



Mayor Jensen's Tribute to Mom



Mayor Jensen with his Mom.

In the past few years, my Mom tried to prepare the family for the time when she would no longer be with us. I really believed that for the most part, I was prepared. I wasn't. One thing she did was she left so many great memories. Among those memories I treasure most are the many times she and I drove around the community, talking about the changes the city has gone through in the more than 50 years my family has lived here. I was able to show her our newest park — Eagle Point Park — which is a short distance from the family business (Pinehaven Garden Center) she and my dad established in 1966.

She was excited to see how beautiful the park is and so pleased the city continues its efforts to preserve and create green space for everyone to enjoy. We also visited the new pickleball and tennis courts that the city, along with the Avon Schools, installed in front of the high school. This is another amenity enjoyed by many. I am sad, though, that my mother never did get to see the

Cahoon House. I wish she had.

The City will acquire 30+ acres of land off Stoney Ridge Road that will add to our greenspace. We anticipate having walking trails that go along the French Creek as well as a beautiful scenic wooden bridge. It was always a goal of mine as Mayor to acquire land for parks and green spaces and preserve historic buildings and properties that contributed to making Avon the great community it is today. Knowing so many of you visit those places is gratifying.

I'm very aware that schedules can limit time to get outside with family and friends. I encourage you to find that time because it's precious and can be fleeting.

There's a part of me that regrets I did not find more time to spend with my Mom. I have found that many friends and acquaintances have said the same. You'll never regret the time you spend with the people you care about. What better opportunity to connect than taking a walk together in nature, or pushing a kid on a swing, or sitting on a bench and sharing stories about family — the hilarious moments that make you laugh until tears run down your cheeks and the times when the tears are for another reason.

Experts say that being in nature can help reduce stress. I believe that. A love of nature and the outdoors runs deep through the veins of my family. Being outdoors in nature calms and grounds me. It lets me have fun with my

grandchildren and it gave me a chance to spend time and talk with my Mom.

I hope you take every opportunity to get outside and visit our parks and recreation facilities this year with a loved one.

I remember the many times spent with my Mom, talking about life. Each time, she would remind me that she prays for me every day.

I will miss that. I miss you, Mom.

Bryan K. Jensen
Mayor, City of Avon



Mayor Jensen's Mom with two of her great grandchildren.

"The loss of your mother no matter how old you are changes your life forever. Your mother is your protector who keeps you safe and secure. You never really get over the loss, you learn to live with it, and she is never far away from your thoughts, and is always in your heart." — Author Unknown (Peach was my Mom's favorite color.)

Grand Re-opening of Avon Public Library

The community gathered in February to celebrate the grand re-opening of the Avon Public Library. The existing branch was constructed in 1994. In 2020, Avon residents passed a levy for the renovation and expansion. The levy, along with additional funding from the state and other sources, allowed the project to go forward. The expansion adds 16,000 square feet to the original 10,000 square feet of space.

The renovated branch now has a drive-thru window, which was the number one requested amenity by Avon residents.

It also has:

- A greatly expanded children’s area
- A dedicated story time room
- A teen space with a soundproof study room
- A business center with printers and copiers
- An esports lounge for gaming
- A create space boasting a 3D printer, laser engraver, embroidery machine and more
- A quiet reading room with a focus on Avon history
- A meeting room that can accommodate 150 people
- The Norton Family Foundation Demonstration Kitchen

Patrons can sign up for any of the free programs for all ages at LorainPublicLibrary.org/events.



Exterior of the renovated Avon Library



New opening of Avon Library/Ribbon Cutting of Avon Library



Cahoon House Museum Update

Beginning April 19, the Cahoon House will be open Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Sundays from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Open hours are subject to change, so please check back for updates before visiting.

Have more questions? Reach out to Parks & Recreation at 440-937-4461 for more information or visit cityofavon.com/781/Wilbur-Cahoon-House-Museum.



ENGINEERING UPDATE By Ryan Cummins, City of Avon Engineer

2023 Pavement Resurfacing Projects

Avon is preparing bids for three separate paving projects to be completed during the 2023 construction season. The first project is the resurfacing of Just Imagine Drive from 1,000 feet east of Nagel Road to the eastern end of Just Imagine Drive. The second project is the resurfacing of Main Street & Middle Road. The third project is the resurfacing of Pear Street, Cherry Street, Willo Road, and Jennie Street. Project bidding will take place in late winter. Project preparations will occur in the springtime and construction activities will happen throughout the summertime. Specific project schedules will become available after the bidding processes are completed. Additional information will be provided to the residents and businesses within each area as construction is getting ready to commence.



Scan QR code for link
to construction updates

How Can Nature Benefit My Mental Health?

- Improve your mood
- Reduce feelings of stress
- Improve your physical health
- Improve your confidence and self-esteem
- Connect you to your local community

Source Mind.org



BUSINESS UPDATE

NOW OPEN

City Barbeque
35495 Chester Road

Hollywood Feed
35901 Detroit Road, City Center
formerly *Pet People*

**Lorain Public Library
Avon Branch**
37485 Harvest Drive

Mezquite Restaurant
35846 Detroit Road, Avon Commons
formerly *I-Hop*

O'Reilly Auto Parts
1290 Center Road
formerly *Advanced Auto*

Quick Brite Car Wash
2325 Nagel Road

Railroad Brewing Company
NEW LOCATION
820 Center Road
formerly *Moosehead Barbeque Grill*

Secret Garden
NEW LOCATION
36927 Detroit Road

Spectrum
35942 Detroit Road, Avon Commons
formerly *Men's Warehouse*

Studio of Skin Care
36941 Detroit Road

Vault Self Storage
34500 Mills Road

Visonworks
36422 Detroit Road, Avon Commons

White Box Pizza
36962 Detroit Road
formerly *D'Tutanelli's*

COMING SOON

Avon Brewing Company
36383 Detroit Road

Jet's Pizza
36775 Detroit Road
formerly *Jelly Beans Boutique*

Premier Bank
2100 Center Road, Unit A
formerly *Northwest Mortgage*

Renew CLE
37060 Colorado Avenue

Simsim Mediterranean Grill
35956 Detroit Road Avon Commons
formerly *Mandarin*

StretchLab
35972 Detroit Road, Unit Z-1
Avon Commons
formerly *Russel Realty*

BUSINESS UPDATE cont'd on page 5



Hearts of Gold Redbud Tree

AVON TREE COMMISSION UPDATE

Avon’s Official Tree

Last fall, Avon’s Tree Commission came up with the idea of having an official tree for Avon. After reviewing several varieties, the commission agreed that the Hearts of Gold redbud tree was the most appropriate. The tree has purple flowers in the spring and the leaves turn from green to gold, which is perfect for representing Avon’s colors. Avon City Council voted unanimously to approve the Hearts of Gold Redbud tree as Avon’s official tree. The tree grows to about 20 feet tall and 15-20 feet wide, and can be planted in yards and tree lawns. Two of these trees were planted by the Tree Commission at the Aquatic Center.

Effective January 1, 2023, it is illegal to sell, grow or plant Callery pear trees in Ohio. Callery pears are considered to be environmentally harmful tree species. Bradford pear trees are a type of Callery pear. If you currently have one, you are not required to remove it.



Pear Tree

SAFETY DIRECTOR CORNER *By Duane Streator*

Changes to the Branch Chipping Service Operations



The City is changing the way we operate our branch chipping services in order to be more efficient and to improve the response times of the other workload demands that are placed on the Avon Service Department. In years past, the Street Department has followed a service route to cover the entire city on a weekly basis throughout a good portion of the year. Going forward, residents who are in need of branch chipping services must call the Avon Service Department at 440-937-5729 for pick up or will need to go online to cityofavon.com, under the Service Department and complete the “Request for Curbside Chipping Service” form. At that time, a list will be generated, and a weekly route will be created based on the locations of the requests that come in. Keep in mind that chipping services will be delayed during fall leaf season and following heavy snow or icy conditions. For more details, go to cityofavon.com/chipping.



Scan QR code for more details about Curbside Chipping Service

POLICE DEPARTMENT *By Daniel Fischbach, Chief of Police*

Don't Become a Victim



We continue to see an increase in incidences of thefts from vehicles and thefts of vehicles all across Northeast Ohio. Thieves are targeting vehicles that are left unlocked with valuables inside as well as the keys for the vehicle. The vast majority of these crimes can be prevented by taking a few simple steps. First, lock your vehicle at all times when not attended. Do not leave valuable items inside your vehicle, including purses, wallets, phones, computers, or any other item of value. Never leave your vehicle keys inside the vehicle when not attended. At home, close and lock all doors at night including your overhead garage doors. Outdoor lighting, security cameras, and landscape design can also be great deterrents. The Avon Police Department has specially trained crime prevention officers that can conduct business and residential security checks of your property and offer suggestions on how you can better protect yourself and your property.

If you are interested in scheduling one of these security checks, please contact Lt. Keith Haag at 440-934-1234 or by email at khaag@avonpd.com.

BUSINESS UPDATE

cont'd from page 3

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Alora Salon and Spa

35860 Detroit Road, Avon Commons
formerly Panera Bread

Avon Self Storage

1100 Nagel Road

BeeHive Homes Memory Care Facility

28550 Chester Road

BibiBop Asian Grill

236050 Detroit Road
French Creek Square

Charley's Cheesesteak

35701 Chester Road

Chili's Restaurant

35585 Chester Road

Crash Champions

38401 Chester Road
formerly Lake Erie Harley Davidson

Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers

35815 Chester Road

Galvin Therapy

33665 Lear Industrial Parkway

GetGo Car Wash

33501 Just Imagine Drive

Hunter International

37779 Chester Road

McAlister's Deli

35355 Chester Road

Millennium

34654 Mills Road

T-3 Phase 2

1965 Recreation Lane

Ward Orthodontics

36422 Detroit Road

SAVE THE DATE

June 2, 2023

Opening day of Avon Aquatic Facility

June 10, 2023

Avon Lions Club Fishing Derby

September 4, 2023

Closing day of Aquatic Facility for the season

September 16, 2023

Super Hero Day

October 14, 2023

Not so Spooky Halloween

December 2, 2023

Avon Tree Lighting

Presented by the French Creek Foundation

Check City of Avon website for updates or changes to events. For an up-to-date listing of events happening in the city or to submit your event, please visit allaboutavon.org



HEALTH FACTS

Provided by Cleveland Clinic

- Physical activity increases your heart rate and gets your blood flowing. More oxygen and nutrients to your muscles mean higher energy levels.
- Exercising regularly can help ward off chronic diseases like Type 2 diabetes and heart disease. It can also help if you have high blood pressure and high cholesterol.
- Exercise is beneficial for maintaining brain health for everyone, but even more for those who are at risk for developing dementia and Alzheimer’s disease. Movement promotes cardiovascular health, improves blood flow to the brain and reduces inflammation. It also stimulates the production of hormones that enhance the growth of brain cells.

UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

By Brian Bruce, Superintendent of Utilities

Water Storage Tank Painting

The Utilities Department will be painting the 450,000 gallon ground storage water tank located on the north end of Center Road this spring. The painting project will begin in April and is expected to be completed in June. This project will include painting both the interior and exterior of the tank, and provide another 20 years of service to the water system. The tank color will be changed to match the 3 million gallon elevated water tower on Mills Road. The City of Avon logo will be added to the north and south sides of the tank. By 2025, the 750,000 gallon Detroit Road elevated water tower will also undergo a rehabilitation project and will be painted to match the other two water system tanks.



BUILDING DEPARTMENT

By Emily Hanson, Chief Building Official

When to Contact the Building Department



Spring is fast approaching! If you are considering an addition or alteration to your home, adding a deck or patio, installing a pool, or general mechanical, electrical or plumbing upgrades, it’s a good time to contact the Building Department Team at the City of Avon with any questions about your projects. Our staff is here to help.

We have three building clerks that work in a professional and efficient manner. They are ready to assist on permit questions, contractor registration, site information, general building permit applications, and scheduling inspections.

The best recommendation we can offer is:
Do your homework!!

A little research can go a long way, so contact the City of Avon Building Department if you have any questions regarding permit requirements or contractor registration **call 440-937-7811** or visit the City of Avon website at **cityofavon.com**. A current list of contractors is available.

Your projects and improvements should be an exciting, worry-free experience, not a nightmare.

BUSINESS PROFILE

Tradition of Family

The Shoppes of Olde Avon Village were formed as a memorial to those who settled and made a livelihood in Avon. They also serve as a sanctuary for historical buildings that have significance to Avon. Genna Larson and her family own the Shoppes of Olde Avon Village. One of those buildings is the Tree House Gallery and Tea Room. It was built in 1850 and was originally the Alten House. The Tree House is celebrating 28 years in business. It originally started in the Train Depot and then moved to the Farmhouse and expanded its outdoor dining area during Covid.

When you walk into the Tree House, you are welcomed by the wonderful smells of home-cooked food and chef and owner Genna Larson peeking behind the kitchen counter welcoming you. The staff greets you to tell you the specials and each of the specials on the menu has a significant meaning to Genna and her family. Genna grew up in the business working alongside her father Ron Larson. She started washing dishes and learning from her father, side by side. She comes from a family of cooks; her parents and grandparents are great cooks. "I have learned from the best! And love to incorporate that into what we do at the Tree House," said Genna.

The next generation of Larsons is already starting to help in the business. Genna's son Ignatius sees his mom and grandpa working long hours and working hard and likes to come and "help" at work and wash the dishes just like his Mom did. "He is a great taste tester," said Genna.

When you shop at Avon Village, you are supporting the community. All 14 stores are locally owned and



Three generations of Larsons



Tree House Gallery and Tea Room

independent. They all give back to the community and take pride in living in the community. Thank you Genna, her father Ron and the business owners of The Shoppes of Olde Avon Village for keeping the history of Avon alive and helping us preserve Avon's rich history.



The Shoppes of Olde Avon Village QR Code

SENIOR CENTER *By Carmelina Suydam, Center Coordinator*

A Look to Spring!

In addition to our great parks, Avon Senior Center offers activities for our senior citizens. There are exercise classes, games, social events, trips, movies, and much more. There is something for everyone! To stay up to date on activities at the Avon Senior Center, please contact the center for more information. 440-934-2417.



AVON CITY PARKS

The City of Avon is proud to have nine parks with more than 230 acres of land with a variety of amenities for residents of all ages to enjoy.

All park hours are 8 a.m.–dusk

Reserve a pavilion online, which is the fastest way, or submit a request for a permit to the Avon Parks & Rec. Department, 35001 Schwartz Road or scan the QR code to link to pavilion reservations.



Avon Isle Park 37080 Detroit Road

In 1997, the City of Avon purchased Avon Isle along with four acres of surrounding land. The building was placed on the National Register for Historic Places in July 2010. The former dance hall has become a popular spot for weddings, receptions, graduation parties, showers, etc. This facility also has an outdoor patio and gazebo. The facility has seating for 150 and capacity is 230.



Little League Park 36744 Detroit Road

This park is over 13 acres and is the home of the Avon Little League. It consists of baseball fields, a softball field, t-ball fields, a playground, skate park, pavilion (picnic tables & grills) (no reservation required-first come, first serve). Restrooms and water fountains are also available. New scoreboards will be installed at the park in partnership with the Avon Little League.



Northgate Park 2155 Eaton Drive

This park encompasses nearly 14 acres located off Colorado Avenue (SR 611) and offers an outdoor fitness track (long track just over a half mile, short track just over 1/4 mile). There is a playground and multiple soccer fields. In the winter, this park offers a popular sledding hill and ice-skating pond (both weather permitting). There is a stocked fishing pond (Please follow ODNR catch and release guidelines). There is a pavilion with picnic tables, grills, and electricity that must be reserved. The annual Lion's Club fishing Derby is held at this park. Also featured near this park is the Avon Lions Community Center. The Community Center is a popular spot for civic meetings, recreation programming, and private parties. The restrooms for this park are located at the Avon Lions Community Center.



Eagle Point Park 39115 Detroit Rd.

Eagle Point Park is Avon's newest addition to our park system! This park encompasses nearly 16.5 acres. It includes a natural spring-fed, 4-acre pond and a playground. Bring your binoculars and walking shoes to this park because it features beautiful birds and walking trails that connect to Veterans Memorial Park. The Avon Local Schools cross country teams also practice at this park.



Schwartz Road Park
35001 Schwartz Road

This park encompasses 67.8 acres and houses multiple soccer fields, a 90 ft. baseball field, basketball courts, a sand volleyball court, playground, restrooms, a nature trail, and 2 rentable pavilions with picnic tables and grills that are available by reservation. This park is utilized by the Avon Soccer League Association and Avon High School Freshman Baseball Team.



Every Child's Playground
36265 Detroit Rd. (East of Aquatic Facility)

This park encompasses nearly 20 acres and is the home of the Avon Bike Parade, Superhero Day, Memorial Day service, Movie in the Park, Avon Tree Lighting and other great city events. Enjoy a walk through the Storybook Trail and see a new themed book each month provided by the Avon Local Library. Learn about the rich history of Avon through the Avon History Walk. Children can play music with outdoor musical instruments at Harmony Circle. There is a National Fitness Court for adults to get their workout in while kids play on the playground equipment. The new Avon Veteran's Memorial is also at this park, paying tribute to Avon residents for their service in our armed forces. There is also a 1-mile walking path. The Lowe's Pavilion is available on a first-come, first-served basis. The Avon Aquatic Facility is also located here and is open Memorial Day-Labor Day. Visit avonpool.com for details on dates, hours, and pricing.



Veterans Memorial Park
3701 Veterans Memorial Parkway

Another destination for Avon Little League, Avon Youth Football Association and Avon Youth Lacrosse Association. This park encompasses 98 acres and has both baseball and softball fields. There are multi-use fields that are available as well. There is a playground with restrooms and water fountains available. There are two pavilions (picnic tables & grills). Reservations are needed for Pavilion A.



Canning Family K-9 Park at Veterans Memorial Park
3701 Veterans Memorial Parkway

Located in the front of the park, near Lacrosse Fields & Vet #1 softball field. This park is for the dogs! Designated large and small dog areas with special play features. Water is also available. Please note posted dog park rules.



Heritage Square Park
37001 Detroit Road

This park is located at the intersection of Detroit Road and Stoney Ridge Road. It was established in 1999 and features a beautiful gazebo. Enjoy the Summer Music Series and small events at this location.

LORAIN COUNTY METRO PARKS

The Lorain County Metropolitan Park District was established for the responsible use, enjoyment, and accessibility of every citizen of Lorain County.

The Park District acquires land to promote and demonstrate the wise use of our natural resources.

The Park District strives to preserve and create a diversity of ecosystems while providing educational and recreational opportunities that are compatible with and promote conservation of these resources.



Miller Nature Preserve

2739 Center Road

Miller Nature Preserve rests on 145 acres of woodlands in the heart of Avon. Visitors can find a visitor center featuring a café, gift shop, and event hall. The highlight of this preserve is the 5,000 sq. foot conservatory, the first in Lorain County. Bring your family, friends, and camera to capture the beauty inside and outside. Just behind the conservatory, outdoor garden and Butterfly House are the park's beautiful, wooded hiking trails. The park has two separate walking paths that both begin at the trailhead near the back of the parking lot. The Pin Oak Trail is a short trail through the woods that, at some points, lies adjacent to local neighborhoods. The Sycamore Trail is a wonderfully wooded trail that follows the French Creek and has gorgeous views of wildlife. Admission is \$2 to the conservatory.



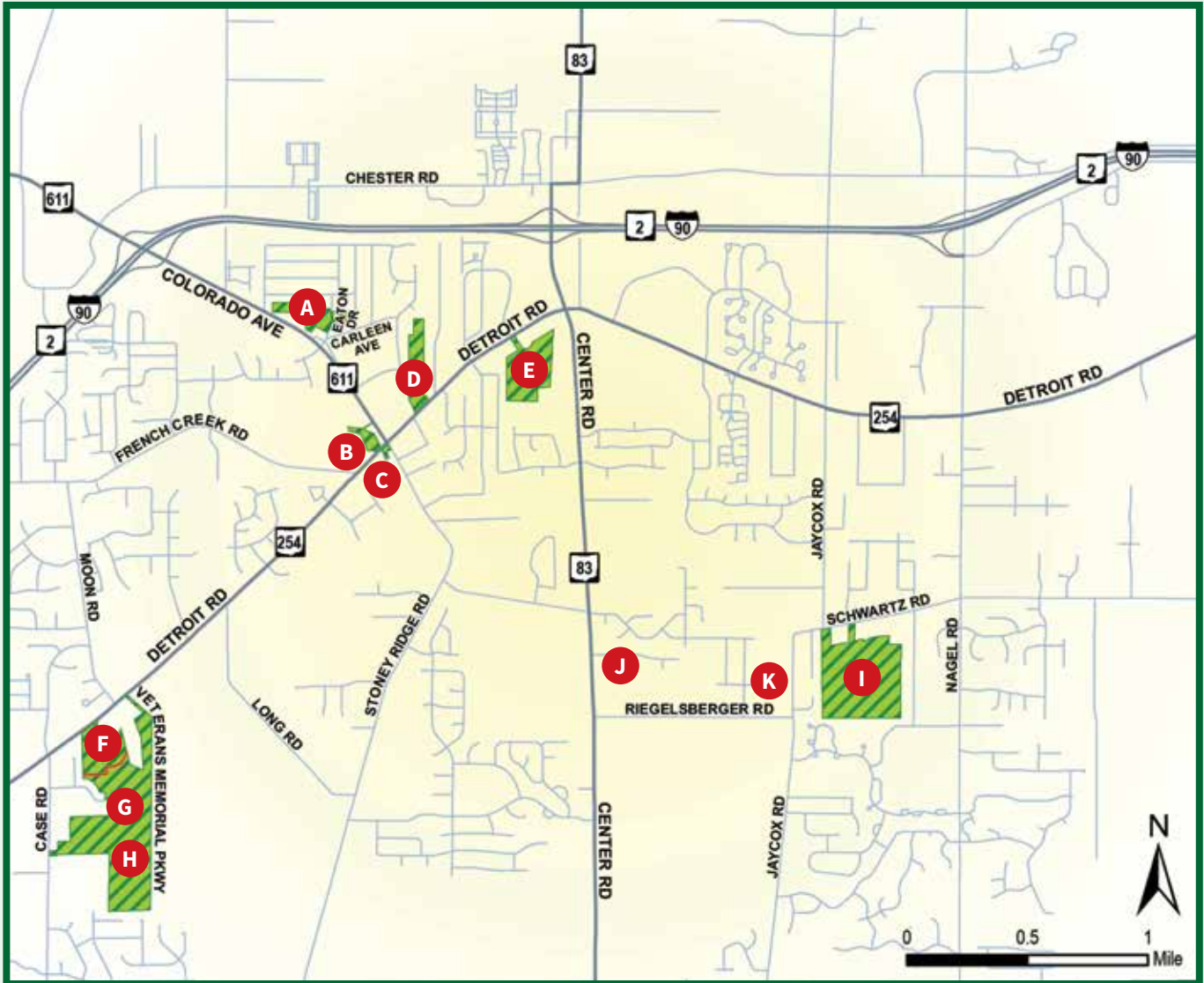
Avon Wetlands At Miller Nature Preserve

The 57-acre park is located at the corner of Riegelsberger and Jaycox roads.

The Avon Wetlands boasts two 10-foot multipurpose limestone trails that loop for a combined total of 1 mile. In the coming years, vegetation will be supplemented, and additional trails and connectivity are planned for the site as part of future phases of park development.

**For more information about Miller
Nature Preserve or the Avon Wetlands,
please visit loraincountymetroparks.com
or scan the QR code**





PARK MAP LEGEND

AVON CITY PARKS

- A** Northgate Park
- B** Avon Isle Park
- C** Heritage Square Park
- D** Little League Park
- E** Every Child's Playground
- F** Eagle Point Park
- G** Canning Family K-9 Park
- H** Veterans Memorial Park
- I** Schwartz Road Park

LORAIN COUNTY METRO PARKS

- J** Miller Nature Preserve
- K** Avon Wetlands At Miller Nature Preserve

All park hours are 8 a.m.-dusk



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AVON, OH 44011

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CLEVELAND, OH
PERMIT NO. 3492

*****ECRWSEDDM*****

Postal Customer
Avon, OH 44011

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www.allaboutavon.org
www.cityofavon.com



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Sponsored Article



9 Benefits of Hiking for All Seasons

“Whatever the season, hiking is a great way to enjoy our beautiful parks and get some exercise, plus it can boost your mood, improve your sleep and help ease many medical conditions,” says Rebecca Starck, MD, president of Cleveland Clinic Avon Hospital at Richard E. Jacobs Campus.

Hiking can help:

1. Reduce risk of heart disease.
2. Lower blood pressure.
3. Combat diabetes and control blood sugar levels.
4. Tackle obesity by helping burn calories.
5. Reduce anxiety and depression.
6. Improve sleep.
7. Build strong muscles and bones.
8. Relieve arthritis.
9. Develop lower body strength and better balance.

When you hit the trails, remember:

- Wear comfortable, properly fitting shoes and socks that keep your feet dry.
- Dress in layers.
- Stay hydrated.
- Know your surroundings. Let someone know where you’re going and when.

Visit ClevelandClinic.org/Avon to learn more about Avon Hospital or call 440.695.5000 to schedule an appointment.