

Portage Township News



Ottawa County, Ohio

"A great place to live and raise a family!"

www.portagetownship.net

Elected Officials

Fiscal Officer:

Judy Johannsen
419-732-3543

Trustees:

Drew A. Surovjak
(Chairman)
419-341-5445

Sam Conte
419-732-2302

Keith Heileman
419-656-2767

Township Meetings

Regularly scheduled township meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Office.

2501 E. State Road
Garage/Office
419-732-3543

Brush Pick-up

Apr. 2, May 7,
June 4, July 2

Zoning Office

Hours:

Mon.: 5:30pm – 7:00pm
Sat.: 8:30am – 10:00am
419-734-7296

If you thought you'd wait, it's too late!



It's difficult to use a photograph to show something that's no longer there, but that's what is attempted in the above picture. In the last issue of the *Portage Township News* there was an article explaining that there were a number of dead Ash trees (victims of the Emerald Ash Borer) on township property.

Interested township residents were offered the trees for personal firewood purposes. A request procedure was outlined and interested parties were directed to the township website for further instructions. Requests were submitted and waivers were signed. In no time, all of the affected trees were removed.

There are a few trees on other parcels of township property which will eventually need to be removed but not at this time. When the township is ready to have the trees removed, they will again be offered to township residents for personal use. Information will be posted in the newsletter and on the township website.

The above picture shows a row of 12 stumps (but all that actually remains at this time are twelve piles of wood chips left over from the grinding of the stumps).

The township is exploring options for replacing the trees.

Bits and Pieces

One Stop Dropping

Drop off household trash but also useable clothing, household items, computers, and other items too good to throw away at the same location. On page four of this newsletter the Spring Clean-Up is announced. In conjunction with the clean-up, Goodwill Industries will be providing donation receptacles at the township site. Goodwill will repair and resell the donated items while providing employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

Township Reorganization

At the December 17th trustee meeting, the duties and responsibilities of the elected officials were assigned for 2013. Drew Surovjak will again be the chair. He will oversee use of the community room, the township newsletter and the website. Keith Heileman will oversee township roads and equipment. Sam Conte will be responsible for zoning concerns and EMS services. Besides all of the fiscal responsibilities, Judy Johannsen

will oversee the operation of the cemeteries. Of course if you have concerns, feel free to contact any elected official with questions.

Website/Newsletter

Residents are reminded that township information can be obtained at www.portagetownship.net. Residents can save a tree by requesting to receive the newsletter electronically. If you are interested, send an email including your home address to <dsurovjak@roadrunner.com>.

Township Meetings

Township meetings are held on the first and third Mondays of each month at 7:00 pm at the township hall. They are public meetings and everyone is welcome to attend. Time is allowed at the beginning of each meeting for public comment. The sole purpose of the meetings is to manage the operation of the township. Come to a meeting, find out what is happening in Portage Township, and meet the officials.

OSS Fun Facts

Making recycled paper uses 64% less energy and 58% less water than that required to make new paper.

Township Community Room

The Township Community Room is available to Portage Township residents for parties, reunions, meetings, and other types of gatherings. There is no charge for the use of the facility, but everyone is expected to clean up after themselves and leave the room in good order. Reservations for the room are on a first-come-first-served basis, with priority given to activities benefiting the residents of Portage Township. For further information, contact Trustee Drew Surovjak at 419-341-5445 or call the township office at 419-732-3543 and leave a message.

Ottawa-Sandusky-Seneca

Joint Solid Waste Management District

Special Collection dates at the Ottawa County Fairgrounds

Household Hazardous Waste – Saturday, April 27, 2013, 9:00am till 12:00 noon

Appliance Collection – Saturday May 4, 2013 - 9:00am till 12:00 noon

Televisions and Small Electronics –

(No computer equipment or related materials)

Saturday, May 11, 2013, 9:00am till 12:00 noon

Computer Equipment can be recycled free of charge during normal business hours at the Goodwill store at 205 S.E. Catawba Road in Portage Township. Computer equipment can also be brought to the Portage Township Clean-Up April 12th through April 15th. The equipment will be recycled by Goodwill Industries. See related story “One Stop Dropping” above.

Recycling Questions – If you have any questions about recycling options for Ottawa County residents please visit <www.recycleoss.org> or call the district office toll free at 1-888-850-7224 for further information.



Sheriff Contract

At the January 21, 2013 meeting of the Portage Township Trustees an agreement with Ottawa County Sheriff Steve Levorchick was approved. The agreement, as in years past, specifies that one full-time deputy will be assigned to the township.

Amanda Grimm served the township since the fall of 2011. With Amanda's promotion to detective, Deputy Curt Cochran has been assigned to fill the Portage Township position. Be sure to give Curt a friendly wave "hello" when you see him patrolling your neighborhood.

Zoning

Zoning is a process of managing structures and land-use which permits a community to control the development of its territory. It provides for orderly growth by protecting homes and property from harmful uses on neighboring properties. Any zoning regulation must have a reasonable relationship to public health, safety, comfort, convenience, prosperity or general welfare. Zoning in its simplest form is a balance between property rights and property protection. If you have questions about zoning in Portage Township, call Mary Gardner at 419-734-7296.

Christy Chapel Cemetery Clean-Up

Portage Township will have a clean-up at Christy Chapel Cemetery beginning March 23 through March 29, 2013. All out-of-season items should be removed, including dead flowers and potting containers, plastic ornaments and flowers. Any items people wish to keep should also be removed from the graves by March 22 and can be returned after March 30, 2013.



Portage Township, along with Bay Township and the City of Port Clinton, contracts with North Central EMS for ambulance services. North Central EMS offers a Membership Program for the residents they serve. The program is designed to help residents lessen their financial responsibilities during a medical emergency. For a one time annual fee of only \$49.00, you will be covered anywhere within the NCEMS service area. Membership applies to all emergency ground ambulance transports, and all medically necessary non-emergency ground ambulance services to or from a medical facility within the service area of NCEMS, or to or from a hospital in Cleveland, Toledo or Columbus, Ohio. Physician authorization is required for non-emergency transfers. This agreement does not cover transportation to or from a physician's office, or any other non-approved destination as defined by Medicare guidelines. It also does not cover wheelchair transportation. If you feel the program might benefit you, call 1-800-589-2515 or visit their website at <www.northcentralems.com>.

Something New



If you frequent the recycling bins at the township maintenance complex, you probably noticed the new bales on the bins. The bales are intended to prevent the wind from blowing the lids open and then scattering paper and cans around the neighborhood. If you have large bundles of recycling and need to open a lid, feel free to pull the bale down, flip the lid open, and throw in your recycling. But please remember to replace the lid and bale when you are finished. And if you find the bales down, please flip them up before you leave.

Portage Township Trustees
2501 East State Road
Port Clinton, Ohio 43452

Presorted Standard
U. S. Postage
PAID
Gypsum, Ohio 43433
Permit No. 10

Portage Township

(Refrigerator Friendly Calendar)

March

18 Trustee Meeting – 7:00pm

23-29 Cemetery Clean-Up

April

1 Trustee Meeting - 7:00pm

2 Brush Pick-Up

12-15 Spring Clean-Up

15 Trustee Meeting - 7:00pm

**27 Household Hazardous
Waste Recycling***

May

4 Appliance Recycling*

6 Trustee Meeting - 7:00pm

7 Brush Pick-Up

11 TV Recycling*

20 Trustee Meeting - 7:00pm

June

3 Trustee Meeting - 7:00pm

4 Brush Pick-Up

17 Trustee Meeting - 7:00pm

* See related story on Page 2.

Spring Clean-Up

The Portage Township Spring Clean-Up will be held Friday, April 12th thru Monday, April 15th. Friday and Monday hours will be from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday hours will be from 9:00 a.m. till 5:00 p.m. at the Township maintenance complex, 2501 E. State Rd. Dumpsters will be available and township employees will be on hand each day to assist residents. Metals will be separated for recycling purposes. Goodwill Industries will also have donation bins available for donations of clothing, household items and computer equipment.

Residents may dispose of household trash, Freon-free appliances, tire rims, oil-free engine parts and small amounts of construction debris. The clean-up is intended to provide an opportunity for residents

to dispose of accumulated household items; it is not intended to be an opportunity for residents to cut remodeling and home renovation costs by disposing of siding, shingles, or excessive amounts of other building materials.

Commercially produced refuse will not be accepted. Daily household garbage will not be accepted, nor will tires, asbestos, liquid waste, batteries, or yard waste. Please keep these guidelines in mind when bringing items for disposal. Your cooperation is very much appreciated and expected. As always, proof of residency will be required. Materials which do not comply with the above guidelines will be refused.

Please refer to the article on page 2 for recycling opportunities available to Portage Township residents.