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**Public Service Department  
ANNUAL REPORT  
2019**

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## Public Service Department

February 15, 2020

Dear Community Members,

Every part of New Albany is touched by the work performed through the public service department. Our dedicated employees put in many hours each year to maintain and repair the city's infrastructure and to respond to service requests from the community.

I am proud to showcase department accomplishments in this year's Annual Report for fiscal year 2019, which illustrates the valuable contributions made by our staff over the past twelve months. This year the annual report reflects a time of improvements of both large scale and small scale projects and programs.

The most noticeable project which took place this past year was in the city's Village Center District. Six new crosswalk signals were installed on Market Street, a busy retail area with a high volume of traffic. Since the placement of these highly visible flashing signals, pedestrian safety has greatly improved. Other project improvements include replacement of street name signs throughout the community. This multi-year project will update street signs to the new retro-reflectivity standards set by the Federal Highway Administration.

In April of 2019, the City of New Albany was recognized for its tenth year receiving the Tree City USA designation. Obtaining this status demonstrates New Albany's commitment to a healthier environment through sound urban forestry management. Another program initiative was the development of an ADA Transition Plan for the city. The intent of the plan is to review the city's entire public program, including all facilities on public property and within public rights-of-way, in order to identify any obstacles or barriers to accessibility that need to be addressed.

I am proud to work alongside the employees of the service department in our efforts to serve New Albany and we are grateful to have the opportunity to provide services to the residents. If at any time you have questions about these services, suggest improvements, or just want to let us know how we are doing, please contact our office via the city wide site at [www.newalbanyohio.org](http://www.newalbanyohio.org).

Sincerely,

Mark Nemec  
Director of Public Service



## Public Service Department

### **Mission Statement**

Providing high quality services to the community and maintaining the public infrastructure is the mission of the New Albany Public Service Department. With knowledge, innovation and collaboration services like snow removal and leaf collection are performed and assets like roadways and utilities are managed. Through the efforts of a motivated and professional workforce and citizen involvement our mission is carried out.

### **Vision Statement**

The New Albany Service Department pledges to be the organizational leader in providing benchmark services and infrastructure management to the community. With a strong commitment to its citizens and business partners we serve to ensure safety and quality of life in New Albany. Working collectively we find success in solving problems confronting our community so we can move forward for a better tomorrow.



## Public Service Department

### **Value Statement**

As members of the New Albany Public Service Department and partners with the community we hold to these core values:

#### **Professionalism**

Being the employees of a highly trained force we maintain the skill, competence and character expected in delivering services to the community.

#### **Integrity**

In the performance of our duties we remain steadfast in adhering to high moral principles and standards of our profession.

#### **Reliability**

As a trusted member of the community we carry out our work in a manner that is timely and dependable.

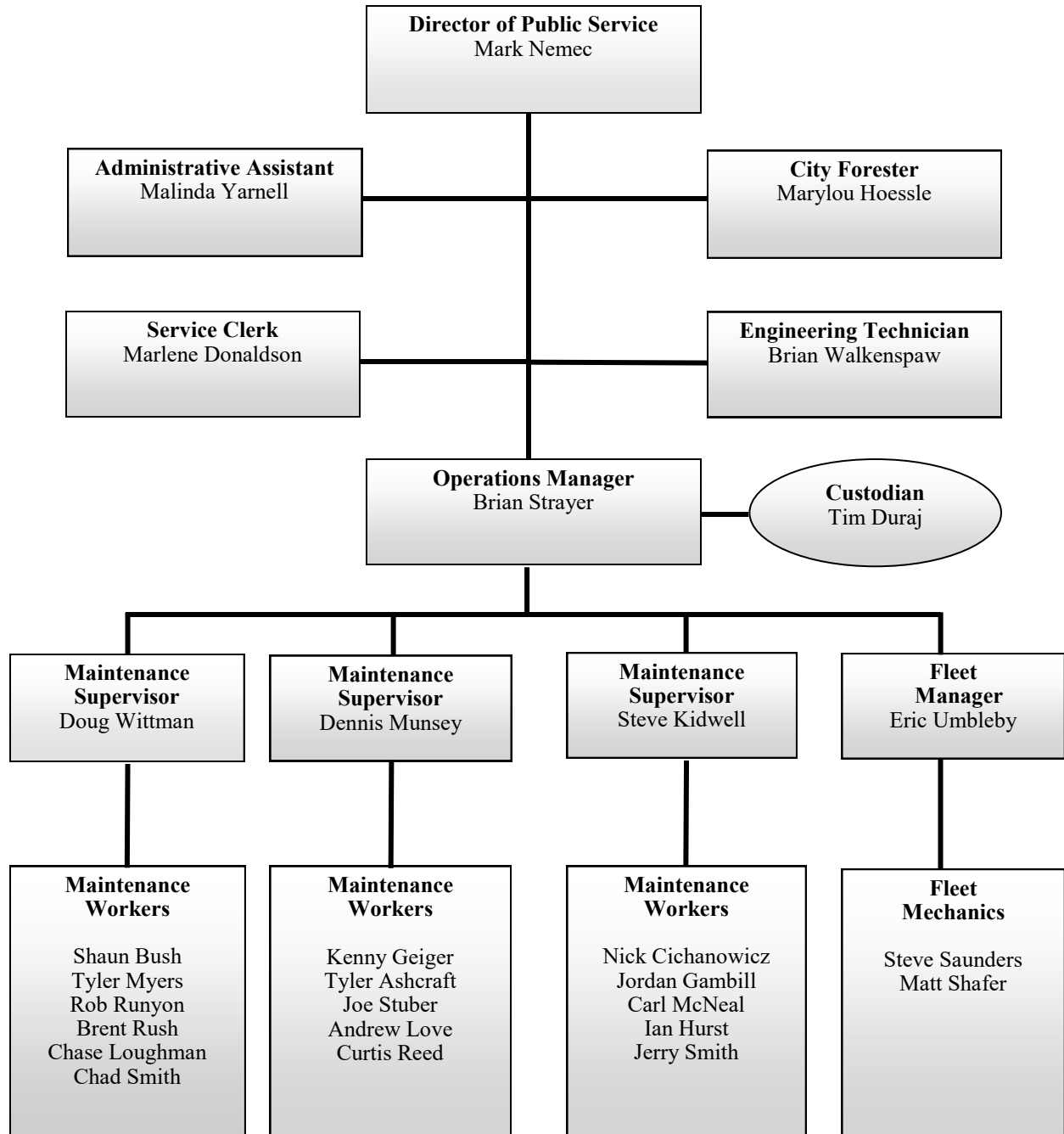
#### **Quality**

Setting high standards in the performance, workmanship and completion of our duties is essential in the way we operate.

#### **Pride**

Taking ownership and satisfaction in achievements made as individuals and as a team is the foundation for our success.

# Public Service Department Organizational Chart



## City of New Albany 2019 Statistics

Area: 16.723 Square Miles  
Population: 10,889  
Residential Units: 3,587 (Single family)

### **Streets:**

Highways (US, SR) 38 Lane Miles  
Community Arterials 161 Lane Miles  
Local & Residential Roads 272.3 Lane Miles

### **Water:**

Fire Hydrants 1,336  
Waterlines 89.7 Miles

### **Sewers:**

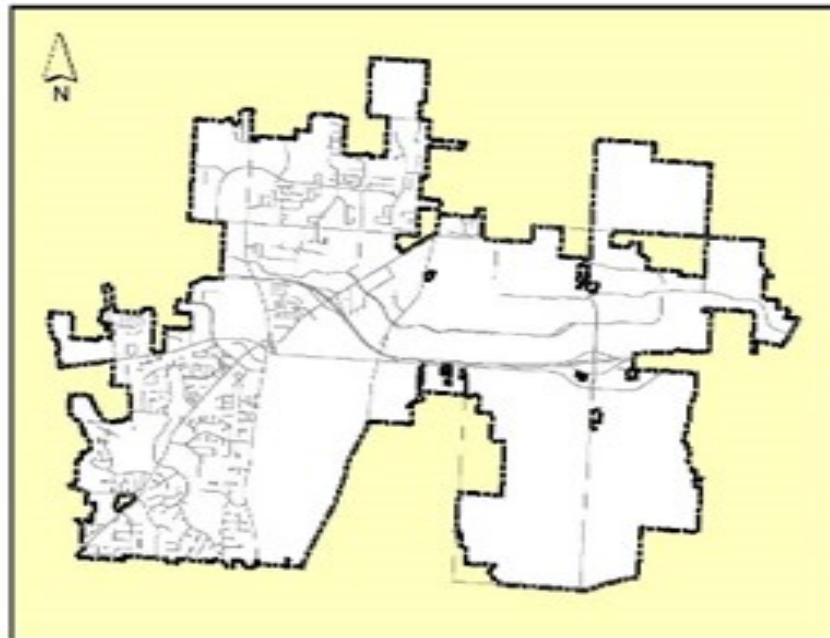
Sanitary Sewers 87.9 Miles  
Storm Sewers 117.5 Miles

### **Transportation:**

Bridges 22  
Streetlights 1,472  
Traffic Signals 25 Intersections

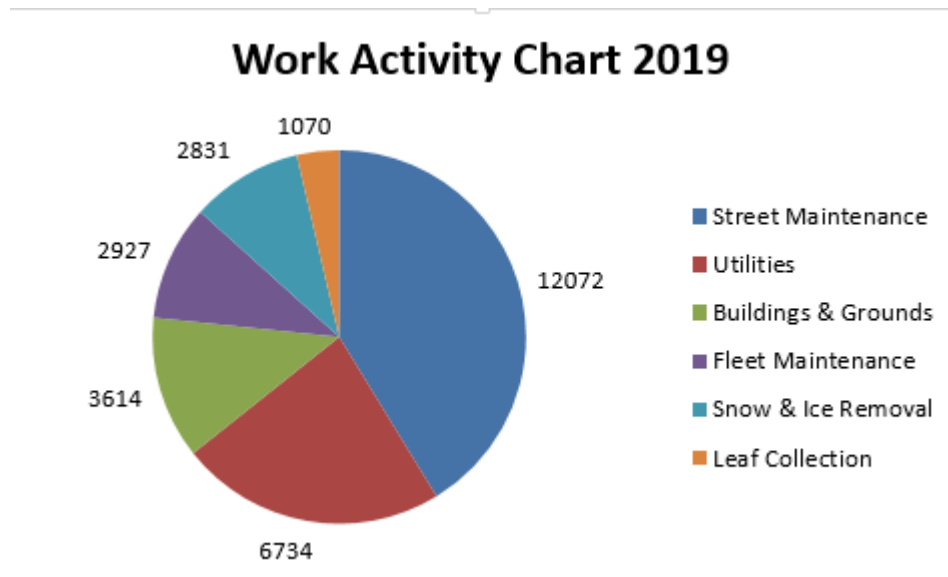
### **Leisure Trails:**

Leisure Trails 53 Miles



## Public Service Department Work Activity

The graph below depicts the number of work hours dedicated to each service performed by the maintenance staff of the public service department. As highlighted in the pie chart below the top three categories of work performed are street maintenance, servicing utilities and maintaining building and grounds facilities.



**Street Maintenance** includes tasks like ADA ramp repair, roadside berming, guardrail repair, bridge culverts and pedestrian bridge maintenance, pothole repair, right of way mowing, repairs to street lights and traffic signals, street repair, street sweeping, street tree pruning, traffic sign replacement and trash/animal pick up.

**Utility work** includes repairs and maintenance on fire hydrants, sanitary sewers, storm sewers, wye installations and marking city owned utility infrastructure such as fiber optic lines and water mains.

**Buildings and Grounds** encompasses any repairs made to the city owned properties which includes the police department, public service department, village hall, the water tower as well as surrounding properties.

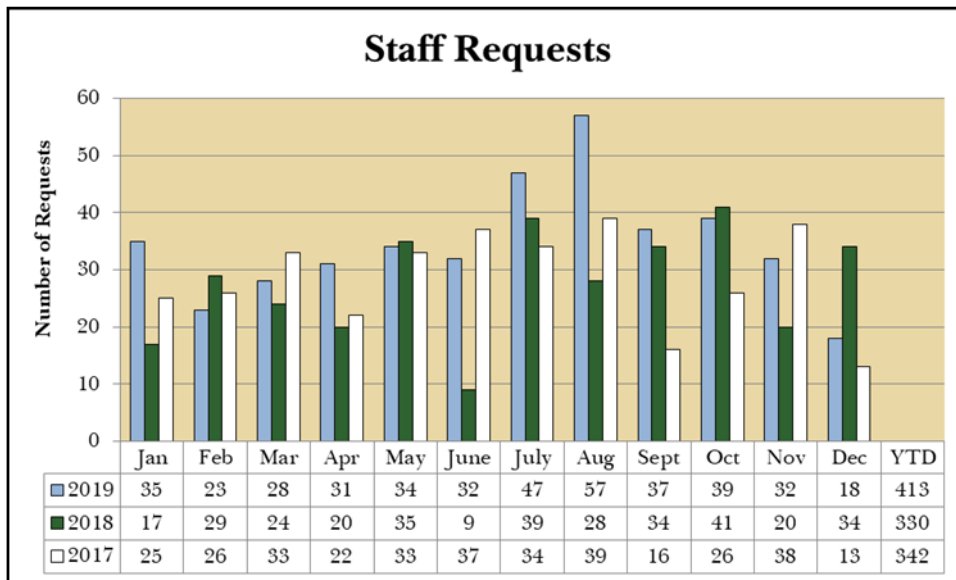
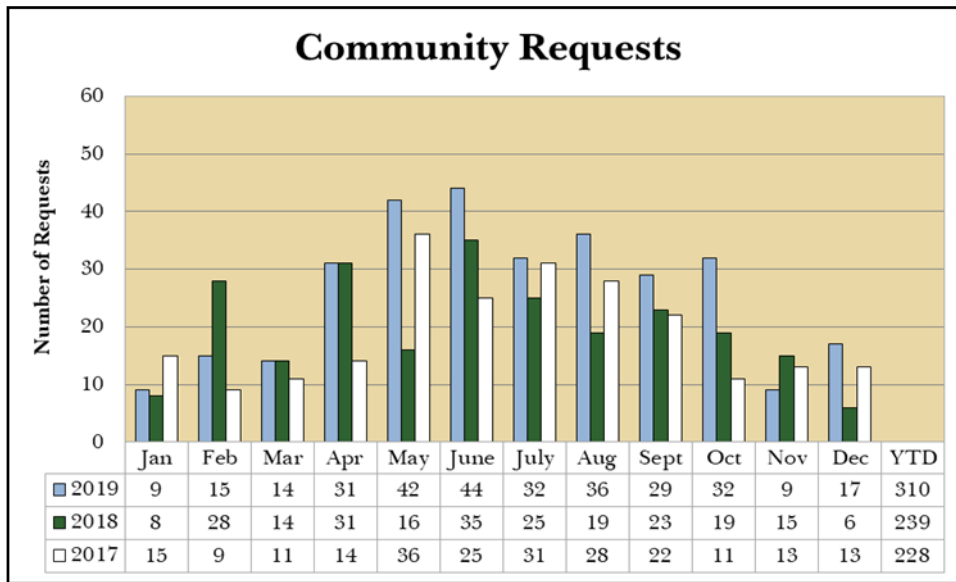
**Leaf Collection** is a seasonal city service that is offered to residents during an eight week period from mid-October to early December. Service crews will collect leaves that have been raked into piles at the curb or in the tree lawn area.

**Snow & Ice Control** operations are performed generally from December to March whereby crews plow snow and salt roads during winter storm events.

**Fleet Maintenance** of all city owned vehicles and equipment is performed by the public service department through the labor of it's fleet mechanic and service workers.

## Requests for Service

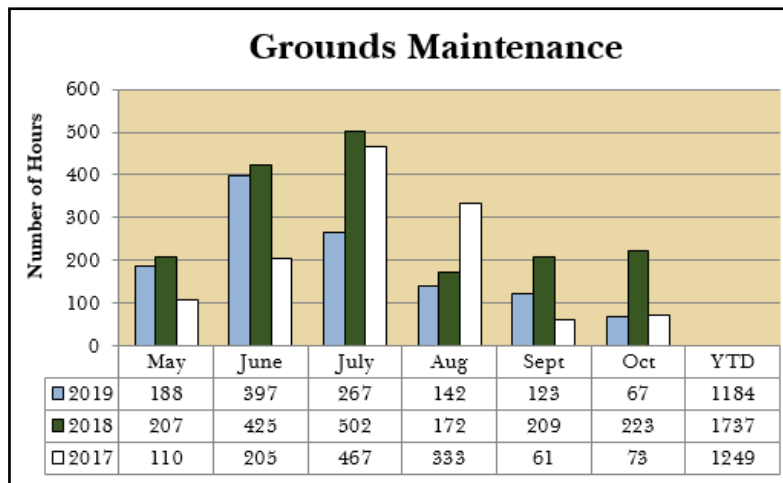
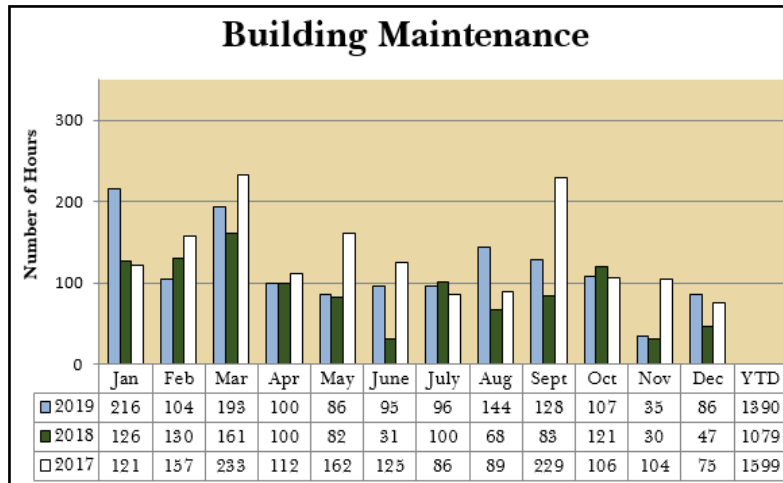
When residents, businesses and other city departments require maintenance services or become aware of infrastructure problems they contact the public service department for assistance. Staff members routinely take calls and emails covering a wide range of requests such as traffic signs down, streetlights out, potholes in the roads, sewer backups, missed trash collection, flooding in backyards, etc. These requests are recorded and tracked as work orders in a database management system. They are assigned to maintenance crews for resolution. Requests for service are divided into two categories; requests from the community and requests from city staff.





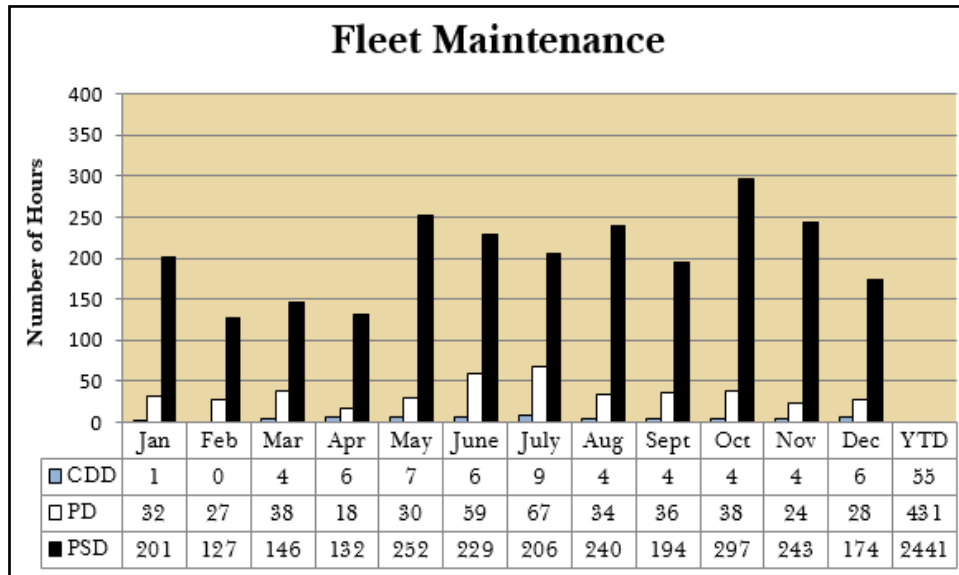
## Buildings and Grounds Maintenance

The public service department is responsible for the management and repair of all publically owned buildings and grounds. Crew members work on various building repairs as part of their regular maintenance duties which can include tasks related to painting, plumbing, electrical, heating and cooling and structural repairs. Grounds maintenance involves caring for building properties, cemeteries, parks, memorials and nature preserve areas. Service department staff oversees mowing, landscaping and general horticulture activities at all public properties during the growing season of April through October.



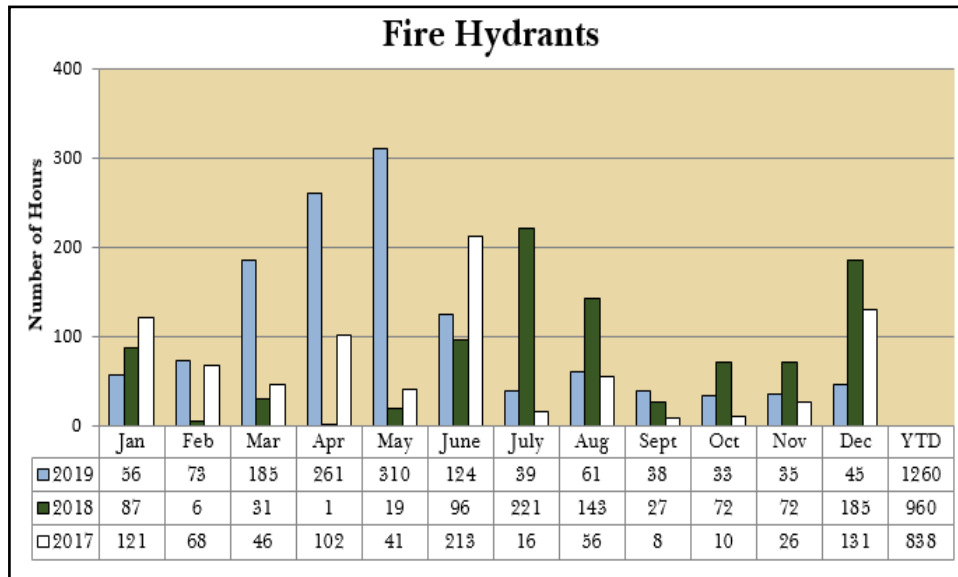
## Fleet Repair Services

Maintenance and repair of all city owned vehicles and equipment is the responsibility of the public service department fleet division. This includes more than 200 pieces of equipment used by the city departments of community development (CDD), police (PD), and public service (PSD). Items include police cruisers, cars, pickup trucks, dump trucks, mowers, tractors, plows, salt spreaders, generators, pumps, chainsaws, weed trimmers and other specialty equipment. Services performed are scheduled preventive maintenance and repair, welding and fabrication, diagnostic and system testing, auto parts purchasing and inventory functions. Providing quality, timely and economical maintenance and repair services is our goal.



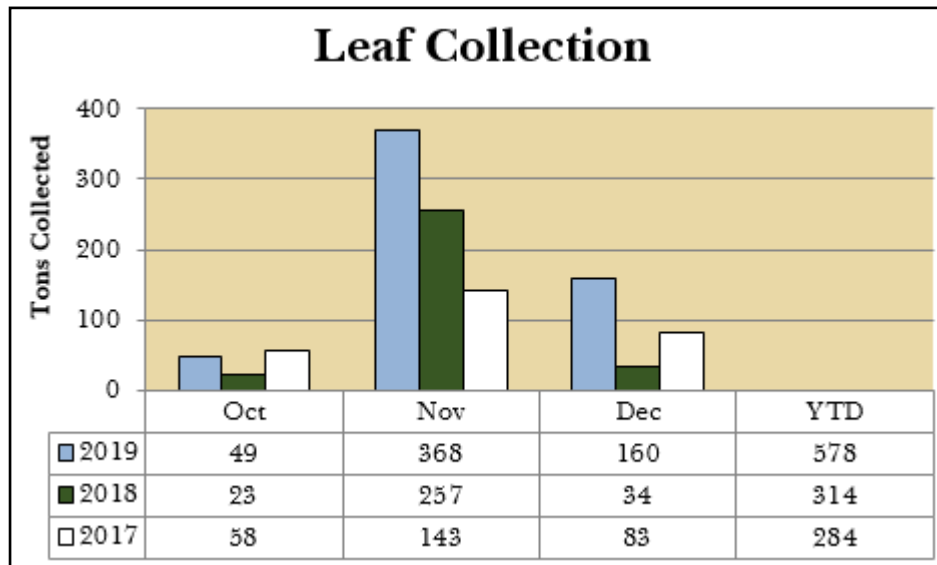
## Fire Hydrant Maintenance

City fire hydrants provide active fire protection and a source of water for firefighters to use in extinguishing fires. Most hydrants require routine inspection and maintenance to ensure they are operating properly and that an adequate supply and pressure of water can be obtained when in use. While the Plain Township Fire Departments performs bi-annual flushing of New Albany’s hydrants, it is the public service department who is responsible for maintaining, repairing and replacing fire hydrants when they are damaged by motorists, show signs of normal wear or become inoperable. The City of New Albany has a total of 1,336 hydrants, an increase of 26 from last year as a result of continued new development within the community.



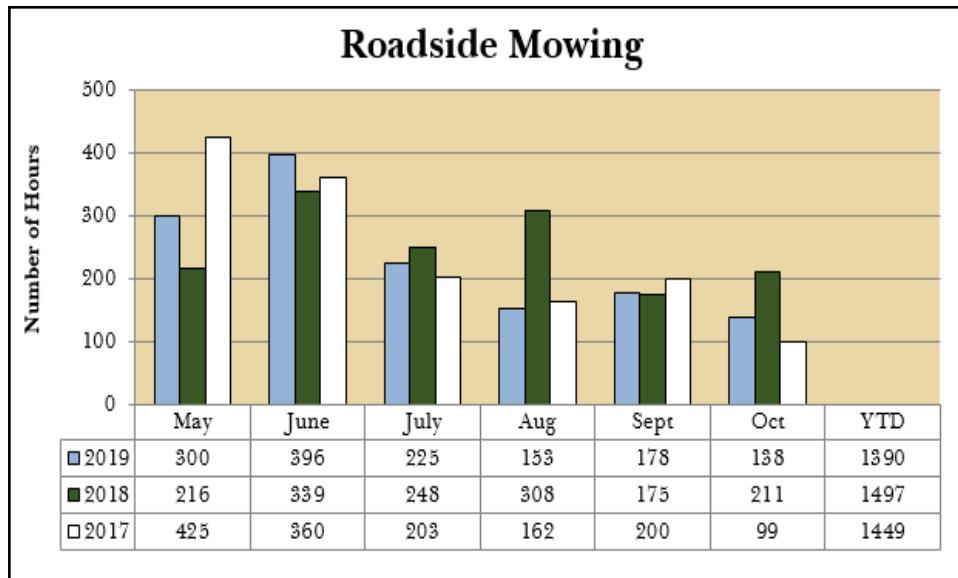
## Leaf Collection

The Public Service Department offers a convenient and efficient curbside leaf collection service to all New Albany residents during an eight week period from mid-October to early December. Service crews collect leaves that have been raked into piles at the curb or in the tree line. Leaf vacuum machines are pulled by trucks housing large volume boxes for collection. These trucks will pass each New Albany home to collect leaves at least eight times during leaf collection season. In 2019, 1,154,437 pounds of leaves were collected and delivered to a yard waste processing facility that converts the leaves to organic compost. This amount is a 55% increase over the prior year and is attributable to the continued growth of trees in the residential neighborhoods.



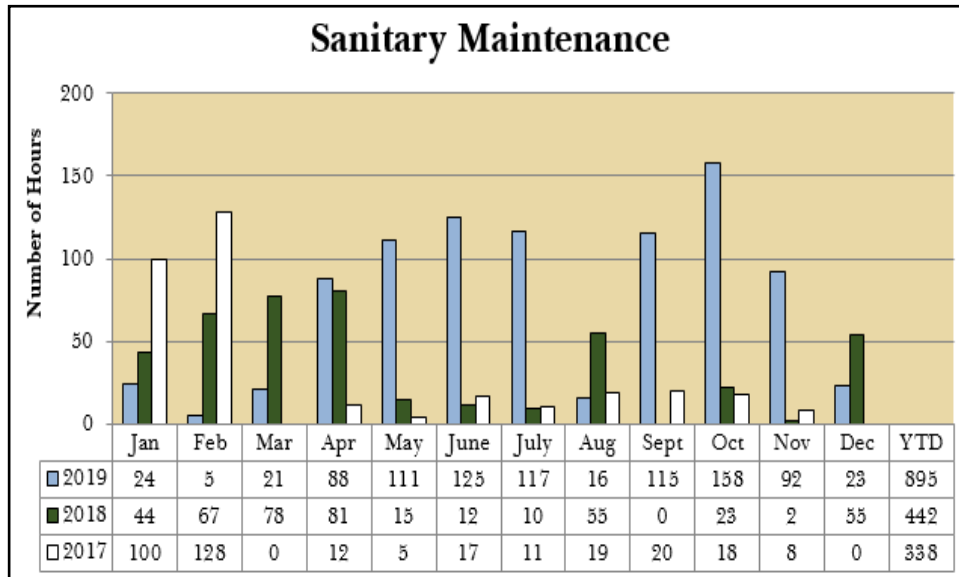
## Roadside Mowing

The public service department is responsible for the maintenance of roadsides along highways and arterial collectors within the community. This consists of mowing grass from the edge of the road to the ditch line or city right-of-way line. Mowing crews are also responsible for trimming grass and vegetation around guardrails, bridges and traffic signs. Routine mowing maintains the community's appearance, provides positive drainage and reduces animal and insect habitation along the road. The amount of mowing required each year depends heavily on the weather and the quantity of rainfall received between the months of April through August. The city utilizes both in-house staff and contracts with landscape vendors to maintain the turf and vegetation along designated Village Center streets and rural roadsides.



## Sanitary Sewer Maintenance

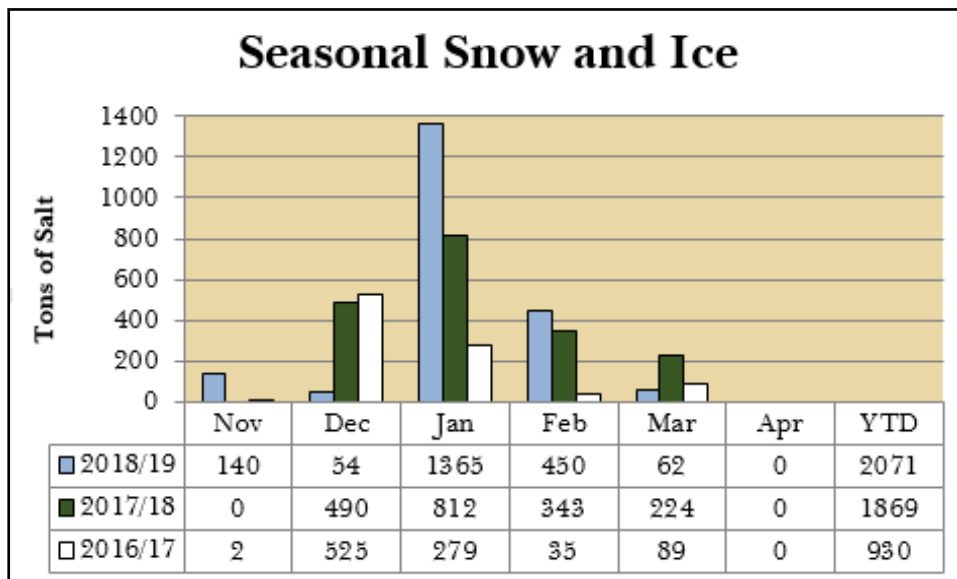
The City of New Albany Public Service Department manages an extensive sanitary sewer collection system serving more than 3,500 customers within the city. The system consists of more than 87 miles of main line sewers and 2,050 manhole structures. New Albany ensures reliable sewer service by providing a well-maintained system through routine cleaning and video inspection of all public lines. These preventative measures help to avoid obstructive build up that may cause service problems for both residential and commercial customers. In 2019, as reported to the Ohio EPA, the city incurred no main line sanitary sewer overflows, however two commercial buildings and two residential homes experienced sewer backups in their structures.



## Snow and Ice Removal

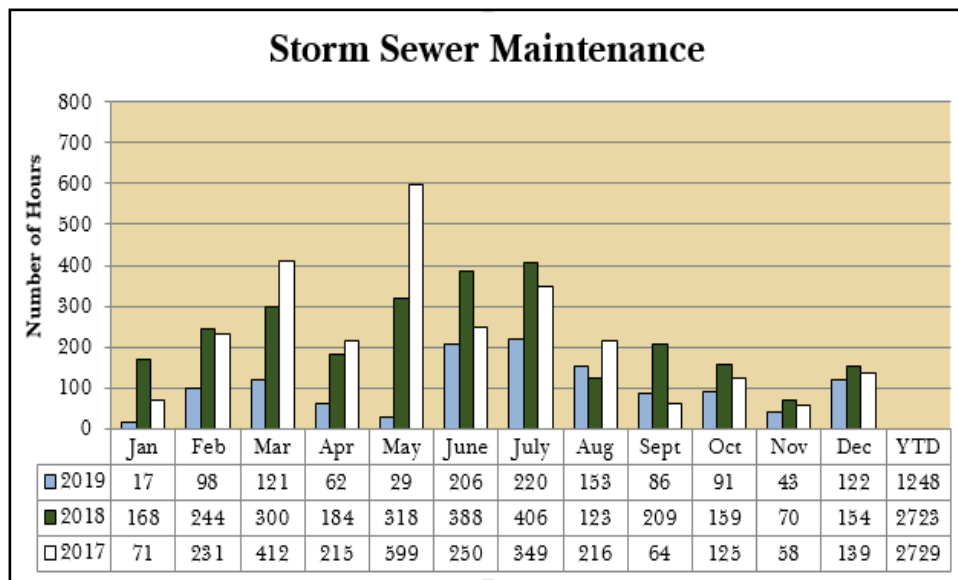
The Public Service Department provides effective snow and ice removal service through the utilization of up-to-date vehicles, equipment, de-icing materials and GPS/AVL technology. From November through April each year, snow removal operations are scheduled for 24 hour service as crews work shifts in order to make roads safe and passable during winter weather events.

New Albany maintains approximately 272 lane miles of roads during winter months by placing de-icing liquids, plowing snow and dispensing salt. This represents 290 total streets including residential, commercial and highway roads. Crews also clear snow from public parking lots and sidewalks on publicly owned property. For each snowfall event it is our goal to have every street cleared within 24 hours after the snow stops falling.



## Storm Sewer Maintenance

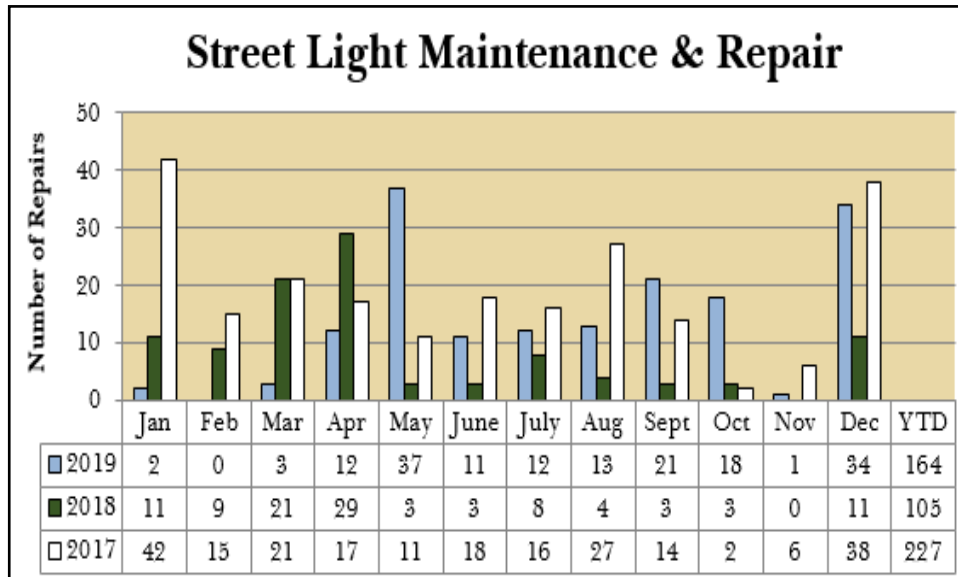
The public service department is responsible for the management of an extensive storm sewer system covering both residential and commercial developments within the city and totaling more than 117 miles in length. Storm water is conveyed through many different methods such as curb drains, catch basins, wye installations, structural pipes, culverts, ditches, swales, dry ponds and wet ponds. These systems are used to control storm water run-off during rain events by removing water quickly from surface areas, thus reducing flooding on roads and properties. Through annual maintenance and inspection of these systems, service crews preserve the integrity and operational effectiveness of the city's storm water collection system.





## Street Lighting

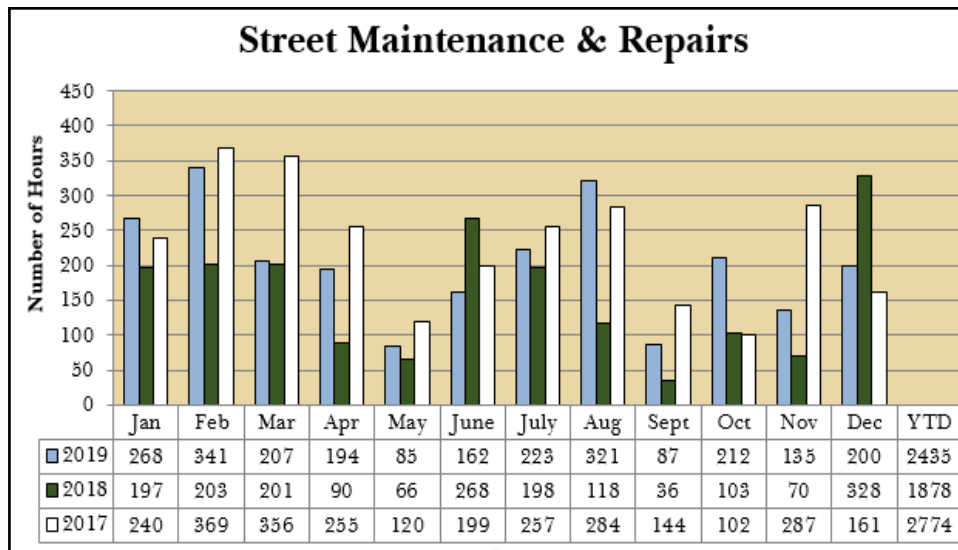
Street lights provide increased visibility at residential intersections and along commercial roadways for drivers traveling at night or during inclement weather. Service department crews perform monthly inspections to identify inoperable lights for repair. A well maintained street lamp and pole should last for more than 35 years. Street light repainting projects occurs every year during the summer months and requires the use of specialized aerial lift equipment. Approximately ten percent of the city’s street light inventory is repainted annually which equates to over one hundred light fixtures, poles and bases. The service department is in it’s second year of a three year project to convert every city streetlight to LED style fixtures to save on energy and maintenance costs.



## Street Repair and Maintenance

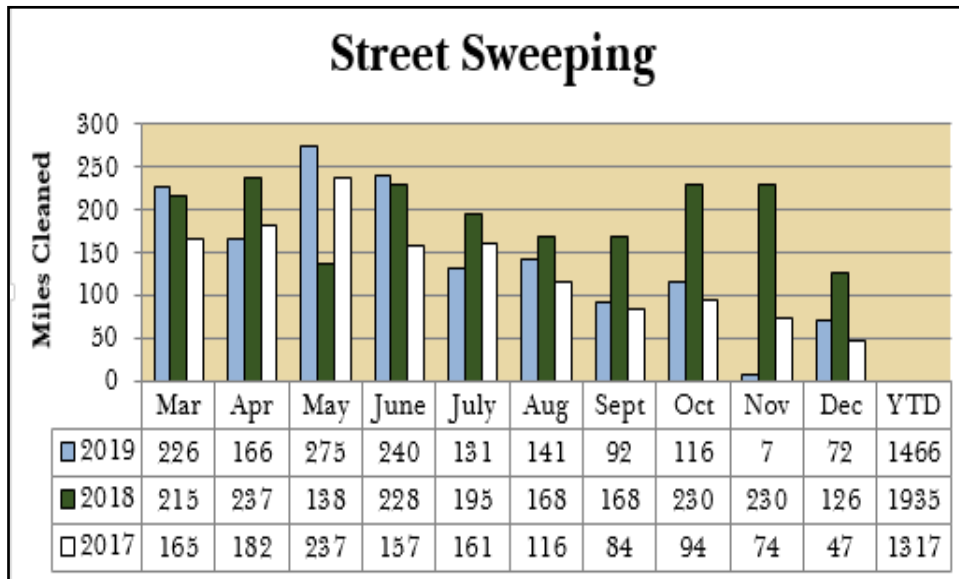
Service crews are responsible for the general oversight of roadway maintenance, to keep city streets clean and in good working condition. Making repairs to potholes in the pavement and replacing berm material along roadside edges is a year round function of the department. In 2019, approximately 335 potholes were fixed and 3 lane miles of roadway berm was redressed with stone aggregate. Street maintenance activities also includes the placement of pavement markings for stop bars and crosswalk lines and repairs to roadway culverts, guardrails and wood pedestrian bridges.

The City of New Albany performs routine roadway repair and maintenance practices through it's annual Street Improvement Program which is a large scale capital construction project. This program is designed to prolong the life of city roads by performing pavement replacement, curb repair, handicap ramp improvement and roadway restriping. Using a pavement condition rating system combined with field inspections, streets are inspected annually and ranked based on their condition ranging from very good to poor. With the information gathered and available funding a list of street repair work is determined and placed in a formal document for construction bidding.



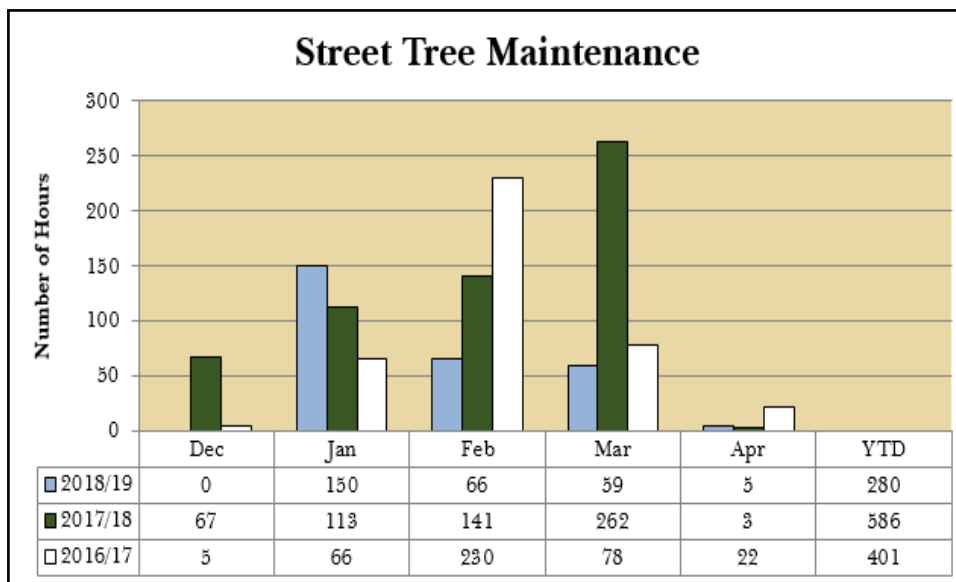
## Street Sweeping

Street cleaning removes dirt, debris and other hazards from the road and storm sewer systems. It promotes the health, safety and appearance of our community. The Environmental Protection Agency considers street sweeping a Best Management Practice in protecting water quality. Modern street sweepers are equipped with water tanks and sprayers used to loosen particles and reduce dust. The brooms gather debris into a containment box that glides over the pavement, then it is vacuumed through a tube and dumped into a collection hopper at the back of the truck. New Albany roadways are routinely swept once a month as warm weather permits, typically the months of March through November. In 2019, service crews collected a total of 198,360 pounds of sediment and debris swept along curbed streets within the city, this is a difference of 103,594 pounds less than what was collected in 2018.



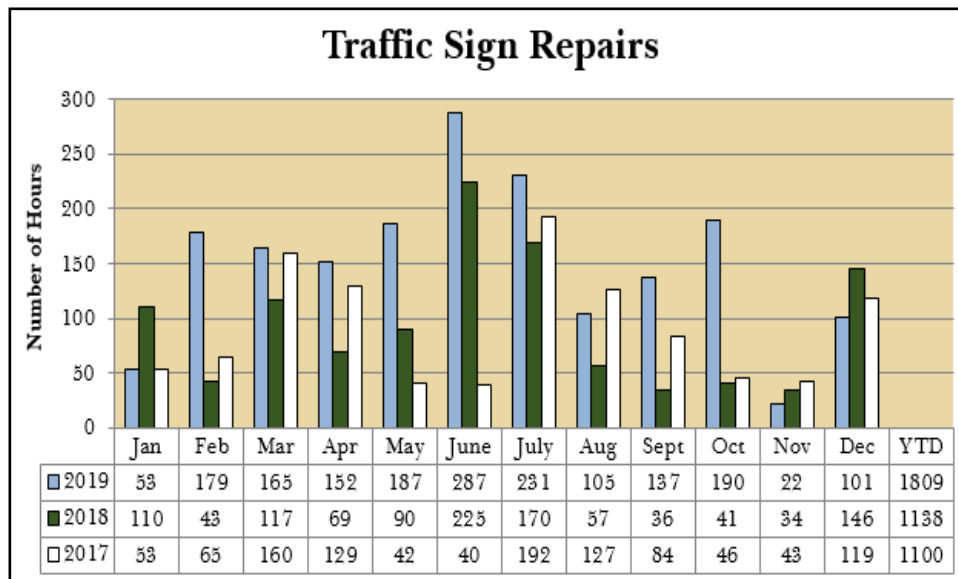
## Street Tree Maintenance

Street trees benefit the community in many ways. They add character to our neighborhoods, cool our homes and cities, clean our air, increase property values and provide aesthetic beauty just to name a few. New Albany is a Tree City USA community and has maintained that designation since 2010. For these reasons the city places a high priority on the responsibility for proper care of street trees within the public right-of-way. During the months between December and April service crews actively prune trees along city streets to encourage growth of strong, healthy and attractive trees. In 2019, a total of 1,143 street trees were pruned. Once tree limbs and branches are removed, crews use a wood chipper to pulverize the brush into fine chips. The chips are then processed for use in mulch and topsoil. Proper clearing of lower lying branches provides the needed clearance for delivery trucks, snow plows, city street sweeper and trash collection vehicles.



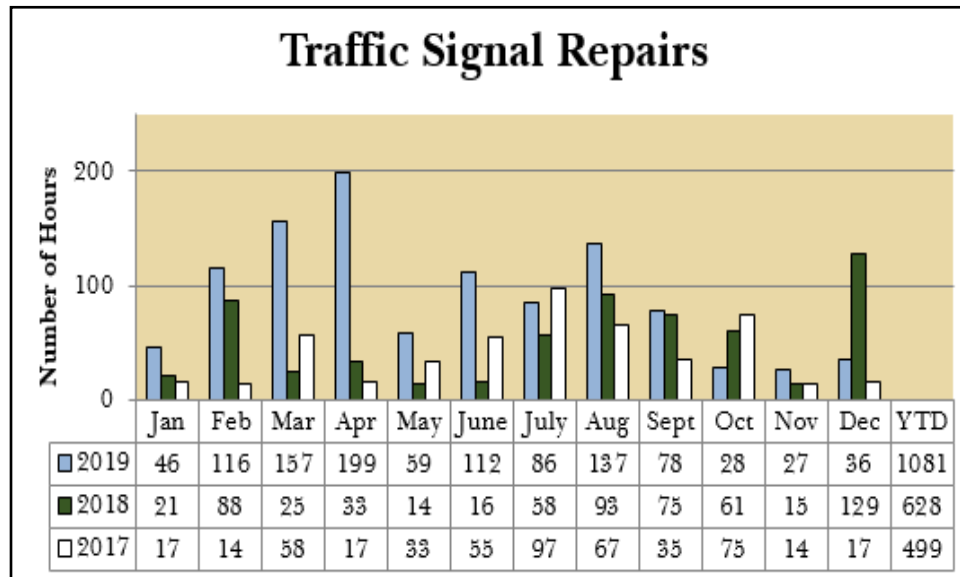
## Sign Maintenance

Both traffic signs and street name signs are critical elements of the roadway system because they communicate the rules, warnings, guidance and other important information that drivers need to safely and efficiently navigate roads and streets. Well maintained signs are essential as they help drivers make good decisions. The public service department is responsible for insuring that signs are maintained to meet the needs of the road user. Crew members are involved in implementing a sign management system which involves inspection, inventory, maintenance and replacement. In 2018, New Albany began a three year project to improve existing city street name signs on public roads to meet new design standards set by city council. In 2019, crews stayed on schedule with replacing old signs for new focusing on the residential areas of the community. The project will finalize in 2020.



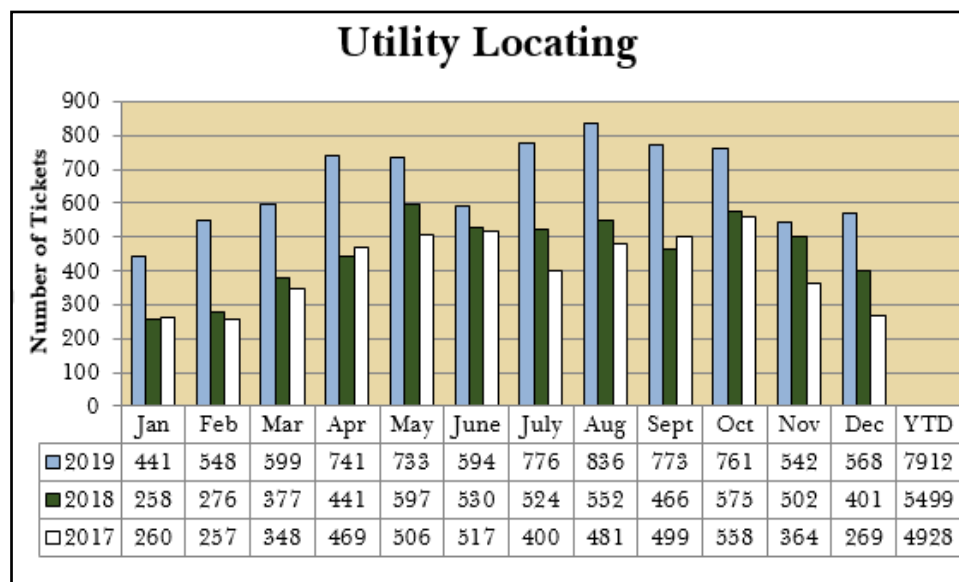
## Traffic Signals

These electronic signaling devices are positioned at road intersections, pedestrian crossings and other locations to control competing flows of traffic. Traffic signals assign the right of way to road users through the use of lights in standard colors (red - yellow - green). Traffic technicians annually respond to equipment malfunction, replace defective parts and make adjustments to signal timing. This responsibility covers more than 291 signaling devices located at 25 different intersections within the city. Also, to meet green initiatives as established by the city, service technicians have converted all incandescent traffic signal lights to LED style bulbs which reduces energy and maintenance costs and increases brightness.



## Locating Utilities

When doing projects around your house, digging without knowing where underground utility lines are buried can be very risky. When underground lines are damaged, vital services and everyday conveniences can become disconnected, not only to your home but to entire neighborhoods and, sometimes, whole subdivisions. The service department dedicates staff for locating city owned utilities such as water lines, sewer lines, electric to street lights and traffic signals and underground fiber optic cables. Being a member of the Ohio Utility Protection Service (OUPS), the City of New Albany is assured of getting notification before excavation begins. Electronic maps of the city's utilities are maintained using GIS technology and service crews operate sophisticated equipment that can locate underground infrastructure within precise accuracy.



## Public Service Projects 2019

### Improvements to Crosswalk Sign at Roundabout

Maintenance Supervisor Doug Wittman and his crew made adjustments to one crosswalk sign at the Main and Market Street Roundabout. The city is testing whether an amber indicator light installed on the back of the crosswalk sign will alert pedestrians that the flashing sign has been activated. Without having a double-sided sign, pedestrians are unsure that the flashing signal is operating after the button has been pushed. The indicator light will flash for roughly one minute after activation.



New amber indicator light on the back side of the Market/Main Ped Crossing sign.

### Village Hall Admin Conference Room Renovations

Maintenance Supervisor Steve Kidwell and Maintenance Worker Chase Loughman renovated the second floor administration conference room at Village Hall. They installed a ship window, wood panel wainscoting, chair rail trim and repainted the wall and cabinets. The ship window opens up the space looking into the administrative wing of the building and allows natural light in.



Renovations to the 2nd Floor Admin. Conference Room.

### New Albany Cemetery Corner Markers

The New Albany Cemetery is located between the city Village Hall building and the New Albany Police Department. Maintenance crew members installed 10x10 wood posts to indicate the original corners of the historic cemetery. Utilizing the new posts in place, service crews separate their maintenance responsibilities inside the cemetery grounds from that of the city's contractor who mows outside the cemetery boundaries.



Service Worker Andrew Love installs marker posts at the New Albany Cemetery.

### Roadside Cleanup Project

Annually service department staff participates in both a Spring and Fall roadside trash collection projects to clean debris along the State Route 161 corridor in preparation of right-of-way maintenance. The Spring trash collection yielded a total of 91 bags of trash equaling 3,185 pounds of waste. The Fall trash collection yielded a total of 80 bags of trash equaling 2,800 pounds of waste. The total collection yielded 171 bags of trash equaling 5,985 pounds of waste.



Service crews collect debris along SR 161 prior to mowing season.



## Public Service Projects 2019

### New Market Street Crosswalk Signals

The Paul Peterson Company was hired to install new crosswalk signals on Market Street, replacing non-illuminated signs. The city is testing the use of rectangular rapid flash beacons on Market Street. A Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacon or RRFB provides high visibility to motorists as they approach the signed crosswalk. If these signals are proven effective at stopping traffic, then RRFB's will be used at other Village Center pedestrian crossings.



New crosswalk signals are installed and tested on Market Street.

### Touch-A-Truck Event

The public service department hosted the city's annual Touch-A-Truck event on August 17th and had over 1,400 attendees. The 2019 event continued a food drive for the local New Albany Food Pantry and appearance of the Survival Flight Helicopter sponsored by the New Albany Mount Carmel Hospital. New this year was free face painting provided by Grace Life Church and children activities from Green Columbus. In addition to public service vehicles, the police department, fire department, county engineer, Rumpke and NA schools provided vehicles for the children to explore.



Attendees enjoy the large trucks at the service Touch-A-Truck event.

### Leisure Trail Improvements

Maintenance Worker Andrew Love and new employee Joe Stuber add an 8 foot wide stone base for a leisure trail connector ramp on Brandon Road, across from Ratchford Court. This will allow pedestrians and bikes to access the leisure trail from the roadway. Paving was completed by city contractors in the summer. The City of New Albany maintains more than 53 miles of leisure trails through the community in both residential and commercial areas.



Crews construct an access ramp to the leisure trail on Brandon Road.

### Cristo Rey High School Work Study

For the 2019-2020 school year, the public service department drafted back professional work study student Breanna Blankson, a junior at Cristo Rey High School. Breanna is featured on the left in photo. Breanna will be assisting the public service department with various office tasks. For the second year, the City of New Albany is participating in the Cristo Rey Columbus High School Intern Program. The program helps students reach their full potential by teaching basic work and communication skills.



Draft Day at Cristo Rey Columbus High School.

## Public Service Projects 2019

### Installation of “No ADA Access” Signs

Crew members Tyler Myers and Brent Rush installed "No ADA Access" signs in various locations along the public leisure trail system within the New Albany Country Club subdivision. The city is required to post signage at all roadway connections to the leisure trail system where non-accessible ADA ramps exist. There are ADA complaint accessible trail connections for the public to use, however they are generally located at street intersections with proper ramps and crosswalk striping.



“No ADA Access” signs were placed off Olmstead Road.

### 2019 Snow Roadeo Event

Annually, maintenance crew members participate in a snow plow roadeo to test their plow driving skills in a fun and competitive setting. This event is a primer to help staff prepare themselves for the upcoming snow season. In 2019, a new obstacle course was designed. Judges citywide scored crew members based on performance accuracy. Special prizes were awarded for first, second and third place finishers.



Maintenance crews participate in the annual Snow Roadeo Event.

### City Forestry Activities

City maintenance staff spent several days removing dead street trees from James River Road. These trees are Japanese Zelkova, which is a very large tree capable of damaging sidewalks when not given enough tree lawn space. Excessive mulching, girdling root growth and sidewalk repairs have caused significant dieback in the trees and led to structurally unsafe tree conditions. Replacement trees will be planted in Spring to fill-in the vacated space.



Zelkova street trees removed on James River Road.

### New Path from Village Hall to Police Station

To serve as a temporary connector path from Village Hall to the Police Station, crew members Kenny Geiger, Andrew Love, Joe Stuber and Curtis Reed removed sod and installed wood chips in the grass yard that separates the two city parking lots. The parking lot at Village Hall serves as an overflow for the Police Department when their lot is full. This path gives employees a ready and dry access to their vehicles.



Mulch path installed between Village Hall and Police Station.

## Completed Construction Projects 2019

### 2019 City Sidewalk Improvement Project

- Cost of construction: \$87,346.25
- General contractor: Decker Construction
- Construction period: June 2019 to September 2019
- Scope of improvements: The city sidewalk improvement project is an annual program where unsafe public sidewalks are replaced for residents at the discretion of city council. The sidewalk replacement program exists in order to improve pedestrian safety and walkability throughout the community.



The sidewalk project included replacement ADA Ramps.

### 2019 City Street Improvement Project

- Cost of construction: \$704,899.17
- General contractor: Decker Construction
- Construction period: June 2019 to September 2019
- Scope of improvements: This is an annual capital improvement project that covers both preventative maintenance and full scale pavement replacement. Construction activity includes crack sealing, curb repair, ADA ramp replacement, pavement patching, asphalt mill and overlay and pavement striping.



Central College Road west of SR605 was repaved.

### Dublin-Granville Rd and Central College Rd Microsurfacing Projects

- Cost of construction: \$196,073.64
- General contractor: Strawser Construction Company
- Construction period: July 2019 to August 2019
- Scope of Improvements: Microsurfacing is a thin, tough layer of asphalt emulsion blended with finely crushed stone for traction. This is a cost-effective method to renew the road surface and seal minor cracks and other irregularities. This preventive maintenance process protects the pavement from moisture penetration and oxidation.



Microsurfacing was completed on Central College Road east of SR 605.

# Department Goals

The Public Service Department uses goal setting as part of its operational performance management process and to achieve citywide organizational objectives. Departmental goals help to guide specific employee tasks and projects for the year.

## 2019 Goals Achieved

- **Complete phase two of a three year project to convert city street lights to LED (Light Emitting Diode) style fixtures emphasizing efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability.**

In 2017, as an organizational goal the service department evaluated the utilization of green technologies for converting city streetlights to LED style fixtures emphasizing efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability. As a phased project over a three year period the city would inventory and convert all 1273 streetlights to LED style fixtures. The life expectancy of LED fixtures is approximately ten to fifteen years versus standard designed bulbs which lasts only two to three years. The city is expected to save approximately one million dollars over a twenty year period on the cost of labor, equipment and energy consumption of the new LED streetlights. In phase two of the project approximately 172 Village Center streetlights and 20 Freeway overhead lights were converted.

- **Develop an ADA Transition Plan for the City of New Albany, created to ensure residents and visitors are not discriminated against on the basis of a disability.**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires that public agencies perform periodic self-evaluations and prepare transition plans to upgrade facilities for accessibility as needed, including streets, sidewalks and buildings. Access to civic life by people with disabilities is a fundamental goal of the ADA. To ensure that this goal is met, Title II of the ADA requires local governments to make their programs and services accessible to individuals with disabilities. The City of New Albany ADA transition was completed in 2019 and the final plan document can be found on the city website at [newalbanyohio.org](http://newalbanyohio.org).

- **Utilizing grant funding through the Federal Highway Administration, the service department will oversee a project to interconnect the city traffic signalization system and install a centralized traffic management control center.**

In 2015, the City of New Albany was awarded grant funding through the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission Attributable Funding Program to interconnect the city's traffic signal systems. Between 2016 and 2018, the grant funding was accepted, the city committed money towards the project, the work was designed and bid to the public. The interconnection project will make traffic signalization system improvements by interconnecting it's current closed-loop traffic signal system by use of a master controllers via New Albany's fiber-optics system, adjusting signal system timing and intersection coordination, installing traffic monitoring cameras, connecting the master controllers and camera monitors to a Traffic Management Center established in the Public Service building and upgrading existing pedestrian signals to meet current federal accessibility guidelines. This project has been substantially completed and by the first quarter of 2020 the master control center will be operational.

## **2020 Department Goals Proposed**

- To address growth in staffing, equipment and increased levels of service, the service department will oversee an expansion project of the service facility garage. The New Albany Public Service Facility was constructed in 2006 and sized appropriately for the needs of the service department to support the services provided to the growing New Albany community. However, due to the city's unprecedented rapid growth from 2007 to 2017, a significant increase in roadway lane miles and associated infrastructure took place. In order to maintain the same level of services for the growth areas of the community such as snow removal, sewer cleaning, fire protection, street lighting, traffic signalization, and other essential services, the city hired additional staff and purchased additional trucks and equipment. To accommodate the need to store the additional trucks and equipment within the existing Public Service Facility an expansion of the garage space is now necessary. The city has a large capital investment in the purchase of trucks and equipment and to store them outside and uncovered would be detrimental to the longevity of the City's assets and increases maintenance and repairs costs.
- The public service department proposes to development an urban forestry program for the City of New Albany. Similar to the quality and care that is taken for other city infrastructure like roads, sewers and buildings, trees provide value to the community, therefore staffing and strategic planning are needed to properly care for the city's 15,000 street trees. New Albany has the potential to be a regional leader in Urban Forestry by developing a sustainable and cost effective urban forestry program focused on regular preventive maintenance of the city street trees. Building a small crew of tree care workers dedicated to New Albany's Urban Forest is the first step.
- The City of New Albany has a network of over 35 miles of leisure trails within the community. These trails require periodic inspection and maintenance to keep them safe and to extend system longevity. The service department proposes to complete a leisure trail assessment of pavement conditions and development a long range plan for future maintenance and management.