



NEWS YOU CAN USE

Town of Munster, 1005 Ridge Road

JULY 2025

Edited by: D.Z.

Munster Sustainability Committee

Over the past several months, members of the Munster Town Council have held a series of meetings with residents, including students from Munster High School, to explore the formation of a Sustainability Committee. The goal of this Committee is to assist the Munster community in researching, educating, and implementing sustainable solutions that benefit both current and future residents.



To achieve this, discussions have focused on the following key objectives:

- Promote existing services, programs, events, and efforts that support the health, well-being, and environmental sustainability of our community.
- Assist in Researching programs, services, events, and grant opportunities to identify and implement sustainable practices that are practical and community-focused.
- Introduce, educate, and partner with various stakeholders, including the Town of Munster, the School Town of Munster, businesses, homeowner associations, and local organizations, to raise awareness and provide access to sustainable ideas and initiatives.

In alignment with these efforts, the Munster Town Council has adopted a resolution formally establishing the Munster Sustainability Committee and approving the framework to guide its work.

Highlights of the Adopted Resolution:

- The Committee is officially established as a recognized body to promote and support sustainability within the Town of Munster.
- Purpose: To build upon the Town's ongoing commitment to sustainable solutions by promoting existing programs, supporting new initiatives, and improving collaboration with residents and regional partners.
- Expected Benefits: Stronger intergenerational engagement, improved quality of life, enhanced economic and environmental resilience, and a more connected and attractive community for residents, students, and businesses.
- Committee Composition (9 members): three Munster High School students (selected by the School Town of Munster), one school administrator, staff member, or teacher (selected by the School Town of Munster), one representative from the Munster Chamber of Commerce (selected by the Chamber), one Town Council member or staff member (selected by the Town Council), and three residents of Munster (selected by the Town Council)



- Initial Operations: The committee will begin without a dedicated budget and will focus on solutions that are either self-funded or available at low or no cost to the Town.

In the coming months, the Town will continue working with residents, the School Town of Munster, and the Munster Chamber of Commerce to launch this committee and begin its work.

If you have ideas, questions, or an interest in participating in or supporting the Munster Sustainability Committee, we encourage you to reach out. Your input will help shape a greener, healthier future for Munster.

Warm regards,

George Shinkan, Town Council President

NEWS FROM THE CLERK-TREASURER

Keeping Cool and Staying Connected

July is a great time to take advantage of our parks and special events. Be sure to visit the Town's website and Parks and Recreation calendar to catch upcoming concerts and family activities. Whether you're enjoying a dip in the pool, music under the stars, or a summer movie night, there's something for everyone.



Stormwater and Infrastructure Updates

While we're enjoying summer fun, our crews are also hard at work behind the scenes. The Town continues its focus on stormwater and infrastructure improvements. Several key drainage and resurfacing projects are underway, prioritized based on need, long-term benefit, and available funding. We appreciate your patience as we work to improve roads. If you have questions about a project near your home, don't hesitate to reach out.

Better Communication—In Progress

Last month, I shared that the Town is working with a partner to evaluate and improve how we communicate with residents. That work is still underway. Since these newsletter articles are written several weeks in advance, there can be a delay between when we announce a plan and when you see results. But rest assured—progress is happening. Stay tuned for more updates on how we'll be reaching you in more timely and effective ways.



Fireworks Safety: Remember that fireworks are only permitted between June 29 and July 9 during specified hours. Please be courteous to neighbors and pets, and help us keep Munster safe.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement. As always, we welcome your feedback, and we're proud to serve the residents of Munster. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to me at wmis@munster.in.gov or (219) 836-6945.

Wendy Mis Clerk-Treasurer, Town of Munster

BLOCK PARTY

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT BLOCK PARTY DEADLINE IS JULY 10TH

Residents are encouraged to participate in Munster's 4th Annual National Night Out Block Party Contest on Saturday, August 2nd. Blocks and subdivisions throughout town will be holding block parties during the afternoon and evening to promote unity and safety in our neighborhoods through this friendly competition. Police officers and firefighters will be visiting the parties throughout the afternoon and evening to interact with the public, display emergency vehicles and equipment, and to select this year's Block Unity Award winners which will receive commemorative signage for their neighborhoods at the National Night Out Celebration on August 5th.

All fees associated with block parties have been waived for August 2nd by the Town Council to encourage participation. Participating areas must register by July 10th by contacting Sergeant James Ghrist at jghrist@munster.org.

CANNED FOOD DRIVE

One more National Night Out Week event will include a Canned Food Drive to benefit a local food pantry on Friday, August 1st from 9:00AM-2:00PM at the Munster Police Department (1001 Ridge Road).

Please stop by the police station to drop off canned or non-perishable goods to help others in need. Thanks in advance for your support!



CAR SEAT SAFETY CHECK EVENT

FREE Car Seat Safety
Check-Up



As part of Munster's National Night Out Week safety events, a Car Seat Safety Check will be held on Saturday, July 26th from 9:00AM-12:00PM in the front lot of the Munster Town Hall (1005 Ridge Road). Certified car seat technicians from the Munster Police Department, Munster Fire Department, Powers Health, and Franciscan Health will be on-site to check your child's car seat for proper installation and/or recalls and to also pass out safety information as well. Please enter the parking lot from Ridge Road if you would like to participate that morning.

BIKE SAFETY RODEO



Another National Night Out Week safety event will include a Bike Safety Rodeo, which will be held on Saturday, July 26th from 1:30PM-2:30PM at Frank Hammond Park.

This event is for children ages up to 12 years of age who are asked to bring their bicycles with them, and free bicycle helmets will be made available courtesy of SafeKids NWI. Participants will also be provided with bicycle safety tips from the Munster Police Department after which they will ride around the track with police officers. A free drawing for a \$200 gift card towards a new bicycle, sponsored by the Munster Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #147, will be held at the conclusion of the event. *Participants must be present by 1:30PM to be eligible for the drawing.*

MUNSTER'S 30TH ANNUAL NATIONAL NIGHT OUT CELEBRATION

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5TH



The Munster Police Department and Choice Community Council invite and encourage all Munster residents to participate in Munster's 30th Annual National Night Out Celebration on Tuesday, August 5th. This fun and exciting annual event for all ages is held each year to promote safety in our community as well as positive police and community partnerships. **The event will begin with a Community Parade at 4:30pm on Columbia Avenue from Park Drive to the south lot of Munster High School**, consisting of school groups, emergency vehicles, veterans, and more. Please line the sides of the street to show your support and then follow the parade to the main event.

The main National Night Out Celebration will be held from 5:00pm to 8:30pm in the area of the Munster Community Pool (8837 Calumet Avenue) and will include free swimming for Munster residents (with state ID please), prizes, kids games, giveaways, emergency vehicle displays, over 130 booth participants, K-9 demonstrations, a police helicopter landing, food trucks/stands, music, The John Measner Magic Show, costumed characters and special guest appearances, barrel car train rides, a bounce house, safety information, award presentations, and a closing fireworks show generously sponsored by Greg Kaplan of Krazy Kaplan's Fireworks.

Parking will be available in the south lot of Munster High School, at the Munster Community Pool, and in areas of Community Park (Social Center lot will be closed). In the event of inclement weather, the event will be held the following day (please check the department's Facebook page for updates). All residents are encouraged to display blue lights from July 26th through August 5th in support of our National Night Out Week activities. Thank you in advance for your participation and support this year!

The 50/50 Sidewalk Replacement for 2025 is completed.



If you applied prior to the June 1, 2025, deadline and your sidewalk has not been replaced this year, your application will be moved to the 2026 50/50 Sidewalk Replacement. There is no need to send another application.

HOLIDAY GARBAGE/ RECYCLING PICK UP SCHEDULE



Garbage & Recycling will not be picked up on Friday, July 4th. There will be 1 day delay in garbage/recycling collection.



Pick up will be on
**Saturday, July 5,
2025.**



Electronic Recycling is available to residents M-F from 7 am – 3 pm at Public Works.

Electronic recycling includes computers, printers, laptops, cell phones, fax machines, DVD players.

It is open to residents of Lake County and **NOT** available to business or non-profit organizations.

Any questions, contact 836-6970 or 6971



We want to celebrate all the military personnel for what they have done for us at Munster Pool.

NEW THIS YEAR: Military Day
at Munster Pool on July 3. Show your military ID at admissions and get in free!



Youth and Adult Tennis Lessons

Start up the week of July 7 at Bluebird Park and Munster High School. Youth is open to those 4-5 year olds, 6-9 year olds and 10-13 year olds.



Adult classes include Beginner lessons and Drill and Play (for intermediate players).

Pint Size Camps

Begins July 7 at Southside Christian Church. For ages 3-5, Classes available are: Camp Munster Parks, Rainbow Wonderland, Animal Avenue, Pajama Party, Fantasy Friends and Wonder Works.



For ages 6-8, classes available are: Time Travelers, The Lab League, The Think Tank and Champions Corner. Classes run once/week for 90 minutes for 4 weeks. Fee: \$55, Resident: \$50.



Region Theatre Company Camp

Camp will take place M-Th, 7/14-7/17 from 9AM-2PM and the performance will be Friday, 7/18 from 9-11AM.

Learn about acting and theatrical production with Region Theatre Company. Accepting actors and stage crew. Open to ages 11+. Fee: \$50

Now that we're full force into Concert season, join us for some upcoming ones!

Summer Concert Series featuring: Good Clean Fun (7/6) and Head Honchos (7/20).



CIVIC concerts featuring: Billy Elton (7/15) and NWI Symphony (7/29).

The Unusual Musical Instrument Show will take place on Wed., 7/23 from 6-7PM at the Lion's Club Social Center with Munster Resident, Joe Rauhen and his unique musical creations! During the show, he will demonstrate and perform on the Suitcase Base, Shovel Guitar, Pool Noodle Clarinet and the Kitchen Sink. Pre-registration is required - \$15/person. Snacks & drinks will be provided.



July 4th Activities Around Town...



Come join us for one of the finest fireworks shows in the area!

Enjoy a beer garden, food trucks, and live music on Thursday, July 3

Gates Open at 6pm

Live Music by The Unstoppables from 7:30 - 11pm

Fireworks begin at 9:30pm

Independence Day Parade will be Friday July 4th at 2pm



Come out for some family fun and celebrate July 4th at The Town of Munster 2025 Independence Day Parade!

Friday, July 4th at 2pm. Parade Route:

Begins at Hohman Ave - Ends at Center for Visual Performing Arts Center



REGULATIONS FOR FIREWORKS

Per Munster Ordinance 1834, consumer fireworks may be discharged within Town limits only on the following dates and times:



- * June 19: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 midnight
- * June 29 - July 3 & July 5 - July 9: 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 pm.
- * July 4: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 midnight

A violation of this ordinance carries a \$100 fine per occurrence.

Join us for WEEKEND of DECADES FEST FUN!!

July 18-20 at Centennial Park. **Decades Fest** is a new event to celebrate all the generations of the past!



Friday from 5-10PM, join us for The Stingrays and Cadillac Groove. Saturday from 2-10PM, join us for My 80's band, How Rude & Loudernow. Throughout this 2-day event, peruse through our vendors, enjoy generational activities and let the music of the past bring up memories long forgotten! Sunday from 12-4 join us for **Kid's Fest** - foam parties, costumed characters meet and greet, pony rides, games, inflatables and more. \$20 child wristband will allow access to all activities. New to Kid's Fest will be a toddler area and mini touch-a-truck!



Touch A Truck will take place at Community Park Parking Lot on Friday, July 11 from 9:30AM-12PM.

Join us to get a hands-on experience with all the vehicles you see around your community. Sensory-friendly option from 9:30-10AM. All horns go from 10AM-12PM.

ELECTRIFYING MUNSTER 2025

Beauty & the Box Program ~ Program Overview

The **Munster Civic Foundation (MCF)** is excited to announce a new, multi-year, town-wide, public beautification project called ***"ELECTRIFYING MUNSTER - Beauty & the Box"***.

This new initiative will target the 33 electrical boxes the Town owns (located near stop-light intersections) for esthetic enhancement. The MCF is reaching out to local entities and residents to sponsor each box and work with a graphic artist to create original artwork to decorate it with a vinyl wrap. Munster residents, local businesses, as well as Munster-based civic and not-for-profit organizations will have the opportunity to select and sponsor any of the available electrical boxes around town. Through the end of 2025, the sponsorship price of each box will be \$2,000 - \$2,500 per box. The sponsorship prices included production and installation of the graphics. Each sponsor will retain their box for two years once installation is completed.



The **Munster Civic Foundation** is dedicated to supporting projects and events that promote, foster, and encourage community spirit and pride. Created in 1990 through an endowment from the Community Foundation of Northwest Indiana, the MCF has spent more than three decades funding various projects such as the sponsorship of the July 3rd fireworks, purchasing flags and holiday decorations, contributing to the first bike paths, and assisting the 2008 flood victims.

For more information regarding this exciting new initiative or email the **MCF** at CivicFoundation@munster.org.

TOWN COUNCIL, BOARD, AND COMMISSION REGULAR MEETINGS JULY 2025

Notes: The schedule below is subject to change. Please contact Munster Town Hall (MTH) at (219)836-6900 to confirm meetings. Public meetings are also available utilizing Zoom technology. Visit the Town of Munster website:

<https://www.munster.org> (Select Agendas and Meetings) or contact the appropriate department to access the meeting ID and passcode. Also, a schedule of these meetings and others are maintained on the Community Calendar at the Town of Munster website. **Tune into WJOB 1230 AM Radio and listen to Community Programming Initiative, in which members of the Munster Town Council and guests discuss issues in town. The program runs the first and third Tuesday of each month at 8:30 am.**

***Town Council and Redevelopment Commission Meeting Zoom Information:

Meeting ID: 507 875 5757

Passcode: 126807

Park Board Mtg.	July 1, 2025	5:00 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Site Plan Review Mtg.	July 3, 2025	1:30 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Town Council/Redevelopment Mtg.	July 7, 2025	6:30 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Board of Zoning Appeals Mtg.	July 8, 2025	6:00 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Plan Commission Mtg.	July 8, 2025	7:00 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Board of Safety Mtg.	July 15, 2025	7:00 am	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Park Board Mtg.	July 15, 2025	5:00 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Site Plan Review Mtg.	July 17, 2025	1:30 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Town Council/Redevelopment Mtg.	July 21, 2025	6:30 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)



George Shinkan
Joseph Hofferth
Chuck Gardiner
David Nellans
Jonathan Petersen
Wendy Mis

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