

# LAKE TOWNSHIP Newsletter



EDITION NO. 105 — MAY 2026

A Service of the Board of Lake Township Trustees

## IT'S SPRING CLEAN-UP TIME!

Lake Township will sponsor a Spring Cleanup for Wednesday, June 3, 2026, through Friday, June 5, 2026, from 8:00 A.M. - 8:00 P.M. and Saturday, June 6, 2026, from 8:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M. The township will no longer accept tires of any kind during the cleanup events. No yard waste will be accepted. No hazardous materials will be accepted, including, but not limited to batteries of any type, propane tanks, paint, antifreeze, etc. Township businesses will be allowed to dispose of no more than one pickup truck load during the cleanup.



The cleanup will be held behind the Road Department building at 1499 Midway St. Directional signs will be posted. This service is for Lake Township residents only. Residents will be expected to unload their own vehicles. Identification will be checked.

## LAKE TOWNSHIP YARD WASTE FACILITY

The Yard Waste Facility opened for the season on April 3. The Facility is for Lake Township and Village of Hartville residents ONLY. The cost for users is \$25.00 per year for the one (1) key card permitted per household. More information may be seen on our website, Facebook page and from our office staff (330.877.9479). For lost key cards, you need to come to the Township administration office with your driver's license or utility bill showing your name and current address. The fee for key card replacement is \$15.00.

## 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](http://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



Sue Grabowski

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**Check Out  
Our Web Site:**  
[www.laketwpstarkco.com](http://www.laketwpstarkco.com)

*It has lots of information about Lake Township!*  
**CHECK OUT COMMUNITY EVENTS** at [www.lakechamber.com](http://www.lakechamber.com)



## President's Corner

I am writing this article on March 27, 2026. It's officially Spring and the temperature is 31 degrees! This past winter season blessed us with some major swings in weather, significant snowfall, and record-setting cold

temperatures, all of which created challenges for our road crew. Their 24-7 response (on a rotation basis) was exceptional, and they maintained the roads in safe navigable condition. We work diligently, using advanced technology to be efficient with our salt application, which is good for the environment and our budget! A new storage building will be constructed early this year, so we have space to properly shelter and maintain our investments in our equipment.

The North Canton Soccer Club has been looking for a new home, and we have been working with them to make the Midway Street property behind the Road Department facility their home. We are providing the land, and the Soccer Club will cover the cost and future maintenance of this development.

Property maintenance is an issue that we deal with in a variety of ways every year. Vacant properties must be mowed and noxious weeds dealt with for the benefit of everyone in our township. Lake Township is among the most desirable places to live in Stark County. My desire is to see that everyone takes pride in their properties, which enhances and maintains the charm and property values for everyone. We take no joy in sending letters to cut and destroy weeds or clean up neglected and cluttered properties.

Our search for a new Zoning Administrator is over. Following several interviews with qualified candidates, we selected Brian Koher to join the Lake Township Team in this role. Brian is experienced and well prepared for this position. Our plans this year for zoning include formalizing an agreement with American Structurepoint to help us develop a comprehensive plan with community input so that future growth in Lake will meet the community expectations and happens through a planned and positive process.

*John Arnold*



## From your Fiscal Officer

Thank you for your continued support and pride in our Township. As your Fiscal Officer, I am pleased to share an update on our current financial position and outlook for the year ahead.

**Road Department Budget:** We will soon begin this year's paving program, which is expected to be consistent with those completed in recent years. Additionally, construction of the new road department building will begin shortly. Funding for this project has already been designated and budgeted.

**Police Department Budget:** Personnel costs, including wages and related expenses, account for over 90% of the annual police budget. At this time, there are no plans to purchase new cruisers this year, and building repair and maintenance costs are expected to remain minimal.

**Revenue Growth:** Our investment strategy continues to generate additional revenue for the Township. This year, we have shifted toward shorter-term CDARS investments, providing greater flexibility to adjust our approach as we monitor local and national economic conditions.

I encourage you to watch our meetings live on Facebook. Our meetings are every second and fourth Monday at 5:00 P.M. All of our financial records are read into our meeting minutes. Information can also be found at [www.OhioCheckbook.com](http://www.OhioCheckbook.com).

*Matthew Erb*



## ZONING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEWS

This is a new position, responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Lake Township Zoning Resolution, review of development projects for long-range implications, and assisting the public with planning and zoning matters. In addition, this position is responsible for advancing Lake Township's economic development initiatives, fostering business and community partnerships, and supporting the strategic expansion of the township's commercial and industrial footprint, provided that they are in alignment with community goals the comprehensive land-use plan, and the zoning resolution.



### **From your Zoning and Economic Development Administrator:**

Hello friends:

I'd like to introduce myself as your new Lake Township Zoning Administrator. It is an honor to represent our Zoning Department and to service this great community, and I look forward to working with you all.

I was born in Portage County, where I still reside. I obtained my Bachelor of Arts degree in Environmental Studies at Hiram College. I have more than 20 years of zoning and survey work experience, including residential and commercial properties.

*Brian Koher*



### **From The Uniontown Police Chief:**

As we welcome the arrival of spring and the warmer temperatures that come with it, our community begins to come alive again. We see more residents out walking, families enjoying time together, and children playing in our neighborhoods. It's a great time of year but it also comes with a shared responsibility to keep everyone safe.

With more pedestrians and kids outside, I want to remind all drivers to remain alert and follow all traffic laws. Please be especially mindful of your speed in residential areas and allotments. Speeding and failing to completely stop at stop signs significantly increase the risk of accidents, particularly when children may unexpectedly enter the roadway. A few extra seconds of caution can prevent a lifetime of regret.

We also recognize that warmer weather brings more outdoor gatherings, cookouts, and time spent with family and friends. We encourage everyone to enjoy these moments, but also be respectful of your neighbors. Please be mindful of noise levels during the evening hours, including loud music, so that everyone in our community can enjoy the season comfortably.

Additionally, as activity increases, so does the opportunity for criminal behavior. Each year, we see a rise in thefts from unlocked vehicles. These are often crimes of opportunity. We strongly encourage residents to lock their vehicles, remove valuables, and avoid leaving items in plain sight. Taking these steps can go a long way in preventing you from becoming a victim.

Our goal is to ensure that this spring and summer are safe and enjoyable for all. Thank you for your continued partnership and commitment to keeping our community a great place to live.

*Chief Michael P. Batchik*



Dan Kameron

## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR ROAD SUPERINTENDENT

Welcome to Spring 2026!

The Township Road Department has had a very active winter season, handling snow and ice control, responding to minor roadway flooding, clearing debris from windstorms, and performing routine maintenance on equipment, buildings, and signage. Crews have also been addressing potholes and completing small roadway repairs. With warmer weather approaching, preparations for paving season are underway. Roadways and catch basins are currently being evaluated, and once assessments are complete, the Board of Trustees will review the findings and determine which roads will be resurfaced this year. Concerns about speeding continue to be one of the most common issues reported in Lake Township. While many assume this occurs mainly on busier roads, it is just as common on neighborhood streets and cul-de-sacs: areas primarily used by local residents. So why does this happen? One contributing factor is familiarity. When drivers frequently travel the same roads, they become very comfortable with the layout and conditions. This sense of familiarity can lead to increased speeds because the road “feels” safe.

However, this perception can be misleading. Drivers naturally slow down in unfamiliar areas, but on local roads, it is important to remain just as cautious. Please be mindful of your speed—these streets are where our families and neighbors live. Picture working along a roadway, directing traffic safely through a construction zone or unexpected incident. Each motion and signal plays a role in protecting both drivers and workers. This important responsibility belongs to trained flaggers, who help maintain safe and orderly traffic flow during lane closures and roadway work.

The Lake Township Road Department utilizes flagging operations and mobile work zones whenever possible to enhance safety for everyone involved. Drivers are urged to stay alert, reduce speed, and use extra caution when traveling through these areas.

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

*Daniel R. Kameron*

## MUD AND DEBRIS ON ROAD POLICY

Contractors and residents are reminded to keep construction sites and properties in a condition that prevents mud and debris from being carried onto public roads. If material is tracked onto the street, it should be removed as soon as possible. If Township crews are required to perform cleanup, charges will be applied at a rate of \$50.00 per hour per piece of equipment with an operator. Additional labor costs will be billed based on current wage rates and fringe benefits. For more information, please contact the Lake Township Road Department at 330.877.8359.

## STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

Managing stormwater continues to be a growing challenge throughout the state, including here in Lake Township. Uncontrolled runoff can contribute to flooding and transport pollutants into waterways that serve as sources of drinking water. Homeowners can help reduce these impacts by limiting hard, non-absorbent surfaces and encouraging water to soak into the ground. Adding trees, landscaping, and other vegetation outside the public right-of-way can improve absorption and reduce runoff. Tools such as rain gardens and rain barrels are also effective solutions.

Routine maintenance around your property can also make a difference. Ensure that sump pump outlets and downspout drains are functioning properly and free of obstructions. Leaves and debris can accumulate in catch basins and storm sewer inlets, restricting water flow. Taking time to clear these areas—or contacting the Road Department for assistance—can help prevent drainage issues. Small efforts at home can collectively improve water quality across the community.

Illicit discharge remains a serious concern. This refers to the improper release of any substance other than stormwater into the drainage system, which includes streets, ditches, catch basins, yard inlets, and natural waterways. Because this system does not treat water before it enters rivers and streams, pollutants can directly impact the environment. Common examples include:

- Dumping paint into or near storm drains
- Performing vehicle maintenance where fluids can enter the drainage system
- Washing vehicles with soap that flows into storm drains
- Cleaning dumpster areas without containing runoff
- Releasing pool water into streets or storm inlets

To meet environmental regulations and protect local water resources, Lake Township is committed to preventing pollution. If you notice a possible illicit discharge, please report it to Stark County Soil and Water Conservation.

## 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](http://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](http://www.laketwpstarkco.com)) and on the Stark-Tuscarawas-Wayne Joint Solid Waste District Web site ([www.timetorecycle.org](http://www.timetorecycle.org)).

## 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.

## PROPER DISCHARGE OF SWIMMING POOL WATER

When swimming season is over, pool owners need to be careful of how and where they discharge swimming pool water when they lower the level of their pool. The discharging of chlorinated swimming pool water directly into a waterway or into a storm sewer is prohibited. Always drain your pool water in an approved manner.

The storm sewer system (which includes ditches and pipes) was designed to handle runoff from rain and snow only. The water is not treated before it is discharged into area creeks and rivers. If the water contains chlorine, it can be very toxic to fish and other aquatic plants and animals. Therefore, swimming pool water must be de-chlorinated before being discharged. The simplest method is to stop adding chlorine to your uncovered pool and wait. Sunlight will naturally dissipate the chlorine within a few days (minimum 48 hours of sun). It can also be reduced by adding a chemical called sodium thiosulfate, which is available at pool stores (always follow the directions). Monitor the chlorine level with a swimming pool chlorine test kit. When there is no longer any detectable chlorine in your swimming pool, it is safe to discharge the water. When discharging the water, allow it to flow over a grassy area at a slow rate to allow for some filtration of the water. This should be completed to allow the discharge to follow the natural water course and will not discharge onto a neighboring property as well.





## LAKE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

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### 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 station 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 fundraising 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.