



An Innovative Community; Authentically Hometown

ADA Forms to Benefit Residents, First Responders

Countywide effort heightens safety for those with special needs

MOUNT VERNON, April 25, 2023 – Knox County officials have announced a new countywide effort aimed at improving the safety of residents with special needs in the event of an emergency.

The initiative will provide Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) forms to households with people who may have special needs to help first responders better gauge the correct response in case of a fire/EMS response or a call for service from law enforcement.

The ADA form will allow residents to provide details about any special needs or considerations that first responders should be aware of, as well as any special instructions that would be helpful in an emergency situation. These forms will be accessible only by first responders and emergency service personnel to ensure that the information is kept confidential and used only for the purpose of enhancing the safety of Knox County residents.

“We recognize that emergency situations can be especially challenging for individuals with special needs and their families,” said Mount Vernon City Councilwoman Amber Keener, who led the initiative to implement the program locally. Keener added, “By providing ADA forms to households with special needs, we hope to improve the response of our first responders and make our communities safer for everyone.”

The first step in this effort is to distribute ADA forms to households with individuals who may have special needs. Residents can obtain the form by visiting the City of Mount Vernon website under Documents or by visiting the Knox County 9-1-1 website at <https://co.knox.oh.us/911-dispatch/>.

“We encourage all residents who have special needs or have a family member with special needs to complete the ADA form as soon as possible,” said 9-1-1 Director Laura Webster. “By doing so, we can ensure that first responders are better equipped to handle emergencies and can provide the appropriate level of care to all Knox County residents.”

For more information about the ADA form initiative or to obtain an ADA form, please visit the Knox County website or contact Laura Webster at (740) 393-6728..

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ABOUT THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON:

The City of Mount Vernon is an innovative community with an authentic hometown feel. The City is dedicated to providing modern services with an emphasis on continual improvement, customer service and equitable laws that support our citizens and visitors, while retaining and attracting investors in our community. Home to 17,000 people, Mount Vernon is the county seat for Knox County and boasts historic buildings and districts as well as business and professional, educational and recreational opportunities through many adaptive reuses of the community’s infrastructure and spaces. The City has strong ties to higher education, with Mount Vernon Nazarene University, Kenyon College and Central Ohio Technical College operating satellite locations in the historic downtown. Located 40 miles northeast of Columbus, Mount Vernon is near the geographic center of Ohio and has connections all over the globe.

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