



# APRIL 2025

## City of Walton Newsletter



**UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS**  
**APRIL 1, 2025**  
**CAUCUS 6:30PM**  
**APRIL 8, 2025**  
**EVENTS PLANNING 6:15PM**  
**COUNCIL MEETING 7PM**

### **CITIZEN'S SPOTLIGHT**

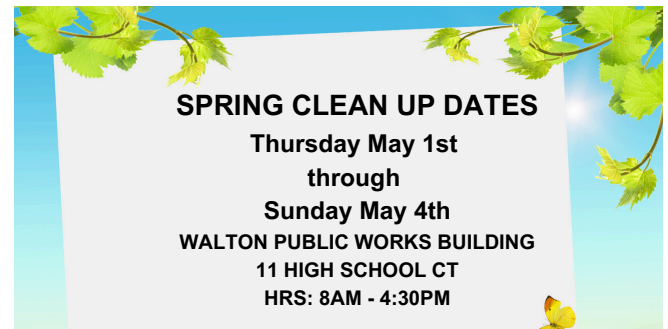
#### **Justin Wall**

Justin recently cleaned up an area of Walton Park that had quite a bit of trash. Justin just recently moved to Walton, he has been walking the trails at Walton Park and been wanting to clean this area for quite some time. The City of Walton thanks Justin for taking time to beautify our city and our park.



#### **OWENS' LAKE GRAND OPENING**

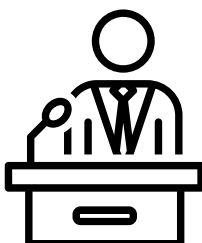
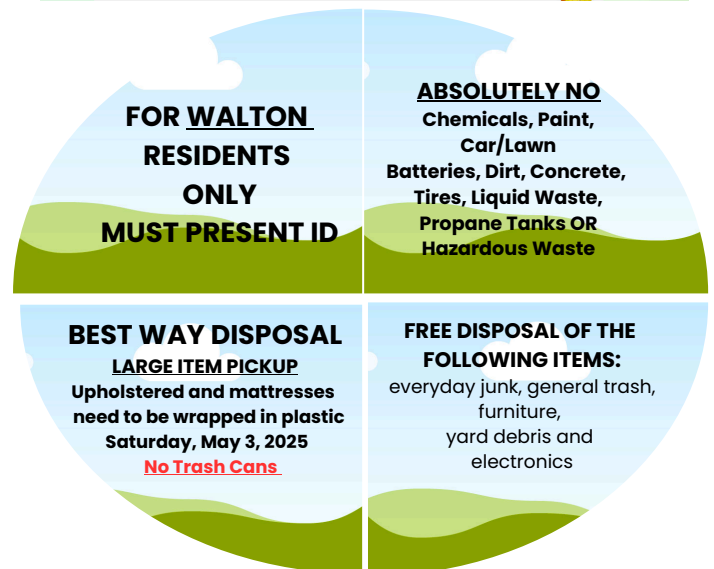
The City of Walton will hold it's grand opening to the Owens' Lake Park on April 26, 2025 beginning at noon. Look for additional updates on our website.



### **EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT**

#### **TOM RYAN**

During routine maintenance at Walton City Park, it was discovered, one of the flowers on the sprinklers was broken. This was going to cost the city a substantial amount of money to replace. Tom is always trying to think outside the box on things and came up with the idea of the city buying the material and fabricating their own. The public works men come together and was able to finalize this idea.



#### **MAYOR'S UPDATE**

The Walton Senior Center will remain open through the upcoming management transition. We look forward to expanding services and the days of operations.

### Introducing the Walton-Verona Advantage: Preparing Students for the Future

At Walton-Verona Independent Schools, we are committed to providing an exceptional education that prepares our students not only for academic success but also for life beyond the classroom. As our world continues to change at an unprecedented pace, we recognize the need to equip our students with the skills, mindsets, and experiences necessary to thrive in an evolving economy and workforce. That's why we are excited to introduce the Walton-Verona Advantage—a forward-thinking initiative designed to ensure that every student graduates prepared for success in college, career, and life.

What is the Walton-Verona Advantage?

The Walton-Verona Advantage is our district's vision for student success, built around a Portrait of a Learner that outlines the essential skills and competencies our students need to be future-ready. This initiative focuses on more than just test scores; it emphasizes critical thinking, problem-solving, collaboration, adaptability, and personal responsibility—qualities that will serve our students well in any path they choose.

This multi-year effort aligns with the Kentucky United We Learn Council's work to redesign the state's school accountability model, shifting the focus from standardized testing alone to a more holistic approach to student achievement. Our goal is to ensure that Walton-Verona students have access to meaningful learning experiences that will prepare them to meet the challenges and opportunities of the future.

Implementation and Timeline

The Walton-Verona Advantage will roll out in phases to ensure thoughtful and effective implementation. After providing our staff time and training to integrate the competencies of the Walton-Verona Advantage into their daily instruction, students will ultimately participate in exhibitions of learning, where they will showcase their knowledge, skills, and growth in real-world applications. These exhibitions will serve as milestones for student progress and provide valuable opportunities for self-reflection and feedback.

Then, in future years we will expand this initiative to develop a more robust framework that further integrates personalized learning experiences, project-based assessments, and community partnerships. This phased approach allows us time to refine and improve the process while ensuring that all students benefit from this transformative model of education.

A Commitment to Lifelong Success

At the heart of the Walton-Verona Advantage is our unwavering commitment to our students' success. We believe that preparing students for the future means providing them with opportunities to apply their learning in meaningful ways, develop a strong sense of self, and cultivate the confidence to navigate an increasingly complex world.

Through this initiative, Walton-Verona students will leave our schools not only with strong academic foundations but also with the ability to think critically, solve problems creatively, and engage effectively in their communities. Whether they pursue higher education, enter the workforce, or embark on entrepreneurial endeavors, they will do so with the skills and experiences that give them a competitive advantage.

Partnering with Our Community

The success of the Walton-Verona Advantage depends on strong collaboration between our schools, families, and community partners. We invite parents, businesses, and local organizations to join us in shaping and supporting this vision for the future.

Together, we can ensure that every Walton-Verona student has the tools they need to succeed in an ever-changing world.

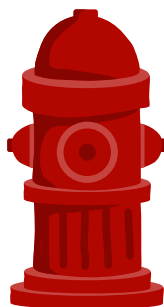
Stay tuned for more updates as we embark on this exciting journey. We look forward to working together to provide our students with the Walton-Verona Advantage—a foundation for lifelong learning and success.



## GAINES TAVERN HISTORY CENTER UPCOMING EVENTS

**May 3, 2025** - Outdoor Spring Cleanup  
- contact City Hall if you are interested in volunteering.

**May 13, 2025** - Senior Tea (more details to come soon)



**Citizens please be aware with warmer weather here, the fire department will be testing hydrants throughout the city, you may experience low water pressure at some point. Business owners the fire department is going around and doing building inspections as well. If you have any questions, please contact Walton Fire Department directly.**

## **CODE ENFORCEMENT 101**

THE ROLE AND IMPORTANCE OF CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS:

A code enforcement officer is a sworn-in inspector and investigator employed by the city and specializes in the prevention, detection, and enforcement of violations of city ordinances and property maintenance code. The officer ensures that businesses and people are in compliance with public health, safety, public works, building standards, and more. In short, code enforcement protects the community by regulating entities that are breaking property maintenance code and city ordinances. For example, on a daily basis, a code enforcement officer could find themselves performing inspections, carrying out routine duties in support of a city's ordinances International Property Maintenance Code, and responding to citizen inquiries or complaints. Code enforcement officers are a necessity to every single city and county jurisdiction.

One of the biggest myths about code enforcement officers is that we strive to hand out as many citations as possible to make money for the city. This couldn't be further from the truth. The first action is usually a written notice of violation or a simple conversation, allowing a reasonable amount of time to make corrections before a citation is issued. Another myth you may have heard is that code enforcement officers pick and choose the complaints they investigate. Every single complaint is investigated whether driving past the location in question or making personal contact, a record is kept of the investigation, and the investigation's outcome is documented to ensure all items are inspected.

Common code violations we see and what we need YOU to correct:

1. Tall grass. City Ordinance doesn't allow overgrowth whatsoever and grass must be kept 8 inches or lower.
2. Vehicles parked in grass, on sidewalks, in cul-de-sacs, parked the wrong direction on the streets, or parked in no parking areas and parking in marked fire lanes.
3. In-operable or un-registered vehicles parked on city streets or in driveways. Also, vehicles in a state of major repair or dis-repair in driveways, city streets or on property.
4. RVs, travel trailers, boats or other trailers parked in driveways or on city streets. Some trailers depending on size can be parked behind the front line of a home or to the rear on a hard surface.
5. Mold covered siding.
6. Accumulation of trash and other household items outside the home, on porches and in driveways.
7. Broken windows, missing siding, damaged soffits and properties in disrepair.
8. Chickens. No roosters are permitted and you may have only 6 hens kept inside a coop in the backyard.

Together we can make Walton the beautiful city we know it can be. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your code enforcement officer, Robert McDonald, at 859-419-8205 or email at [rmcdonald@cityofwalton.org](mailto:rmcdonald@cityofwalton.org)

