

**THE EAST WALNUT HILLS ASSEMBLY
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 6TH, 2023 at 7:00 PM In-Person & on Zoom**

Agenda Item	Discussion	Vote
Welcome	Freeman Durham, President of the EWHA Board, called the Monthly meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Approximately 27 people attended the meeting in person. The Zoom link was not accessible. The quorum requirements were not satisfied.	None
1. Cincinnati Police Report	Officer Perry Locke discussed the crime statistics for August 2023 (posted on the website prior to the meeting and attached). Officer Locke highlighted Auto thefts as a central theme, with a continued issue with Hyundai in particular. Officer Perry Locke called out 1 Rape, 1 Robbery, 5 Theft from Automobile, 2 Personal Theft, and 4 Automobile Thefts which is down from earlier this summer. With Auto thefts still up, it's especially important to never leave car ignition key fobs in the vehicle or in the owner's garage. Officer Locke encouraged the community to lock or shut their garage doors while working in the yard as valuables inside may be left vulnerable. Officer Perry Locke: 513-979-4433; Email: perry.locke@cincinnati-oh.gov ; Supervisor, Sergeant Sellers: 513-979-4470	None
2. Bush Recreation Center Report	Vanessa Henderson presented. Fall programs at the Bush Recreation Center began on August 17 th , and participation is encouraged. These types of programs include Track & Field, Soccer, and Friday Pickle Ball. The center is offering pickleball coaching & classes on specific days. The Wellness Morning Walk is at 7a and is a 5K walk through the community, dates vary. Vanessa called out a request for if anyone in the neighborhood is looking for a position with the 911 Operators, as the city is currently hiring.	None
3. District 27 Representative Rachel Baker	State Representative Rachel Baker presented. Representative Baker introduced herself as the newly elected representative for our community in the State Assembly. After giving out her number and email address for ease of communication, Representative Baker went into a detailed report regarding the capital projects that have been funded as well as updates to school funding and the state budget at large. Two items of note were the new merit-based funding for High Schools to create a \$5K/yr college tuition payment for the top 5% of Ohio students to help retain the talent pool locally; Then Representative Baker went into detail about the Capital Projects the state is funding and how to submit an application. Discussion ensued.	
3. May Minutes	The June 7 Monthly Meeting Minutes were posted on the website. There being no quorum, approval of the minutes were deferred until next month's meeting.	None
4. Treasurer's Report.	Vince Accoriniti presented. Reviewing the July 2023 income and balance sheet, sent out prior to the meeting. No extra-ordinary income or expenses were incurred during this time period. Income was ~\$28K, with Expenses totaling ~\$6K; leaving the Assembly with an approximate \$22K increase during this period. Total cash on hand and total assets, including the outstanding promissory note, is approximately \$129K.	None
5. Events Committee Report	Christine Johnson presented. There is now Tai Chi and Yoga in Owl's Nest Park; dates vary, please see website & social media for details or reach out to Christine. The community trash clean up is Saturday October 7 th with more details to come regarding location, please stay tuned for this announcement. Owl's Nest Park is hosting JazzFest, its final concert event of the summer, on October 7 th as well. JazzFest is going to run from 2-6pm and is going to have something for each family member or individual to enjoy. On Wednesday September 13 th , the unique activity of Linoleum black carving and print ink to paper is happening in our community.	None

6. Parking	Jeff Butterbaugh presented. A breakdown of the ~120 spots that the EWHA manages and how they're partitioned between Woodburn Ave & Madison Road. The Assembly's transition of our parking vendor to Premium Parking has happened and it's encouraged for all Permit holders to go through the new Premium Parking software and no longer through Passport. For any questions regarding permits or the changes in the system, please contact Jeff Butterbaugh via email.	None
7. Farmer's Market	Deb Dereshkevich presented. Reminded everyone of the market hours and dates. Fridays 3:30p – 7p through October	None
8. Pocket Park	Jinny Berten Presented. The pocket park fountain has been flowing for three consecutive weeks thanks to a CMHA hired landscaper whose work is being assisted by Suzanne Fischer. CMHA has also committed to removing the crumbling benches and replacing them to ensure working assets in the bus stop and gazebo. The Remus & Romulus statue has been made and is waiting delivery, to then be installed where the original stood in Eden Park.	None
11 Development Committee	John McHugh presented. Solstice has finally opened and has been quite full most evenings during the summer. Supporting local restaurants is encouraged. The committee attended the grand opening of the Woodburn Exchange, and the building is beautifully finished. As of now the retail space has not been finalized. Two new active development projects are happening in our community; 1. Corner of Francis Lane and Kemper Lane is expected to break ground in the beginning of 2024; 2. Onxy + East is in the final stages of taking site control over the Woodburn Avenue lots and is seeking to begin this month. The final work has been completed on the Purcell Marian stadium.	None
12. Scarborough Woods	Cindy Star presented. At 1835 Wold Avenue there is an underutilized park named Scarborough woods, approximately 6.5 acres of trails and naturally rich biodiversity. The park is managed by the Park Board. We as a community are encouraged to go and spend time in this wonderful neighborhood asset. The park has become overrun with invasive plants and Cindy is seeking volunteers to come and help with the work of removal. Please go to PreserveScarboroughWoods.org to find out more.	None
13. Other Business	Anna Albin introduced herself as an endorsed Democrat running for Cincinnati City Council. She currently sits on the Madisonville Community Council and has a background in activism around gun violence. Freeman Durham noted that as a 501(c)(3) we cannot endorse political candidates or give one candidate special time, and encouraged her to come in October to our Candidates Night with the Walnut Hills Area Council if she wished to make a broader statement of her positions and reasons for running.	None
Adjournment	There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.	

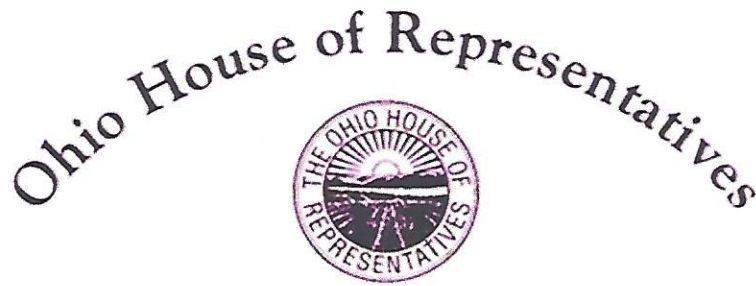
Attachments: [Agenda](#), [Police EWH Crime Statistics](#), [Representative Rachel Baker's Report](#), [July Treasurer's Report](#), and [Restoration of Scarborough Woods One Sheet](#)

THE NEXT EWHA ASSEMBLY MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE ON OCTOBER 4TH AT 7:00 P.M. This will take place at the St. Francis de Sales School cafeteria.

Submitted by Ben Strohm, Secretary
 Become a voting member of the Assembly by going to <https://eastwalnuthills.org> and signing up.

Columbus Office

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Committees:

Aviation and Aerospace, Ranking Member
Behavioral Health
Health Provider Services
Public Health Policy
Technology and Innovation

Rachel Baker
State Representative

Capital Budget Briefing

General Information:

- Request minimum = approximately \$5,000; Request maximum = approximately \$1M-\$5M
- Capital funding is given to projects that involve the acquisition, construction, improvement, and related equipping demonstrating state benefit for:
 - Higher Education
 - Mental Health
 - Parks and Recreation
 - Conservation
 - Cultural or Sports Facilities
- Some grants require a local match (e.g. \$1 local, state will give \$2)

Steps:

1. Identify a project and project sponsor (usually a public entity or nonprofit organization; can be private entity in "good standing" with the state)
 - a. Show local support, community involvement, local investment for the project
 - b. Project cannot be used to cover employee salaries, benefits, or operational funds
2. Request funding by submitting request to State Representative or State Senator
 - a. You can invite lawmakers to the project site to see the project and request
3. Lawmakers submit request to finance chairmen, likely due in December 2023
 - a. Leadership reviews requests and finalizes recommendations to create line-item appropriations with specific dollar amounts
4. Budget must be passed by June 2024
5. Budget signed by the Governor and becomes effective in 90 days
6. Submit documentation to corresponding state agency that the project is assigned to ensure that the project meets requirements and execute a legal agreement
7. Information submitted to the Office of Budget and Management for review, then is submitted to the State Controlling Board or Agency Director for approval
8. Project sponsor submits payment requests to the state agency for reimbursement of expenses covered by the approved funds

Examples of Funded Projects:

- \$400,000 for a riverfront landing dock
- \$1M to renovate 28-acre school campus
- \$100,000 to renovate Hotel McArthur
- \$450,000 to install elevators and ADA compliant walkways at the Ohio State Reformatory
- \$750,000 for construction of new wing for more class space, art blowing studio, and to install glass panels in outdoor pavilion at the Mansfield Art Center
- \$1.3M for full renovation of Ashland Theater

Helpful Links:

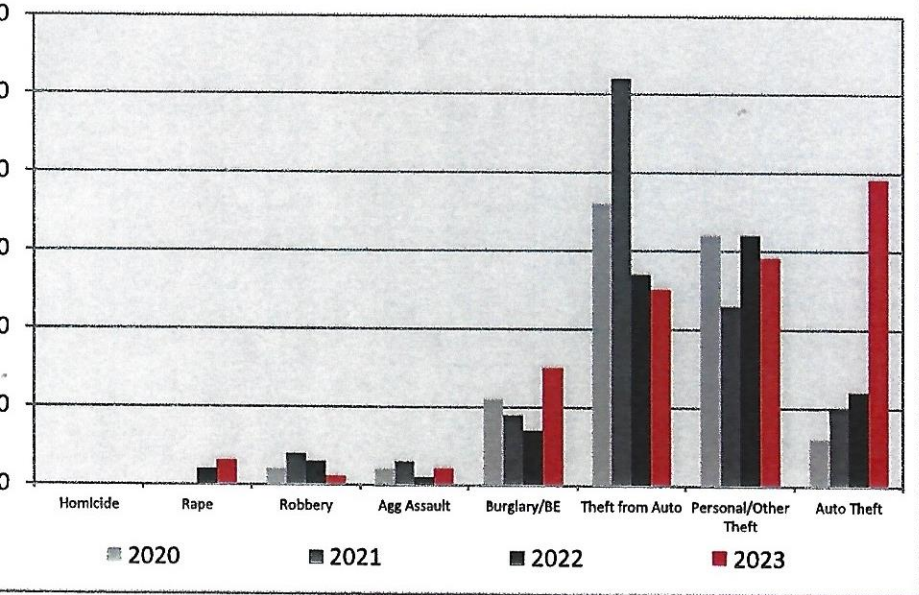
- <https://ofcc.ohio.gov/grants>
 - The Ohio Facilities Construction Commission, who oversees capital improvement funds, has more information regarding program eligibility as well as links to a grant checklist, project approval guidelines, and submittal form.

East Walnut Hills Neighborhood Report

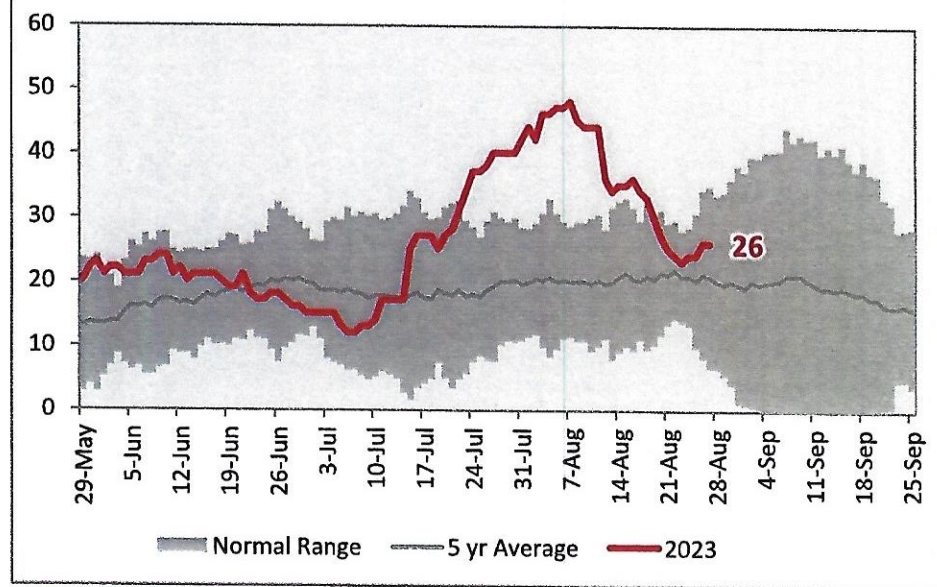
East Walnut Hills	Year-to-Date: 28-Aug						
	2020	2021	2022	Avg: 2020-22	2023	% Change: Avg / 23	% Change: 2022 / 2023
Part 1 Crime							
Homicide	0	0	0	0.0	0	N/C	N/C
Rape	0	0	2	0.7	3	350.0%	50.0%
Robbery	2	4	3	3.0	1	-66.7%	-66.7%
Agg Assault	2	3	1	2.0	2	N/C	100.0%
Total P1 Violent Crime	4	7	6	5.7	6	5.9%	N/C
Burglary/BE	11	9	7	9.0	15	66.7%	114.3%
Theft from Auto	36	52	27	38.3	25	-34.8%	-7.4%
Personal/Other Theft	32	23	32	29.0	29	N/C	-9.4%
Auto Theft	6	10	12	9.3	39	317.9%	225.0%
Total P1 Property Crime	85	94	78	85.7	108	26.1%	38.5%
Total P1 Crime	89	101	84	91.3	114	24.8%	35.7%

East Walnut Hills	Rolling 28 ending: 8/28/2023						
	Period 4	Period 3	Period 2	Period 1	% Change:		
	05/09/23 - 6/5/23	06/06/23 - 7/3/23	07/04/23 - 7/31/23	08/01/23 - 8/28/23	P3-P1	P2-P1	
Part 1 Crime							
Homicide	0	0	0	0	N/C	N/C	
Rape	0	0	0	2	↑ 2	↑ 2	
Robbery	0	0	0	1	↑ 1	↑ 1	
Agg Assault	0	0	1	0	N/C	↓ 1	
Total P1 Violent Crime	0	0	1	3	↑ 3	200.0%	
Burglary/BE	1	4	5	0	↓ 4	↓ 5	
Theft from Auto	3	1	6	5	400.0%	-16.7%	
Personal/Other Theft	3	2	7	2	N/C	-71.4%	
Auto Theft	10	2	10	4	100.0%	-60.0%	
Total P1 Property Crime	17	9	28	11	22.2%	-60.7%	
Total P1 Crime	17	9	29	14	55.6%	-51.7%	

Part One Reported Offenses: 2020-2023

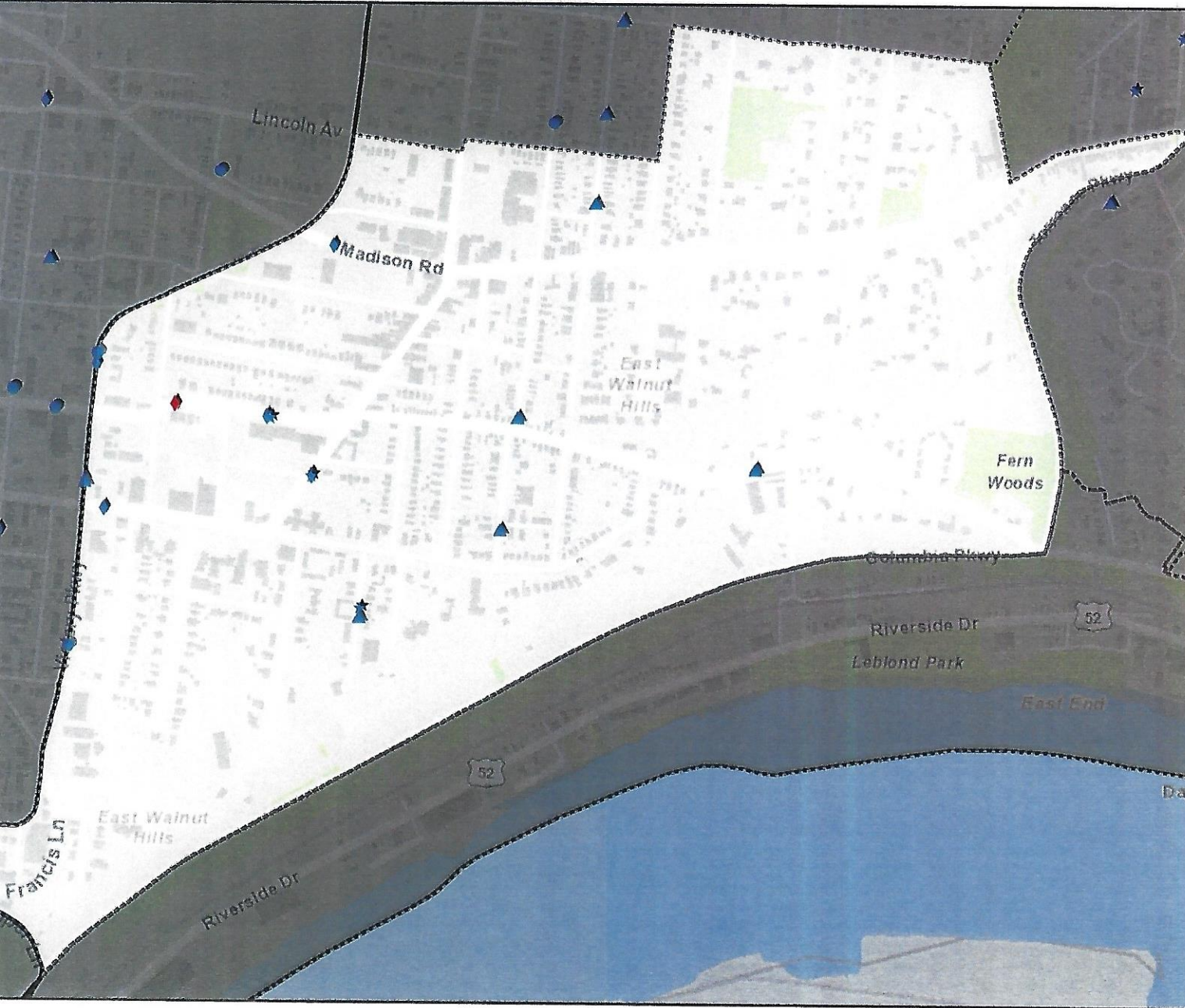


Rolling 28 Day Reported Offenses

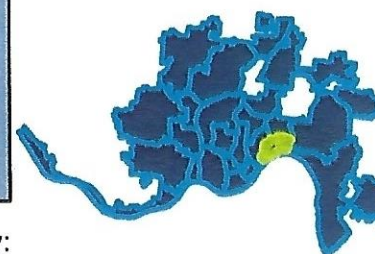
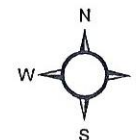


EAST WALNUT HILLS Neighborhood Crime Report: 3 DAY REPORTING PERIOD

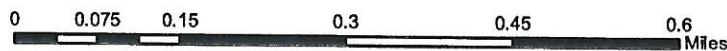
Information shown here are preliminary and subject to change



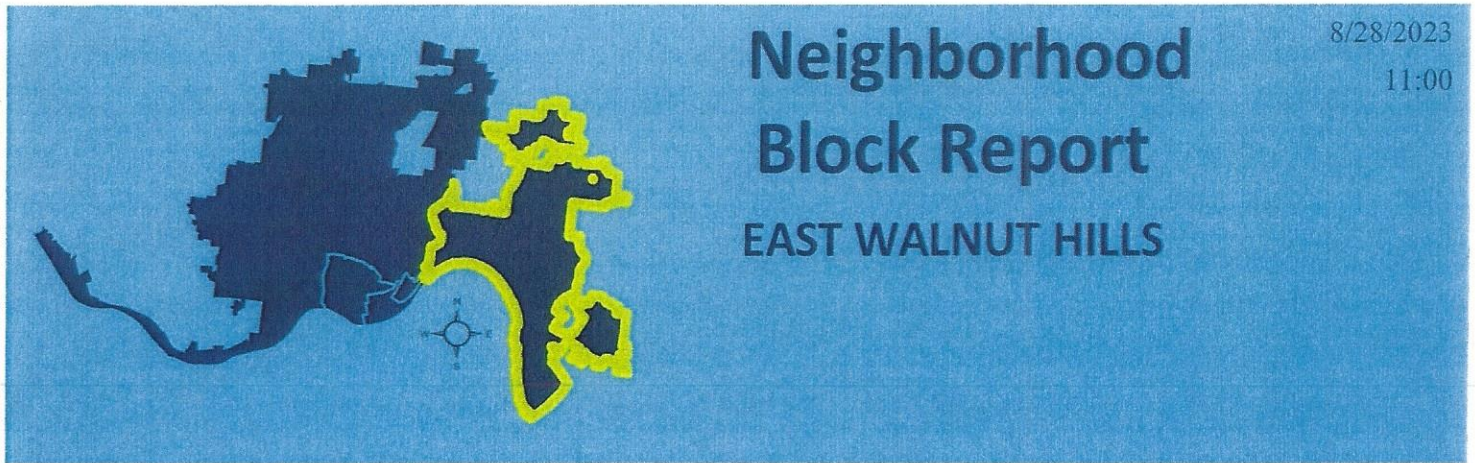
- Neighborhoods
- Districts
- Violent Crimes**
 - Homicide
 - Rape
 - Robbery
 - Agg Assault
- Property Crimes**
 - Burglary/BE
 - Theft from Auto
 - Auto Theft
 - Personal/Other Theft



prepared on: 8/28/2023



Prepared by:
Crime Analysis & Problem Solving



Auto Theft

Incident No	Offense	Date of Offense	Street Block
239022360	Theft	8/5/2023 12:30:00 AM	26XX HACKBERRY ST
239023474	Theft	8/14/2023 8:38:00 AM	29XX CLEINVIEW AV
239022584	Theft	8/7/2023 8:35:05 AM	18XX WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT RD
239022133	Theft	8/3/2023 7:29:00 AM	25XX HACKBERRY ST

Burglary/BE

Incident No	Offense	Date of Offense	Street Block
239021937	Breaking and Entering	8/1/2023 2:30:00 AM	25XX WOODBURN AV

Incident No	Offense	Date of Offense	Street Block
239021744	Burglary	7/31/2023 3:38:00 AM	13XX WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT RD

Incident No	Offense	Date of Offense	Street Block
239021910	Burglary	8/1/2023 9:29:00 AM	24XX SALUTARIS AV

Part 2 Offense

Incident No	Offense	Date of Offense	Street Block
239022267	Aggravated Menacing	8/4/2023 8:45:00 AM	15XX MADISON RD

Incident No	Offense	Date of Offense	Street Block
239022119	Assault	8/3/2023 3:26:00 AM	25XX CLEINVIEW AV

Incident No	Offense	Date of Offense	Street Block
239024326	Assault	8/21/2023 7:35:00 AM	25XX HACKBERRY ST

Incident No	Offense	Date of Offense	Street Block
239023822	Assault	8/16/2023 7:15:00 PM	25XX HACKBERRY ST

Incident No	Offense	Date of Offense	Street Block
239024976	Criminal Damaging/Endangering	8/26/2023 1:50:00 PM	13XX WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT RD

Incident No	Offense	Date of Offense	Street Block
239022119	Criminal Damaging/Endangering	8/3/2023 3:26:00 AM	25XX CLEINVIEW AV

Incident No	Offense	Date of Offense	Street Block
239022665	Criminal Mischief	8/7/2023 5:21:04 PM	18XX KEYS CRESCENT ST

Incident No	Offense	Date of Offense	Street Block
239022370	Extortion	8/5/2023 12:07:00 AM	26XX WOODBURN AV

Incident No	Offense	Date of Offense	Street Block
239023995	Telephone Harassment	8/18/2023 11:09:02 AM	16XX MADISON RD

Personal/Other Theft

Incident No	Offense	Date of Offense	Street Block
239022119		8/3/2023 3:26:00 AM	25XX CLEINVIEW AV

Incident No	Offense	Date of Offense	Street Block
239021768	Theft	7/31/2023 9:48:00 AM	26XX VICTORY PY

Rape

Incident No	Offense	Date of Offense	Street Block
239024900	Rape	8/24/2023 1:00:00 PM	13XX WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT RD

Incident No	Offense	Date of Offense	Street Block
239024976	Rape	8/26/2023 1:50:00 PM	13XX WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT RD

Robbery

Incident No	Offense	Date of Offense	Street Block
239024728	Robbery	8/24/2023 11:04:26 AM	XX WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT RD

Theft from Auto

Incident No	Offense	Date of Offense	Street Block
239C000559	Theft	8/20/2023 1:30:32 PM	26XX VICTORY PY

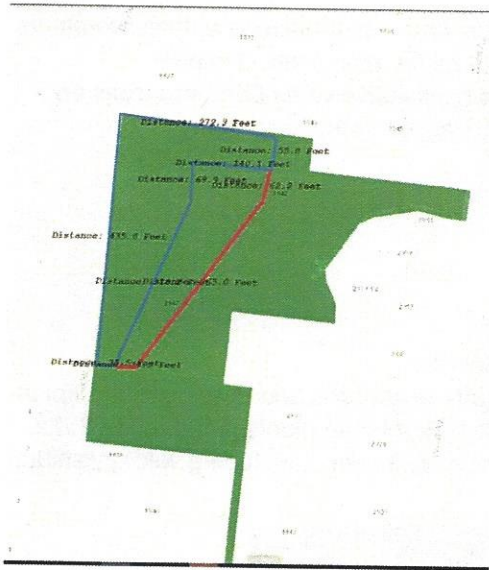
Incident No	Offense	Date of Offense	Street Block
239C000536	Theft	8/7/2023 9:09:08 AM	15XX MADISON RD

Incident No	Offense	Date of Offense	Street Block
239024737	Theft	8/24/2023 12:13:00 PM	13XX WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT RD

Incident No	Offense	Date of Offense	Street Block
239022002	Theft	8/2/2023 6:40:00 AM	12XX E MCMILLAN ST

Incident No	Offense	Date of Offense	Street Block
239C000523	Theft	7/31/2023 9:26:26 AM	25XX WOODBURN AV

Restoration & Rebirth of Scarborough Woods



Scarborough Woods is a 6.5-acre nature preserve in East Walnut Hills that is bordered by Wold Avenue, Dexter Place, and homes on Dexter Avenue and Madison Road. The land was donated by Aletheia Pattison to the **Cincinnati Board of Park Commissioners** in 1967. Aletheia lived on Dexter Place and was the daughter of John W. Pattison, Ohio's 43rd governor. She specified that the property "will be used only for a wildlife preserve, bird sanctuary, arboretum, or some other comparable purpose."

Over time, Scarborough Woods became overrun with invasive plants, including amur honeysuckle (introduced into southern Ohio in the late 1950s), wintercreeper (euonymus), porcelain berry, and English ivy. Many native wildflowers and understory trees were crowded out. Some areas of the "woods" no longer feature any mature trees.

Today, a handful of East Walnut Hills neighbors are working with Cincinnati Parks conservationists to restore the preserve by removing invasive plants and planting tree saplings and native wildflowers where possible. They established Preserve Scarborough Woods, Inc., as an Ohio 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation, which in 2022 became an official member of the Cincinnati Parks Advisory Council (CPAC).

Cincinnati Parks recently created a single-loop trail through the park, whose entrance is currently unmarked. If you would like a guided tour of the preserve, or if you would like to volunteer at an upcoming workday, please contact Cindy Starr at cindystarr@protonmail.com.

To learn more about Scarborough Woods' mission, history and role as a valuable urban greenspace, please visit <https://preservescarboroughwoods.org>.



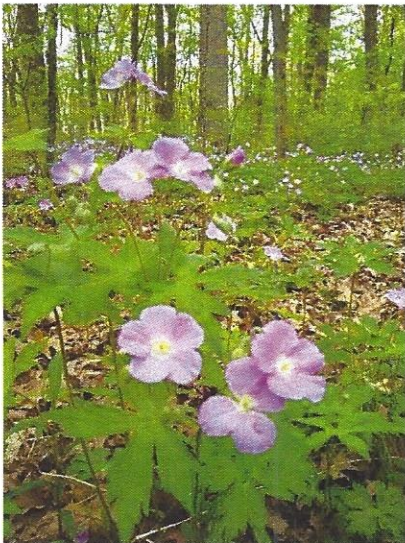
Native trees

that have survived in Scarborough Woods include sweetgum, black gum, shumard oak, white oak, sycamore, beech, hickory, buckeye, and pawpaw (shown at left).



Invasive plants

that we are removing include bush honeysuckle, porcelain berry vine (pictured at left), English ivy, euonymus, and lesser celandine. Invasive plants crowd out native plants and diminish biodiversity. Invasive vines bore into trees and gradually degrade the tree canopy.



Native shrubs and plants

that we have planted include dogwoods and deer-resistant spice bush (below). We planted 165 of these plants in the fall of 2022. We have also planted native wildflowers, including wild geranium (at left).



Environmental benefits for East Walnut Hills and beyond

- Cleaner air
- Rainwater absorption
- CO2 absorption
- Biodiversity
- Pollinators
- Nesting habitat

Our experts

Drew Goebel, Conservation Technician / Cincinnati Park Board

Greg Torres, Horticulturist / Cincinnati Park Board

Our Board of Directors

Rick Boydston, Mark Johnson, Cindy Starr