

Sharon Township

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Fourth Quarter, 2021

—Township Trustees—

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Sharon Township Board of Trustees

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614-885-5115

Road Superintendent
Thomas A. Kayati
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**Board of Trustees
Regular Meetings**
@ 6:30 p.m.

First and Third Wednesdays of each month

*Check website for updates
and more information*

www.sharontwp.us

FALL UPDATES:

We are in the middle of leaf pick-up season!

WHEN:

Leaves will be picked up now through November 30th with the final clean up the week of December 6th. Have your last leaves ready for pickup by Monday Dec. 6th.

The Road Department will try to pick-up leaves in all areas once each week. The days your leaves are picked up will vary depending on the weather conditions and total volume of leaves to be picked up. Leaves should be ready for pick-up on Monday.

Thank you for helping to make this a safe program.



PARKING ON WEST KANAWHA AVE. AND ROSSLYN AVE

Please remember to park your vehicles on the opposite side of the road on Tuesdays from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This will allow leaves to be collected on the south side of Rosslyn Ave. and the North side of West Kanawha Ave.

PLEASE!!! REMEMBER TO USE THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES - THIS WILL HELP TO ENSURE A PROMPT AND SAFE LEAF SEASON.

Leaves only! - No foreign materials such as brush, grass clippings, mulch, or flowerbed debris. Collections are done using a vacuum machine, and these materials cause equipment failure and pick-up delays.

The fall and winter holidays are upon us, so have a happy and safe Holiday Season!

Rake leaves to the curb or road edge, PLEASE NOT INTO THE STREET OR GUTTER! - Leaves raked into the street can cause traffic accidents and hazards, you could be held liable. Cars parked over dry leaves in the street cause fires. Wet leaves in the street are difficult to collect and cause storm sewer backups.

Bagged Leaves - If you prefer to bag your leaves they should be put in biodegradable bags available at most hardware and grocery stores. Bagged leaves will be picked up with your garbage. **PLEASE USE THIS METHOD TO DISPOSE OF ALL OTHER YARD WASTE.**

Deer Population Is Growing / Feeding Deer Not Recommended

The Township has been looking at the growing deer population in the region and whether any action should take place to address this issue. We have communicated with several other jurisdictions to see if there are regional solutions for the growing deer population problem. We continue to discuss this issue in our Township meetings and we are working on options. One initial recommendation is to not feed the deer at your home or nearby park areas. This only increases the domestication of the deer, and it could lead to injury or spreading of disease according to studies.

New Income Tax Effective in Joint Economic Development District

As part of the redevelopment of the Olentangy Valley Center (across from Worthington Hills), the Township worked with the City of Worthington to create a joint economic development district (JEDD) to offset incentives needed to make the project a reality. A new 2.5 percent income tax was effective as of 10/01/2021 on all income in the JEDD which only applies on the Olentangy Valley Center property. The income will be used to support the costs of services and other authorized purposes. A JEDD Board has been created to implement and oversee the district which consists of appointments from the Township and the City of Worthington. The JEDD is an innovative tool to

ensure the Township brings in needed revenue without increasing property taxes on our residents.

Fire Contract with City of Worthington

Township residents receive fire protection services through the City of Worthington pursuant to a contract. The original contract between the Township and the City of Worthington was effective in 1993 when the City took over fire protection services from the Township. The contract has remained unchanged since that time and the City has asked the Township to work with the City on reviewing a possible amendment to the contract. The fire contract allows the City to request an increase in the amount to be paid by the Township Fire district to the City if certain factors are met. The Township has had an initial meeting on this issue with the City and this issue has been on our meeting agenda as an ongoing item. The Township is doing due diligence on this issue. The Township plans to seek residents' continued input on this issue before and after the initial due diligence is completed. Any cost change in the contract would require approval of the residents through a ballot issue election.

From Your Police Department...

Holiday Season Quickly Approaching

One of the largest upticks we see as a police department during the holidays is theft from motor vehicles. Residents will leave their vehicles unlocked with items and/or gifts left in them. We would encourage residents to lock their vehicles and not leave items inside that would entice someone to enter their vehicle. We also want to remind everyone to make sure garage doors are closed. An open garage door is very inviting to someone looking to enhance their tool supply. The police department is always committed to the safety of our neighborhoods and residents. During the holiday season that commitment is even more of a priority. Help us help you and as always, **"If you see something say something"**. If something does occur, please call us so we are aware of the

incident. If no one calls, we aren't aware that something is occurring in an area.

If you will be on vacation or away from home for an extended period, please let us know and we will periodically check your residence. To notify us of your vacation house check, please fill out the vacation house watch form on our website www.sharontwp.us or contact the office at 614-885-5115. If no one is available, please leave a message and someone will return your call.

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

We have recently received calls and emails in regards to complaints of vehicles speeding in our neighborhoods, as well as vehicles not stopping at stop signs. The Sharon Township Police Department is committed to reducing traffic crashes, injuries, and the safety of pedestrians by enforcing traffic laws. This includes traffic enforcement in our neighborhoods. If you have a concern about speeding vehicles or other traffic issues in your neighborhoods, please call the police department 614-885-5115, or via email at police@sharontwp.us. When time and calls for service allow, officers will spend extra time in the area watching for traffic violations.

Important Safety Reminders for Pedestrians & Drivers

For Pedestrians

- Walk on the sidewalk or path when one is available.
- If no sidewalk or path is available, walk on the shoulder, facing traffic. Stay alert; do not become distracted by electronic devices, i.e. cell phones and other devices. If you are wearing headphones you will not be able to hear traffic around you, so if you must wear headphones only use one.
- Always be cautious when sharing the road with vehicles. Never assume a driver sees you. Make eye contact with drivers as they approach.
- Be predictable. Cross streets at crosswalks or intersections when possible.

- If crosswalks or intersections are not available, locate a well-lit area to cross.
- If possible, wear reflective materials and use a flashlight at night.

For Drivers

- Look for pedestrians everywhere. Pedestrians may not be walking where they should be or may be hard to see.
- Always stop for pedestrians in the crosswalks or where pedestrian crosswalk signs are posted.
- Never pass vehicles stopped at a crosswalk. They may be stopped to allow pedestrians to cross the street.
- Slow down and look for pedestrians. Be prepared to stop when turning or otherwise entering a crosswalk.
- Follow the speed limit and slow down around pedestrians.
- Stay focused and slow down where children may be present.

From Your Roads Department...

PREVENTING STORMWATER POLLUTION

Storm Water Runoff

Storm water runoff is water from rain or melting snow that does not soak into the ground. It flows from rooftops, paved areas, bare soil, and lawns into storm drains or ditches. Storm sewers and ditches collect storm water runoff and empty it directly to local bodies of water. Ideally, storm water runoff would be free of contaminants. In reality, it picks up pollutants such as animal waste, pesticides, fertilizers, salt, oil and grease, soil and debris and transports them to waterways where they are discharged with no treatment. This is storm water pollution. You can identify a storm sewer by the open grates along roadways and within some low-lying areas.

Illicit Discharges & Why They Are a Problem

An illicit (illegal) discharge is any discharge to a municipal storm sewer system – storm drains, pipes, and ditches – that is not composed entirely of storm water. Pollutants end up in storm sewer

systems in a number of ways, many of which are easily preventable. In some instances, companies or residences have waste pipes tapped into storm water pipes. In other cases, individuals use the storm drain inlets to dispose of various types of waste. Disposal of anything other than storm water in storm sewers is illegal!

Storm sewer systems cannot treat polluted water. Storm water does not get carried to the wastewater treatment plant. Storm sewers transport rainwater and everything in it directly into surrounding rivers, streams, lakes, and other bodies of water.

Examples of Illicit Discharges

- Septic Tank Seepage / Illegal Sanitary Connections
- Laundry Wastewater / Detergent
- Improper Waste Oil Disposal / Auto Fluids Flushing
- Home Improvement Waste (e.g. concrete, paint)
- Pesticides and Fertilizers
- Commercial and Industrial Hazardous Waste
- Pool / Spa Discharge
- Cooking Grease / Household Waste

Signs of an Illicit Discharge

The point in a storm sewer system where it empties into a body of water is a storm sewer outfall. It may be a pipe or ditch. If the outfall is flowing when there has been no recent rainfall, this may indicate an illicit discharge. Visible sewage waste, foul odor, suds or other evidence of contamination, are indicators that an illicit discharge is contaminating the storm sewer.

Things You Can Do to Protect Water Quality

- Never dump anything down storm drains
- Use lawn and garden chemicals sparingly; sweep up any excess from driveways, sidewalks and roads
- Repair vehicle leaks; cover spilled fluids with kitty litter then sweep into household waste
- Pick up after your pet and dispose of properly
- Control soil erosion on your property by planting ground cover and stabilizing erosion-prone areas
- Keep grass clippings, leaves, litter, and debris out of street gutters and storm drains
- Direct downspouts onto grassy areas away from paved surfaces

- Use a commercial car wash or wash your vehicle on the grass instead of the driveway
- Dispose of used oil, antifreeze, paints and other household chemicals in an approved manner

Reporting Problems

If you see someone putting anything down a storm drain or directly into a stream or river, obtain a license plate number or address and report it to It's a Crime at (614) 871-5322 or www.itsacrime.org. Chemical and petroleum spills: call the Ohio EPA 24-hour hotline, (800) 282-9378. Sewage-related pollution: call the Franklin County Public Health 24-hour hotline, 614-525-3965 or e-mail failingHSTS@franklincountyohio.gov. Agriculture or manure-related pollution: call Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District at (614) 486-9613, or use the "Contact Us" tab at www.franklinswcd.org. You can also contact Franklin Soil and Water about any other non-emergency pollution and we will inform the proper agency. Or contact the Sharon Township Roads Department at 614 885-5933 Ext. 402.

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