



Town of Munster, 1005 Ridge

NEWS YOU CAN USE

JUNE 2024

Edited by J.S.

Ask the Munster Town Council President

As Munster Town Council President, I am excited to announce that via this "News You Can Use" newsletter, residents will be receiving regular updates on the status of current town projects as well as any future major projects under consideration by the council members. I believe that the transparent delivery of facts is essential to keep lines of communication open while allowing residents to make their own independent judgement on any project or action considered and/or taken by the council.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

I am very pleased to report that on May 9, 2024, the council approved pay raises for our Police Officers; this was part of the commitment the council made to support Public Safety. We also plan to add additional police personnel to ensure that we have more Law Enforcement Officers available to address the needs of our community. We are confident that with these salary adjustments Munster will not only be able to attract the finest officers possible but also retain our experienced officers moving forward.

CALEA

The Munster Police Department is a proud member of CALEA - The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. CALEA was created in 1979 as a credentialing authority through the joint efforts of law enforcement's major executive associations. CALEA has been the Gold Standard in Public Safety, defining professional excellence as the preeminent accrediting body in the field. The CALEA Accreditation Program provides public safety agencies with an opportunity to voluntarily meet an established set of professional standards which require the following:

- Comprehensive and uniform written directives that define authority, performance and responsibilities
- Reports and analyses to make fact-based and informed management decision
- Preparedness to address natural or man-made critical incidents
- Community relationship building and maintenance
- Independent review by subject matter experts
- Continuous pursuit of excellence through annual reviews and other assessment measures

Currently, there are only twenty-one agencies in the State of Indiana that are accredited through CALEA. The twenty-one agencies consist of fourteen municipal law enforcement agencies and four Sheriff's Departments. The remaining accredited agencies belong to University Law Enforcement agencies and the Indianapolis Airport Authority Police Department.

K-9 UNIT

Established in 2012, the Munster Police K-9 Unit continues to provide essential services to the community and surrounding agencies. Today, we are proud to have 4 certified canines providing an array of skills alongside their handlers. In addition to working the road 40 hours each week, our canines participate in community events, fun fairs, festivals, and our very own National Night Out Against Crime.

The K-9 Unit is also pleased to announce our 2nd Annual Golf Outing and Free Family Event brought to us by Heroes Helping Heroes. This event will take place on July 6, 2024, beginning with a 9:00 a.m. shotgun start for our golfers. From 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. families and friends are welcome to come and spend a beautiful day at Centennial Park; there will be fun for all ages with plenty of games, music, and prize raffles. The event will also feature a kids area complete with bounce houses and a dunk tank. Please mark your calendars and join us for a great day!

In closing, I would like to express my appreciation for the feedback we have received thus far. I am excited to continue to work with my fellow Town Council members and our residents as we keep Munster moving forward and safe. Please feel free to reach out to me at (219)680-6364 or dnellans@munster.org.

Dave Nellans, Town Council President



MUNSTER P.D. SEEKING NATIONAL NIGHT OUT DONATIONS THROUGH JUNE 15TH

The Munster Police Department is seeking monetary donations **THROUGH JUNE 15TH** towards the 29th Annual National Night Out Against Crime Celebration which will be held on August 6th. The event, which celebrates positive police and community partnerships through a variety of activities for the public, is completely funded through donations. If you would like to provide a donation, please make checks payable to the **Town of Munster (memo: NNO)** and either mail or drop off your donation to the **Munster Police Department, c/o Officer James Ghrist, 1001 Ridge Road, Munster, IN 46321**. Thank you for your support this year!



From the Clerk-Treasurer,

Wendy Mis

As the warmer months approach, many of us find ourselves drawn to the outdoors. Whether we're tending to our gardens, washing the car, or simply soaking up the sunshine, our water usage tends to increase. With school kids on summer break and college kids home, it's no surprise that utility bills may see a spike due to extra loads of laundry, more frequent baths, or showers, and even the joy of running through the sprinkler. Our furry friends can also contribute to the uptick in water usage; for instance, our dachshund Lenny delights in playing in his own mini splash pad! These seasonal activities can lead to utility bills being higher than usual. However, it's essential to recognize that this increase isn't solely the result of lifestyle changes; part of it is attributed to the way your bill is calculated. Let's delve into summer rates and understand how they may have an impact on your utility bill.

SUMMER RATES



You may notice a line item on your bill labeled "HSD Residential Flow" which comes from the Hammond Sanitary District. With activities like filling pools, watering lawns, and washing cars, the volume of water entering the sewer system fluctuates. During the summer months, this calculation method shifts to reflect these seasonal changes in water usage. While each household's water usage varies, those who typically use only the minimum or base rate each month may not see a significant change.

Approximately 1,000 homes in Munster have a second meter which is primarily used by their inground sprinkler or lawn irrigation systems. Regardless of usage, these homes incur a minimum charge during the billing months from July through November. It's worth noting that receiving a sprinkler bill in November may seem odd, but it accounts for usage between September 15th and October 15th, a period when lawn watering remains common.

MINIMUM CHARGE (and included usage)

The minimum charge, determined by the size of your meter, is the basis for your water rate. Usage that exceeds 2,967 gallons for a 5/8" – 3/4" meter or 7,983 gallons for a 1" meter is billed at the appropriate rate. And yes, that minimum gets billed even with zero usage and any usage over what is included with your meter size minimum will be billed based on actual usage. If you have a second water meter for irrigation, you are also subject to the minimum charge, but you are only billed during sprinkler season for the bills due July through November.

The minimum charge covers the cost of delivering water to your home or business. These costs include but are not limited to the base cost of the water, electricity, personnel, the costs of maintenance of the lines and other fixed operating costs. While we strive to keep water delivery costs low, rising expenses affect us all, including the Town, but the minimum charge ensures consistent bills, particularly for those on fixed incomes.

SUMMER EVENTS-MUNSTER CIVIC FOUNDATION



Join us on Monday nights at the beautiful Centennial Park Amphitheater for ten Civic Monday concerts, sponsored by the Munster Civic Foundation. The series kicks off on June 10th at 6:30 pm. The NWI Symphony will return to the bandshell on July 29th at 7:30 pm. Additionally, two Friday night shows have been added to perform at 7:00 p.m.- June 21st featuring *Then Again* and August 9th featuring *Hello Weekend*. Food concessions and a beer garden will be available at most shows. While the concerts are free, parking is not so plan accordingly. Munster residents can register two cars for free parking throughout the summer. Register at www.centennialparkvehiclereg.com.

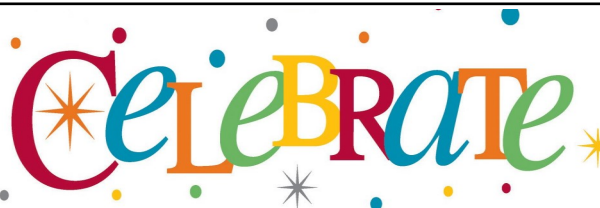
QUESTIONS, CONCERNS AND COMPLIMENTS

I have an open door and welcome input from our residents. I enjoy the time I get to spend talking with our residents, especially when they share ideas, concerns and we especially love compliments! Contact me at wmis@munster.org or (219) 836 – 6945.

Enjoy your summer!

Wendy Mis,

Clerk-Treasurer, Town of Munster



INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS

TOWN OF MUNSTER FIREWORKS SHOW

WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, 2024

CENTENNIAL PARK

6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Fireworks show begins at dusk

INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

THURSDAY, JULY 4, 2024 @ 2:00 p.m.

Parade applications can be found at the Town of Munster website: www.munster.org

THE PARADE ROUTE HAS CHANGED FOR 2024!

The parade begins at 2pm at the intersection of Ridge Road and Hohman Avenue. Staging for the parade will be at Munster Church - 214 Ridge Road. The parade will proceed east on Ridge Road and will end at the Center for Visual and Performing Arts at 1040 Ridge Road.

More information will be available on the Town of Munster website at www.munster.org, next month's newsletter and the Town of Munster Facebook page.



Kid's Fest is back!
Saturday, June 1st
12:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Centennial Park

Lots of FREE things to do or purchase an all-inclusive wristband for \$20/person. A Bubble show begins at 12:30pm, Costumed Characters at 1:30pm and a Foam Party from 3-4pm.



Region Eats Food Fest
Saturday, June 22
5:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Join us for a mouthwatering celebration of flavors, aromas and culinary creations at the Region Eats Food Fest. Purchase from any of our 15+ food trucks, enjoy a drink from the beer garden or enjoy the tunes of 'The Elvis Diet.'



Movie in the Park
Tuesday, June 18th
Centennial Park at dusk

Wonka' will be featured as our June Movie in the Park. Starting at dusk on June 18, bring a blanket and enjoy a movie under the stars.



Munster Pool is now open daily!
Monday-Saturday: 11:00am-6pm
Sundays: 1:00pm-6pm

Still accepting birthday parties, group rentals and private pool parties. Daily Admission for Munster Residents is \$10/person. Youth 16 and under must be accompanied by a paid adult.



- 6/1 Kid's Fest
- 6/2 All American Ninjas at Patti's All-American
- 6/3 Youth, Preschool and Parent/Tot Swim Lessons
- 6/3 Munster Parks Summer Camp Begins
- 6/3 Tumblebear Gymnastics
- 6/3 Girls/Boys Tumbling and Trampoline
- 6/3 4-5, 6-9 and 10-13 Tennis Begin
- 6/3 Jumpstart Hoops
- 6/3 Mini Strikers
- 6/3 Skateboarding: Leveling Up
- 6/3 Adult Drill and Play
- 6/4 Spanish Adventures for Kids 1
- 6/4 4-5, 6-9 and 10-13 Tennis Begin
- 6/4 Adult Beginner Tennis

- 6/5 Tumblebear Gymnastics
- 6/3 Girls/Boys Tumbling and Trampoline
- 6/4 Rookie Rundown
- 6/6 Spanish Adventures for Kids 2
- 6/6 Cardio Drumming
- 6/7 Tumblebear Gymnastics
- 6/8 Youth, Preschool and Parent/Tot Swim Lessons
- 6/8 Medication Safety at Home (for Keen-Agers)
- 6/8 College Admissions Essay Workshop – Phase 1
- 6/9 Summer Concert Series featuring: The Rat Pack
- 6/10 CSRI Pool Party
- 6/10 CPR Certification
- 6/10 CIVIC Monday Series: The Jolly Ringwalds
- 6/12 Intro to Cricket
- 6/12 Flashlight Flag Hunt
- 6/12 Crystal Healing Jewelry Making Workshop
- 6/13 Tiny Tot at Susan's School of Dance
- 6/13 Ballet/Tap/Tumble at Susan's School of Dance
- 6/15 Wading Birds of NW IN
- 6/16 Father's Day at Munster Pool
- 6/17 Youth, Preschool and Parent/Tot Swim Lessons
- 6/17 2-Hour Tennis Camp
- 6/17 Ladies and Mens Golf
- 6/17 Hispanic Heritage Dance
- 6/17 CIVIC Monday Series: Hillbilly Rock Star
- 6/18 Youth Golf
- 6/18 Movies in the Park featuring Wonka
- 6/19 Pool Season Pass Party – Beach Ball Bonanza
- 6/21 Donna Reed Lunch and Show
- 6/21 CIVIC Friday Concert: Then Again
- 6/22 Home Alone Training
- 6/22 Region Eats Food Festival
- 6/22 Medication Safety at Home for New Parents
- 6/23 Summer Concert Series featuring: Good Clean Fun
- 6/24 Challenger British Soccer Camp
- 6/24 CIVIC Monday Series: Rick Lyndy & The Wild Ones
- 6/25 Plant Pioneer Camp
- 6/25 Splash and Splatter Squirt Gun Painting
- 6/28 Mayflower Travel Show
- 6/30 Lavender Hill Farm Deadline

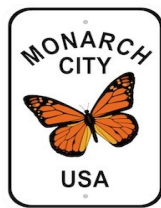


Swim Lessons are available to youth, preschool and parent/tot groups. Classes start up June 3 and again on June 17. They run Mondays-Thursdays for two weeks. Fridays are used for rain makeups. Questions about what level your child would be best in? Contact Abby at (219) 836-6923.



Register Now for Pint Size Camp Programs

Learn, create and grow through our specialized Pint Size Camps programs. They begin in July, so register now! Classes available for youth 3-5 include Circus Crazy, Diggers and Dents, Farming Frenzy, Happiest Place on Earth and Super Scientists. Classes available for youth 6-8 include Christmas in July, Excellent Experimenters, Jeux Olympiques, Pint-Sized performers, and When I grow up. Classes will take place at Southside Christian Church once/week for 90 minutes.



Munster Monarch Project

**AlterNatives:
Summer Lecture Series
Munster Town Hall
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**



June 25 - AlterNatives to Banned Plants for the Landscape: Dolly Foster and Karl Ackermann

July 23 - Native Plants for Beginners - Learn how to easily incorporate natives to beautify and benefit wildlife: Karl Ackermann and Dolly Foster

August 27 - Healing Gardens and Healing Spaces: Diane Kitchell and Dolly Foster



**NOW ENROLLING FOR THE
2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR**

**MINI MUSTANGS
PRE-K PROGRAM**

Learn more about this exciting opportunity!



Centennial Park Parking



Town of Munster residents can register up to 2 vehicles per household to park for free at Centennial Park for the 2024 parking season. 2024 registration began on March 1, 2024 at www.centennialparkvehiclereg.com. **Previous registration will not carry over to 2024.**

Registration can also be done at the Parks and Recreation office at Munster Town Hall during regular business hours (Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm). For more information, please visit the Town's website at www.munster.org.



Sponsored by Munster Civic Foundation, Monday Centennial Park concerts are back from 6:30-8:30pm! June 10: The Jolly Ringwalds; June 17: Hillbilly Rock Starz and June 24: Rick Lindy & The Wild Ones. Also on Friday, June 21: Then

Again will play from 7-9pm. Concessions and alcohol will be served.



Sponsored by People's Bank, the Summer Concert Series is back at Munster Town Hall from 6:30-8pm. June 9: The Rat Pack and June 23: Good Clean Fun. Concessions will be offered by: Munster Historical Society.

TOWN COUNCIL, BOARD, AND COMMISSION REGULAR MEETINGS JUNE 2024

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/Redevelopment Mtg.	June 3, 2024	7:00 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Site Plan Review Mtg.	June 6, 2024	1:30 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Board of Zoning Appeals Mtg.	June 11, 2024	6:45 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Plan Commission Mtg.	June 11, 2024	7:30 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Town Council/Redevelopment Mtg.	June 17, 2024	7:00 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Board of Safety Mtg.	June 18, 2024	7:00 am	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Park Board Mtg.	June 18, 2024	5:00 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Site Plan Review Mtg.	June 20, 2024	1:30pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)



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



Ward #1
Ward #2
Ward #3
Ward #4
Ward #5
Clerk-Treasurer



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