

# THE GOOD NEIGHBOR GUIDE



thy neighbor  
in  
LIMA

Community Ordinances & Services  
for You and Your Neighbors  
in the City of Lima, Ohio

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## CITY ORDINANCES & RULES YOU SHOULD KNOW



We all have different expectations of our neighbors. For some of us, a good neighbor is one who takes time for a chat across the fence, or who helps with the chores when a neighbor is ill.

For others, a good neighbor is one who leaves us alone. Although we don't agree on all the fine points of neighborliness, we do tend to agree on certain basic standards which allow residents to enjoy their homes and property, preserve peace and quiet in our neighborhoods, help maintain property values, and prevent disputes among neighbors.

The citizens of the City of Lima, through their elected representatives, have enacted these standards into law. Some of these "good neighbor ordinances" are described in this booklet, with references to relevant sections of the Codified Ordinances of Lima and/or the Ohio Revised Code. If you live in township or county areas, the laws may vary. You may be governed by township regulations or the Ohio Revised Code. Check with your local township office or Sheriff's Department for additional information.

Please note that the ordinances in this guide were effective as of the date listed on the back cover and may be added to or amended by vote of Lima City Council.

Remember, when you follow these simple rules, you are not only obeying the law -- you're being a good neighbor!

The City of Lima website ([www.cityhall.lima.oh.us](http://www.cityhall.lima.oh.us)) has information on all city departments and programs.

It is sometimes confusing finding the correct department to contact when you have questions or need service. The following brief department descriptions may be helpful:

**Property Maintenance Code Enforcement-419-221-5237**

Responds to existing building repair and maintenance, exterior property upkeep, and weeds, trash and junk auto concerns;

**Building & Zoning Department-419-221-5243**

Responds to new and renovated building inspection and permitting, as well as building demolitions and zoning use issues. Also issues permits for special events and sales.

**Lima Police Department-419-227-4444**

Provides protection of private and public property, responds to nuisance law violations including vicious and/or barking dogs and other noise disturbances;

**Allen County Health Department-419-228-4457**

Responds to requests concerning adequate plumbing, health hazards, sanitation and infestation problems;

**Allen County Dog Warden-419-223-8528**

Responds to issues concerning stray dogs and animal neglect or abuse complaints.

## ANIMALS

Animals must be confined to their owner's private property. Maliciously hurting or killing any animal without the consent of the owner is prohibited by law. It is also unlawful to poison, torture, starve or abandon an animal. Neglected animals and nuisance wildlife should be reported to the Allen County Game Warden at 419-227-3535. [§ 618.04-.05]

### **Leash Requirement**

Dogs must be kept on a leash when not on the owner's property. [§ 618.01] Stray dogs should be reported to the Allen County Dog Warden at 419-223-8528.

Any female dog in heat must be kept on the owner's property, unless it is properly on a leash. [§ 618.01 (b)]

### **Licensing**

All dogs three (3) months of age or more must have a dog license every year. [§ 618.08 (a)] Contact the Allen County Auditor's Office at 419-228-3700 or the Allen County Dog Warden at 419-223-8528 for further information.

### **Barking Dogs**

Barking or howling dogs are prohibited. Report violations to the Lima Police Department at 419-227-4444. [§ 618.07 (a)]

### **Harboring a Vicious Dog**

It is against the law to keep or own a dog for fighting, selling, breeding, attacking, or causing it to make unprovoked attacks upon people or other animals. It is against the law to buy or attempt to buy, within the City, any vicious dog. Vicious dogs must be confined in a securely enclosed and locked pen or structure upon the premises of the person owning, harboring, or having the care, custody, or control of a vicious dog. Such pen or structure must have secure sides and a secure top. If the pen or structure has no bottom secured to the sides, the sides must be embedded into the ground not less than one foot. Report violations to the Lima Police Department at 419-227-4444. [§ 618.125 (c) (d) (e)]

## **Animal Bites**

All animal bites must be reported within 24 hours to the Allen County Health Commissioner at 419-228-4457 or the Allen County Dog Warden at 419-223-8528. [§ 618.11 (a)]



## **Exotic/Dangerous Animals**

Owners of all exotic or dangerous animals must notify the police within one hour after escape of that animal. [§ 618.17]

## **Livestock & Wild Animals**

Keeping livestock (farm animals, fowl, wild animals) within the City is prohibited unless you own or rent, and have under your control, at least 2 acres of land. [§ 618.16]

## **Animal Waste**

All properties are to be kept free of animal waste. Animal waste should be bagged and disposed of with your regular trash. [Allen County General Health District Section 4.13 Minimum Sanitation Standards] Also see Property Maintenance (1806.08)

# **BUILDING & ZONING**

## **Zoning**

The City of Lima has a zoning ordinance that protects neighborhoods by prohibiting commercial or industrial activities in residential zones. For further information regarding neighborhood land uses, call the Building & Zoning Department at 419-221-5243. [§ 1248.03]

## **Tax Abatement**

Abatement of the additional real estate taxes resulting from certain residential and commercial real estate improvements is available to Lima residential and commercial property owners who construct a new structure or remodel an existing structure. Contact the Building & Zoning Department at 419-221-5243 for further information.

## **Building Permits**

If you are making major repairs to your property, permits are required for the following: a building permit is required for new construction, alterations, additions or structural reinforcement to a residential property. A permit is required for re-roofing, re-siding, electrical work and any major repair work. A permit is not required for painting, drywall repair, insulation or other minor repair work. However, if you are unsure if a permit is required, please contact the Building & Zoning Department at 419-221-5243.



## **Fences**

Fences must be structurally sound, maintained in good repair and be attractively finished on both sides. The ground between fences and property lines must be maintained at all times. No barbed wire, razor wire or electrical fences are permitted in residential areas or abutting or adjacent to public streets or sidewalks. Outside of residential districts, it is permitted to place not more than 3 strands of barbed wire on top of a fence other than a barbed wire fence. The barbed strands must be placed at least 6 feet above the ground.

Front yard fences-in any part of the yard or side yard from the front of the foundation of the building nearest the street to the front property line must be 3'6" or less in height from the finished grade of the lot.

Corner lots-fencing in both directions from the intersection of the streets must be 3'6" or less in height from the grade of the street.

Any fence obstructing the view for vehicular traffic may be required by the City Engineer to be removed. Call 419-221-5288 for further information. [§1262.02]

## **Swimming Pool Fences**

Swimming pool fences are required to be at least 48" in height as measured from the outside of the fence, and no more than 2" from the bottom of the fence to the grade, as measured from the outside of the fence. Pool fences must be solid in structure or not more than 1 1/4" square if mesh and not more than 1 1/3" apart if lattice. Above ground pools must have ground level fences as described above or a fence mounted on top of the pool structure. The fence on top of the pool structure must have no more than 4" between the bottom of the pool fence and the top of the pool structure. Ladders to above ground pools are required to be removed or secured and locked when not in use or surrounded by fencing as described above. Pedestrian access gates must be equipped to accommodate a locking device and open outward away from the pool. The gates must also be self-closing and have a self-latching device. There are further barrier requirements where a wall of a house serves as part of a pool barrier, Call 419-221-5243 for further information. [§1262.02 ]

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

### **Property Maintenance**

The Property Maintenance Code provides protection to you by regulating:

- Dangerous structures or dilapidated or deteriorated buildings [§ 1801; 1810]
- General requirements for fire safety [§1824];
- Buildings without appropriate plumbing, mechanical or electrical service [§ 1820; 1822];
- General requirements for exterior property areas [§1806]
- General public nuisance properties [§2002]

Persons found in violation of the Property Maintenance Code can be subjected to fines, civil or criminal charges and possible demolition of their building if it is found to be dangerous. Owners of the property will be issued a citation requiring them to repair or make safe their property. Depending on the nature of the problem, owners may have from 10 days to 120 days to complete the work.

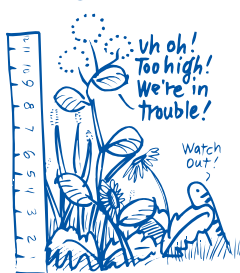
Please be aware that a complaint may be investigated by more than one department. Property Maintenance investigates repair and maintenance of existing property and structures. The Building & Zoning Department handles certification of new buildings, condemnation of dangerous buildings and approval and determination of appropriate zoning use of residential, commercial and industrial property.

As a neighborhood resident, you have the right and the responsibility to report property maintenance code violations to ensure dangerous and unsanitary conditions do not persist in your neighborhood. Special forms are available for reporting properties that are a continual nuisance [ord. 124-06]. Call 419-221-5237 for further clarification of the Property Maintenance Code or to report a violation.

For your protection, ordinances have been established which require property owners to maintain their property as follows:

### **Weeds, Debris, Junk Vehicles & Other Nuisances**

- Grass and/or weeds growing in excess of 8 inches - must be cut within 5 days from notification. [§ 1806.09]
- Trash, rubbish, junk stored on the property - must be removed within 10 days from notification. No person shall permit domestic animal waste, garbage, rubbish, branches or trimmings, discarded articles, litter or junk to be kept outside any structure, or on any premises, except where permitted by commercial or industrial zoning ordinances. [§ 1806.08]



- Junk vehicles - must be removed or repaired within 10 days of notification. [§ 1806.16] Major vehicle repair, including body work, must be performed inside a structure or enclosed area designated and approved for such purposes. [§ 1806.14]
- Abandoned vehicles Vehicles may not be parked on a public street for longer than 72 consecutive hours or on private property without the property owner's permission. [§ 452.05 (e)] [ORC 4513.63]
- Parking vehicles and trailers containing junk on private or public property for longer that necessary to load or unload the vehicle or trailer is prohibited. [§ 1806.15]

## **Reporting Violations**

If you see a violation in your neighborhood and want to report it, contact Property Maintenance at 419- 221-5237. Voice mail messages may be left at any time, 24 hours. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. If you want to speak to a specific Property Maintenance inspector, please call during regular working hours. If the inspector is not available, your call will be returned as soon as possible.



Most of the complaints Property Maintenance investigates did not occur overnight, therefore, a remedy may not be available overnight. Legal requirements regarding notification of the property owner sometimes can delay action on a complaint for 3 weeks or longer. If, after a reasonable time period, you do not see corrective action in a code violation situation, feel free to contact Property Maintenance for an update on the status of your complaint.

## **Compliance Guidelines**

A letter received from Property Maintenance regarding a complaint that has been lodged against you should never be ignored! Failure to respond to an order by the City could result in civil and/or criminal charges. The City of Lima has the authority to remove trash, junk, weeds and junk autos, board up buildings and fill excavations. You will be billed for any services plus a civil penalty up to \$350 and a \$205 administrative fee. If not paid, the bill will be legally pursued for collection, and your credit rating may be affected. Criminal penalties may also apply. The City sponsors programs to help bring your property into compliance with the code. See the Housing Assistance section of this guide on the next page.

If you have any questions regarding a letter received from Property Maintenance, call 419-221-5237 right away to discuss it.

## NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS

The City of Lima encourages neighborhood associations and the neighborhood association network, Lima-Allen County Neighborhoods in Partnership (LACNIP), as an excellent way for citizens to get involved. Annual clean-up events provide opportunities for residents to participate in keeping our community clean. Neighborhood associations regularly work with the police department to help keep residents safe. Check with the Department of Community Development at 419-221-5177 for the neighborhood organization in your area. Strongly consider joining it - you will meet more of your neighbors and enhance your influence in your neighborhood and community. If there is no neighborhood association in your area, contact the City's Neighborhood Specialist at 419-221-5177 to find out how to form one.

## HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

The City of Lima offers several housing assistance programs to homeowners:

**First Home Lima** - Earn up to \$3000 toward down payment and closing costs on purchase of your first home. Must meet income guidelines below 80% of median, and home purchased must be located within the City of Lima.

**Home Renew** - low-interest home repair loan program offered to Resident homeowners whose income falls below 80% of the median income.

**Home Update** - forgivable, interest free loan for home repair. For homeowners with income below 50% of median.

**Home Emergency** - forgivable, interest free loan for eminent danger repairs. (Example: no heat in winter; no water)

For housing assistance applications, call 419-221-5147.

## LIMA LAND BANK

The Land Acquisition & Neighborhood Development (LAND) bank was created to take tax delinquent "nonproductive lands" within the city corporate limits and return them to a positive tax revenue generating status. If you are interested in purchasing a property from the LAND bank, go to the County Court House

Recorder's Office and get the brief legal description, address and tax parcel number of the property. Contact the LAND bank officer at 419-221-5146 for further information.

## **BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT**

The Board of Adjustment hears and decides all appeals of zoning interpretations or decisions of the Building Commissioner who administers the Lima Zoning Code. The Board is composed of five residents of the City, appointed by the Mayor with the concurrence of City Council.

The Board of Adjustment is also empowered to grant relief from the normal requirements of the Lima Zoning Code when it determines a literal enforcement of the Zoning Code will result in unnecessary hardship or a practical difficulty. In addition to granting a variance when warranted, the Board of Adjustment is responsible for deciding requests for Special Use Permits.

Meetings of the Board of Adjustment are open to the public and held at 3:30 PM in the Lima Municipal Center on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month if required. Call 419-221-5146.

## **CITY PLANNING COMMISSION**

The City Planning Commission reviews all plans for public buildings or public works projects referenced in the Lima Comprehensive Plan. The Commission is composed of the Mayor and four residents of the City appointed by the Mayor.

Ohio law requires all public projects to be reviewed by the City Planning Commission which must approve the "...location, character, and extent..." of the project. The Commission hears all requests for zoning reclassifications and forwards a recommendation to City Council. The City Planning Commission is also empowered to review and approve all subdivision plats within the city limits.

Meetings of the City Planning Commission are open to the public and held at 4:00 PM in the Lima Municipal Center on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month if required.

Contact the Department of Community Development at 419-221-5146 for further information.

# CURFEW

The curfew schedule below applies to the following jurisdictions: Allen County, City of Lima, the Townships of American, Bath, Marion, Perry, Shawnee and the Villages of Elida and Lafayette.

## Under 13

### ***September 1 through May 31***

Sunday through Thursday - 7:00 p.m.

Friday and Saturday - 9:00 p.m.

### ***June 1 through August 31***

Sunday Through Saturday - 9:00 p.m.

## 13 thru 15 years

### ***September 1 through May 31***

Sunday through Thursday - 8:00 p.m.

Friday and Saturday - 10:00 p.m.

### ***June 1 through August 31***

Sunday Through Saturday - 10:00 p.m.

## 16 thru 17 years

### ***September 1 through May 31***

Sunday through Thursday - 10:00 p.m.

Friday and Saturday - 12:00 midnight

### ***June 1 through August 31***

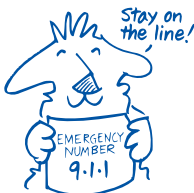
Sunday Through Saturday - 12:00 midnight



The provisions of this section do not apply to a minor with his parent, guardian or other responsible adult.

Parents are responsible for their children observing these curfews. For further information, call the Lima Police Department at 419-227-4444. [§ 648.10 (b) & (d)]

# EMERGENCY SERVICES



Lima is part of the 9-1-1 emergency system. If you have need of fire, police or ambulance personnel, dial 9-1-1 on your telephone. If calling from a cellular phone, your call will be forwarded through the Allen County Sheriffs Department who will direct your call to the appropriate authorities.

# GARBAGE & TRASH

## Garbage

Garbage and trash for single family homes and multi-family apartments of 2 or less units is collected weekly by Waste Management, Inc. Garbage and recycling containers are provided and maintained at no cost to residents. These containers are to remain at the property when a resident moves. **ALL HOUSEHOLD REFUSE MUST BE BAGGED AND PLACED IN THE CONTAINERS. RECYCLE MATERIAL IS NOT REQUIRED TO BE BAGGED.** Extra material can be bagged or placed in another garbage can if the city container is full.

Yard waste containers can be purchased by the resident by contacting the Customer Service Center at 419-221-5252. Yard waste bags are provided at no cost to Lima residents who present their current utility bill to:

- Customer Service Center, 424 N. Central Ave
- Central Services, 900 S. Collett St.
- Utilities Field Services, 1405 Reservoir Rd.
- All Lima Fire Stations

## Pick Up

Acceptable refuse, recyclables and special pick-up items should be placed at the curb no earlier than 6 p.m. the night before collection, and shall be removed from the curb by 6 p.m. the day after pickup. No bricks, engine blocks, paints, solvents or flammable liquids may be placed in the containers. Tree limbs, under 2 inches in diameter, and no longer than 4 feet, must be bundled, tied and placed at the curb.

Call the City of Lima Utilities Department Billing & Collections Office at 419-221-5252 to find out your scheduled day. [§ 1052.07 (d)]

If your refuse or recycling containers are missed on your collection day, please contact Waste Management, Inc. at 1-800-343-6047. If the contractor has not picked up after one day, call the Customer Service Division at 419-221-5252 or the Director of Utilities Office at 419-221-5294.



### **Large Items**

Large items such as appliances and furniture should be set out at the street curb on the day of scheduled pick up. A courtesy call to Waste Management at 1-800-343-6047 is helpful in scheduling the pick up. [§ 1052.07 (a)] Up to 3 cubic yards, every 3 months of waste, building and demolition material , (and up to 4 used car tires per year) may be delivered to the Waste Management Transfer Station at no additional cost by presenting their current paid utility bill and proper identification. For further information and/or hours, call the Waste Management Transfer Station at 419-222-4090.

### **Unauthorized Refuse**

Auto parts, paint, oil, free flowing liquids, large amounts of building materials, toilets, sinks, bathtubs, dry wall, wood, boards, siding or roofing, rocks and dirt will not be accepted.

For information on disposal of hazardous household wastes, contact the North Central Ohio Solid Waste District at 419-228-8278.

### **Recycling**

Residential recycling of newspapers, cardboard (NO PIZZA BOXES OR READER'S DIGEST), green, brown or clear glass (NO BROKEN GLASS), tin, aluminum cans, aluminum foil, and #1 and #2 plastics is mandatory in the City of Lima. Residents are required to place all recyclable materials in containers provided by the City. For more details regarding the mandatory recycling program and acceptable recyclable materials, call the City of Lima Utilities Department Billing & Collections Office at 419- 221-5252. [§ 1052.073

## **Special Services**

Service is available for the citizens of Lima with special needs. If you are:

- 65 years of age
- under age 65 and have a physical condition that prevents you from placing the containers at the curb (a written statement from your doctor must be provided to the Director of Utilities Office).

Waste Management will pick up your easily obtainable containers from beside your house, garage or porch. Containers cannot be inside or behind a fence.

## **Illegal Dumping**

It is illegal for people who do not qualify for pick up by the City to place garbage and trash at your curb. Reporting the license number of anyone placing trash at another resident's curb side helps alleviate unnecessary additional trash removal costs being passed on to you and other paying customers. For reporting these and other violations, or for additional information or problems, please call the City of Lima Utilities Department Administration Office at 419-221-5294. [§ 1052.05

For questions regarding garbage collection or to report missed garbage and refuse, call:

Waste Management, Inc. 1550 E. Fourth St.	1-800-343-6047
Transfer/Recycling Facility 1555 Buckeye Rd.	419-222-4090
Utilities Department Customer Service 424 N. Central Ave.	419-221-5252
Utilities Director's Office	419-221-5294

## HOME/FIRE SAFETY

### **Home Safety**

The Community Service division of the Lima Police Department is available for free home security surveys. Community Service Officers will conduct the surveys and offer crime prevention recommendations for your home. A home security survey can be arranged by calling 419-998-5509.

The Fire Prevention Bureau is available to make presentations to organizations and individual property owners about fire prevention and safety. The Senior Survey Team will conduct home fire safety surveys and offer fire safety recommendations for your home. Call 419-991-1006 or 419-228-2538 for further information.

### **Smoke Detectors**

All homes are required to have a smoke alarm on every floor and in the immediate vicinity of every sleeping area, including the basement level. [§ 1824.30]

### **House Numbering**

All homes and buildings are required to have address numbers located where easily seen from the public right-of-way by police, fire and rescue staff. All numbers must be Arabic numerals at least 3" high and 1-1/2" wide. [§ 1808.02]

### **Open Burning**

No open burning of any garbage, leaves or refuse is permitted inside the city limits. [§ 1052.05]

(see chapter 3 of the Ohio Fire Code for further information or call the Lima Fire Department at 419-221-5160.)

## MISCELLANEOUS ORDINANCES

### Antenna Installation

Installation of any type of antenna, whether it is radio, TV or satellite dish, requires a permit from the Building Department prior to installation. If you are renting the property, written approval from the property owner must be presented to the Building & Zoning Department before a permit can be issued. [§ 854.09]

GARAGE SALES!  
We love 'em!



### Fishing Prohibitions

Other than as set forth in subsection (B) below, all ponds or lakes located within a city park may be fished without a license only with a single line fishing pole. No person shall use a trap, net, or other device to kill or remove any fish, frog, turtle, snake, or other amphibian or reptile from any such lake or pond.

(B) Schoonover Lake may be fished in accordance with the general fishing laws of the State of Ohio. A fishing license is required. [ 1060.09]

### Gang Graffiti

When gang graffiti is found on public or private buildings, structures, and places which are visible to any person using a public right-of-way, a notice may be issued to remove the graffiti within a 48-hour period of receiving such notice. The property owner may then grant permission to the City to cover over the gang graffiti at no cost to the property owner or sign an agreement stating that the property owner will be responsible for removing or completely covering over the gang graffiti within 7 days from receiving the notice from the City. City employees or private contractors hired by the City may enter upon the premises of property owners who fail to comply with the above options and remove or paint over the gang graffiti. Costs incurred in this manner may then be assessed to the property owner and placed as a lien upon the land until paid. [§642.115]

### Garage/Yard Sales

A garage/yard sale can be held every 60 days and last for up to 5 continuous days. You are limited to not more than 3 per year. A permit is required for each sale and may be purchased at the Municipal Center, 50 Town Square. Placing signs on utility poles or in the curb lawn to advertise garage/yard sales is not permitted. [§ 864.02]

### **Illegal Discharge to Storm Sewers/DO NOT Dump**

It is illegal to discharge pollutants or waters containing pollutants, (i.e. anti-freeze, pesticides, paints or other hazardous chemicals) into the city's storm sewer drainage system, including but not limited to catch basins, drainage pipes, rivers or streams. Report violations to the Engineering Department at 419-221-5288. [090.06]

### **Skateboarding, roller-skating, roller blading**

No person shall use any type of skateboard, roller skates or roller blades on any City park equipment or apparatus without wearing a safety helmet and knee and elbow padding, and as otherwise in accordance with any safety provisions as established and posted by the Director of Public Works. [1060.10]

Skateboarding is encouraged at the City's Skateboard Park on N. Shore Drive.

## **NOISE & PUBLIC DISTURBANCES**

The City of Lima has zero tolerance (no warnings) ordinances against causing loud noises and public disturbances as well as against fighting or causing harm to another person or property. There are also ordinances prohibiting loud radios, stereos, or "boomboxes"; loud car motor sounds; tire "squealing" or "peeling"; racing of car motors; and gasoline engines within the city limits without a muffler to deaden the noise. For further assistance, call the Lima Police Department at 419-227-4444. [ § 648.04; 432.35; 648.12; 648.15]

## **PARKING & STREET USE**

### **Alleys**

The City of Lima maintains all opened public alleys, annually grading and spreading crushed stone as needed. Maintenance of private or unopened alleys is the responsibility of the abutting property owner(s). Residents whose properties abut public alleys are encouraged to participate in the Joint Alley Maintenance Program. This program provides City labor to pave the alley while the owners pay for the asphalt materials.

### **Off-Street Parking Facilities**

Off-street parking facilities accommodating 3 or more vehicles must be approved by the City Engineer prior to construction. Specifications governing off street parking facilities are available at the Engineering Department. Call 419-221-5288.

## **Prohibited Parking**

Parking is prohibited in the following places:

- In alleys
- On front or side yards
- On private property without the owner's permission
- On public or private property for over 72 hours without permission
- On sidewalks or between the sidewalk and the curb
- In front of or within 3 feet of a private driveway
- Within 10 feet of a fire hydrant
- Within 20 feet of a crosswalk
- Within 20 feet of a fire station driveway
- Within 30 feet of a traffic control device
- Within 50 feet of a railroad crossing
- In a safety or truck loading zone
- On a bridge
- Alongside an already parked car
- Where the curb is painted yellow
- At any place in excess of the maximum time permitted by signs
- Only 2 licensed/operational vehicles in back yard

Vehicles cannot be repaired or greased on a public street except in an emergency. [§ 452.10]

Semi-trailers and tractors or tow trucks cannot be parked on city streets except to load or unload. [§ 440.09]

Coasters, roller skates, sleds and other toy vehicles are not allowed on any street except at a crosswalk. [§ 412.04] Bicycles are not permitted on any sidewalk within the business district [§ 474.06]

## **SIDEWALKS & CURBS**

### **Curbs**

Maintenance of curbs is the responsibility of the property owner. A joint maintenance program granting rebates to homeowners for curb repairs and/or replacement is available through the Public Works Department Engineering Division. Call 419-221-5288 for details.

Cutting a curb for a drive requires a permit from the Building & Zoning Department. Call 419-221-5292. [§ 1022.06]

## **Sidewalks**

Although sidewalks are a public right-of-way, property owners are responsible for maintenance and repair of all sidewalks on their property. Replacing a public sidewalk requires a permit from the Building & Zoning Department. Call 419-221-5292. [§ 1022.06]

## **Snow & Ice Removal**

Snow or ice must be removed from a sidewalk within four hours during daylight hours, after the snow stops falling. Any remaining ice should be treated with an approved substance. Call 419-221-5237. [§ 1806.05]



## **Street Trees/Tree Laws**

Trees between the curb and sidewalk are the property of the City of Lima. Permission must be obtained from the Parks and Forestry Division at 419-221-5195 before trimming, removing or planting trees. The maintenance of the grass and plants in this area is the responsibility of the homeowner. [§ 668.02; 668.03;1028.01]

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **Block Watch**

Residents can work together to prevent burglaries and other crimes through the Neighborhood Watch program. The Community Services division of the Lima Police Department can help you set up Block Watch and Block Patrol programs, Home Security Surveys, and other safety services in your neighborhood. Call 419-998-5509 for more information.

### **Council Members**

The City of Lima is divided into 8 wards, each of which is represented by an elected council member. If you have a concern regarding your ward, contact your council person or call the Lima City Council clerk at 419-221-5218. The Clerk can tell you how to contact your Council representative.

### **Drainage Problems**

You may have a drainage problem around your home if the basement is wet, the yard is flooded periodically, or water ponds on your lawn for long periods after a rain. The problem is either surface water or sub-surface water. Techniques to deal with external water problems include the following:

- 1) a functioning lot drainage system
- 2) properly installed and maintained gutters, downspouts and drains
- 3) a water - proofed foundation with properly installed footer drains

4) a water-proofed slab

5) a sump pump

Contact the Engineering Department at 419-221-5288 to find out how to properly connect to public storm drainage facilities.

### **Fair Housing**

The Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination in housing because of race or color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status (including children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodian, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18), or handicap. For more information, contact Lima-Allen Council on Community Affairs (LACCA) at 419-227-2586. [§ 4112 ORC]

### **Nuisance Drug Houses**

Properties and premises used for the purpose of conducting illegal drug transactions and other illegal drug activity, are often neglected and negatively impact the community. Contact the Lima Police Department at 419-227-4444 for proper reporting procedures. [§ 2020-2026]

### **Sources of Local Information**

GTV-2 (Government Channel 2) on Time Warner Cable is a government access channel that provides the Lima Community with information on: neighborhood events, community entertainment and events, local government news and meetings and educational programming. Information on all city departments and services is also available on the City of Lima website: [www.cityhall.lima.oh.us](http://www.cityhall.lima.oh.us).

### **Tenant/Landlord Disputes**

Information on legal remedies pertaining to tenant/landlord disputes can be obtained by calling the Lima-Allen Council on Community Affairs (LACCA) at 419-227-2586.

### **Landlord Training**

Specialized training is available for Landlords through the Allen Metropolitan Housing Authority. Call 419-228-6065 for more information.

### **Tenant Training**

Specialized training for tenants is available through Lima-Allen County Neighborhoods in Partnership (LACNIP). Call 419-221-5177 for more information.

## PARKS & RECREATION

Ball Diamond Reservations - Ball diamonds may be reserved for practice or tournaments from April through September. Reservations must be made in person at the Recreation office. A fee schedule for the practice and tournament rental rates is available. For more information, call 419-221-5195.

Picnic Shelters - You may reserve a picnic shelter from April 1 to September 30. Without a reservation, shelters are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Shelters are available at the following parks: Faurot, Robb, Lincoln, Hover, Schoonover, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Cook. Call 419-221-5195 for the current reservation fee schedule.

Recreation Hotline - For your convenience, the Parks and Recreation Division has installed a Hotline telephone (419-221-5229) for information on programs and cancellations. The recorded message is available after 3:30 p.m. on days when the weather is questionable.

### Summer Playground Program

The playground program begins the third week in June and lasts for eight weeks. Locations are selected from various school playgrounds and parks around the city. Playground leaders stage a myriad of activities for youth, including athletics, special events, arts and crafts, and social activities.

There is no fee for the program, although there may be a small fee in conjunction with special field trips. For further information, contact the Recreation office at 419-221-5195.

### Park Rangers

Park Rangers are available for your protection and assistance. In emergency situations, please call 9-1-1. The Park Rangers can be contacted as follows:

Monday-Friday: 8am - 5pm 419-221-5195  
After Hours & Weekends 419-227-4444

## CITY OF LIMA DEPARTMENT HEADS

### AUDITOR

Eugene Reaman  
50 Town Square  
Lima, Ohio 45801 • 419-221-5206  
[eugene.reaman@cityhall.lima.oh.us](mailto:eugene.reaman@cityhall.lima.oh.us)

### BUILDING & ZONING

William Brown  
50 Town Square  
Lima, Ohio 45801 • 419-221-5243  
[william.brown@cityhall.lima.oh.us](mailto:william.brown@cityhall.lima.oh.us)

### BILLING & COLLECTION

Grace Stechschulte  
424 N. Central Ave.  
Lima, Ohio 45801 • 419-221-5252  
[grace.stechsulte@cityhall.lima.oh.us](mailto:grace.stechsulte@cityhall.lima.oh.us)

### CENTRAL SERVICES/ STREETS & TRAFFIC

Saul Allen  
900 S. Collett St.  
Lima, Ohio 45804 • 419-221-5165  
[saul.allen@cityhall.lima.oh.us](mailto:saul.allen@cityhall.lima.oh.us)

CITY COUNCIL

Sally Clemans  
50 Town Square  
Lima, Ohio 45801  
419-221-5218  
[sally.clemans@cityhall.lima.oh.us](mailto:sally.clemans@cityhall.lima.oh.us)

CIVIL SERVICE

Andrew King  
212 N. Elizabeth St.  
Lima, Ohio 45801  
419-224-1353  
[andyking@wcoil.com](mailto:andyking@wcoil.com)

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Amy Odum  
50 Town Square  
Lima, Ohio 45801  
419-221-5146  
[amy.odum@cityhall.lima.oh.us](mailto:amy.odum@cityhall.lima.oh.us)

FINANCE

Steve Cleaves  
50 Town Square  
Lima, Ohio 45801  
419-221-5272  
[steve.cleaves@cityhall.lima.oh.us](mailto:steve.cleaves@cityhall.lima.oh.us)

FIRE DEPARTMENT

James Foust, Chief  
433 S. Main St.  
Lima, Ohio 45804  
419-221-5160  
[james.foust@cityhall.lima.oh.us](mailto:james.foust@cityhall.lima.oh.us)

GTV2

Anne Decker/Ad-Man, Inc.  
768 N. Main St.  
Lima, Ohio 45801  
419-998-5530  
[anne@holditsystems.com](mailto:anne@holditsystems.com)

HUMAN RESOURCES

Vincent Ozier  
50 Town Square  
Lima, Ohio 45801  
419-221-5277  
[vincent.ozier@cityhall.lima.oh.us](mailto:vincent.ozier@cityhall.lima.oh.us)

LAW DIRECTOR

Anthony Geiger  
209 N. Main St.  
Lima, Ohio 45801  
419-221-5183  
[anthony.geiger@cityhall.lima.oh.us](mailto:anthony.geiger@cityhall.lima.oh.us)

MAYOR

David J. Berger  
50 Town Square  
Lima, Ohio 45801  
419-228-5462  
[david.berger@cityhall.lima.oh.us](mailto:david.berger@cityhall.lima.oh.us)

MUNICIPAL COURT

Robert Holmes, Clerk of Courts  
109 N. Union St.  
Lima, Ohio 45801  
419-221-5275  
[robert.holmes@cityhall.lima.oh.us](mailto:robert.holmes@cityhall.lima.oh.us)

PARKS & RECREATION

Ric Stolly  
900 S. Collett St.  
Lima, Ohio 45804  
419-221-5195  
[ric.stolly@cityhall.lima.oh.us](mailto:ric.stolly@cityhall.lima.oh.us)

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Greg Garlock, Chief  
117 E. Market St.  
Lima, Ohio 45801  
419-227-4444  
[greg.garlock@cityhall.lima.oh.us](mailto:greg.garlock@cityhall.lima.oh.us)

PUBLIC WORKS

Howard Elstro  
50 Town Square  
Lima, Ohio 45801  
419-221-5288  
[howard.elstro@cityhall.lima.oh.us](mailto:howard.elstro@cityhall.lima.oh.us)

TAX DEPARTMENT

Chris Fast  
50 Town Square  
Lima, Ohio 45801  
419-221-5245  
[chris.fast@cityhall.lima.oh.us](mailto:chris.fast@cityhall.lima.oh.us)

UTILITIES

Gary Sheely  
50 Town Square  
Lima, Ohio 45801  
419-221-5294  
[gary.sheely@cityhall.lima.oh.us](mailto:gary.sheely@cityhall.lima.oh.us)

# IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

## 9-1-1 EMERGENCY

### **Police Business Offices**

Lima.....	419-227-4444
American Township .....	419-331-6788
Bath Township .....	419-227-3535
Ft. Shawnee .....	419-991-8010
Perry .....	419-221-1870
Shawnee Township.....	419-227-1115

### **Fire Department Business Offices**

Lima.....	419-221-5160
American Township .....	419-339-2511
Bath Township .....	419-221-1221
Perry .....	419-221-3473
Shawnee.....	419-991-4055

### **Sheriff**

Allen County.....	419-227-3535
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### **Utilities**

American Electric Power .....	877-237-2886
Dominion East Ohio Gas.....	800-362-7557
Lima Sewer .....	419-221-5180
Lima Streets.....	419-221-5165
Lima Water .....	419-222-9761

### **Other**

Health Department .....	419-228-4457
Information/Referral Center.....	419-228-6575
Allen County Dog Warden.....	419-223-8528

# OFFICIAL ROSTER - LIMA CITY COUNCIL

January 25, 2007

## FIRST WARD

Ray Magnus, 211 W. Grand Avenue. (01) ..... 221-0691  
..... Cell 303-9693

## SECOND WARD

Zachariah C. Broshes, 1448 Coakley Dr. (07) ..... 225-5322  
..... Cell 419-303-6126

## THIRD WARD

Kyle D. Lewis, 138 S. Collins, (04) ..... 221-3696  
..... Northland 224-1108

## FOURTH WARD

Tom Tebben, 2331 W. Market St.. (05) ..... 227-8866  
..... Ford 226-7225  
..... Cell 419-230-1440

## FIFTH WARD

Tommy Pitts, 1201 E. Second St. (04) .....  
..... Cell 419-224-4422  
..... 227-5482

## SIXTH WARD

Derry L. Glenn, 812 S. Union St. 04 ..... 222-2377  
Allen ..... 224-8000

## SEVENTH WARD

Paige Townsend, 2540 W. Market St. (05) ..... 228-9458  
..... LACCA 228-8664 Ext. 222

## EIGHTH WARD

Walter Potts, 555 S. Collett St. (05) ..... 225-8757  
..... Bradfield 228-7766

## PRESIDENT

John G. Nixon, 1729 Sherry Lee Dr. (07) ..... 228-1118  
..... Nickels 224-7080  
..... Cell 330-904-0620

## CLERK

Sally Clemans, 637 S. Pears (05) ..... 229-3763

## COUNCIL OFFICE

50 Town Square (01) ..... 221-5218

## COMMITTEES

FINANCE .....**Potts**, Townsend, Broshes  
SAFETY SERVICES ..... **Pitts**, Magnus, Townsend  
UTILITIES.....**Magnus**, Tebben, Lewis  
PUBLIC WORKS..... **Broshes**, Potts, Pitts  
NEIGHBORHOOD CONCERNS..... **Lewis**, Glenn, Pitts  
ECONOMIC/COMMUNITY DEV..... **Townsend**, Glenn, Broshes  
BUILDING, PLANNING & ZONING ..... **Tebben**, Lewis, Magnus  
HUMAN RESOURCES..... **Glenn**, Potts, Tebben



GOOD NEIGHBOR NOTES

Local Neighborhood Association \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Place \_\_\_\_\_

PROJECT NOTES

Date

Time

Project Details

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NEIGHBORS

Name

Phone Number

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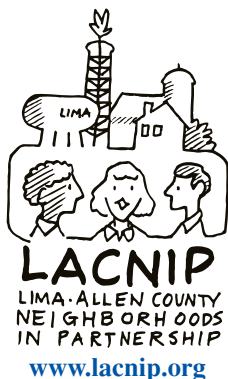
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Giving back to our community is one of life's most rewarding experiences. To find out how you can join your neighbors in projects that improve the quality of life in Lima, contact the City Neighborhood Specialist at 419-221-5177. Volunteer help is always welcomed & appreciated!



## CITY OF LIMA

50 Town Square  
Lima, Ohio 45801  
(419) 228-5462  
FAX (419) 221-5214  
[www.cityhall.lima.oh.us](http://www.cityhall.lima.oh.us)



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July, 2007

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Lima-Allen County Neighborhoods in Partnership

Illustrated by David Adams