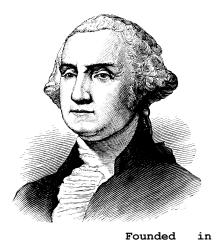
WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES 2480 O'Possum Run Road **Richland County** Mansfield, Ohio 44903-9475 voice 419.756.7256 - fax 419.756.7398



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WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

Fall 2010 Volume V, Issue I

In this issue:

Leaf Pickup will be October 25th Through November 24th.

Fire Department News Road Department News General info

The Washington Township Fire Department celebrated 60 years of Fire and EMS service with an open house in October 2009. An outstanding crowd was on-hand to celebrate with us and we thank those who attended or donated to this special event.

In November of 2009, residents approved a 2.5 mil replacement levy for fire services. Monies from this levy will begin to be collected in 2011. This levy will allow the Washington Township Fire Department to begin staffing the fire station on a part-time basis. This on-station staffing will provide you with a faster response time in the event of an emergency.

Washington Township is protected by 40 volunteer members of the fire department. The State of Ohio requires a minimum of 40 hours of EMS and 54 hours of firefightingrelated continuing education every three years. Being volunteers, this is a very large time commitment that the members devote to the protection of lives and property within the township. We are extremely grateful for the support we receive from the community and look forward to serving you for many years to come.

As we begin the fall season, please remember to use common sense when burning outdoors and adhere to the Ohio Fire Code. As a reminder, the burning of leaves or grass clippings is forbidden in the State of Ohio. Informational pamphlets regarding Ohio's open burning laws can be obtained from the fire department, township trustees or the township zoning inspector. Communicating with a neighbor that is burning can sometimes eliminate the need for the fire department to intercede.

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

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Shown is the Washington Township Road Department new International 4300 cab and chassis. The road department installed all the components along with the dump body and tool box. This is the second truck that the dump body and tool box have been on resulting in a large savings. The truck was delivered and within 14 days was ready to

be used. The township has the finest road department crew. Left to right are: Roger Crawford, Joe Stacy; Road Superintendent, Andy Romoser; Brian Mowry and Scott Penhorwood.

The Washington Township Road Department will pick up leaves in 2010. Leaf pick up for 2010 will begin on October 25th and end on November 24th. Please follow the guidelines below to assure your leaves will be picked up. One round of pick up will be made in the township every week. If you are missed, due to equipment failure, weather or volume, the road department will return to your area the following week.

- Leaves must be piled up within 5 feet from the asphalt road edge.
- Leaves piled in ditches will not be picked up. (Keep ditches clear)
- No brush, shrubs, rocks or metal will be picked up.
- Do not pile leaves within 3 feet of your mailbox, a sign post or within 50 feet of a dead end road.

In 2009, the township ended up under budget for salt purchased. About 970 tons of salt and 500 tons of grit were used on Washington Township roads in 2009 during the snow season.

For 2010, 1,000 tons of salt at \$59.80 per ton, and 500 tons of grit at \$3.00 per ton have been budgeted, a total of \$61,300.

With the Richland County Engineer taking the lead and assistance from Washington Township and The Village of Lexington, the intersection of Middle Bellville Road and Orchard Park Road has undergone major improvements for safety purposes.

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The hill on Orchard Park Road west of Middle Bellville Road has been reduced for better visibility. Soon to reopen, this intersection should be safer to travel.

At this intersection, please observe stop signs on Middle Bellville!!

2 large culverts were replaced by the township in 2010. One on Woodruff Road and the other was on Andrews Road.

We apologize for the inconvenience for the bridge being out on Woodville Road near Straub Road. The responsibility for replacement lies with Richland County. The Engineer's Office tells us funds will not be available for repairs until about 2012.

Washington Township had 14 miles of roads "tar and chipped" in June. The work was completed by LP&P Paving Company. Another 14 miles are planned for 2011.

<u>In 2010 the Richland County Sheriff's Department</u> has downsized and their presence in the townships has lessened. Your township trustees have considered alternative action to compensate for less sheriff deputies on the road such as contracting with the Sheriff's Department or nearby village police forces. However, such services are expensive and would require an additional revenue stream.

<u>Neighborhood Watch Groups</u> have become important as crime deterrents, and in some areas have operated for years successfully. Recently, for example, a new Neighborhood Watch Group was initiated in The Chapel Hill Methodist Church area and has been very successful. If interested in starting a watch group in your neighborhood contact one of your township trustees or attend a township trustee meeting for information. It is important that a group have a watch captain or captains.

<u>Barking Dog Complaints</u> should be directed to the Richland County Dog Wardens Office, 810 Home Road, (419) 774-5892. A barking dog complaint form will need to be completed. The dog/dogs owner will need to be known along with date, times of annoyance including start and ending times.

Washington Township Trustees meet each month on the first and third Thursday at 7:30PM at the Washington Township building located at 2480 O'Possum Run Road. All residents are encouraged to attend.