

# RESOURCE GUIDE FOR CUYAHOGA COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES

# 2019



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# LETTER FROM ARMOND BUDISH

Welcome to our first-ever County Resource Guide for Municipalities!

It is one of your County Government's core priorities that we support our municipalities in as many ways as we can. In this guide you will see the broad array of services that we provide. I hope that you will take the time to explore them and take advantage of all that we have to offer.

Cuyahoga County is made up of so many different communities and neighborhoods – I know it can be difficult to manage a local government even as local funds shrink. That is why a lot of our programs are about sharing resources and providing efficiencies for you.

What you will see here is a short description of the departments and/or agencies that support you and how to get in touch with the right person for the service that you are interested in.

Please don't hesitate to let me or Michele Pomerantz, our Director of Regional Collaboration, know if you aren't happy with our services or if you think there's something else we can provide to you.

My best,



**Armond Budish**  
**Cuyahoga County Executive**



# LETTER FROM MICHELE POMERANTZ

Greetings Municipal Leaders:

My first goal as Director of Regional Collaboration was to meet all of you in your communities to learn more about the unique offerings your city has for your residents. Through this listening tour of communities, one thing became apparent, the need for clear and consistent communications about all the great offerings that the county has in one easy location.

This guide will help city leaders review the many services available for cities of all sizes. As you peruse this guide and have questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or Jeane' Holley for more information to support your work.

I'm looking forward to the year ahead to learn more about ways my department can support your leadership!

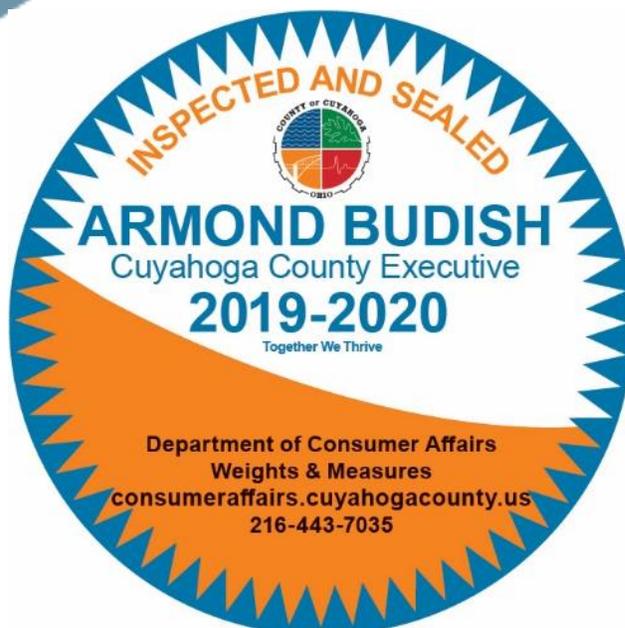


*Michele Pomerantz*

**Michele Pomerantz**  
**Director of Regional Collaboration**  
**216-258-8921**  
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# DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS



The Department of Consumer Affairs helps Cuyahoga County consumers get what they pay for. Consumer Affairs can help your residents if they are charged the wrong price, have a problem with a store or business they can't resolve on their own, need resources to manage their budget or build credit, want to report or receive alerts about scams or have consumer questions or complaints. The Department of Consumer Affairs houses the Consumer Protection Division and the Weights and Measures Division.

## Scam Squad

Scam Squad is a multi-disciplinary elder fraud task force made up of local, state and federal enforcement agencies and nonprofits that serve seniors. Our primary goals are to:

- encourage county residents to report scams
- refer scam reports to the agency best-suited to investigate
- alert the public to current scam threats

Scam Squad's Police Visor Card Project gives police an easier way to refer scam victims and near-victims to agencies that can help them.

To participate in Scam Squad or report a scam, call Scam Squad at **216-443-SCAM (7226)**.

Reach the Department of Consumer Affairs at 216-443-7035 or [www.consumeraffairs.cuyahogacounty.us](http://www.consumeraffairs.cuyahogacounty.us).

Follow us on Twitter or Facebook: @CuyCoConsumers



# DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT



The Department of Development strives to improve the County's global competitiveness through economic growth to ensure that our region is economically competitive, our businesses are growing and profitable and our community is vibrant, dynamic and diverse.

## **Affordable Rental Housing Developer's Loan**

Cuyahoga County makes available, on an annual basis, dependent upon receipt of federal funding, U.S. Department of HUD's HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) funds to for-profit and not-for-profit developers creating new or rehabbing existing affordable rental housing units in Cuyahoga County. For more information, contact Sara Parks Jackson, Administrator, Housing and Community Development, at [spjackson@cuyahogacounty.us](mailto:spjackson@cuyahogacounty.us).

## **Demolition Program**

The demolition fund reimburses actual costs of demolition, destruction, removal and clearance of all structures and other improvements on the project site. This can include any required environmental testing and remediation of the structure prior to demolition, proper disposal of debris and site restoration funds of up to \$100,000 per structure or the amount remaining in the community's award are available. To date the County has awarded over \$42 million to the Cuyahoga Landbank and various cities for the demolition of vacant and abandoned structures. For more information, contact Sara Parks Jackson, Administrator, Housing and Community Development, at [spjackson@cuyahogacounty.us](mailto:spjackson@cuyahogacounty.us).

## **Municipal Grant Program**

The Municipal Grant Program is a competitive grant program funded with federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds that makes awards to urban county communities. CDBG help cities meet a community development need related to the health or welfare of the community. For more information, contact Sara Parks Jackson, Administrator, Housing and Community Development, at [spjackson@cuyahogacounty.us](mailto:spjackson@cuyahogacounty.us).

## **Community Development Supplemental Grant Program**

The Community Development Supplemental Grant (CDSG) Program is a competitive grant that makes awards to cities, villages, townships and non-profit organizations. Supplemental Grant applications are open to all 59 Cuyahoga County communities and 501 (c) (3) organizations incorporated for not less than two years prior to the application deadline set by the Department of Development. For more information, contact Sara Parks Jackson, Administrator, Housing and Community Development, at [spjackson@cuyahogacounty.us](mailto:spjackson@cuyahogacounty.us).

Reach the Department of Development at 216-443-7260 or [www.cuyahogacounty.us/development](http://www.cuyahogacounty.us/development).

# DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

The Department of Human Resources trains, supports and retains the most qualified and productive staff for Cuyahoga County, while ensuring fair employment and equal opportunity to all persons.

## **Cuyahoga County Regionalized Training**

Cuyahoga County offers municipalities all-inclusive training with a focus on public servant relationship building and organizational success. Classes include:

- **Leading Through Change:** Using Kotter's eight-step model for leading others through change to help leadership become a flexible and successful change management leader; fitting your style to the needs of the individual and situations at hand; using techniques to enhance the motivation of others
- **Managerial Leadership:** Differentiate the differences between a leader and a manager and the importance of the leadership within your organization and the value of leadership styles
- **Being Accountable:** Based on "OZ Principle—Getting Results through Individual Accountability," introduce a positive approach to creating greater personal accountability; overcome a victim attitude and behavior and step above the line to attain superior performance
- **Team Building—Based on the book "Five Dysfunctions of a Team":** Improve the cohesion and functioning of your team by applying the "Five Dysfunctions of a Team" model
- **Accountable Employee:** Accept accountability for your actions which will move you from feeling like a victim into feeling like you have control
- **Excellence in Customer Service:** Explore ways to ensure effective communication in customer service settings
- **Multicultural Awareness:** Discussion and activities to increase employees' awareness about diversity in the workplace
- **Professionalism in the Workplace/Driving a Culture of Respect (Harassment Avoidance):** Professionalism in behavior, appearance and communication drives a culture of accountability of one's own actions and respect for others
- **Team Building:** Recognize the value of teamwork, identify the characteristics of an effective team, understand the qualities of a productive team member and help build successful teams to achieve set goals

Course length and content is always tailored to municipalities' requirements. We bring the materials directly to your organization. Course options may be combined on one day or done in multiple sessions for your convenience. Evening hours are available, and the HR Training Department will provide customized classes upon request. For more information, email Kathy Jackson at [KLJackson@cuyahogacounty.us](mailto:KLJackson@cuyahogacounty.us) or **216-443-7660**.

Reach the Department of Human Resources at 216-443-7190 or at [www.hr.cuyahogacounty.us](http://www.hr.cuyahogacounty.us).

# DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Department of Information Technology provides system integration and IT solutions to clients within County government and other municipalities. IT promotes the use of technology to expand the scope, scale and quality of services provided by the entities served. The Department strives to deliver practical solutions and promote policies to make innovation sustainable. The Department also works with intergovernmental partners to not only build systems and applications, but also facilitate collaboration and foster innovation.

## **Web Design**

A large body of pre-coded “plug and play” solutions is available to help agencies and municipalities save money and increase customer satisfaction. Some of the more popular items include interactive calendars, event registration, online forms and surveys, electronic newsletters, “opt-in” functionality to subscribe or unsubscribe to email notifications and automated workflows for end-user website updates. Through the implementation of content management software and .NET development architecture, the Department of IT reduces website maintenance time and enables end-users to update select content on their own with an easy-to-use interface that requires no technical knowledge. For more information, contact Debbie Davtovich, Web and Applications Administrator, at **216-263-4657**.

## **Multimedia**

The Multimedia Production Team can help craft stories in a way that will engage audiences across media platforms. The team can help with a full range of items, from social media video campaigns, program and policy communications, internal messaging, instructional How-To videos and event coverage. The Multimedia team also offers Photography service to help deliver clients’ marketing and communication goals successfully. Services may include capturing employee portraits, documenting public meetings, events and construction projects. Attention to lighting, background and details means quality results will be obtained in any situation. The team will work hand in hand with clients to talk about their needs and make sure the script, graphics, photos and story all come together in a way that reinforces the message, represents the mission and exceeds expectations. For more information, contact Jonathan Shick at [jshick@cuyahogacounty.us](mailto:jshick@cuyahogacounty.us).

## **Network Engineering**

IT provides a fully redundant public internet presence services by two internet providers with failover capabilities for each router, firewall, switch and load-balance device. Stand-alone server capabilities can be provided or redundancy can be brought to the server level by taking advantage of load balance appliances, with infrastructure able to withstand multiple device and/or ISP failure while still providing service. For more information, contact Tim Peterson at **216-443-8061**.

## **Unified Communications**

The unified communications platform converges voice, data and video in a single service with significantly lower operating costs on local and long-distance calls while also increasing the sound of calls and accessing free features that would typically cost extra with traditional services. For more information, contact Andy Molls at [amolls@cuyahogacounty.us](mailto:amolls@cuyahogacounty.us).

# DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

## **Geographic Information Systems**

The Cuyahoga County Enterprise Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Department manages and coordinates the use of GIS and its related technologies within Cuyahoga County. A GIS is an advanced computer system capable of collecting, storing, viewing and analyzing geographically referenced or spatial information. GIS data can be viewed in web mapping applications, and traditional maps, but the power of GIS is analysis based on location and proximity. Examples of mapped location data include property parcels, transportation networks, built infrastructure and assets, political boundaries, census demographics, and address points. By taking tabular data with a spatial component, analyzing it, and displaying the information in maps and applications, a GIS becomes a powerful tool that directly supports the specialized needs of practitioners engaged in fields of public safety, economic development, public works, health care, law enforcement, community planning, and education. To find out more about GIS, contact Tom Fisher at [TPFisher@cuyahogacounty.us](mailto:TPFisher@cuyahogacounty.us).

## **Management Services**

IT project management professionals collaborate with internal and external agencies, municipalities and consultants to deliver products and services within an established project's scope, budget and time frame. They also assist with research and development, identifying potential risks, procurement, system integration processes, management of resources, RFP processes and contract negotiation. For more information, contact Stan Kozlowski at **216-443-8111**.

## **Support Center**

The Department of Information Technology provides a Support Center to monitor and log telephone calls or emails into one centralized system. The IT Support Center serves as the single point of contact for County agencies and the residents of Cuyahoga County to report single problems and to provide information to agencies on upcoming changes, as well as scheduled and unscheduled system outages. The Support Center services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, with calls being logged and an associated problem ticket being opened, updated and tracked through resolution. For more information, contact Larry Patterson at **216-443-8007**.

**Reach the Department of Information Technology at 216-443-8106 or [www.isc.cuyahogacounty.us](http://www.isc.cuyahogacounty.us).**

# PERSONNEL REVIEW COMMISSION



The Personnel Review Commission was established by the Cuyahoga County Charter in 2010. Its Commissioners are appointed by County Council, and it is an independent agency separate from the Human Resources Department. Their main services include conducting job analyses, developing and conducting employment tests, administering the classification and compensation systems, ensuring compliance with federal, state, and local employment-related laws, and hearing appeals of certain employment actions for civil service employees.

## **Classification and Compensation**

The PRC's Classification and Compensation Team is responsible for developing and maintaining the County's classification system of over 400 classifications, and for administering pay plans for non-bargaining classified employees. The Classification System is designed to ensure that employees are classified appropriately according to their education, work experience, skills, and work performed, and that the salary ranges for positions are competitive with similar positions in the relevant labor market. The PRC can analyze jobs, write class specifications and position descriptions for various jobs in County cities and villages. The PRC will also help develop compensation systems and procedures and analyze job designs and staffing structures. For more information, call **216-698-2290**.

## **Civil Service Testing**

As part of the PRC's charter responsibility to ensure an employment system based on merit and fitness, the PRC oversees the civil service employment testing for classified positions in Cuyahoga County. The PRC's Employment Testing Team is responsible for developing and administering civil service tests in the County, and it can provide a variety of custom testing solutions that fit the needs of County cities and villages. For resources and frequently asked questions about the civil service testing process, visit <https://prc.cuyahogacounty.us/en-US/Civil-Service-Testing.aspx> or call **216-698-2290**.

Reach the Personnel Review Commission at 216-443-5675 or [www.prc.cuyahogacounty.us](http://www.prc.cuyahogacounty.us).

# PLANNING COMMISSION



The Planning Commission informs and provides services in support of the short and long term comprehensive planning, quality of life, environment and economic development of Cuyahoga County and its cities, villages and townships.

## **Master Planning**

A Master Plan outlines the community's vision for the future and then describes concrete, specific action steps community leaders can undertake to accomplish them. Conducting a Master Plan allows public officials to assess whether the policies and actions they are taking addresses current needs and accomplishes long-term goals. County Planning collects data on demographics, land use and transportation as a baseline for understanding a community. With input from residents, businesses and community leaders, County Planning articulates a vision for growth and change in the next decade. Based on the community vision, County Planning will identify specific policies and actions to accomplish your goals. For more information, contact Glenn Coyne at [gcoyne@cuyahogacounty.us](mailto:gcoyne@cuyahogacounty.us).

## **Community Surveys**

A Community Survey provides an opportunity for public officials to gather the thoughts and opinions of residents or businesses. Covering a wide range of topics, survey results can guide policies or inform master plans. Undertaking a Community Survey allows communities to gather extensive input from residents or businesses who might not otherwise contribute to a public process.

## **Zoning Codes**

County Planning can update a city or community's zoning code to fit modern development patterns, to prioritize city needs and to provide a framework for development that will protect and enhance your community.

Reach the Planning Commission at 216-443-3700 or [www.countyplanning.us](http://www.countyplanning.us).

# PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The Public Works Department is dedicated to providing a safe, efficient and economical infrastructure system for residents, employees, businesses and visitors of Cuyahoga County.

## **Road and Bridge Maintenance**

The Roadway Maintenance Program encourages preventative maintenance for Cuyahoga County roadways within municipalities. The County covers 100 percent of the material costs, with eligible projects including crack sealing, minor pavement repair and catch basin repair. Projects are selected based on traffic volume, condition and cost with an annual solicitation of projects in the fall and an award notification by January. The County also assists municipalities by sponsoring Federal Aid roadway projects and participating in the local match. In addition, Public Works selects annual projects for our local resurfacing programs. The 50/50 program provides municipalities with a 50% funding match up to \$250,000. Projects are solicited every other year. Operations resurfacing projects (such as the Local Operations Resurfacing Program) are designed and constructed by the County and require a 20% local match.

The Bridge Capital Program can assist communities with local bridge and culvert emergency repairs projects. Emergency needs are evaluated on a case by case basis. The Local Culvert Replace/Rehabilitation Program involves the County partnering with municipalities on their culvert needs by designing and constructing the projects and assisting in cost sharing. The County works with municipalities to select culvert projects based on condition. For more information contact Nichole English at 216-348-3861

## **Sewer Maintenance Services**

The Sewer Maintenance Division administers authority in matters of wastewater, storm water and water supply management. The Division is often a major source of information and guidance that mayors, municipal engineers and service directors rely on when making infrastructure decisions within their communities. Services provided include preventative maintenance services, pump station operation and maintenance, financial support services, smoke and dye testing and lateral and mainline sewer repair. Those requiring emergency sewer services who are member communities can utilize the 24/7 service for eliminating blocked laterals and sewer mains by calling **216-443-8201**. To become a member community, contact Mike Chambers at **216-698-6486**.

## **Animal Shelter**

The Cuyahoga County Animal Shelter exists in order to serve the residents of Cuyahoga County by providing humane care and control of animals which protects and ensures the health, safety and welfare of people and animals. Services offered include pickup service for suburban animal shelters, emergency assistance for stray dogs needing medical treatment, lost and found dog service, adoption service, humane education and volunteers for animals. Call the Cuyahoga County Animal Shelter at **216-525-7877**.

**Reach the Public Works Department at 216-348-3800.**

# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY & JUSTICE SERVICES

The mission of the Department of Public Safety & Justice Services is to provide a wide range of public safety and justice services to residents and first responders of Cuyahoga County, while embracing current and new technologies in the public safety field. The Department is comprised of the following divisions: Administration, Cuyahoga Emergency Communications System (CECOMS), Emergency Management, Fiscal and Grant Services and Witness Victim Services. The Department provides various types of support to municipalities, public safety professionals and residents. Direct services to municipalities come in the form of project management, grant funding, grant application assistance, training, equipment, planning, incident management, and information sharing across the disciplines of law enforcement, fire protection, emergency medical services, and emergency management.

## **Dispatch Services**

The Cuyahoga Emergency Communications System (CECOMS) Division provides 911 call-taking and dispatch services for police, fire and EMS. Dispatching includes the capability to provide emergency medical dispatch and CPR pre-arrival instructions. CECOMS can provide this service for any interested community and offers a full complement of supervisors and support personnel to its dispatch clients. In addition, CECOMS coordinates 700/800 MHz radio communications. For more information, contact Lisa Raffurty, CECOMS Manager, at **440-703-3568**.

## **Grant Support**

The Department of Public Safety & Justice Services' Fiscal & Grant Services Division is available to provide grant application review and research assistance to communities on public-safety and justice-related grant applications, and grant writing assistance to groups of two or more communities on an application for a regional project. For more information, contact Jeff Harraman, Grants Supervisor, at **216-698-6478**.

## **Knowledge Center**

Knowledge Center is a database system that enables the sharing of information relevant to an emergency incident, planned event or disaster. Any first responder, public safety or government executive staff can access the Knowledge Center system to obtain real-time situational awareness or to identify available equipment resources during an emergency incident or planned event. For more information, contact Mark Christie, Emergency Management Manager at **216-443-5700**.

# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY & JUSTICE SERVICES

## **Witness Victim Service Center**

Public Safety & Justice Services' Witness Victim Service Center provides justice system advocacy for victims of violent crime. Currently, Witness Victim serves victims with cases assigned to the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas General or Juvenile Divisions, as well as those in the Cleveland Municipal Court. Clients are assigned an advocate who helps them navigate the court proceedings from beginning to end.

Requests for services can be made by individual victims, by law enforcement, or by a City or County Prosecutor. Staff from the Witness Victim Service Center are also available for community meetings or trainings for law enforcement or other municipal personnel. Areas of expertise include domestic violence, homicides and childhood exposure to violence.

Witness Victim Service Center also manages the Children Who Witness Violence and Defending Childhood Programs. Children Who Witness Violence is a police-based program, whereby trained crisis workers are dispatched to respond to crime scenes where a child witness is involved. Defending Childhood provides specialized identification, assessment and treatment of children showing trauma symptoms following exposure to violence. For more information on Witness Victim Service Center programs, contact Jill Smialek, Witness Victim Service Center Manager at **216-443-7345**.



# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY & JUSTICE SERVICES



## ReadyCuyahoga

ReadyCuyahoga is a comprehensive preparedness program coordinated by the Department of Public Safety & Justice Services' Division of Emergency Management. The program is comprised of several different initiatives that can assist communities, businesses and the public in preparing for disaster or emergencies, and includes:

- **ReadyNotify:** a mass notification system that enables Cuyahoga County and participating communities and local agencies to issue emergency and critical notifications to the public via phone, email and text message. Participation in the County system is provided free of charge.
- **ReadyCertify:** a voluntary certification program for Cuyahoga County communities and organizations that assists participating organizations in increasing both disaster and emergency preparedness by implementing specific organizational, operational, training and planning actions. The target audiences are municipalities, universities, non-profit organizations and regional governmental organizations.
- **ReadyCOOP:** a program that provides all types of organizations with the necessary training and resources to create and maintain effective Continuity of Operations Plans. The target audiences are local businesses, non-profit organizations and municipalities.
- **ReadyEx:** an exercise program designed to strengthen the emergency preparedness and resilience of target audiences within the County. The goals of this program are to efficiently assist groups with satisfying mandatory exercise requirements, promote the value of conducting table-top exercises (TTXs) to non-required groups and provide resources that are flexible, relevant and accessible for use by any organization. The target audiences are schools, long-term care facilities, community officials and businesses.

For more information on any of the County Division of Emergency Management's ReadyCuyahoga programs, contact Mark Christie, Emergency Management Manager at **216-443-5700**.

Reach the Department of Public Safety & Justice Services at **216-443-7265** or [www.jsa.cuyahogacounty.us](http://www.jsa.cuyahogacounty.us).

# SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



The Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department is dedicated to maintaining the trust and respect of those we serve by resolutely and aggressively enforcing the law and by committing ourselves to the efficient delivery of safety services.

## **Law Enforcement Data Sharing**

The Sheriff Department's Criminal Justice Information Sharing (CJIS) unit is currently developing and implementing a law enforcement Data Warehouse, whereby local police departments will be able to seamlessly share crime incident data in real-time. Release of the system is anticipated in 2019. For more information, contact Mike Herb, CJIS Administrator, at **216-443-7094**.

## **License Plate Readers (LPR)**

The Sheriff Department's CJIS unit operates a License Plate Reader program for law enforcement agencies in Cuyahoga County and neighboring counties. Through this initiative, license plate data is captured by special cameras and used by police as a tool for investigation into terrorist and criminal activity. Mobile LPR units are currently deployed in law enforcement agencies throughout a five county region. Fixed cameras were installed at 20 locations throughout the County in the spring of 2018, with an expansion to additional fixed locations planned for fall of 2019. For more information, contact Mike Herb, CJIS Administrator, at **216-443-7094**.

## **Mobile Trailers**

Cuyahoga County owns five mobile camera units that can be deployed at the request of law enforcement agencies and other institutions to provide live surveillance at high priority crime locations or at special events. The equipment, which is housed on a trailer, provides a near 360-degree panoramic view of desired locations. Each trailer unit operates efficiently utilizing batteries and diesel fuel and allows for remote monitoring and administration. Mobile trailers can be requested by completing an online request form through Chagrin Valley Dispatch at <https://bit.ly/2Q2X97y>. For more information, contact Mike Herb, CJIS Administrator, at **216-443-7094**.

## **Drug Drop Boxes**

The Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department is continuing to fight the ongoing battle against the heroin and opiate epidemic. As part of its prevention effort, the CCSD has provided around 50 municipalities across Cuyahoga County with Drug Drop boxes. Drug Drop Boxes provide a safe, environmentally friendly way for citizens to dispose of their unwanted or unused prescription drugs. Unused prescription drugs are typically the gateway to heroin abuse. Since 2013, the CCSD has destroyed over 45,000 pounds of prescription drugs. To see if your community is participating in the Drug Drop Box program, visit [for locations](#). To participate, contact Captain Don Gerome at **216-443-7718**.

Reach the Sheriff's Department at **216-443-6000** or [www.sheriff.cuyahogacounty.us](http://www.sheriff.cuyahogacounty.us).

# DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY



The Department of Sustainability works to steer better environmental and energy-conscience practices into the framework of Cuyahoga County. The Department works on projects such as landfill solar developments, clean energy financing, local government sustainability planning, bike sharing, residential solar co-ops, municipal solar and protection of water quality in Lake Erie.

## **Regional Renewable Energy Development**

Cuyahoga County executed a contract with Cleveland Public Power (CCP) in December 2017 to purchase 4 MW (megawatts) of solar PV electricity and 1.8 MW of wind power through the Lake Erie Energy Development Corporation (LEEDCo) for 16 County-owned buildings. We are leading by example and creating a local clean energy economy while saving \$3 million on our utility bills over 25 years. Our Brooklyn landfill solar project won the national [Solar Project of the Year](#) award in 2018 and we hope to use this as a template for other landfill solar projects in the coming years. For more information, contact Mike Foley at **216-443-7000**.

## **Cuyahoga County Local Government Solar Co-Op**

The County has procured a Rooftop Solar develop/installer for three of our facilities and expect solar installations to be running by early fall of 2019. We will be utilizing a power purchase agreement model in which the developer will own and maintain the solar panels on the facilities' rooftops and will purchase the electricity generated from the panels at an overall lower rate than if we were to buy power off the grid. Through the County's Cooperative Purchasing Agreement procurement program, any political subdivision within the County can take advantage of our pricing and individually contract with our vendor. Year one pricing will likely be less than \$.10/kWh. To learn more about the co-op, visit <https://www.solarunitedneighbors.org/ohio/>.

## **Climate Change Action Plan**

The Cuyahoga County Climate Change Action Plan is an effort to set targets for greenhouse gas emissions reductions, implement and track actions to meet targets and adapt to climate change across the County. The planning process is being jointly administered by the Cuyahoga County Department of Sustainability, Board of Health, Department of Emergency Management and County Planning while engaging with many regional partners and the public. A County-wide greenhouse gas emissions inventory has been completed and DOS is beginning to engage community stakeholders in its Climate Action Planning Process. The plan is also working to identify climate hazards and vulnerabilities faced by the County as also setting target reductions and drafting a climate change mitigation and adaptation plan. More information on this project can be found at <http://www.countyplanning.us/projects/climate-action-plan/>.

# DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY



## **Sustainable Cuyahoga Toolkit**

The Department of Sustainability has partnered with GreenCityBlueLake Institute and the George Gund Foundation to put together a summary of some of the key sustainability issues communities are addressing today. This toolkit—with useful recommendations in a concise format—is intended to help busy public officials learn about best practices, get help from local experts and take action. It's also intended to be a resource for citizens who want to work with local government officials to improve their communities. Topics include air quality, energy, food, green building and historic preservation, land use and development, solid waste, transportation, trees and land management and watershed management. To download the toolkit, go to

<http://sustainability.cuyahogacounty.us/en-US/Sustainable-Cuyahoga.aspx>.

## **Cleveland-Cuyahoga Bike Share Program**

Cuyahoga County residents and visitors have access to shared bicycles through self-service kiosks located throughout the community. Bike sharing is an environmental, economic and healthy way to get around town. The initial implementation covered the City of Cleveland with 250 bikes and 30 stations, with a goal to expand out into the suburbs in a second implementation round. Since the initial round launched in 2016, the bikeshare industry has rapidly changed with the introduction of dock-less bikes, e-bikes, and scooters. Because of this, the County is developing a license for dock-less bike and scooter share companies who want to operate in the County and helping to subsidize the costs of bikes and infrastructure (in the form of dock-less hubs—usually a painted area that is geofenced and has signage indicating bike parking) for interested municipalities. Roll out is expected by summer 2019.

Reach the Department of Sustainability at 216-443-3055 or  
[www.sustainability.cuyahogacounty.us](http://www.sustainability.cuyahogacounty.us).