

# LAKE TOWNSHIP Newsletter

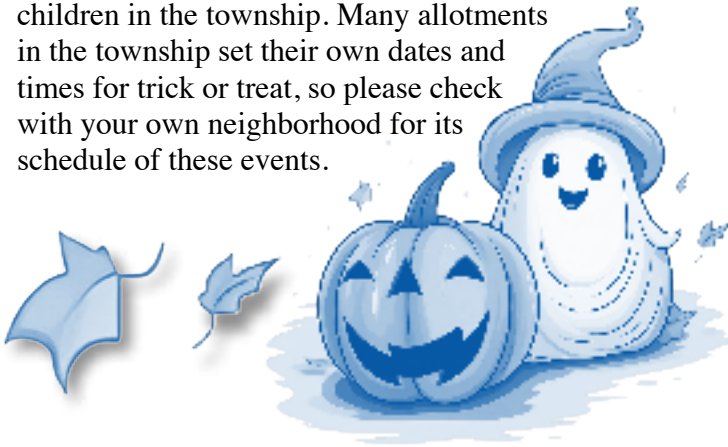


**EDITION NO. 102 — OCTOBER 2024**

A Service of the Board of Lake Township Trustees

## TRICK OR TREAT!

October's coming, time for Halloween fun! Lake Township Trustees have designated Sunday, October 27, 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.



## LAKE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES' MEETINGS

Lake Township Trustees meet every second and fourth Monday of each month at 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

## EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE ON NOVEMBER 5

Voters in Lake Township will see issues on the November 5 general election ballot:

**Issue 22:** Lake Township Road District, replacement, 1.5 mills, 5 years, commencing in 2025.

**Issue 34:** Uniontown Police District, replacement and decrease, 4 mills, continuing period of time, commencing in 2025.

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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  
Our Web Site:**  
[www.laketwpstarkco.com](http://www.laketwpstarkco.com)

*It has lots of information about Lake Township!*  
**CHECK OUT COMMUNITY EVENTS** at [www.lakechamber.com](http://www.lakechamber.com)



John Arnold

## President's Corner

Fall is here already! That means election time is here. You will notice elsewhere in our newsletter that we have two issues on the November 5 general election ballot: the Lake Township Road District, replacement, 1.5 mills, 5 years commencing

in 2025, and the Uniontown Police District, replacement and decrease, 4 mills, continuing period of time, commencing in 2025

We don't need to purchase any road salt this year; because of good planning and careful use by the Road Department, we have enough left over from last winter.

We have notified the Stark County Commissioners that we are prohibiting the construction of large wind farms and large solar facilities in the unincorporated area of the township.

Elsewhere in the newsletter, you will see that we adopted a resolution regulating noise in residential areas between 10:00 P.M. and 6:00 A.M., effective August 12, 2024. Fines will be levied for violations. The complete resolution is on file at the administrative office.

We've also started the process of building an equipment storage building for the Road Department. We are also upgrading the offices in the administration building.

Best wishes for the holiday season!

*John Arnold*



Matthew Erb

## From your Fiscal Officer

Thank you for your continued support and pride in your Township. As your Fiscal Officer, I am pleased to share with you some insights into our current financial status and our path ahead.

### 1. Road Department Budget:

Just as a reminder we foresee no need for our Road Department to purchase salt for this upcoming snow season. Diligent planning and our ability to store resources have given us the ability to be prepared for this winter. We have a great fleet of vehicles and equipment that are ready for all the demands necessary that our Road Department encounters.

With all the good things we have done at the Road Department, there are some things that we cannot control. Inflation: materials such as blacktop, concrete, pipe, salt, etc., all our supplies have adversely increased. Another thing we have experienced is growth. The addition of new neighborhoods and roads has increased the miles and amount of work that our Road Department maintains. We have set a standard for ourselves to provide a quality product when it comes to road maintenance for our residents. We also believe that we are aligned with our residents when we say that the residents want the

same level of service that we are accustomed to providing.

What you are going to see on the ballot this fall is a 1.5-mill replacement levy. This amounts to \$53 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for a period of five years. The previous levy was originally passed by voters 39 years ago and has only been on the ballot as a replacement one other time in 39 years.

**2. Police Department Budget:** I have previously stated this and unfortunately the climate of the economy has not given us any relief. "Our Police Department is currently experiencing many of the same problems that other first responders are having: obtaining and retaining employees." Additional employees, new cruisers and police-related equipment upgrades are all necessities to run an efficient Police Department. We have done well with our budget in the past, but inflation and growth have started to strain our resources.

What you are going to see on the ballot this fall is a 4-mill replacement and decrease levy. This amounts to \$140 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value. The previous levy was originally passed by voters in 1988. This levy is only for residents in the Uniontown Police District.

**3. Investments:** With interest rates continuing to stand firm, all our short-term investments have continued to bring in additional revenue. Once interest rates decrease, we will reassess our short-term investment strategy.

**4. Cost Management:** We continue to manage costs diligently, identifying opportunities for savings without compromising the quality of our services and products. What is good about local government entities is that they can be run like a business. Planning, budgets and not having the ability to spend more than what we have is something that that our residents can relate to. Being diligent with our funds and planning for our future is the key to financial strength.

I encourage you to all watch our meetings live on Facebook. Our meetings are every second and fourth Monday at 5:00. All of our financial records are read into our meeting minutes and information can also be found at [www.Ohio-Checkbook.com](http://www.Ohio-Checkbook.com)

*Matthew Erb*

## GET TO KNOW YOUR ROAD DEPARTMENT

Lake Township maintains over 142 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) full-time 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 142+ miles of roadway
- Patching, crack sealing, and pothole repairs
- Roadside mowing of rights-of-way
- 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.

*Daniel R. Kameron*



## 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.



## LAKE TWP. ROAD LEVY – REPLACEMENT

Thirty-nine (39) years ago, the Lake Township Board of Trustees voted to place a 1.5-mill Road Department levy on the ballot, and the voters of Lake Township passed this levy. On the November 5, 2024, General Election ballot, Lake Township voters will once again have the opportunity to vote on this 1.5 mill road levy that has only been replaced one (1) other time in its thirty-nine (39) years. This levy, which will replace the current 1.5-mill levy at current valuation, amounts to \$53 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for a period of five (5) years.

How does Lake Township use the funds from the road levy? The Township maintains over 142.00 miles of roadway. We use road levy funds for materials and equipment for maintenance of our roads and for our road improvement programs.

To see the cost of this levy for your property, visit the Stark County Auditor's Website ([www.starkcountyohio.gov/auditor](http://www.starkcountyohio.gov/auditor)). Click on Tax Estimator and follow the prompts.

Only voters in the unincorporated area of the township, outside the Village of Hartville, will vote on this levy. The Village has its own street department to maintain the streets in the Village.

## LEAVES ARE FALLING



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 Fridays and Mondays, and on Saturdays and Sundays from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. The Facility is closed Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. To access the site, you must obtain a Lake Township Yard Waste key card issued by the Township. See the Township's web site ([www.laketwpstarkco.com](http://www.laketwpstarkco.com)) for more information.

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.



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*

## Lake Township Adopts Resolution Regulating Noise

In an effort to address unnecessary, unreasonable and harmful noise within the unincorporated territory of the township, the Board of Lake Township Trustees has unanimously adopted a resolution that reads, in part, as follows: "No person in the unincorporated territory of Lake Township, Stark County, Ohio ("Township") shall make and no landowner or lawful occupant of land shall permit at any premises to which a D permit has been issued by the Ohio Division of Liquor Control or that is zoned for residential use, the making of any noise or sound, which by reason of volume, pitch, frequency, intensity, duration, or nature annoys or disturbs the comfort, peace, or health of a person of ordinary sensibilities and not a resident of the property from which the noise or sound emanates. The noise or sound must be plainly audible at a distance of fifty (50) feet or more from the property line from which the noise emanates.

There shall be in the Township observed quiet hours between the hours of 10:00 P.M. and 6:00 A.M. every day of the week. During this quiet hour period there shall be no making of any noise or sound, which by reason of volume, pitch, frequency, intensity, duration, or nature, annoys or disturbs the comfort, peace, or health of a person of ordinary sensibilities and not a resident of the property from which the noise or sound emanates. The noise or sound must be plainly audible at a distance of fifty (50) feet or more from the property line from which the noise emanates."

The complete resolution is on file at the Lake Township Administrative Office. The resolution's effective date is August 12, 2024. Whoever violates this Resolution shall be guilty of the level of offense as provided in the most current version of R.C. §505.172 for violating any regulation or order. 505.172. Fines levied and collected pursuant to this Resolution shall be paid into the Township general revenue fund.



## FROM THE UNIONTOWN POLICE CHIEF:

Fall is in the air! It's time for frosty mornings, pumpkin spice everything and football season. The fall season is a very busy time for our department. Holiday shopping online has started, which means packages are being delivered almost daily for some people. This is unfortunately when our theft reports are on the rise. To help reduce the risk of your packages being stolen we have a few suggestions:

- Use lights on timers. Timer lights are great, especially when you are not at home. With multiple lights on, your home still appears to be occupied. The more your home is lit up, the less of a chance there is for a criminal to attempt to gain entry through windows and doors, for fear of getting caught.
- Install outdoor motion sensor lights. They come on quickly and tend to alert the homeowner, and sometimes the neighbors, if someone is outside your home.
- Install the ring doorbell, surveillance cameras, etc. We have solved many theft cases by viewing the homeowner's camera footage. It is a great tool for you to use if you need to report an incident or crime that may have taken place at your home.
- Don't post your vacation dates on social media. This can make your home an easy target. You may not realize that people search social media posts to find when someone is on vacation. This gives them the best opportunity to search your property for packages left on your front porch. We do our best to serve, protect and keep Uniontown safe. Please don't hesitate to call us if you see something suspicious or have a question that we might be able to assist you with. We have a couple of fun fall events listed below that we want to let everyone know about.
- The 2nd Annual UPD vs. UFD Chili Cookoff: The Uniontown Police Department is gearing up for our 2nd Annual Chili Cookoff between our department and the Uniontown Fire Department. Chief Derek Shaffer wanted to help our department raise money for our Shop with a Cop program. He came up with the idea for a competitive chili cookoff between the P.D. and the F.D. This event will be held at the Uniontown Fire Department. We will post the date and details on our Facebook page as they become available.
- Shop With a Cop: In December we have our annual Shop With A Cop event. We take children from our local schools who may have had a difficult year and give them a day filled with fun, holiday shopping and spending quality time with our Officers. Starting in November, we will be selling raffle tickets to raise money for this event. Follow our Facebook page for event details.

*Chief Michael P. Batchik*

## EPA BEGINS NEXT STAGE OF GROUNDWATER INVESTIGATION

By the time this newsletter reaches you, the sampling of the 1,4-dioxane in the groundwater near the Industrial Excess Landfill Superfund site should be complete. Following is a postcard that was mailed out to the homeowners/residents in the vicinity of where the drilling took place. Should you have any questions, please reach out to the U.S. EPA at the contact phone numbers and/or email addresses found on the postcard.



### EPA Begins Next Stage of Groundwater Investigation Industrial Excess Landfill Superfund Site Uniontown, Ohio

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will continue to oversee the sampling of 1,4-dioxane in the groundwater near the Industrial Excess Landfill Superfund site. Starting the week of July 29 and extending through early September 2024, crews will conduct groundwater sampling in parts of Uniontown and Green. Workers will need to use large drilling equipment at the sampling locations, which are within the public right-of-way. Street access may be temporarily controlled in these areas. These samplings will help determine the size of the dioxane plume at the site and to determine if additional cleanup actions will be necessary.

Weather permitting, crews may be working Monday through Sunday between 7 a.m. – 6 p.m., for up to three months. It is anticipated that each drilling location will take a week to complete. Work may be observed along East Turkeyfoot Lake Road and Myersville Road, Spade Road, Turtle Bay Circle, Pebble Stone Drive, and Islandview Avenue. Take a picture of the QR Code below to see a map of the sampling locations. Field work is expected to move in a southeasterly direction towards the Industrial Excess Landfill Superfund site. Crews will do their best to minimize disturbances in the area as much as possible.



If you have any questions, please contact:

**Aaron Green**  
Remedial Project Manager  
312-353-4633  
green.aaron.m@epa.gov

**Ruth Muhtsun**  
Community Involvement Coordinator  
312-886-6595  
muhtsun.ruth@epa.gov

For more information visit: [www.epa.gov/superfund/industrial-excess-landfill](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/industrial-excess-landfill)



## LAKE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

12360 Market Avenue North  
Hartville, Ohio 44632

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### **UNIONTOWN POLICE LEVY – 4 MILLS (REPLACEMENT and DECREASE)**

In 1966, the then-Board of Lake Township Trustees created a police district covering nine square miles in the northwest corner of the township. A levy was placed on the General Election ballot for the operation of a police department, and was subsequently approved by the voters in that district. That District is known as the Uniontown Police District.

Lake Township residents living within the Police District have been tremendously supportive of their Police Department in its 58 years of existence. They have grown accustomed to quick response times, the presence of cruisers in their neighborhoods, the ability to stop by the Department to discuss matters with the Chief, and the general feeling of security in knowing that they have “round the clock” protection.

On November 5 township residents within the Uniontown Police District will have the opportunity to vote on a replacement of a portion of an existing 1988 levy, being a reduction of one (1) mill, for a total of four (4) mills for \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$140 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor’s appraised value.

For more complete information as to how your property tax will be affected by the passage of this levy, and to see the cost of the levy for your property, visit the Stark County Auditor’s Website ([www.starkcountyohio.gov/auditor](http://www.starkcountyohio.gov/auditor)). Click on Tax Estimator and follow the prompts.

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