



City of
Centerville

Brooks A. Compton, Mayor | Wayne S. Davis, City Manager

Uptown Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA) Frequently Asked Questions

What is a DORA?

The Uptown Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA) is a policy that will create a unique experience for businesses, residents and guests. It is a specified area of land that the State of Ohio and Centerville's City Council has designated as exempt from certain open container rules. Therefore, patrons 21 and older may purchase an alcoholic beverage from businesses with proper liquor licenses in authorized plastic DORA cups. These beverages can be taken outside and into the designated DORA boundary. DORA beverages can only be sold in plastic DORA cups which the City sells in bulk to individual businesses.

Why is the City creating a DORA?

This is a community-driven initiative. For years, local businesses and citizens have been asking for a DORA. The City's goal is to support existing businesses and capitalize on recent business development in line with our Uptown Action Plan; the DORA will allow them to expand their services outdoors, reach new customers and boost the economy. Creating a more vibrant and social environment will also enhance our residents' and visitors' quality of life.

How will we know the boundaries of the DORA?

The boundaries of the 16.4-acre Uptown DORA will be marked well with signs. The DORA encompasses several popular businesses.

When will the DORA operate?

The Uptown DORA will operate seven days a week from 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Can people bring their own alcohol to drink in the DORA?

No. Beer, wine and any other alcoholic drinks must be purchased from an establishment with a permit to sell alcoholic beverages within the DORA. DORA beverages must be sold in designated DORA cups with guidelines printed on them.

What plans and procedures are in place to ensure public safety?

A Safety Plan has been developed to ensure public safety within the DORA. Centerville City staff, including the Centerville Police Department, is committed to working with the community and the businesses within the DORA to preserve and maintain the safety and security of all who visit and work there. The Safety Plan includes officer patrol responsibilities and a schedule for reviewing and updating the DORA guidelines.