

Chapter 2 Background

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1918

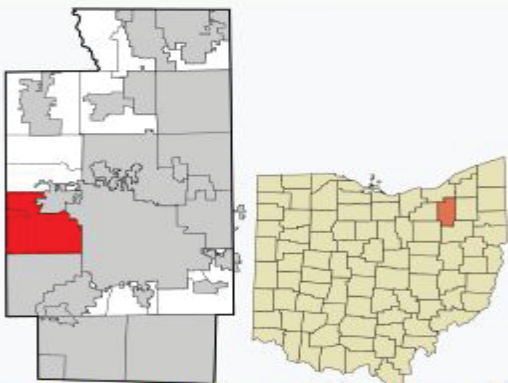


General Information

Copley Township is a political subdivision in Summit County, Ohio, located west of the City of Akron, south of Bath Township and the City of Fairlawn, north of the City of Norton, and east of Sharon Township, Medina County. It is a diverse residential community with agricultural, retail, industrial and commercial areas.

Copley Township, Summit County, Ohio

Township



Location in Summit County and the state of Ohio.

Coordinates: 41°6'N 81°38'W

History

Copley Township was part of the Western Reserve Territory. In 1819, the area, which had been known as "Township 2 range 12", earlier known as Greenfield, was named Copley. Copley has long included Montrose, then known as Ellis Corners or Latta's Corners, with a long history of business. The Copley Square area began as a farmers market.

The terrain and geology of Copley Township is primarily a Sharon conglomerate laid down some 231 million years ago by glaciers that repeatedly moved into and receded from the area. Some of the deposits appear to be as recent as 10,000 years ago. Copley swamps with their rich muck soil have provided abundant nurture for crops of grain, vegetables and fruit as well as well as for livestock. A high glacial moraine running east and west through the area is a watershed sending some waters north to the Great Lakes while the rest flows south to the Ohio and Mississippi rivers.

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Significant Dates in the History of Copley Township

1655

According to legend, battle of Fort Island between Erie and Iroquois Indian tribes.

1807

(May 28) Gardiner Greene received title to 16,531 acres of land for \$26,087 from the Connecticut Land Company.

1655

1807

1814

1814

(August 8) Jonah Turner purchased 321 acres in the Stony Ridge area along State Route 18, becoming Copley's first permanent resident.

1819

1819

(July 15) Citizens of Copley Township met and elected the first officers to govern the newly created area.

1820

1820

First industry in area - distillery and sawmill.

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Significant Dates in the History of Copley Township

1831

(August 31) "Elizabeth and Gardiner Greene do hereby remise, release and forever quit claim unto the said citizens of the Township of Copley and their successors, heirs and assigns, all my right and title of dower in and to the above described premises. Said premises being two acres of land now Copley Circle."

1837

Stage coach service offered to Copley for trips from Massillon to Cleveland.

1831

1837

1840

1840

Copley Township became a part of Summit County.

1843

1843

Copley's first church, "First Congregational Society of Copley Township"...now the site of Copley Methodist Church.

1891

1891

Train service to Copley begins. Copley Depot built.

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Significant Dates in the History of Copley Township

1902

Copley's first Town Hall is established at the southeast corner of Copley Square. This building still stands today.

1904

Copley's first centralized school established at the site of the current Town Hall.

1902

1904

1959

1959

Northeastern section of Township voted to separate and form the Village of Fairlawn within the Township. Village of Fairlawn became a city and seceded from Copley Township in 1971.

**1970 &
1972**

1970 & 1972

1970 - Police District Formed.
1972 - Fire District Formed.

1974

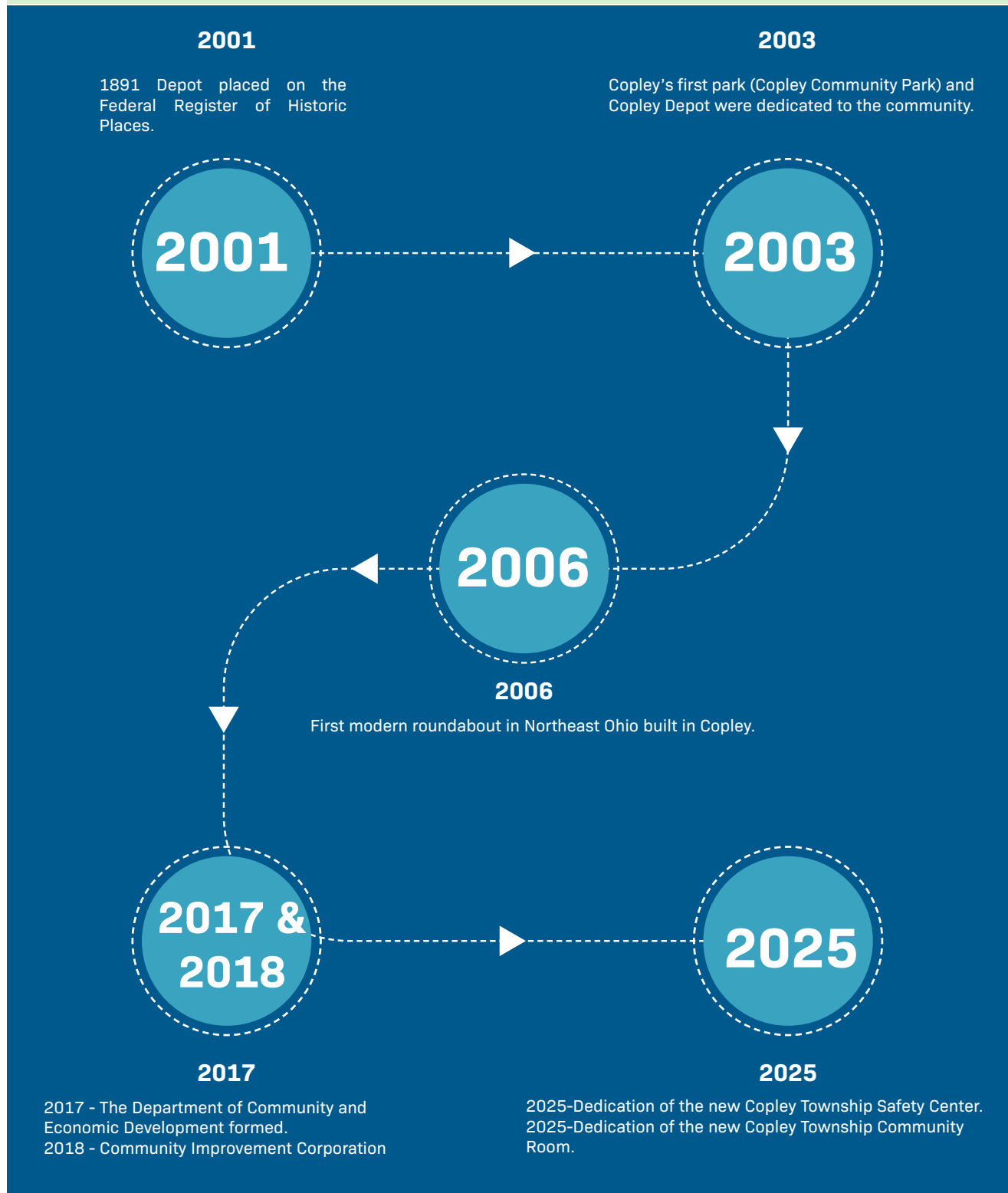
1974

Copley Historical Society founded and incorporated.

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Significant Dates in the History of Copley Township



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Demographics/Population Trends and Characteristics

✓✓ Demographic Information helps decision makers understand:

- The number of people living in a community.
- The general make-up of the population, e.g., age, race, in other words, who is being served by the plan;
- The number of households and types of housing; and
- Trends in population numbers and composition.

In turn, these help decision makers understand the nature of the demands and needs for land use, transportation, public services, utilities, and economic development.

✓✓ Total Households

According to the 2020 Decennial Census Copley Township has a total population of 18,403 and 7,773 households

✓✓ Ethnicity and Age

The 2023 American Community Survey (ACS) reported, that the Township is comprised of a population which is 75% White, 9% Black or African American; 7% Asian, 5% Two or More Races and 2% Hispanic or Latino. The median age for the Township is 43.1 years. This is slightly higher than for Summit County as a whole which has a median age of 41.3 years.

Copley Township Population Trends

Population	Copley Township	Summit County
2009	14,027	544,221
2017	17,305	541,318
2020	18,403	540,428
Percent Change 2009 to 2020	23%	-0.7%

Source: US Census Bureau-2017 American Community Survey (ACS) & 2020 Decennial Census

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Summit County New Housing Starts 2015-2024										
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Bath	25	16	6	10	14	19	11	15	8	8
Barberton	13	9	3	2	34	41	45	52	38	49
Copley	46	72	76	84	28	128	74	26	8	9
Fairlawn	-	-	-	-	4	3	1	38	33	36
Norton	7	5	6	8	3	7	41	75	78	92

Source: Department of Planning/Zoning from individual cities.

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Age Characteristics of Summit County + Copley Township

	Copley Township 2023	Summit County 2023	Copley Township 2017	Summit County 2017
Median Age	43.1	41.3	42.5	40.8
Under 20	4437	123,797	4169	129,635
20-34	2884	103,832	2780	104,501
35-49	3527	97,054	3533	99,795
50-64	3868	111,291	3782	117,587
65+	3601	102,113	3041	89,800

Source: US Census Bureau - 2017 & 2023 ACS 5-Year Estimates

Educational Attainment

	Copley Township 2023	Summit County 2023
Less than High School	3%	6%
High School Graduate	18%	28%
Some College	13%	20%
Associate's Degree	7%	8%
Bachelor's Degree	34%	24%
Post Graduate	25%	14%

Source: US Census Bureau and 2023 ACS

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Economic Characteristics + Opportunities

As of 2025, Copley's business community encompasses a wide variety of commerce including 28 restaurants, 8 hotels, nearly 150 retail and personal service establishments, 13 continuum care and/or skilled nursing homes and manufacturing, high-tech and medical related facilities. The Township is home to the Copley-Fairlawn School District. According to the Summit County 2017 land use classification of parcels, there are currently 864 commercial acres and 112 industrial acres.

The US Census and 2023 ACS provides economic information for the Township.

DP03-Selected Economic Characteristics

S1901-Income and Poverty

	Copley Township	Summit County
Median Household Income, 2023	\$118,209	\$69,577
Poverty Level	4.5%	12.7%
Labor Force	10,033	274,202
Unemployment	2.9%	3%
OCCUPATION		
Management, business, service and arts occupation	6,327	118,369
Service occupations	1004	42,613
Sales and office occupations	1504	57,380
Natural resources, construction, and material moving occupation	457	18,545
Production, transportation and material moving occupations	511	37,295

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Economic Characteristics + Opportunities

	Copley Township	Summit County
INDUSTRY		
Educational services, health care and social assistance.	26%	23%
Manufacturing	15%	14%
Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services	14%	11%
Retail trade	10%	11%
Finance and Insurance, and Real Estate	10%	7%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	7%	8%
Transportation and warehousing, utilities	5%	5%
Public Administration	4%	3%
Wholesale Trade	3%	4% (Other Services)

Employment by Industry in Copley Township reveals that education, manufacturing and professional services serve as the primary employment base. This is supported by the Township's largest employers which include the Copley-Fairlawn School District, and professional services including Metropolitan Veterinary Hospital + Med Vet Hospital and manufacturing such as PlasTEAK, Great Lake Knife and Graves Lumber.

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Major Employers	
EMPLOYERS	# Full Time Employees
Metropolitan Veterinary	236
Copley-Fairlawn School District	279
Montrose Ford	150
Team Health	125
Graves Lumber	115
Med Vet Hospital	95
Copley Township	80
Downing Enterprises	39
Babcock & Wilcox	36
Great Lakes Knife	35
PlaSTEAK	35
Schulte + Co., Akron Childrens Hospital, Spring Garden, Waldorf	30+

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Property Taxes in Copley Township 2023

Property taxes within the Township are very competitive when comparing other communities within Summit County. According to the latest Summit County Fiscal Office data, property taxes devoted to the public school systems average \$1308 per \$100k home value. Those who live within Copley contribute an average of \$1179 per \$100k home value. The residents of Copley have access to four (4) school districts of Akron, Copley, Highland and Revere.

Summit County

2023 Tax Rates

Multiply the market value of the home by the number listed below to determine the approximate Real Property Taxes in each community. This figure does not include any special assessment charges or delinquent taxes due. The tax year 2023 is payable in year 2024.

Community / School District	Tax*	Community / School District	Tax*
Akron City/Akron CSD	2.04%	Lakemore Village/Springfield LSD	1.93%
Akron City/Akron CSD	2.04%	Macedonia City/Nordonia Hills CSD NHWD	1.71%
Akron City/Copley-Fairlawn CSD	1.82%	Macedonia City/Nordonia Hills CSD	1.71%
Akron City/Coventry LSD	2.08%	Macedonia City/Twinsburg CSD	1.90%
Akron City/Revere LSD	1.94%	Mogadore Village/Mogadore LSD	1.93%
Akron City/Springfield LSD	2.05%	Munroe Falls City/Stow Munroe Falls CSD	2.12%
Akron City/Woodridge LSD	2.28%	Munroe Falls City/Tallmadge CSD	2.05%
Barberton City/Barberton CSD	1.97%	New Franklin City/Coventry LSD	1.96%
Barberton City/Coventry LSD	1.85%	New Franklin City/Manchester LSD	1.93%
Barberton City/Northwest LSD	1.63%	New Franklin City/Northwest LSD	1.74%
Barberton City/Norton CSD	1.43%	New Franklin City/Norton CSD	1.53%
Bath Township/Copley-Fairlawn CSD	1.90%	Northfield Center Township/Nordonia Hills CSD	1.96%
Bath Township/Revere LSD	2.03%	Northfield Ctr Township/Nordonia Hills CSD/NHWD	1.97%
Boston Heights Village/Hudson CSD	1.96%	Northfield Village/Nordonia Hills CSD	1.79%
Boston Heights Village/Nordonia Hills CSD	1.76%	Northfield Village/Nordonia Hills/ NHWD	1.80%
Boston Heights Village/Nordonia Hills CSD NHWD	1.77%	Norton City/Barberton CSD	2.13%
Boston Heights Village/Woodridge LSD	2.08%	Norton City/Norton CSD	1.57%
Boston Township/Hudson CSD	2.22%	Peninsula Village/Woodridge LSD	2.34%
Boston Township/Revere LSD	2.02%	Reminderville Village/Aurora CSD	2.22%
Boston Township/Woodridge LSD	2.35%	Reminderville Village/Twinsburg CSD	1.94%
Clinton Village/Northwest LSD	1.92%	Richfield Township/Revere LSD	1.98%
Copley Township/Akron CSD	2.25%	Richfield Township/Woodridge LSD	2.32%
Copley Township/Copley-Fairlawn CSD	2.04%	Richfield Village/Revere LSD	1.69%
Copley Township/Highland LSD	2.06%	Sagamore Hills Township/Nordonia Hills CSD	1.93%
Copley Township/Revere LSD	2.16%	Sagamore Hills Twp/Nordonia Hills CSD NHWD	1.95%
Coventry Township/Barberton CSD	2.35%	Sagamore Hills Township/Woodridge LSD NHWD	2.27%
Coventry Township/Coventry LSD	2.23%	Silver Lake Village/Cuyahoga Falls CSD	2.20%
Coventry Township/Green LSD	2.28%	Springfield Township/Springfield LSD	2.16%
Coventry Township/Springfield LSD	2.19%	Springfield Township/Green LSD	2.24%
Cuyahoga Falls City/Cuyahoga Falls CSD	2.11%	Stow City/Stow Munroe Falls CSD	2.19%
Cuyahoga Falls City/Hudson LSD	2.17%	Tallmadge City/Stow Munroe Falls CSD	2.02%
Cuyahoga Falls City/Revere LSD	1.96%	Tallmadge City/Tallmadge CSD	1.94%
Cuyahoga Falls City/Stow Munroe Falls CSD	2.24%	Twinsburg City/Twinsburg CSD	1.86%
Cuyahoga Falls City/Woodridge LSD	2.29%	Twinsburg Township/Twinsburg CSD	2.17%
Fairlawn City/Akron CSD	1.76%		
Fairlawn City/Copley-Fairlawn CSD	1.54%		
Fairlawn City/Revere LSD	1.65%		
Green City/Green LSD	1.85%		
Green City/Jackson LSD	1.60%		
Hudson City/Hudson CSD	1.97%		
Hudson City/Hudson CSD	1.97%		
Hudson City/Stow Munroe Falls CSD	2.00%		

Note example:

Annual Taxes on a home in Bath Township/Revere LSD
 $\$100,000 \times 2.03\% = \$2,030$

* Tax as a Percentage of Market: a simple percentage used to estimate total property taxes for a home. For a more detailed explanation of Summit County Property Tax Rates, please call 330.643.8472.



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