

# LAKEWOOD LIFE

Spring 2026



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## A Note From Mayor George

As the temperatures begin to rise, so too does the pace of construction and improvement across our city. I am excited to update you on the important infrastructure work happening throughout Lakewood.

We are moving forward on several major projects that reflect both our commitment to safety and our vision for a more connected and walkable community. The Lake-Clifton Connector is a key example that improves the experience for pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers alike. Beginning this spring, the Bunts Road Rehabilitation Project will focus on modernizing a vital corridor, making it safer and more efficient for all who rely on it each day. Both of these projects also include significant water and sewer work to address Lakewood's long-term utility needs, addressing multiple goals to save and leverage tax dollars.

We also continue to prioritize essential work that jointly protects public health and sustains

our infrastructure for future generations. The Interceptor Tunnel Project is coming to a close after a multi-year effort to restore a century-old sewer line that runs the length of Lakewood. Work like the Interceptor Project may not always be visible but it is critical to the long-term infrastructure in our city.

In addition to these infrastructure efforts, we are also busy working on the spaces that bring us together and keep us active and healthy. In this issue, you can read more about the exciting updates planned for Madison Park and the ongoing renovation of Winterhurst Ice Arena.

Thank you for your patience during construction as we pursue these important investments for our community.



*Mayor G. George*



# Two Major Projects Aim to Increase Road Safety and Quality of Life

After years of planning and preparation, two projects—the Lake-Clifton Connector and the Bunts Road Rehabilitation—have now begun. When complete, both of these corridors will be transformed with more green space, pavement enhancements, separated routes for pedestrians and cyclists, and more.

## Lake-Clifton Connector

The stretch of Clifton and Lake Roads connecting Lakewood and Rocky River is set for a comprehensive overhaul to enhance safety for all travelers. Following five years of planning, the project is now underway with completion expected in September of 2027.

The redesign transitions segments of the current multi-lane roadway into a safer, neighborhood-oriented layout, featuring:

- A reduction from four vehicle lanes to two across the bridge.
- A new separated shared-use path to replace existing buffered bike lanes.
- A roundabout at the Lake Road and Clifton Boulevard intersection.
- Enhanced green space and improved pedestrian crossings with Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs).
- Water and sewer improvements on the Lakewood side.

## Bunts Road Rehabilitation

Breaking ground in April 2026, the Bunts Road project will modernize both the surface corridor and the underlying utility infrastructure. This work aligns with the City’s Integrated Wet Weather Improvement Plan to protect our waterways.

Key upgrades to the Bunts corridor include:

- New storm sewer, water mains, and residential supply lines.
- A repaved roadway with a parking lane featuring a permeable surface for water runoff.
- Pedestrian enhancements including shortened crossing distances and a shared-use path.
- Enhanced aesthetics via decorative lighting and planting replacement trees.

The project will be completed in two stages: Phase One (2026) covers the area from Lakewood Heights Blvd. to Franklin Blvd., while Phase Two (2027) extends from Franklin Blvd. to Clifton Blvd.

# Events Calendar

## Meet The Trucks

**Saturday, June 6**

10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Lakewood Park

## Fourth of July Events

**Saturday, July 4**

Parade: 10:00 AM  
Concert: 7:00 PM  
Fireworks: ~9:45 PM

Parade located on Lake Ave. between Kenneth Ave. and Lakewood Park; concert and fireworks at Lakewood Park

## Lakewood Arts Festival

**Saturday, August 1**

10:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Detroit Ave. between Arthur Ave. and Belle Ave.

## Summer Safety Days

**Tuesday, June 16**

**Wednesday, June 17**

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Madison Park

(Registration Required)

## Lakewood Summer Meltdown

**Saturday, July 18**

4:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Detroit Ave. between Marlowe Ave. and Arthur Ave.

## Lakewood Community Festival

**Saturday, September 12**

11:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Madison Park

## Summer Solstice Celebration

**Sunday, June 21**

6:00 PM to 10:30 PM

Lakewood Park

## Cleveland Shakespeare Festival

**Friday, July 31**

7:00 PM

Lakewood Park Bandstand

## Friday Night Flicks

**June 12**

Smurfs (PG)

**June 26**

The SpongeBob Movie: Search for Squarepants (PG)

**July 10**

The Princess and the Frog (G)

**July 24**

Elio (PG)

**August 7**

**(Madison Park)**

Zootopia 2 (PG)

All movies (except 8/7) start at dusk at the Lakewood Park Bandstand.

The August 7 movie will be shown at Madison Park.

# Recurring Events

## Concerts In The Park

Concerts begin at 7:00 PM at the Lakewood Park Bandstand

**June 28**

Cats on Holiday

**July 26**

Out of Eden (Eagles Tribute)

**July 4**

The Lakewood Project

**August 2**

FireSide

**July 12**

Colin Dussault's Blues Project

**August 9**

The George Martins (Beatles Tribute)

**July 19**

Men of Independence

**August 16**

The Lakewood Hometown Band

# Updates from Underground

## Interceptor Tunnel Project

After two years, the Lakewood Interceptor Tunnel Project is largely complete. The entire length of the tunnel has received a new interior lining to eliminate deterioration and leaks, and manholes have been updated to modern standards.

Work is currently being planned for an additional manhole replacement, Shaft 14, located at Riverside and West Clifton. During rehabilitation, structural issues were discovered that demanded a full replacement of the manhole.



## Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) 052

Next on Lakewood's list of sewer system upgrades is known as CSO (Combined Sewer Overflow) 052, a 6.1-million-gallon tank that, during heavy rain events, can receive combined stormwater and sewage that would have previously overflowed into the Rocky River and made its way to Lake Erie. The tank will be located near the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Lakewood's 100-year-old sewer system was built to overflow into the lake during heavy rain—a common design at the time of construction. It goes without saying that this practice is no longer acceptable. As we modernize our sewer system, the new storage tank will be key to preserving and improving the cleanliness of our waterways.

# Recreation Renovation



## Madison Park

More updates are planned for Madison Park starting this year with the renovation of the futsal courts. The courts, which are a popular destination for soccer and futsal lovers of all ages, will be resurfaced, painted, and the fence will be replaced.

Becks Pool at Madison Park is slated for a redesign, and the initial planning and design process will begin in 2026. Following the planning and public engagement stages, construction is anticipated to begin in 2027.

## Winterhurst Ice Arena

Winterhurst Ice Arena continues to undergo a major modernization following the demolition of its original locker rooms and spectator stands. A new two-story addition is currently under construction featuring contemporary locker rooms and an upper-level indoor training space. These upgrades will better support local athletes and ice sport teams for at least another fifty years.

Major construction is expected to finish by early summer featuring new landscaping and the reinstallation of the arena's iconic public art mural. The facility remains fully operational during this period with both ice sheets open to public use. Temporary locker rooms are available on-site to ensure programming continues uninterrupted until the project's completion.





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## Community Meals at Cove Community Center

During the uncertain days of the November 2025 government shutdown, the Human Services Department at Cove Community Center launched a new monthly community meal to provide hot food for those in need.

“Hosting a community meal was an idea that we had discussed several times before, and the events of November was the final push we needed to get the program off the ground,” said Human Services Director Chad Berry. “We have had great turnout at each of the meals, and the food reviews are overwhelmingly positive.”

Volunteers perform the cooking, serving, and cleaning to any resident that needs a meal or just wants to share an evening with neighbors.

The Cove Community Meal is held the **first Wednesday of every month** from **5:00 PM to 6:30 PM**. There is also a pickup option for those that prefer not to dine in.

