

LAKE TOWNSHIP *Newsletter*



EDITION NO. 95 — APRIL 2021

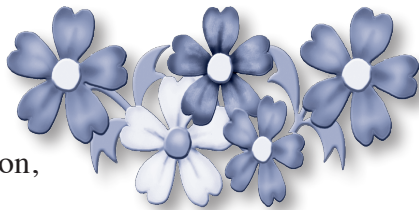
A Service of the Board of Lake Township Trustees

IT'S SPRING CLEANUP TIME!

Lake Township will sponsor a Spring Cleanup for Township residents from Wednesday, June 2, through Friday, June 4, from 8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. every day, and Saturday, June 5, 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 10 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 MAY 4TH

Voters in Lake Township and the Village of Hartville will see issues on the May 4 primary election ballot.

Issue 7 is the Lake Township replacement fire levy for 3.0 mills, five years, commencing in 2021.

Issue 6 is the village income tax increase of 0.5 percent for street department construction, resurfacing and repair of streets, roads and bridges for five years, effective January 1, 2022.



LAKE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES' MEETINGS

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 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

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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.

CHECK OUT COMMUNITY EVENTS at www.lakechamber.com

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK! 

www.facebook.com/LakeTownshipStarkCountyOhio/



President's Corner

Well, I never get tired of the feeling that Winter is over for another year, so welcome to Spring of 2021! I have a much better feeling this year than last year, and am praying that we can all begin putting Covid in the rearview

mirror. The other Trustees, Fiscal Officer and I are so proud of the work and dedication all Lake Township employees exhibited during the pandemic. I am confident that the caliber of services everyone experienced the past year met or exceeded expectations.

The single most important function of Lake Township government when I first began serving as a Trustee was safety for our residents. The most visible safety improvements are road and intersection improvements. This year, travelers along Cleveland Ave will find a new traffic light at Wright Road and another light will likely be scheduled for construction in the fall of 2021 or spring of 2022 at Heckman and Cleveland Ave. I have traveled this area my whole life and have always worried about the safety for drivers, especially our new younger drivers. I will rest better knowing these intersections have been improved.

There are significant changes being made regarding the Township Yard Waste Recycle facility and procedures. Our site had been funded previously by the Stark-Tuscarawas-Wayne Joint Solid Waste District. The problem with this structure was that we were required to accept material from anyone in those counties. Our recycle area was simply not large enough to handle the vast volumes of material being brought in, and the additional expenses were coming out of the Lake Township budget. There was also a significant amount of material being brought in by residents of Portage and Summit Counties, as well as commercial (illegal) dumping happening. We came to the conclusion that the best way to resolve these issues was to "privatize" our facility like other neighboring townships have done.

The new system is a service that will be for Lake Township and Village of Hartville residents ONLY. The cost for users is \$25.00 for a 1-year subscription and one (1) key card is permitted per household. This system will allow us to significantly improve the experience for our residents. There is complete information about this change on our website and we (the Trustees) and the staff at the Administration office can handle any questions or concerns. We are confident the long lines and time spent dropping off recyclable material will improve dramatically.

Please let us hear from you if you have any issues that we can resolve and continue to improve Lake Township. I hope that 2021 will be a better year for everyone.

John Arnold



A Message from your Fiscal Officer

I would like to start off letting everyone know that the township is in a strong financial position as we move into 2021. With the decision to be conservative on 2020's budget we have efficiently navigated through one of the most financially tumultuous years our country has seen in quite some time. I am grateful that as a Township we were able to support our first responders and businesses with over \$1.2 million dollars of Federal funds made available to us through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

As we move forward into 2021, we plan to remain conservative in our budgeting, while continuing to improve and invest in Lake Township's roads and infrastructure. We know that the condition of our roads is important not only to our taxpayers but also to our tourists and guests who visit our area. Safety is also a major priority of the Township, and providing these services is a prerogative of the Township.

The three fire stations that service our Township are Greentown, Uniontown and Hartville. All three of these organizations are privately owned companies. The Township pays these organizations for their fire and EMS services.

On the May 4th ballot there will be a replacement levy of 3 mills (30 cents for each one hundred dollars of valuation) for our Lake Township Fire District. (This includes Greentown, Uniontown and two Hartville Fire Stations.) To see how this levy will affect your taxes go to: <https://taxestimator.starkcountyohio.gov/>

As Township employees, we are working hard to protect, to preserve and to elevate our Township to the standards that our residents expect. If you are interested in seeing where your tax dollars go, check it out at <https://checkbook.ohio.gov/>

Stay informed by watching of our meetings live via Facebook.

Thanks for your continued support.

Matt Erb





A Note From The Road Superintendent:

Spring is most definitely in the air. Although 2020 has been a complicated year, your Lake Township Road Department has been hard at work with multiple snow and ice operations, along with numerous other road related issues.

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.

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 our waterways, which 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 stormwater 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 devices 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 assistance. Also please do not blow any leaves, grass, or debris into the road. By doing some small things, you can have a big impact on improving stormwater management and water quality in our community.

Take a walk around the perimeter of your property and check for traffic obstructions. Shrubs also should be trimmed back to allow safe passage of vehicles and pedestrians. Intersections are an important area to inspect. Keep all growth low enough for a driver to see around the corner, as the safety of all is the primary concern. Very large and heavy equipment is used to mill and repave streets. It is especially important to check your trees and shrubs close to the roadway to avoid the possibility of damage by this equipment. If growth encroaches on public rights-of-way, it may need to be trimmed. Township employees will do this if necessary in order to keep areas safe and visibility at a maximum. The results of a hurried trimming may not be master gardener level, so please take the time to inspect your property and do your own trimming if you have certain standards for your vegetation.

The Road Department received funding for a street sweeper through the CARES Act. Because it can be operated by just one person, it is a safer option when clearing debris from roads and gutters. Additionally, it can be used as an alternate vector used for cleaning out ditches and pipes. Road Department employees have already cleared off a few streets and are slowly moving throughout the township's 140 miles of roadways. We thank you for your continued support, and should you have any questions, please feel free to call me.

Daniel R. Kamerer

MUD AND DEBRIS ON ROAD POLICY

Reminder to Contractors and Township Residents:

The Board of Lake Township Trustees requests that you maintain construction sites and other properties in a proper manner so that you do not track mud and other debris onto the public streets. If mud and debris is tracked onto the street, please clean the street promptly.

Debris includes, among other items, unnatural accumulations of snow and ice (such as being pushed onto the public streets from private parking lots, driveways, and roads). Contractors will need either to pile the snow on private property or load it and haul it away.

If it becomes necessary for the Township to clean the street, you will be invoiced at the rate of \$50.00 an hour per piece of equipment with an operator. Additional employees required for the clean-up will be invoiced at an hourly rate based on current salary plus fringe benefits.

If you have any questions about the Mud and Debris on Road Policy, please call the Lake Township Road Superintendent at 330.877.9479.



**Check Out
Our Web Site:**
www.laketwpstarkco.com

It has lots of information about Lake Township!

Who's Responsible for the Roads?

When reporting a problem involving a roadway, including removal of dead animals, it is important to know which governmental entity is responsible for the maintenance and repair of that road.

To report problems on State Routes 43 and 619 in Lake Township, call the Canton office of the Ohio Department of Transportation (330.452.0365).

The Stark County Engineer (330.477.6781) maintains Cleveland Ave., State St., Smith-Kramer St., Middlebranch Ave., Congress Lake Ave., Swamp St., Duquette Ave., the east leg of Pontius St. north of Quail Hollow State Park and Market Ave. south of Lake Center St.

Maintenance of Pontius St. from Cleveland Ave. to Mogadore Ave. is shared between Springfield Township (330.733.3213) and Lake Township (330.877.9479). Maintenance of Pontius St. from Mogadore Ave. to Market Ave. is shared between Portage County (1.330.296.6411) and Lake Township.

Plain Township (330.492.3423) maintains Mt. Pleasant St. from Market Ave. to Middlebranch Ave.

Maintenance of Aultman Avenue is shared between the City of Green (330.896.6607) and Lake Township.

The Village of Hartville Street Department (330.877.3006) is responsible for maintenance of King Church Ave. from Camelia St. south to Lake Center St., Lake Center from King Church east to Market Ave., and Market from Lake Center north to the Village boundary north of State Rt. 619, as well as all other streets within the village.

Lake Township maintains the 140.148 miles of all remaining dedicated streets in the township.



From Your Zoning Administrator:

Spring is always a busy time of year in the zoning department! The purpose of zoning is to serve the township community by promoting public health, safety, and morals through orderly development. Zoning provides a legal means for carrying out a responsible growth plan by designating districts for residential, commercial, and industrial areas. Encouraging the most appropriate land use helps protect property values and maintain the highest and best use for all properties.

This time of year, I spend many of my days assisting the public with project planning, receiving and reviewing zoning applications and permits, working on larger scale development projects in conjunction with Stark County, investigating zoning complaints, conducting on-site inspections, and working closely with both the zoning boards and township trustees. Each day at the office is very full in this flourishing township!

If you have any zoning questions, never hesitate to call. I am always happy to help!

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.

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 this site as a convenience for township residents' use. The Midway St. Service Complex is 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).

LAKE TOWNSHIP YARD WASTE FACILITY

The Yard Waste Facility is now for Lake Township and Village of Hartville residents ONLY. The cost for users is \$25.00 for a 1-year subscription and one (1) key card is permitted per household. More information about this change is on our website, Facebook page and from our office staff (330.877.9479). www.laketwpstarkco.com.



FROM THE UNIONTOWN POLICE CHIEF:

PM Check Up Routine: As Spring approaches and the weather gets nicer, there are a few things we would like to remind our residents about. Everyone should have a “PM Check Up Routine”. Here are some precautions you can take to keep your homes, families and neighborhoods safe:

- Remove any important belongings from your vehicle and make sure it is locked.
- Close your garage door. Also, if you notice your neighbors’ garage door is open, call or text them and let them know.
- Secure you home before you go to bed. Lock your doors and windows.
- Turn on your exterior lights. A lit-up house is less likely to be burglarized than one with no exterior lights.
- Report any suspicious activity: such as vehicles you do not recognize, suspicious people you haven’t seen in your neighborhood before, etc. We take these calls very seriously. It is better to be safe than sorry.

MEDICATION DROP BOX

We would like to remind you about the Medication Drop Box located at our department, 1635 Edison Street NW. It is open from 8am to 4pm Monday through Friday and is located just inside the department door.

We can accept only prescription pills. They can be in the plastic container with the labels attached. You do not need to remove the labels.

We cannot accept:

- Any type of liquid
- Inhalers
- Ointments
- Syringes or Needles of any kind

The Stark County Health Department suggests disposing of unwanted medications (other than prescription pills) and syringes/needles, in a sealable bag or a plastic container such as a laundry detergent or dish soap bottle. Seal the lid with duct tape and dispose of it in your trash container as close to trash pick up day as you can.

Chief Michael P. Batchik

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.

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.



LAKE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

12360 Market Avenue North
Hartville, Ohio 44632

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

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 fire-fighting companies ... have saved countless lives, protected property and saved taxpayers substantial dollars... the hundreds of fine men and women have... literally put their lives and well-being on the line for all residents of Lake Township."