



Washington

T O W N S H I P

www.washington-twp.com

Fall 2013

Issue Number 33

TRUSTEE NEWS

It seems like only yesterday we sent out the spring newsletter, and here it is September already. The locust are sounding out the approach of yet another fall season here at the southern most tip of Lake Erie.

With the advent of cooler weather, it is time to think about all those tasks associated with winter in our neck of the woods. As the trees shed their coats of many colors we will break out the leaf rakes and snow shovels.

Each of us routinely make sure our snow-blowers are tuned up and our windows and doors are caulked and sealed up for the winter blast. We are buying plenty of firewood and sidewalk salt, getting ready for short days and long nights. But don't forget, as the last leaf makes its way to the ground, and the trees have completed their annual show of colors in preparation for their long winters nap. The gutters, don't forget to clean the gutters.

Gutters and downspouts can be the number one source of roof and basement leaks and moisture. Leaves, twigs, and bird nests find their way into our eaves and downspouts, silently creating almost undetectable calamity by damming up the flow of water away from the structure.

So this one time of year you can allow your mind to gravitate to the gutters. It may save you an untold amount of grief as well as dollars.

While I am on the subject of maintenance, do any of you recall the childhood taunt, "sticks and stones may break my bones?" If you do, sticks and stones may also break our road crews leaf pickup equipment. Try to keep leaves only in the leaves placed at the road side for pick up. All other debris should be placed in other refuse containers or taken to the yard waste facility, located on Stickney Ave. It is free! All of your yard waste can be disposed of, check it out. It's one of the best kept secrets in the area.

On a similar note, before the snow flies, take a drive down your street, and when you come to your house drive by and try and see it as your neighbors do. We sometimes get so use to seeing the place where we reside, we become blind to an unsightly pile of brush or lumber or yard toys that have out lived their usefulness and are stacked along side our garage or other places in our yard.

Do yourself and your neighbors a favor and discard the unsightly and unwanted items, and unclutter your yard. If something is broken repair it, or discard it. If something needs painting, please paint it.

We live in a clean, safe community. Let's keep it that way. If we all do our part Washington Township will continue to be a community we can continue to be proud of!

FISCAL OFFICER

HELP FOR THE HOLIDAYS PROGRAM

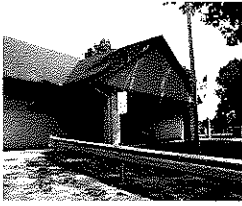
Your help and information is needed for our Holiday program for our residents. Donations will be gratefully received at the Township Hall. Last year was a great success, thanks to our residents and employees donations. Please notify us if you know of any township residents that may need some help for the Holiday Season with food, clothing, toys etc.

Thank you for all your interest and consideration.

PLEASE SUPPORT ALL OUR COMMERCIAL BUSINESSES ALONG SUMMIT STREET

Welcome Cory Sipert of American Builders at the Merchants Landing, who is making great progress with the property.

Thank you to all for helping our businesses and residents.



PARK DEPARTMENT



SHORELAND PARK

Quite a few children took advantage of the park's supervised activities this year. The children spent many days paper crafting, bingo, and playing games outdoors. All who participated seemed to enjoy a safe place to play and get to make new friends in the process. Remember that next year, we will be having the supervised activities again. It is open to all children, those 6 and under must be accompanied by a caregiver.

PET/PARK SAFETY

There are 2 dog poo bag stations at Shoreland Park. One is next to the service garage and the other one is by the baseball diamond near Woodfox and Belpre. We have noticed that the majority of dog owners are utilizing the bags, and we thank you!. Keep in mind that the state law requires that dogs must be restrained by a leash or teather. For more information on the laws regarding pets, a copy is available at the Township Hall.

PARK SHELTER HOUSE RENTALS

If anyone is have a birthday party, graduation party, baby shower, or family reunion and would like to rent the hall please call or e-mail the park superintendent.



POLICE DEPARTMENT



DUMP THE DRUGS

The Washington Township Police Department has again partnered with the Washington Township Fire Department and the United States D.E.A to provide a safe, secure, and convenient way to dispose of old outdated and unwanted drugs. Saturday October 26th between 10:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M. at the Township Fire Station on Shoreland Avenue. Prescription and "over the counter" drugs in any form will be accepted. Also accepted are syringes, applicators, and other utensils that are used to distribute and deliver drugs.....no questions asked.

This will be the third time we have offered this program. Last Spring this successful program resulted in more than 80 pounds of unwanted drugs being disposed of in a safe and secure manner. Spread the word, as this is not limited to just Washington Township residents anyone may participate!

WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE TOWNSHIP?

Wonder why the Police were stopped down the street, or why the Fire Department was in such a big hurry? Each week in the Point & Shoreland Journal a section called The Daily Log lists all of the activity of the Washington Township Police Department. We never list names or house number in the log, but we do list what the type of incident occurred.

SCHOOL DAYS

Hear that sound? Or rather; hear the silence? Yep! It's back to school time, and that means several important things. During selected times in the morning and afternoon "SCHOOL SPEED LIMITS" take effect in and around school buildings. The school speed limit drops to 20 MPH. On Suder Avenue where Shoreland Elementary is located, the area along Suder, East Harbor and Alexis is affected by the "School Speed Limits." Traffic citations issued for violating the posted speed limit are expensive and may require a court appearance. The Police Department again this year will be observing traffic around Shoreland Elementary. When leaving for work in the mornings be extra alert for students waiting at bus stops and walking through the neighborhoods. Those big yellow school buses will also be out in force picking up and dropping off the students. Look for the flashing YELLOW lights and prepare for the RED flashing lights on the bus as it approaches the bus stop. When the red lights flash and the side "STOP" sign swings out; ALL TRAFFIC MUST STOP!

You may find additional School related information by going to www.washloc.k12.oh.us. We wish all students the BEST OF LUCK in this new school year!

Police Department continues on back page....



ROAD DEPARTMENT



In November our renewal levy will be on the ballot this is NOT a "New Tax." This levy will help us maintain the excellent roads conditions and many more things that we do for you and our Township.

I would like to Thank You for your Support.

Our annual road crack sealing program focused on the Raintree neighborhood this year. We used a tar and chip method to repair some of the areas. Be careful because there is a lot of loose stone in those sections.

We want to thank everybody for their cooperation with blocked streets, tore up driveways, all the noise, and most of all the dust. It was estimated that 80% of all the curbs on Shoreland had to be replaced. Thanks again for your cooperation and understanding.

We have been trying to keep up with the blight problem. Once we get the okay to cut the property, it is just a matter of a few days that we will be there to remedy the tall grass. If you notice a house that is vacant please let us know so we can forward this information on to the police department so they can do a house check on that property. This will help in keeping the neighborhood cleaner and safer. As you most know that if a property stands vacant for any amount of time , some people will come out and strip the house of anything of value.

With the "back to school bugs" singing their song, you know that fall is just around the corner. That means that the leaves will be falling soon. When you are doing your yard to rid the leaves, we ask that you do not put the leaves into the street, place them next to the curb, or roads edge. No twigs or branches please. And most important of all, no parking in the street next to your leaf piles.

After the leaves have fallen, sad to say that nasty four letter word (snow) will start. The road department is currently preparing the trucks for this task. If the forecast calls for a snow fall 2 inches or more please do not park in the street. This will eliminate your car from being "plowed in". Here are some tips that help us to remove the snow:

- ➔ Stay back at least 50 feet from the rear of the snow plow.
- ➔ Park your car in the driveway, and do not have any part of your vehicle hanging on to the street.
- ➔ Avoid passing or driving next to the trucks.
- ➔ When doing your driveway, avoid placing snow back in to the street.
- ➔ Remove all obstacles from the "road-right-of-way" clear zone.

The best rule of thumb when clearing your driveway; when you are looking at your house from the end of the driveway, place your snow on the LEFT side of driveway. Otherwise when the plow goes by it will not push that much snow back into your driveway. Please do not put the snow in the street. Remember that we do have a "curb to curb" snow removal policy.

ZONING DEPARTMENT

VISIBILITY AND PUBLIC SAFETY

Lucas County and Washington Township regulations do not allow obstructions in the road right-of-way. Examples of such obstructions are as follows:

Address posts, rocks, wood, concrete/masonry blocks, spikes, bushes and plants.

SUBDIVISIONS ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAYS

FULLERS, RAIN TREE, SHORELAND HEIGHTS –60 FEET

FULLERS CUL-DE-SACS, ALEXIS PLACE AND SHORELAND PROPER—50 FEET

MAJOR ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAYS

SHORELAND-60 FEET, SUDER-50 FEET

SUDER AND SUMMIT- AVAILABLE BY CALLING 419.392.5381

If your road right of way is 60 foot then you would measure 30 feet from the center of the road into your yard, that entire 30 feet is all road right-of-way and needs to be a **CLEAR ZONE**.

Unauthorized obstructions (including sight distance obstructions) in the right-of-way will be removed by County or Township personnel.

Zoning Department continues on back page



WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Matthew J. Hart

Matt Hart Rick Phillips George Green Moe Collins
Jim Binienda
Ron Kay Heather Bacon Doug Danyko Bill Long
Bill Dawn Jacob Cook Ryan Alek Josh Miranda
Chad Kindred John Henry Jeff Snyder Jon Parker
Mike Bailey Adam Kesselmayr Mark Huss Zach Miramontes
Steve Franklin Rob Priebe Jason Stacy Liz Swisher
Jason Ford Mike Fox Tom Yunker Joe Reams
Brent Draeger

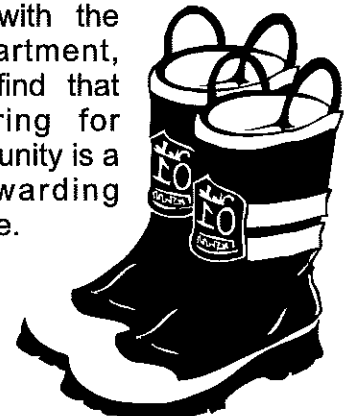
DO YOU RECOGNIZE ANYONE ???

These are the men and women that proudly serve your community.

The firefighters of Station 72. Each serves with pride. Each offers a very valuable service - a service that lives depend on. These firefighters are always ready while they wait for the next fire, the next storm, the next medical emergency or the next accident. Their dedication truly exhibits the pride that is found within the heritage of the fire service. Truth be told - Our community cannot do without them.

Right now we are looking for recruits to fill 11 openings for our Winter Fire Academy that will begin in January. Applications are required and must be picked up in person at the fire station on any Wednesday evening.

We need your help. If you are interested in becoming a firefighter with the WTFD, stop in and talk to us. I guarantee that by being involved with the fire department, you will find that volunteering for our community is a truly rewarding experience.



Other News

- We have once again received a grant from the federal government to purchase a new Air Compressor. This special compressor is used to refill our breathing air tanks that our firefighters wear on their backs. Our current compressor is well over 20 years and is not compliant with current standards.
- Our emergency response run volume is trending down from last year. Hopefully with your help this can continue. Remember all of the fire safety tips to keep your family safe.
- Upcoming Events -
Fire Prevention Week - October 6th - 12th
Halloween Candy Check - October 31st
Feather Party - Join in the fun on Nov 22nd & 23rd
- Follow us on Facebook for more photos and updates.



POLICE DEPARTMENT continues...



HOW WAS YOUR DAY?

Parents, children and grandparents do you set aside some time each day to chat with family members? Share a meal, projects or just have family time together and talk? Unfortunately, for many folks the answer is no. Communication is so important, especially with school age children. When your student comes home take time to ask "how was your day?" Answers may surprise you, and may even put a smile on your face. Young children are busting at the seams to be asked this question, or to find out what has happened at school or on the bus. Answers will range from who has the coolest back pack to who had milk shooting out of their noses at lunch! Take some time and just ask "HOW WAS YOUR DAY?"

SAFETY ON THE WEB

The internet is a wonderful and informative tool, however, everyone must practice safety while surfing. Elaborate phishing schemes are occurring constantly. Some safety tips to remember while surfing and checking your e-mail, never give out your password or other personal information such as checking account numbers. E-Mails that arrive from banks warning you that your account is in danger of being deleted or frozen unless you re-register on a web site are phishing schemes. Banks never e-mail clients asking for any type of information or requesting that you re-register. If in doubt to any e-mail authenticity, simply contact by telephone the institution that is e-mailing you. Lottery contests are another phishing scheme, especially when from a foreign country, or one that you have never physically entered. Just delete these e-mails, and remember, if it sounds too good to be true.....IT IS AND DELETE IT!!

HALLOWEEN IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER

Halloween is only a little more than a month away, once again the Township Police Department will be partnering with the Township Fire Department for the Halloween candy inspection. This year as in the past, the candy inspection will be held at the Fire Station on Shoreland Halloween night between 6:00 P.M. until the last piece of bubble gum is checked out. This event is open to everyone regardless of residency.

The Township Police Department will be out in force during trick or treating. As of this report the time for "Trick or Treating" in Washington Township will be October 31st 6:00 P.M. To 8:00 P.M. We ask all ghosts and goblins to be respectful and only approach houses with porch lights burning or houses that obviously are inviting Trick or Treaters to stop by.

Parents, we are asking for your help this Halloween by creating safe costumes and a safe environment for your youngsters. Costumes should include some type of reflective material. Trick or Treaters should also carry some type of flash light so that motorists can see your youngster after dark. Consider keeping young children in groups with other youngsters and accompanied by at least one adult or older responsible sibling. We have not had any incidents in the past, however, we are asking parents to go over some common sense rules with regards to behavior and having candy inspected prior to being consumed.

ZONING DEPARTMENT continues...

FIREWOOD

Woodpiles must be elevated six inches, located six feet off the lot lines, and can not exceed six feet high.

Please feel free to call your zoning inspector with any questions or concerns at 419.392.5381.

Thank you to the residents that have cooperated and complied with zoning regulation requests.

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TOWNSHIP HALL ADDRESS

5714 Blessing Dr.
Toledo, Ohio 43612

OFFICE HOURS - POLICE

Monday through Friday
8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

OFFICE HOURS - ELECTED OFFICIALS ASSISTANT

Monday through Friday
8:00 A.M. to 12:00 noon