

LAKE TOWNSHIP *Newsletter*



EDITION NO. 103 — MAY 2025

A Service of the Board of Lake Township Trustees

IT'S SPRING CLEANUP TIME!

THE SPRING CLEANUP EVENT for Lake Township residents is Wednesday, June 4th through Friday, June 6th from 8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. every day and Saturday, June 7th from 8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. The cleanup will be held behind the Road Department building located at 1499 Midway Street, Uniontown. Township businesses will be allowed to dispose of no more than one pickup truck load during the cleanup. Residents will be expected to unload their own vehicles and identification will be checked. **DISPOSAL OF TIRES OF ANY KIND IS PROHIBITED.**



In addition to the year-round recycling programs, Lake Township residents can bring: appliances and scrap metal, household debris (no garbage, no construction material, no hazardous materials; electronic items including computers, laptops, computer monitors, printers copiers, fax machines, telephones, cell phones, telecommunication equipment, circuit boards, keyboards, computer mice and speakers, TV's, audio equipment, data storage, CD's, DVD's, recorded tapes of all kinds. Items not accepted include: no tires of any kind, no yard waste, no hazardous waste including garbage, batteries of any type, antifreeze, railroad or landscaping ties, paint, propane tanks, helium tanks, aerosol cans, fluorescent bulbs of any type, etc.

Township residents can direct their questions about the "Spring Cleanup" to the township office at 330.877.9479.

LAKE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES' MEETINGS

Lake Township Trustees meet every second and fourth Monday of each month at 5:00 P.M. You can view the live meetings on Facebook Live at www.facebook.com/LakeTownshipStarkCountyOhio or watch later if you can't tune in to watch us live!

Lake Township office hours: Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM. Telephone: 330.877.9479



Jeremy Yoder



John Arnold



Steve Miller

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LAKE TOWNSHIP YARD WASTE FACILITY

The Yard Waste Facility opened for the season on April 1. The Facility is for Lake Township and Village of Hartville residents ONLY. The cost for users is \$25.00 per year and one (1) key card is permitted per household. More information is on our website, Facebook page and from our office staff (330.877.9479).



**Check Out
Our Web Site:**

www.laketwpstarkco.com

It has lots of information about Lake Township!
CHECK OUT COMMUNITY EVENTS at www.lakechamber.com



Jeremy Yoder

President's Corner

Spring has sprung, and Summer is around the corner. It's a great time in Lake Township to explore and enjoy some of our township and state parks, including Quail Hollow, which is managed by Stark Parks. You will see construction

begin at the Lake Township Park this summer, as we have contracted with ForeverLawn, NEO for the installation of six pickleball courts behind Lake High School Stadium. The funds to help support this came from ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds.

We are also working with Stark Parks to plan and develop a walking trail that will originate at Lake High School and lead to Memorial Park in Hartville. These funds came from a grant that Stark Parks was able to achieve. These additions should help elevate our parks and outdoor activities within the township.

At Lake Township's Road Department, you will likely see construction begin on a large equipment storage building.

We have contracted with C. Tucker Cope & Associates, and we are excited to begin the process of enhancing our Road Department campus.

Lastly, we have had some upgrades at our Administration offices as well to help ensure we are making Lake Township a great place to work.

We wish you all a great and safe summer!

Jeremy Yoder



Matthew Erb

From your Fiscal Officer

Lake Township continues to maintain a strong fiscal foundation despite the growing challenges faced by local governments across the state. Thanks to years of careful budgeting and strategic planning, the township's

financial outlook for 2025 remains stable.

The Township ended 2024 with a balanced budget, healthy reserve funds, and no outstanding general obligation debt. Revenue streams, primarily from property taxes, have remained relatively steady, aided by modest growth in residential development and sustained property values. We will continue to take a conservative approach to the township's finances by prioritizing living within our means, maintaining reserves for emergencies, and planning ahead to avoid surprises.

Key Spending Priorities

In 2025, Lake Township plans to focus its spending on several areas:

- **Road and Infrastructure Improvements:** Continued investment in road resurfacing and drainage projects.
- **Public Safety:** Providing funds to the Fire and Police Departments to maintain high service standards.
- **Capital Projects:** We will be constructing a new storage building for our road department and pickle ball courts at the Township Park.

Lake Township's prudent fiscal approach has positioned us well, but it continued community support and sound financial stewardship that will be essential to keeping the township strong and financially sound.

Matthew Erb

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.

This facility is for common recyclable materials. For recycling guidelines and acceptable items, please visit www.timetorecycle.org or call the Stark-Tuscarawas-Wayne Recycling District at 800.678.9839. 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, have provided this site as a convenience for township residents' use. The Midway St. Service Complex is in the jurisdiction of the Uniontown Police Department. More information about the Recycle Program 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).



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR ROAD SUPERINTENDENT

Welcome to Spring 2025!

The Township Road Department has been busy with snow and ice management, minor flooding on roadways, high windstorm cleanups, equipment maintenance, building maintenance, sign repair, minor patching and pothole repairs. Paving season is just around the corner, and we have begun the process of inspecting our roads and catch basins. Once a list has been generated and reviewed, the Board of Trustees will decide which roads will be resurfaced.

Speeding on local roads is among the most common complaints received by Lake Township each year, and it is not just a problem on “major” roads. Speeders are also found on quiet streets and cul-de-sacs---roadways mostly traveled by folks who live in these neighborhoods. If drivers know the dangers of speeding, why do some drivers speed when they are so close to home, putting their neighbors in harm’s way? Interestingly, psychology partly explains this behavior. By traveling the same roads repeatedly, drivers “master” roadway conditions, learning every twist, turn and dip along the route. When drivers feel this comfortable with their surroundings, they are more likely to feel safe driving at a higher speed. This explains why most drivers travel at a slower speed when navigating through a city or town for the first time. So, when traveling local roads, please stay mindful of your speed, even if it feels safe to travel a bit faster. Local roads are where the people we care about most live!

Imagine standing on a busy roadside, guiding motorists through a construction zone or traffic incident. Every movement of your sign paddle or hand signal can prevent accidents and save lives. If you’ve ever wondered who ensures that work zones run smoothly and safely, look no further than the skilled professionals known as flaggers. Flaggers are vital in maintaining order and safety within any environment affected by lane closures, roadway work or temporary traffic changes. The Lake Township Road Department uses flagging and mobile work zones whenever possible to keep both the public and our employees safe. Lake Township encourages drivers to slow down, pay attention, and be aware of work zones and their potential hazards.

“Respect the zone so we all get home safe.”

Daniel R. Kameron

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 are 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 Department 330.877.8359



From Your Zoning Administrator:

Spring is always a busy time of year in the zoning department! The purpose of zoning is to serve the township community by promoting public health, safety, and morals through orderly development. Zoning provides a legal means for carrying out a responsible growth plan by designating districts for residential, commercial, and industrial areas. Encouraging the most appropriate land use helps protect property values and maintain the highest and best use for all properties.

This time of year, I spend many of my days assisting the public with project planning, receiving and reviewing zoning applications and permits, working on larger scale development projects in conjunction with Stark County, investigating zoning complaints, conducting on-site inspections, and working closely with both the zoning boards and township trustees. Each day at the office is very full in this flourishing township! If you have any zoning questions, never hesitate to call. I am always happy to help!

Nicole Wilkinson

STORMWATER ISSUES

Dealing with storm water is becoming an issue across the state, including here in Lake Township. Storm water can cause flooding and can contaminate our waterways that are eventually used to collect our drinking water. You can help avoid some of these problems by reducing impervious areas (hard surfaces such as roofs and paved areas) and preventing runoff from these surfaces so that rain soaks into the ground. Planting trees, plants and other vegetation outside of the public right-of-way can help storm water infiltrate the ground and increase evaporation. Rain gardens, rain barrels and similar practices can also reduce runoff. Locating and cleaning any obstructions from private sump pump discharges and downspout drains can be beneficial as well. Catch basins and storm sewer inlets can also become blocked with leaves and debris.

Take a moment and inspect anything that you may have in the road right-of-way in front of your home for debris or leaves. If possible, clean any loose debris from the inlets and/or contact the Road Department for any assistance. By doing some small things, you can have a significant impact on improving storm water management and water quality in our community. Illicit discharge is the unlawful act of disposing, dumping, spilling, emitting or discharging any substance other than stormwater into the stormwater drainage system. The stormwater drainage system includes streets, ditches, catch basins, yard inlets, lakes, ponds and streams. In most cases, stormwater flows directly into our waterways and is not treated at a treatment plant. Anything deposited into the storm drain flows directly into our waterways, causing pollution.

Some examples of illicit discharges are:

- Paint being poured into or near the storm drainage system.
- Changing oil or antifreeze over or near a storm structure.
- Washing vehicles with soap where the runoff could drain into the storm drainage system.
- Washing dumpster pads and allowing the runoff to drain into the storm drainage system.
- Draining swimming pool water into the street or a storm sewer inlet.

Due to Federal and State requirements, Lake Township is being proactive in keeping our environment clean and reducing water pollution, if you see a potential illicit discharge, please contact Stark County Soil and Water Conservation.

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!



www.facebook.com/LakeTownshipStarkCountyOhio/





FROM THE UNIONTOWN POLICE CHIEF:

It's hard to believe Spring is already here. Our department has been very busy taking reports for residents who have become victims of scams. So many have lost thousands of dollars due to falling for scams. As much as we see it discussed on the news, online, hear about it from friends and family, it's easy to fall victim to these predators stealing your money. Recently we have seen a higher increase in people under the age of 21 falling victim to scams on apps and online through social media apps like Snapchat, Steam, Discord, etc. We do want to warn everyone about some of the most common scams to be aware of and we

ask that you warn anyone you know who is in the more senior population of these scams.

The FBI reported that people over the age of 60 are the most highly targeted and they continue to be a priority for the FBI in combating financial exploitation.

Toll Scam: fraudulent text message or email warning about unpaid tolls that must be to avoid fines

Jury Duty Scam: Scammers impersonate court officials to demand payment for missed jury duty.

Cryptocurrency Scams: Various schemes involving fake investments in cryptocurrency.

Phishing Scams: Someone attempts to obtain sensitive information by disguising as a trustworthy entity on electronic communications. These scammers pretend to be a friend, relatives, celebrity, politician, businessperson, government agent, delivery person or company representative.

Romance Scam: Scammers often steal someone's identity or create fake profiles on dating and social media apps to meet victims.

Chief Michael P. Batchik

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 TRUSTEES

12360 Market Avenue North
Hartville, Ohio 44632

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CANTON OH
PERMIT NO. 82

MEET OUR FIRE/EMS SERVICE

Lake Township contracts with and enjoys professional fire and emergency protection from three private fire companies: Greentown, Hartville and Uniontown. They have the township divided into service areas, and together they ensure that all areas of the township are protected and that everyone receives prompt and efficient service. This is what each and every citizen deserves, regardless of where they live. Residents don't have to worry about which one to call, though. A call to "911" will bring the right one. All of the fire companies have measures in place and work with one another and with neighboring communities. That's why equipment from more than one fire company is sometimes seen at some emergency scenes.



Fire-response and EMS service is provided by each of the fire companies. All three have fully-trained EMT's and paramedics on duty around the clock.

It's important to remember that the firefighters and paramedics are not employees of local government. All three fire companies are under the direction of a Fire Board and each fire department has its own chief. They have paid staff to man the stations 24/7. Each of the fire companies is a separate, licensed, private, non-profit Ohio corporation which provides service under contracts with Lake Township, financed by revenues from tax levies. The fire companies do some fund-raising of their own, as well as applying for grants for training and similar purposes. All three companies own and maintain their own buildings and equipment.



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.