



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Scioto Mile Fountain to Reopen Memorial Day Weekend

(Columbus, OH) – Memorial Day marks the unofficial start of summer and is a great weekend to celebrate the reopening of the enhanced Scioto Mile Fountain!

Since its opening in 2011, the iconic fountain located in Bicentennial Park has emerged as a Downtown focal point, serving 240,000 visitors every year.

“The Scioto Mile Fountain invites families from across our city to spend a summer afternoon Downtown,” said Mayor Andrew J. Ginther. “This free amenity is accessible to all Columbus residents, and we’re excited for the fountain to reach its highest level of performance, functionality and fun for all visitors!”

Construction on the fountain began in May 2023. Enhancements will make the fountain a year-round destination and include improved functionality, new lighting, water features and increased seating and shade areas.

“The Scioto Mile Fountain is a collaborative space where families can come together to have fun and cool off in one of our premier parks,” said Columbus Recreation and Parks Director Bernita A. Reese, M.S., CPRP. “The enhancements and restoration of the fountain will ensure it brings joy to residents all year long for many years to come.”

“Over the last 13 years, the Scioto Mile Fountain has become a community staple, and we are delighted to be reopening it for the community to enjoy this summer,” said Amy Taylor, President of Downtown Columbus, Inc. “These enhancements will make the fountain a premier, four-season destination that will further Downtown as a connected, livable and inclusive neighborhood that can be enjoyed by all.”

The community is invited to be among the first to see the enhancements at these free family-friendly events:

Friday, May 24
Noon

Ribbon Cutting: Join Council President Shannon G. Hardin and Columbus Recreation and Parks Director Bernita A. Reese to open the fountain.

Friday, May 24
Noon - 7 p.m. and
Saturday, May 25
11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Fountain Fest: Enjoy live music, food trucks, free ice cream (while supplies last), a collaborative street mural, temporary glitter tattoos, caricature artists, yard games and more. Produced by Downtown Columbus, Inc.

Friday, May 24
5:30 p.m.

Bicentennial Park Summer Concert: Enjoy musical acts DJ Citizen Dorian S. and The Deeptones. Presented by Columbus Recreation and Parks Department.



After the opening, the Scioto Mile Fountain's free interactive water features will remain open to the public through Labor Day, 11 a.m.- 7 p.m. daily. Beginning Sept. 3, visitors can enjoy non-interactive water and light shows.

About the Project

Spanning 15,000 square feet, the enhanced Scioto Mile Fountain will hold 35,000 gallons of water in an underground reservoir and feature three stainless steel halo structures with 300 fog nozzles and a cutting-edge speaker system to create a surround sound atmosphere. The updated design will offer a variety of new and enhanced features, including:

- Enhancements to halo fog and super shooters, jets that can shoot water 100 feet into the air, adding visual and interactive appeal, including a system that will engage and interact with visitors;
- A sprite area with 344 fountain sprites that are lit by self-contained LED lights;
- Increased seating and shaded areas and space for food trucks and carts, offering reprieve and refreshment to Downtown visitors; and
- Sculptural light elements with vibrant, constantly changing colors that will feature dynamic light shows in the cold-weather season, making the Scioto Mile Fountain a year-round destination.

[View renderings of the Scioto Mile Fountain.](#)

Downtown Columbus, Inc. (formerly known as the Columbus Downtown Development Corporation) and Columbus Recreation and Parks Department have contracted world-class design professionals at AECOM and WET Design to spearhead the enhancements, constructed by Dugan & Meyers. WET Design is known for its fountains at the Bellagio and the Singapore Airport, among many other international landmark locations.

"I'm proud of how multiple partners collaborated to reconstruct and enhance the Scioto Mile Fountain in this iconic space. It's a wonderful addition to our cityscape and an example of our spirit of community," said Columbus City Council President Shannon Hardin.

The redesign and construction will total approximately \$15 million, which is funded in partnership between Columbus Recreation and Parks and the Scioto Mile Endowment.

[Learn more about Columbus Recreation and Parks Department](#)

[Learn more about Downtown Columbus, Inc.](#)

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