

Bellbrook

Community Events & Important Dates

April 5-7 – Bellbrook Lions Ladies Auxiliary Garage Sale

April 7 – Good Friday (City Offices closed)

April 9 – Easter Sunday

April 21-23 – Sugar Maple Festival

May 4-6 – Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Community Garage Sale

May 29 – Memorial Day (City Offices closed)

June 10 – Little Miami Watershed Network River Festival

June 16 – Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Community Support Center's Annual Community Appreciation Event

June 19 – Juneteenth (City Offices closed)

July 4 – Independence Day (City Offices closed)

2022 Water Quality Report



The 2022 Annual Water Quality Report for the City of Bellbrook is now available online at www.tinyurl.com/waterquality2022. This report contains important information about the source and quality of your drinking water. For more information, or if you would like a paper copy mailed to you, please contact the Utility Billing Office at (937) 848-4638.

Bellbrook Historical Museum

If you have been in downtown Bellbrook recently, you may have noticed the updates to the Bellbrook Historical Museum! The building's restoration came as part of a project to repair other areas of the Museum. While the building underwent repair work, its original features were revealed. The building was evaluated, and it was found that it had the potential to be restored as a log cabin, which was how it was originally built in approximately 1825! Work began in August 2022 and was completed in March 2023. The Museum's grand reopening is planned for April 21–23 during the Sugar Maple Festival. Hours are to be announced, so please be sure to stop by!



City of Bellbrook Newsletter

April 2023

Message from the Mayor

Greetings Bellbrook! We have been teased with some spring weather, and I am sure you will join me in the anticipation of more to follow. I look forward to the opportunity to get outside and enjoy great times within our community! You will notice around the City that we have started some of the projects you asked for regarding improvements to our infrastructure and making Downtown Bellbrook more enjoyable and accessible.



The City received funding for the installation of a shared-use path across the Franklin Street bridge into Downtown, providing better access for pedestrians and cyclists. This is the first of several projects for investment into improvements for Downtown Bellbrook. The City was awarded \$770k from the American Rescue Plan Act, and your input for the use of those funds has led to the prioritization of projects that Bellbrook is currently undertaking. One of those projects was the installation of outdoor warning sirens which will help alert our community of potentially dangerous weather. We are also beginning work on improving the flow of stormwater through a project on Lower Hillside and developing a structured stormwater maintenance and management system.

We were successful in receiving a grant through Greene County to begin the Downtown Streetscape projects that are focused on improving the accessibility and safety of our Downtown. We remain focused on improved pedestrian safety and better access to the core amenities of Downtown Bellbrook. The City was also successful in obtaining grant funding for the resurfacing of both Main Street and Franklin Street as well as improving the intersection. This will include repaving the length of those streets in the Downtown area as part of the Streetscape Project.

We remain committed to the priorities given to us by our residents. Reaching and maintaining those goals depends solely on the availability of resources. As we progress into summer and continue with these improvements and new opportunities for Bellbrook, it is equally important we maintain the high level of public safety and City services that create the high quality of life we all enjoy. We anticipate increases in the cost of materials, supplies, and labor for not just the new projects, but also for the day-to-day delivery of services to the community. Acknowledging these challenges, we remain committed to operating efficiently and transparently to make sure no resource is wasted while continuing to provide the best service possible. We encourage you to stay engaged and informed as we continue to seek ideas and input to maintain improvements in the City. We will continue to provide opportunities to gather that input and listen to your priorities.

We have several ways for you to access information and engage with us, including our City website, our email addresses, and phone numbers. I encourage you to reach out to me, other Council members, or City Administration with questions, challenges, or comments. Happy Spring, Bellbrook!

– Mayor Michael Schweller

Livable Age-Friendly Community Survey



The City of Bellbrook has issued a survey on age-friendly community improvements and is requesting residents consider participating. The information obtained from this survey provides critical input needed to create priorities and projects focused on improvements within our community, making it more age-friendly and livable for all residents.

The survey can be found on the City's website at www.cityofbellbrook.org. With questions or concerns, please call (937) 848-4666. We appreciate your time and input to help shape Bellbrook into a more livable and age-friendly community!

City Council



Bellbrook's City Council is the City's legislative and policy-making body. The Council comprises a mayor and six council members elected at large on a non-partisan basis. The Bellbrook City Council invites you to attend its regular meetings on the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 7 pm of each month (unless otherwise noticed). For information about City Council, past meetings, and current issues, call (937) 848-4666 or visit the City Council page on our website at www.cityofbellbrook.org/page/council_home.

Bellbrook City Council Members

Mike Schweller, Mayor
Forrest Greenwood, Deputy Mayor
Elaine Middlestetter, Council Member
T.J. Hoke, Council Member
Ernie Havens, Council Member
Brady Harding, Council Member
Katherine Cyphers, Council Member



Downtown Projects Begin

Residents spoke and we took action! There are several projects beginning that improve our infrastructure to enhance safety and access to Downtown Bellbrook. As we prepare to get the projects bid and underway, there will be some changes to traffic through Downtown. Some of the major projects occurring include:

- Multi-use path and realignment of the Franklin Street bridge at Little Sugarcreek Road
- Installation of controlled mid-block crosswalks
- Repaving and remarking of Franklin Street through Downtown and all of North and South Main Street
- Improvements for pedestrian access and flow and intersection improvements for Franklin Street and Main Street
- Streetscape improvements for Franklin Street

As we celebrate these great improvements to your Downtown Bellbrook through the fall of 2023, take time to watch the progress and growth, but always be cautious and aware as you travel by car, bike, or on foot! As these projects are finalized for bidding, we will publish updates and status reports to help you watch your investment into the community take action. Thank you for your support!

Seasonal Information

Property Maintenance Standards

Bellbrook is filled with desirable neighborhoods and homes for all income levels, making our community an appealing place to live. To aid in maintaining desirability, the City of Bellbrook utilizes a Property Maintenance Code and Zoning Code that outline and promote orderly development and set acceptable standards for property owners citywide. All residents are expected to maintain their property to those standards to help keep the City's neighborhoods as attractive locations to live. If you see a property with possible Property Maintenance Code or Zoning Code violations, please contact the City so that it may be remedied. Residents can submit property concerns by calling (937) 848-4666 or online at www.cityofbellbrook.org/page/zoning_property_complaints.

Common Property Maintenance Problems:



Overgrowth: Tall grass higher than eight inches and/or other vegetative growth



Garbage & Debris: Dilapidated furniture, household products, construction materials, etc.



House maintenance: Broken windows, roof and gutter issues, peeling paint, etc.



Inoperable or unlicensed vehicles: Vehicles or trailers that are inoperable or unlicensed in residential areas



Parking: Vehicles and/or recreational vehicles must be parked on paved surfaces, not grass



Accessory structures: Improperly maintained garages, sheds, fences, retaining walls, swimming pools, etc.

Little Miami Watershed Network



Spring is creeping up—are you feeling it? Are you thinking about what you need to do to your yards and gardens to get them ready for the upcoming summer? If so, you are in good company. It's a perfect time to plan and take action; however, do you find yourself questioning what to do this year, especially considering the environmental problems caused by recent events? Are you thinking about how to minimize the use of chemicals on your land because you are learning that their negative impacts could be more costly than their benefits? Give yourself the opportunity to learn about and consider alternative practices for a beautiful yard. There are some great ones out there. Take a moment to look at the products you are using to make your lawn green or weed-free. Learn about them, their purpose, benefits, and drawbacks so you can decide what best aligns with what is important to you, your family, and your neighborhood. Not only will you make more informed decisions, but you will also become a savvy consumer. What happens if you don't like what you are learning but you feel at a loss about what to do differently? Research your options—take one item that you want to change and learn more about it. Ask questions. It's okay if you don't change everything at once. Follow what feels best to you. Know too, that there are people like you who are looking for different ways of beautifying their yards. Talk with them. Look at organic lawn care compared to inorganic. Use less fertilizer. Consider prairies or gardens in lieu of grass. Add a rain garden. Explore the use of paver stones in sand instead of a concrete patio. Plant more trees. These are just a few possibilities. You can also check out the websites of non-profit organizations for ideas. Here are two we'd like to mention. They are "The Wild Ones" (www.wildones.org) and the "Ohio Native Plant Month" (www.ohionativeplantmonth.org). They, and others like them, are packed with information to teach you about the possibilities of creating beautiful, life-enhancing yards. They are helpful and effective in making a positive environmental difference. Learn, discover, and choose what makes the most sense for you. You don't have to do everything at once. Pick one area or one idea and apply it to create a beautiful yard that is nurturing to you, your family, your neighbors, the creeks, the river, and the wildlife living alongside you. It will bring a whole new meaning to spring!



Harbinger-of-spring (*Eriogonum bulbosum*)
Source: Ohio DNR

Community

Bellbrook Sugarcreek Area Chamber of Commerce

The Chamber has been busy giving back to our community and providing networking opportunities to our business and civic leaders. In the last two years, we have made changes to better meet our members' needs, and have given back almost \$10,000 to our community! Some areas we have supported include scholarships to BHS Seniors pursuing a Business Degree, sponsoring Bellbrook sports and organizations, providing donation items for various local fundraisers, and more! We would love for you to join us! Our member meetings are on the first Thursday of the odd number of months. We hold Networking Meet & Greets and events throughout the year. Our next Meet & Greet is June 1st from 5:30 - 6:30 pm at Sugarcreek Photography Gallery. Other upcoming Chamber-sponsored events include:

- Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Township Community Garage Sale: May 4-6
- Golf Outing August 17, 2023, at Sugar Valley Golf Club
- Handmade Holiday Craft Show, November 4 at Bellbrook High School

Visit our website for more information or to join the Chamber: www.bellbrookcreekchamber.com.



Bellbrook Garden Club



Bellbrook Garden Club will accept proposals from Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Township nonprofit groups for funding community beautification or educational projects relating to nature. Grants will not exceed \$500. We do not allocate funds to individuals. Please include: Why your group is suited to do this project, why you have selected this idea, names/contact information for responsible individuals, any endorsements for your project from leaders, and an estimated project timeline for start to completion. Please state how the project will be evaluated for impact and how it will be maintained if the project is ongoing. Applications must be received at bellbrookgardenclub@gmail.com by May 5, 2023. You may also submit questions via the same email. Grants will be awarded by June 9, 2023.

Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Community Support Center

Please join us for our Community Appreciation Event on June 16th! We want to say THANK YOU to you for all of the support that you've provided to us this year! This year, we are redesigning our program model to feature two Bellbrook-Sugarcreek-focused programs. Rise & Shine provides individualized wrap-around support to community members who are looking to increase their financial and overall stability. *Under Our Umbrella* provides immediate needs assistance to retirement-age or disabled community members who need ongoing support. We are proud to also be able to provide two funded, regionally-focused programs. Greene County Strong Families is funded by the United Way of Greater Dayton and allow us to provide comprehensive services to any family in Greene Co looking to enhance the stability of their housing, child's academic success, and job opportunities. OhioKAN is funded by the state of Ohio and navigates resources and breaks down barriers to assist and support all kinship and adoptive families.

COMMUNITY APPRECIATION NIGHT
FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 2023
4 P.M. - 7 P.M.
WE APPRECIATE YOU
JOIN US AND ENJOY FREE COOK-OUT
OPEN HOUSE- FACILITY TOURS
FAMILY FRIENDLY ACTIVITIES
INFO@BSCSC.ORG
937-848-3810
WWW.BSCSC.ORG
51 S EAST ST., BELLBROOK

Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Optimist Club



The Bellbrook Sugarcreek Optimist Club invites you to participate again in the patriotic community service program called "Avenue of Flags." This fundraiser helps us support activities for youth in our community. For \$50, we deliver and place a 3' by 5' American flag on a 10' flag pole in front of your home

or business on the five national holidays. We are responsible for the replacement of any flag that is damaged or stolen and we store the flags between holidays. Renew and pay online at www.bellbrookcreekoptimist.com/aof-sign-up. Subscriptions are also available at the BellHop Café. Please call (937) 469-7644 for questions or more information. Thank you for your participation!



River Festival

The Little Miami Watershed Network is planning its annual River Festival for Saturday, June 10. The River Festival is a celebration of the wonderful waterways found in our local area, especially the scenic Little Miami River watershed! This year's River Festival will include a canoe/kayak race in the morning, starting at 9 am at the Narrows Reserve. The festival kicks off at noon at Washington Mill Park and will include entertainment, educational presentations, children's activities, and more! Food trucks will be on site. Many local environmental organizations will be on hand to share info and resources. Come join the Little Miami Watershed Network and its community partners for this exciting community event! More information and the event schedule can be found at www.lmwn.org.



Open Arms Health Clinic



We are celebrating our 10th year! Thanks to the determined foresight of this local clinic's founder, community Registered Nurse and neighbor Mary Ann Stone, we continue to provide free interim care and treatment for those who do not currently have basic health care. Again this year at the Sugar Maple Festival, clinic volunteers and students from Wright State Boonshoft School of Medicine will offer a pop-up clinic with basic health screenings. Please share this opportunity with a friend, neighbor, or family member in need of a starting point to learn how to improve their health.

More information about additional services (Paths to Wellness healthy lifestyles, second Saturdays) can be found at www.bellbrookopenarmsclinic.org or by calling (937) 848-2939. Please also consider helping us to keep moving onward, and inquire on our website about a variety of volunteer options that require a minimal amount of time each week/month. Details are also online about how to donate to this worthy cause. The clinic is located at 4403 W. Franklin/State Route 725, Suite E near Skyline Chili. Thanks, everyone for your generous support and encouragement over the years!

43rd Annual Sugar Maple Festival



Welcome spring and join the Bellbrook and Sugarcreek Township communities as we celebrate the 43rd annual Sugar Maple Festival in beautiful downtown Bellbrook April 21–23. As always, the SMF will feature activities for everyone! Entertainment includes live music, a beer & wine garden, a parade, free children's activities, crafts & food vendors, a 5K run, and a dog show. And new this year, we will offer extended Saturday hours for our popular beer & wine garden! For more information and full festival schedule, please visit www.sugarmaplefestival.com. Come be a part of the fun!

Friday, April 21, 2023

Main Street Closure— 10:00 AM
 Franklin Street Closure— 5:00 PM
 Beer & Wine Garden— 5:00 - 10:00 PM
 Food Vendors—5:00 - 9:00 PM
 Dog Show Registration—6:00 - 6:30 PM
 Dog Show—6:30 PM
 Live Band (Ithika)—6:00 - 10:00 PM



Saturday, April 22, 2023

Pancake Breakfast—8:00 - 10:30 AM
 5K Registration—8:00 AM
 5K Run Start—9:00 AM
 Free Shuttle—9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
 Craft Vendors—10:00 AM - 7:00 PM
 Food Vendors—10:00 AM - 9:00 PM
 National Anthem—10:30 AM
 Parade Start—10:30 AM
 Children's Activities in Park—11:00 AM - 4:00 PM
 Entertainment in Park—Noon - 4:30 PM
 Beer & Wine Garden—Noon - 10:00 PM
 Live Band (Spungewurthy)—6:00 - 10:00 PM



Sunday, April 23, 2023

Free Shuttle—10:30 AM - 5:00 PM
 Craft and Food Vendors—11:00 AM - 5:00 PM
 Entertainment—11:00 AM - 4:30 PM
 Children's Activities in Park—Noon - 4 PM



Bellbrook Sugarcreek Park District

Spring is in the air, but summer is on the minds of the staff of the Bellbrook Sugarcreek Park District! Summer day camps are offered for all different ages, ranging from age 3 to teens. Whether your child is interested in nature, archery, or arts and crafts, we offer camps to suit your needs. For a full list of camp dates, locations, and descriptions, visit our website at www.bellbrookcreeksugarcreekparks.org. Registration opens at 8:00 am on Monday, May 1. These camps fill up fast, so set your alarm and register your kiddos to have a blast with us this summer!



Sugarcreek Cares



Sugarcreek Cares is proud to announce the winners of the 2023 Black History Month Art & Video Competition:

- Middle School Visual Art: 1st place (\$100) - Kaitlin Shumaker & 2nd place (\$50) - Kelsey Bisignani
- Middle School Video: 1st place (\$100) - Rilla Brinegar
- High School Visual Art: 1st place (\$100) - Kameron Heft & 2nd place (\$50) - Nora Trickler

Sugarcreek Cares is thankful for the contest judges: Maura Dashewich, Carolyn Destefani, Erin Mays, Amanda Newsome, Shannon Parsons, Nicole Sam, Mayor Mike Schweller, and Nancy Sumner. We appreciate the support of our co-sponsors: Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools, City of Bellbrook, Sugarcreek Township, Key Bank, and Edward Jones. We applaud the time and effort of all involved. Awareness of our history helps us move closer to a more inclusive and just society. Winning submissions can be viewed online: www.sugarcreekcures.org/contest/.



Bellbrook Lions Ladies Auxiliary

The Bellbrook Lions Ladies Auxiliary's annual garage sale will be held on April 5 & 6 from 8 am to 5 pm and April 7 from 8 am to noon at 2757 Wilmington-Dayton Road and will have a variety of items for sale.



Winters-Bellbrook Library



Spring is HERE! Your favorite librarians have been as busy as the springtime bees getting ready for our big summer events. We have exciting things planned! First, make sure to add Saturday, June 3rd from 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm to your calendar. Our summer reading theme is All Together Now so we are bringing the community together for an exciting event. We are moving our summer kickoff to Bellbrook Park and will have the Jungle Island Zoo animals to pet and feed and loads of exciting games and prizes for everyone!

This year's celebration will be brought to you by other fantastic community groups such as the Community Support Center, Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Parks District, OUTSIDE the BOX, The Optimists, Sugarcreek Cares, The Lions Club, and more! You might even see some fun trucks and service vehicles as well. This event is free for everyone, so we hope to see you there! You'll want to do your summer reading with us at Winters; there will be lots of great activities and prizes to be had all season long. We will have visits from animals and reptiles; presenters including a folk singer, juggler, magician, and storyteller; live music and a bluegrass petting zoo, plus challenges and crafts for all ages as well as escape room activities and even more! Every day in the library there will be something fun to do. And of course, don't forget our pickleball sets, GoPro cameras, birdwatching kits, telescopes, and a large variety of STEM maker kits for you to get outside with your families this Spring. Enjoy the weather, but don't forget to stop by your Winters-Bellbrook Community Library!



Police Department

Bellbrook Police Department News

The Bellbrook Police Department has had a busy start to the new year! Some highlights of what we've been working on to serve our community:

New Faces! The Bellbrook Police Department (BPD) will have two new employees starting as patrol officers very soon. Testing and background investigations are underway, and we will be happy to announce the two new officers shortly – stay tuned! Also, the BPD welcomes Steve Lane, who will fulfill the Captain position at the BPD. Steve brings with him a large knowledge base that can assist our agency in many ways. Steve previously served as a Captain with Xenia Police Department.

New SRO! Starting in the fall, BPD will now have a full-time officer assigned to School Resource Officer duties and will be assigned to the Stephen Bell Elementary and the Bell Creek Intermediate campuses. The SRO can enhance a safe and positive learning environment in our schools.

Drug Drop-Off Box! The BPD now has a drug drop-off box inside the City building in the police department lobby. Do you have unneeded medications? The BPD can accept any old, non-liquid medications. The drug drop box is available during normal working hours, Monday–Friday 8 am – 4 pm. Please note, we are unable to accept any sharps or syringes.

The BPD is Hiring! Do you possess an OPOTC Peace Officer Certificate? If you do, we'd like to hear from you! BPD is looking for Police Officer applicants to hire through a lateral entry hiring process. For more information, please see our webpage at: www.cityofbellbrook.org/page/city_manager_employment.



Officer Commendation

Bellbrook Police Chief Steve Carmin presented a commendation award to Officer Tony Ruble, recognizing him for his meritorious service at the February 27 City Council Meeting. In January, Officer Ruble responded to an accidental firearm discharge in the Police Department where he found a BPD officer had suffered a severe leg wound. He took quick action to apply his tourniquet to the officer's leg, ultimately saving the injured officer's life. Officer Ruble's estimable actions and continued valiant service to the Bellbrook Police Department and the community are greatly appreciated!

PFAS Lawsuit—Get the Facts

The City of Bellbrook contracted a group of attorneys to represent the City in a claim against several chemical companies for exposure of PFAS (per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances) to our water resources. Although the City's drinking water is safe, PFAS levels are present in the aquifer where water is sourced but far below Ohio EPA Action Levels. The goal of the City is to be proactive in protecting water resources to continue providing safe and clean drinking water for the community. For more information, please contact the City of Bellbrook at (937) 848-4666, or visit www.cityofbellbrook.org/page/PFAS.

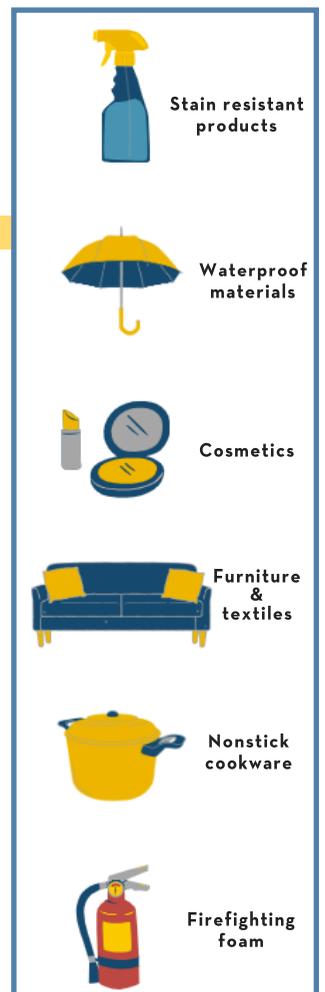
Some Common Questions:

What is PFAS? Per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of man-made chemicals applied to many consumer goods to make them waterproof, stain resistant, or nonstick. PFAS are also used in products like cosmetics, fast food packaging, and a type of firefighting foam called aqueous film forming foam (AFFF) which is used mainly on large spills of flammable liquids, such as jet fuel. PFAS are classified as contaminants of emerging concern, meaning that research into the harm they may cause to human health is still ongoing. The most commonly studied PFAS are perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS), and perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA). *Source: Ohio EPA*

What levels of PFAS are in the water and how did they get there? PFAS have been detected in the water resources where Bellbrook wells pump water for distribution; however, the levels detected are below the Ohio EPA Action Levels. PFAS can enter drinking water at sites where they are made, used, disposed of, or spilled. PFAS can be found in the air near manufacturing facilities and can enter rainwater. PFAS are very mobile and can be transported through rainwater run-off and enter surface water (lakes, ponds, etc.) or seep through the soil and migrate into groundwater (underground sources of drinking water). Because PFAS are very long-lasting and are not easily broken down by sunlight or other natural processes, they may remain in the environment for many years. *Source: Ohio EPA*

Why a lawsuit, and what is the plan? The City of Bellbrook places the highest priority on providing safe and clean drinking water to the community. PFAS is an emerging contaminant and science continues evolving to assess the effects and remedies of PFAS both in water and the environment. It is believed the companies responsible for the manufacturing of the chemicals and products released them with the knowledge that PFAS would be released into the environment, including the water sources.

As more knowledge emerges about PFAS, the companies who developed them should be responsible for identifying remediation and monitoring methods and providing payment for the costs of doing so. The lawsuit is to make a claim for those companies to do just that. The City plans on this lawsuit to expose more information about these chemicals and how to best deal with them currently and proactively all while avoiding additional costs to our residents.



Fire Department



The Bellbrook Fire Department is a combination department with seven full-time employees and 13 part-time employees. The fire services provided to the citizens of Bellbrook have a Class 2 Public Protection Classification (PPS), placing the community in the top 3 percent of those evaluated throughout the nation. The department operates two engines, one ladder truck, three ambulances, and three staff/support vehicles. They also have 11 paramedics, 9 Emergency Medical Technicians, and one medical director.

Outdoor Warning Sirens

In November of 2022, the City of Bellbrook had an Outdoor Warning System (OWS) installed and was put into operation. Below is a list of frequently asked questions about the OWS:



1. What does it mean when I hear the outdoor warning sirens?

In short, it means that something life-threatening is happening and you should go indoors and get more information.

2. What should I do when I hear the outdoor warning sirens?

When the sirens are heard, go inside, and tune in to local media to get more information.

3. Why can't I hear the outdoor warning sirens in my house?

Sirens are outdoor warning systems designed only to alert those who are outside that something dangerous is approaching.

4. How can I get alerts when I'm at work or in my house?

For alerts indoors, every home and business should have an NOAA Weather Radio All-Hazards. NOAA Weather Radio is like a smoke detector for severe weather, and it can wake you up when a warning is issued so you can take appropriate action. You can also sign up for Hyper-Reach alerts at the City of Bellbrook's homepage – www.cityofbellbrook.org.

5. Who activates the outdoor warning sirens?

The sirens are activated by the National Weather Service by using the polygon shape model, which is meant to warn only the locations and people inside the polygon of impending severe weather.

6. Will the outdoor warning sirens warn me of every dangerous storm?

The safest approach is to be proactive and use all of the information available to protect yourself and your family from threatening weather. Nothing can replace common sense. If a storm is approaching, lightning alone is a threat. Sirens are only one part of a warning system that includes preparation, NOAA Weather Radio, and local media.

7. When are outdoor warning sirens tested?

Sirens are tested in Bellbrook and the rest of Greene County on the first Monday of each month at 12:00 pm.

Severe Weather Safety

Spring typically marks the beginning of tornado season in Ohio (even though they can occur at any time of the year). We want to remind the citizens of the basic precautions to take if there is a threat of any type of severe weather in our area.

It is important to have a family plan in place and to practice it. Knowing where to go if you are indoors or outdoors is important. If outdoors, try to safely head to the nearest sturdy shelter. If indoors, move to a pre-designated shelter such as a basement or the lowest level. Do not worry about opening windows first, heading to the safest place possible is the most important.

Items that you should have handy in your home include a battery-operated NOAA weather radio and a paper map of the area around your home. The radio will be the most effective as it will not require internet or electricity to operate (but be sure to regularly check the batteries or keep a spare set near the radio).

You may also sign up for Hyper-Reach alerts that are pushed out to those in areas directly affected by different emergencies including tornadoes. You can choose to receive a text message, phone call, or email. The Hyper-Reach sign-up is on the City of Bellbrook's homepage at www.cityofbellbrook.org.



The website can also be reached by the QR Code on this page. To use the QR Code simply open your phone's camera and it will immediately direct you to the website.



Safety Programs

The Bellbrook Fire Department offers CPR, First Aid, and Child Safety Seat installations on an as-needed basis! If you are interested in learning more about this program, please visit www.cityofbellbrook.org/page/fire_safety_programs or call (937) 848-3272.



Service Department



About the Service Department

The Service Department operates and maintains the water system serving the city and part of Sugarcreek Township. Currently, the city has one employee with a Class 2 Operator's License and five employees with a Class 1 Operator's License. The Ohio EPA requires the city to have a minimum of one employee with a Class 1 Operator's License. The water system serves over 9,200 people in the City and Township. The department also maintains city streets, storm sewers, and city buildings.

Our staff has worked for a combined total of 158 years!

Storm Drain Dumping & Stream Pollution



To report an illegal discharge, call the Bellbrook Service Department at (937) 848-8415 Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. After hours, call (937) 848-8484. Storm drains are designed to handle stormwater runoff only and do not provide

treatment to water or other substances that enter the system. The Bellbrook Service Department manages the storm drain system in the city. Public education and participation in reporting sightings or evidence of suspicious substances being dumped down a storm drain or directly into our local creeks are an important part of preventing water pollution. Odors, unnatural colors, or dead fish are signs that something harmful has entered the water.

As part of our Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) program, we ask citizens who suspect that they have witnessed illegal dumping into a storm drain or water pollution to contact the Bellbrook Service Department at the numbers above. If you are not sure whether an illegal discharge has occurred, please report it, and we will determine whether action is required to protect the water supply and the environment.

What are some examples of illicit discharges?

- "Gray water" such as laundry, shower, or kitchen wastewater
- Paints, solvents, cleaning products, and other toxic household substances
- Gasoline, motor oil, brake fluid, engine coolant (antifreeze), and other toxic automotive products
- Septic tank pump-out and other types of human or animal waste.
- Fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, and other agricultural products
- Leaves, grass clippings, or yard waste of any kind

Yard Restorations



The Service Department will soon begin yard restorations created by water system repairs, snow plowing operations, and other similar processes. Please call (937) 848-8415 to report any yard damage that may apply.

2022 / 2023 Winter Storm Information

- 9 snow & ice events
- 2,893 miles driven
- 218 tons of salt used
- 718 gallons of fuel
- 244 labor hours



Annual Street Paving Program 2022

The following streets were milled & paved in 2022:

- Shore Drive
- Knob Hill Drive
- Portion of N. Sheffield Drive
- W. Sudbury Court
- Callaway Court
- Portion of N. Linda Drive
- Knoll Drive
- Sugarcreek Drive



2023 Rumpke Holiday Schedule

The regular Friday collection will be delayed one day (Saturday) during the week of major holidays if they fall on a weekday. The regular schedule will resume the following week.

- **Memorial Day** - collection on Saturday, June 3
- **Independence Day** - collection on Saturday, July 8
- **Labor Day** - collection on Saturday, September 9
- **Thanksgiving Day** - collection on Saturday, November 25
- **Christmas Day** - collection on Saturday, December 30
- **New Year's Day 2023 into 2024** - collection on Saturday, January 6



2022 Water System Repairs

The Service Department performs all water system maintenance. In 2022, the following repairs were made:

- 24 water main repairs
- 8 fire hydrant repairs
- 4 fire hydrant replacements





"Small town friendly"

Bellbrook

15 E. Franklin Street
Bellbrook, OH 45305

City Council

Mayor Mike Schweller
m.schweller@cityofbellbrook.org

Deputy Mayor Forrest Greenwood
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- Administration.....(937) 848-4666
- City Manager.....(937) 848-4666
- Community Development.....(937) 848-4666
- Police.....(937) 848 3252
- Fire.....(937) 848-3272
- Service.....(937) 848-8415
- Utility Billing.....(937) 848-4638

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Spectrum—99.2 / U-Verse—99

Wintertime Fun

Although spring has arrived, we look back on all the fun we had this winter season. We love seeing the creativity of our community!

