



Sustainable Kent News

The latest on sustainability efforts in Kent



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Find upcoming events and other items of interest



Summer has officially arrived, and Kent has experienced some extreme heat! Take a peek at some suggestions from the EPA to keep comfortable, save money and save energy in the heat: <https://www.epa.gov/natural-disasters/extreme-heat>

If you find yourself in need of a place to cool down during extreme heat events, check with Shepherd's House of Portage County (<https://www.shepherds-house.net/>), and/or the Kent Free Library (<https://www.kentfreelibrary.org/>) for their hours of operation.

Are you a small business owner (or do you know someone who is) that is looking to invest in equipment, facilities, and infrastructure that improve efficiency, save money on utility and operating costs, strengthen competitiveness and support long-term growth? The Ohio Air Quality Development Authority has relaunched their Small Business Clean Air Program as of July 1st that features expanded technology eligibility, simplified program standards, as well as updated fee and incentive structures to provide support. Learn more about this program at: <https://ohioairquality.ohio.gov/home/news-and-events/all-news/2026-07-01-building-on-30-years-of-success-oaqda-relaunches-its-small-business-financial-assistance-into-the-small-business-clean-air-program>

Should you ever have questions, comments, and/or suggestions related to the City's Climate Action Plan or other sustainability work, please feel free to contact the City's Sustainability Coordinator, Julie Morris, at: julie.morris@kentohio.gov.



CHRONICLING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

2025-2026 800 Mogadore Road Solar Project Assessment Update

The Community Development Department issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) in July 2025 in order to hire a consulting firm to advise the City on the design of a photovoltaic solar project for the 800 Mogadore Road site.

The property is privately owned, and active remediation efforts continue to be underway to mitigate legacy environmental concerns on the site.

The primary objective for the current owner is remediating the site to a standard that will allow for the issuance of a No Further Action (NFA) / Covenant Not to Sue (CNS) designation from the Ohio EPA. Once a NFA/CNS designation has been obtained, it will allow for the possible future redevelopment of the site for a city sponsored photovoltaic solar project.

The City selected Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc. (CEC) to provide professional consulting services with regards to installation, implementation, and financing components of such a project. Funding for these consulting services was provided through the 2025 NOPEC Energized Community (NEC) grant.

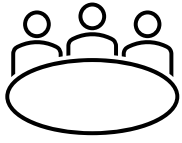
To view the report, and slide presentation from CEC, that were provided to City Council at their July 1, 2026, Council Committee meeting, please visit the following webpage: <https://www.kentohio.gov/business-building-development/sustainability-overview/plans-and-studies/2025-2026-800-mogadore-rd-solar-project-assessment/>

VISIT OUR SUSTAINABILITY OVERVIEW WEBPAGE!

The City has a webpage to highlight its sustainability work and keep the community posted about related Climate Action Plan implementation progress, programs, news, events, and more!

Visit: <https://www.kentohio.gov/business-building-development/sustainability-overview/>

AROUND THE CITY



Data Centers: The Good, The Bad, and The Truly Ugly **By: Kent Environmental Council**

Kent Environmental Council has written an extensive article on data centers. If you are interested in this topic and would like to read the article, please contact Kent Environment Council at: <https://kentenvironment.org/contact/>, or access it via the Portager at: <https://theportager.com/op-ed-data-centers-the-good-the-bad-and-the-truly-ugly>.



City of Kent Health Department Summer Updates

The City of Kent Health Department is always looking out for the health and safety of our residents, and would like to share some updates about the following programs:

- They met with Kent Environmental Council to discuss issues around radon gas and put together an article about the topic for the Spring 2026 Edition of the Tree City Bulletin. In case you missed it, visit: [tcb_spring-2026-print-for-website.pdf](#).
- They have put together a volunteer mosquito surveillance program. This is in conjunction with their mosquito control efforts, which you can read more about at the City's Mosquito Control webpage: <https://www.kentohio.gov/living-here/mosquito-control/>.
- There's been a significant increase in the incidence of Lyme Disease this year in comparison to previous years. In efforts to help address same, they gave a Tick Talk to staff at Kent State University's Child Development Center and have scheduled another presentation for parents in August when the Fall semester begins.

Sustainable Kent News

- They will be holding the Cuyahoga River Clean-up on Saturday, August 22nd. To learn more about volunteering for this event, please visit: <https://www.kentohio.gov/culture-community/kent-parks-and-recreation/special-events/cuyahoga-river-cleanup/>.
- The Health Department acquired a large supply of baby diapers to give out to the community, which they have been doing for about the last month, and they are administering a free crib program.
- They are running a pop-up food pantry program.
- For more information about any of these programs, please contact the Health Department at: 330-678-8109.



United Methodist Church of Kent
A Place to Grow

Kent UMC Goes Solar!
By: Kim Young for Kent United Methodist Church



Members of the United Methodist Church of Kent gathered on June 14 to celebrate and dedicate the new 281-panel solar array that is nearing completion on the church building. Initiated and approved by church members and leaders in November 2025, the solar array is projected to generate 192,771 kwh of energy per year, representing 105% of the church's recent annual energy usage. By reducing our dependence on fossil fuels, we are reducing greenhouse emissions by 170 metric tons per year - equivalent to 40 gasoline-powered cars driven for one year - as well as significantly reducing the church's long-term utility costs.



Other "Green" projects church members have been working on this year include making the grounds more pollinator-friendly by planting more native plants and trees and installing bird boxes. And with

funds from a grant, we have recently placed a compost bin on the property for use by church kitchen staff and members to reduce the amount of organic waste going to landfills. The nutrient-rich soil produced will be used to help fertilize our church grounds.



In addition to hands-on projects, we continue to increase our understanding of the state of the environment and what we can do to care for it more responsibly. This spring a group from the church attended Dr. Doug Tallamy's talk "Saving Nature with Your Yard", organized by Portage Soil & Water Conservation District and hosted by Davey Tree. In June we held a screening of a documentary on plastics pollution in the Great Lakes, called "Ripples of Plastic." And each month the "Green Team" keeps members informed about environmental topics with a "Creation Corner" bulletin board in the church atrium.





Natural Resources Summary: 2008-2024

As part of the [City's 2025 Strategy Report](#), a comprehensive summary of Natural Resources/Sustainability and Public Health work done across City departments from 2008-2024 has been created. It's a great look at how much the City, along with valued community partners, have accomplished in these areas over the years, demonstrating its longstanding commitment to this work. Read on to view the strategic goal objectives and the list of supporting actions by year.

Strategic Goal

Support for Natural Resources and Public Health

“to protect and promote the City’s natural resources and the public health of residents and visitors.”

Natural Resource and Public Health Actions & Events

Objectives:

- Expand the opportunities for Kent residents and visitors to experience & enjoy Kent’s natural resources.
- Serve as a model for conservation and environmental practices.
- Develop and promote eco-tourism, eco-recreation and green based business prospects in Kent.
- Support events that showcase the City’s natural resources as a quality of life amenity.
- Reduce energy and fuel dependency; have a smaller carbon footprint as a City.
- Preserve and expand wetland areas and create conservation easements for environmentally sensitive areas.
- Provide services and programs to optimize and protect public health for Kent residents and visitors.

2024

- SR59 Alternative Transportation Project
- Climate Action Plan Implementation Underway
- Hired Full Time Sustainability Planner
- Low Frequency Noise Review/Land O'Lake's Project
- City County Water Planning Study Agreement
- Remediation oversight at former RB&W and Triangle Cleaners sites
- City Akron Water Hike and Bike Trail Agreement
- KSU Solar Array Project (3.5 megawatt)
- Tompkins Property EPA Clean Up
- New Freedom Bike Trail Connection Project
- Water Well Production Assessment Underway
- Began the Municipal Energy Management Plan
- Constructed 4 public EV charging stations at City Hall
- Secured \$48,000 in NOPEC grants for energy efficiency
- Tobacco Use Grant
- New homeless funding assistance project (\$8,000)
- Health Department Annual Report

2022

- Climate Action Plan Preparation
- Yard Waste Site Mulching, Composting Update
- Hike and Bike Trail Funding
- City Recycling and Trash Contract Award
- Low Frequency Noise Review
- Sanitary Sewer Ordinance
- NOPEC Energized Community Grant
- New PARTA Trolley Added To Transit Fleet
- New KSU Scooters/E Bikes Introduced in Kent
- Health Department Lease Renewal
- Tobacco 21 Ordinance
- Haymaker Farmer's Market Lease

2023

- Idling Car Prohibition
- SR59 Alternative Transportation Project
- Climate Action Plan Adopted
- City Recycling and Trash Contract Award
- Low Frequency Noise Review
- City County Pedestrian Improvement Agreement
- Sheetz Leaking Tank Replacement
- City Summit County Metro Parks Trail Agreement
- KSU Solar Array Project (3.5 megawatt)
- Tompkins Property EPA Clean Up
- Hudson Road Paving with Bike Lanes
- New Freedom Bike Trail Connection Project
- Remediation at former World Auto Site, Amtek, RB&W
- Water Production Wells Reconditioned
- New PARTA Ride App and Digital Fare
- NOPEC Approved by PUCO to Resume Aggregation
- Healthy Eating Grant
- Public Entities Health Pool Grant
- Tobacco Use Grant
- Ohio HB 513 Review
- Health Department Annual Report
- Vision Zero Resolution

2021

- Curbside Recycling Status Report
- Proposed Recycling Contract Changes
- Hike and Bike Trail Grant Funding
- Greenhouse Gas Inventory Update
- NOPEC Cell Phone Charging Station
- Chimney Swift Habitat Project
- Sanitary Pump Station Project
- Parks and Recreation Master Plan Contract Award
- Kent Parks MOU for Brady's Leap Trail Project
- Pedestrian Safety Report
- New Portage Hike and Bike Trail Sign
- ODOH Public Health Workforce Grant
- COVID Masking Update
- COVID Mask and Public Gathering Laws
- COVID Update
- PARTA Health Department Lease
- Haymaker Farmer's Market Lease
- Tobacco 21 Amendments

2020

- EV Station Grant Funding
- Multifamily Recycling Contract Expiration
- Klaben Hike and Bike Trail Agreement
- Brownfield Restoration Agreement
- Bike Friendly City Designation Application
- Anti-Idling Presentation
- City Tree Planting Staff Report
- Parks and Rec ODNR Nature Works Grant Funds
- Parks and Recreation Alcohol Sales in Parks
- Parcel Donation to Kent Parks and Recreation
- Proposed Mass Gathering Restrictions
- COVID19 Masking Ordinance
- COVID19 Staff Report
- Farm Animals in Residential Neighborhoods
- Haymaker Farmer's Market Lease
- Farmer's Market Street Closure Request
- Feral Cats Discussion in Council

2018

- Adopt a Spot Program
- Volunteers begin Kent Climate Action Plan
- Summit Street stormwater improvements made
- Stormwater rate study ongoing
- KSU announces solar powered bus stop
- City sewer trunk line along river repaired/secured
- Davey Tree volunteers to maintain City Arboretum
- Leaf Collection/Mulching
- Urban Chicken regulations established
- West Nile Virus safety campaign
- New public bike repair station in Kent
- New City public water bottle refill stations installed
- KSU Bike Share services re-bid
- Who's Your Mama Earth Day
- 32nd Tree City USA Designation
- Annual River Clean Up
- Farmer's Market sublease
- Ametek Remediation complete, State declares property "clean"
- Portage County solar coop meeting held
- ODNR Cuyahoga River Trail Designation in Kent
- Monitor permits for Injection wells
- Household Hazardous Waste report to Council
- Kent-Akron bike trail easement agreement

2019

- Sidewalk Maintenance Requirements
- Mogadore Road Site Remediation Access Agreement
- Bryce Fire Pit Air Quality Discussions
- NEFCO Water and Sewer Plans Update
- 50th Anniversary of the Burning River Festival
- Canoe Livery Contract
- New Bike Trail Easement
- New Bus Shelter Agreement with PARTA
- Brady's Leap Trail Grant Agreement
- Parks and Rec White Water Project Update
- Amend Trash and Recycling Contracts
- City County Solid Waste Plan Update
- New City Gas Pumps, Removed Old Tank
- Haymaker Farmer's Market Lease
- Ban on Conversion Therapy

2017

- Adopt a Spot Program
- N. Ditch Access Agreement for RB&W Remediation
- Simple Recycling Presentation
- Stormwater rate study ongoing
- Council supports Paris Climate Accord
- Farmer's Market 25th Year Anniversary
- Modified Multi-family Recycling Requirements
- Leaf Collection/Mulching
- Updated City Stormwater Regulations
- West Nile Virus safety campaign
- Updated FEMA Flood Maps go into effect
- PARTA breaks ground on natural gas station
- Parks and Rec facility levy fails
- Who's Your Mama Earth Day
- 31st Tree City USA Designation
- Annual River Clean Up
- Farmer's Market sublease
- Ametek Remediation ongoing
- Bike Sharrows installed on Franklin/Stow Street
- Bike trail extended on Haymaker Parkway
- Monitor permits for Injection wells
- Honored Harold Walker

2016

- Adopt a Spot Program
- Bike trail easement
- County begins single stream recycling
- Stormwater rate study ongoing
- Parks and Rec/KSU canoe livery service
- Zip cars introduced on KSU campus
- Stormwater Area Q Project, final phase
- Leaf Collection/Mulching
- Kent hosted regional water conference
- West Nile Virus safety campaign
- Lawn and pesticide notification
- AMATS Hike and Bike Trail Funds
- Parks and Rec land acquisition
- Who's Your Mama Earth Day
- 30th Tree City USA Designation
- Annual River Clean Up
- Farmer's Market sublease
- Ametek Demo and Remediation ongoing
- RB&W Site Contamination
- Plastic bag research presentation
- Monitor permits for Injection wells

2014

- Recycling in Downtown Kent is Back
- Leaf Collection/Mulching
- City Landscape Guidelines
- City Policy for Drilling on City Owned Land
- LEED Policy Modifications
- Proposed Solid Waste Ticketing Program
- AMATS Hike and Bike Trail Funds
- Ride/Walk to Downtown Kent Event
- Who's Your Mama Earth Day
- 28th Tree City USA Designation
- Annual River Clean Up

2015

- Adopt a Spot Program
- Kent Bike Share
- Cuyahoga River Watershed Fest
- Kent Elastomer Wins State Gold Award
- Greentown Kent Sustainability Conference
- Bike & Brainstorm Event
- Solid Waste Ordinance Changes
- Leaf Collection/Mulching
- AMATS Hike and Bike Trail Funds
- Ride/Walk to Downtown Kent Event
- Who's Your Mama Earth Day
- 29th Tree City USA Designation
- Annual River Clean Up

2013

- Health Department Compost Regulations
- Water Resource Management Amendment
- America in Bloom Recognition
- Relocation of freshwater mussels for Redmond Bridge
- City Energy Savings
- Leaf Collection/Mulching
- Approved Portage County Solid Waste Management Plan
- AMATS Hike and Bike Trail Funds
- Ride/Walk to Downtown Kent Event
- Who's Your Mama Earth Day
- 27th Tree City USA Designation
- Annual River Clean Up

2012

- Considered Fracking Ban Proposal
- RB&W Investigation Completed
- Leaf Collection/Mulching
- Adopt A Spot Program
- Health Dept. Trash Citations
- Updated City Stormwater Ordinance
- New Hike & Bike Trail Agreements
- Applied for ODNR Tree Grant
- Planted 111 New Trees
- Aquaponics Expansion in Kent
- AMATS Hike and Bike Trail Funds
- Ride/Walk to Downtown Kent Event
- New Bike Trail Construction (Tannery)
- Plum Creek Recovery Data
- Who's Your Mama Earth Day
- Purchased 5 acres of wetlands
- Kayak documentary in Kent
- 26th Tree City USA Designation
- Annual River Clean Up

2010

- Middle Cuyahoga Watershed Plan
- Emerald Ash Borer Grant
- Environmental Film Festival
- Memorial Tree Fund Project
- Adopt a Spot Program
- Jerry's Cleaners Remediation
- Tree City USA Designation
- Carbon CarBan Event
- Energy Conservation Approved
- River Access Public Meetings
- City-ODOT Bike Trail Agreement
- AMATS Hike and Bike Funds
- Kent Food CoOp First Board
- Annual River Clean Up
- Kent Dam International Honor
- KSU New Bike Share Program
- Davey Tree Orchard Dedication
- Who's Your Mama Earth Day
- Plum Creek Grant Increased
- Area Q, Phase V Constructed
- Clean Ohio Assessment Grant

2011

- Soils Clean Up Downtown Block
- Shade Tree Mission Renewed
- Leaf Collection/Mulching
- Adopt a Spot Program
- First Energy Light Bulb Replacement
- New Downtown River Access Built
- AMATS Bike Plan Meeting in Kent
- New River Access in Riverbend
- Planted 154 New Trees
- Samsung Environmental Video
- Tree Inventory Technology Purchased
- AMATS Hike and Bike Trail Funds
- Sustain Great Lakes Grant
- New Signs on Hike and Bike Trail
- New Bike Trail Construction
- New Kent is Green Video
- Who's Your Mama Earth Day
- Plum Creek Project State Award
- Jerry's Cleaner's Remediation
- 25th Tree City USA Designation
- Annual River Clean Up
- Clean Ohio Remediation Grant

2009

- City Energy Conservation Program
- Green Economy Expert Panel
- Environmental Film Festival
- Memorial Tree Fund Project
- Adopt a Spot Program
- Kent Sustainability Commission
- Tree City USA Designation
- Emerald Ash Borer Quarantine
- ODNR \$250,000 River Access Grant
- Kent Parks & Rec Promotional Video
- \$1.4 Million for Plum Creek Project
- AMATS Hike and Bike Funds
- DC Lobbying for Multi-Modal
- Agree to Esplanade Extension
- Sidewalk Snow Removal
- Lincoln @ Summit Improvements
- Multi-Modal Environmental Study
- Multi-Modal Land Acquisition
- Lincoln @ SR 59 Crosswalk Work
- Area Q, Phase V Began
- Cuyahoga River Clean Up

2008

- Green Building Design Guidelines
- City Building Green Standards
- Leaf Collection/Mulching
- Adopt a Spot Program
- Kent State Sustainability Task Force
- TV recycling with KSU
- Set Conservation Reduction Goals
- Whitewater Park Study
- Stormwater BMP Regulations Update
- New NEFCO Watershed Coordinator
- Ohio EPA River Quality Report
- Citywide Bike Plan
- Cuyahoga River PBS Movie
- AMATS Hike and Bike Trail Funds
- City/KSU Transportation Seminar
- Walk-N-Roll Presentation
- New Bike Trail Construction
- Sidewalk Snow Removal
- Citywide Bike Plan
- KSU-City Bike Share Research
- Central Gateway Transit Study
- Tree City USA Designation



Kent Compassionate Services Referral Guide

The City of Kent has compiled a guide of services available in Kent and the surrounding areas for a variety of types of assistance. For help with transportation, workforce development, mental health services and more, read on to view the referral guide. This guide is also available to view in the carousel of news items on the homepage of the City's website at: <https://www.kentohio.gov/> . Questions about same may be directed to the Office of the City Manager: 319 South Water Street, Kent, OH 44240, 330-676-7500.



Kent Compassionate Services Referral Guide

The referral guide was developed by the City of Kent to assist in connecting those in need to the services available in Kent and Portage County. Please understand this is not an exhaustive list of services, but hopefully it will get people pointed in the right direction.

IMPORTANT LOCAL RESOURCES AND HOTLINES



Kent Social Services, 1066 S. Water Street, Kent, OH	330-673-6963
Hot meal site and food pantry. (http://fcsserves.org/program/kent-social-services/)	
Family & Community Services Inc., 143 Gougler Avenue, Kent, OH	330-677-4124
Nonprofit providing a wide range of basic need services. (www.fcsserves.org)	
Freedom House, 1213 Anita Drive, Kent, OH	330-673-0705
Emergency shelter for veterans. (https://fcsserves.org/program/freedom-house/)	
United Way of Portage County, 218 W. Main St, Ravenna, OH	Dial 211
Nonprofit providing a wide range of basic need services. (www.uwportage.org)	
Safer Futures Domestic Violence Shelter	24-hour hotline 330-673-2500
Provides a safe place for you and your children. (www.domesticshelters.org)	
Townhall II, 155 N. Water Street, Kent, OH	24-hour hotline 330-678-HELP
Addiction crisis intervention and treatment. (www.townhall2.com)	
Mental Health & Recovery Board of Portage County	24-hour hotline 330-296-3555
Services for mental illness, depression, and suicide. (www.mental-health-recovery.org)	

FAMILY, WELLNESS, AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES



Place of Peace, 705 Oakwood St, Suite 122, Ravenna, OH	330-296-4522
Supervised visitations & safe exchanges for families impacted by domestic violence.	
CAC of Portage County (Summer Food Service Program)	330-297-1456
Program ensures that low-income children continue to receive nutritious meals when school is not in session. (www.cacportage.net)	
Family & Community Services (Behavioral Health Programs)	330-677-4124
Offering behavioral health treatments and outpatient services.	
Coleman Professional Services, 5982 Rhodes Rd, Kent, OH	330-673-1347
Provides behavioral health & rehabilitation programs. (www.colemanservices.org)	
Portage County Health Dist, 705 Oakwood St #208, Ravenna, OH	330-296-9919
Immunizations, HIV testing, health screenings (www.co.portage.oh.us/PCHD/)	

YOUTH SERVICES



CAC of Portage County (After School Programs)	330-297-1456
Program that engages youth and encourages community involvement. Summer camp available to youth ages 5-15. (www.cacportage.net/after-school-center.html)	
St. Jo's Early Learning Center, 2617 Waterloo Rd, Mogadore, OH	330-628-9550
Provides quality care and education for children six weeks through five years old.	
Family & Community Services (Early Intervention Services)	330-298-4545 Ext. 300
Support program for families of infants and toddlers with developmental disabilities.	
Help Me Grow Home Visiting Program	330-298-4545 Ext. 300
Family support program promoting healthy development for young children.	



HOUSING SERVICES

Miller Community House, 1211 Anita Drive, Kent, OH (fcsserves.org)	330-673-0034
Provides emergency shelter to Portage Co. adults and children in a housing crisis.	
Portage Area Transitional Housing (PATH) program 5650 S. Prospect St, Suite 101, Ravenna, OH	330-296-0024
Assists families and individuals with difficulty maintaining stable housing.	
Housing & Emergency Support Services (H.E.S.S.)	330-296-1111
Assists families who are experiencing a crisis.	
Portage Metro Housing Authority (www.portagehousing.org)	330-297-1489
Provides housing assistance for families, disabled persons, and senior citizens.	
CAC of Portage County (HOPE Home Repair Program)	330-297-1456
Program provides home repairs to low-income homeowners. (www.cacportage.net)	



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, FINANCIAL AND LEGAL SERVICES

CAC of Portage County (Community Tech Learning Center)	330-297-1456
Center provides information technology programs. (www.cacportage.net)	
Community Legal Aid, 50 S. Main St, Suite 800, Akron, OH	330-535-4191
Nonprofit law firm serving low-income families. (www.communitylegalaid.org)	
Consumer Credit Counseling Services (CCCS)	330-297-0080 Ext.362
Provides financial education, budgeting assistance, and debt management plans.	



TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Dial-A-Ride, Portage Area Rapid Transit Authority (PARTA)	1-877-RIDE-RTA
Service available anywhere in Portage County. (www.partaonline.org)	
Free Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (PARTA)	330-297-3785
For individuals who are Medicaid eligible. (www.partaonline.org)	
Emerald Transportation with Family & Community Services	330-673-9258
Provides wheelchair and ambulatory transportation services. (fcsserves.org)	



KENT CITY SERVICES

Emergency Services (24 Hrs.)	Dial 911
Police Non-Emergency Dispatch	330-673-7732
Fire Non-Emergency Dispatch	330-676-7393
Health Department	330-678-8109
Immunizations, HIV testing, health screenings (www.kentpublichealth.org)	



KENT STATE UNIVERSITY SERVICES

University Health Services	(www.kent.edu/uhs)	330-672-2322
Student Legal Services	(www.kent.edu/sls)	330-672-9550
Sexual & Relationship Violence Support Serv	(www.kent.edu/srvss)	330-672-8016
Campus Police Non-Emergency Dispatch		330-672-3070
International Student & Scholar Services	(www.kent.edu/iss)	330-672-7980

Towpath Ride Series

Peninsula to Brecksville Station

Join us for a scenic ride along the historic Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail through Cuyahoga Valley National Park.

Meeting Location

Peninsula Coffee House (1653 Main St., Peninsula, Ohio 44264)

Gather in the basement of the Peninsula Coffee House 15–45 minutes before the scheduled ride time. We'll head outside 5–10 minutes before departure for ride announcements and a group sendoff.

Ride Dates

Sunday, July 19 | 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Sunday, August 16 | 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Saturday, September 12 | 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM (*Night Ride*)

Parking

Please use the public parking areas shown on the parking map:

- Lock 29 Parking (#24)
- Overflow Parking (#25)
- Village Parking Areas (#29)

See reverse side for parking map.

Please do not park in spaces reserved for businesses or customers. We ask riders not to park at the Peninsula Coffee House so customer parking remains available.

Route

Peninsula → Brecksville Station

Approximately 7 miles each way (14 miles round trip)

The route follows the mostly flat Towpath Trail and is suitable for a wide range of riders.

Optional Hill Challenge

Looking for extra miles and elevation? Riders may participate in an optional hill climb before returning to Peninsula.

Rider Requirements

- ✓ Traditional pedal bicycle only (no e-bikes)
- ✓ Helmet required
- ✓ Front and rear lights required for the September night ride
- ✓ Bicycle must be in safe working condition
- ✓ Riders should be comfortable riding in a group setting

Volunteer-Led Ride

This is a volunteer-organized community ride. There is no registration fee.

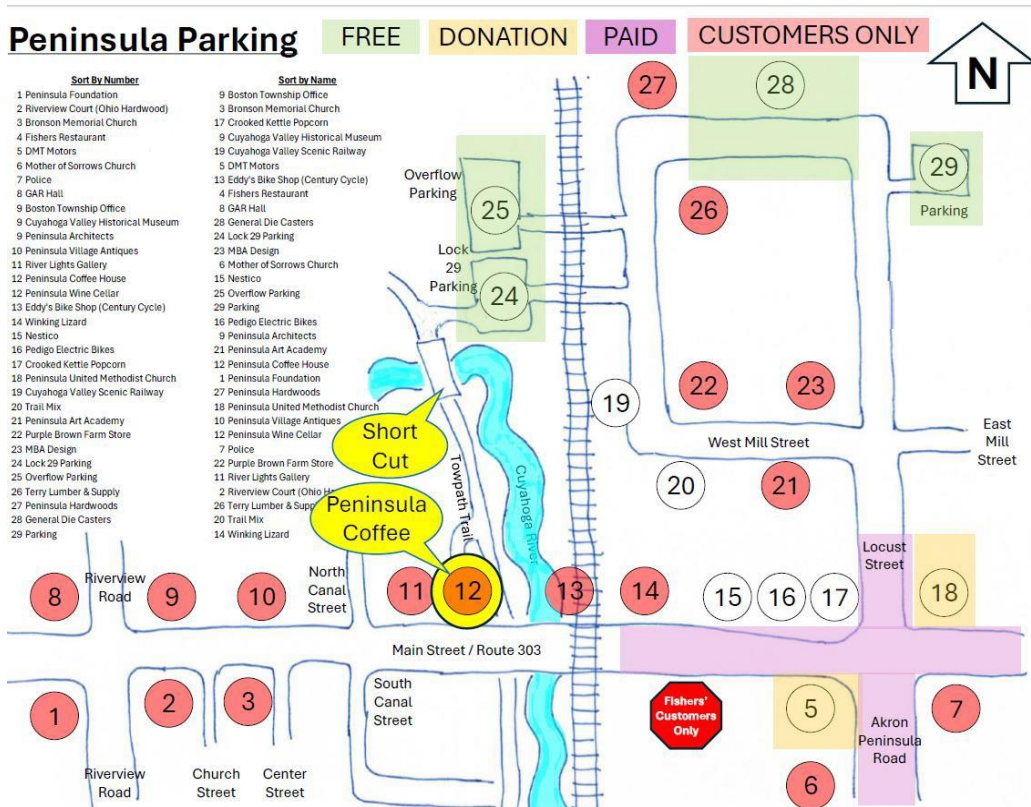
Participants ride at their own risk and are responsible for:

- Following all trail and traffic regulations
- Bringing water and basic repair supplies
- Maintaining control of their bicycle
- Respecting other trail users

Why Ride?

Cycling promotes physical and mental well-being while providing an opportunity to connect with others and experience the natural beauty of Northeast Ohio.

Ride. Connect. Explore.



CALENDAR & ITEMS OF INTEREST

Supporting our local businesses and organizations is a key component of Sustainability! Check out the City's Culture & Community section of the website (www.kentohio.gov/culture-community/) for more details about the following:

- **Haymaker Farmers' Market**

- Open year-round, every Saturday morning in Kent: Held **outdoors** in downtown Kent on Franklin Ave. from April through November, 9am to 1pm, and **indoors** at the United Methodist Church (1435 E. Main St., Kent in the UMC Pierson Hall) from December through March, 10am to 1pm. Visit www.haymakermarket.com for full details.

- **Main Street Kent**

- A non-profit organization that focuses on the promotion, beautification, and revitalization of downtown Kent. The City of Kent, Kent State University, local businesses, and community members support Main Street Kent. Check out their full calendar of events here: www.mainstreetkent.org/events/full-calendar/.

- **Kent In Good Company Podcast**

- Hosted by Kent resident and small business owner, Katy Thomas, head to the Main Street Kent website at the following link to listen and learn more about Kent's local businesses: <https://mainstreetkent.org/discover/in-good-company/>.

- **The Kent Area Chamber of Commerce**

- Visit www.kentbiz.com/events/eventcalendar for a full listing of Chamber and Community events.

- **Kent Historical Society & Museum**

- Learn more about our community at Kent's primary history resource and reference center! Visit www.kentohiohistory.org for organization details and events.

- **Kent Parks and Recreation**

- Offers a variety of locations, programs, and events for individuals and families to enjoy. They provide quality recreation and entertainment for the community through parks, sports, fitness, education and cultural arts. Visit their full program and event offerings at: www.kentohio.gov/culture-community/kent-parks-and-recreation/

- **Yard Waste Transfer Site Open!**

- The yard waste transfer site hours are Tuesdays 9am-1pm, Wednesdays 5-8pm and Saturdays 9am-noon. The site is a place for residents of Kent to drop off brush, clippings and other yard waste. It is also the place to get the grindings from the waste, to use like mulch, for free! Stop by near Cherry Street and Mogadore Rd, near the entrance to Plum Creek. Full details at: <https://www.kentohio.gov/living-here/garbage-and-recycling/yard-waste/>

- **Portage Parks Free Outdoor Events**

- For a full list of events and information visit: <https://www.portagecounty-oh.gov/portage-park-district>

- **Kent Blues Fest – 7/18/26**

- This event features free live blues music at over 20 venues in downtown Kent. For an event schedule and full details, visit: <https://www.kentbluesfest.com/>

- **Dan Smith Community Park Concert Series, presented by College Town Kent – Held select Saturdays June through September 2026, next concert of the season 7/18/26**

- All concerts are held in Dan Smith Community Park from 6pm-8pm and feature live music from area bands. For details and a full list of concerts visit: <https://www.collegetownkent.com/play>

- **Hometown Bank Concert Series – Held select Thursdays May through September 2026, next concert of the season 7/23/26**

- All concerts are from 7pm-9pm at the Hometown Bank Plaza in downtown Kent, unless noted otherwise. For details and a full list of concerts visit: <https://ht.bank/concerts/>

- **Main Street Kent's 20th Anniversary Party at the Plaza – 7/24/26**

- Main Street Kent's 20th Anniversary Party at the Plaza is a free, family-friendly anniversary event at Hometown Bank Plaza featuring live music by City of Invention, complimentary MSK anniversary swag, birthday treats and activities in a vibrant community atmosphere. It will be held Friday, July 24th from 6pm to 8pm. Full details available at: <https://mainstreetkent.org/events/?yodelEventId=6a0a646cc3c9f85eee4d149e&yodelOrgLastName=Main+Street+Kent&yodelEventName=Main-Street-Kent-s-20th-Anniversary-Party-at-the-Plaza--Free-Event->

- **Kent Acoustic Fest – 7/25/26**

- Kent Acoustic Fest is returning this summer to celebrate acoustic music in Kent. The event will feature local musicians playing classics on the backwoods stage in Fred Fuller Park. The event is free admission to the public! It will be held on Saturday, July 25th from 12-4pm. For full details visit: <https://www.kentohio.gov/culture-community/kent-parks-and-recreation/special-events/kent-acoustic-fest/>

- **City of Kent Summer Movie Nights, How to Train Your Dragon - 8/6/26**

- Bring a blanket or chairs and enjoy a family friendly movie with your neighbors. The next show will be How to Train Your Dragon on Thursday, August 6th starting at 7pm at Artemis Park, 1560 Artemis Drive in Kent. For more information visit: <https://mainstreetkent.org/events/?yodelEventId=6a3f214c5de75a900799b3c5&yodelOrgLastName=City-of-Kent&yodelEventName=Community-Movie-Night--How-to-Train-Your-Dragon>

- **Sun in Leo's Clothing Swap – Held 2nd weekend of every month, next swap August 7-9th**

- Join us for a clothing swap held the second weekend of every month, Friday-Sunday from 12pm-7pm at the Sun in Leo store located in Acorn Alley, downtown Kent. For more information visit: <https://suninleo.shop/>

- **League of Women Voters of Kent & NAACP Community Cookout and Kickball Game – 8/8/26**
 - The National League of Women Voters has set Saturday, Aug. 8, as a day to honor the anniversary of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. LWVK, in partnership with the Portage County NAACP, will be hosting a free, family-friendly Community Cook-out at Plum Creek Park in Kent from 11am-2pm featuring games, food, fun for all levels! Friends and family are welcome! The League is proud to be nonpartisan, not supporting or opposing candidates or political parties. For more information visit: <https://mainstreetkent.org/events/?yodelEventId=6a4f71d6962477a41d2a60ba&yodelOrgLastName=League-of-Women-Voters-of-Kent&yodelEventName=LWV-Kent---NAACP-Community-Cookout---Kickball-Game>
- **The Kent Flea – Held the 2nd Saturday May through December 2026, next market of the season 8/8/26**
 - Come visit the Kent Flea & Makers Market located at the historic Marvin Kent Home at 409 W. Main Street in Kent. The next market of the season will be held Saturday, August 8th, from 10am – 4pm. Full market details available at: <https://www.facebook.com/kentflea/>
- **Davey Inclusive Playground Ribbon Cutting Celebration – 8/15/26**
 - Join us for the Grand Opening of the Davey Inclusive Playground! Everyone is invited to play together as we gather with our community and sponsors to celebrate the completion of this project. It will be held Saturday, August 15th from 10am – 12pm at Davey Elementary School, 196 N Prospect St., in Kent. Full details available at: <https://mainstreetkent.org/events/?yodelEventId=6a4bb4f5a72acd619bf576bd&yodelOrgLastName=Davey-Inclusive-Playground-Project&yodelEventName=Davey-Inclusive-Playground-Ribbon-Cutting-Celebration>
- **Kent's Longest Table – 8/30/26**
 - Welcome to The Longest Table, Kent's largest community dinner table. Pull up a chair, and enjoy a meal in the heart of downtown with your neighbors. You're invited to join your community for an evening of connection, centered around a table shared with friends, neighbors, and even strangers. On August 30th, we're setting up 80 tables and 480 chairs for our town to come together over the simple act of sharing a meal. To learn more about the event and how to reserve a table or a spot, visit: <https://mainstreetkent.org/events/?yodelEventId=6a29de800151877c5123873f&yodelOrgLastName=Main-Street-Kent&yodelEventName=Kent-s-Longest-Table-2026>
- **Kent Parks & Recreation's Art in the Park – 9/12/26 & 9/13/26**
 - Be sure to visit this free, family friendly experience that attracts residents from all over Northeast Ohio. Art in the Park will be held in Fred Fuller Park the weekend after Labor Day with hours as follows: Saturday, September 12th from 10am to 6pm and Sunday, September 13th from 11am to 5pm. For full details, visit: <https://www.kentohio.gov/culture-community/kent-parks-and-recreation/special-events/art-in-the-park/>

- **Kent Historical Society Museum | Ohio Open Doors Open House Events – Various events in Kent beginning September 15th through September 20th**
 - Discover the rich history and vibrant culture of Ohio during the Ohio Open Doors events where you can tour historic landmarks, explore architectural treasures, and participate in unique local experiences. Join us in celebrating Ohio's diverse stories and preserving our shared heritage. Use the map to select Kent and pull up a full listing of events and the associated details at:
<https://www.ohiohistory.org/ohio-open-doors-map/>
- **City of Kent Summer Movie Nights, Zootopia 2 - 9/17/26**
 - Bring a blanket or chairs and enjoy a family friendly movie with your neighbors. The next show will be Zootopia 2 on Thursday, September 17th, starting at 7pm at Fred Fuller Park in Kent. For more information visit:
<https://mainstreetkent.org/events/?yodelEventId=6a3f214cd7cf984528ed48c7&yodelOrgLastName=City-of-Kent&yodelEventName=Community-Movie-Night--Zootopia-2>
- **Kent Oktoberfest – 10/10/26**
 - Save the date for Kent Oktoberfest! It will be held Saturday, October 10th from 12pm – 8pm. Details to be announced and will be found at:
<https://mainstreetkent.org/events/?yodelEventId=69a57cb5672286d5e5b0b898&yodelOrgLastName=Main+Street+Kent&yodelEventName=Kent-Oktoberfest>