



CLERMONT TOWN NEWS

SUMMER
2026

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR



Dan's RC Raceway brings dirt racing to Clermont

Dan Tohill has been racing R/C ("remote controlled") cars on and off since the late 1980s, mostly on carpet oval tracks. Being in the Army allowed him to check out many tracks all around the United States and Korea, but Tohill now lives in Indianapolis and this year started running an R/C racetrack in Clermont Lions Club Park. He is a Lions Club member and the club officially sanctioned the track.

His goal is to provide fun and a safe place to race that isn't hours away. He says it's an affordable, exciting, and accessible way to

experience motorsports while using your hands-on mechanical skills as well.

The dirt racetrack takes up a portion of the rodeo arena and is open to the public during park hours. Practices and races take place on Saturdays.

Tohill says the track has seen a mix of people up for friendly competition, relieving stress, and building social connections—without the massive financial risks of full-size auto racing.

You can find more details on Dan's R/C Raceway on Facebook.

Town street signs to be replaced

New stop signs and custom street name signs are being installed within town limits this summer. Like the roadside welcome signs and wayfinding markers that were installed last year, the new signage makes use of Clermont's new branding and an improved style of black posts that are more aesthetically pleasing and should be more durable than the U-channel supports of the past.

The signs are being installed in batches, starting from the north areas of town and continuing southward. The old street name signs that are on telephone poles will be removed after installations are completed, and these and other retired signs will be for sale at auction. Auction details will be shared on the town website and to subscribers of the town email list in due time. Subscribe at clermont.in.gov.

The signage efforts stem from the council's Quality of Life Plan adopted in 2022. It calls for signs and other projects to establish a unique identity for the town.



**Scan to read
Clermont's
Quality of Life Plan**



Keep tree, shrub overgrowth in check

Local ordinances require you to trim any trees or plants from your property that extend over sidewalks (8 feet height clearance)

or into the street (14 feet height). Keeping vegetation cut back helps maintain safe, clear public walkways and roadways.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Robey Park is 48 acres of nature and recreation, and many compare it to nearby Eagle Creek Park. While the Indianapolis Parks Department manages Robey Park too, it's the community that helps keep it friendly by tidying the trails, offering events, and facilitating scout projects.

Robin Janson grew up in Clermont, and when she and her husband needed volunteer hours for their master naturalist certification, they found Robey was the perfect place. They

joined the Friends of Robey Park and have been serving ever since.

Janson loves the forest, enjoys walking the paths, and spends hours birding and photographing. She says natural areas like Robey are essential for wildlife and plants, and that people need to be advocates and pay attention so they can continue to thrive.

Janson is excited for upgrades to the park in 2027, and asks people to join volunteer cleanups like the one at 9 a.m. November 14.



Clermont: A reflection of you

Mike Beam, Councillor

Clermont became a town in July 1903 when 24 residents voted to incorporate it. Now 1,400 residents strong, the town—and its people—are still at work making small-town life better for each other.

Indiana's constitution states that governments are established by the people "for their peace, safety, and well-being." These timeless ideals drive Clermont officials and employees every day.

Yet, as our Founding Father and fourth President James Madison once said, "To suppose any form of government will secure liberty or happiness without virtue in the people is a chimerical idea." In other words, it's up to everyone—you included—to make this place prosper. That goes for America, Indiana, and indeed Clermont.

Your town officials live in the same neighborhoods as you. From Log Run Drive to 30th Street, we experience what you experience, and care about the issues that affect you. But, to make

Clermont what it can be, more than a handful of dedicated public servants are needed.

There are countless facets to facilitating community life, so we rely on you to notice where things aren't right, consider thoughtful solutions, and connect peaceably to move toward improvements. When that doesn't happen, a you-sized hole opens up that nobody else can fill, and Clermont becomes less than it should be.

So, in the 250th year of the United States, and Clermont's 123rd*, take a moment to ask yourself how the town reflects your performance of your civic, virtuous responsibilities.

- Have your eyes been open to neighbors' needs and issues in town?
- Have you seen problems, but dismissed them, or only lamented about them online?
- Have you taken up the task yourself to address situations, even if the process is uncomfortable, prolonged, or requires teamwork?

Serving your neighbors looks

different for every individual, but one continual need is for capable, selfless residents to run for town office. To sustain "peace, safety, and well-being," Clermont needs residents willing to devote meaningful time and effort to serve on the small team that seeks to represent its neighbors' best interests. If that might be you, come to town meetings and get to know what public service looks like firsthand.

But if that's not you, and you aren't sure how you're needed, put on your shoes and step outside your front door, cross to the other side of the street, and turn around. Observe the people who are outside or passing by. Take notice of the trees and wildlife, the streets and sidewalks, your neighbors' homes and your home. After absorbing it all, ask yourself, "How can I make this better?"

Then go do it.

*Clermont (once Mechanicsburg) was settled by the 1830s, established in 1849, and incorporated in 1903.

Get in the holiday spirit

Holidays ... already? Yes, even though summer is in full swing, some of our most festive holidays will be here before you know it.

After seeing the wonderful decorations Clermont residents put up last year, the town council will offer prizes for the best overall Halloween and Christmas home displays to foster more

community pride and spirit.

The town will offer gift card prizes of \$100, \$50, and \$25 to the best-decorated properties within town limits. Clermont officials will be the judges and look for originality, kid-friendliness, festiveness, and creativity.

Check the town website and social media for details this fall.

From the clerk-treasurer's office

Larry Beiter, Clerk-Treasurer

The office has had a busy first half of 2026. Although I've been in this role for three years, there is always something new to learn.

Clerk Grace Berrios' efforts to track resident requests and issues have resulted in an education about the responsibilities and roles of Clermont, Indianapolis-Marion County, and companies such as Citizens Energy, AES, and CSX with respect to resolving concerns.

Eminent domain proceedings and related financial aspects of real estate acquisition have provided a crash course in local government financing, court procedures, and commercial real estate.

Last year's passing of Senate

Bill 1, and our subsequent work with municipal advisors and other government resources to avoid losing funding, has led to an increased understanding of income tax revenues and how they are allocated at a local level.

Unexpected police vehicle repairs and my error in transcribing a line in last year's budget submission required us to learn and execute the state's new-and-improved process for making additional budget appropriations.

These efforts have illustrated the uniqueness of Clermont as it operates in the larger City-County.

They also evidence the challenges that make the work enjoyable and rewarding when successful.

Fire coverage to continue without contract

The town council and Wayne Township agreed this spring for the township fire department to provide fire protection services for the entire town without the need for an annual contract. The township's property tax levy will

be adjusted under state provisions.

Residents should experience no change in service under the new arrangement, which goes into effect in 2027 and allows money in the town's public safety fund to be reallocated to other needs.

Join annual town parade and rodeo in September

Contact the Lions Club at 317-833-2435 to be in the town parade,

be a vendor, or sponsor the 71st rodeo on September 19.

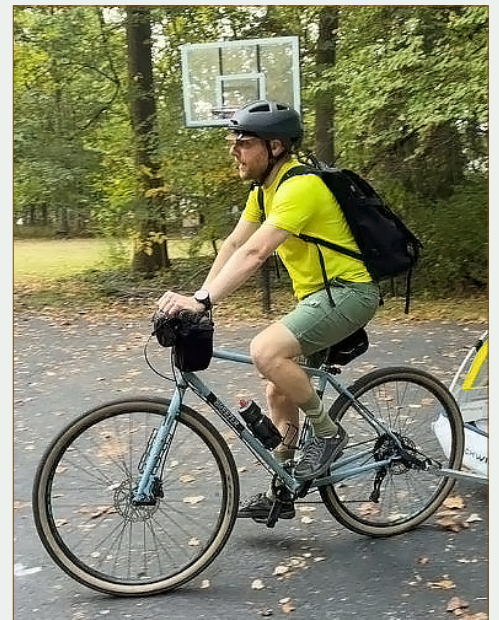
MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

If you notice a young man biking around the Clermont area, you might be seeing Sam Schilling, and he has a vision for Clermont: to create a Tansel Road Pathway.

Schilling is a native of the state of Missouri and married a woman from Indianapolis. Several years ago, when they were looking for a place to live, they settled into the Clermont area because of closeness to family, good schools, and friendly people. Schilling has a background in land management and firefighting, and he is also active in the Robey Elementary PTO and chairs its annual Bike to School Day.

The specific goal of Schilling's plan is to build a multiuse path along Tansel Road which would benefit walkers, bikers, scooters, wheelchairs, etc. It would also provide a safe route to Robey Elementary School. He has been working with the Clermont town council, Indianapolis Public Works, and a company called Health by Design.

Schilling estimates that it would take five years to complete.





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Council, police enhancing public safety

Clermont has taken several steps recently to improve public safety, with town police on the lookout for traffic violations in particular. Clermont officers have issued more than 60 tickets during the first six months of 2026.

Many of those stopped for traffic violations are local residents. Please do your part to keep your own neighborhoods safe: Slow down and obey all traffic laws.

SPEEDING

Excessive speeding on Tansel Road and in neighborhoods has led the town council to develop more traffic control measures, which may include more stop signs or raised crosswalks (also known as speed tables). After seeking public feedback, and the completion of a walk audit, Tansel Road at Kathleen Avenue was identified as the highest priority. The council has begun planning and gathering quotes for the work.

Other locations in town are also

under consideration, but Tansel Road is known to have higher levels of speeding, especially during rush hours. Clermont police data show speeds on Tansel Road by Lions Club Park often exceed the speed limit. In May, 66% of drivers exceeded the 25 mph limit there, and a daily average of 17% did so by more than 10 mph.

BUS STOPS

Clermont officers have increased patrols at school bus stops during the school year and have been citing drivers who pass the bus when its red lights are flashing and its stop arm is extended. The penalty costs offenders up to \$185 and two points on their driver's license, which may lead to higher auto insurance rates.

SCHOOL TRAFFIC

The town council and police are meeting again with MSD Wayne Township officials to find better solutions to Robey Elementary's traffic plan. Vehicle traffic backs

up onto Tansel Road for student pickup in the afternoons at the school. The town and district discussed a new plan last summer, but the situation did not alleviate over the past school year.

BLOCKING SIDEWALKS

Police continue to cite residents whose vehicles block sidewalks, which are meant for pedestrians.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the Clermont National Night Out event on August 4 at 6 p.m. at Lions Club Park. Plans are underway for this community and family-friendly event to return with food, raffles, games, and activities for children.

The event brings the police and community members together to take a stand against crime. While the town invests in public safety, it is often the shared awareness and knowledge of the public that makes the greatest difference.

ONGOING WAYS YOU CAN HELP YOUR TOWN

Town property damage If you have a door camera that captures property damage or questionable actions, send the video to clerk@clermont.in.gov. The town appreciates your contribution to keeping our community safe.

Storm drains If there's a storm drain near your property and it's clogged, please clear away debris. The town doesn't have street cleaners, so your help reduces flooding during heavy rain and prevents damage to the asphalt.

Handyman Town seeks a dependable, verified handyman. Email tlambard@clermont.in.gov.

Flag duty Volunteer needed to raise/lower the flag by town sign. Contact clerk@clermont.in.gov.



**Clermont
Tree Allies**
Rooted in Community

Our mission

Maintaining and enhancing Clermont's natural beauty by encouraging the planting, care, and preservation of trees in our public and private spaces.

COOLER NEIGHBORHOODS • CLEANER WATER • WILDLIFE HABITATS • STRONGER COMMUNITY

Trees make our community better

Meet the Clermont Tree Allies

The Clermont Tree Allies are a volunteer committee dedicated to planting, protecting, and preserving Clermont's trees. Working alongside the Town Council, we help improve our community through tree planting, education, and stewardship.



Join us

- ★ **Now:** Tree dedication program – nominations open
- ★ **Ongoing:** Volunteers needed! Help water newly planted trees and roadside flowers
- 📅 **August:** Annual Fall Tree sale – ordering begins
- 📅 **August 4:** Meet us at National Night Out
- 📅 **September 19:** See us at the parade, Fall festival, and rodeo

How we're growing a greener Clermont

More than 40+ trees

planted around Clermont through our efforts.

Community tree plantings

bringing neighbors together every Arbor Day.

Affordable tree sales

making it easier for our neighbors to help grow Clermont's canopy.

Tree City USA

recognized year after year for our commitment to urban forestry.

Hands-on education

helping residents learn how to plant and care for trees.

A stronger foundation

through the adoption of Clermont's tree ordinance.

Trees at work

They shade our streets

Trees naturally cool neighborhoods by providing shade, reducing temperatures, and lowering energy costs.

They boost our neighborhoods

Tree-lined streets are linked to higher property values, more walkable neighborhoods, and stronger communities.

They clean our air

Trees filter pollutants and produce oxygen, improving the air we breathe every day.

They provide wildlife support

A single mature tree provides food, shelter, and nesting habitats for our pollinators and other beneficial wildlife.

They manage stormwater

Tree roots absorb rainfall before it becomes runoff, helping reduce erosion, flooding, and pollution in local streams and waterways.

They leave a legacy

The trees we plant today will provide shade, cleaner air, and beauty for generations to come.



Learn more about our initiatives and how you can get involved by visiting:
in.gov/towns/clermont/government/tree-allies/



Help your trees thrive this Summer

Watering saves trees!

Water at the right time

Water early in the morning or during the evening so more moisture reaches the roots instead of evaporating in the summer heat.

How much water?

A good rule of thumb is 10 gallons of water for every inch of trunk diameter. Not sure? Simply check the soil about 2 inches deep—if it's dry, it's time to water.

Water slow and deep

A slow trickle from a hose is one of the best ways to water, although spray from a garden hose will certainly work. Deep watering encourages roots to grow deeper and stronger.

Consistency is key

Avoid letting soil become completely dry—or constantly soggy. Consistent moisture helps reduce stress and keeps trees healthier.

Choosing the right species

Native and drought-tolerant trees are naturally adapted to Indiana's climate and often require less watering once established.

Newly planted trees

Trees need the most attention during their first 2–3 years. Water regularly while they establish strong root systems.

Mulch is your best friend

Mulch is one of the easiest ways to improve tree health—but only when it's applied correctly.



DO: Donut Mulching

- ✓ Keep mulch 2–4 inches deep
- ✓ Leave 3–6" of space around the trunk
- ✓ Spread in a wide ring around the tree
- ✓ Refresh mulch as it naturally breaks down



DON'T: Volcano Mulching

- ✗ Don't pile mulch against the trunk
- ✗ Traps excess moisture against the bark
- ✗ Can lead to decay, pests, and disease
- ✗ Encourages unhealthy root growth

Remember the root flare

The root flare is where the trunk widens at the base before the roots spread into the ground.

Why it matters: A buried root flare can cause health problems over time. You should be able to see the natural flare at the base of the tree.

Ways to stay connected

- ✉ Subscribe to our free seasonal digital newsletter
- @ Email treeallies@clermont.in.gov
- 📍 Come to a meeting at the Clermont Town Hall: Every first Wednesday of the month at 6pm.

Keep learning

- Indiana DNR Community & Urban Forestry
- Purdue Extension
- Arbor Day Foundation
- Trees Are Good



Subscribe to our free digital newsletter

Seasonal updates, upcoming events, educational material and more!