

COMMUNITY PROFILE: STRATTON, OHIO

With a land area of just 0.5 square miles, you may not notice this tiny village of approximately 276 residents (as of July 2002) as you drive north along Ohio State Route 7 just 9 miles from Steubenville, Ohio. Instead, you are more apt to notice the New Cumberland Locks & Dam on the Ohio River or looking straight ahead you see the towering smoke stacks of the Ohio Edison Sammis Plant.

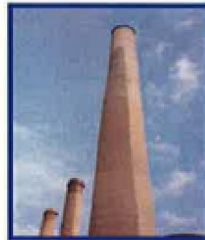


New Cumberland Locks & Dam

The lock & dam, located on the right bank of the Ohio River, is just two miles downstream from New Cumberland, WV, which was originally planned to be the site of the lock and dam. The dam is a 1,200 by 100-ft main chamber that enables large tows to make passage through the lock.



Ohio Edison Sammis Plant



If you take a closer look, you will find the Village of Stratton is a closely-knit community where neighbors still look out for one another. It is a community of mostly retired folks—the median age is 44.6—who can enjoy all the advantages of small-town living while still having close access to shopping in Steubenville, Youngstown or Pittsburgh. According to statistical information found on the Internet, the length of stay since moving in is significantly above the state average.

Within the community is a park, a library and a swimming pool as well as a senior center. Most of these amenities are the result of the hard work of the citizens working together to make life just a little more pleasant.

For example, when Lola Kakasic Swanagan first moved to Stratton, there was a library. Actually, there was a building everyone called the library—but, there were no books. Lola searched for a way to get books to fill the shelves, and found it. She read about a larger library that gave books away each year. She got in her truck and went after them. A real library came into existence.



Stratton Municipal Building

The municipal building not only houses village offices, but also has a room available to rent for showers, receptions and other parties.

There are two pools that serve the community. One is an outdoor pool located at the park and open during the summer months. The municipal pool is open all year round. It is used by some area high school swimming teams—Steubenville Catholic Central, Edison and Wellsville—as a home base for practice and meets. The Stratton Sea Cats, coached by Darlene Sperry, is a group of swimmers ages six and up who also use the pool for swim meets. The senior citizens have a designated day each week for their use. Open swimming is available on Saturday and Sunday from 12-8.

The entire length of the Village is less than a mile long. Within that area is a group of people who take pride in their surroundings and enjoy a life that is reminiscent of by-gone days. It's a place where you can walk down the street and know your neighbors. It's a community that works together and cares about one another.

Stratton, Ohio may be small in appearance, but it offers a large dose of satisfaction for small town life.



Mayor John Abdalla wears many hats—one being "Chef." Abdalla's Tavern located along Route 7 in Stratton is considered by many to have the best steaks around.