

Sharon Township

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—Township Trustees—

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News from Your Police Department

THANK YOU.... ISSUE #40, THE 4 MIL POLICE LEVY, has been certified by the Franklin County Board of Elections to be on the November 7th Ballot.

All the members of the Police Department want to thank our residents for attending the four meetings we had at various locations in the Township to discuss the Police Budget and the need for additional funding. The support our residents gave us at the meetings, and in contacting the Board of Trustees about being in favor of a Police Levy, is greatly appreciated.

There may be some confusion about how your property will be taxed, especially with the County Auditor’s Office announcing an increase in property valuation. Since Issue #40 will be voted on prior to the new property valuations becoming effective, the amount of tax collected will be based on the CURRENT ASSESSED TAX VALUE, not on the new assessed value. The homeowner will pay an additional \$140.00 per year in property taxes, per every \$100,000.00 current ASSESSED TAX VALUE. This is the same information that we provided at the meetings and posted on the Sharon Township Website. Because of the language used in the ballot, the revenue produced by ISSUE #40 cannot exceed \$257,321.08 per year, for the life of the levy. This cannot change, regardless of how much property values increase.

For more detailed information, please go to www.sharontwp.us. At the bottom of the Front Page will be a link to information about the Police Department Budget and how the passage of Issue #40 will help to maintain the current level of police service.

Again, we, the members of the Sharon Township Police Department, want to thank our residents for your continued support of the Police Department.

NEED POLICE ASSISTANCE, PLEASE CALL THE PROPER NUMBER.... The Township Administrative Office often receives phone calls from residents wanting to speak with a police officer or to have an officer come to their location. The Administrative Assistant does not

(Continued next page)

National prescription drug take-back day is Saturday, October 28th....

THE SHARON TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT will again take part in the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) National Prescription Drug Take-Back Initiative on Saturday, October 28, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. We are partnering with the Worthington Division of Police, 6555 Worthington-Galena Rd., and the Perry Township Police Department, 7125 Sawmill Rd., at their respective locations, to collect the unwanted prescription drugs. We cannot take prescription drugs prior to or after that date and time. Please visit the Township’s website and Facebook page after October 1 to confirm the collection locations of where we will be collecting.

Potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs will be collected. Liquids, needles, patches, or inhalers CANNOT be collected. It is preferred that you empty all of your pills from its container into a clear plastic bag. It is recommended that you keep the containers and dispose of them yourself to protect your identity.

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Recycling approved / trash fees to go down!

By John H. Oberle
OUR CURRENT WASTE CONTRACT ENDS ON December 31, 2017. For well over a year the Board of Trustees has been working on a new contract. At our September 6 meeting we approved keeping Local Waste Services while adding recycling collection to start on January 1, 2018.

We are excited to keep Local Waste as our collector as they have done an excellent job and have been very responsive for our Township. The best news is that even with recycling being added, your monthly bill will decrease. We expect the cost will end up being around \$13.91 a month. We will follow up with you before the end of the year on the recycling containers and how you can obtain them. Thank you to our residents for all their input on this and working with us on the solution. Special thanks goes to Kaitlyn Bradshaw who is a 4th grader in the Township who advocated for the change. She has a bright future!

County auditor has adjusted property values / appeal period open

By John H. Oberle

WE WANT TO MAKE SURE YOU are aware that the County Auditor has recently sent our proposed values for your homes which will be finalized by the end of the year. The County Auditor is required by law to do a general reappraisal every six years. As a home owner, you need to know that these values are not final. You can go meet with the Auditors office at informal value reviews to argue why your proposed home value is not correct. You should have documentation to substantiate your position. Locations for these meetings can be found at <http://apps.franklincountyauditor.com/Informals/Tentative/Locations>. You can also submit your position and documents online to argue your position on property valuation. The webpage given will allow you to add your address and find all this information.

Once the Auditor finalizes the valuations, you then still have an opportunity to appeal to the Board of Revision until April 2, 2018. We want to make sure you have the tools to make the right decisions on this issue.

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(Police Department continued from page 1)

have the capability to dispatch an officer. If you need the assistance of an officer, please call the Dispatch Center at 614-525-2125; this is the non-emergency number. If it is an emergency, please call 911.

SEE SOMETHING; SAY SOMETHING.... We are all responsible to each other and our communities to keep everyone safe. Many people believe that it is the responsibility of only the police department to keep them and their family safe. In reality it takes all of us working together to provide and maintain a safe environment; the police department and its employees cannot do it alone, no matter how hard we try.

The reason this is brought up is because it has come to the attention of the Police Department that many of our residents are hesitant to call when they see or hear something that may be suspicious. Many of our residents are concerned or embarrassed that they may be 'putting us out.' Nothing could be further from the truth; it is our duty, responsibility, and desire to respond to the needs and concerns of our residents and businesses as quickly, efficiently and effectively as possible.

Though we try to be in the neighborhoods as much as possible, it is impossible for us to see everything. We rely upon our residents to tell us immediately when they see or hear something that sounds or looks different or suspicious. Please, do not wait until the next day, next week, or the next time you are outside and see one of our constables. We need to know immediately; please call

the Police Dispatcher at 614-525-2125 any time of the day or night.

OPEN BURNING LAWS.... Every year the Police Department receives requests about open burning; the calls usually increase during the fall season. The State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency has very strict laws for restricting open burning. Violation of the law can result in substantial penalties. Please visit our Website to view brief information regarding what you can and cannot burn; you will find the link at the bottom of the front page. To view the laws, and more in-depth information regarding open burning, we encourage everyone to go to two different Websites where the laws and restrictions are explained in great detail. Those Websites are:

- www.epa.ohio.gov/dapc/general/openburning.aspx
- <http://codes.ohio.gov/oac/3745>. Section 3745-19-03 is specific to open burning in restricted areas such as Sharon Township.)



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Tremont Gardens and Homedale Drivers

By Phillip Smith

We are asking all residents to be vigilant in following the posted speed limit and stopping at the posted stop signs on Rosslyn, Milton, W. Kanawha, Riverside Dr. and Westview. There has been a lot of cars driving too fast and going through stop signs. We have many children and adults walking, riding bikes, and many are walking dogs. We don't have sidewalks in our neighborhood so be aware of the pedestrians and dogs on our streets. Please slow down!

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Rosslyn and W. Kanawha Residents

By Phillip Smith

Liam Dorwart, Scout Troop #862 will be painting numbers on the curbs for all houses on the street for his Eagle Scout Project. He will begin painting in mid-September and will continue until all numbers have been painted.



Code Concerns

By Mark Higdon, Code Enforcement Director

THE “ALLEY AMNESTY”—declared by the Trustees between mid-June and the end of July—was to encourage W. Kanawha and Rosslyn residents to tidy up conditions along the alley way. Positive results were noticeable here and there. Post-amnesty, conditions that negatively impact vehicle/pedestrian passage, and/or pose health or safety hazards, will receive appropriate code enforcement attention. Residents’ complaints are promised a quick response. Meanwhile, a shout-out to all who consistently keep their alley-sides in good condition.

For the past 2-3 years, tree issues have been at the center of several code enforcement cases. Where a dead or dying tree clearly based on one property poses a safety hazard to an adjacent property, code enforcement policy is to act quickly to abate the hazard. Problem trees based indeterminably near an unmarked property line present a different challenge. In such cases, code enforcement policy is to bring neighbors together in the hope of their arriving at a shared solution. Look for more information on tree issues under “Frequently Asked Questions” on the Exterior Property Maintenance Code page of the Township website (sharontwp.us).

Finally, a word about the “Courtesy Advisory.” The word is, of course, *courtesy*. When one is mailed to or left at a property, it is to *encourage* attention to something *before* it becomes a problem. Replies—while always welcome—are generally not needed or requested.

The Exterior Property Maintenance Code can be read online and downloaded from sharontwp.us. Contact me at 614-885-5115 (ext. 402), 614-787-5644 (cell) or codeenforcement@sharontwp.us to discuss *your* code concerns.

A Note of Thanks

SHARON TOWNSHIP wants to thank former Sharon Township Trustee Paul Insley of Insley Printing for his assistance in getting the newsletter out to residents.

**Insuring Sharon Township
residents since 1946**

Call Insurance

*95 East Wilson Bridge Road
Worthington, OH 43085-2301*

**Call or Email Leanne Daggett or
Sue Willing**

**for a free auto and home
insurance review**

614-846-4120

**leanne@callinsurance.com
sue@callinsurance.com**

2017 Road Resurfacing Program

ROAD RESURFACING IS SCHEDULED TO BE DONE by the end of September, check the web site and Facebook sites for updated information. Exact dates are currently unknown, however, the full depth repairs should start by the second week of September, with the milling and paving work starting a week or two after the repairs.

The 2017 resurfacing program consists of a 1 ½ inch milling (grinding down) and filling (new layer of asphalt) Westview Avenue from the Township line near High Street to Riverside Drive. From Riverside Drive to the dead end on Westview there will be a 2" overlay of asphalt on top of the existing pavement. Riverside Drive from Westview south to the dead end will receive a 2" overlay on top of the existing pavement. Riverside Drive between West Kanawha and Rosslyn Avenue will receive full depth repairs as needed. Estimated cost for the resurfacing program this year is \$103,211.25



Leaf pickup:

This year leaf pickup will start on October 16th and end on December 1st. Place leaves at edge of street or curb. **DO NOT PLACE LEAVES IN THE ROAD.** Placing leaves in roadway causes flooding of roads,

backup of storm sewers, and pollution of our rivers and streams. Signs will be placed throughout the Township with the beginning and ending dates. The Road Department tries to pick up leaves in all areas once every seven days. Have your leaves ready for pickup on Monday.

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.

What is an “Illicit Discharge?”

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
- Improper Disposal of Commercial and Industrial Hazardous Waste
- Pool / Spa Discharge
- Cooking Grease / Household Waste

Signs of an Illicit Discharge

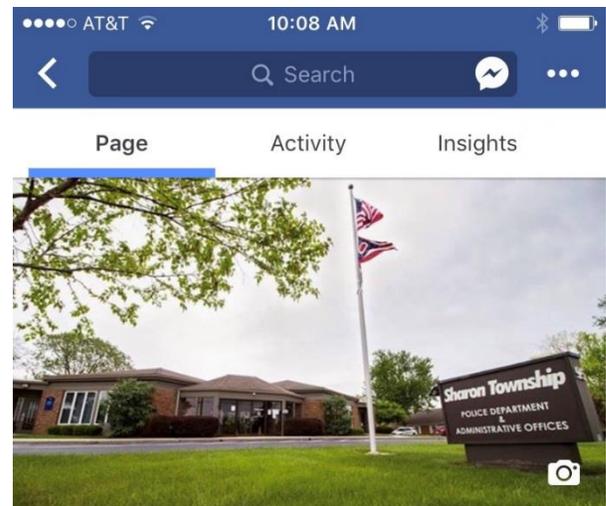
The point in a storm sewer system where it empties into a body of water is a storm sewer outfall. It may be a pipe or ditch. If the outfall is flowing when there has been no recent rainfall, this may indicate an illicit discharge. Visible sewage waste, foul odor, suds or other evidence of contamination,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

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Sharon Township

Connect with us on Facebook!

SHARON TOWNSHIP IS NOW ON FACEBOOK.

We are excited to have another opportunity to reach our residents. Facebook will give us an opportunity to provide timely information. Please “like” our page to receive updates (image above). Our website will still provide residents with the most comprehensive information about the township.

Although we are on Facebook, we still prefer to receive communication from residents via email or phone call. That allows us to respond in the most timely manner.

Thank you for connecting with us.

October is Cybersecurity Month

The following information is from the Franklin County Emergency Management & Homeland Security Website at www.fcemhs.com. For more information, please visit their Website, or one of the resources listed at the end of this article.

FRANKLIN COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT and Homeland Security (FCEM&HS) is serving as the lead agency for the development of a regional public/private sector Cybersecurity Work Group. The work group will consist of decision makers from the public and private sectors throughout Central Ohio and provide an additional benefit for Franklin County as it will strengthen coordination and cooperation.

What is Cybersecurity?

Cybersecurity is measures taken to protect information systems and data against unauthorized access or an attack against information systems which sustain modern society. Financial institutions, manufacturing, utilities, healthcare, research & development, transportation, critical infrastructure and emergency response and homeland security agencies are some public and private organizations vulnerable to cyber threats.

Why is Cybersecurity Collaboration Important for Central Ohio?

Cybersecurity involves the Homeland Security Enterprise (HSE), the “whole community”. It is a shared responsibility amongst the public and private sectors involving partnerships encompassing emergency management, law enforcement, public health, local/state/federal government, private sector, nongovernmental organizations, faith-based & community-based organizations, and the public. “Improving cybersecurity and ensuring the resilience of systems will require cooperation between members of the private sector and the government.”

Although Cybersecurity has been the purview of the Federal Government and large corporations, we must build efforts at the local level which embrace the cybersecurity challenges, tap local resources for education and awareness, protect critical infrastructure, key resources and businesses as well as help communities safeguard their citizens from cyber-attacks.

Protect your identity – check your credit at least once per year

Per Federal Law, you can receive a free credit report from each of the 3 major credit agencies by visiting <https://www.annualcreditreport.com>. Check the reports and ensure your name, address, and accounts and balances listed are accurate. Contact the credit reporting agency to correct any errors. If you detect any

unauthorized accounts contact the associated creditor immediately.

Don't make it easy for hackers – use unique passwords for each of your accounts

If you use the same password to log into multiple accounts, a hacker can use that single password to do the same. Create a unique password for each system or site you use, especially those related to finance, medical, and E-mail.

Don't get left empty handed – backup your files

Digital files can easily be lost due to computer hardware failure, theft, or even by being held for ransom by a hacker. Backup your important files such as financial data and pictures to a CD, DVD, or external drive at least every 90-days. For the best protection store your backups at an offsite location such as the house of a trusted family member.

Online Resources

- Ready.gov - Cybersecurity preparation and planning
- StaySafeOnline.org - Cybersecurity awareness and education
- FBI.gov - Identity theft resources
- SSA.gov - Identity theft and your social security number

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Scholarships Available

THE OHIO TOWNSHIP ASSOCIATION (OTA) began offering scholarships to high school seniors in 2005. Three \$1,500 scholarships in two categories are awarded. For eligibility, requirements and more information check www.ohiotownships.org or call 614-863-0045.

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2017 MEETING DATES

The Sharon Township Trustees will meet in regular session on the first and the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. as follows (with noted exception). All meetings are held at 95 E. Wilson Bridge Road. Remaining meetings for 2017:

October 4, 2017
October 18, 2017

November 1, 2017
November 15, 2017

December 6, 2017
December 20, 2017

SHARON TOWNSHIP
95 E WILSON BRIDGE ROAD
WORTHINGTON OH 43085-2301

Drop-Off Recycling Program

Until January 1, 2018, these locations for Recycling are available for Sharon Township residents:

Fire Station 33
440 Lazelle Road
Columbus OH 43240

Fire Station 27
7560 Smokey Row Road
Columbus OH 43235

Bill McDonald Athletic Complex
4990 Olentangy River Road
Columbus OH 43214

Sharon Woods Metro Park
6911 Cleveland Avenue
Columbus OH 43229

Worthington Community Center
374 Highland Ave.
Worthington OH 43085

Charity Newsies
4300 Indianola Ave.
Columbus OH 43214

The Soldiery
4256 N. High St.
Columbus OH 43214

Franklin County Job & Family Services
1721 Northland
Columbus OH 43214