

LAKEWOOD LIFE

Fall 2025



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A Note From Mayor George

I am delighted to share updates on the many exciting developments moving forward in Lakewood. The projects happening throughout the city reflect an impressive mix of new construction and historic adaptive reuse that is infusing over \$100 million of construction into our community. Investment in Lakewood is critical at all levels: large and small projects, housing, public spaces and parks, and support for small businesses who remain at the core of what makes Lakewood such a desirable place to live and work.

From revitalizing prominent sites downtown to transforming a school gym into a hub of culture or reimagining historic buildings, these developments respond to our community's evolving needs, priorities, and values. I remain grateful for your involvement in helping Lakewood evaluate and guide these developments through attending public meetings, sharing input, and supporting Lakewood's small business community.

In the pages of this issue of Lakewood Life, I invite you to learn a little bit about some of the recent and upcoming projects that will play a large role in shaping the City of Lakewood's future.



Meghan F. George



Introducing Lakewood Common

Our downtown remains a cornerstone of Lakewood's future and a place where our entire community can come together. The mixed-use redevelopment of the former Lakewood Hospital site continues to progress, with strong design review and public input shaping its path forward. Guided by CASTO, we're advancing housing (both market-rate and affordable), retail, public space, and structured public parking, all while safeguarding the historic Curtis Block.

Construction has begun on Lakewood Common, a large mixed-use development that will feature 291 apartments, 7 townhomes, 25,000 square feet of retail space, and a new public space in the heart of Downtown Lakewood. Additionally, the Curtis Block building which will be rehabbed for adaptive reuse as a part of the project.



Recent and Upcoming Construction Projects



Westline Apartments

On Detroit Avenue, the once-vacant Barry Buick property is being reborn. NewBrook Partners and The Krueger Group are nearing completion on four-story mixed-use buildings containing 124 new apartments and vibrant ground-floor retail, including a Huntington Bank branch. Westline Apartments is slated to open in spring of 2026.



Thoreau Place

Ten townhomes and one single-family home will soon take the place of an unoccupied stretch of land between Thoreau and Donald Avenues. Thoreau Place received final board and commission approvals at the beginning of 2025 and construction is beginning this fall.



Studio West

Beyond traditional developments, Lakewood has seen innovation in inclusive, community-minded projects. Studio West 117, located near Lakewood's eastern border, was designed as an affirming mixed-use neighborhood with entertainment, sports, dining, and housing for the LGBTQ+ community. The project includes both adaptive reuse of historic structures and planned new construction.

Recent and Upcoming Construction Projects



St. James Campus

The former Catholic school gymnasium has been transformed into “The Hall at St. James,” a beautiful event venue that hosts weddings, community gatherings, and even virtual blueprint walkthroughs. This project is a great example of creative, adaptive reuse that maintains the character of a historic Lakewood building.



Trinity Block

The Trinity Church property has undergone a thoughtful adaptive reuse led by Scalish Construction in partnership with Dimit Architecture and Historic Preservation Group. This redevelopment includes retail, dining, office, residential units, and greenspace. It's also Lakewood's first project pursuing WELL and TRUE (Total Resource Use & Efficiency) certifications, building standards that advance community wellness and sustainability.

Why Adaptive Reuse?

Adaptive reuse is the practice of repurposing old buildings for new uses, and in Lakewood it helps preserve our City's historic character while creating homes, businesses, and community spaces. It cuts down on waste, reduces construction costs, supports sustainability, and boosts the local economy, allowing the city to grow while staying true to our architectural roots.

Park Upgrades In Lakewood

Madison Park

A condemned house on Halstead Ave. was torn down to make way for an additional entrance to Madison Park, giving the residents of the Birdtown neighborhood easier access. The park is scheduled for several upgrades over the next few years outlined in our Madison Park Master Plan.



Merl-Bunts Park

Merl-Bunts Park underwent a renovation that began in 2024 and completed this past spring. Improvements included new playground equipment, a resurfaced and repainted tennis/pickleball court, and a new picnic shelter.

Niagara Park

This pocket park that serves the southwest corner of Lakewood received brand-new playground equipment as well as a concrete path that connects the street sidewalk to the playground area.





Lakewood City Hall
12650 Detroit Ave.
Lakewood, OH 44107

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Fall Leaf Pickup

Fall pickup of loose leaves is scheduled to begin November 1. City crews will continue to collect leaves through mid-December, weather-permitting.

To have your leaves collected, please place them in a pile on the tree lawn in front of your property. No other yard waste should be put into the leaf piles. Leaves can also be placed in paper yard waste bags (no plastic bags) and set out on your regular refuse and recycling collection day.

Please do not rake leaves into the street. Doing so can block storm drains which can lead to basement flooding during heavy rains.

In order to maximize efficiency, residents are asked to not park on the street from 8 AM to 4 PM



during leaf collection season. If large leaf piles are blocked by parked cars, individual "No Parking" signs will be posted and there will be an attempt to collect them at a later date. Cars may be towed if necessary.

If you have any questions about leaf pickup, please call (216) 529-6810 between 7:30 AM and 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday or visit lakewoodoh.gov/leaf-collection-begins.