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# WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

Volume X

Fall 2015

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General Info

Washington Township Fire Department has continued to see a large increase in call volume again this year! We are on pace to meet or exceed last year's total of 755 runs. A dedicated group of volunteers continue to provide a lot of time and effort into making the fire department successful in our mission to provide the residents the best service we can. Additionally, numerous hours are spent in training to maintain certifications required by the State of Ohio to function as an EMT or firefighter.

After a careful assessment of our apparatus, a decision was made to replace our rescue engine which was purchased in 2001. This is the truck that responds to vehicle accidents, vehicle fires and hazmat incidents, all of which have increased in call volume over the last several years. This new apparatus will increase space for more tools and equipment, seat more firefighters, and provide more advanced firefighting capabilities. The Sutphen Corporation, located in Dublin, Ohio, was awarded the bid. We anticipate delivery of the new rescue engine in early 2016.

The fall season brings an increase in the amount of open burning complaints the fire department receives. **Communicating with the neighbor that is burning can sometimes eliminate the need for the fire department to intercede.** Informational pamphlets regarding Ohio's open burning laws can be obtained from the Fire department, Township Trustees or the township zoning inspector. You may also access them on the Washington Township website: [www.washingtontwprichlandcounty.com](http://www.washingtontwprichlandcounty.com) and the Ohio EPA website: [epa.ohio.gov/portals/47/facts/openburn.pdf](http://epa.ohio.gov/portals/47/facts/openburn.pdf).

**New meeting Time:** The Board of Trustee's now meet at 7:30 P.M. 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday each month at the Township Fire Station.

The zoning office is open every Monday (except holidays) from 6:30 P.M to 8:30 P.M. and is located in the township fire department building at 2480 Possum Run Road (use door 1). Messages or zoning questions can be left at 419-756-7256 or [zoning@washingtontwprichlandcounty.com](mailto:zoning@washingtontwprichlandcounty.com). For the first nine months of 2015, we issued 32 permits and have received over 400 complaints on un-mowed grass and trash.

### WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP AWARDED SIGN SAFETY GRANT

Each year, ODOT's Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) provides \$1 million dollars in funding to upgrade safety signage on Ohio's Township Roadways. Townships are invited to apply for the safety funding based on the following criteria:

- Ranked among the top townships with above average, system wide crash rates based on their previous five years crash history, and
- Have not previously received a Township Sign Safety Grant under this program.

This program allows townships to request safety signage along with related posts and hardware, to upgrade existing or install additional safety signage in a systemic manner across the township's entire roadway system. The limit per request, per township is \$50,000.

### LEAF PICK UP BEGINS ON OCT 19, 2015 THROUGH NOV 25, 2015

Please follow these guidelines to ensure that your leaves are picked up!

- ✓ Do not rake them into one pile
- ✓ Do not pile leaves in or behind open ditches
- ✓ ONLY LEAVES WILL BE PICKED UP! NO NUTS, BRANCHES, BRUSH, GRASS OR CORN SHOCKS
- ✓ Do not put your leaves in bags or pile your leaves within 10 feet of your mailbox, a signpost or within 50 feet of a dead end road.
- ✓ Leaves piled in ditches or more than 5 feet off the roadway will not be picked up. Please follow these guidelines to ensure that your leaves are picked up!

We thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Should you have any questions, please call the Road Department at 419-756-2574. **Attention all residents who have a catch basin or storm drain in front of your property, please help us to keep the water flowing by removing any debris. We appreciate your help!**

Snow Removal Reminder: Personnel are on call 24 hours a day. We would like to thank all of the residents (in advance) who remove their vehicles from the roadways when a snow event is under way which greatly enhances the township employees' ability to remove the snow from the street in a timely manner. In the event your mailbox is damaged by plowed snow, please contact the Road Department at 419-156-2574 and leave a message. Our personnel will contact you as soon as possible.

**Septic Systems:** Please visit [www.richlandhealth.org](http://www.richlandhealth.org) or call the Health dept at 419-774-4500 to get an update on proposed changes to septic systems. Your system is your responsibility!

Washington Township  
2480 Possum Run Road  
Mansfield, OH 44903-9475

**Trustees meetings are at 7:30 P.M. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday each month**

Jack Butler, Trustee  
710 Vanderbilt Road  
Lexington, OH 44904  
419-884-0323

Bob Entenmann, Trustee (Vice Chair)  
1400 Washington North Rd  
Mansfield, OH 44903  
419-524-2102

Kay Leitenberger, Trustee (Chair)  
3865 Possum Run Road  
Mansfield, OH 44903  
419-886-2212

Bill Powell, Fiscal Officer  
1759 Sunrise Drive  
Mansfield, OH 44906  
419-632-7743

Dave Compton  
Fire Chief  
419-756-8330

Andy Romoser,  
Road Superintendent  
419-756-2574

John Hurlow  
Zoning Inspector  
419-756-7256  
Fax: 419-756-7398

**Township Website: [www.washingtontwprichlandcounty.com](http://www.washingtontwprichlandcounty.com)**



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