

at the crossroads

Kurt Althouse is appointed Vandalia Chief of Police

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Vandalia Police Lieutenant Kurt E. Althouse has been appointed to serve as the City's Chief of Police. Althouse, who served as Acting Chief of Police upon the unexpected passing of Douglas Knight on April 13, was sworn-in April 27.

"Kurt has proven himself as a leader who understands the important role the Division of Police plays in Vandalia," said Jon Crusey, city manager. "I know under his leadership the department will maintain its tradition of excellence."

A native of Tipp City, Althouse spent 22 years at the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office before joining the Vandalia Division of Police as a lieutenant in October, 2014.

Having earned his associate's degree in Police Science from Sinclair Community College, Althouse began his public safety career as an emergency dispatcher at the Englewood Police Department. He accepted a dispatching position at Montgomery County in 1992 and transferred to road patrol in 1994. He was then assigned as an Inspectional Services Unit Detective from 1999 to 2000 before being promoted to a supervisory post. From 2000 to 2014, Althouse served as sergeant in the Jail Division, Court Services, Regional Communication Center, Forensic Services Unit, Administration and Road Patrol, working simultaneously to earn his bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Columbia Southern University.

He has been a state-certified instructor and commander with the Ohio Peace Officers' Training Academy since 2003.

Since coming to the City of Vandalia, Althouse graduated from the FBI National Academy Session 268 and the Police Executive Leadership College. He is a member of the International and Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police as well holding several other professional law enforcement affiliations and serving as a board member and secretary of the Vandalia-Butler Optimist Club and member of the Butler High School Advisory Committee.

Chief Althouse has three sons, Justin, Jeremy and Jaden, as well as his fiancée, Andrea Blair.



Police Chief Kurt Althouse



Check us out on the web at www.vandaliaohio.org

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Here’s the straight scoop on flying drones in Vandalia

If you’ve ever thought about purchasing a drone aircraft, there are some things you need to know. The unmanned drone aircrafts are very popular, as they give novice users the opportunity to take aerial photos and video that were not possible just a few short years ago. What you may not realize is that Vandalia’s proximity to the Dayton International Airport makes it illegal to fly a drone anywhere in town without prior approval from the FAA.

There are strict rules governing the use of drone aircraft. While there is not enough space here to completely review every rule, we will focus on a few that relate specifically to operating a drone in Vandalia.

The first thing you should know is that drone operators are required by law to register their device with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

“Registration is fairly simple to do,” said Gary Middleton with the Cincinnati office of the FAA. “It can be done online at FAA.gov.”

There is a \$5 fee involved with registering the drone. Once registered, the drone will be assigned a registration number that must be displayed on the device.

If you plan to operate the drone for commercial purposes, you will be required to obtain a remote pilot certificate (RPC) with a small UAS rating. This certification requires applicants to take and pass a



Drone aircraft are governed by the FAA, and prospective drone operators need to register their device and follow FAA regulations to legally operate one.

test on FAA rules and regulations regarding the safe operation of drone aircraft.

If you plan to only use the drone as a hobbyist, there is no requirement to obtain a license. You will be required, however, to follow all of the rules and regulations governing the use of drones. One restriction is that drones may not be flown within 5 miles of a Class C airport, such as Dayton International Airport. The restriction allows for waivers to be granted, but those waivers must be obtained through the FAA.

This restriction is especially relevant in Vandalia due to our proximity to the Dayton International Airport. Drone operators must contact the airport prior to every drone flight within five miles of an airport.

Airport personnel will want to know specifically where you plan to fly, at what altitude you plan to fly, the number of drones and operators that will be flying, the time and the duration of the activity and contact information for real-time communication.

Failure to notify an airport could result in serious consequences, including the loss of pilot certification and/or criminal charges. Flying a drone illegally can result in fines of up to \$1,000 for every infraction.

Middleton said it’s important to keep your drone at safe altitudes.

“Drones are not permitted to fly at an altitude greater than 400 feet without first obtaining a waiver,” he said. “Altitudes higher than 400 feet encroach on other types of aircraft traffic and could potentially cause serious problems.”

Middleton suggests joining a club or organization to gain access to people who are already well versed in the safe and legal operation of drone aircraft. Many can be found online.

Get Started

Register your drone, find rules and regulations of operating a drone and to obtain a Remote Pilot Certification:

www.FAA.gov/uas

Art Park opens for 2018-2019 season with new exhibits

Eight new sculptures and 34 selected works of high school graphic arts students highlight the 2018-2019 exhibits at the Vandalia Art Park. The park’s official opening took place June 2.

The Vandalia Stringers, a local dulcimer group, performed several selections as a part of the opening day events, and Vandalia Councilmember Candice Farst offered opening remarks.

The new sculptures are placed throughout the park, with most positioned in the front half. Among the new sculptures this year are: “Zebra Herder 1 & 2,” created by Mike Sohikian; and “Creatures of the Sky Arch,” created by Jim Gallicci.

While the park also features some permanent pieces, the eight new sculptures are available for purchase through Midwest Sculpture Initiative.



City Councilmember Candice Farst speaks at the opening day event for the Vandalia Art Park’s 2018-2019 season.

The “Treble Clef Trail,” is the winding walking path that meanders through the park. An exhibit titled “Mosaic,” features 34 paintings and drawings created by graphic arts students from the Miami Valley Career Technology Center.

As one of the City of Vandalia’s most diverse amenities, Vandalia Art Park features an eight-acre walkable art trail and open green space. Adjacent to the Vandalia-Butler Historical Society grounds--accessible via the Vandalia Rotary footbridge--the regional destination is free to the public, offering visitors equal tastes of nature, art and history.

Various activities and art initiatives take place in the park throughout the year. Plans are currently underway to add a small amphitheater to the location, giving musical and theatrical performers another venue within the City.



“Creatures of the Sky Arch” was created by Jim Gallucci. This sculpture is located along the park’s Treble Clef Trail.



“Zebra Herder 1 & 2” was created by Mike Sohikian. This piece is located near the front entrance to the park.

City asks dog owners to help keep Vandalia beautiful by cleaning up after their pets

Usually you don’t realize it’s happened until it’s too late. You’re walking inside after a neighborhood stroll and you begin to notice the smell drifting up from the bottom of your shoe. After a couple of unpleasant whiffs, you turn your shoe over to see remnants of the mess you stepped in.

Thus begins the ordeal that will eventually see you scrub the bottom of your shoe, disinfect your carpet, and wash your hands a dozen times with industrial strength antibiotic soap.

It’s a situation that’s been happening all too frequently lately, as Vandalia dog owners are failing to clean up after their pets.

“It’s a big problem,” said Kip Millikin, Vandalia housing inspector. “We have received numerous complaints from people who have spotted a dog’s

mess a little too late.”
“There have been other instances where small children have stepped into dog messes, and have been a little traumatized by it,” Millikin said. “We know our neighborhoods and City parks are ideal places to take a pet, but the owner must bear the responsibility for cleaning up any messes.”

To help pet owners, the Parks and Recreation department has placed a plastic bag dispenser near the front entrance to most City parks.

“The bags are free for anyone who wants to use them, and I would urge anyone taking a pet to a City park to use them,” Clark said. “We also have trash cans strategically placed throughout the parks to help people conveniently dispose of the waste.”



Clean-up stations like this one located at Robinette Park provide dog owners with plastic bags to clean up after their pets. In your neighborhood, bring along a plastic grocery sack to handle any messes along the way.



This report is a requirement of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996. The purpose of this report is to provide the public with information concerning the quality of drinking water during the previous calendar year.

The Northern Area Water Authority (NAWA) obtains its public drinking water supply from buried sand and gravel aquifers associated with the Great Miami River. NAWA currently utilizes six production wells to draw water from the aquifer. Well water is pumped to the treatment plant where it is run through sand filters for Iron and Manganese removal. Nanofiltration membranes are used for the reduction or removal of hardness, viruses, and other contaminants. Chlorine is added for disinfection, Fluoride is added for dental health, and Orthophosphate is added to minimize corrosion or scaling in the distribution system. NAWA has a current, unconditioned license to operate its Public Water System issued by the Ohio EPA on January 1, 2018. For information regarding this report or additional information regarding water quality, contact Lisa Hendricks, Plant Supervisor, 937-506-3200. “In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.”

Regulated Contaminants

Water Quality Results

Substance	Highest Level Detected	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	Ideal Goals (MCLG)	Range of Detects	Date of Sample	Violation	Sources of Substances
Nitrate	0.665	10 ppm	10	0.665	8/14/2017	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use
Total Chlorine	1.39 ppm	4.0 ppm	4.0	.31 - 1.39	2017	NO	Water disinfectant
Fluoride	1.24 ppm	4.0 ppm	4.0	0.80-1.06	2017	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Coliform	1* ppm	1 positive/month	0	0 - 1	April - 2017	NO	Naturally present in environment

Barium 0.087 ppm 2.0 2 0.087 2015 NO Discharge of drilling, erosion of natural deposits
Last required session was 2015

* 3 repeat and a source water sample were collected in accordance with Ohio EPA regulations. All repeat samples were negative. Possible contamination may have occurred at the time of sampling, sample handling, or laboratory testing.
** NAWA received a violation of OAC Rule 3745-81-51 in September, 2017 for failure to comply with Total Choliform monitoring requirements. During the month of September, NAWA collected 24 of the required 25 samples of which all 24 were negative for Total Choliform.

	Action level (AL)	Individual results over the AL	90% of test levels were less than	Date Sampled	Violation	
Copper* ppm	1.3 ppm	Zero	0.437 ppm	2016	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing
*Zero out of 30 samples were found to have copper levels in excess of the action level of 1.3 ppm						
Lead	15 ppb	Zero	0.00	2016	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing
**Lead 90% percentile result was 3.44 and in the acceptable range of 15.0						

***Zero out of 30 samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the action level of 15 ppb**
“If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. NAWA is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Onformation on lead in drinking water , testing methods and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.”

Haloacetic Acids	9.17 ppb	60 ppb	NA	6.4 - 9.1	2017	NO	By product of disinfection***
Total Trihalomethanes	39.59 ppb	80 ppb	0	28.1 - 39.5	2017	NO	
“Disinfection byproducts are grouped into two categories, Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) and Haloacetic Acids (HAA5). USEPA sets standards for controlling the levels of disinfectants byproducts in drinking water, including both TTHMs and HAA5s.”							

Unregulated Contaminants

Dibromochloromethane	3.0 ppb	n.r.	n.r.	2.4 - 3.0	2017	NO	Components of Total
Chloroform	28.9 ppb	n.r.	n.r.	20.0 - 28.9	2017	NO	Trihalomethanes
Bromodichloromethane	7.22 ppb	n.r.	n.r.	6.3 - 7.2	2017	NO	(TTHMs) and
Trichloroacetic acid	4.56 ppb	n.r.	n.r.	4.14 - 4.56	2017	NO	Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)
Dichloroacetic	4.61 ppb	n.r.	n.r.	2.31 - 4.56	2017	NO	

Key to Abbreviations and Terminology Used in this Report

Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant that triggers the public water system to install other treatment technologies to reduce the concentration of the contaminant.
MCL - Maximum Contaminate Level. The highest level of contamination that is allowed in drinking water.
MCLG - Maximum Contaminate Level Goal. The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk.
TTHM - Total Trihalomethanes.
HAA5 - Haloacetic Acids.
N/A - not applicable
n.r. - not regulated. USEPA has not established a MCL or MCLG.
ppb - parts per billion. In some sources, ppb is referred to as “ug/l”, or micrograms per liter.
ppm - parts per million. In some sources, ppm is referred to as “mg/l”, or milligrams per liter.

EPA required health information

“Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).”
“Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).”

Sources of contamination to drinking water

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include: (A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; (B) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic waste-water discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; (C) Pesticides and herbicides which may come from a variety of sources such as agricultural, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses; (D) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems; (E) Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Susceptibility analysis

The aquifer that supplies drinking water to NAWA’s wells has a high susceptibility to contamination due to the following:
1. Water quality results indicate impacts of nitrates.
2. The sand and gravel aquifer has a depth to water of 5-15 feet below the ground surface.
3. The sand and gravel aquifer material is continuous to the surface and the soil is sandy.
4. No confining layer exists which could act as a barrier between the ground surface and the aquifer.
5. Potential significant contamination sources exist within the protection area.

Ground water protection

The City of Tipp City developed and implemented a ground water monitoring protection program in 1996. Six monitoring wells are currently used to study ground water quality upgradient of the well field area. This serves as an “early warning” device should dangerous contaminates threaten our well field. In 1994, Tipp City developed a Well Head Protection Program. This program served to inventory potential sources of ground water contamination within a 5-year “time of travel” zone around our existing wells. Special zoning regulations have been adopted to further reduce the risk of ground water contamination within a 1-year “time of travel” zone around the wells. Public information will play a key role in providing additional risk reduction to protect this very important resource. For further information regarding our Well Head Protection Program or Source Water Assessment, please contact Lisa Hendricks at 937-560-3200.

Public participation

Public participation and comments are encouraged at the regular council meetings of the City of Tipp City and City of Vandalia Councils.
City of Tipp City Council meets the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at 7:30 P.M. These meetings are held at the Tipp City Government Center, located at 260 S. Garber Drive.
City of Vandalia Council meets the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at 7:00 P.M. These meetings are held at the Vandalia Municipal Building, located at 333 James E. Bohanan Memorial Drive.

How to reach us:

Municipal Offices.....898-5891
333 James E. Bohanan Memorial Drive
Parks and Recreation.....415-2332
Recreation Center.....415-2340
1111 Stonequarry Road
Division of Police.....898-5868
245 James E. Bohanan Memorial Drive
Division of Fire.....898-2261
8705 Peters Pike
Municipal Court.....898-3996
245 James E. Bohanan Memorial Drive
Cassel Hills Golf Course.....890-1300
201 Clubhouse Way

CITY OF VANDALIA
333 James E. Bohanan Memorial Drive
Vandalia, Ohio 45377



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JULY 3, 2018

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Upcoming Events

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June 26, 5 to 10 p.m.

Star Spangled Celebration
Vandalia Sports Complex
July 3, 7 to 10 p.m.

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