

Washington TOWNSHIP

www.washington-twp.com

Fall 2014

Issue Number 35

TRUSTEE NEWS

From the Trustees...

It's hard to believe that summer is almost over. By the time you have a chance to read this newsletter, school will have started, Labor Day will have come and gone, and our gardens will be on their way out. Autumn leaves will have started to change their colors and we will be contemplating the effect the fall back in daylight savings time will have in our daily activities. Yes, fall is in the air!

Each of our department heads for Washington Township will take a few moments to reflect upon how this seasonal change will effect their particular areas of responsibility and pass on to you a few tips that will ease the transition from summer to fall activities.

As we begin to prepare our homes and lives for the winter months ahead, with the advent of up and coming succession of holidays that rapidly follow, the trustees urge each of our residents to, enjoy the seasonal change and celebrate the holidays with great joy.

The trustees have passed a resolution by unanimous vote to place on this years ballot in November a renewal levy for our fire department with a modest increase of 3.75 mills to support our fire and rescue service.

Keeping our fire department up to date and to the highest standards possible in the areas of training and equipment is a never ending endeavor and requires constant vigilance to do so.

In conclusion, we the Trustees, conduct our regular monthly trustee meetings on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm however, our board meetings for the months of September and October will be held at the Fire Station located at 2469 Shoreland Avenue. It is a good time to see what's happening in our Township, meet the Trustees and Department Heads and ask any questions you might have about our community and it's services to each of you.

We encourage you to come out and join us. We will greet you and make you feel welcomed.

Respectfully,

The Washington Township Trustees

Ken Kay, Denise Rex, John Henry

September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

1 - Labor Day – Office Closed
18 – Trustee Meeting at 7:30 pm at Fire Station

November

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

4 – Election Day
11 - Veterans Day – Office Closed
20 – Trustee Meeting at 7:30 pm at Township Hall
27 - Thanksgiving Day – Office Closed
28 – Office Closed

October

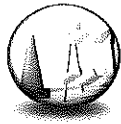
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

5 – Open House at Fire Station
13 - Columbus Day – Office Closed
16 – Trustee Meeting at 7:30 pm at Fire Station
19 – Town Hall Meeting at Fire Station
23 – Town Hall Meeting at Fire Station
31 - Halloween

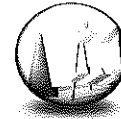
December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1		

18 – Trustee Meeting at 7:30 pm at Township Hall
24 – Jan 1 – Office Closed
25 - Christmas
31 - New Year's Eve



ROADS DEPARTMENT



Due to the harsh winter we had last season, we had our share of road repairs that developed over the spring and summer. During the annual crack sealing program we concentrated in the Creekside and North Pointe areas of the township. In just these two areas we applied twice the amount of hot tar than we usually apply. We also applied hot spray tar and stone in various parts of the township due to severity of the road condition. Currently we are working on two storm sewer cave-in projects, we have already repaired a few other sewers that collapsed. While repairing the sewers we noticed a lot of blue advertising bags in the streets and driveways. These bags, when it is raining float down to the sewers and plug them up. Some of the items that have been removed out of the storm sewers are: blue and yellow advertising bags, phone books, magazines, golf balls, tennis balls, miscellaneous car parts, and concrete also a lot of **grass clippings**. Please when cutting your grass please do not allow your grass clippings to go out into the street if so just blow the street off. Remember that the street sewers are for water only, they all flow into the local streams

Last year during the annual leaf pickup we collected over 770 cubic yards. Thanks to all who kept the branches and tree twigs out of the piles. In doing this we had no breakdown of equipment. We plan to start this year's leaf pick up toward the end of October.

This past winter we saw a lot of residents throwing their snow into the street, we ask you to please stop doing this. When you do this you are creating a road hazard which could result in an accident. Also this causes us to use extra road salt and more man hours.

This year we have purchased two new dump trucks. They will replace the Ford L8000 which is 24 years old, which is costing a considerable amount of money in repairs, the second truck is the Top Kick, which is 22 years old. We have done a three year study on both vehicles and discovered the purchase of new vehicles would be more beneficial, time saving, and cost efficient. These trucks will help prevent downtime that we currently experience with the fleet that we now have. We are hoping to put these two new trucks in service by January 1, 2015.

FISCAL OFFICER NEWS

2014 FUNDS	1.1.2014 BALANCE	TO DATE 8.21.14 RECEIPTS	TO DATE 8.21.14 EXPENDED	8.21.14 BALANCE
General	\$329,910.03	\$119,682.21	\$92,941.13	\$356,651.11
Motor Vehicle License Tax	\$2,415.13	\$2,477.58	\$3,246.97	\$1,645.74
Gasoline Tax	\$89,803.54	\$59,240.03	\$75,291.05	\$73,752.52
Road and Bridge	\$8,245.52	\$54,759.07	\$42,825.14	\$20,179.45
Special Levy Police	\$295,679.15	\$441,653.77	\$329,545.59	\$407,787.33
Special Levy Fire	\$35,096.98	\$149,565.98	\$183,142.23	\$1,520.73
Special Levy Park	\$94,313.77	\$52,055.87	\$40,051.41	\$106,318.23
Permissive Motor Vehicle License Tax	\$10,607.75	\$5,280.97	\$4,028.15	\$11,860.57
Law Enforcement Trust	\$38,228.40	\$1,186.50	\$-	\$39,414.90
Enforcement and Education	\$5,197.39	\$217.00	\$-	\$5,414.39
Special Revenue Lighting	\$8,195.33	\$11,475.38	\$17,278.04	\$2,392.67
	\$917,692.99	\$897,594.36	\$788,349.71	\$1,026,937.64

Each Department must operate within their budget. General Fund is for general administrative expenses, emergencies and blight removal, it is the only fund that may give money to other funds. Road Department operates out of the Motor Vehicle License Tax, Gasoline Tax, Road and Bridge, and Permissive Motor Vehicle License Tax Funds. Police Department operates out of the Special Levy Police, Law Enforcement Trust, and Enforcement and Education Funds. Special Revenue Lighting is to pay Toledo Edison for our street lights. Fire Department operates out of the Special Levy Fire Fund. All of our departments have suffered from the decrease in revenue from property taxes. The hardest hit has been the Fire Fund.

- Please make sure your vehicles are registered under Washington Township, not the city.
- Information is available at the Township Hall; financial reports, POINT SHORELAND JOURNAL,
- dog laws, recycling, maps, township meeting minutes and other items of interest.
- A notary is available at the Township Hall, call to make arrangements if you require this service.
- If you live and work in our Township you are not subject to the City of Toledo's 2.25% payroll tax.



POLICE DEPARTMENT



SCHOOL TIME:

No doubt you have noticed some commotion in the early morning hours, then.....QUIET. That can only mean one thing; A New School Year Is Upon Us!! A mixture of delight and sadness abounds as academia is now in full swing. Taking a moment to review school safety Practices with your youngsters as well as yourself is quite important. As a driver we ask you to slow down on residential streets in the morning and mid afternoon. The big yellow school buses play a huge part of your child's school experience. *Remember!* When the REDS FLASH the Traffic STOPS! During restricted hours in and around the school buildings or children present, the speed limits DROP to 20 MPH. Again, this year parents and grandparents to set a good example for the children, and for reasons of safety; we ask that you do not park in a location where you must "J-Walk" to get to or from the school building. Please have an ongoing discussion with your children on the importance of crossing the street at crosswalks using the traffic lights. Explain to your child never to accept a ride with a stranger, and what to do should they be approached. A good rule of thumb would be to develop a "secret code" that would be used, should someone unfamiliar to your child be sent to pick up him or her from school.

Last and certainly not the end, take time to talk and LISTEN about your child's day at school, these are precious and time flying days; something as seemingly unimportant about who spilled their milk at lunch, or who has the coolest back pack makes a huge impact on your child. We sincerely hope that EVERYONE has a great school year!

OH GREAT PUMPKIN WHERE ARE YOU!?!?

To coin a phrase, but Halloween is just around the corner. This year as in years past the Washington Township Police will be out in force to make sure that there are no unpleasant tricks. We also ask that parents be aware of who your youngsters are out with, and that they do not sample any of the treats until you or someone responsible inspects the packaging. Again, this year we will be working with the Township Fire Department on candy inspections. The inspections will take place at the Township Fire Station 2469 Shoreland Ave. from 6Pm until ?? This is open to everyone in and around Washington Township, the price is FREE!!

A RECURRING PROBLEM:

For more than a year, areas within the City of Toledo around the Township have been experiencing thefts of tires and rims from parked automobiles. The suspect(s) use a jack to put the vehicle on patio or landscape blocks and remove the wheels. In some cases the vehicle itself was stolen, and later recovered in close proximity to where they had been stolen. We are recommending that whenever possible you park your vehicle in your driveway as close to or inside your garage, and not on the street.

CAR THIEVES CAUGHT AND PROPERTY RETURNED

Over the Summer months we experienced several thefts of Automobiles in the Vistamar and Bahiamar areas. The thefts occurred early Saturday morning 2 weeks in a row. Several other vehicles had property taken by the same thieves during the same time. The thieves also had stolen check books and credit cards that had been left unattended in several of the vehicles that had been rummaged through. Recovery of the stolen vehicles ranged between several hours in one case, and several days in the other. The thieves left a "paper trail" of receipts in one vehicle, and this aided in the apprehension of the thieves. Both suspects that were involved were working together, and in the end both were charged and arrested. Notably we should also add that these two jail birds were also responsible for some burglaries in the Erie Township, Michigan area as well. Detective Sergeant John Van Hersett put in an enormous amount of time on this case, and we thank him for his diligence.

IF YOU SEE OR HEAR SOMETHING...SAY

SOMETHING

You are driving along and you think you saw a flash of light in a dark house, or business. You suddenly wake up during the night thinking you heard a door slam, or some glass breaking. Trust your instincts, and take no chances; call 9-1-1 and report what you think you saw or what you think you heard. We would rather chase shadows and find that a hungry raccoon knocked over a yard table, than find out later that a garage or house has been burglarized. Surprisingly, more times than you think people report when Police Officers are taking a burglary report that they thought they heard something.

Any time you believe or think an intruder may be inside your home, DO NOT HESITATE TO CALL 9-1-1, the Operator will stay on the line with you until the police arrive. If need be, the operator will advise you on how to conceal yourself until help arrives. If you arrive home and it appears that someone has been or is inside your home DO NOT ENTER THE HOME, CALL 9-1-1 AND WAIT FOR THE POLICE TO ARRIVE!

CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

The Washington Township Police Department is offering these crime prevention tips in the hope that together we can count on you helping us to help you.

Lock your vehicle at night and remove all valuables from the vehicle. When you purchase large ticket items such as electronics, never leave the box intact at the curb when you put out the garbage. Tear the box apart and only leave the "blank" portion of the box visible from the street. Consider recycling the box and placing it in the recycle can or recycle dumpster.

When working in your yard, be sure to lock your doors, especially the front doors if you will be working in your back yard.

Close and lock your garage door(s) at night, or any time you leave your house. Consider yard lights with motion detectors.

Consider purchasing outside video cameras with night time view capability. These systems are really becoming affordable and this may lower your homeowners insurance.

We have additional crime prevention tips available by calling the Police Station during normal business hours.



WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Matthew J. Hart

From the time the Water Crisis was announced your Firefighters were actively involved in making sure you were taken care of. We distributed nearly 4,000 bottles of drinking water in just two days, during this time we also responded to several EMS calls, a reported boat fire on the Maumee Bay and a Motor Vehicle Accident on Shoreland. Along the way, we saw many smiles and waves and heard many words of thanks from our residents.

We are grateful for the support of our community

Washington Twp., Who's got your back? WE DO!

 Like us on
Facebook

www.facebook.com/WashingtonTwpFire
Check us out on Facebook, where we regularly post photos of our crews in action. Keep up to date on the fire department's activities and more.



Important Upcoming Events

Trustees Meeting at the Fire house
September 18th 7:30pm

Fire Prevention Week Open House
October 5th 2:00pm - 5:00pm

Trustees Meeting at the Fire house
October 16th 7:30pm

State of the Fire Department Forum
October 19th 2:00pm
October 23rd 7:00pm

Halloween Safety Patrol
October 31st 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Election Day - Remember to Vote!
November 4th



Your Fire Department

Staffed by All Volunteers that give over 10,000 Hours each year, Will be asking for your assistance later this year. Please make time to stop in to find out how you can help. Our firefighters have scheduled an Open House on October 5th from 2:00pm - 5:00pm. Here you will see many demonstrations and can learn more about Your Fire Department.



Is there
a **FIRE** in
you?

Volunteer with WTFD



PARK DEPARTMENT



SHORELAND PARK SUPERVISED ACTIVITIES

Shoreland Park's Supervised Activities began in June and ran through August 15th... Supervised activities include games, crafts, bingo, and much, much more.

We would like to thank Christina Pinciotti for an outstanding program. A couple new additions to this year's summer program were a safety program, and the Junior Watershed Academy. The safety program was conducted by Toledo Edison, and the program taught the children the dangers of down power lines and certain power boxes. The Junior Watershed Academy involved clean water acts as well as the animals found in the water, and different types of soil and plants. This taught the children all about where our water comes from, and what rain water can be used for. Miss Christina and the children also put in a new butterfly garden which was sponsored by the General Motors plant and many other local businesses. Also on August 14th, the children put on the play **Annie** for friends and family. This was accomplished by the outstanding direction given to the children by Miss Christina. All of the children did a great job, and are eager to perform next year. Miss Christina stated that she cannot wait until next summer to work with the children again.

CONFINING YOUR DOG

At all times dogs must be physically restrained by the owner, or keeper by a **leash or tether**. Where you ask? Anywhere in the state of Ohio. This also means in **Shoreland Park**. You are liable for any damage your dog may do to property or people. The penalty for failure to properly confine your dog could be up to **\$250.00 in fines or up to 30 days in jail** so please keep your dogs on a leash and in control. We also have (2) dog bags located at both ends of the park so if your dog does their business please pick it up, this is becoming a real health issue. I have been getting many complaints of dogs not being on a leash or cleaned up after.

ZONING DEPARTMENT

SOME THINGS THAT REQUIRE PERMITS:

- Pools must have a fence with a gate that is locked
- Sheds, gazebos, structures, and additions all have to be a number of feet off the lot lines
- Fences and fence replacement have height restrictions

Violations are issued for:

- Brush, lawn debris, doors, tires, and junk piles
- Houses, garages, fences, sheds, that need paint, holes repaired or rust removed
- Tall grass, weeds, and not trimming fence area
- Road right of way obstructions, including, blocking the view at road intersections
- Parking and storing that does not meet set back requirements

Corner lots = Two front yards

If your yard borders a road that makes it a front yard. Front yards are not for storage, wood piles, or refuse cans, only side and back yards. Please be considerate of your neighbors view of your properties.

Thank you for your continued interest in preserving; property values, safety and pride in our township.

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. The last two years were 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, cloathing, toys etc. Thank you for all your interest and consideration.

PLEASE SUPPORT ALL OUR COMMERICAL BUSINESSES ALONG SUMMIT STREET

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

Thank you to all for helping our businesses and residents.

Washington Township
5714 Blessing Drive
Toledo, Ohio 43612-3912

PRESRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
TOLEDO OH
PERMIT NO 727

1225 **AUTO**5-DIGIT 43612
RESIDENT
5714 BLESSING DR
TOLEDO OH 43612-3912



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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