

# Portage Township News



Ottawa County, Ohio

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

[www.portagetownship.net](http://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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

July 2, Aug. 6,  
Sept. 3, Oct. 1

### Zoning Office

#### Hours:

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

## RECYCLING 101



On April 17<sup>th</sup>, township trustees Drew Surovjak and Sam Conte, along with other representatives from Ottawa, Sandusky and Seneca Counties, attended an informative tour of the Rumpke processing plant in Columbus. They all viewed an informative video presentation and were then taken on a tour of the processing facility.

Surovjak and Conte were impressed with the technology and efficiency of the plant. The process not only uses magnets to assist in the sorting, it uses specially designed high-speed conveyors, puffs of air triggered by laser scanners, and eddy current to isolate aluminum cans. Every item that they accept is mechanically sorted. Rumpke representatives explained that the

most labor intensive aspect of the process is manually picking out the non-recyclable materials the facility is unable to mechanically sort. Plastic bags, styrofoam, and hypodermic needles are a huge inconvenience for the facility. Please do your best to refrain from putting those items in the recycling containers.

Rumpke staff explained that 93% of the materials received at the facility are recycled. The other 7% typically must be manually removed from the process and sent to the landfill. Running at its normal capacity, the plant has the ability to process all of the material generated over a year in the Ottawa-Sandusky-Seneca Joint Solid Waste District in only 6 days.

## Bits and Pieces

### O.U.P.S.

O.U.P.S. (Ohio Utilities Protection Service) is a private, nonprofit, statewide organization established by law. It has the responsibility to manage the “call before you dig” process in Ohio. Its mission is to protect the public, protect the underground infrastructure, and protect the environment. If you are planning some excavation that has even the slightest chance of encountering underground utilities, it is most prudent to call O.U.P.S. first with the details. A simple call to 1-800-362-2764 may save you from a lot of expense, a lot of wasted time and the possibility of personal injury. For further information, visit [www.oups.org](http://www.oups.org).

### Website/Newsletter

Residents are reminded that township information and newsletters can be accessed at [www.portagetownship.net](http://www.portagetownship.net). The website is graciously hosted at no cost to the township by Randy Pindor and his website design company Radius in Strongsville, Ohio. Residents can save a tree by requesting to receive the newsletter electronically. If you are interested,

send an email including your home address to [surovjak@portagetownship.com](mailto:surovjak@portagetownship.com). Every month, one or two residents change over to digital delivery of their newsletter. If we continue the current pace, the newsletter should be delivered 100% via the internet somewhere around December of 2183.

### 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. The sole purpose of the meetings is to manage the operation of the township. Come to a meeting to find out what is happening in Portage Township and meet the officials.

### Vehicle Registration

In order to assure that portage township receives its share of the Motor Vehicle Tax, the bureau of motor vehicles suggests that when renewing license plates in person, tell them **1st** that you live in Portage Township, and your mailing address is Port Clinton. That will assure that the township’s portion of the tax will be credited to the township.

### 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 all are 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.

Township maintenance staff have begun the work necessary to remove the deteriorating garage doors from the community room and install a more visually pleasing wall with some windows. The township’s intention is to make the area more like a hall and less like a garage. Once the wall is complete, other improvements will be undertaken.

### CERT Training

The Community Emergency Response Team promotes a partnership between the county Emergency Management Agency and the citizens of the county. The goal is to train members of businesses, neighborhoods, and organizations in basic emergency response skills so they are prepared to help during a disaster. Portage Township resident Matt Capodice is a trained CERT volunteer. The next time you see him, shake his hand and thank him for his dedication to serve the community.

If you have any questions about CERT training or the Citizen Corps, ask Matt or feel free to call Sandy Waggoner-Hovest, the area coordinator at 419-602-0758. Better yet, ask them how to become a member of the local CERT team.

### Another Flag Pole Rescued

In the fall 2012 newsletter there was an article about the VFW rescuing the Bataan School flagpole. It was then donated to Portage Township and erected at the Shook Cemetery on Route 163.

This spring, Commander Richard Ellis of the Homer D. Gardner VFW Post 2480 again approached the trustees hoping to find a new home for one of the flagpoles in front of the Junior High School. This time there would be \$300 in expenses to remove the pole from the property. The VFW contributed \$100 to the cost and the township trustees contributed the rest out of their own pockets. The township incurred no expense in the acquisition of the new pole. The pole was erected on the north side of Christy Chapel Cemetery by the township maintenance staff. On Memorial Day it was rededicated at its new location.



### Township Clean-Up



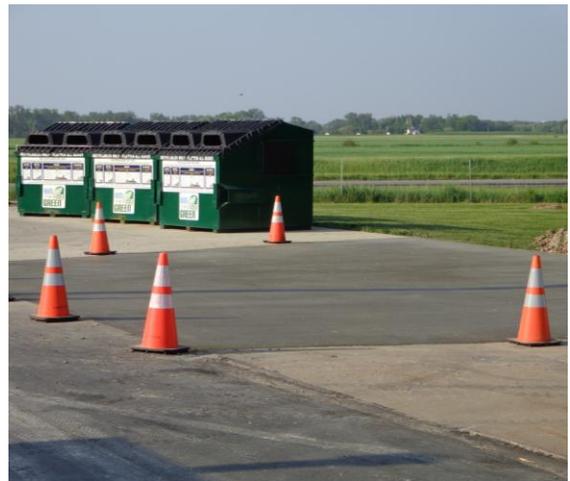
The spring township clean-up generated 36,820 pounds of trash and 15,044 pounds of recyclable metals. Excluding the expense of labor to man the activity, it cost the township \$1,762.55 for landfill and trucking fees.

### Thanks to Deputy Cochran



Pictured above is Deputy Curt Cochran. If you remember, he was assigned to replace Deputy Amanda Grimm as the deputy assigned to Portage Township when she was promoted to detective. Deputy Cochran has served the township well since being assigned here. Regretfully, he will be reassigned at the end of June. The township is grateful for the outstanding service he provided the residents and we wish him well. The car in the picture, a new Dodge purchased locally by the sheriff's department, will go to the new deputy assigned to Portage Township.

### Another OSS Grant



If you recycle on a regular basis, you have probably noticed the addition to the concrete pad in the area of the recycling bins. Portage Township received a \$1,000.00 Infrastructure Grant from the Ottawa-Sandusky-Seneca Joint Solid Waste District to assist in the expense of the improvements.

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)

- June**  
17 Trustee Meeting – 7:00pm
- July**  
1 Trustee Meeting – 7:00pm  
2 **Brush Pick-Up**  
15 Trustee Meeting – 7:00pm  
15-21 **Ottawa County Fair**
- August**  
5 Trustee Meeting – 7:00pm  
6 **Brush Pick-Up**  
19 Trustee Meeting – 7:00pm  
26 **Port Clinton Schools Begin**
- September**  
2 Trustee Meeting – 7:00pm  
3 **Brush Pick-Up**  
14 Hazardous Waste Collection\*  
16 Trustee Meeting – 7:00pm  
21 Appliance Collection\*

\* Visit <[www.recycleloss.org](http://www.recycleloss.org)> for details

## Portage Township Bee Lady

The picture at the right is of Chris Galvin, the Portage Township Bee Lady (and valued member of the Portage Township Board of Zoning Appeals). Some of her hives are lined up behind her. In all, she has 28.

According to Chris, her bees range up to 5 miles from the hive in their quest for honey. With that kind of range, her bees can pollinate the flowers and blossoms across all of Portage Township.

Honey bees have been having a difficult time the last few years. Last season she lost six hives to unknown causes. When Chris was asked if she had anything to say to the gardeners of Portage Township she requested that everyone please read and follow all label directions on any insecticides they use around their vegetation. She said that if at all possible, please avoid any insecticides that contain nicotania. It is a highly suspected cause of



current problems bee keepers are encountering. Or, better yet, don't use any insecticides.

If you would like some locally produced honey, give Chris a call at 419-205-1643. All of her hives are currently at her home on Lockwood Road. She stated that she might consider relocating some of her hives if someone had a location where they could be placed and left undisturbed. If you know of such a location, give her a call. She would also be happy to hear from you if you discover a swarm of bees or hive that needs to be relocated.