

# City of Bellbrook Community Report

April 2013  
Volume 19, Issue 1

A Publication of the City of Bellbrook

## 35<sup>th</sup> Sugar Maple Festival

Masquerade  
April 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013



Come join the Bellbrook-Sugarcreek community as it celebrates the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Sugar Maple Festival in downtown Bellbrook on April 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>. The theme of this year's festival is "Masquerade." As always, there will be numerous activities for everyone. Entertainment includes live music, a parade, children's activities, crafts and food vendors. Other activities include a 5K run and a dog show. Come be a part of the fun!

For more information, visit the festival website at [www.sugarmaplefestival.com](http://www.sugarmaplefestival.com)

### Event Schedule

#### Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>

Main Street Closure ..... 10:00 AM  
Franklin Street Closure..... 5:00 PM  
Dog Show Registration..... 6:00 PM - 6:30 PM  
Dog Show ..... 6:30 PM  
Food Vendors..... 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

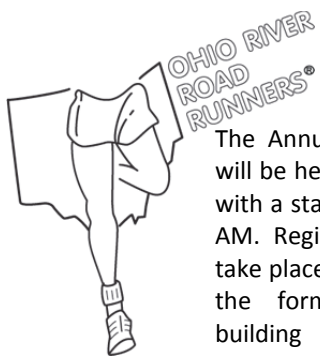
#### Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>

Pancake Breakfast..... 8:00 PM - 12:00 PM  
5K Registration..... 8:00 AM  
5K Run Start ..... 9:00 AM  
National Anthem..... 11:30 AM  
Parade Start ..... 11:30 AM  
Entertainment..... 12:00 PM - 7:00 PM  
Children's Activities..... 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM  
\* Craft and Food Vendors open 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM  
\*\* Entertainment open 12:00 PM - 7:00 PM

#### Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>

Children's Activities..... 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
\* Craft and Food Vendors open 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
\*\* Entertainment open 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM

### Annual 5K Race



The Annual 5K Race will be held April 20<sup>th</sup> with a start time of 9 AM. Registration will take place at 8 AM at the former school building located at 51 S. East Street.

The race takes place on Washington Mill Road. This is an Ohio River Road Runners Club event. For more information please visit [www.orrrc.org](http://www.orrrc.org).

### Festival Commemorative Plates

The 2013 Sugar Maple Festival Commemorative Plate was designed by Eileen Petric of Bellbrook. The design is an original pen and ink drawing dedicated to the many people who volunteer their time to help the children and community, especially those involved in the Boy Scouts. The bridge depicted on the plate is Trevor Nartker's Eagle Scout project in Bellbrook Park.

The Commemorative Plates will go on sale Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, at Dot's Market. They will continue to be sold at Dot's Market during the festival and the week

following. Dot's Market is located at 118 W. Franklin Street (State Route 725) in Bellbrook. During the festival, the plates can be purchased at the Sugar Maple Festival tent in Bellbrook Park. The 2013 plates will be sold for \$17. Previous festival plates can be purchased at a discounted price of \$8 (limited years and quantities available).

To purchase one of these Commemorative Plates, please contact Holly Levine at (937) 750-9925 or [hollyx2jb@hotmail.com](mailto:hollyx2jb@hotmail.com).

### Entertainment Schedule

#### Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>

National Anthem to be sung from Reviewing Stand prior to parade – 11:30 AM

#### Bellbrook Park

Bellbrook Jazz Band ..... 1:30 PM  
Todd the Fox..... 2:45 PM  
The Measures ..... 5:15 PM

#### Sugarcreek Township Fire Department

Bellbrook Dance Academy..... 12:30 PM  
Twp. Fire Dept. Auto Extrication..... 2:00 PM

#### Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>

#### Bellbrook Park

Chris Katros..... 12:00 PM  
Danny Voris..... 1:30 PM  
Muddy River Band ..... 3:00 PM

#### Sugarcreek Township Fire Department

Twp. Fire Dept. Auto Extrication..... 2:00 PM

## 35<sup>th</sup> Sugar Maple Festival: April 19<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013

### School & Children's Activities

**School:** Sugar Maple Festival school activities chair, Teresa Paul, will be meeting with students at Stephen Bell Elementary during their library time the week of April 15<sup>th</sup> to share how maple syrup is made. Each student will have the opportunity to taste some real maple syrup donated by Bline Farms. Maple cookies will be provided for all students at Stephen Bell,

Bell Creek Intermediate, Sugarcreek Education Center and Happy Child Preschool.

**Children:** The festival offers multiple FREE activities for children of all ages. Visit the game tent in Bellbrook Park.

#### Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>

- ◆ 12:00 PM – 6:00 PM Face tattoos, hair painting and carnival games
- ◆ 2:00 PM Hula Hoop Contest
- ◆ 4:00 PM Jump Rope Contest

#### Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>

- ◆ 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM Face tattoos, hair painting and carnival games

### Food

**Vendors:** The Sugar Maple Festival will once again offer a wide variety of food for festival-goers. Come hungry to the festival because every type of festival food favorites will be offered along Main Street.

**Pancake Breakfast:** The annual "all you can eat" pancake breakfast will be held Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at the Bellbrook United Methodist Church from 8 AM - 12 PM. Costs are \$5 for Adults and \$3.50 for Children.

**Syrup:** Maple Syrup will be available for purchase in Bellbrook Park. Syrup prices: 32 oz. (\$20), 16 oz. (\$12), 12 oz. (\$10) and 8 oz. (\$8). Bline Farms from Springfield produces the syrup. Farm owner, Jeff Bline, will give a presentation about maple syrup for children at 1 PM on both Saturday and Sunday of the festival.



### Recycled Sculpture Contest

Help the festival spread the word about recycling and discarding less waste by using your imagination and creating a unique sculpture out of recycled materials! Sculptures will be displayed during the festival weekend from Friday to Sunday.

Cash prizes and ribbons will be awarded for all categories which include: Individuals by age groups, businesses and community organizations. To find out more information on the specifics of the contest, visit the festival website at [www.sugarmaplefestival.com](http://www.sugarmaplefestival.com).

### Crafts

The Sugar Maple Festival will once again offer an assortment of local and regional arts and craft vendors. Approximately 75 booths will line the streets. Returning this year is Rich Fowler with his scenic oil

paintings, Corinne Abella's selection of American Girl Doll clothes and Fred Horner with his hand painted windows. We will also have grapevine trees, candles, soaps, fabric items and jewelers. For more information, contact Pam Ryan at (937) 848-9588 or [pryan@woh.rr.com](mailto:pryan@woh.rr.com).

### Dog Show

The annual Dog Show is Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. Registration is from 6:00 - 6:30 PM behind the old school building at 51 S. East Street. The categories are: cutest puppy (up to 12 months), cutest dog (over 12 months), ugliest, smallest, largest, best costume and silly dog tricks. Each of the above categories awards a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place trophy. There is also a Best of Show winner. The winning dogs will be invited to participate in Saturday's parade. Food and beverage will be available at the show. The rain date is Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at the same time.

### Transportation

**Free Shuttles** run from Bell Creek Intermediate School on Upper Bellbrook Road to Bellbrook Park during festival hours. The Sugar Maple Festival Committee is currently looking for more drivers. If interested, contact Louie Schatzberg at (937) 760-8401.

**Handicapped Parking** will be available at 26 N. West Street. (BellHop Cafe)



## 35<sup>th</sup> Sugar Maple Festival: April 19<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013

### Come Explore at the Festival...

**The Bellbrook Historical Society** will again showcase the Bellbrook Historical Museum. Look for new exhibits and interesting presenters as you tour the museum with docents from the Historical Society. A rotating exhibit will feature their exhibit *Hats and Vintage Accessories*. Their booth will focus on selling those wonderful Sugar Maple cookies, history books and updated disks, prints of some of our historic buildings and much more.

**The Bellbrook Garden Club** booth will highlight the club's objective to stimulate interest in gardening and share how the club members contribute to the Bellbrook-Sugarcreek community. Look for the winning Earth Day posters from Bellbrook

students, a worm compost farm display, educational handouts, club project photos from the school and community gardens and more. Members of the Bellbrook Garden Club and reference materials will be available to help with gardening questions.

**Bellbrook Park** offers many activities during the festival. Situated in downtown Bellbrook, it will be the location for maple syrup, unique food vendors and the festival's Commemorative Plates. Bellbrook Park also hosts live entertainment and children's activities. Other attractions will include an educational display from the Greene County Park District, activities from the Bellbrook Garden Club, and the popular free trees available at the Bellbrook Sugarcreek Park District booth.



**Winters Library** will be holding their annual book sale during the Sugar Maple Festival. The book sale will be held at the library building on Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, from 10 AM to 5 PM. Come by to browse for great deals on used books!

## Community News

### Community Spring Events

**The Bellbrook Sugarcreek Park District** has many exciting programs planned for the upcoming summer! There are programs designed for all ages, many of which are free or with a small fee for supplies. Highlights for the next few months include: Music in Bellbrook Park, Summer Camps, Nature Hike Programs, Fitness Classes, Stargazing, Knitting Classes and a Weekly Knitting Group, Tween Socials, 4<sup>th</sup> of July Festivities and much more. For additional park information, contact the Park District at (937) 848-3535 or visit their website at [www.bellbrooksugarcreekparks.org](http://www.bellbrooksugarcreekparks.org).

**The Bellbrook Garden Club** plant sale will be Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, from 9 AM to 1 PM. It will be held at 51 S. East Street on the lawn of the Family Resource Center and the former school.

A wide variety of plants will be available. Both sun and shade loving perennials, wildflowers, herbs and grasses will be for sale. Garden club members will be on hand to help with selection and to answer questions about placement, planting and care. Club members will be sharing selections dug from their gardens, as well as raising seedling for the sale.

Proceeds from this sale provide

scholarships for Bellbrook High School graduating seniors who are interested in pursuing a career in horticulture or a related field, and Bellbrook Middle School students to attend activities at Camp Kern. Grants are offered to teachers at Bell Creek Intermediate and Stephen Bell Elementary to support their science curriculum.

Questions about the sale or the Garden Club can be addressed to Pam Ryan, chair of the plant sale, at (937) 848-9588 or Krista Miller, club president, at [bellbrookgardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:bellbrookgardenclub@gmail.com). Go to [www.bellbrookgardenclub.org](http://www.bellbrookgardenclub.org).

**Bellbrook Historical Museum** Spring is just around the corner and the museum has come alive again with a new offering in their Rotating Exhibit space. This exhibit highlights the clothing of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Enjoy seeing the lady's high button shoes, highlighting her exquisitely trimmed dress. Imagine a dapper man-about-town taking a summer walk in his white linen suit and walking cane down a shaded street in the Old Village. These things and more await the Museum visitor Wednesdays from 10 AM to 2 PM, and Saturdays from 12 PM to 5 PM.

The museum is easy to find at 42 N. Main Street, and they look forward to you

stopping by to see all of the treasures of historic Bellbrook.

### Bellbrook Sugarcreek Chamber of Commerce

**Business Breakfast** – Join the Chamber for breakfast on Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 AM at Five Seasons Sports Club for a great networking opportunity. Meet other businesses, Chamber members and local leaders. The cost is \$9 and any business is invited. Please RSVP to (937) 848-4930.

**Community Garage Sale** – This annual event will take place May 16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup>. Sign up at the Chamber tent in Bellbrook Park during the Sugar Maple Festival or register on their website below.

Stop in the office at 64 W. Franklin Street for a Community Directory and additional area information.

**Did you know?** – Greene Inc. is a document shredding company located across from the fairgrounds in Xenia. They accept documents to be shredded, free of charge, during the hours of 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM from Monday through Friday.

Please visit the Chamber website at [www.bellbrooksugarcreekchamber.com](http://www.bellbrooksugarcreekchamber.com) for additional Chamber events and information or call the office at (937) 848-4930.

## Community News

### Winters – Bellbrook Community Library

The Greene County Public Library is excited to announce its newest service! They have purchased unlimited digital access to over 50 of the most popular magazines. Zinio offers full magazine copies which you can view on your computer, e-reader, or mobile device.

As always, they have your favorite new books, music and movies for checkout, online resources for research, and lots of fun programs. Visit them at 57 W. Franklin Street. You can also go online for more information at [www.greenelibrary.info](http://www.greenelibrary.info).

**Discover, Learn, Grow at YOUR library.**



## City News

### Mayor's State of the City Address



*On February 11, 2013, Mayor Baird gave the annual State of the City Address before City Council and members of the public.*

Let me start by saying it is an honor to be your Mayor and to serve the residents of Bellbrook. I want to thank our dedicated and hardworking staff, city council and all of our department heads. It is their dedication that helps make Bellbrook a great city to live.

I am happy to report the City of Bellbrook has continued to be careful stewards of your finances, and we remain one of the most fiscally strong cities in our region. In Bellbrook's 2013 Budget Report our city manager, Mr. Schlagheck, pointed out that we begin 2013 with an unencumbered fund balance of approximately \$4.62 million, and we ended 2012 below our budget forecast. As we begin to realize the impacts of the state budget cuts, our future surplus is expected to decrease significantly. As we face the challenge of declining revenue, it will be mine and city council's responsibility to reduce our expenses to

bring them in line with future revenues. Our 2013 budget forecast was reduced \$230,438 from our 2012 budget and we will work diligently to find ways to reduce spending while maintaining the level of services our residents expect.

2012 was a busy year, and we had many accomplishments. We came in under our forecasted budget and negotiated and approved a new waste collection contract that reduced waste collection rates \$3 per month per household. Since January 1, 2012, the waste collection rates have been reduced from \$17 per month to \$13 per month.

Our annual street resurfacing program completed South Lakeman and the western streets of downtown. Wilmington-Dayton Road, from State Route 725 to the southern City limits, was also resurfaced with grant funding through Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC) paying for the majority of the project.

Our water system continues to perform very well and, like last year, we have no plans to increase water rates.

I would also like to thank the Bellbrook voters for overwhelmingly approving the renewal of our General Fund levy in November which included no new taxes. This levy provides critical funding to the city and has to be voted on every five years.

Last year also brought on the challenge of transitioning to the state wide Multi-Agency Radio Communication System (MARCS) system. We began purchasing radios that will be compatible with the MARCS system, and we are currently evaluating our dispatch operations to determine the feasibility to contract the dispatch function. No decisions have been made on this issue, and we will keep our employees and citizens involved in the process as we continue our evaluation.

In conclusion, the City of Bellbrook remains a strong and viable city. Because past and present administrations have been fiscally responsible, the City of Bellbrook has not had to face the drastic cuts in service that other cities have had to endure, and we have no plans to put additional tax levies on the ballot in 2013. Our current budget surplus has given the city time to make smart decisions to reduce expenses and maintain the level of service our residents expect.

Sincerely,

Bob Baird

Mayor, City of Bellbrook

City News

**Municipal & Zoning Code Highlights**

In an effort to keep residents informed, certain provisions of the Municipal Code and Zoning Code have been highlighted below.

**Property Maintenance Code** In today’s economy, it is important to do all we can as homeowners or tenants to ensure that the highest property values are maintained in our community. Stable property values are maintained when the appearance of a residential lot and house are neat, clean and orderly. The city works to enforce the Property Maintenance Code to encourage maintenance of property and protect the rights of neighbors. Please see below for a list of common property maintenance violations:

- ◆ **Vegetation** – Code enforcement officers are out on a regular basis throughout the spring, summer and fall to inspect properties for overgrown grass and bushes. Grass must be kept below 8 inches in height. Bushes and weeds must be trimmed and not permitted become overgrown.
- ◆ **Accessory Structures** – Structures such as garages, sheds, permanent outdoor play equipment and fences need to be structurally sound and in good repair at all times.
- ◆ **Junk Vehicles** – No inoperable or unlicensed motor vehicle should be parked on a property. No vehicle is allowed to be in a state of disassembly. Vehicles such as these are not allowed to be parked outside of a residence but may be placed inside and out of view.
- ◆ **Outside Storage** – The storage of miscellaneous items must be within an enclosed structure or screened according to the Zoning Code. Miscellaneous items can include indoor furniture, automotive parts, building materials and other items that are not common for outdoor yard recreation or use.
- ◆ **Brush Piles** – One brush pile per property is allowed.
- ◆ **Protective Treatment** – All exterior surfaces of a structure are to be waterproof and free from peeling paint or rotting materials.
- ◆ **Gutters** – Roof drains and downspouts are to be maintained and in good repair. Roof water should not cause a nuisance to your neighbors.
- ◆ **Garbage Cans** – Garbage and recycling pickup is on Friday of each week. Garbage cans are allowed to be placed in the public right of way (end of your driveway) beginning on Thursday of each week and must be picked up by Saturday. Garbage cans must also have a tight fitting lid to keep rodents out of your garbage.

**Zoning Code** The Zoning Code regulates the placement of buildings, vehicles, signs and other items on property in the city.

- ◆ **Vehicle Parking** – Vehicles, trailers, boats or recreational vehicles are **not** permitted to be parked in the grass on any property in the city. Vehicles must be parked in the garage, driveway or on the street and be operable. Trailers, boats and recreational vehicles can be parked in the garage, driveway or in the side yard or rear yard on a hard surface or compacted gravel.
- ◆ **Animals** – The city limit is 4 dogs and/or cats. Be sure to pick up your pet’s waste whether it’s on your own property or on your neighbor’s property and keep your dog on a leash when walking.
- ◆ **Signs** – Garage sale, contractor and real estate signs are only allowed on the property where the activity is taking place and for limited periods. The code protects the rights of property owners residing on street corners to prevent the placement of these types of signs on private property. Lead-in signs at intersections and signs placed on telephone poles or traffic signs are not permitted. The only time the code is relaxed is during the Community Garage Sale in May with the approval of City Council.
- ◆ **Permits** – Many projects done to improve your residence or business require a Zoning Permit, Greene County Building Permit or both. Please see the chart below for common projects that require a permit.

For more information on Property Maintenance and Zoning Code enforcement, you can visit our website at [www.cityofbellbrook.org](http://www.cityofbellbrook.org) and go to the Zoning page. You can also call the Administration office during business hours at (937) 848-4666.

	Project	Zoning Permit	Building Permit	Fee	Comments
<b>Common Projects &amp; Permits *</b>	Fence	Yes	No	\$25	
	Shed	Yes	Yes	\$10 - \$35	200 – 600 sf requires building permit
	Addition	Yes	Yes	Sliding Scale	See fee schedule on website
	Remodeling	Yes	Yes	Sliding Scale	See fee schedule on website
	Deck	Yes	Yes	Sliding Scale	If attached, building permit required
	Swimming Pool	Yes	Yes	\$25	In-ground & above ground pools
	Temporary Tent	Yes	Yes	\$10	
	Sign	Yes	Yes	\$25 - \$50	Business districts only If internally lit, building permit required

\* Please note this is not an exhaustive list of permits.

## City News

### City Council Updates

**Waste Collection Contract** In December, City Council approved a three year contract with Rumpke for waste collection and recycling services. Included in the contract was a return to a weekly recycling schedule and the provision of new, 64 gallon recycling carts. The new contract reduces the fee paid by the City by over 13%. The City expects to pay approximately \$379,000 per year for the services.

**Waste Collection Rate** Following the approval of the new waste contract with Rumpke, City Council approved a reduction in the waste collection fee charged to residents. Council approved a \$3 per month reduction from \$16 per month to \$13 per month effective March 1, 2013. Since the beginning of 2012, Council has lowered the rate charged for waste collection by over 23%, saving residents \$48 per year.

**2013 Budget** City Council approved the 2013 Annual Budget and 2013-2017 Capital Improvement Program in December. The approved budget documents can be found on the Finance page on the City's web site at [www.cityofbellbrook.org](http://www.cityofbellbrook.org).

**Water Rates** In February, Council decided not to increase water rates in 2013. This is the second consecutive year that water rates have remained stable. The average quarterly water bill for a resident remains at \$102.75 based on 7,500 gallons per month.

**Council Videos** The City broadcasts video of council meetings through Bellbrook TV on Time Warner Cable, channel 5, and AT&T U-Verse, channel 99. Council meeting videos are also posted on the website for you to watch at your convenience. Visit our website at [www.cityofbellbrook.org](http://www.cityofbellbrook.org) and go to the Council page.



### The Fire Escape



**Spring Flood Safety** The term flash flood warning is usually associated with water rushing through normally dry or low-flow creeks, streams, washes, ravines, or across lower lying ground. In suburban areas, torrents of water may run off of paved parking areas and travel for miles in storm drains until reaching a river or stream. This violent rushing of water collects debris and mud as it pushes across the ground and through the drainage system. Commonly, many individuals are unaware of the potential force of water. Just six inches of fast-moving floodwater can knock a person off their feet.

Flash floods occur within a few minutes or hours of excessive rainfall. Other causes of flooding include a dam or levee failure, and the sudden release of water held by an ice jam. Flash floods can move vehicles, tear out trees, destroy buildings and bridges, and create new channels.

While flood deaths affect all age groups, nearly half of all flash flood fatalities are vehicle-related. Most flash floods are caused by slow moving thunderstorms, thunderstorms that move repeatedly over the same area, or heavy rains from micro-bursts. These floods can develop within minutes or hours depending on the intensity and duration of the rain, the topography, soil conditions and ground cover.

The **Bellbrook Fire Department** suggests the following safety tips to avoid being caught in a flood:

- ◆ Monitor NOAA Weather Radio, or your favorite news source for vital weather related information.
- ◆ If flooding occurs, get to higher ground. Get out of areas subject to flooding. This includes dips, low lying areas, storm drains and detention basins.
- ◆ Avoid areas already flooded, especially if the water is flowing fast. Do not attempt to cross flowing streams on foot or by automobile.
- ◆ Road beds may be washed out under flood waters. NEVER drive through flooded roadways
- ◆ Do not park your vehicle along streams and rivers, particularly during threatening conditions.
- ◆ Be especially cautious at night when it is harder to recognize flood dangers.

For more information, visit the Fire Department page at [www.cityofbellbrook.org](http://www.cityofbellbrook.org) or go to the Bellbrook Fire Department Facebook page.

**Meet Your Fire Department at the Sugar Maple Festival!** It wouldn't be Sugar Maple Festival time without the Bellbrook Firefighters' Association's booth on North Main Street.

Stop by the booth and try a one, two or three alarm *Fire Dog* or treat your taste buds to a *Haz-Mat Dog* for the truly brave at heart. If you're not ready for the heat of a *Fire Dog*, don't worry, we'll have our famous Gyros and plenty of good old-fashioned hot dogs on the grill.

City News

**The Fire Escape** Continued...

As always, the fire and emergency medical equipment will be on display during the festival, so make sure to give us a wave as our trucks pass by during the parade on Saturday. Visiting your Fire Department at the festival will also be an excellent opportunity to gather information on how you can join our team and support your community.

While you're at the festival, come to the firefighter's booth and meet the dedicated men and women of "Your Fire Department!" We can't wait to see you!

**Open Burning Requirements for Recreational Fires** The Bellbrook Fire Department is charged with monitoring recreational fires in the City. Because of the population and close proximity of residences across the City, we must be mindful of what and where we are burning materials. **Yard waste is prohibited from being burned.** For more information about these requirements, stop by one of the Fire stations, call the Department at (937) 848-3272 or visit our website at [www.cityofbellbrook.org](http://www.cityofbellbrook.org) and go to the Fire Department page.

**Long-time Bellbrook Employee Retires**

On March 1<sup>st</sup>, Captain Phil Michael retired from the City of Bellbrook with a combination of 34 years of service serving the Bellbrook community.

In 1979, Phil became a volunteer with the Bellbrook Sugarcreek Fire Department. He gained his paramedic license in 1980. In 1986, Phil joined the newly established City of Bellbrook Fire Department as a lieutenant. Phil was promoted to Captain in 2000.

During his 34 years of service, Phil has been

a part of changes in the local and regional fire community. Locally, Phil worked during the Bellbrook Sugarcreek Fire Department split in 1985 and has witnessed the expansion of the current department. Regionally, Phil was a member of the Dayton Regional Hazmat team, Southern Officers of Training and the Miami Valley Urban Search and Rescue team now known as Ohio Task Force-1.

The City Council and staff would like to thank Captain Phil Michael for his service to the City and surrounding community.



**City Website: Find What You Need**

The City's website has been designed with the goal of being user-friendly and informational. The City tries to include as much information on the website as possible. On the site, you can find current information about City Council, public meetings, city services, as well as need-to-know resident and business information. Look for yourself at [www.cityofbellbrook.org](http://www.cityofbellbrook.org) !

As a resident of Bellbrook, we value your opinion on how we deliver information to you. If you have any comments or suggestions for the website, please contact Don Buczek at [don.buczek@cityofbellbrook.org](mailto:don.buczek@cityofbellbrook.org) .

**Policeman's Badge**

**Crime Watch** The Bellbrook Police Department produces a weekly crime report. In an effort to keep Bellbrook citizens more informed of recent police activities in the City, the Bellbrook Police Department publishes "Crime Watch" (or CW). CW provides details of criminal activities occurring in the past week. CW will not include police responses to traffic enforcement (except DUS/OVI), traffic hazards, citizen assists, animal complaints, escorts, soliciting complaints, or other service calls. The focus of CW is to provide information that is valuable to the citizen, in order for the citizen to take preventative steps in ensuring his/her safety.

Crime Watch is available on our website at [www.cityofbellbrook.org](http://www.cityofbellbrook.org) and go to the Police Department page.



City News

**Bellbrook Beautification Awards**

For many years, volunteers from the community have taken part in honoring homeowners with properties that are well-maintained and stand out from the rest. Ten homes and several businesses are chosen each year to receive the awards. A home or business may only win an award once every five years.

The committee begins their process in late June and takes several weeks to make their final decisions. The City is divided into five sections with each section having two homes selected along with one or two businesses. Properties are voted upon by committee members and then are presented with a plaque by the City Council in the fall. They also receive an engraved landscaping stone with the words, "Bellbrook Beautification Winner."

For more information, visit our website and go to the Bellbrook Information page. You can also contact Bronne Wilson, Committee Chair, at (937) 848-3458 or email her at [bronnew@gmail.com](mailto:bronnew@gmail.com).



**Water Rates Remain Steady**

City Council has determined that water service rates will remain the same as 2011 and 2012. Bellbrook water rates consistently remain on average for the area.

The sewer system in the City is operated by Greene County Sanitary Engineering (GCSE). GCSE uses water usage data from the City to produce their sewer bills. GCSE has recently increased their rates. If you have questions regarding your sewer bill, please contact GCSE at (937) 562-7457.

**Water Quality Report**

The 2013 Water Quality Report will be mailed to water customers in May. If you would like more information, contact our Water Foreman at (937) 848-8415 or visit the Utilities page on our website at [www.cityofbellbrook.org](http://www.cityofbellbrook.org).

**Holidays**

The City of Bellbrook non-emergency services will be closed Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, in observance of Memorial Day and Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup>, in observance of Independence Day.

**Service Department: The Works**

The Bellbrook Service Department has been busy with the cold winter. They have been keeping the streets clear, fixing water main breaks and working on various parts of the water system.

- ◆ Ambridge Lane
- ◆ Leicester Road

**The following streets are being considered for paving in 2013:**

- ◆ Moss Oak Trail (Bellemeade Drive to Wilmington-Dayton Road)
- ◆ Vemco Drive
- ◆ Regent Park Drive (Vemco Drive to near Franklin Street)
- ◆ Beechwood Drive (Marcia Drive to Regent Park Drive)

**Report the following issues:**

- ◆ Potholes in the roadway
- ◆ Street lights that are out
- ◆ Stormwater drainage issues in the street

You can report the above issues to the Service Department by calling them at (937) 848-8415.





## City News

### Waste, Recycling & Yard Waste Disposal



**Waste Collection Holidays** Please note that trash collection will be delayed one day due to the Memorial Day and Independence Day holidays. **Trash collection will take place on Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup> and Saturday, July 6<sup>th</sup> for those weeks.**

**City Recycling Program** The City has a weekly recycling program. Special items such as hazardous waste, electronics, metal appliances and scrap metal are recycled by Greene County Environmental Services who can be contacted at (937) 562-5925. For more information on the recycling program, call the Utilities Office at (937) 848-4638.

**Bulk Pick-up** Large items may be picked up by Rumpke on Fridays. However, you must call ahead and schedule with Rumpke at (800) 223-3960.

**Yard Waste** The City does not have leaf or yard waste collection service. However, residents may dispose of yard waste with regular trash collection. Rumpke will collect brush in bags or tied in bundles no larger than four feet long and two feet wide. Brown paper yard waste bags are not required by Rumpke. **The local yard waste collection site operated by Greene County has closed and it has not been determined if this site will reopen in another location.** The city will have more information in the future. Please visit our website for updates.

For more information, visit the Utilities page on our website at [www.cityofbellbrook.org](http://www.cityofbellbrook.org).

### Greene County Recycling Special Collections

One Saturday each month, Greene County Environmental Services holds a special collection for recyclables that are not picked up by Allied Waste. Below is a list of accepted items. Please note this is not an exhaustive list. If you have any questions, please contact Environmental Services.

- ◆ Household Hazardous Waste
  - Liquids for garden use
  - Fuel up to five gallons
  - Cleaners
  - Spray cans, stain, paint thinner
  - Fluorescent bulbs
  - **Not Accepted:** paint or motor oil – dried paint can be disposed with regular trash collection and motor oil can be recycled at various automotive garages
- ◆ Household Electronics
  - DVD/VHS players/stereo equipment
  - Fax/Copy machines
  - Cell phones/telephones
  - Household and vehicle batteries
  - **Not Accepted:** televisions, computers and computer accessories – these items can be disposed at electronics and office supply stores - fees may apply
- ◆ Metal Appliances and Scrap Metal
  - Appliances with Freon
  - Large kitchen appliances
  - Lawn mowers and grills
  - Scrap metal

#### 2013 Dates for special collections:

- ◆ April 13<sup>th</sup>
- ◆ May 11<sup>th</sup>
- ◆ June 8<sup>th</sup>
- ◆ July 13<sup>th</sup>
- ◆ August 10<sup>th</sup>
- ◆ September 14<sup>th</sup>
- ◆ October 12<sup>th</sup>
- ◆ November 2<sup>nd</sup>
- ◆ December 14<sup>th</sup>

#### Contact information:

Greene County Environmental Services  
2145 Greene Way Blvd  
Xenia OH 45385  
(937) 562-5925  
[www.co.greene.oh.us](http://www.co.greene.oh.us)

### Ohio Legislative Representation: House & Senate



**Rep. Rick Perales** After the redistricting of the Ohio Legislature, the City of Bellbrook is now in House District 73. The District is also represented by our newly elected State Representative Rick Perales. Rick lives in Beavercreek, works for the University of Dayton and serves on three committees in the Ohio House of Representatives. Rick can be reached by phone at (614) 644-6020 or email at [rep73@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:rep73@ohiohouse.gov).

**Sen. Chris Widener** The City of Bellbrook is part of the Senate District 10 represented by State Senator Chris Widener since 2009. Chris lives in Springfield, owns his own architecture firm and serves on five committees in the Senate. Chris can be reached by phone at (614) 466-3780 or email at [sd10@ohiosenate.gov](mailto:sd10@ohiosenate.gov).



City News

2013 Financial Overview

In December 2012, the Bellbrook City Council adopted the 2013 Annual Budget and 2013-2017 Capital Improvement Program. Included on this page are a few charts that summarize the approved budget.

The City's total expense budget for 2013 is **\$6.7 million**. These expenses are paid using a combination of fund balance carry over (\$4.7 million) and 2013 revenue (**\$6.4 million**). The budget includes a reduction of the City's fund balance by approximately \$330,000 in 2013. This reduction is caused primarily by the elimination or reduction of various state funding: estate tax, local government fund and personal property tax reimbursement.

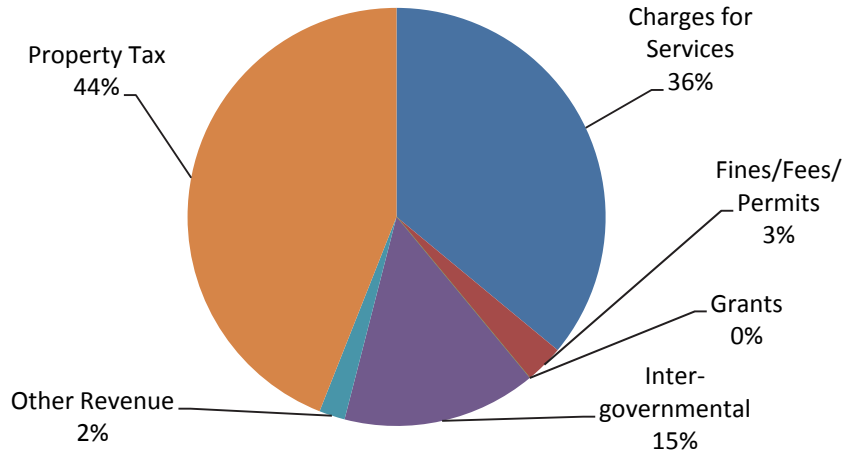
The City's largest revenue source is **property tax** at \$2.5 million, or **44%** of total revenue. The second largest source is charges for services, which include Water, Waste and EMS charges. This accounts for \$2.1 million, or 36% of total revenue. The final significant source of revenue is intergovernmental, which includes estate taxes, homestead and rollback reimbursements, local government funds, gasoline taxes, permissive taxes, and motor vehicle registrations. This accounts for \$0.9 million, or 15% of total revenue.

The \$6.7 million expense budget can be viewed from different perspectives. In the Expense Budget Breakdown chart, it is shown that **65%** of the City's total expenses are for **wages and benefits**. This includes paying the firefighters, police officers and service employees that work for the City. In addition, **8%** of the expenses are used for **capital outlay** including street projects, water system projects and vehicles and equipment for the Police, Fire and Service Departments.

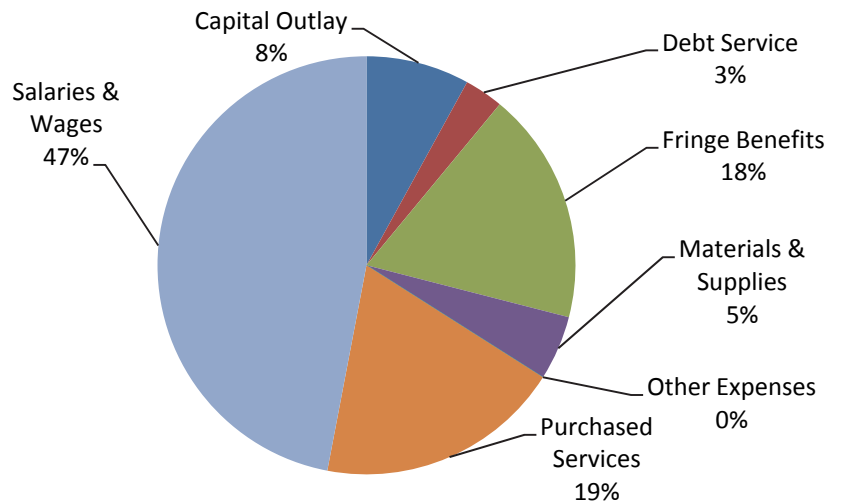
From a different perspective, the budget can be viewed in the Expense Budget Breakdown by Function chart. This chart shows that the **Police** Department accounts for **31%** of the total expenses, the **Fire** Department accounts for **21%** of the total expenses and the **Water** Department accounts for **23%** of the total expenses.

The complete 2013 Annual Budget and 2013-2017 Capital Improvement Program is available by calling (937) 848-4666 or visit the Finance page on our website at [www.cityofbellbrook.org](http://www.cityofbellbrook.org).

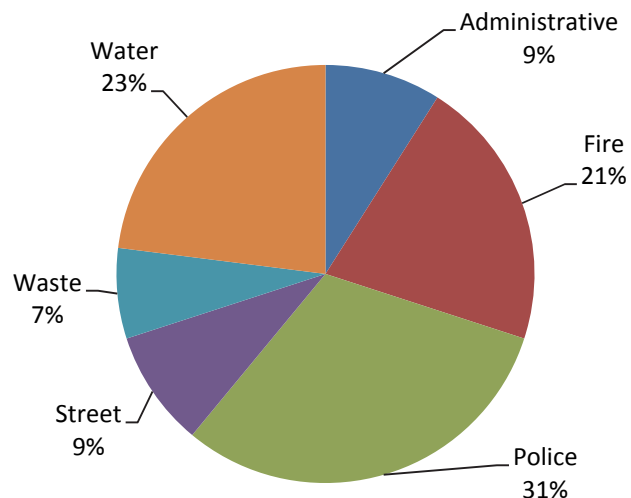
2013 Revenue by Source



2013 Expense Budget Breakdown



2013 Budget Breakdown by Function



Environmental News

Spring Into Action!

- ◆ Plant trees, shrubs and ground cover to help rainwater soak into the ground. Keep the soil covered; bare soil is the primary cause of erosion. Mulch bare areas with straw, grass clippings, stones or wood chips.
- ◆ Re-direct rain gutter downspouts into landscaped areas instead of onto paved surfaces such as driveways. Rain that falls onto paved areas washes pollutants into the storm drains.
- ◆ Consider growing clover in your lawn; its hardy, stands up to wear and produces nitrogen needed by other lawn grasses.



What is Stormwater Runoff?

Stormwater is water from rain or melting snow. It flows from roof tops, over paved streets, sidewalks and parking lots, across bare soil and through lawns and storm drains. As it flows, runoff collects and transports soil, pet waste, salt, pesticides, fertilizer, oil and grease, litter and other pollutants. This water drains **directly** into Bellbrook’s creeks, streams and rivers, **without receiving any treatment at sewage plants.**



Do You Have Household Hazardous Wastes in Your Home?

Household hazardous wastes are common items that contain toxic chemicals and should be handled properly to avoid contaminating land and water resources. Disposal of these items is critical to protecting and preserving our environment and keeping your family safe and healthy. Below is a list of typical household hazardous wastes found in most homes:

- ◆ Herbicides, Fertilizers, Insecticides and Pesticides
- ◆ Antifreeze
- ◆ Gasoline and Kerosene (up to 5 gallons)
- ◆ Stains, Varnishes and Paint Thinner
- ◆ Aerosol Spray Cans
- ◆ Fluorescent Tube Type Bulbs (unbroken)
- ◆ Putty and Adhesives

**Please do not dispose of these items by pouring down the kitchen sink, on the ground or in the storm sewer system.**

Greene County Environmental Services sponsors a **monthly collection day on the second Saturday of each month (except**

**November) from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM.** Only the items listed above are able to be collected on these days.

For additional information, please contact Greene County Environmental Services at (937) 562-5925 or visit their website at [www.co.greene.oh.us](http://www.co.greene.oh.us) and go to Environmental Services page.

Storm Drain Dumping & Stream Pollution



**Report a suspected illegal discharge.** 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 storm drains or directly into our local creeks is an important part in 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/or the environment.

# City of Bellbrook Community Report

City of Bellbrook  
15 East Franklin Street  
Bellbrook, OH 45305

PRSRT STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
DAYTON OH  
PERMIT NO 41



**City of Bellbrook**  
15 East Franklin Street  
Bellbrook, OH 45305

### Departments

- Administration ..... (937) 848-4666
- Clerk of Council ..... (937) 848-4666
- Zoning ..... (937) 848-8477
- Police..... (937) 848-8484
- Fire ..... (937) 848-3272
- Service..... (937) 848-8415
- Utility Billing..... (937) 848-4638

**We're on the Web!**  
[www.cityofbellbrook.org](http://www.cityofbellbrook.org)

## City of Bellbrook Community Report

### Articles of Interest

- ◆ **35<sup>th</sup> Annual Sugar Maple Festival Activities**  
Information regarding activities to do and things to see at the festival
- ◆ **Community News**  
Information on community events happening this spring
- ◆ **City News**  
Information on what is happening at the City and services we provide our residents
  - **City Council Updates**
  - **The Fire Escape**
  - **The Policeman's Badge**
  - **The Works**
- ◆ **Environmental News**

### City Council

The Bellbrook City Council would like to invite you to attend its regular meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of each month. Meetings begin at 7 PM.

For more information about City Council, past meetings and current issues, call the Clerk of Council at (937) 848-4321 or visit the Council page on our website at [www.cityofbellbrook.org](http://www.cityofbellbrook.org)

#### Council Members

- Bob Baird, Mayor
- Mike Schweller, Deputy Mayor
- Denny Bennett
- Jon Martin
- Elaine Middlestetter
- Joe Ritzel
- Dona Seger-Lawson