

LAKE TOWNSHIP Newsletter



EDITION NO. 93 — MAY 2020

A Service of the Board of Lake Township Trustees

IT'S SPRING CLEANUP TIME!

Lake Township will sponsor a Spring Cleanup for Township residents from Wednesday, June 3, through Friday, June 5, from 8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. every day, and Saturday, June 6, from 8:00 A.M. to 6:00 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 recycling program, the following will be accepted during Spring 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.



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Check Out Our Web Site:

www.laketwpstarkco.com

It has lots of information about Lake Township!

LAKE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES REORGANIZE FOR 2020

The Board of Lake Township Trustees held its organizational meeting on January 3, 2020. John Arnold was appointed on November 27, 2006, and is in the first year of his fourth full-term. Steve Miller and Jeremy Yoder are beginning the third year of their first term in office.

During the meeting, the Board elected Steve Miller as its President and John Arnold as its Vice President for 2020.

Lake Township Trustees meet every second and fourth Monday of each month at 6:30 P.M. All meetings are held at the Lake Township Hall, 12360 Market Avenue North, Hartville. All meetings are open to the public. The meeting hall is handicapped-accessible.

Lake Township office hours: Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM. Telephone:330.877.9479



Jeremy Yoder



John Arnold



Steve Miller

RECYCLE PROGRAM WILL TAKE YOUR OLD APPLIANCES & SCRAP METAL

Lake Township Trustees have expanded the Township's Recycle program to accept appliances and all scrap metals. These items are accepted inside the gate at the Service Garage complex on Midway St., Mondays through Fridays from 8:00 A.M. to 2:30 P.M. A sign indicates the proper area.



Follow us on Facebook! www.facebook.com/LakeTownshipStarkCountyOhio/

CHECK OUT COMMUNITY EVENTS AT www.discoverhartville.com/events



President's Corner

It seems like just yesterday we were bringing in the New Year and reflecting on the past. I'm sure none of us imagined the unprecedented events and many challenges and changes that we would face in 2020.

My hopes are that by the time you receive this newsletter, our community and our nation is nearing the end of this global pandemic. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the many people who have lost loved ones to this virus and who have experienced great challenges in their lives.

In keeping with past reflections and new beginnings, I'd like to take this time, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, to thank our outgoing Fiscal Officer, Robert Moss, for his years of service; it has been a pleasure working with Bob and we wish him the best in his endeavors. On the same note, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, I'd like to welcome Matthew Erb, Lake Township's new Fiscal Officer. We look forward to working with Matt and supporting him as he takes on this new position; we wish him success in this new phase of his life.

Did you know that the first census in the United States took place beginning August 2, 1790? This year, 2020, is the year of the U.S. Census and we want to remind our residents that responding to the census is mandatory as it helps to gather a complete and accurate count of the population, which is very important. According to the United States Census 2020 website, the information gathered in the once-a-decade count helps determine the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives. It also helps business owners, lawmakers and many others make critical decisions in the next decade, including how federal funding is allocated in many programs throughout the country, including our community. These are just a few of the many ways this information can help our community.

In conclusion, I'd like to thank the residents of our township for your support and understanding during these past few months. We've all had to make changes and adjustments in our lives but remember that we're in this together and together we can make a difference. I hope soon we will be reflecting on the past and celebrating new beginnings.

Steve Miller



A Message from your Fiscal Officer

I am glad to finally be taking office! I appreciate the trust and expectations that you have in me by voting for me during our November general election. I'm confident that my knowledge and experiences will help me to be the person you want to see in our Township Fiscal Office.

There are a few things I want to analyze and ensure are happening during the beginning of my term. I want to make sure that the systems and procedures we have in place within the Township are efficient and fiscally responsible. I want to make sure there are open lines of communication among the different departments and employees of the Township. Communication and teamwork are important for the planning and budgets that each department utilizes. I also want to ensure there is transparency within our Fiscal Department. It's personally important for me to make sure the Township's Fiscal Department makes smart, responsible decisions to efficiently manage our Township's tax dollars.

Matt Erb

TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT

Inasmuch as Townships are creatures of statute, their authority is governed by state statutes, which delegate specific powers to them. The township was Ohio's first form of government when it became a state in 1803. A Board of Township Trustees has only such power and authority as is expressly granted it by statute or necessarily implied from the duties and obligations imposed upon it by the State. There are 1,308 townships in Ohio, and they are varied in population size, annual operating budget, and range of services delivered to residents.

Some of the responsibilities the Board of Lake Township Trustees have are the maintenance of township roads, development and enforcement of zoning resolutions, police, fire/EMS protection and cemetery management services within the Township. Although we are limited by the Ohio Revised Code in our authority, we will always do our best to help you go in the direction you want to go. Despite the nature of township government, we still have a big job to do.



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.



Dan Kameron

A Note From The Road Superintendent:

Spring is most definitely in the air. Although the Road Department had somewhat of a mild winter, we did stay very busy managing snow and ice events, maintaining equipment, routinely cleaning leaves and debris from our storm sewer systems, and preparing for the upcoming year.

Paving season is just around the corner. We've begun the process of inspecting our roads to determine the amount of damage that has occurred due to frost and heaving. Once a list has been generated and reviewed, the Board of Trustees will make the final decision as to which roads will be resurfaced. By the time you receive this newsletter, we should be into the bidding process, which includes soliciting invitations to bid, opening/reviewing bids, and awarding a pavement resurfacing contract.

Dealing with stormwater is becoming more and more of an issue across the State, including right here in Lake Township. Stormwater can cause flooding and can contaminate the waterways that are eventually used to collect our drinking water. You can help avoid some of these problems by reducing impervious areas (hard surfaces like roofs, paved areas) and preventing runoff from these surfaces so that rain soaks into the ground. Planting trees, plants, and other vegetation outside of the public right-of-way can help storm water infiltrate the ground and increase evaporation. Locating and cleaning any obstructions from private sump pump discharges and downspout drains can be very beneficial for residents as well. Rain gardens, rain barrels, and similar practices can also reduce runoff. Catch basins and storm sewer inlets can also become blocked with leaves and debris. Take a moment and inspect any that you may have in the road right-of-way in front of your home for debris or leaves. If possible clean any loose debris from the inlets and/or contact the Road Department for any assistance. By doing some small things, you can have a big impact on improving stormwater management and water quality in our community. We thank you for your continued support, and should you have any questions, please feel free to call me.

Daniel R. Kameron

KNOW YOUR TAXING DISTRICT WHEN RENEWING YOUR LICENSE PLATE

It is important that the correct taxing district be included on your vehicle registration. The city on your postal address may not be the same as your taxing district. For instance, many residents on the north side of Lake Township have Mogadore mailing addresses, and residents in the southern portion of Lake Township have North Canton mailing addresses. Even more confusing are those who have Hartville mailing addresses but live outside of the village. Most of the revenue collected from vehicle registrations is given back to your township and county based on the taxing district. This revenue is used to repair roads and bridges in your area. So, when you renew your vehicle registration, remember to indicate the township where you reside. If you do, Lake Township will receive part of that license fee. These are YOUR tax dollars. Make sure those dollars come back to the township where they can benefit YOU.

GET TO KNOW YOUR ROAD DEPARTMENT

Lake Township maintains 140.148 miles of roadway, including 260 cul-de-sacs throughout the 34 square miles of the Township. The Road Department is under the supervision and management of the Lake Township Road Superintendent, Daniel Kameron. There are ten (10) fulltime employees and several auxiliary employees under his supervision. Some of the duties performed by the Road Department include the following services:

- Snow and ice operations
- Road-related drainage and flooding issues
- Maintenance of traffic signs and street signs on the 140 miles of roadway
- Patching, crack sealing and pothole repairs
- Roadside mowing of rights-of-ways
- Road-related catch-basin cleaning, repair and rebuilds
- Road striping and resurfacing
- Routine maintenance of road-related storm drains
- Annual monitoring of the 200 MS4 outfalls throughout the township

Ohio townships receive part of the state's motor vehicle license fees and gasoline tax, as well as generating additional revenues through local taxation. We use road levy funds for materials and equipment for road maintenance and for our aggressive road improvement programs.



FROM THE UNIONTOWN POLICE CHIEF:

As we head into the spring/summer months let's take time to reflect on the challenges our nation has faced during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

The sacrifices you have taken during this difficult time are not in vain. Some of you closed businesses, missed special family events, or were unable to visit family and friends at hospitals or nursing homes. You made sure social distancing was a part of your everyday routine. These were sacrifices so many had to make, and you aided in slowing down the spread. We thank you for being patient during

these uncertain times when we weren't sure what orders would be put in place from one moment to the next. We listened to Governor DeWine and Dr. Amy Acton speak to us daily with new updates and statistics and reminders of what we should be doing to keep us and our families safe.

I have noticed in the previous months that the social media communities have been somewhat of a support system since social distancing has become the new normal. It seems that many people have tried to stay optimistic and find the positives in each day. Staying home with your family and having that quality time together has been a blessing for so many. For some, the positives were helping the elderly by delivering groceries or ordering dinner for your family from a local restaurant and giving a large tip. For others it was donating blood, taking medical professionals' meals and snacks, or even donating to your local food banks. So many great gestures have been made and it did not go unnoticed.

I, as a community member and Chief of our department, am personally so proud of our community for coming together. We know that at some point we will have to come back together and support the local businesses that had to shut down. Now we can support them as they have done for us. They have sponsored our children's sports teams, donated items and gift cards to our fundraising events, donated food to local shelters and first responders. They go above and beyond for us when we need them. Now they need our help.

As the weather gets warmer and we begin to enjoy being outside more, I anticipate an increase in joggers, walkers, and kids playing outside. Please be cautious and stay alert when driving, especially in the allotments. Please make sure that when walking your dogs, they are on a leash and under your control. Also, keep in mind that dogs are required to be on a leash or fenced in their own yards. We have already taken an increased number of complaints for dogs running out of their own yard, chasing joggers and walkers. As pet owners, we accept the added responsibility to maintain control over our own pets so let's all work together to ensure that everyone stays safe.

Thank you all for the efforts that you have made, and are continuing to make, to keep our community the best around.

Chief Michael P. Batchik

STORM SEWER WATER GOES WHERE...CIRCLE OR SQUARE?

What is the difference between Storm Sewer and Sanitary Sewer?

- Sanitary Sewer water (waste water from your sinks, showers, toilets, and washing machines) circulates through a water treatment facility before being discharged into waterways
- Storm Sewer water is rain or snowmelt that flows over the ground, picking up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants that contaminate our water because it is discharged untreated into water bodies that we use for drinking, fishing, and swimming, causing a risk to public health as well as the environment

How can you help protect our local water?

- Use pesticides sparingly, using natural, organic, or other slow-release fertilizers.
- Reduce stormwater runoff by directing downspouts and gutters to drain onto the lawn, plant beds, etc. Use bricks, gravel, or other porous surfaces on driveways and walkways to decrease erosion.
- Wash your car at the carwash or in the grass to avoid washing dirt and cleaners down the driveway into the storm drain.
- Pick up after your pets. Animal waste contains many disease-causing organisms, as well as excess nutrients that affect water quality if rain or melting snow carries it into the storm sewer system.
- Maintain your septic system by having it pumped and repair or replace malfunctioning septic systems.
- Never use streams, creeks, or gutters to dispose of yard waste.

If you have questions about your septic system, call the Stark County Health Department (330.493.9904) and ask to speak to a Stormwater Specialist.

REMEMBER, ONLY RAIN DOWN THE SQUARE DRAINS!



Nicole Wilkinson

From Your Zoning Administrator:

Lake Township has two Zoning Boards that actively operate for distinctly different purposes. Their creation is prescribed both by state law and the Township zoning resolution, and their existence is pertinent to the department. The Board of Zoning Appeals serves to hear and decide appeals, authorize variance requests and issue or revoke conditional zoning certificates. The Zoning Commission considers requests for zoning district changes and amendments to the zoning resolution, and serves as a recommending body to the Township Trustees for the legislative changes in zoning. Both Boards are comprised of five members and one alternate, all of whom are appointed by the Trustees. We are currently seeking three qualified individuals. If you are interested in serving, please stop in at the Township Hall to obtain an application.

Nicole Wilkinson

RECYCLE CENTER

The Lake Township Recycle Center is on Midway St., on the east side of the Township Service Garage. It is fenced, gated and has cameras that record the site 24/7. Hours are 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. weekdays, and 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. on weekends.

There's a second Recycle Center location in the southeast corner of the flea market parking lot at the Hartville Market Place, 1289 Edison St. This location can also be accessed from the entrance on Market Ave. North.

This facility is for common recyclable materials. For recycling guidelines and acceptable items, please visit www.timetorecycle.org or call the Stark-Tuscarawas-Wayne Recycling District at 800.678.9839. We DO NOT accept business waste, plastic bags, any kind of lumber, railroad ties, or anything with nails.

Lake Township Trustees, in recognition of the environmental benefit of recycling, have provided these sites as a convenience for township residents' use. Both the Midway St. Service Complex and the Hartville Market Place are in the jurisdiction of the Uniontown Police Department. More information about the Recycle Program is available at the Township Office (330.877.9479), on the Township Web site (www.laketwpstarkco.com), and on the Stark-Wayne-Tuscarawas Joint Solid Waste District Web site (www.timetorecycle.org).

DID YOU KNOW? E-WASTE RECYCLING PROGRAM DISCONTINUED

For several years Lake Township has offered its residents electronic waste (e-waste) recycling and it has been our pleasure to provide this service. Recently the company that processed the collected materials free of charge, with the exception of televisions and computer monitors, notified us that they are closing their electronics recycle operations.

We explored different avenues and were unable to find a cost-effective replacement for this service so the decision was made to discontinue this program. We will continue to accept these items at our Spring and Fall Cleanups and should an affordable solution be found, the program may be reinstated at a later time.

Our friends at the Stark-Tuscarawas-Wayne Joint Solid Waste District provide some good suggestions on their website for recycling of electronic waste. The first thing they suggest is to start by checking with the device's manufacturer or the retailer where you purchased the item from to see if they have a take-back or trade-in option available. They also provide an interactive map where you can search for alternative locations that accept electronic items.

We want to thank everyone for your understanding in this matter and again, it was our pleasure to offer this service for many years.

2020 U.S. CENSUS

Do you know you have a key role in a national event? That event is the 2020 Census which is happening now. No one gets paid for answering the census, but it pays off for everyone. The information your answers provide helps your leaders decide where to put day care centers, schools, hospitals and many more services. The data indicating the growing and shifting of the population will have long-term impact on how we as a township provide services such as road, fire, EMS and police services. And the census is used to determine how many seats your state has in the U.S. House of Representatives, so your voice is heard where it counts the most. Your part is to complete the census questionnaire when you receive it and it's easy to do; it can be completed online, by phone, or by mail. There! You have fulfilled your role in the 2020 Census.

You can visit <https://www.2020census.gov/> for more information.



LAKE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

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Hartville, Ohio 44632

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MEET OUR FIRE/EMS SERVICE

Lake Township contracts with and enjoys professional fire and emergency protection from three private fire companies: Greentown, Hartville and Uniontown. They have the township divided into service areas, and together they ensure that all areas of the township are protected and that everyone receives prompt and efficient service. This is what each and every citizen deserves regardless of where they live. Residents don't have to worry about which one to call, though. A call to "911" will bring the right one. All of the fire companies have measures in place and work with one another and with neighboring communities. That's why equipment from more than one fire company is sometimes seen at some emergency scenes.



Fire-response and EMS service is provided by each of the fire companies. All three have fully-trained EMT's and paramedics on duty around the clock.

It's important to remember that the firefighters and paramedics are not employees of local government. All three fire companies are under the direction of a Fire Board and each fire department has its own chief. They have paid staff to man the stations 24/7.

Each of the fire companies is a separate, licensed, private, non-profit Ohio corporation which provides service under contracts with Lake Township, financed by revenues from tax levies. The fire companies do some fund-raising of their own, as well as applying for grants for training and similar purposes. All three companies own and maintain their own buildings and equipment.

The Hartville Volunteer Fire Department, formally incorporated in 1935, has serviced the Hartville area since 1900. They serve the eastern half of Lake Township. The Uniontown Fire Department was organized in 1947, and the Greentown Volunteer Fire Department in 1949. Together, our three fire companies have served this community for a combined total of more than 200 years. Some years ago, Lake Township Trustees said of the fire departments, "The firefighting companies ... have saved countless lives, protected property and saved taxpayers substantial dollars...the hundreds of fine men and woman have....literally put their lives and well-being on the line for all residents of Lake Township."