

LAKE TOWNSHIP Newsletter



EDITION NO. 101 — MAY 2024

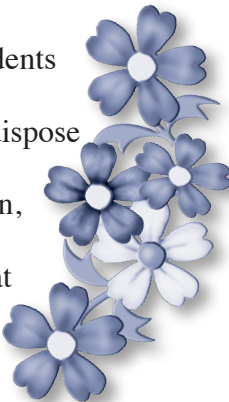
A Service of the Board of Lake Township Trustees

IT'S SPRING CLEANUP TIME!

Lake Township will sponsor a Spring Cleanup for Township residents from Wednesday, June 5, through Friday, June 7, from 8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. every day, and Saturday, June 8, 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 will be checked. Township businesses will be allowed to dispose of no more than one pickup 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 (car and light truck tires only, 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, including but not limited to batteries of any type, propane tanks, paint, antifreeze, etc., can be accepted.



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 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 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

IN THIS EDITION

President's Corner.....	2
Fiscal Office Update	2
Road Superintendent	3
Zoning News.....	4
Uniontown Police Chief.....	5
From Your Fire Service.....	6



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

It has lots of information about Lake Township!
CHECK OUT COMMUNITY EVENTS at www.lakechamber.com



President's Corner

I am writing this article two days after witnessing the total solar eclipse, and, like almost everyone reading this article, we were so fortunate to watch the spectacle and feel the temperature drop in mere minutes from our own yards! This was

“one of those moments” that most of us will never forget, as we were able to share it with friends and family.

There is more rain in the forecast during this very wet April, but we are also on the other side of a very mild winter. The road salt usage was down considerably, our salt storage building is full, and we are confident that no salt purchase will be needed until after the 2024-2025 winter season. The savings in salt and overtime labor savings will help us allocate more funds for our road resurfacing for this summer. The Road Superintendent has been evaluating what roads need attention this year.

Road safety is always a serious topic. We worked with the Stark County Engineer to enhance the safety of the intersection of Market Avenue and Andrews Street. This intersection is now a four-way stop.

We have asked the Stark County Auditor to certify the dollar amounts of replacement vs. renewal levies for the Road Department and Lake EMS so we can make informed and proper decisions in this area.

The Yard Waste Recycle facility is open for the season. Please stop in to renew your access card so you won't feel a disruption in your ability to gain access.

We have been strategic regarding the use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. Our most recent investments have been replacing the roof and upgrading our garage storage at the Administration Building. The next improvement will be to modernize and upgrade the meeting room and offices. These upgrades will keep our facility relevant and comfortable for residents and staff for many more years. Love Our Community was also a recipient of funds for capital improvements to directly help some of our residents when they need it the most.

Best wishes for everyone to have another wonderful spring, summer and fall in Lake Township!

John Arnold



From your Fiscal Officer

Thanks 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 the path ahead.

Road Department Budget:

Another mild winter has provided us with the opportunity to strategically use our Road Department budget on equipment upgrades and to fill our inventory of road salt and other winter products. We will soon be getting into this year's paving program. I would expect a program that is similar to what we have done the last few years.

Police Department Budget: We will be taking a more in-depth review of our police budget, as expenses continue to rise, but we are still operating on the same budget since 2006. Wages and wage-related expenses are now over 90 percent of our annual police budget.

Revenue Growth: Our investments have continued to create additional revenue for the township. We now have both short and long term investments in place to capitalize on current market conditions and to fulfill our investment plans.

Capital Improvements: We have used some of our ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds for a new roof on our administrative offices, as our old roof had reached the end of its life cycle. We are also in the process of converting a garage space at the township offices into an additional storage room. In the next few months, we will be getting together prices and a plan for an additional storage building at the Road Department. All of these projects will be funded by ARPA monies the township has received.

Lake Township Yard Waste: Our yard waste facility is open to Lake Township residents ONLY and you MUST have a key card to access the area. Key cards are \$25.00 and are valid for one year from the date of purchase. If you purchased a key card in person at our office, you may come into the office to renew it, or you may renew it online at (<https://yardwaste.laketwpstarkco.com>). Once you have registered online, the website will tell you to pick up a new key card in the office within two days. Once the payment has been processed, your current key card will be activated. You do NOT need to obtain a new key card if you already have a key card; we will electronically renew the subscription on your existing card. If you have a new credit card number or need any information changed, please contact Cindy Caufield at 330.877.9479. For lost key cards, you will need to come into the township administration office with your driver's license or utility bill showing your name and current address. The fee for key card replacement is \$15.00.

I encourage all of you to watch our meetings live on Facebook. Our meetings are every second and fourth Mondays at 5:00 P.M. All of our financial records are read into our meeting minutes, and information can also be found at www.OhioCheckbook.com.

Matthew Erb

LAKE TOWNSHIP YARD WASTE FACILITY

The Yard Waste Facility opened for the season on April 1. The Facility is for Lake Township and Village of Hartville residents ONLY. The cost for users is \$25.00 per year and one (1) key card is permitted per household. More information is on our website, Facebook page and from our office staff (330.877.9479).



A Message From The Road Superintendent:

Welcome to Spring 2024!

The Township Road Department has been busy with high windstorm cleanups, equipment maintenance, building maintenance, sign repair, minor patching and pothole repairs.

During the summer when grass is being mowed, please do not blow grass onto the roadway. This is a traffic hazard and will also clog storm drains and gutters. If you inadvertently blow grass onto the roadway, please clean it off as soon as possible.

Paving season is just around the corner, and we have begun the process of inspecting our roads and catch basins. Once a list has been generated and reviewed, the Board of Trustees will decide which roads will be resurfaced.

Speeding on local roads is among the most common complaints received by Lake Township each year, and it is not just a problem on “major” roads. Speeders are also found on quiet streets and cul-de-sacs---roadways mostly traveled by folks who live in these neighborhoods.

If drivers know the dangers of speeding, why do some drivers speed when they are so close to home, putting their neighbors in harm’s way? Interestingly, psychology partly explains this behavior. By traveling the same roads repeatedly, drivers “master” roadway conditions, learning every twist, turn and dip along the route. When drivers feel this comfortable with their surroundings, they are more likely to feel safe driving at a higher speed. This explains why most drivers travel at a slower speed when navigating through a city or town for the first time. So, when traveling local roads, please stay mindful of your speed, even if it feels safe to travel a bit faster. Local roads are where the people we care about most live!

Stormwater Issues:

Dealing with storm water is becoming an issue across the state, including here in Lake Township. Storm water can cause flooding and can contaminate our waterways that are eventually used to collect our drinking water. You can help avoid some of these problems by reducing impervious areas (hard surfaces such as roofs and 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. Rain gardens, rain barrels and similar practices can also reduce runoff. Locating and cleaning any obstructions from private sump pump discharges and downspout drains can be beneficial as well. 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 significant impact on improving storm water 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.

Illicit discharge is the unlawful act of disposing, dumping, spilling, emitting or discharging any substance other than stormwater into the stormwater drainage system. The stormwater drainage system includes streets, ditches, catch basins, yard inlets, lakes, ponds and streams. In most cases, stormwater flows directly into our waterways, and is not treated at a treatment plant. Anything deposited into the storm drain flows directly into our waterways, causing pollution.

Some examples of illicit discharges are:

- Paint being poured into or near the storm drainage system.
- Changing oil or antifreeze over or near a storm structure.
- Washing vehicles with soap where the runoff could drain into the storm drainage system.
- Washing dumpster pads and allowing the runoff to drain into the storm drainage system.
- Draining swimming pool water into the street or a storm sewer inlet.

Due to Federal and State requirements, Lake Township is being proactive in keeping our environment clean and reducing water pollution, If you see a potential illicit discharge, please contact Stark County Soil and Water Conservation.

Please be cautious of construction zones, flaggers, roadside mowing and street sweeping.

Stay safe and have a great 2024!

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.

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.



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

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

What is the difference between *Storm Sewer and Sanitary Sewer*?

- *Sanitary Sewer* water circulates through a water treatment facility before entering waterways. Waste water from your sinks, showers, toilets, and washing machines travels through the sanitary sewer system to a waste water treatment facility where water is treated before being discharged.
- *Storm Sewer* water is not treated before it enters directly into waterways.

Storm water runoff is rain or snowmelt that flows over the ground. As it flows, it can pick up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants that contaminate our water. Anything that enters a storm sewer is discharged untreated into water bodies that we use for drinking, fishing, and swimming. We cannot afford to pollute and contaminate it. Any of this water proposes a risk to public health as well as the environment.

How can you help protect our local water?

- Use pesticides sparingly. Fertilize only as needed 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. Do not wash dirt and cleaners down the driveway into the storm drain.
- Picking up after your pets. If walking your pet, bring a bag to collect waste. If waste is left in the yard, dispose of it in the trash or toilet. It is important to pick up waste daily as rain and melting snow will carry it into the storm sewer system. Animal waste contains many disease-causing organisms, as well as excess nutrients that affect water quality.
- Maintain your septic system. Septic systems should be pumped once every three years. Repair or replace malfunctioning septic systems.
- Properly dispose of leaves and grass clippings. Start a compost pile. Never use streams, creeks, or gutters to dispose of yard waste. Keep leaves out of ditches and storm sewers. You can dispose your leaves at the yard waste drop-off site located at the Lake Township Recycle Center at 1505 Midway St., next to the Township Road Department.

Do you have questions about your septic system? Contact the Stark County Health Department (330.493.9904) and ask to speak to a Stormwater Specialist.

Remember, only rain down the square drains!



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

www.facebook.com/LakeTownshipStarkCountyOhio/





FROM THE UNIONTOWN POLICE CHIEF:

One of our top priorities is to keep our residents safe throughout the year. We wanted to share some of our spring and summer safety tips with you as a reminder that we have you and your family's wellbeing at the top of our list. The weather is finally starting to get nice, the kids will be out of school before we know it and vacation season is in full swing during the spring and summer months.

Follow these tips to help keep you and your neighbors safe.

Courtesy Vacation House Check:

- Whether you are out of town for a weekend, a week or for the winter months, our officers will keep a watchful eye on your home. They can be seen walking around the home, checking to see if your doors and garages are closed and locked, any windows are broken or ajar, reporting packages on the front porch, etc. There have been many times we call homeowners to report these listed issues. Our goal is to give you peace of mind, while you're gone, that your home is being checked on.
 - People may not realize when you post pictures on social media of you and your family enjoying your vacation that it's the perfect opportunity for intruders and thieves to target your home. It's best to post your memories after you have returned home.
 - To get a house check, all you have to do is call 330.699.6444 and speak to one of our dispatchers, who will set it up for you.
- You simply call us when you return home and let us know everything checked OK.

Speeding in Neighborhoods:

- Soon everyone will be out of school for the summer. The kids will be playing outside and riding their bikes. People will be out walking, biking and running on the roadways. We have had an ongoing issue with people speeding in neighborhoods where the speed limit is 25 mph. We will continue to have our officers doing extra speed patrols to crack down on this issue.
- We are always willing to drop off our speed trailer in the areas at our residents' requests. If you would like to see the speed trailer in your neighborhood or have a speed complaint, please email Lt. Weidman at nweidman@uniontownpd.org.
- When you are approaching an intersection with sidewalks or backing out of your driveway, be aware of your surroundings and watch for pedestrians.

Leaving Pets in Vehicles:

- Cracking your car windows or leaving your vehicle in a shaded area does not stop the heat from rising. Your car's temperature can reach up to 120 degrees in a matter of minutes on a hot day.
- It is best to leave your pets at home, where it is cooler, when you have to run errands on hot days.
- Below is a chart showing the elapsed times and what the inside temperatures of your car can reach:

Elapsed Time	Outside Air Temperature (F)				
	70	75	80	85	90
10 minutes	89	94	99	104	109
20 minutes	99	104	109	114	119
30 minutes	104	109	114	119	124
40 minutes	118	123	128	133	138

Chief Michael P. Batchik

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

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 fundraising 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.



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.