



Lake Township Newsletter

Edition No. 67

January 2007

Township Offices

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Board of Trustees

John Arnold
Ellis Erb
Galen Stoll

Township Clerk

Ben Sommers

Administrator

Carolyn Casey

Trustees Reorganize for 2007



Ellis Erb



Galen Stoll



John Arnold

The Board of Lake Township Trustees held its organizational meeting on January 1, 2007. Ellis Erb is beginning the second year of his second term as Trustee and Galen Stoll is beginning the second year of his first term. John Arnold was appointed on November 27, 2006 to complete the remainder of Sue Ruley's term as Trustee.

During the reorganization meeting, the Board elected Ellis Erb as its President and Galen Stoll as its Vice President for 2007.

Keep Informed About Local Government Issues

Check out the new Lake Township website at...



www.laketwpstarkco.com

INSIDE This Issue

President's Corner	4
Storm Water Management	5
Sidewalk Policy	6
Sewage Treatment System Rules ..	3
Spring Clean-Up.....	2

Township Mourns the Loss of Sue Ruley



Lake Township employees, as well as the community of Lake Township as a whole, suffered a great loss this past

November with the passing of Trustee Sue Ruley. Sue was just completing the third year of her fourth term as Lake Township Trustee; however, Sue's history

with the township actually started in 1958, as an unpaid clerk for the zoning boards and later as the Zoning Inspector and finally as a member of the zoning boards. For the past 15 years, Sue's history with the township has proven to be an invaluable resource which was relied on often by the other Board members that she served with. Sue always made the welfare of others a priority, often putting herself in the line of fire for a cause that she truly believed in. Township residents will remember

Sue as the Trustee that took their phone calls on holidays and late evenings, and often showed up at their door to look at their problems, at times even wading through flood waters. Township employees will remember the smile that could light up a room and the hearty laugh that could be heard throughout the building. Donations to the Sue Ruley Memorial Scholarship Fund are currently being accepted at Lake High School.

To The Residents of the Uniontown Police District



We at the Uniontown Police Department wish to thank the residents of the Uniontown Police District for all their good will and support. We are pleased to relate that, once again, we have two officers on patrol 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and we are planning the purchase of three much-needed cruisers and related equipment in the near future.

Uniontown Police Department offers many services; one of which is our Senior Citizens Program. Seniors living in the Uniontown Police District are encouraged to call the Department, and we will gladly arrange to contact them on a weekly basis to make certain of their well-being, answer their concerns, or assist them where possible.

We at the Uniontown Police Department, in partnership with the residents of the Police District, seek to make our community a safe place for all. If you observe anything unusual or have other safety concerns, you are encouraged to call us at 330-699-6444 day or night.

*Don Hensley, Chief
Uniontown Police Department*

A New Name!



Ben Sommers
Lake Township
Fiscal Officer

The title of the elected Township Clerk has undergone a name change. A new state law went into effect changing the title from Township Clerk to Township Fiscal Officer. The name was changed to better represent the broad responsibilities of managing the fiscal and record keeping functions of a Township.

Fire Prevention Tips



Did you remember to change the battery in your smoke detector when you changed the clock back in October? If not, be sure to do it now. You should test your alarms at least once a month, and install fresh batteries at least once a year.

Your smoke alarms should be replaced at least once every 10 years with alarms carrying the UL marking on the packaging. It is recommended that a smoke alarm be installed on every level of your home, including the basement. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding fire safety.

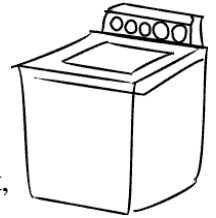
*Danille Kemp
Fire Prevention Officer*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE ANNUAL SPRING CLEANUP!



Tuesday, June 5 through Saturday, June 9 – 8:00 am to 8:00 pm

Containers will be located at the Lake Township Service Garage complex at 1499 Midway Street, next to the Recycle



Center. You may drop off household waste (NO GARBAGE), appliances and tires. NO HAZARDOUS WASTE, DRUMS, LIQUIDS OR NONCONFORMING WASTE WILL BE ACCEPTED.



Yard Waste Drop Off

The yard waste drop off site is located behind the recycle center at 1505 Midway, next to the service garage, and is open from dawn to dusk seven days a week. You may drop off grass clippings, leaves shrubs, tree limbs and stumps. No business waste, plastic bags or treated lumber are permitted. If you bring your leaves or grass in plastic bags, you must be prepared to empty the plastic bags and take them with you. Steps have been taken for surveillance of the area. If you have any questions regarding Spring Clean Up, the Recycle Program or the Yard Waste Program, call the township office at 330-877-9479.

New Sewage Treatment System Rules Effective January 1, 2007

New Sewage Treatment System (STS) Rules were adopted by the Public Health Council in May of 2006, and are effective January 1, 2007. The STS rules apply only to new and replacement systems permitted after the effective date of the rules.

The STS rules provide flexible, alternative design options to allow building on lots with both challenging soil and site conditions and those lots well suited for soil treatment. Some lots will continue to use conventional systems. Not every lot will need a mound system. Many alternative technologies can be successfully used based on consumer choices.

Frequently Asked Questions

Will all system owners be required to upgrade their existing systems to meet the new rule standards on January 1, 2007?

No. ORC 3718.02 specifically states that all systems in existence that are operating or operational shall be deemed approved unless they are causing a public health nuisance.

Will everyone be required to install a mound system after January 1, 2007?

NO. The new sewage treatment systems rules provide a “toolbox” of approved system components that can be used to design a system suitable for the site conditions of the lot, and the lifestyles and budget of the systems owners. ODH will be working closely with all local health districts to ensure that property owners are allowed choices in system design, and are not required to install a local health district’s “favorite system”. In fact, the new rules allow for more, not less, options than existing state and local regulations.

Do the new rules go too far and add unnecessary cost, i.e. why does everyone need a “Cadillac” system?

ODH is concerned about the cost of sewage treatment systems. System designs allowed in the rules carefully balance the protection of public health and the environment with overall system installation and maintenance costs. For example, new rule amendments proposed by ODH in August lower the vertical separation distance needed in the soil for treatment. This equates to more sites that will be suitable for conventional systems lowering costs for system installations and replacements across the state. The new rules also allow for many system designs that can be tailored to the lot conditions, budget and lifestyles of property owners.

Will all systems need service contracts with high maintenance costs?

NO. Service contracts are not required for all systems. The level of maintenance required for a sewage treatment system is dependent on the system design and components. System owners will be able to evaluate the level of maintenance required for any particular system when choosing a new or replacement system for their property, and then make decisions based on their budget and lifestyles.

Do the new rules reduce the number of available sites that can be built on?

NO. The new rules provide many more system design options than the old rules. The variety of system designs and the ability to mix and match components to meet the site and owner needs may even allow for sites that were previously deemed unbuildable to be used.

Will traditional leach lines still be allowed to be used?

YES. Conventional septic tank to leach line systems in the soil are certainly still permitted where the soils are suitable. With less discharging systems being used, more sites will be using soil based systems. This will certainly include more leaching trench systems.

Is the use of “curtain” drains prohibited?

NO. The proper use of drains is still permitted. Interceptor drains can be used whenever needed to divert water away from soil based systems. Gradient drains will also be allowed to move water away from systems installed at sites with seasonal high water near the surface where the system design is approved under a special variance by the local health district.

Are all existing and new lots required to have systems subject to the new rules?

NO. ODH clearly recognizes that some lot owners and developers already have obtained approved system designs from local health districts but have not yet installed these systems. The rules provide a grace period where lot owners with system designs approved prior to January 1, 2007 will have until January 1, 2010 to obtain a permit,



President's Corner



We extend condolences to the family of Sue Ruley, our long-time colleague, who passed away on Sunday, November 5.

Sue had served Lake Township for forty-eight years in various positions, including Zoning Board Clerk, Assistant Zoning Inspector, Zoning Inspector, and on the Zoning Commission and the Board of Zoning Appeals before she was elected a Trustee in 1992. We will certainly miss

her memory and her expertise on many issues.

My fellow Trustee, Galen Stoll, and I have chosen John Arnold to serve the remainder of Sue's unexpired term. We had fifteen applications for the position, so it was not an easy decision. We were happy to see so much interest in public service. Sue often said she liked John. He's a well-known local businessman, and is very active in many civic organizations. We're glad to welcome John on board.

Many of you may have read in the Hartville News about the Stark County Health

Department's plan to inspect all residential septic systems in the county over the next five years. This is going to happen because of new, more stringent regulations from the State of Ohio. Homeowners will be responsible for the cost of these inspections, as well as any required upgrades or repairs.

*Ellis Erb, President
Board of Lake Township Trustees*

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR ROAD SUPERINTENDENT



Here we are, in the middle of the 2006/2007 snow season, and as of the writing of this newsletter, we've only

used 400 Ton of salt on our roads. In an average snow season, we use approximately 4200 Ton of salt. At the current rate of \$34.43 per ton, that is a cost of \$145,000.00 per year.

The service department maintains 133.71 miles of road in Lake Township. Those 133.71 miles are broken into 9 plowing areas for snow and ice control. Each driver is responsible for 14 miles of roadway, which equates to 28 lane miles per driver. An average of 100 Ton of salt is put down each time the drivers make one complete pass across the town-

ship.

The Stark County Sheriff and Uniontown Police Department monitor the roads after hours and notify the township when conditions warrant attention. Trucks are usually on the road one-half hour after call out. The main roads, such as Lake Center, Kaufman, Pontius, Midway, etc. get first priority, followed by the housing allotments and lastly the cul-de-sacs. In a continuous storm, drivers may spend most of their time on the mains, having little time to get into the housing areas.

Remember, the State provides maintenance on SR 619 and 43, and the county maintains all county routes.

You Can Help!

- When shoveling your driveway, wait until the plow has gone by to shovel the apron or you may have to shovel the apron a sec-

ond time because the snow from the plow will end up at the end of your driveway. Also, when shoveling your driveway apron, pile the snow to the right of your driveway.

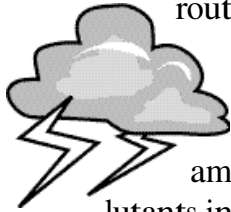
- Never throw, plow or blow snow into the street after it has been plowed.
- Never drive close to the rear of the salt trucks.
- Park your vehicles in your driveway during any ice or snow storm.
- Place your trash cans as far off the road as possible, to avoid damage by the snow coming off of the plow face.

Please do not hesitate to call with any questions or concerns that you may have regarding services provided by the Lake Township Road Department.

*Rick Criss
Road Superintendent*

You Can Help Reduce Storm Water Problems

The U.S. EPA is requiring local governments to clean up and monitor our storm water runoff sources. Lake Township has identified the location of all out falls and the names and location of all waters of the United States that receive discharges from those out falls. Water quality will be routinely monitored at these locations.



There are numerous things that private property owners can do to reduce the amount of storm water runoff and reduce pollutants in storm water runoff.

- 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.

Zoning Update



Steve Lacey

The Zoning Commission is continuing to work on new zoning districts for the township. A PRC (Planned Residential Condominium District) was recently adopted by the Lake Township Trustees. A PMU (Planned Mixed Use District) and PRT (Planned Research and Technology District) are currently being proposed. These districts will be similar to our current planned districts in that owners of properties wishing to have the new designation must have all plans approved by the Zoning Commission and Township Trustees. If you have any questions regarding the new districts, please call the Lake Township Zoning Administrator, Steve Lacey, at 330-877-9479.

Frequently Asked Questions continued from page 3

and then an additional year for installation under that permit.

Will home owners with failing systems be forced to abandon their homes if they cannot install a new soil based sewage system for their existing home?

NO. ODH has worked with the Ohio EPA to develop a General Permit that will authorize certain approved discharges under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program. These homes will be able to install a discharging system approved under the new rules and authorized by permit.

For more information contact:
Residential Water and Sewage Program
Bureau of Environmental Health
Ohio Department of Health
246 N. High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 466-1390
BEH@odh.ohio.gov

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.



Lake Township



Meeting Times

Meetings of the Board of Trustees are held the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 6:30 pm.

All meetings will be held at the Lake Township Hall, 12360 Market Avenue North, Hartville, Ohio. The meeting hall is handicapped accessible. Arrangements may be made for an interpreter for the deaf.

Township Office Hours:
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Monday through Friday

New Policy Requires Property Owners To Clean Sidewalks

The Board of Lake Township Trustees has adopted a policy requiring owners of property abutting a sidewalk within road right-of-way to clear that sidewalk of any snow, ice, dirt, mud, water or other substance that would make the sidewalk unsafe to use. The sidewalk must be cleared before 12:00 noon of each day to a width of not less than three feet or the width of the paved portion of the sidewalk.

In the event that it is impossible to remove any substance which interferes with the safe/convenient use of the sidewalk, the owner or responsible party must cover the sidewalk with sand or some other substance before 12:00 noon of each day.

Complaints regarding sidewalk maintenance may be reported to the Lake Township Administrative Office, 330-877-9479.

Local Postal Patron
(ECSRWS)

PRSRPT STD
U S POSTAGE
PAID
AKRON, OHIO
PERMIT NO. 286

LAKE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES
12360 Market Avenue North
Hartville, Ohio 44632