

LAKE TOWNSHIP Newsletter

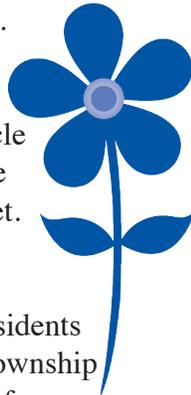


EDITION NO. 85 — SPRING 2016

A Service of the Board of Lake Township Trustees

IT'S SPRING CLEANUP TIME!

Lake Township will sponsor a Spring Cleanup for Township residents, from Wednesday, June 1, through Friday, June 3, from 8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. every day and Saturday, June 4, from 8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. Containers will be located at the Recycle Center near the Lake Township Service Garage complex at 1499 Midway Street. 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). No garbage, no lumber of any kind, no railroad or landscaping ties, no hazardous waste, and no paint can be accepted.

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Check Out Our Web Site:

www.laketwpstarkco.com It has lots of information about Lake Township!



CHECK OUT COMMUNITY EVENTS at www.lakechamber.com

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. Telephone: 330.877.9479.



Ellis Erb



John Arnold



Galen Stoll

LAKE TOWNSHIP CELEBRATING BICENTENNIAL

Two hundred years have passed since the Stark County Commissioners organized Lake Township as the 12th township in the county on June 4, 1816. Until that date, Lake Township had been part of Plain Township. Events have been taking place since January and will continue through December. Bicentennial banners will be placed around the township. A Bicentennial Chautauqua will be held July 27 – 30 at the Hartville Market Place.





President's Corner

I'm writing this article the day after Easter. It was 76 degrees on March 27, and many golf courses were busy! We have just experienced a very mild winter compared to the previous two winters, which will have positive impacts on our budget for the next two years. Our labor and fuel costs are well below last year; however, our hard cost for salt is the same as last year because we are required to order and pay for our projected salt needs. In simple terms, this means we are experiencing the labor savings this year and should have ALL the salt we need for next winter, so we will realize a salt savings in fiscal year 2017. These savings are helping us do more curb and gutter repair, patching and paving which is structurally and aesthetically good for everyone!

We have a new team in the Fiscal Office. Bob Moss, our new Fiscal Officer, and his staff have embraced the challenge of doing the hard work of learning and managing our government accounting requirements. They are drafting procedures so that any future staff changes in their department will be more seamless. They are also working to improve our transparency so that all our transactions can be viewed online later this year. This is in response to the State of Ohio doing the same and, in my opinion, is another step in improving our accountability to all taxpayers.

Collaboration has been a priority for us as well. We have enjoyed a wonderful partnership with Stark County working on drainage and infrastructure improvements. The Road Department has been working with other townships, municipalities and ODOT, sharing technologies and improving efficiencies.

As you can tell, we have many dedicated, hard-working staff members doing their best to maintain and improve your township.

This year, Lake Township is celebrating our Bicentennial. Some events have already taken place. Watch for more throughout the year.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to "drive the bus," making Lake a premiere Township in Stark County!

John Arnold

CHANGES TO LAKE TOWNSHIP E-WASTE RECYCLING PROGRAM

The E-waste recycling program that Lake Township offers for residents and small business owners has had some changes. Earlier this year, Township Trustees amended the program to add a \$20 charge for disposal of all television sets and computer monitors, because the company that collects the items now must pay to dispose of them, so they are passing along the charge to the township. All sizes and types of television sets and computer monitors will carry the same charge.

Another change is that the program will no longer accept light bulbs of any kind, due to information received regarding the method required for proper disposal.

Items that continue to be accepted include 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, television sets, video equipment, microwave ovens, radio and audio equipment, other small electronic items, and small appliances. Disassembled television sets cannot be accepted. Because of the nature of the components, disassembled sets are considered hazardous waste.

The E-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 E-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).



SAFE ROOM REBATE PROGRAM

The Ohio Safe Room Rebate Program was developed by the Ohio Emergency Management Agency to provide a rebate for the purchase and installation of safe rooms for Ohio homeowners.

The 2016 rebates were awarded in February. Information about the 2017 program will be available later at the agency's Web site (www.ema.ohio.gov).





Dan Kamerer

A Note From The Road Superintendent:

Paving season is just around the corner. We are inspecting our roads. The Board of Trustees will make the final decision as to which roads will be resurfaced.

With nice weather here, I'd like to include some FAQ's just in case you were wondering:

Q: I want to fill in the ditch in front of my house, what do I do?

A: It is illegal to fill in your ditch line with dirt, leaves, and/or other debris or obstacles. It is the property owner's responsibility to maintain the tile.

Q: There may be a break in one of the drainage systems in my yard. Who needs to check it out?

A: The Road Department may be able to assist in investigating the possible break; however, it is the property owner's responsibility to repair the drainage system.

Q: What does it mean when something is in the right-of-way?

A: Right-of-way means land reserved, or to be used for a street, alley, walkway, drainage facility, or other public purpose. Right-of-way is normally 25 feet from the center of the roadway, or 10 feet from the edge of pavement.

Q: If my sprinkler system is installed in the right-of-way and becomes damaged, who is responsible for the repair?

A: The property owner is responsible for any improvement that they have installed in the right-of-way such as a sprinkler system, landscaping, etc. Remember, no obstructions such as decorative rocks, walls, or basketball hoops, which pose a danger to the traveling public, are allowed in the right-of-way.

Daniel R. Kamerer

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.

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.

FROM THE UNIONTOWN POLICE CHIEF:



Harold Britt

Current reports say that spam and scam phone calls increased by 55 percent in 2015, with an estimated 67 million fraudulent calls recorded nationwide. The 2016 list of hot scams includes various e-mail and tech-support scams, Facebook hoaxes, credit card chip scams and the infamous IRS phone scam, the one reported the most often locally.

Scammers make unsolicited calls claiming to be IRS officials and demanding that the victim pay a bogus tax bill. Using threats to arrest, deport or revoke the victim's driver's license, they con the victim into sending cash, usually through a prepaid debit card or wire transfer. They may also leave "urgent" callback requests through phone "robo-calls," or via a "phishing" email. The scammers often alter caller ID numbers to make it look like the IRS or another agency is calling.

They use IRS titles and fake badge numbers to appear legitimate. They may use the victim's name, address and other personal information to make the call sound official.

Here are five things the scammers often do but the IRS will not do. Any one of these five things is a tell-tale sign of a scam. The IRS will never (1) call to demand immediate payment, nor will the agency call about taxes owed without first having mailed you a bill; (2) demand that you pay taxes without giving you the opportunity to question or appeal the amount they say you owe; (3) require you to use a specific payment method for your taxes, such as a prepaid debit card; (4) ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone; (5) threaten to bring in local police or other law-enforcement groups to have you arrested for not paying.

If you get a phone call from someone claiming to be from the IRS and asking for money, here's what you should do: (1) do not give out any information. Hang up immediately. (2) Call the IRS at 800.829.1040. IRS workers can help you. (3) Contact the U.S. Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) to report the call (800.366.4484). You can also use their "IRS Impersonation Scam Reporting" Web page (https://www.treasury.gov/tigta/contact_report_scam.shtml).

Please pass this information on to family and friends. Together we can prevent someone from falling victim to these scams.

Chief Harold Britt

FROM THE STARK COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

OUTDOOR WARNING SIRENS AND WEATHER RADIO

Some communities in Stark County have outdoor warning siren systems to warn the public of disasters, severe weather and other impending danger. When you hear a siren, seek shelter immediately. Turn on your TV, local radio or NOAA All-Hazard Weather Radio to get information about the emergency. **DO NOT CALL 9-1-1 OR ANY OTHER EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBER UNLESS YOU HAVE EMERGENCY INFORMATION TO REPORT** (for example, sighting a funnel cloud).

During severe storm season, prepare for severe weather by listening to the weather forecast on radio or TV before you leave your home. It is recommended that every home, school and business is equipped with a NOAA All-Hazard Weather Radio. In addition to watch and warning information, these radios provide detailed forecast information, as well as non-weather-related information 24 hours a day. These radios can be equipped with a special alarm tone that can sound an alert and provide immediate information about emergency situations.

Detailed weather forecasts are also available on the Internet on sites such as the National Weather Service (www.weather.gov) and commercial sites such as weather.com and accuweather.com.

MAINTAINING YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM

Saves You Money: Regular maintenance fees of \$250 to \$300 every three to four years is a bargain, compared to the cost of repairing or replacing a malfunctioning system, which can cost between \$3,000 and \$7,000 for a conventional system. The frequency of pumping required for your system depends on how many people live in your home and the size of the system.

Protects Your Property Value: An unusable septic system or one in disrepair will lower your property value, not to mention pose a potentially costly legal liability.

Keeps You and Your Neighbors Healthy: Household wastewater is loaded with disease-causing bacteria and viruses, as well as high levels of nitrogen and phosphorus. If a septic system is well-maintained and working properly, it will remove most of these pollutants. Insufficiently treated sewage from septic systems can cause groundwater contamination, which can spread disease in humans and animals. Improperly treated sewage also poses the risk of contaminating nearby surface waters, significantly increasing the chance of swimmers contracting a variety of infectious diseases, from eye and ear infections to acute gastrointestinal illness and hepatitis.

Protects the Environment: More than four billion gallons of wastewater is dispersed below the ground's surface every day. That's a lot of water! Groundwater contaminated by poorly or untreated household wastewater doesn't just pose dangers to drinking water—it poses dangers to the environment. Malfunctioning septic systems release bacteria, viruses and chemicals toxic to local waterways. When these pollutants are released into the ground, they eventually enter streams, rivers, lakes and more, harming local ecosystems by killing native plants, fish and shellfish.

For more information, please see the Septic Smart program at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency web site: www.epa.gov/septicmart.

RECYCLE CENTER

The Lake Township Recycle Center is on Midway St., on the east side of the Township Service Garage. It is fenced, gated and has cameras that record the site 24/7. Hours are 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. weekdays, and 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. on weekends.

There's a second Recycle Center 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 (#1 through #6), and steel or aluminum cans (please rinse and remove lids). You can leave your yard waste at the Midway St. location only, including brush, grass clippings, leaves, and branches. We **DO NOT** accept business waste, plastic bags, any kind of lumber, railroad ties, or anything with nails.

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 Uniontown Police Department. More information about the Yard Waste and Recycle Programs is available at the Township Office (330.877.9479), on the Township Web site (www.laketwpstarkco.com), and on the Stark-Wayne-Tuscarawas Joint Solid Waste District Web site (www.timetorecycle.org).

FISCAL OFFICE UPDATE



Bob Moss

Since the last newsletter, we have seen changes in the Fiscal Office. We would like to introduce you to our staff. Robert A. Moss was appointed to serve the remainder of the term of the previous Fiscal Officer, who resigned. Bob's background includes more than 37 years in the banking industry. He has served on various boards in the community for the past 28 years, including the Hartville Volunteer Fire Department Board of Trustees, for which he is treasurer; Lake Youth Football Association, for which he served as president and as treasurer; and most recently the Lake Township Board of Zoning Appeals. Working with all three Trustees in other organizations has created a strong relationship and common goals for Lake Township.

Christy Bresson has returned as Fiscal Administrative Assistant, a position she previously held from 2002 to 2013. Christy has served as Fiscal Officer for another township, and brings 36 years of experience to the position. She has proven vital in the transition process.

Corinna Short is a long-time resident of Uniontown who currently serves as Fiscal Assistant. She brings more than 10 years of experience as Deputy Fiscal Officer for the Peninsula Library and History Society, where she worked for 33 years. Her expertise in systems, specifically in payroll reporting and filing, ensures that we meet state and federal compliance requirements.

The staff of the Fiscal Office is pleased to work with all of the other Lake Township departments to fulfill the needs of the community in the most efficient way possible. Watch for more updates, including the introduction of an online public portal of our financial activity.

Bob Moss

From Your Zoning Administrator



Steve Lacey

Dear Neighbors,

Now that spring is here, it will soon be time to get the swimming pools up and running. According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), roughly 280 drowning deaths of children younger than five (5) years old occur each year in swimming pools. Inflatable pools have become more and more popular, and often fall outside of code requirements. Please be conscious of this and provide a barrier or remove the ladder to deter access to these pools.

In Lake Township all in-ground pools require a permit, and all above-ground pools exceeding forty-eight (48) inches in depth and one hundred (100) square feet of surface area require a permit.

Permit applications are available on-line at our Web site (www.laketwpstarkco.com) or at the Township offices at 12360 Market Ave. North, Hartville, OH 44632.

Have a safe summer!

Stephen Lacey

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., Smith-Kramer St., Middlebranch Ave., Congress Lake Ave., Swamp St., Duquette Ave., the east leg of Pontius St. north of Quail Hollow State Park and Market Ave. south of Lake Center St.

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.

The Village of Hartville Street Department (330.877.3006) is responsible for maintenance of King Church Ave. from Camelia St. south to Lake Center St., Lake Center from King Church east to Market Ave., and Market from Lake Center north to the village boundary line, as well as all other streets within the village.

Lake Township maintains the 138.632 miles of all remaining dedicated streets in the township.



LAKE TOWNSHIP

FROM OUR FIRE SERVICE

Spring is here! If you didn't replace the batteries in your smoke detectors when we changed to Daylight Savings Time, please do so now. Fire alarm systems with hard-wired power and battery backup should also have batteries replaced. If you have battery-operated carbon monoxide detectors in your home, remember to replace the batteries. Plug-in carbon monoxide detectors also have battery backup, and that battery also must be replaced.



When applying new mulch, be careful of where you discard smoking materials. Also, new mulch may have a high moisture content, which can generate heat after it is applied and decomposition begins, so be careful about 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. Store these items in locations where the vapors or spills cannot cause a fire.

Please 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. *Have a safe and happy summer!*

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 are 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 indicates the proper area.



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)



LAKE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
12360 Market Avenue North
Hartsville, Ohio 44632

