

TRUSTEE NEWS



TRUSTEES

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FISCAL OFFICER

Becky Bodette

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ELECTED OFFICIALS

ASSISTANT

Judy Guerrero

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ZONING INSPECTOR

Becky Bodette

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New Maps

Lucas County is scheduled to receive final Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRM) in 2009. The preliminary map should be ready in 2008. These maps will be available on line at the **Lucas County Website**. The new maps will show some homes that were in the floodplain are now out. It will also show homes that were not in the floodplain as now being in. It is important to realize that the risk of flooding did not change. New technology allows for better and more accurate maps. Those of you who will now find yourself identified as being in the floodplain should purchase insurance a couple of months before the map goes final in 2009. This could save you on your premiums as you would pay the current rate for your home (Zone X rate). Keeping your policy current protects you from the new rate (Zone AE rate). If you wait until 2009 you will have to pay the new rate (Zone AE).

The preliminary map should be available June 2008. Once it is released we will schedule an informational meeting for our residents.

<http://www.co.lucas.oh.us/Engineer/FloodNews.asp>

We will advertise the meeting announcement in the SHORELAND JOURNAL, THE TOLEDO BLADE and post a notice at Township Hall and the website.

Administrative Office and Zoning Change

In January, the Board of Trustees accepted the resignation of Administrative Assistant Janet Dombkowski. In February, the Board of Trustees accepted the resignation of Zoning Inspector Bill Ducey. We would like to express our appreciation of the work they both have done over the years and wish them the best. Thank you, Janet and Bill.

Welcome

We would like to welcome our newly elected Trustee, Karen Dutkiewicz. Congratulations to Becky Bodette, our Fiscal Officer, for another term. In addition to her duties as Fiscal Officer, Becky has recently been appointed our new Zoning Inspector. Becky has been Washington Township Fiscal Officer for the past 20 years. We are confident that her experience and knowledge will help her meet the needs of the Township as Zoning Inspector.

We also would like to welcome Karen Mayfield as the new Zoning secretary and Sue Johnson Spino, Elected Officials Assistant.



The Washington Township Road Dept would like to Thank all the residents that moved their cars off the road during a snow storm. This makes our job much safer and proficient. The average winter produces around 37” of snow in Toledo . This past winter from the first snow through the month of March we saw just under 60” of snow, which puts the winter of 2008 the 6th snowiest winter on record. This is the reason we used over 240 Ton of salt on the roadways.

ALEXIS PLACE

The Alexis place sewer project is well on the way. That project is about two weeks ahead of schedule according to Under Ground Utilities project manager. I would like to thank all of the residents in Alexis Place for their cooperation during this on going project. If you have any questions regarding this project please give me a call.

SPRING PROJECTS

One of the projects we have planned is our street crack sealing. With all the snow and ice we received in the past winter this opened up many new and old cracks. By us putting down this rubberized and fiber crack sealant each year it helps prevent the roads from forming potholes and it also helps on the life of the road way. We will also be inventorying all of the signs to stay in compliance with the Ohio Department of Transportation. This is due to the Minimum Sign Retroreflectivity Regulations.

PRIVATE SIGNING IN THE RIGHT-OF-WAY

In accordance with the Ohio Revised Code, Section 5411.16 unauthorized advertisement of signing is not permitted in the right-of -way. Such signing could be removed by County or Township personnel.

PLACEMENT OF UNAUTHORIZED ITEMS IN THE RIGHT-OF-WAY

Permit of placement of utilities, drainage tiles or structures, etc. are issued through the Lucas County Engineer on behalf of the Board of Lucas County Commissioners and the Board of Trustees. Unauthorized obstructions including sight distance obstructions in the clear zone could be removed by the County or Township personnel. Examples of obstructions are: Landscaping including trees, shrubs, bushes, rocks, railroad ties, concrete or masonry blocks, spikes, fencing,etc. If you have any questions please give me a call at (419) 726-6908 or E-Mail me at (roads@washington-twp.com).

SHORELAND PARK

We have added two stations in the park where dog bags are available so you may clean up after your pet;

please help us keep the park grounds clean. We have decided to extend the parking lot behind the shelter house; this parking lot will meet all of the American Disability Act Requirements. We did received bids over the winter and the project was awarded to Quinn Concrete.

ZONING

Road Right-Of-Way Clear Zones, setbacks and visibility at intersections are a concern in the Township.

Road Right-Of-Way and Setbacks are measured from the center line of the road.

SUBDIVISIONS - ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY

- 60 Feet Fullers, Raintree, Shoreland Heights
- 50 Feet Fullers Cul-de-sacs
- 25 Feet Alexis Place, Shoreland Proper

Major roadway Right-Of-Way can be obtained by calling 419-726-6621.

MAJOR ROADWAY SETBACKS

- 120 Feet Summit Street
- 100 Feet Shoreland Avenue (East of Summit Street)
- Stickney Avenue
- Suder Avenue
- 75 Feet Shoreland Avenue (West of Summit St.)

Fifty feet from the point where the center of each road intersects is an area where nothing can be located to impede or restrict vision.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

Inoperable vehicles can only be stored outside of an enclosed building for a period of two weeks.

Woodpiles must be elevated six inches, six feet off the lot lines and meet setback requirements.

Domestic refuse needs to be stored in inconspicuously located trash receptacles.

Piles of limbs and debris are prohibited.

ALL ZONING REGULATIONS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE TOWNSHIP’S WEBSITE.

Zoning Commission & Zoning Appeals

The following individuals are the Zoning Boards' members for 2008.

ZONING COMMISSION

Mark Schuster – Chair
Jerry Mayfield – Vice Chair
Jim Binienda
Dianna Curll
Chris Hart

ZONING APPEALS

Matt Hart – Chair
Charles Conner, Jr. – Vice Chair
Harry Thoman
Shirley Gregory
Kathy Gorski

ALTERNATE

Angel Wuest

We would like to thank Bob Oswald, Gary Miller, and Bryan Dick for their time served on the zoning commission and zoning appeals board for our township.

Congratulations!

Washington Township Fiscal Officer Becky Bodette has graduated from the Ohio Township Association Leadership Academy. The Ohio Township Association Leadership Academy is joint effort between the Ohio Township Association, the Center for Public Management and Regional Affairs (CPMRA) at Miami University and OSU Extension: Office of Community Development. It is designed for elected officials from township governments, professional administrative staff, and for appointed individuals who serve on township communities, commissions, board or task forces. The purpose of the Academy is to provide useful programs that will enhance the leadership and decision making skills of the township leadership team.

Message from Fiscal Officer

The Washington Township 2007 Annual Financial Report is available for inspection from 8:00 a.m. to noon, weekdays at the Township Hall, 5714 Blessing Drive, Toledo, Ohio 43611. Becky Bodette, Fiscal Officer 419.726.6621.

YOU, YOUR DOG AND THE LAW

Confining Your Dog:

WHEN? At all times. All dogs must be physically confined or restrained on the owner, keeper, or harborer's property in the following ways:

- * Leash
- * Tether
- * Supervision of a person
- * Adequate fence
- * Secure enclosure

SUCH CONFINEMENT MUST PREVENT ESCAPE.

Where? Anywhere in the state of Ohio.

Why? * To protect your dog.

- * To show your neighbors that you respect their property and their privacy.
- * To comply with state law.
- * The penalty for failure to properly confine a dog that is not dangerous or vicious can be up to \$250.00 in fines and imprisonment for up to 30 days.
- * You are liable for any damage your dog may do to property, people or livestock.



Washington Twp. FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Matthew Hart

Spring is here! Time to clean up the yards and get ready to enjoy the warm weather. It's also time to check your barbecue before you fire it up for the first time. Check that all orifices are clear of all obstructions and that all gas connections are tight with no leaks. The warm weather also is a great time for relaxing with friends while enjoying a small recreational fire in the evening. But before you do, it is important to check the fire code for what, where, and when you can burn. Barbecues and burning pits are governed by limitations set forth in the fire code. The full text of the fire code for open burning in Washington Township can be viewed at the Fire Department's website at www.wtfd.net. Some of the important points to remember are that fires can only be conducted in a commercially prepared burning device such as an outdoor fireplace, chimnea, barbecue grill, etc. OR – fires conducted in an open fire pit, that is surrounded by a 12" non-combustible fire stop of stone, brick or block. Fires are to be placed a minimum of ten (10) feet from any structure or decking and a minimum of twenty-five (25) feet from any roadway. All fires shall be attended at all times during burning until completely extinguished. Adequate firefighting equipment shall be on-site for extinguishing purposes. If at any time a fire creates a threat to public health, a nuisance, or a fire hazard; the burning shall be extinguished. Remember - the burning of residential or agricultural waste is strictly prohibited.

News from the Fire Department –

We have recently formed a new division within the Fire Department called the Fire Corps. The purpose of the Fire Corps is to assist the Fire Department by providing non-operational support to the firefighters and the department functions, and to assist in community projects and fundraising events. The Fire Corps provides opportunities to embrace personal responsibility to be prepared, and at the same time give back to your community by volunteering to support your local fire department. By volunteering in the WTFD Fire Corps program, citizens can perform non-emergency tasks, allowing first responders to focus on necessary training and critical emergency response situations. How can you help? There are many necessary tasks that can be performed by citizens in the fire and emergency services every day. The Fire Corps is open to all applicants who are 16 yrs of age or older. Applications are available at the Fire Department, the Township office, or online at www.firecorps.org - Become part of the WTFD Fire Corps team today!

You will soon see a new apparatus responding throughout the township. The Fire Department has received an EMS unit from Lucas County EMS that will be utilize as another Emergency Medical Squad to assist in the response of our EMS calls. This unit was acquired through LCEMS at no cost to the township. Over 80% of our total calls for assistance are for EMS. With the addition of this squad we will have available 3 engines, 2 squads, 1 incident command unit, 1 boat, and 2 hovercrafts. All of these apparatus are staffed by trained firefighter/EMT's.

The Washington Twp Firefighters Summerfest is just around the corner. This years celebration will be held on June 27th 6pm-12mid & 28th 2p-12mid. Each night will feature live bands, beer, plenty of food, and lots of entertaining rides for the kids, and don't miss our fireworks on Saturday at 10pm. Sponsored and conducted by the Washington Twp. Firefighters at Shoreland Park, Summerfest is Family Friendly. The main focus of Summerfest is to facilitate an event that supports the Fire Department while providing a venue that brings the residents of our community together. Don't forget to support your firefighters with donations. The funds we generate, helps our firefighters receive additional training and equipment that we utilize to defend and protect the residents of the township. We take pride in our department and our services, and your help is greatly appreciated.

The WTFD is a 100% Volunteer department. Our authorized roster strength is 42 personnel. This includes the Fire Chief, 3 Assistant Chiefs, 6 Captains, 2 Dispatchers and 30 Firefighters. All Firefighters are trained to be an Ohio Firefighter and Emergency Medical Technician. Many members have extensive additional training and certifications in advanced firefighting, hazardous materials, rescue operations and EMS. Our firefighter/EMT's are required to attend weekly training sessions to keep skills and information up to date with the latest advances in firefighting tactics and EMS protocols. The WTFD prides itself on being a progressive department that also holds true to the greatest traditions of the fire service.

*Help Wanted: Washington Township Fire & Rescue is seeking dedicated men and women who are willing to serve their community as a Firefighter/EMT. No experience is necessary, we provide all training.
Help us to Protect your dreams ... VOLUNTEER !*



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.

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 drivers 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 5714 Blessing Dr. Toledo, Ohio 43612. Try to include as much information as possible (address, vehicles, license plate numbers, if possible and names of individuals if known.) All information will be forwarded to our drug investigation officer.

MOVE OVER AND SLOW DOWN

State law requires motorists to move over or slow down when approaching emergency vehicles with their light activated. There have been numerous occasions when vehicles have struck the rear of emergency vehicles causing excessive damage and on some occasions injuring or killing emergency personnel.

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 would like to be more proactive in prevention, than having to be called to a home the following day on a theft or criminal damage report in which juveniles were seen roaming the streets the night before, but no one bothered to call the police.

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.

POLICE DEPARTMENT cont.

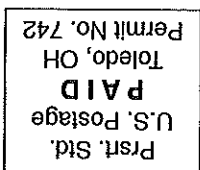
BEWARE OF THE FIX UP MAN

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 Washington Townships 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.

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.



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Toledo, OH 43612