups.

• Furniture, TV's, mattresses, appliances, carpet and other large items are defined as "bulk items" and require a "bulk tag." These tags can be purchased at Churchill's or Rite Aid in Maumee and at the Utility Counter in the Municipal Building for \$15.00 for one or three for \$30.00. They must be attached and visible to the driver for pickup.

• Please try to avoid getting

furniture and mattresses wet if possible. Soaked bulk items make pick up for drivers very difficult and may delay pickup.

• If you have additional bags that will not fit in your black trash toter, you may place them next to the toter for pick up if you purchase "bag tags" at Churchill's or Rite Aid in Maumee and at the Utility Counter in the Municipal Building for \$3.50 each. They must be attached

and visible to the driver for pickups.

• Republic will not service trash and recycle containers that are not accessible. For alley pickups, please make sure to remove the snow around your toter and clear a path to your containers. For street pickups, if the tree lawn is not accessible due to snow, please place toters in the street as close to the curbs as possible or on the drive approach.

Report It Personal Inventory System Is A Free Service To All Residents

The Maumee Police Division would like to notify all residents of a free online system that will help to keep track of valuable and invaluable personal property. "Report It" is a free and secure online citizen property inventory system that allows citizens to record important information about their possessions; including brand names, model numbers and serial numbers, as well as upload multiple images of their valuables.

The "Report It" service is a part of the Leads Online system that works with police across the country to track and recover stolen property. The system is password protected and is accessed via secure network connections. As a user of the system, you create your own password so that property inventory is private and secure.

If your property is stolen or comes up missing, you will then be able to print the information from any computer with internet access and give it to the police officer completing your report. Having this detailed information in a quick and accurate fashion provides great assistance to the police in these investigations and increases the possibility of identifying and recovering your possessions. Citizens wanting to participate in "Report It" can register for the free service at <http://reportit.leadsonline.com> and begin building their personal property inventory list.

Stay Connected With Community Watch Map

Are you interested in knowing what is going on in the City of Maumee? There's a new, progressive way to find out. By accessing the city's website at www.maumee.org, there is a link to the "Community Watch Map" on the main page. On the map, there are icons indicating where police-related calls for

service are taking place; including criminal offenses (such as thefts), traffic accidents and other areas of concern. A click of an icon shows a brief description of the call along with the date and a police report number. The Maumee Police Division wants the citizens to be informed in a very simplified fashion. If a person

has information that may assist an investigation, then reference a report number in the form of an e-mail to: detective@maumee.org. If e-mail is not an option, call the Maumee Police Division at (419) 897-7040.

The Maumee Police Division's Facebook page is another great way to stay con-

nected to our community. It is utilized to spread pertinent information, including crime tips, weather advisories, job openings and cases that are being investigated in which we could use assistance in identifying suspect(s).

Please take a moment to stay informed to keep you and your family safe!

Maumee Fire Department Offers Safety Tips

The Maumee Fire Division encourages all residents and their families to put safety first by remembering to check your smoke alarms. We encourage all residents to install smoke alarms throughout their homes and take the necessary steps to protect them and their families from the dangers of fire, especially knowing what to do in case of a fire. Smoke alarms should be replaced every 10 years. Here are some important fire safety tips:

• Practice safety by:

1) Installing and maintaining smoke alarms (Remember when you change your clock, change your battery!)

2) Practicing escape plans.

3) Performing a home safety walk-through to

remove hazards from the home.

4) Checking the manufacture date on the back of every smoke alarm. Replace them every 10 years.

• More than 75 percent of Ohio's fatal fires occur in homes without working smoke alarms. Working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in a fire by half.

• Smoke alarms must be working to save lives. Families should test alarms monthly, replace batteries twice a year and replace the smoke alarms every 10 years.

• Practice safe cooking! In Ohio, cooking is the leading cause of residential fires and smoking is the leading cause of residential fire deaths.

• If you rent an apartment or house, your landlord must provide working smoke

alarms. Contact your landlord immediately if you do not have any.

• Furnaces, fireplaces, wood stoves and their chimneys should be inspected and cleaned prior to the start of every heating season.

• Be certain that alternate sources of heating, such as portable electric and kerosene heaters and wood burning stoves, are used according to their instructions and with extreme caution. For any space heater, remember: Space heaters need space – at least 3 feet from anything that can burn.

• Carbon monoxide safety – CO is a colorless, odorless, potentially deadly gas produced by fuel-burning equipment, such as furnaces, wood stoves, fireplaces and kerosene heaters – install at least one carbon monoxide alarm near sleeping areas. Call the fire department if the alarm sounds.

Visit the Maumee Fire Department at 220 Illinois Ave., or at http://www.maumee.org/city_departments/division_of_fire/fire_prevention.php or call the Fire Prevention Bureau at (419) 897-7052.

Maumee Police Offer Back-To-School Tips

It's that time of year again ... back-to-school time. The Maumee Police Division would like to remind everyone to use extra caution while driving during this busy season. Children are a precious gift, but (unfortunately) often do NOT pay attention to their surroundings. As drivers, WE must look out for THEM. A few friendly reminders for drivers out there:

SLOW DOWN – especially in neighborhoods and school zones where kids are more likely to be present. Slowing down saves lives.

WATCH FOR SCHOOL BUSES – When a school bus is loading/unloading children, the bus will display flashing red lights and an extended stop sign. Ohio law requires drivers on any two-lane road to stop in **BOTH** directions. A four-lane road requires stopping in the **SAME** direction that the bus is operating.

AVOID DISTRACTED DRIVING – Taking our eyes off the road can be deadly. Texting, eating, putting on makeup and even traveling with pets in the car can distract us from keeping our eyes on the roadway and monitoring the movement of children in the area – our most important job of the day.

Christmas Tree Pickup Information

Curbside Christmas tree pickup is scheduled for the first two weeks in January (January 6-10 and January 13-17). Your tree should be put out on Sunday evenings with all tree bags removed prior to collection.

What Residents Need To Know About Utility Billing Procedures

If your telephone number has changed, please call us to update your records.

Keep track of your own water consumption and check for leaks. With just a small amount of information, you yourself can check for leaks and you can see your water usage and compare annual water consumption. Please go to our website at www.maumee.org, then go to Residential Services, find the Utility tab, then click on the consumer portal. Please fill out the information, and within 48 hours you will receive instructions via e-mail on how to access the portal.

You may use your credit card to pay your bill. The City of Maumee now accepts credit cards at the counter. Visa, MasterCard and Discover are accepted.

If you wish to pay your bill online, please visit www.maumee.org and go to: Residential Services – payments and bills – utility connect. To sign up, fill in the required information in all CAPITAL LETTERS. Use the * in your account number. No dots or dashes please. There are no added fees to pay your bill

on our website.

Our night drop is located at the Municipal Building at the East Dudley Street entrance. You may use this brown box to pay your water/sewer bills after hours.

Sign up for automated bill payment. Make it convenient to pay your water/sewer bill. Autopay is now available. Pick up an application or call us at (419) 897-7125 or (419) 897-7127 and we will mail you one. Applications are also available at all local banks. Just fill out the application and mail it in. It takes about six weeks for processing. Look for the Direct Payment application.

Shut-off procedures changed in October 2015. Door hangers will no longer be attached to your door if you are two bills behind. We are now using an automated telephone system to alert you of a turn-off date. A prerecorded message will supply you with the amount due and instructions for payment. You could have up to an extra \$150 charge to get your water turned back on. Please make sure that we have your correct telephone number!

If you will be away for the winter, please drain pipes completely and pour a cup of antifreeze into the drain taps, toilet bowls and tanks. Turn off the main shut-off valve and open all faucets and drain the hot water tank; or you may wish to have the water service in your home turned off at the street to assure that no leaks get out of control in your absence. To turn your water on when you return, call (419) 897-7125 or (419) 897-7127. You must be present to check for open faucets and leaks. There is a \$25.00 turn-on charge (or higher for off-hour service). However, no quarterly minimum billing is charged while you are gone.

Rusty water – at various times this winter, you may experience rusty water caused by a number of reasons: water main breaks, flushing of hydrants and repairs to water line equipment. Unfortunately, we cannot notify everyone when emergencies like water main breaks occur. Although the water may appear to be unattractive, it is perfectly safe. If you get rusty water, please call us at (419) 897-7125 or

(419) 897-7127. If your laundry becomes stained because of the rusty water, do not put it in the dryer. Call our office and we will deliver a chemical that you can use in your washer to take

out the stains.

Final Readings – When you move or sell your property, a final reading is required to remove your name from the account. Call us at (419) 897-

7125 or (419) 897-7127 to schedule a final reading. We do not need access to your home to do this. Also, please make sure that a proper forwarding address is reported.

Prevent Frozen Pipes And Meters

When below-freezing temperatures occur over a few days, water pipes and meters that are close to cold air may freeze. Property owners are responsible for protecting both water pipes and the water meter from damage. The Water Division urges residents to take steps to prevent water pipes and meters from freezing in order to continue to enjoy water service as well as avoiding unnecessary and expensive repairs. Preventing pipes and meters from freezing is much easier than trying to thaw them. The Water Division offers these money-saving suggestions:

Provide Warmth To The Water Pipes

- Eliminate cold drafts near water pipes.
- Tightly close doors and windows to the outside and eliminate drafts from crawl spaces.
- Fill cracks in walls and around windows.
- Turn off water to garden hose connections at an inside valve and drain the exposed piping before freezing temperatures set in.
- Open the door to the

room where the pipes are located to allow warmth to circulate.

- Place a lighted bulb near water pipes. (Never use open flames.)

- Wrap pipes in insulation or heat tape.

- Open cabinet door below the sink to allow warm air to reach the pipes.

Make Frequent Use Of Your Water Supply

- Flowing water often breaks up ice below freezing.

- When outside temperatures remain below freezing, it's less expensive to run your faucet regularly than for you to repair a frozen or burst pipe.

What To Do If Pipes Freeze?

If no water comes from your faucets when you turn them on, most likely the pipes nearest a wall, door, window, or along the floor are frozen:

- Start by opening a faucet near the frozen pipe to release any vapor from the melting ice and so that you'll know when the water starts flowing again.
- Begin warming the pipes nearest the faucet and work

toward the frozen section.

- Blow warm air on the pipe using a hair dryer. (Do not leave the dryer unattended or allow it to overheat.)

- Once water has begun to flow again, let a pencil-sized stream of water flow through the faucet until normal heating is restored to the area.

- Eliminate cold drafts and allow warm air to circulate around the pipes to prevent freezing again.

Meters Need Protection Too!

It is colder near the floor of a basement than at the ceiling, so make sure warm air is allowed to circulate around your meter. Follow the previous instructions about preventing frozen water pipes. If your meter is in a separate room, leave the door open to this room to allow warmth to circulate. If your meter is in a cabinet, open the cabinet door. If the meter is in an outdoor pit, check to see that the cover fits properly and that it has no cracks into which cold wind can blow. The pipes, valves and the meter inside such pits should not touch the concrete walls.

CITY OF MAUMEE CONTACT DIRECTORY

City Hall
400 Conant Street
Maumee, OH 43537
419-897-7115

Maumee Police Station
109 E. Dudley Street
Maumee, OH 43537
419-897-7040

Maumee Fire Station #1
220 Illinois Avenue
Maumee, OH 43537
419-897-7057

Service Department
400 Conant Street
Maumee, OH 43537
419-897-7150

Building & Zoning
450 W. Dussel Drive
Maumee, OH 43537
419-897-7075

Maumee Municipal Court
400 Conant Street
Maumee, OH 43537
419-897-7140

(Court hours 8:00 am – 4:30 pm)

The Municipal Building is open Monday-Friday, 8:00 am – 4:30 pm.
Each City department/division can be dialed or e-mailed directly.

Below is a listing of the various departments/divisions.

Department	Phone Number	E-mail Address
All Emergencies	911	
Accounts Payable	419-897-7110	
Administrator	419-897-7100	
Animal Control Officer	419-897-7045	kstreichert@maumee.org
Assessments	419-897-7112	
Building Permits/Inspections	419-897-7075	inspection@maumee.org
City Attorney	419-897-7070	lawdirector@maumee.org
Chamber of Commerce	419-893-5805	
Civil Service Commission	419-897-7116	
Contractor Licenses	419-897-7075	inspection@maumee.org
City Council	419-897-7115	council@maumee.org
Crime Prevention	419-897-7026	crimeprevention@maumee.org
D.A.R.E.	419-897-7027	dare@maumee.org
Economic Development	419-897-7100	
Finance	419-897-7115	clerk@maumee.org
Fire Division/Non-emergency	419-897-7057	lbanas@maumee.org
Fire Prevention	419-897-7052	jduseau@maumee.org
Human Resources	419-897-7116	hr@maumee.org
Income Tax	419-897-7120	tax@maumee.org
Judge – Municipal Court	419-897-7140	
Leaf Pickup	419-897-7150	cityservices@maumee.org
Maumee Indoor Theater	419-897-8902	(Sam Johnson, Manager)
Maumee Senior Center	419-893-1994	mrule@maumeeseniocenter.com
Mayor	419-897-7100	mayor@maumee.org
Municipal Court – Civil	419-897-7145	civil@maumee.org
Municipal Court – Probation	419-897-7097	probation@maumee.org
Municipal Court – Traffic/Criminal	419-897-7136	court@maumee.org
Natural Resources	419-897-7170	naturalresources@maumee.org
Nuisance Complaints (Trash, etc.)	419-897-7075	inspection@maumee.org
(Weeds, grass, etc.)	419-897-7150	cityservices@maumee.org
Planning Commission	419-897-7075	clerk@maumee.org
Police Division – Non-Emergency	419-897-7040	police@maumee.org
Police Detectives	419-897-8911	detective@maumee.org
Probation Department	419-897-7147	
Prosecutor's Office	419-897-7085	aallenbaugh@maumee.org
Refuse/Recycling	419-897-7150	cityservices@maumee.org
Riverside Cemetery	419-897-7150	cityservices@maumee.org
Rolf Park Pool (summer only)	419-887-1864	cityservices@maumee.org
Rolf Park Fields (summer only)	419-897-7172	bzattau@bex.net
Safety Director	419-897-7100	
Service Department (Streets, sidewalks, snow removal)	419-897-7150	cityservices@maumee.org
Victims Advocate	419-897-7152	
Water/Sewer Billing	419-897-7125	utilitybilling@maumee.org
Zoning Office	419-897-7075	inspection@maumee.org

House And Business Checks Offered

The Maumee Police Division patrol spends time focusing on homes and businesses in the community. As a resident of Maumee, you can choose to sign up for a "house check" while you are away for any length of time.

When registering for this program, important information will be documented by the Maumee dispatcher, such as contact information, key hold-

er information, vehicles left at the home and such. As a result, a patrol officer will be sent to randomly inspect your home several times per week. All doors and windows will be checked for security and the homeowner notified if anything unusual is found. If interested, please call the Maumee dispatch non-emergency number, (419) 897-7007.

Recently, our patrol officers

working midnight shift have been busy checking closed businesses as well. They average 20-50 checks during the overnight hours and leave feedback for the owner/manager of the business. If a resident business (in the City of Maumee limits) has NOT had their business checked, please call Officer Wendy Newsome at (419) 897-7027 so that we can be made aware of the issue.

Building & Zoning Checklist To Keep Family Safe

Protecting your home and family need not be difficult and overwhelming. By taking a little time, this checklist will help in keeping your family safe and save you money.

Zoning

- Properly store all boats, campers, recreational vehicles and trailers on your property. If you are unsure of the storage regulations, please contact this office. The main rule is that these vehicles cannot be parked or stored in the front yard.

- Take a look at your home. Stand at the curb and view the home and grounds. Is a little touchup paint or removal of some weeds/grass/debris needed? Curb appeal is important as you only get one chance to make that first impression.

- Ensure trash containers and lids are tight-fitting. Please do not leave garbage bags and debris set outside or in your

garage. If you have pets, clean up feces on a daily basis. Refrain from feeding birds and other wildlife as you may be feeding unwanted wildlife.

Exterior Items

- Remove the hoses from the exterior faucets.
- Clean and repair the gutters/downspouts.
- Check the roof for loose shingles.
- Check windows and doors for cracked glass and ensure a weather-tight fit.

Interior Items

- Replace the filter in the furnace.
- Have the furnace checked by a qualified HVAC contractor for efficiency and safety if necessary.
- Check the hot water tank and remove all combustible materials from around the tank
- Clean the dryer and dryer vent to prevent an accumula-

tion of lint.

- Have your fireplace and chimney inspected and cleaned by a qualified contractor.

- Check the smoke detectors in your home to ensure all are in operable condition. Replace if necessary.

- Check the carbon monoxide detectors in your home to ensure all are in operable condition. Replace if necessary.

- Check the fire extinguisher in your home. Replace if necessary.

Never store gasoline-powered equipment in the home or operate gasoline-fired equipment inside your home.

Be very cautious in the use of electrical extension cords. If you must use extension cords, limit the length to a 6-foot, fused cord. With the holidays approaching, additional lighting and decorations usually require additional electrical cords.