

PARKS & RECREATION

2025

ANNUAL REPORT

Presented to
Mayor Michael Wheeler,
Village Council, and
Richfield Residents



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Parks and Recreation Organizational Chart



PARK BOARD MEMBERS

- Anthony Altobelli - Chair
- Ellen Daniels - Vice Chair
- Diane Nagy - Secretary (Tree & Landscape Representative)
- Steve Hoffman
- Jason Keppler
- Council Representative - Pat Norris

Park System

Babb's Orchard Park - 3266 Broadview Road

Approximately 17.5 acres are located at the intersection of Broadview and Hawkins Roads.

This park is home to our sledding hill and a catch and release pond.

Carter -Pedigo Trail - 3761 Grant Street

The Carter -Pedigo Trail starts at the library parking lot, winds behind Village Hall, and continues toward Brecksville Road. The trails are 1.25 wooded miles with steps up & down ravines and bridges.

Eastwood Preserve - 4712 Streetsboro Road

A passive park that is used for hiking, fishing, and community gardens. The Preserve has a "catch and release" fishing policy. The Eastwood Trail is an easy 1.34 mile out and back trail that consists of both natural and gravel surfaces. It offers views of wooded areas, fields and gardens.

Richfield Woods - 4100 Broadview Road

Offers a variety of amenities, including:

- 3 baseball fields
- 3 soccer fields
- Playground
- Stocked pond (catch and release)
- Horseshoes
- Sand Volleyball court
- Gaga ball pit
- Rentable pavilions
- Cornhole boards

Village Hall Complex - 4410 W. Streetsboro Road

Located behind the Village Hall, there are 6 pickleball courts, 3 tennis courts, baseball field with lights, playground and a rentable pavilion. This complex also connects to the Carter - Pedigo Trail.

Community Events

Snowbird Festival

This exciting winter gathering was an appreciation event for the Richfield community. Held on January 25, from 1 - 4 pm, the Village of Richfield, Richfield Joint Recreation District, and Richfield Township invited all residents out to Richfield Heritage Preserve for an afternoon filled with entertainment and fun for all ages.



East Egg Hunt

Our Annual Easter Egg Hunt was held on April 19th, behind Village Hall. We scattered 2,500 eggs for children ages 2 - 10 to find. Thank you to our high school volunteers who help make this event possible!



Community Project Pride & Arbor Day

Held on April 26th, this event included:

- Paper shredding: 6,259 lbs
- Electronics recycling: 1,752 lbs
- Roadside clean -up
- Disposal of unused medication
- Clothing donations
- Humus & wood chips giveaway

Arbor Day Tree Sapling Giveaway: 1,000 saplings

Thank you to the Village Service Department and Richfield Police Department who help us make this event possible every year!



Community Project Pride & Arbor Day



Summer Concerts on the Green

We held four Summer Concerts on the Village Green this year, offering a variety of music to the community. Each one with around 200 in attendance. This year we had food available for purchase from the Richfield Brewery and Bossies Ice Cream.



Creedence

Friday, June 13, 2025

Take a trip back to the late 1960s & early 1970s as CREEDENCE: The Tribute immerses its audience in the complete experience of the swamp rock and Americana-roots music of Creedence Clearwater Revival.



Wishgarden

Sunday, June 29, 2025

An exuberant roots-rock band infusing their signature beat & groove into both original compositions and captivating covers. With infectious energy, Wishgarden paints their musical canvas with dynamic rhythms and heartfelt lyrics.



Laredo

Sunday, July 20, 2025

Hard driving 80s, 90s and 2000s country music band with a bit of new country along with rock and southern rock mixed in.



The Swizzle Stick Band

Saturday, August 2, 2025

Northeast Ohio's funky Motown machine! Playing Motown, Funk, Soul and Rock N Roll favorites from the 60's through today you'll want to tap your feet and move to the groove when you hear us play!

Fall Fest

On September 13th, we held Fall Fest at Eastwood Preserve. With over 700 in attendance, this event has become a community favorite. During the event, the community enjoyed hayrides, games, local vendors, and music by Morning Star. We also had food trucks available for purchase from RaK's BBQ and Bossie's Ice Cream!



Community Day

Community Day was held on August 10th. The Parks and Recreation Department was responsible for ordering necessities such as tents, light towers, and fireworks. We enjoyed having a table under the main tent, where park board members, and employees, engaged the community with fun trivia questions and games, and passed out flyers for upcoming classes and events.



Trick or Treat on the Trail

Trick or Treat on the Trail and Spooky Tales at Richfield Heritage Preserve is a joint effort event between the Parks and Recreation Department and the Richfield Heritage Preserve that was held on October 26, 2025, 1 to 4PM. The community got to dress up in their favorite family-friendly costume and joined us on the trail for some trick or treating fun. It featured treats, stories, games, kids' crafts and more.



Halloween Parade

To kick off Trick or Treating in the Village, there is a Halloween parade followed by a walk through at the Fire Station where Village employees handed out candy.



Tree Lighting

The department is responsible for decorating Masonic Hall for the Annual Tree lighting, which was held on Friday, November 28th.



Camp Richfield

Camp Richfield continues to be our most popular program throughout the years. Lead by Camp Coordinator, Elisabeth Kelly, and the Camp Counselors, Johnson's Barn opened its doors to 50 kids each week, for 8 weeks this summer. Each week was carefully curated to include two field trips, crafts, games, and outdoor fun. The camp would not run as smoothly without the helping hands of our high school volunteers who, in total, volunteered over 2,250 hours throughout those weeks.



Classes & Programs



Kids Nights

We offered two Kid Nights on January 25 and February 14 for parents to be able to drop their kids off and enjoy a night out!



Mayor's Fitness Challenge

During the month of May, teams of four were challenged to walk a total of one million. We had 15 teams compete this year, and the winning team accomplished 1,775,316 steps in May.



Towpath Tennis & Pickleball Lessons

We kicked off our partnership with the Towpath Tennis Center with a free clinic that showcased what our future program was going to offer, and a chance for the community to meet the instructors. They then held lessons for both tennis and pickleball throughout the summer at our new courts.



Pollinator Powwow

This was a free event that taught families about the amazing world of pollinators. Master Beekeeper Robert Najjar shared his knowledge about honeybees, while local Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist, Ellen Daniels shared information about other pollinators such as butterflies and flies.



Rain Barrel Workshop

Parks & Recreation and the Service Department partnered with Summit Soil and Water to host a workshop on July 9th. The community was invited to learn how to build a functional rain barrel, conserve & collect water, and reduce stormwater runoff.



Eastwood Speaker Series

This year we featured Pat Sadataki who presented about dahlias and how to care for them. We also had a speaker from the Summit County Astronomy Club talk about the total lunar eclipse that was going to take place in March.



16th Annual Butterfly Camp

Hosted by one of our board members, Ellen Daniels, during this camp, she educated the public on how to care for and feed their butterflies. Each family receives their own caterpillars & milkweed plants.



Child Safety & Women Defense Class

Twinsburg Karate Institute held two classes this year. One focusing on child safety and the other focused on teaching women how to protect themselves.



Fall Wreath Workshop

Owner of Revelry Creative Workshops, Jessica Untch, hosted a craft class where participants learned how to make a fall wreath.



Art by M.E.K Painting Classes

Instructor Mary Kuzma held three painting classes throughout the year, each one focusing on a different season.



Yoga Classes

Julie Carlquist, registered yoga instructor, offered yoga classes throughout the year that welcomed participants of all skill levels.



WALK with FitKare

Karen Ulrich held a fitness class twice a week for the community. This 3 -mile indoor walk included periods of higher intensity intervals (HIIT) followed by strength training using hand weights and resistance bands.

Memorial Tree & Bench Program

The Memorial Tree & Bench Program allows groups and individuals to purchase trees and benches to honor or celebrate friends or loved ones as well as commemorate special events. This year we installed a new bench at the Village Complex and planted a tree at the Eastwood Preserve.



Community Gardens

The Village Community Gardens are located at the Eastwood Preserve. 28 gardeners call this place home during the gardening season. Plots are rented for \$50/residents and \$60/non -residents. At the end of the season, the gardeners host a potluck style picnic, bringing a variety of treats made from their gardens.



Recreational Partnerships

Broadview Heights Partnership - The Village of Richfield continued its partnership with Broadview Heights for the use of their Recreation Center. Village residents are charged the annual Broadview Heights resident fee, and the Village of Richfield subsidizes the difference. For 2025, voucher numbers were as follows: 148 total vouchers were submitted, which comprised of 92 households, 40 seniors, and 16 individual. In total, there were 386 residents that utilized this partnership.



Jump Start Sports - Offered recreational activities for children as young as 3 years old throughout the year. Programs included cheer, t -ball, baseball, flag football, and soccer.

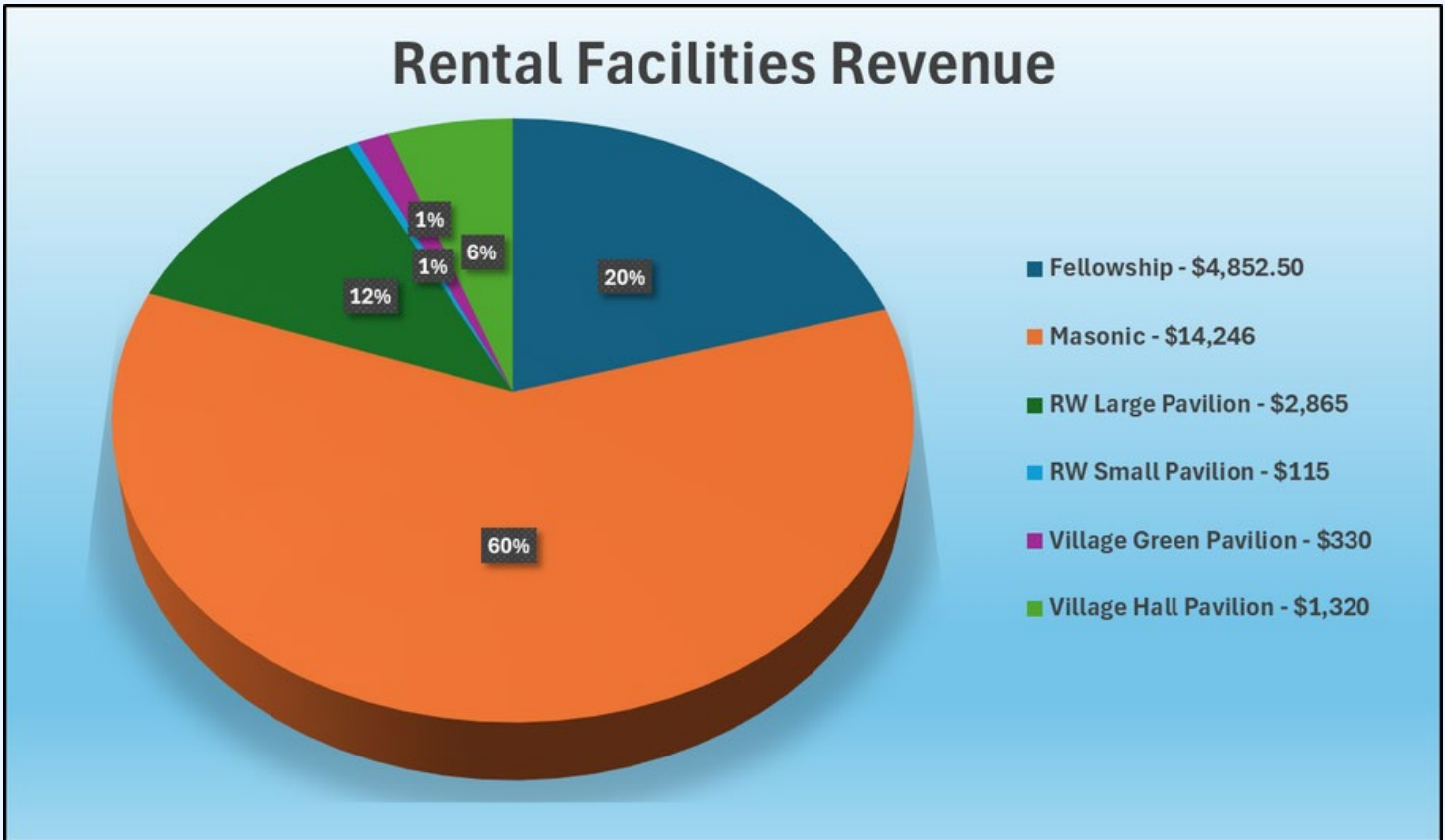


Towpath Tennis Center - Provided lessons for both tennis and pickleball, that was available for all ages and skill levels.



Rental Facilities

Our rental facilities continue to play a vital role in serving the community. This year, we saw a strong demand for Masonic Hall and the large pavilions at both Richfield Woods Park and the Village Hall. We continued our hourly rental fees based off residency, which the community appreciated for its flexibility and affordability. Total rental facilities revenue was \$23,728.50



Grants

In 2025 we received grant money from both NOPEC and USTA. The \$1,500 grant from NOPEC was utilized for our Summer Concerts on the Green and the \$9,000 received from USTA went toward purchasing equipment, benches and the future locks for the tennis courts.

Improvements and Renovations

Our Service Department, along with outside contractors aided in much needed improvements and renovations throughout our parks and rental facilities.

At Richfield Woods Park, our Service Department installed new cornhole boards, and flooring in the gaga ball pit.



At the Village Green, new tables were added to the pavilion, and a firepit was built next to it.



Fellowship Hall was updated on both the inside and out. This included new siding, windows, ADA ramp, deck, and patio area. Inside was freshly painted and updated electrical components.



The exterior of the Eastwood House was repainted, and the stairs were replaced.



Closing Remarks

- Starting in January of 2026, the Village Service Department will begin painting the interior of Masonic Hall
- Summer camp will expand in 2026 to host 75 kids per week. With this, the other side of Johnson's Barn will finish being repaired, and a new driveway will be added.
- Locks will be added to the tennis courts
- We look forward to continue adding and continuing to maintain a variety of events and programs for the community.

