

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

Oct. 7, Nov. 4,
Dec. 2, Jan 6

Zoning Office

Hours:

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

Fall Leaf Collection



Pictured above is maintenance supervisor Matt Seamon as he inspects the township's new leaf vacuum. It was purchased to replace the old vacuum which was acquired, used, in 2004. The new machine is equipped with a hydraulic vacuum arm controlled by an operator riding at the back of the machine. The new equipment will have a longer reach than the machine it is replacing.

The design of the new piece of equipment will eliminate the need for a man with a rake assisting the machine from the edge of the road.

To assure the efficiency of the operation, **all leaves must be placed within 7 feet of the road edge or they will not be picked up.**

Leaf collection in the township will begin on October 27th and continue until the end of November. All leaves placed within the required distance from the edge of the road by the morning of December 1st will be collected.

Please do your best to assure that brush and large sticks are not mixed into the leaves because that material has a tendency to clog up the equipment.

Community Room



The Portage 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.

Due to the increased utilization of the hall since it has been renovated, it has been decided that the tables and chairs are to remain at the hall and will no longer be available for residents to borrow for events and activities at locations other than the hall.

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.



Election Day will be on November 4th this year. Portage township voters will find one US House of Representatives seat, six state offices, four state judicial seats, a state Board of Education seat, and four county contests. There will also be an Erie-Ottawa Mental Health tax levy, a township Sunday liquor sales issue, and a township fire levy renewal on the ballot. Residents are encouraged to study the candidates and issues and vote on November 4th.



Brush Pick-Up

In order to offer residents an eco-friendly method to dispose of brush, Portage Township provides curbside brush pick-up on the first Tuesday of each month. Residents are reminded that the service is not intended to be a tree removal service. Due to the ongoing loss of Ash Trees and the effects of the past severe winter, the service is becoming overwhelming. A service that originally required 1 to 1-1/2 days for a two-man crew has been taking 4-5 days for a 2 or 3 man crew these past few months.

If someone is paid to bring a tree down, he/she is responsible for the removal of the branches. If someone benefits from the dropping of a tree, say by getting the firewood, he/she is responsible for the removal of the branches.

Residents are reminded that only clean brush will be accepted. Stones, rocks, root balls, stumps, and beach debris will not be picked up. Please keep all metal out of the pile of brush.

If you expect to have an excessive amount of brush in any given month, please contact the township maintenance office at 419-732-3543 and explain the circumstances. The maintenance supervisor will inform you if it will be possible to accommodate your needs. If not, you will need to find an alternate means to dispose of the brush. The maintenance crew is given the discretion of refusing to pick up excessive amounts of brush.

Portage Township Fire Levy

It's easy to overlook the value of fire protection until assistance is needed in a hurry. Then its value cannot be overstated. Portage Township contracts with the city of Port Clinton for fire protection. Since 1990 the cost of the contract has been covered by tax levies approved by the residents of the township. The current 5-year levy expires at the end of 2014. For 2015 the trustees have chosen to request a renewal of the existing 1.6 mil levy. The proceeds from the levy are not expected to cover the entire cost of fire protection for the term of the levy but the trustees chose not to increase the requested millage. If you have any questions about the fire levy request, feel free to contact any township elected official.

One way to show your support for the volunteer firemen and the valuable service they provide is to attend the annual Port Clinton Volunteer Fire Department Feather Party on November 8th starting at 6pm. It will be held at the fire department garage on State Street just west of Buckeye Boulevard. Proceeds from the fund raiser are used to purchase needed equipment for the department.

And an even better way to support the department would be to become a volunteer fireman. If the idea interests you, contact trustee Sam Conte at 419-732-2302 for more information. He has been a dedicated volunteer for many years.

Wreaths Across America



At the July 21st meeting of the Portage Township Trustees, Sara Toris from the Ottawa County Veterans Service Office presented information on Wreaths Across America, a mission to remember, honor, and teach. She asked if the township would permit her organization to include Portage Township cemeteries in the wreath laying activities. Of course, the trustees gladly agreed.

The event will be on December 13, 2014. Individuals interested in volunteering time or donating financial support are encouraged to contact Sara Toris at 419-898-2089.

Bits and Pieces

Website/Newsletter

Thanks to the generosity of Portage Township property owner Randy Pindor, president of *Radius Marketing* located in Strongsville, Ohio, Portage Township has a website. The *Portage Township News*, along with a myriad of valuable township information is always available at www.portagetownship.net. The township's digital presence provides an opportunity for the residents to be a little more eco-friendly. If you have internet access and are willing to receive the newsletter electronically, email surovjak@portagetownship.net indicating the address at which you receive your "snail mail" newsletter. Your address will be removed from the mailing list and you will receive the newsletter via email as a PDF attachment. The added benefit of this method is that you will receive the *Portage Township News* days before it goes out through ground mail.

Portage Township News

Hopefully, everyone noticed the improved printing quality starting with the summer 2014 newsletter. The township now uses the State Printing and Mail Services to print and distribute the newsletter.

We believe the information in the newsletter is important to township residents so we do our best to assure that all residents receive the newsletter. Please ask neighbors and friends living in the township if they receive this publication. If they don't, contact Drew at 419-341-5445 or surovjak@portagetownship.net and have their address added to the mailing list.

Cemetery Clean-Up

The cemetery clean-up is scheduled for October 4th through October 10th. Residents are reminded that any flowers or decorations that remain on the graves after October 10th will be collected and disposed of.

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

Portage Township Calendar

September

- 15 Trustee Meeting – 7:00pm
- 20 OSS Appliance Collection*
- 27 OSS Television Collection*

October

- 4-10 Cemetery Clean-Up
- 6 Trustee Meeting – 7:00pm
- 7 **Brush Pick-Up**
- 10-13 **Township Fall Clean-Up**
- 20 Trustee Meeting – 7:00pm
- 25 OSS Tire Collection*
- 27 Start of Twp. Leaf Collection

November

- 3 Trustee Meeting – 7:00pm
- 4 **Brush Pick-Up**
- 4 **Election Day**
- 8 **PCVFD Feather Party – 6:00pm**
- 17 Trustee Meeting – 7:00pm

December

- 1 Trustee Meeting – 7:00pm
- 2 **Brush Pick-Up**

* Visit <www.recycleoss.org> or call toll free at 1-888-850-7224 for details.

Fall Clean-Up

The Portage Township Fall Clean-Up will be held Friday, October 10th thru Monday, October 13th. 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 rubbish, 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.