Greetings family,

What a wonderful year we’ve had together here in the Great City of Trotwood. We are excited to announce to you that a final decision has been made regarding the relocation of the Western Division of the Montgomery County Municipal Courts. The courts will move from New Lebanon to the City of Trotwood. This relocation will provide closer access to justice for all who may need the courts in the western region. The plan is that the courts will repurpose and renovate the library on E. Main St. once the new library is built in the year 2020.

We were especially proud of the Trotwood community for their support of “The Holiday Help Out,” hosted by WROU 92.1 personality Faith Daniels and Hot 102.9 with radio personality Kev Washington. This year’s campaign was an overwhelming success with many families served locally and the remainder of the donations given to The Good Neighbor House to service any needy families throughout Montgomery County. What a blessing for all.

And finally, The City of Trotwood’s annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, December 8th at 4:00pm located on the Trotwood Government Center Courtyard at 3035 Olive Rd.

Please come out and join us for the kick off of the holiday season with many family friendly festivities including the arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Claus, gifts, caroling and pictures around our Christmas tree.

We are accomplishing great things here in our city. Our home values are on the rise and new businesses are choosing Trotwood as their place of investment. I’m looking forward to many more great days to celebrate with you as we continue “Growing Together.”

Sincerely,
Mary A. McDonald,
Mayor of Trotwood
What is a Winter Storm?

A winter storm can range from moderate snow over a few hours to blizzard conditions with blinding wind-driven snow that last several days. All winter storms are accompanied by low temperatures and blowing snow, which can severely reduce visibility. A severe winter storm is one that drops 4 or more inches of snow during a 12-hour period, or 6 or more inches during a 24-hour span.

An ice storm occurs when freezing rain falls from clouds and freezes immediately on impact. All winter storms make driving and walking extremely hazardous. The aftermath of a winter storm can impact a community or region for days, weeks, and even months. Storm effects such as extreme cold, flooding, and snow accumulation can cause hazardous conditions and hidden problems for people in the affected area.

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• **A winter storm watch** indicates that severe winter weather may affect your area.
• **A winter storm warning** indicates that severe winter weather conditions are definitely on the way.
• **A blizzard warning** means that large amounts of falling or blowing snow and sustained winds of at least 35 miles per hour are expected for several hours.
• **Wind chill** is a calculation of how cold it feels outside when the effects of temperature and wind speed are combined. A strong wind combined with a temperature of just below freezing can have the same effect as a still air temperature about 35 degrees colder.

**GENERAL WINTER STORM INFO**

A major winter storm can last for several days and be accompanied by high winds, freezing rain or sleet, heavy snowfall, and extremely cold temperatures. People can become stranded on the road or trapped at home, without utilities or other services. The best protection against severe winter weather is to stay inside and to dress warmly by wearing loose-fitting, layered, lightweight clothing.

A serious danger during a winter storm is hypothermia – a condition brought on when the body temperature drops because of prolonged exposure to extreme cold. Hypothermia is not always fatal, but for those who survive there are likely to be lasting problems.

**PRECAUTIONS & TIPS**

- Be familiar with winter storm warning messages.
- Service snow removal equipment and have rock salt on hand to melt ice on walkways and kitty litter to generate temporary traction.
- Winterize your home.
- Insulate walls and attic.
- Caulk and weather-strip doors and windows.
- Install storm windows or cover windows with plastic from the inside.
- Have safe emergency heating equipment available.
- Fireplace with ample supply of wood
- Small, well-vented wood, coal, or camp stove with fuel
- Portable space heaters or kerosene heaters
- Install and check smoke detectors.
- Keep pipes from freezing.
- Wrap pipes in insulation or layers of old newspapers.
- Cover the newspapers with plastic to keep out moisture.
- Let faucets drip a little to avoid freezing.
- Know how to shut off water valves.

Don’t Forget to Test Your Backflow Prevention Device

Water normally flows from the public water system into your home or business, but backflow is the “backwards flow” of water from private plumbing systems into the public water system. Backflow can carry harmful contaminants and bacteria into the water system, which can lead to illness, injury and, in some cases, death.

The Montgomery County Department of Environmental Services requires commercial and residential customers to install a testable backflow prevention device when their plumbing installations pose a hazard to the public water system. This device prevents water from flowing backward into the water supply.

A few examples of businesses and plumbing situations that require backflow prevention may include:
- Fire sprinkler systems
- Lawn irrigation systems or swimming pools
- Customers with irrigation and deduct meters
- Medical facilities, laboratories and mortuaries
- Commercial, industrial, and manufacturing facilities
- Hair and nail salons
- Automotive repair shops

After a backflow device is installed, it must be tested by a backflow-certified plumber every 12 months to ensure that the device is still in good working order. If you have a backflow prevention device, please schedule your testing every 12 months.

For a list of backflow certified plumbers, visit [www.mcohio.org/water](http://www.mcohio.org/water).

For more information, contact the Montgomery County permits department at (937) 781-2653.