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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Mayor Feeney Recognizes The 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Of The Great Flood of Chillicothe**

On Wednesday March 26, 1913, Chillicothe faced a natural catastrophe that saw the Scioto River rise nearly 40 feet above it's normal water level. Ultimately flooding and causing widespread damage to 8 square miles of Chillicothe. Water levels ranged from a few inches to 20 feet. In the end, 18 lives were lost, 2,800 homes flooded, 5,000 people homeless.

In the late 70's a flood wall was built around the City to protect against these floods, most would know it from the bike path that runs along the top of the wall. This massive piece of infrastructure is more than just a wall of dirt. If the river rises high enough there are three flood gates that have to be constructed by city forces, closing off High Street, Bridge Street, and Main Street. There are also four large storm water pump stations along the wall to keep the City dry when the river is high. Staff from Engineering Department, in partnership with the US Army Corps of Engineers, monitor our flood wall year-round to help ensure the integrity and function of the infrastructure.

Additional information can be found on [ChillicotheOH.gov](http://ChillicotheOH.gov). If you should have any questions, please contact the Mayor's office by phone at (740) 774-1185 or by email at [mayor@chillicotheoh.gov](mailto:mayor@chillicotheoh.gov)



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