



Lake Township Newsletter

Edition No. 77

April 2012

Township Offices

12360 Market Avenue
Hartville, Ohio
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Board of Trustees

John Arnold
Ellis Erb
Galen Stoll

Township Fiscal Officer

Ben Sommers

IT'S SPRING CLEANUP TIME!

Lake Township will sponsor a Spring Clean-up for Township residents, from Tuesday, June 5, through Saturday, June 9, from 8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. every day. Containers will be located at the Lake Township Service Garage complex at 1499 Midway Street, next to the Recycle Center.



Residents will be expected to unload their own vehicles.

This service is for Lake Township residents only. Identification may be checked. Township businesses will be allowed to dispose of no more than one truckload during the program. For more information, call 330.877.9479.

In addition to all of the items accepted at the year-round programs, the following will be accepted during Spring Cleanup: household debris and tires (no rims, limit of 12 per household or business). Scrap metal will be accepted during this period. No garbage, no railroad or landscaping ties, no hazardous waste, and no paint can be accepted.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- Quail Hollow Art, Craft & Herb Fair ... May 5 & 6
Quail Hollow State Park
- Hartville Memorial Day..... May 26
Memorial Park
- Uniontown Memorial Day May 28
Uniontown Community Park
- Relay for Life June 8
Lake Youth Football Stadium
- Hartville Old-Fashioned Parade..... June 23
- Lake Twp. Historical Society Home Tour June 24
- Uniontown Lions Festival..... August 8-11
Uniontown Elementary School grounds

Lake Township Trustees

Lake Township Trustees meet every second and fourth Monday of each month at 6:30 P.M. All meetings are held at the Lake Township Hall, 12360 Market Avenue North, Hartville. All meetings are open to the public. The meeting hall is handicapped-accessible.

Lake Township office hours: Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM.



Ellis Erb



John Arnold



Galen Stoll

NEW! TWO RECYCLE PROGRAM LOCATIONS FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

Lake Township now has two locations for the Recycle Program: at the Recycle Center at 1505 Midway St., next to the Township Service Garage, and a new location in the southeast corner of the flea market parking lot at the Hartville Market Place, 1289 Edison St. This location can also be accessed from the entrance on Market Ave. North.

The Recycle Program accepts newspapers, magazines and junk mail, as well as corrugated cardboard and food boxes, glass bottles, plastics, and steel or aluminum cans (please rinse and remove lids). We DO NOT accept business waste, plastic bags, treated lumber, railroad ties, or anything with nails.

Yard waste is accepted daily at a drop-off site behind the Midway St. Recycle Center only. It's open from dawn to dusk, seven days a week. This is a year-round collection program. Residents may drop off grass clippings, leaves, shrubs, tree limbs, and stumps.

(continued on page 3)



A Message From Your Fiscal Officer

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

How time flies! This month, I began my ninth year as Fiscal Officer of Lake Township, serving my community that I love as chief financial officer during a very challenging period in our history.

Local government officials all over Ohio are facing the same problems: reduced economic activity, decreased property values, delinquent taxes, and reduced state funding. Your Board of Trustees and I have spent many hours working together, planning for the future of our township. By setting up budget stabilization funds, we have been able to sustain Lake Township during these hard times, and we are continuing to work hard to maintain that level of stability. We've made cuts where we had to, and we are providing the same level of services to our community, while avoiding the more serious fiscal situations faced by many other local governments. We will continue to shop for the best prices and keep our belts tight. We are up to the challenge!

Lake Township residents can rest assured that the Township remains fiscally sound and able to function within the limits of our budget.

Elsewhere in this edition of our Newsletter, you'll read that Lake Township now operates four cemeteries. You may be interested to know that on each occasion when a private cemetery association has asked the Township to assume responsibility for their property, they have transferred their funds to the Township. Those funds, together with fees charged for burials, are used to maintain the cemeteries.

For your convenience, Lake Township recently established a policy to accept credit card payments for various fees and cemetery lots.

If you have any questions about our township operations or our budgets, please feel free to call me.

Ben Sommers

Who's Your Congressman?

Do you know who your Congressman is? Lake Township now has two because the Ohio General Assembly recently approved the new redistricting map. The western half of the township, between the Summit County line on the west and Market Ave. on the east, and between Pontius Rd. on the north and Mount Pleasant St. on the south, is in the 16th Congressional District, currently represented by Republican Jim Renacci. The eastern half of the township is now part of the new "C" shaped 7th District, currently represented by Republican Bob Gibbs, who was the 18th District Representative before the redistricting.

New congressional districts are drawn in Ohio after each ten-year census to reflect changes in population. The 2010 Census showed that the population of Ohio has declined, so the Ohio General Assembly, which is responsible for shaping the new districts, had to re-draw the state's Congressional district map to reduce the number of districts from 18 to 16. They must follow a United States Supreme Court ruling requiring that each district includes approximately the same number of people.

The new plan was passed by both the House and the Senate with an emergency clause and was signed by Governor John Kasich on December 15. The changes took effect immediately.



President's Corner

Spring has arrived early this year. Even though we didn't have a really harsh winter, we appreciate the good work of our Road Department crews keeping our roads clear when we did have snow.

In this edition of our Newsletter, you'll notice several items about recycling. Lake Township is the most active recycling group in Stark County. For your convenience, we have added a second location to accept recyclable items, at the Hartville Market Place. We have electronic waste recycling, too. Your Lake Township Trustees have scheduled June 5 through 9 for our annual Spring Clean-up event.

Safety is always a big concern for me. Now that spring is here, please keep an eye out for children playing outside when you're driving through residential areas. If you notice any suspicious activity in your neighborhood, please report it to our Lake Township Police Department.

Lake Township is now operating four cemeteries. The East Nimishillen Cemetery Association recently asked the Township to assume responsibility for the historic cemetery on Nimishillen Church St. NE. We have a working grounds supervisor (a part-time, seasonal position) to care for these four sacred properties.

I am truly blessed to be serving as a Trustee in Lake Township. I have always been proud of our community. Along with our other Trustees, Fiscal Officer, and employees, I'm looking forward to making Lake Township an even better place to live and work this year.

John Arnold



A Note from the Road Superintendent

Most of Lake Township's 137 miles of roadway have been resurfaced with asphalt. By the time you receive this Newsletter, winter will be officially over, and we will be looking forward to beginning our paving program. Paving priorities will be decided after the roads are inspected to determine the amount of damage that has occurred due to frost and heaving. Once a list has been generated and reviewed, the Board of Trustees will make the final decision as to which roads will be resurfaced and will announce the 2012 Paving Program .

I would like to thank the Lake Township residents who adhered to our request to keep their trash cans behind their mailboxes, to make sure that they would not be damaged as our snowplows came down the roads.

Potholes show up suddenly and are a real danger to the motoring public. Please report potholes to the Township office (330.877.9479).

Property owners who are planning to pour a concrete driveway, the Township asks that you stop your concrete one foot (1') behind the culvert pipe. From that point, you can run asphalt to meet the road pavement in open-road areas. In areas that have curbs and gutters, it is okay to run concrete to meet the curb.

Daniel R. Kamerer

Who's Responsible for the Roads?

When reporting a problem involving a roadway, including removal of dead animals, it is important to know which governmental entity is responsible for the maintenance and repair of that road.

To report problems on State Routes 43 and 619 in Lake Township, call the Canton office of the Ohio Department of Transportation (330.452.0365).

The Stark County Engineer (330.477.6781) maintains Cleveland Ave., State St., Market Ave. south of State Rt. 619, Smith-Kramer St., Middlebranch Ave., Congress Lake Ave., Swamp St., Duquette Ave., and the east leg of Pontius St. north of Quail Hollow State Park.

Maintenance of Pontius St. from Cleveland Ave. to Mogadore Ave. is shared between Springfield Township (330.733.3213) and Lake Township (330.877.9479). Maintenance of Pontius St. from Mogadore Ave. to Market Ave. is shared between Portage County (1.330.296.6411) and Lake Township.

Plain Township (330.492.3423) maintains Mt. Pleasant St. from Market Ave. to Middlebranch Ave.

Maintenance of Aultman Avenue is shared between the City of Green (330.896.6607) and Lake Township.

Lake Township maintains the 137 miles of all remaining dedicated streets in the township.

MUD AND DEBRIS ON ROAD POLICY

Reminder to Contractors and Township Residents:

The Board of Lake Township Trustees requests that you maintain construction sites and other properties in a proper manner so that you do not track mud and other debris onto the public streets. If mud and debris is tracked onto the street, please clean the street promptly.

Debris includes, among other items, unnatural accumulations of snow and ice (such as being pushed onto the public streets from private parking lots, driveways, and roads). Contractors will need either to pile the snow on private property or load it and haul it away.

If it becomes necessary for the Township to clean the street, you will be invoiced at the rate of \$50.00 an hour per piece of equipment with an operator. Additional employees required for the clean-up will be invoiced at an hourly rate based on current salary plus fringe benefits.

If you have any questions about the Mud and Debris on Road Policy, please call the Lake Township Road Superintendent at 330.877.9479

(RECYCLE PROGRAM continued from front page)

REMINDER: Please place your yard debris as far back into the pit area as possible in order to allow room for others to leave their yard waste. If you bring your leaves in plastic bags, please be prepared to empty the bags and take them away with you.

Lake Township Trustees, in recognition of the environmental benefit of recycling and yard-waste collection programs, have provided these sites as a convenience for township residents' use. Both the Midway St. Service Complex and the Hartville Market Place are in the jurisdiction of the Lake Township Police Department. Police officers regularly patrol the properties. More information about the Yard Waste and Recycle Programs is available at the Township Office (330.877.9479) and on the Township Web site: www.laketwpstarkco.com.



From Your Zoning Administrator

Dear Neighbors,

In an effort to better protect the citizens of Lake Township, transient vendors (solicitors) are required to register with the Township. Transient vendors include any person or entity that opens a temporary place of business for the sale of goods, or who, on the streets or while traveling about the Township, either sells goods, or offers for sale goods, or solicits orders for the future delivery of goods where payment is required prior to delivery of goods. All transient vendors prior to approval must be cleared by the Lake Township Police Department, and are required to wear a badge issued by the Township while going door to door. Please note that “transient vendors” does not include canvassing (no sales or orders), tax-exempt agencies, auctioneers, schools, churches, and like agencies. If you do not wish for any solicitation, any owner, occupier or lessee of any premises or building within the Township may post a small sign stating “No Solicitation Permitted”. If you believe that any person or entity has not obtained the proper permits, please call the Lake Township Offices at 330.877.9479 Monday through Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M., or the Lake Township Police Department at 330.699.6444.

Respectfully,
Stephen Lacey

PREVENT POLLUTION, PICK UP AFTER YOUR PETS

(From the Stark County Health Department)

Spring is here, and it is as important as ever to make sure dog waste is cleaned up often. Although it may not seem significant, dog waste is a proven environmental pollutant. Spring showers can carry the waste directly into nearby streams and creeks via the storm sewer system during this time of year. Unfortunately, this water does not get treated and it can cause problems for aquatic life and other animals, as well as humans.

Animal waste contains many disease-causing organisms, as well as excess nutrients that affect water quality. The poor water quality can lead to the death of aquatic plants and animals, cause excessive weed and algae growth, and make the water unsafe for human recreational activities such as swimming, fishing, or boating.

Preventing storm water pollution from pets is as simple as remembering to do the following:



When walking your dog, always bring a bag to collect waste

Encourage residents and neighbors to do this as well

Remember to pick up waste on your property daily as spring rains will carry it into the storm sewer system

Once you have picked up the waste, place it in the trash

Picking up pet’s waste is necessary for public health reasons as well as quality of life, but it is also a responsibility of a pet owner to see that pets are not contributing to water pollution.

FROM THE STARK COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

In January 2012, the Stark County Health Department updated regulations regarding home septic systems which utilize aerobic treatment units (aerators). All homeowners with an aerobic treatment unit are required to have a current service contract and maintain a contract for the life of the system. Aerobic systems are highly mechanical. Continual maintenance of these types of systems is vital for proper wastewater treatment. Please contact a licensed service provider to obtain a service contract. A list of providers can be found on the Stark County Health Department web site: www.starkhealth.org. If you have any questions, please call Courtney Myers (330.493.9904 ext. 239).

Check Out Our Web Site: www.laketwpstarkco.com
It has lots of information about Lake Township!





From Your Fire Prevention Officer

Greetings Lake Township Residents,

With the arrival of spring weather to our area, I want to remind everyone of some household safety issues addressable this time of year. All of these issues are inexpensive to address, and will hopefully give you a little peace of mind.

If you did not replace the batteries in your smoke detectors during Daylight Savings Time, please do so immediately! Fire alarm systems with hardwired power usually also have battery backup. These batteries must also be replaced.

Carbon monoxide detectors come in both battery-operated and plug-in power plants. Those of you who have battery-operated carbon monoxide detectors in the home must remember to replace the batteries. Plug-in carbon monoxide detectors also have battery backup. This battery also must be replaced. One note concerning carbon monoxide detectors: Carbon monoxide will mix evenly in air, which means were vapors to occur, they will accumulate evenly throughout a space. Therefore, locating detectors high and/or low in a space will detect the presence of vapors and sound the alarm.

When applying new mulch, be careful of where you might discard smoking materials. Also, new mulch may have heavy moisture content, which when applied and decomposition begins, can generate heat. Watch how closely mulch is applied near wooden structures.

As we begin another season of mowing, trimming, and cutting around the house, remember to handle gasoline and flammable sprays carefully. Also, store these items in locations where the vapors or spills cannot cause a fire.

Finally, remember that open burning for waste disposal is illegal in Lake Township. Please bring your grass clippings and trimmings to the Recycle Center for disposal.

Thank you,
Danille Kemp

LAKE TOWNSHIP OPERATES FOUR CEMETERIES

Did you know? Lake Township now operates and maintains four cemeteries: Woods Cemetery on Edison St. (State Rt. 619), Greenlawn Cemetery at the north end of Church Ave. in Uniontown, Mount Peace Cemetery on Kent Ave. (State Rt. 43) north of Hartville, and East Nimishillen Cemetery on Nimishillen Church St. The East Nimishillen Cemetery Association recently asked the Township to assume responsibility for that property. For more information about any of our cemeteries, call the Township office at 330.877.9479.



From the Lake Township Police Chief

The Lake Township Police would like to thank all the residents for their continued support. As summer approaches, residents will be spending more time outdoors. We would like to remind you to be observant of children playing outside. Parents and guardians can make child safety part of a child's everyday life in a non-threatening way by practicing some of these skills. Whether it's checking first with a trusted adult, taking a friend, or avoiding and getting out of dangerous situations, there are easy "what if" scenarios to practice with your children to make sure they "get it." Make outings to a mall or park an opportunity to reinforce these skills. That way they won't have to wonder what to do if lost or in danger. Do this on a regular basis to make sure it becomes second nature. At the same time, reassure them you are there for them, and remind them there are other people who can help.

These are some safety tips to teach your children if they find themselves in a situation such as being lost outside: A child should never wander away from where he or she first became lost. If they stay put, chances are better that they will be found more quickly.

If that place becomes too dangerous because of severe weather or another threatening situation, children should go to the nearest safe spot and wait for rescuers.

Children should make noise either by yelling, blowing a whistle, or just attracting attention. This will help in bringing someone to their rescue.

Always report suspicious persons or incidents to the police as soon as possible at 330.699.6444. Together we can make this a safe and fun summer.

Thank you,
Chief Harold Britt

LAKE TOWNSHIP OFFERS E-WASTE RECYCLING

Lake Township has an electronic-waste recycling program for residents and small business owners. Items that can be accepted include fluorescent bulbs and ballasts, batteries (not car batteries), computers and monitors, cell phones, telephones, game consoles, MP3 players, circuit boards, computer parts and cables, compact disks, DVD's, floppy disks, small television sets (19-inch or smaller), video equipment, microwave ovens, radio and audio equipment, other small electronic items, and small appliances.

The local recycling company that collects the items recently advised the township that disassembled television sets cannot be accepted. Because of the nature of the components, disassembled sets are considered hazardous waste.

The electronic-waste recycling program is primarily intended for household recycling, but also supports smaller local businesses that have small quantities of these items to recycle.

Acceptable electronic waste items may be taken to the Township Hall, 12360 Market Ave. North, Mondays through Fridays, from 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Residents will be expected to unload their own vehicles. More information is available at the Township office (330.877.9479) and on the Township Web site: www.laketwpstarkco.com.

RECYCLE PROGRAM WILL TAKE YOUR OLD APPLIANCES & SCRAP METAL

Lake Township Trustees have expanded the Township's Recycle program to accept appliances and all scrap metals. These items will be accepted inside the gate at the Service Garage complex on Midway St., Mondays through Fridays from 8:00 A.M. to 2:30 P.M. A sign will indicate the proper area. The revenue generated by this program will be allocated for new playground equipment at the Lake Township Recreation Complex. More information is available at the Township office (330.877.9479).



Lake Township Mission Statement

The mission of Lake Township is to provide quality service to our citizens/customers in order to lead, support and facilitate the efficient and effective operation of township government.

Local Postal Customer
(ECRWSS)

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Lake Township Trustees
12360 Market Avenue North
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