

# LAKE TOWNSHIP *Newsletter*



**EDITION NO. 94 — SEPTEMBER 2020**

A Service of the Board of Lake Township Trustees

## IT'S FALL CLEANUP TIME!

Lake Township will sponsor a Fall Cleanup for Township residents, from Wednesday, September 16, through Friday, September 18, from 8:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. every day and Saturday, September 19, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Containers will be located behind the Lake Township Service Garage complex at 1499 Midway St. Directional signs will be posted. Residents will be expected to unload their own vehicles.

This service is for Lake Township residents only. Identification may be checked. Township businesses will be allowed to dispose of no more than one truckload during the program. For more information, call 330.877.9479.

In addition to all of the items accepted at the year-round programs, the following will be accepted during Fall Cleanup: household debris and tires (no rims, limit of 12 per household). Disposal of commercial or business tires is prohibited. No garbage, no lumber of any kind, no railroad or landscaping ties, no hazardous waste, and no paint can be accepted.



## EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE ON NOVEMBER 3RD

When you go to the polls on November 3rd, you will be asked to consider, along with federal, state and county-level candidates, two Lake Township RENEWAL issues. Township voters outside the Village of Hartville will see a 1.5 Mill, five-year, road renewal levy and a 1.25 Mill, five-year, renewal levy for emergency medical services.



**RENEWALS MEAN NO INCREASE IN THE TAX.**

## LAKE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES' MEETING TIMES HAVE CHANGED!

Lake Township Trustees continue to meet every second and fourth Monday of each month; however, the time has changed to 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



Steve Miller

## TRICK OR TREAT!

October's coming, time for Halloween fun! Lake Township Trustees have designated Saturday, October 31, from 3:00 to 5:00 P.M., as trick or treat time for children in the township. Many allotments in the township set their own dates and times for trick or treat, so please check with your own neighborhood for its schedule of these events. This designated date and time are subject to cancellation or change, based on the current state and local health department or governor's orders that may be in place at the time.



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## President's Corner

Although 2020 has been filled with challenges and changes that seem to be the new normal, Lake Township has continued to work through these challenges and has moved ahead with some improvements throughout

the township. The Lake Township Community Park has received a much-needed facelift to its parking lot and walking path; resurfacing of 15.05 miles of roadway is underway and by the time you receive this newsletter, we should be nearing project completion. On July 13th, the Board of Trustees signed an agreement with the Stark County Commissioners to install a traffic signal at the intersection of Cleveland Avenue and Heckman Road. Under the terms of the agreement, the county will apply for funding through the Ohio Public Works Commission. Any portion of the cost of the traffic signal and related items that is not covered by OPWC is to be split equally by the County and the Township, with the Township's portion capped at \$40,000.00. It is anticipated that the project could be built in the fall of 2021 or spring of 2022.

Your Board of Trustees has placed a renewal of our current EMS levy and Road levy on the November 3rd general election ballot. Both levies are for a five-year period, and a renewal means that we're not asking for an increase in your taxes but are providing a continuance of these fine services.

Some of the new routines and changes being implemented in light of the current pandemic include streaming of the Board of Trustees' meetings on Facebook Live <https://www.facebook.com/LakeTownshipStarkCountyOhio/>. We encourage everyone to visit our Facebook page and watch us live every second and fourth Monday of the month at 5:00 p.m.

Lastly, we'd like to encourage everyone to be respectful of others and remember that we're all doing our best to get through what seems to be the new normal. Please keep in mind that everyone handles the pandemic differently, and we encourage everyone to stay positive. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I thank you for your patience and understanding through these challenging times. Again, our thoughts and prayers go out to those who have lost loved ones during these times. Take care and be well.

*Steve Miller*



## A Message from your Fiscal Officer

As you know, the COVID-19 pandemic has created great uncertainty in the world's financial markets, as well as in our Township's budget. We have taken a conservative approach to our spending this year as a precaution in order to prepare for possible shortfalls from property and gas tax income. Fortunately, to date, we are beating the projections on where the county and the state thought we might be. As a result, we were comfortably able to move forward with our road paving plan of 15.05 miles, as well as repaving the Township park's parking lot.

We will continue to live-stream all of our Township Trustees' meetings. Please watch us on Facebook and become informed about what's happening in the Township. If you are interested in viewing the Township's financials, you can do so at [www.OhioCheckbook.com](http://www.OhioCheckbook.com). By providing these features, we hope that all of our residents can be more informed of what the Township is doing for them.

This November, you will see two renewal levies on the general election ballot, one for 1.5 mills for roads, the other for 1.25 mills for EMS. Both are for five years. Renewal levies mean no increase in the taxes.

I would like to conclude by saying that I am very proud of all of our departments and employees. Thus far in my role, it has become apparent that all departments are very accountable for their spending and have a lot of pride in their jobs and the community. We will continue to be fiscally responsible while trying to provide the best services to our community and our taxpayers.

*Matt Erb*

## FROM OUR FIRE SERVICE

Remember, don't burn your leaves! Please take them to our Yard Waste Facility near the Recycle Center on Midway Street, just east of the Lake Township Service Garage. It's open from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. on Thursdays and Fridays, and on Saturdays and Sundays from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. The Facility is closed on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.



If you're planning a bonfire, please call your local fire department first to find out what the regulations are. (Greentown Volunteer Fire Department: 330.494.3002, Hartville Volunteer Fire Department: 330.877.2478, Uniontown Fire Department: 330.699.3239).

Our fire companies would like to remind you to change the batteries in your smoke detectors when Daylight Savings Time ends this year (November 1).



Dan Kamerer

## A Note From The Road Superintendent:

By the time you receive this newsletter, we'll be approaching the end of summer, and asphalt resurfacing of over 15 miles of roadway should be wrapping up. Even though this year has had many challenges, your Road Department has continued to work through them and has been very busy maintaining and repairing the 140+ miles of our transportation system. Some of our everyday activities include:

- Catch basin cleaning, repair and rebuilds
- Roadside mowing of rights-of-way
- Crack sealing and pothole repairs
- Maintenance of traffic signs and street signs
- Road related drainage and flooding issues, along with routine maintenance of road-related storm drains

In addition to our everyday activities, we've taken on several major road repairs which require flagmen, excavation equipment operation, trucking, and asphalt repair personnel.

To keep the service and maintenance requirements under control, a work order is submitted for each service/maintenance matter. The work order is submitted with information and reports from resident requests and department observations as they are encountered daily by employees, supervisors, and elected officials. A determination is made whether or not the service request fits into public jurisdiction or falls under a property owner's responsibility or another governing agency. We are well underway to surpass our 1,142 work orders that we completed in 2019.

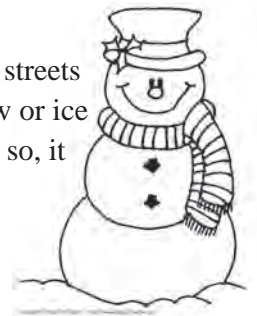
We're already preparing for the upcoming 2020-2021 winter season. We were able to take advantage of a cost savings over the 2019-2020 season by participating in the Stark County Cooperative Purchasing Program for our rock salt. Our salt bin is full in preparation for the upcoming season, and we're in the process of going through our fleet to assure we are prepared to keep our roadways clear for the safe travel of our residents and businesses.

Lastly, we would like to thank you for the support that you show your Road Department. Your positive comments, thoughtful acts and thank-yous mean more than you can imagine. We wish each of you a wonderful fall and a safe winter. Whether your days are full of activities or they entail taking it easy sitting around a campfire on a cool fall evening or sled riding on your favorite hill in the winter, we want all of you to have a safe and memorable fall and winter.

*Daniel R. Kamerer*

## WINTER'S COMING!

Lake Township Trustees have passed a resolution to declare a snow emergency parking ban on all streets maintained by the township in the event of a snowfall of more than two inches, or any severe snow or ice conditions. We ask for your cooperation in removing any vehicles parked in the roadway; by doing so, it allows for timely snow and ice removal.



Nicole Wilkinson

## From Your Zoning Administrator:

For many Lake Township residents, the Fall season change means it is time to squeeze in those last-minute projects that just didn't make the "to-do" list during the busy summer! Remember: before starting on these projects, a zoning permit is needed. The application for a zoning certificate can be found at our website, [www.laketwpstarkco.com](http://www.laketwpstarkco.com). If you need any assistance, simply call or email me. I will help you navigate through the paperwork. Once you have submitted all the necessary documents to our office, your permit generally takes three to five days for processing.

After approval is granted, we will call with the fee total and notify you that the permit is ready for pick-up. The follow-up inspection to verify all zoning regulations have been met will be conducted roughly 45 days later. Your project will not be complete, or maybe even started, in 45 days? No problem, you have one year to start, and two years to finish your project from permit issuance.

*Nicole Wilkinson*



**Check Out  
Our Web Site:**  
[www.laketwpstarkco.com](http://www.laketwpstarkco.com)  
It has lots of information  
about Lake Township!



Follow us on Facebook! [www.facebook.com/LakeTownshipStarkCountyOhio/](https://www.facebook.com/LakeTownshipStarkCountyOhio/)  
**CHECK OUT COMMUNITY EVENTS AT** [www.discoverhartville.com/events](http://www.discoverhartville.com/events)

## 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.

## LEAVES WILL FALL SOON

Bring your leaves to the Yard Waste Facility near the Recycle Center on Midway St., just east of the Township Service Garage. It's open from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. on Thursdays and Fridays, and on Saturdays and Sundays from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. The Facility is closed Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

Residents may drop off grass clippings, leaves, brush and tree limbs. We cannot accept commercial waste, railroad ties, furniture or wood products, lumber of any kind, plastic, trash, household waste, or rocks, blocks, building materials and dirt.

**REMINDER:** If you bring your leaves in plastic bags, please be prepared to empty the bags and take them away with you.

The Midway St. Service Complex is in the jurisdiction of the Uniontown Police Department. Police officers regularly patrol the property. The Recycle Center has 24-hour camera surveillance. More information about the Yard Waste and Recycle Programs is available at the Township Office (330.877.9479) and on the Township Web site: [www.laketwpstarkco.com](http://www.laketwpstarkco.com).



## YOU CAN HELP REDUCE STORMWATER PROBLEMS

What is a stormwater system? Simply put, a stormwater system is a tool for managing the runoff from rainfall. In nature, this water flows from fields to streams to rivers and so on, but human development has impacted some of these natural flows. With this development come concerns of flooding and to pollutants flowing into streams and rivers. Some examples of human-induced pollutants in stormwater runoff are fertilizers, pesticides, motor oil and heavy metals that wash off of lawns, sidewalks, roads and parking lots.

For several years, the U.S. EPA has required local governments to monitor our stormwater runoff sources. Over 200 outfalls have been identified throughout Lake Township and the names and location of all waters of the United States that receive discharges from those outfalls. Local governments, including Lake Township, are responsible for filing an annual report through the Ohio EPA as part of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program. Some of the reporting requirements and minimum control measures include "Public Education and Outreach on Stormwater Impacts", "Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination," including dry-weather out-fall inspections that are completed by the Lake Township Road Department and "Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping," which includes annual training of our Road Department and certain other employees.

As part of the "Public Education and Outreach on Stormwater Impacts," we'd like to share several things that private property owners can do to reduce the amount of stormwater runoff and reduce pollutants in stormwater runoff. Some ways you can help this include:

- Terrace steep slopes to slow runoff, allowing more to soak in and reduce erosion
- Install rain barrels to catch water from downspouts. You can use this water for your gardens and indoor plants!
- Replace paved sidewalks with materials that allow water to soak into the ground
- Wash your car at a commercial car wash, or at home on a grassy area or gravel (be sure to use biodegradable, phosphorus-free soap)
- Bury pet waste, flush it or bag it and dispose of it in the garbage
- Minimize the use of pesticides and fertilizers on your lawn

By making a few small changes, together we can make a difference in reducing pollutants and keeping our stormwater runoff water clean before it enters the waters of the State.



## FROM THE UNIONTOWN POLICE CHIEF:

We hope everyone had a great summer and enjoyed time spent with family and friends. The cooler fall days are approaching fast, and with that come fall and winter events, Trick or Treating, Thanksgiving and Holiday shopping. There are a few things surrounding these events we would like to remind our residents about.

October is a fun time for the kids as they go Trick or Treating, dress in their costumes and go from house to house with friends collecting treats. Our department wants to make sure parents and guardians keep the children safe as they walk the neighborhoods. Here are a few tips for you and your Trick or Treaters:

- Always walk on sidewalks or paths. If there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic as far to the right of the road way as possible. Children should walk on direct routes with the fewest street crossings.
- Watch for cars that are turning or backing up. Teach children to never dart out into the street or cross between parked cars.
- Children and adults are reminded to put electronic devices down, keep heads up and walk, don't run, across the street.
- Drivers are also reminded to put electronic devices down, stay alert and travel at a safe speed, especially in the allotments.

November is the time when we are traveling to reconnect with family and friends, we are preparing for our Thanksgiving feasts and we are getting our holiday shopping started. Unfortunately, it is also one of the most dangerous holidays for drivers. The Wednesday night before Thanksgiving has become known as "Thanksgiving Eve". "Thanksgiving Eve" has become one the busiest bar night of the year and biggest drinking night of the year. We want everyone to make it safely home to your Thanksgiving tables. Here are ways to ensure that:

- Never get in a car with a driver who has been drinking.
- Designate a sober driver for the night.
- If you do not have a sober driver you can use some form of public transportation or a taxi. There are ride share apps like Uber or Lyft that you can download to your smartphone. These are the safest ways to get home if you have been drinking.
- Protect others by taking their keys if they attempt to drive after consuming alcohol. You could be saving their life and others on the roadways.

December is the busiest time of year for most. We are decorating and preparing for Holiday gatherings. We are out shopping at the stores and online shopping, which in recent years has become the choice for most because of the convenience it provides. We are able to order packages online and have them delivered right to our doorstep. It's great for us, but unfortunately it is also great for the thief who is stealing the delivered packages. It is a very common problem all year round, but especially around the holidays because of the abundance of online shopping that is done. Here are some tips and reminders when having packages delivered:

- If you have neighbors who are home during the day, consider asking them to collect your packages until you are able to pick it up from them.
- Have your packaged shipped to the store. Its' not as convenient but it is usually free and ensures that it can't be taken from your doorstep.
- For those gifts that are more expensive consider having your packages delivered only when someone is available to sign for them.
- Check your emails or phones notifications for delivery dates and times. Most stores will send notifications letting you know the exact date and time of delivery and they will notify you after the package has been delivered.
- Keep an eye out for each other. If you see someone that you feel is acting suspicious in your neighborhood or around your neighbor's house, please call the police department immediately.

After receiving your packages or gifts, take your product boxes to the Recycle Center. Never leave your empty boxes out at your curb for trash pick-up. Leaving your empty boxes out at your curb is free advertising for everyone to see exactly what you have inside your house and has been a tactic used by many criminals for years.

*Chief Michael P. Batchik*



## LAKE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

12360 Market Avenue North  
Hartville, Ohio 44632

PRSRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
CANTON OH  
PERMIT NO. 82

### **LAKE TWP. ROAD AND EMS LEVIES ARE RENEWALS, NO ADDITIONAL TAX**

Lake Township Trustees have placed two five-year renewal levies on the November 3rd General Election ballot: a 1.5-mill road levy and a 1.25-mill levy for emergency medical services. These levies would continue the tax at the same amount, with no additional tax.

How does Lake Township use the funds from the road levy? The Township maintains over 140 miles of roadway. We use road levy funds for materials and equipment for maintenance of our roads and for our road improvement program.

How does Lake Township use the funds from the EMS levy? The township uses these funds to pay the fire companies that we contract with, Greentown, Hartville and Uniontown, to provide emergency medical services to our residents within the Lake Township Fire District.

Visit the Stark County Auditor's Website <http://www.starkcountyohio.gov/auditor> to see that this levy will not add to your property tax bill. Click on the Tax Estimator and follow the prompts.

Only voters in the unincorporated area of the township, outside the Village of Hartville, will vote on these levies. The Village has its own street department to maintain the streets in the Village and its own fire and EMS levy. Thank you for your support!

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Since May 1, 2002, emergency medical services for Lake Township have been run out of the three fire companies in Lake Township – the Greentown Volunteer Fire Department, Hartville Volunteer Fire Department and Uniontown Fire Department. The Board of Trustees believed that these services would be greatly enhanced by this method of delivering EMS out of each of these established locations in different areas in the township, and would reduce emergency medical service response time to citizens in need of such service. Prior to this method of delivering emergency medical services, these services were delivered from one centralized location in the township.



**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.