

TRUSTEE NEWS

We would like to take this time to welcome our newly elected trustee, John Henry to the Board and wish him well in his new endeavor. Congratulations are also in order to Becky Bodette, our Fiscal Officer, for her successful election to another term in office.

A LETTER TO THE RESIDENTS OF WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

We, the Trustees of Washington Township would like to thank all of our residents and employees for their help and support during this past year. Because of this spirit of cooperation, the Township has, in spite of the economic down turn been able to conserve our cash reserves and even managed to save a few of our hard earned tax dollars.

The Fire Department has done their part in economizing by watching their gas and electric utilization, while at the same time keeping their buildings and equipment in top condition. This long term savings can be realized on future repairs and maintenance. To Chief Hart and his band of Brothers keep up the good work!

One of the jobs of our Zoning Department is to keep a watchful eye out for vacant homes that may become neglected and as a result the neat and tidy appearance of our proud little community begins to deteriorate. This is a concern for all of us that live in Washington Township, not just the Zoning Inspector. Do your part by keeping your property neat and clean. High property values benefit everyone. Keeping our community safe and secure comes under the watchful eye of the Washington Township Police Department, headed up by Chief Kaiser. We have a significant investment as a township in this department, for example the men, training and equipment to mention a few areas of our commitment. The patrol vehicles are always clean and in top operational condition. Again, regular maintenance now saves tax dollars in repairs later. Because of regular road patrols, home watches and the watchful eyes of our residences our township remains safe and the crime rate at a low level.

Bryon McIntosh heads up Washington Township's Roads and Park Department. Under his care, Bryon keeps a plate full with a constant eye on the condition of our streets, the appearance of our Park and all the equipment and supplies necessary to maintain them. Shoreland Park is a safe clean place for family fun. With the shelter house rentals and the prospect of a future "Gazebo" being built this spring, Bryon's calendar of events for the park is sure to remain full.

If you haven't noticed, we have a new building on Blessing Drive. The purpose of the new structure is to keep our Police and Roads vehicles out of the weather, and to store township records. The Roads Department does a lot of its own repairs and maintenance adding value and tax dollars saved, to the ever challenging budget.

It takes a community as a whole to create a place we are proud of, a place we call home.

Each of the Departments mentioned earlier continue to work within their budgets, finding new and creative ways to make Washington Township a better place to live.

Washington Township is one of the very few townships in Ohio that stayed in the black. With your help we intend to do the same in the up and coming year.

The Trustees, Department Heads, and our employees are dedicated to making Washington Township a most desirable place to live.

Trustees:

Ken Kay – Chairperson

Denise Rex – Co-Chairperson

John Henry



Trustees, Fiscal Officer, and Department Heads at the first meeting of 2012.

Left to right: Bryon McIntosh, Chief Chris Kaiser, Becky Bodette, John Henry, Denise Rex, Ken Kay, and Chief Matt Hart.

FISCAL OFFICER

2011 FUNDS	1-1-11 BALANCE	2011 +	2011 -	12-31-11 BALANCE
GENERAL	\$202,290.61	\$234,085.04	\$126,149.05	\$310,226.60
MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE TAX	\$8,941.37	\$3,720.74	\$4,000.00	\$8,662.11
GASOLINE TAX	\$122,337.10	\$83,476.51	\$135,131.26	\$70,682.35
ROAD AND BRIDGE	\$47,528.36	\$76,360.28	\$90,479.32	\$33,409.32
SPECIAL LEVY POLICE	\$108,643.40	\$595,813.38	\$521,371.23	\$183,085.55
SPECIAL LEVY FIRE	\$93,987.57	\$228,984.88	\$232,461.98	\$90,510.47
SPECIAL LEVY ROADS	\$12,105.41	\$2,193.56	\$14,298.97	\$-
SPECIAL LEVY PARK	\$78,140.65	\$66,959.38	\$55,990.14	\$89,109.89
PERMISSIVE MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE TAX	\$14,817.69	\$8,356.17	\$4,946.09	\$18,227.77
LAW ENFORCEMENT TRUST	\$38,052.12	\$27,051.77	\$31,376.00	\$33,727.89
ENFORCEMENT AND EDUCATION	\$7,594.23	\$59.09	\$2,475.00	\$5,178.32
SPECIAL REVENUE LIGHTING	\$16,099.64	\$21,486.68	\$22,780.02	\$14,806.30
PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT	\$528.93	\$-	\$528.93	\$-
TOTAL	\$751,067.08	\$1,348,547.48	\$1,241,987.99	\$857,626.57

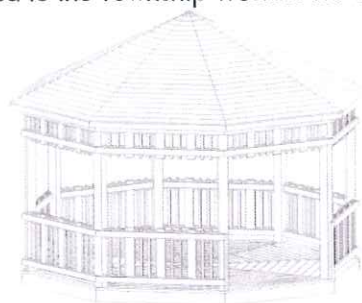


PARK DEPARTMENT



NEW ADDITION

The Park Department has been working with Whitmer High School construction technology class to price out a Gazebo to be built in Shoreland Park. Mr. Krous, the Instructor of Whitmer's class, will be bringing his classroom out to the park to help with the lay out. Once this is completed the quote will be presented to the Township Trustees for consideration.



SHORELAND PARK SUPERVISED ACTIVITIES TO BEGIN JUNE 6, 2012

Shoreland Park's Supervised Activities will begin on June 6th and run through August 17th.

Supervised activities will include games, crafts, bingo and much more. Children must be 7 years old and be able to work on crafts independently or an adult must stay and help them. A permission slip is required. This summer's hours will be Monday through Friday from 10:00a.m.-2:00p.m. There will be no Supervised Activities June 29th, due to Summerfest. Looking forward to seeing all the kids back at the summer actives.

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 full control. We have dog bags located at both ends of the park, so please pick up after your dog this is becoming a real health issue. I have been getting many complaints of dogs not being on a leash.

PARK SHELTER HOUSE

If anyone is having a Birthday Party, Graduation party, Baby Shower or Family Reunion and would like to rent the shelter house please give Bryon McIntosh a call or e-mail him and he will be happy to go over the details with you!!

ZONING DEPARTMENT

	2008	2009	2010	2011
HEARINGS	2	2	4	3
PERMITS	36	40	33	27
STOP WORK NOTICE	2	1	0	1
VIOLATIONS	100	118	86	101
WARNING LETTERS	112	28	48	34

APPLICATIONS		VIOLATIONS		WARNING LETTERS	
ADDITION	2	BLIGHT	80	BLIGHT	2
BUILDING	1	STORAGE	20	SET BACK	3
DECK	2	WOODPILE	1	STORAGE	1
FENCE	9			WOODPILE	10
FIRE REBUILD	1				
GARAGE	2				
PATIO	1				
PORCH	1				
SHED	5				
SIGN	1				
TOWER CHANCE	1				



ROAD DEPARTMENT



Due to the light winter months our annual road crack sealing will start soon. The reason that we do this is sealing the cracks in the roadway helps extend the life of our roads and prevent pot holes. In your travels if you see a pot hole please report it to the Road Department. When you see us doing the crack sealing we ask you that you do not drive on the hot tar.

This year, as time permits, we will be out sweeping the streets, every 3 to 4 weeks. When cutting your grass please do not allow your grass clippings to go out into the street. By not allowing the clippings to go out into the street this helps keep the storm sewers from plugging up. 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 550 cubic yards. Thanks to all that kept the branches and tree twigs out of the piles. In doing this we had no breakdown of equipment.

This April, weather permitting, we will be back out with the leaf vacuum picking up any leaf piles that were put to the curb late last season. Please keep the piles clean of limbs.



WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Matthew J. Hart

Firefighter Training Academy

As of January of this year we have begun a new style of training for all of our new recruits. A formal Training Academy has been instituted that sets a new pace for our department. Firefighter Cadets will undergo extensive training that is designed to build the best firefighters.

Once a month, each Cadet receives specialized training in addition to the weekly training that all of the firefighters receive. Our focus on dedication and safety is incorporated into each session.

The design of this new academy has allowed our department to streamline our training efforts and to very efficiently utilize our resources. Applications are required and must be picked up in person at the fire station on any Wednesday evening.

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 giving back to our community is truly rewarding.



You may now see a new vehicle in the Township. BP Toledo Refinery has donated a Jeep Cherokee to our department. As soon as we received the Jeep, our Firefighters immediately took on the task of installing emergency lights, radios for our communications, and all of the vehicle identification lettering and reflective striping. This Jeep is now in service and will be used to tow one of our trailered apparatus such as our Fire Boat or one of the Rescue Hovercrafts.

From All of your Firefighters - A Big Thank You to everyone that has contributed to our department !



New Kitchen -

Thanks to Very Generous Donations

The Firefighters of Washington Township have been fortunate to receive donations for new kitchen cabinets and a new stove. Fire Chief Matt Hart was elated with the donations and offered to oversee the project, as none of this would be possible without their donations.

Utilizing these donations, the kitchen was designed with the intent that they would last longer and carry the 'Firehouse' into the kitchen. We started the design process by looking at the engines, with lots of Fire Engine Red, Chrome and Diamond plate – and this became the inspiration for the new kitchen.

What sets the design apart from a standard kitchen is the incorporation of the stainless steel door hardware and the diamond-plate kick boards. Chief Hart says – “Who says you can't park a Fire Engine in the kitchen?”

A new neon clock was fabricated that incorporates our new logo that is prominently hung just above the plaque that recognizes all of the people that contributed to the project.



POLICE DEPARTMENT



SPRING IS HERE!

The police department would like to remind all motorists that with the warmer weather approaching people will be spending more time outdoors. This means children on bicycles, people jogging, or even mothers pushing baby strollers. Motorists are being asked to be more vigilant at the sight of children playing or riding bicycles. The police department advises that motorists slow down, obey all traffic signals, and watch your speed. Just a reminder to all, that the speed limit for all residential side streets is 25 miles per hour (MPH). Lastly, the police department will be proactive in traffic enforcement to ensure the safety of all.

HEADLIGHTS ON WHEN IT'S RAINING

Reminder to all motorists that it is an Ohio law that drivers must turn on their headlights when it's raining. If you are using your wipers, then you must have headlights on.

MOTOR SCOOTER INFORMATION

Reminder of Ohio's Motor Scooter Laws:

- Motor scooters and mini-motorcycles have become hot items among children and teenagers. Parents, grandparents, and other family members are spending their hard earned money to purchase scooters and mini-motorcycles-just to find out that most cannot be operated on Ohio's roadways and their children -or grandchildren cannot legally operate the vehicle.
- In Ohio, the motor scooters and mini-motorcycles cannot be legally operated on Ohio's roadways unless they are titled, registered, covered by the proper insurance and the operator is at least 16 years old with a motorcycle license or endorsement on his or her driver's license.
- Most of the small electric and gas powered motor scooters which are sold in sporting good stores and department stores, are not roadworthy, therefore cannot be titled or registered. In order for the scooter or mini-motorcycle to be considered roadworthy each must contain a seat, contain the proper brake lights, turn signals, horn, rearview mirrors and headlights.

It's about your safety, your children's safety and other drivers' safety. If you should have any questions or need further information about the entire law, please contact the Ohio BMV at 614.752.7800 or go to www.bmv.ohio.gov then click on the link pertaining to motor scooter information.

DRUG ACTIVITY

If you believe or have any knowledge of illegal drug activity we encourage you to call our police office 419.726.0478. If you wish, you may remain anonymous. If you do not feel comfortable speaking on the telephone, please mail your tips to the Washington Township Police Department.

UNRULY JUVENILES

We encourage residents to call the police if you should see juveniles out late at night roaming the streets or if you see large groups that appear to be loitering around the neighborhood. Please call 9-1-1 and let an officer determine if they are legitimate to be in the area or if they are up to no good. The police department likes to be proactive in prevention.

NEIGHBORS WATCHING NEIGHBORS

If you are planning a vacation, please let your neighbors know when you will be away and for how long. Also call our station and we will include you on our house check list. If you're out doing yard work, keep your eyes open for anyone who does not appear to belong in the neighborhood. Many times criminals will observe you in the front yard working, while they will sneak into your backyard to enter the unlocked backdoor to your home.

BARKING DOGS

The police department has had numerous complaints regarding dog owners leaving their dogs outside barking. It is understandable that a dog barks at strangers and other animals from time to time, however it is irresponsible of the owner to permit their dog to bark and bark for extend periods where it causes annoyance to their neighbors. Any homeowner or dog owner, who permits a dog to bark where it causes an annoyance to another, could be issued a citation and may have to appear in court.

BEWARE OF THE FIX UP MAN

Usually in the spring while people are outside doing yard work the so called "fix up man" or "con artist" will approach and ask to fix their home, repair a roof leak, clean gutters, or even blacktop their driveway. The police department says "BEWARE". The police department will mention that there are some legitimate contractors who go door to door looking for work, however we encourage residents to not let them in your home and ask for identification. Do not rush to get the work done or sign any contracts until they have been checked out by the BBB or your police department even if they say they are giving you a deal that won't be available tomorrow. If possible get a license plate number of the vehicle that they were driving and again "WHEN IN DOUBT, CALL 9-1-1". Another reminder to residents that if anyone is going door-to-door trying to sell something, they must first stop at Township Hall to register and obtain a permit. If these contractors don't have a permit, call 9-1-1.

TRUSTEES

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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