

Tax Reform: What Will It Fund?

The tax reform proposal that is on the May 7 ballot is needed to sustain the City's current level of services. In addition, the revenue generated by the reform will be used to fund community projects and investments that are outlined in the Five Year Capital Needs Assessment. City departments have been highlighting major parts of the five year plan at City Council meetings, a summary of which will be included in the next few e-newsletters.

This week we're going to highlight Parks & Recreation and trail construction and maintenance.

Five Year Capital Improvement Plan | Trail Construction and Maintenance

Funding for the connectivity of Gahanna's trails hinge on the passage of a proposed income-tax issue that would increase the city's rate from 1.5 to 2.5 percent.

The income-tax rate proposal is Issue 4 on the May 7 ballot. If the rate increase is approved, the city's tax credit also would increase from 83.3 to 100 percent via Gahanna City Council action.

Gahanna parks and recreation director Tony Collins recently updated council concerning progress to connect trails and bikeways throughout the city, including the Big Walnut Trail.



"The Big Walnut Trail is the No. 1 thing I get asked about the most," he said. "By this summer, we'll have completed five of nine sections."

Continue reading this article at [This Week Community News](#).

Franklin County Income Tax Map

Wondering where the City of Gahanna's income tax currently stands in comparison to other Franklin County cities? You can [view a map here](#).

To learn more about the income tax reform proposal, including a calculator to determine the reform's impact on your personal income, [here](#).

Coffee with the Mayor

Please join Mayor Stinchcomb for the **final** Coffee with the Mayor on April 25th at Panera Bread (91 N. Hamilton Road) at 5 p.m. Feel free to stop by and ask her any and all questions about the City of Gahanna, including the tax reform. For more information about the income tax proposal, [click here](#).



Registration for Parks & Recreation Programs!

Registration for programs in the Summer 2013 Gateway Program Guide for the City of Gahanna is now in progress. Getting the best rates for Camp Friendship, CORE and a pool membership is as easy as registering by Friday, April 26, for **Early Bird Rates**.

Some of our programs include Create & Play; Meditation for Stress-Less Living: The Basics; Companion Planting: Plant Friends & Foes and The Language of Flavor at the herb center; swim lessons; Jump Start Sports camps and leagues; the Gahanna Scrapbook Crop; the new Adventure League; the Grandparents Series plus so much more.

Register through [Webtrac](#) or in person at City Hall. Contact the Parks & Recreation office, 342-4250, for more information or to set up an online account.

See the 2013 Summer Gateway [online here!](#)

Gahanna Clean Green, This Weekend!



Celebrate Earth Day with Gahanna Parks & Recreation! Volunteer your time to clean up the park and experience what Parks & Recreation has to offer through adventure activities like fishing, archery and more! Please join us at City Hall on Saturday, April 20 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and bring your records for shredding, electronics for recycling and GRIN donations at the Gahanna Cleans Green event.

Residents are asked to enter the City Hall parking lot (200 S. Hamilton Road) from Hamilton Road and exit onto Rocky Fork Blvd.

For more information, [click here](#).

Celebrate Herb's in Ohio's Herb Capital!

Celebrate all things herbal at this year's Herb Day, Saturday, May 11 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Ohio Herb Education Center and Creekside District.



Listen to speakers, purchase organic herbs for your summer garden, learn about the 2013 Herb of the Year (Elderberry), visit dozens of local herbal artists and vendors, get your herbal questions answered and meet Gahanna's new 'Herb Lady', Brooke Sackenheim.

- 10am-12pm - Meet and ask your garden related questions to Ohio's Garden Sage, Debra Knapke
- 10am - "Weeds as Companion Plants" with Barbara Arnold, Horticulture Program Coordinator at Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens
- 12pm - "Plants as Edible Landscaping" with Val Jorgensen, owner of Jorgensen Farms, the official farm of the Herbal Trail
- 2pm - "Using Your Garden as Your Medicine Cabinet" with Dawn Combs, owner of Mockingbird Meadows

ARTcade Kicks Off Summer of the Arts

In conjunction with Herb Day, the Gahanna Department of Parks & Recreation welcomes the ARTcade Day celebration at Friendship Park on Saturday, May 11 from 12-4 p.m. The celebration will include a hand-made arcade inspired by Caine's Arcade' the kick-off of the Story Trail, introducing a children's story written and illustrated by Gahanna students; interactive games and inflatables by Games 2U; and live music performances by Gahanna choir members.

It's Going to Get Hot

Smart Cooling, an energy savings plan from AEP Ohio, offers eligible customers in the gridSMART Demonstration Project the chance to earn bill credits during summer months just by allowing your thermostat to be adjusted a few degrees during high demand periods for electricity.



Once enrolled, you'll receive a FREE programmable thermostat professionally installed at no charge. You can also earn additional credits if you have an electric water heater, pool pump and/or hot tub. Enroll online at [SaveMoneyandEnergy.com](#) or call 1-888-237-5522 by June 1.

Stay Connected

You can follow the City of Gahanna, Parks & Recreation, Creekside events and the Herb Education Center online. For a complete list of social media, visit our guide [online here](#).