

The Village Voice

Bremen Ohio's Monthly Newsletter

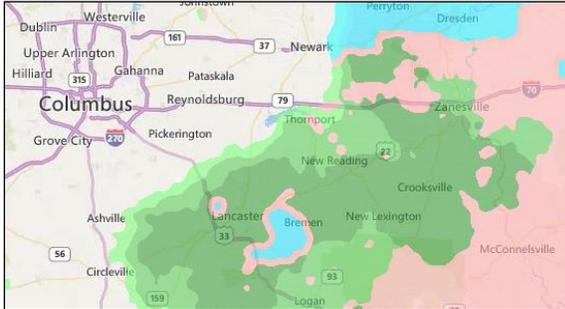
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As this snapshot of a weather radar map shows, a recent weather pattern included snow (blue), freezing rain (pink), and rain (green).

Making the Best of Winter Weather

You know you must be in Central Ohio when snowing, raining and sun shining all occur in the same day, or when strings of frigid days are interrupted by a mild day or two.

Such highly variable weather patterns are challenging to both weather forecasters and the Village's road crews.

Several of the recent snow and ice events have come either on weekends or in pre-dawn hours. When that happens, our crews are out treating the streets while most residents are still sleeping.

Fortunately, this winter's weather hasn't been as severe as the winter of 2013-14, when the



An exhausted young skater at the rink. Photo by Troy Tripp.

road salt inventories were nearly depleted statewide.

The frigid wintery weather certainly hasn't deterred many hardy residents from making daily use of Howell Park. On any given day, people can be seen walking the trail, with and without canine friends.

Also, the ice rink has seen its share of use. We have many pairs of loaner skates available to those who need them. All you need to do is call Debbie Wolfe beforehand at (740) 475-7739.

Strayer Avenue Project Update



Starting in late March, long anticipated improvements to Strayer Avenue will be started. The project includes replacement of the concrete curbs and gutters as well as storm sewer catch basins.

The exact scheduling of the project is being refined and village leaders are exploring options to expedite the project's completion. Watch for future updates about the project in future newsletters and on the village's Facebook Page.

Change of Traffic Pattern on Strayer Starting Next Week



Starting on Monday, March 2nd, Strayer Avenue will be switched to become one-way southbound, from Marietta Street to Angle Street.

It is believed that this will improve traffic flow and relieve congestion that typically occurs during the morning and afternoon school rush hours.

Bremen's Facebook Page



Speaking of Facebook, be sure to check out the Village's Page. This is a nice forum for sharing current events as well as historical perspectives about our community. On your



first visit to the Page, be sure to click on the "Like" button!

Bird watching at Howell Park

The frigid weather certainly hasn't stopped the birds.

We hung a bird feeder on a branch of the maple tree at the east side of the municipal building, and filled it with a seed blend on January 9th. Nothing happened for several days. Then all of a sudden on the morning of Wednesday the 14th, the birds found it and have been returning every day since then.



So far, the observation list of species within, above and around Howell Park since January 1st includes: Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, Bald Eagle, Turkey Vulture,

Canada Goose, Belted Kingfisher, American Crow, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Mourning Dove, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Blue Jay, Dark-eyed Junco, European Starling, Horned Lark, American Robin, Eastern Bluebird, White-crowned Sparrow (pictured above), Song Sparrow, Cardinal, House Finch, American Goldfinch, and House Sparrow.

FAQ's about Utility Billing:

The Village is fortunate to have its own water purification plant and another plant to treat the wastewater before it is released into Rush Creek.



The funds to operate these services are collected through the village's utility billing process.

Since the utility billing process can be a source of confusion and frustration, let's go over a few of the most frequently asked questions:

Where can I pay my bill?

A number of options are available including:

- In person at Bremen Bank, at the Bremen or Lancaster branches.
- In person at the 136 Marietta Street utility office in Bremen, Monday through Friday 8AM to 3PM.
- Mailed to P.O. Box 127 Bremen, Ohio.
- Deposited in the drop box at the front of the municipal building, 9090 Marietta Road (no cash please).

What is the shut-off policy?

Bills are mailed to water customers at the beginning of each month and payment is due on the 20th of each month. After the 20th, shut-off notices are sent to customers who owe \$99 or more. If a customer receives a shut-off notice, they have 10 days to make their payment in order to keep service at that address. ONE attempt will be made by the Utility Billing Office to contact the resident prior to the day disconnection is scheduled to occur.

What is the process of disconnection?

Shut-off notices are mailed to customers after the 20th of each month and they are given 10 days to make a payment. If payment is not received by the date stated in the shut-off notice, the village will disconnect water service to the customer's location. To restore water service, the customer will then need to make a payment on their amount due. In addition, a \$25 reconnection fee will be added to their next bill.

Taking care of business

Reminder: For those of you who walk your dog along the streets, on sidewalks and in other public areas, please remember to pick up after your pet has done its business

