



Rumpke 1-800-828-8171
Road Department (614) 889-8781
 Trash • Recycling • Yard Waste
 For more information please go to www.perrytpw.org

| OCTOBER 2013 | | | | | | | NOVEMBER 2013 | | | | | | | DECEMBER 2013 | | | | | | |
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 Trash & Recycling Only
 Trash, Recycling, and Yard Waste

Leaf Collection October 21st - November 27th

PERRY TOWNSHIP

Franklin County

7125 Sawmill Road
 Dublin OH, 43016

614.889.2669
 Fax : 614.889.5071

OCT / NOV / DEC 2013

Board of Trustees

James Roper
 Chairman
Jroper@perrytpw.org

Andy English
 Vice Chairman
Aenglish@perrytpw.org

Chet Chaney
 Trustee
Cchaney@perrytpw.org

Fiscal Officer
 Michele Elliott
Melliott@perrytpw.org

Administrator
 Robert Myers
Rmyers@perrytpw.org

Police Chief
 Robert Oppenheimer
 (614) 889-8386

Chief Zoning Officer
 Robin Fellure
 (614) 889-1211

Road Superintendent
 Bryan Shonkwiler
 (614) 889-8781

Administrative Office
 Beth Beatty / Carleen Harper
 (614) 889-2669

Board of Trustee Regular Meetings
 @ 7:00 p.m.
 October 7th & 21st
 November 4th & 18th
 December 2nd & 16th

Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting
 @ 6:30 p.m.
 2nd Tuesday of each month

Zoning Commission Meeting
 @ 6:30 p.m.
 3rd Wednesday of each month

Check our website for schedule changes

www.perrytpw.org

ROAD LEVY RENEWAL ON NOVEMBER BALLOT

In March of 2008, voters approved a 1.5 mill road levy. The 5-year levy will expire on December 31, 2013. As a result, the Board of Trustees voted to place a renewal levy request on the upcoming November 5, 2013 ballot.

The Franklin County Auditor's office certified that the property tax revenue produced, should the levy pass, will be approximately \$220,487. The revenue received will be applied solely to the general construction, reconstruction, resurfacing, and repair of township streets such as:

- ◆ Snow Removal & Road Salt
- ◆ Leaf Collection & Brush Chipping
- ◆ Paving, Curb & Gutter Replacement
- ◆ Road Maintenance

Perry Township's Road Superintendent, Bryan Shonkwiler, oversees these and all other road related services. The Road Department consists of the superintendent and two full time crew members.

The Franklin County Board of Elections has designated the 1.5 mill levy as Issue 46 on the ballot.

Voter information can be found on the Board of Elections' website:
<http://vote.franklincountyohio.gov>

Leaf Collection
October 21st - November 27th

NOISE RESOLUTION OK'D BY BOARD

In November of 2011, Perry Township residents voted in favor of Limited Home Rule governance. As a result, the Board of Trustees was able to approve a Noise Control Resolution. The resolution which became effective on August 15th of this year gives police officers the authority to cite violators within the unincorporated parts of the township.

Examples of violations include horns, barking dogs, and excessive engine noise. The noise resolution applies to anyone using power equipment (chain saws, lawn mowers, etc) between the hours of 11 pm to 7 am (emergency equipment / generators excluded) and vehicle operators playing loud music.

Violation of this Resolution may result in a warning or one of the following civil fees:

- 1st Violation \$50.00
- 2nd Violation \$100.00
- 3rd and subsequent violations will result in a fine of \$250.00

Any law enforcement officer as defined herein, who hears a sound that is plainly audible as defined herein, shall be entitled to measure the sound according to the following standards:

The primary means of detection will be by means of the officer's ordinary auditory senses, so long as the officer's hearing is not enhanced by any mechanical device, such as a hearing aid. An officer must have a direct line of sight and hearing within 100 feet of the motor vehicle.

Residents who are inconvenienced by prolonged and or/excessive noise should contact the township's non-emergency number **(614) 889-1231**.

HOMESTEAD APPLICATION DEADLINE EXTENDED

The homestead exemption program was originally introduced in 1972 for low-income homeowners age 65 and older to help alleviate the burden of tax increases caused by escalating property values. As a result of House Bill 119, the homestead exemption is now available to all homeowners, regardless of income, who are either 65 or older or permanently and totally disabled.

The application period for Tax Year 2013 is open through Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2013.

To qualify for the program, a homeowner must:

- ♦ own and occupy the home as their primary place of residence as of January 1 of the year for which they apply; and
- ♦ be 65 years of age, or turn 65, by December 31 of the year for which they apply; or
- ♦ be totally and permanently disabled as of January 1 of the year for which they apply, as certified by a licensed physician or psychologist; or
- ♦ be the surviving spouse of a person who was receiving the homestead exemption at the time of death and where the surviving spouse was at least 59 years old on the date of death.

All homeowners who qualify for the homestead exemption will receive a flat \$25,000 property tax exemption on the market value of their home. The exact amount of savings from the exemption will vary from community to community based on local tax rates. View an estimated reduction schedule for your tax district.

Those homeowners who already receive the homestead exemption do not need to reapply every year. However, if your circumstances change and you no longer qualify, you must notify our office.

If you are interested in filing a homestead exemption application, call Clarence Mingo's office at **614-525-3240**, or select the link via his home page to download an application, or file an application electronically via **www.franklincountyauditor.com**.

NEW EQUIPMENT TO AID TOWNSHIP POLICE

The Ohio Department of Public Safety recently awarded a \$19,677 Fingerprint Identification Sharing grant to the Perry Township Police Department. Chief Oppenheimer reported that "There were more than 22 agencies in Franklin County that applied and we were one of five that received an award."

The new system will allow law enforcement to electronically collect, store, and transmit fingerprint images of individuals suspected or arrested in the commission of a crime. The ability to share information with other law enforcement agencies is crucial to solving crimes and stopping offenders in their tracks.

Speeding throughout neighborhoods and residential areas is the most common citizen complaint that Perry Township police departments receive throughout the year.

Neighborhood speeding creates a danger to pedestrians, to bicyclists and especially to children. Radar speed signs provide effective traffic calming and make neighborhood streets safer for everyone. Speeders will slow down up to 80% of the time when alerted by a radar sign. Typical speed reductions are 10-20%. Overall compliance with the posted speed limit will go up by 30-60%.



The Perry Township Police Department recently purchased two of these devices. The units are lightweight, portable and can be quickly installed anywhere throughout the township. Drivers will see a flash when the unit is activated; however, no photographs are taken.

Downloadable data will be used to identify problem areas.

ELEMENTARY STUDENTS WELCOME NEW PRINCIPALS

Elementary students were welcomed back to school by a couple new faces this year.

Joseph Jude was selected as the Worthington Hills principal. Mr. Jude was hired to replace Tamu Lucero who accepted an assistant superintendent's position in Connecticut.

Children at Brookside Elementary said goodbye to long time principal, Fritz Monroe who retired at the end of the school year. Mr. Dan Girard, previously the athletic director of Thomas Worthington and principal of Slate Run, assumed the post this fall.

Brookside 13th Annual Hog Roast

Saturday, October 5th

Starts at 5PM ; Dinner at 6PM

LOCATION: 2562 Darwin

Pull pork will be provided

Brookside residents are asked to bring drinks, chairs, a blanket and a side dish to share:

Last Name: A - P, bring a side dish
Last Name: Q - Z, bring a dessert

PLAN: Stay and watch the OSU vs. Northwestern game on a big outdoor screen at 8 PM



CIVIC ASSOCIATIONS

Brookside
President: Shawn Pereira
campbes9@yahoo.com
www.brooksidecivic.com

Henderson Heights
President: Helen Ware
(614) 207-7036

Worthington Hills
President: Michele Bair
michele.bair@worthingtonhills.org



CHIEF'S REPORT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

What is suspicious activity?

- ♦ A stranger around your neighbor's house or a strange vehicle parked near your neighbor's home.
- ♦ The sound of breaking glass.
- ♦ Anyone peering into vehicles or removing tags, gasoline, or auto parts.
- ♦ A parked car that does not belong and looks out of place.
- ♦ Someone carrying property from a home.
- ♦ Apparent business transactions conducted from a vehicle or street corner.
- ♦ A constant flow of strangers and vehicles to and from a house.
- ♦ Stranger knocking on doors (burglars sometimes knock at the door first to see if anyone is at home).
- ♦ Recurring appearances of a strange vehicle in the neighborhood.
- ♦ Persons standing around, possibly acting as lookouts.

Call Prioritization:

To ensure a rapid police response when you need it, the Police Department uses a call priority system. High priority calls consist of reports of crimes of violence or ones in progress or recently committed crimes where there is a chance of apprehending the perpetrator. As the police dispatcher is asking you questions, the information is being given to the police officers. It is important to continue talking with the dispatcher giving them information that is needed.

Lower priority calls consist of reports of crimes that occurred some time ago and suspects have left the scene. When a person calls 911 and that caller hangs up, an officer or officers will be sent to the address of the caller to check on the situation. With the enhanced 911 system used in Franklin County, the address of the telephone number from where the call is being made appears on the dispatchers' computer terminal. Please ensure that your children do not play with your telephone.

STATE AUDITOR RELEASES 2011-12 AUDIT REPORT

Every two years, municipalities such as ours are required to be audited by the State of Ohio. An auditor comes on site and reviews the mathematical accuracy of bank reconciliations, accounting entries, fund balances, bank deposits and interbank transfers. The auditor will also haphazardly select payroll checks, vendor payments and revenue receipts to ensure posting are accurate and legitimate.

Compliance testing is also performed. The auditor will verify that monies from each fund are spent appropriately. For example, a police car cannot, by law, be purchased with revenue received from a road levy. There are also Ohio Revised Code regulations in place that a township must follow and numerous procedural requirements.

Municipalities with a good audit history and the ability meet certain other specified requirements are eligible for an Agreed Upon Procedures (AUP) audit. Perry Township was identified by the Auditor of State as an entity which qualified. AUPs offer a high level of accountability; however, entities will see lower audit costs.

Audits protect the public's money against fraud, waste and abuse and are used as a financial management tool during the budgetary process.

Perry Township's Fiscal Officer, Michele Elliott, recently received the Auditor of State's findings for the 2011-12 period. The report reaffirms that the township has followed proper protocols related to fiduciary, accounting and compliance requirements. Tax revenue was applied to the appropriate funds, financial statement balances were verified as being accurate, and amounts were correctly debited from the funds. No exemptions or discrepancies were identified or noted.

Our Fiscal Officer will continue to carefully monitor the receipt and appropriation of public funds to ensure our township remains fiscally secure. Audit results will be posted on the State Auditor's website: www.auditor.state.oh.us

ZONING COMMISSION CHAIRMAN RETIRES

Chairman of the Board, James Roper, presents Nicholas Alexander with a proclamation in recognition of his 19 years of outstanding community service and leadership with Perry Township.



Mr. Alexander is a resident of Worthington Hills and served as the Chairman of the Board for the township's Zoning Commission for the past several years.

The Zoning Commission is a 5 member board with 2 alternates appointed by the Township Trustees for a term of 4 years. Their purpose is to review and propose amendments to the Zoning Text or Zoning Map.

Mr. Alexander has shared his experience and knowledge; serving with a sense of fairness, integrity, and honor.

We thank Mr. Alexander for his dedication and wish him and his family the very best in the years to come.



SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR TOWNSHIP STUDENTS

History: The Ohio Township Association's scholarship program was made possible by a generous donation from former board member Paul Smith, and his wife Ethel, in 2005. Since then, the scholarships have been funded through donations from County Township Associations, personal donations, and proceeds from the OTA's annual golf outing. The OTA provides the scholarships to help educate high school students about local government opportunities and further their education.

Who: High school seniors who are U.S. citizens; reside in an Ohio township; and plan to attend a two or four-year Ohio college or university in the fall of 2014.

What: Three scholarships in the amount of \$1,500 each. There are two categories: Local Government Achievement (two scholarships awarded) and Academic Achievement (one scholarship awarded). You must be able to demonstrate outstanding citizenship through service and participation in community activities to be eligible for the Local Government Achievement Scholarship. To apply for the Academic Achievement Scholarship, you must have a B average (cumulative) and at least a 22 ACT or 1000 SAT score.

Where: The scholarship application is available on the Ohio Township Association's website at www.ohiotownships.org. Questions should be directed to the Ohio Township Association at **614.863.0045**.

When: The application is available beginning in September each year. The application deadline is **Jan. 31, 2014**. Finalists will be notified by March 28th and winners will be announced May 1st.

NEWSLETTER GOES ELECTRONIC IN 2014

Contact the Administrative Office if you have not notified us of your wish to continue receiving a hard copy of the newsletter.

TOWNSHIP STAFF TOURS RECYCLING FACILITY

Ever wonder why the recycling company won't take those plastic grocery bags or wire hangers? Several members of the township staff traveled to the Rumpke recycling facility to find out.

We began the day with a history of the company and a brief overview how recyclables go from a resident's tote to the facility. We suited up in safety equipment and started our tour.



The process begins as a large pile of various types of recyclables. Inside we were amazed by the technology used to separate the remainder of the recyclables. The mix of recyclables are placed on a conveyor belt and at each station, a particular type of item is pulled from the group. Optical sensors are able to identify specific items (such as a milk jug) and a blast of air would remove the recyclable from the conveyor belt. All but a small part of the process was automated.

Whether or not Rumpke accepts a certain type of item depends on if the machinery can accept it. It didn't take long to see how a plastic bag could bring the facility to a stop. That's not to say there's not a market for these types of product. Grocery stores often have a drop off container for plastic bags and have the means available to process it as a recyclable.



Interested in a tour? Contact Rumpke **1.800.828.8171**.

ELECTED OFFICIAL'S REPORT

*By Trustees Chet Chaney, James Roper, Andy English
And Fiscal Officer Michele Elliott*

Our township continues to grow, change and evolve as we move into the final quarter of 2013. We continue to work with officials from the City of Worthington in an effort to provide a safe path to school for Brookside area children. Much progress has been made beginning with the award of a \$94,000 grant for the project. The Route 161 bike path project has been put on hold while the cities of Columbus and Worthington work with township trustees to coordinate a traffic / land use study for that area.

The Board passed a nuisance law that will enable our police officers to respond to complaints of excessive noise in the area. A community outreach vehicle will be deployed in a few weeks which will allow us to provide the community on site services such as our KIDID print cards and various other programs. The Administrative Office implemented a new centralized purchasing program. Within 5 weeks, the township saw a savings of almost \$3,000.

Although we may have gotten off to a rocky start, the Rumpke service is now running smoothly. Magnetic service calendars are available through the Administrative Office (Bldg 1) and the schedule is also posted on our website under the Events calendar section. The Road Department will offer leaf collection beginning October 21st - November 27th. Beginning December 1st, all yard waste should be put in the trash receptacles. Rumpke will resume yard waste pick up in the spring.

We extend to all township residents and business owners an invitation to attend our regular meetings which are held the 1st and 3rd Monday's of each month (excluding holidays). We are always available to respond to questions or concerns via email or phone.

CHIEF ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT

By Robin Fellure

The Zoning Department would like to thank everyone for contacting us when their projects have been completed. We are in the process of completing our final inspections and you will receive a notice when they have been done..

This quarter we would like to focus on several issues:

First one of the biggest eyesores for many residents are trashcans. Remember, trash should always be placed in appropriate containers and stored in an area that is not visible from any property line.

Also we appreciate everyone who has responded to our letter about dead ash trees. Your cooperation in having these potentially dangerous trees removed by December 1st is greatly appreciated. If you have not called us yet, please take time now to inform us of your plans for removing the trees.

Finally, remember Zoning permits are required for projects such as: driveway repairs (excluding resealing), fences, patios, contractor signs and dumpsters (including Bagsters). These permits can be downloaded via www.perrytwp.org by clicking on the Zoning tab.

Thank you for all of your assistance in helping to preserve property values and improve the visual appearance of the neighborhood. If you have any questions about this process or any of our other zoning codes, feel free to call and speak with Kim or Robin during our business hours which are Mon., Wed. and Fri. 8:30 – 12:30 and Tues & Thurs. 9 – noon.

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT

By Chief Robert Oppenheimer

Why People Don't Call The Police?

Too Petty To Report: Some victims and witnesses consider certain incidents to be too unimportant to waste their time reporting them to the police.

Too Embarrassed: Some victims, especially those who have suffered through rape or domestic violence are too embarrassed to report their victimization. Some cases of fraud the victim feels foolish and would rather forget the crime than admit they were taken by a con-artist.

Afraid of Retribution: Crime sometimes goes unreported because the victims and witnesses are afraid that they will be labeled as a "Snitch" or the offender will come after them, seeking revenge.

It Won't Do Any Good: Some crimes go unreported because people believe that the police either don't care, or that they can't do anything about the crime.

Not My Problem: The incident does not have any effect on them and they see it as not my problem so let someone else call.

How Do I Report a Crime: If you suspect that a crime is ongoing or is about to be committed, please contact the Perry Township by calling 911 or 614-889-1231. You need not give your name. However, if you want a police officer to contact you, give your name, address, and telephone number and advise the Communications Technician that you would like to see an officer.

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SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

By Bryan Shonkwiler

Another summer has ended and the colors of fall will soon be here. This year's major road projects went very well. We finally completed the Clubview Blvd. South curb & gutter replacement project. This was a very large project that took three years to complete. We will continue to replace the old curb & gutter, as needed, in the future, but on a much smaller scale. Shuster Road received full depth repair and was milled and paved. Thank you again for your patience and cooperation during these projects.

The Road Department has been busy with mowing and drainage projects all summer. As always, the next big project will be leaf collection. This year's schedule will be from October 21st to November 27th. Residents should rake their leaves to the edge of their yard so our leaf vacuum can reach them. Leaves should not be placed around mailboxes, fire hydrants, etc., and vehicles should not be parked in front of leaf piles. See our web page for full guidelines.

It won't be long until the snow is falling (usually before leaf season is over) and we will be plowing and salting the roads. Please park your vehicles in your driveways during these events so we can safely and effectively clear the roads of snow and ice.

Feel free to contact the Road Department with questions or comments at (614) 889-8781 or via email: bshonkwiler@perrytwp.org.