

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. 1, May 6,
June 3, July 1

Zoning Office

Hours:

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

FREE SNOW!

(Delivery charges may apply.)



Last year's winter was a mild one. It had only 2 significant snowfalls which required the use of the township snowplow. Township officials were elated over the savings experienced due to the minimal salt and overtime needed to keep the roads safe. This winter of 2014 has become a completely different story.

The above picture is of a home on Bayview Drive in Portage Township. It was taken after one of the winter blasts the area received over this past season. Undoubtedly, many residents have similar pictures of snow drifts piled around their homes.

From December 11th through March 10th the township spent \$6,990.09 on fuel and \$6,197.89 on 174.49 tons of salt. Jerry, our part-time employee

was needed for 170.5 hours of snow plowing. Together, Matt and Bryan, our full-time employees, logged 196 hours of overtime. Those figures don't include the countless regular-time hours which Matt and Bryan devoted to snow removal or the cost of the storm that battered the township on March 12th.

But through it all, Matt, Bryan, and Jerry managed to keep the roads safe for everyone. On behalf of all township residents, the elected officials of Portage Township would like to express a heartfelt "Thanks" to Matt, Bryan, and Jerry for their diligence, determination, and dedicated service.

Bits and Pieces

Fire Protection

On November 6, 1990, Portage Township voters approved a levy to support the cost of maintaining a contract with the City of Port Clinton for fire protection. Since that time voters of the township have approved four additional levies. The current levy will be expiring at the end of 2014. The trustees are planning to place a levy on the ballot this November to replace the expiring levy. They plan to request a levy which will generate the same dollar amount as generated in 2000. The planned amount will not cover the current costs of the contract with the city but the trustees are intent on not requesting any more from the residents. Additional information will be provided in future issues of the *Portage Township News*

Township Reorganization

At the January 6th trustee meeting, the duties and responsibilities of the elected officials were assigned for 2014. Drew Surovjak will again serve as 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 any concerns about any aspect of the township, 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 opt to receive the newsletter electronically. If you are interested, send an email including your home address to [<surovjak@portagetownship.net>](mailto:surovjak@portagetownship.net).

Township Meetings

Township trustees meet on the first and third Mondays of each month at 7:00 pm at the township hall. The meetings are open to the public and everyone is welcome to attend. The sole purpose of the meetings is to manage the operation of the township. Feel free to attend and become a more active member in your community.

OSS Fun Facts

Every day Americans recycle more than 2 million pounds of paper. That's about 40% of the paper we use.

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 26, 2014, 9:00am till 12:00 noon

Appliance Collection – Saturday, May 10, 2014 - 9:00am till 12:00 noon

Televisions and Small Electronics –

(No computer equipment or related materials)

Saturday, May 31, 2014, 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 4th through April 7th. The equipment will be recycled by Goodwill Industries.

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



Election Results



There were no surprises during the November elections. Sam Conte and Keith Heileman were reelected as Portage Township Trustees. Above is a picture taken of them in late December (Sam left, Keith right) congratulating each other as they prepare to be sworn in by Municipal Court Judge Fritz Hany.

Zoning

In order for the zoning process to effectively function, volunteers are needed to serve on the zoning boards.

The current members of the Board of Zoning Appeals include Dutch Schultz, Paul Berndt, Steve Nickel, Linda Fritz, Chris Galvin, and Keith Conte (alternate).

The current members of the Zoning Commission include Kyle Auxter, Bob Follman, Phil McMurray, Ron Huskey, Kathy Elchert, and Matt Capodice (alternate).

The trustees would like to officially thank the volunteers for their willingness to serve.

Christy Chapel Cemetery Clean-Up

Portage Township will have a clean-up at Christy Chapel Cemetery beginning March 26 through March 31, 2014. All out-of-season items will be removed, including dead flowers and potting containers, plastic ornaments and flowers. People are encouraged to remove items they don't want discarded by March 25th. They can then be returned to the graves after April 1, 2014.



The township has been in the process of improving the appearance and function of the Community Room. The last issue of the *Portage Township News* explained that the old garage doors had been removed and replaced by windows. Over the winter new heating and air-conditioning was installed and the maintenance crew has been finishing off the interior. The above picture shows the work currently being done on the room. The final step will be the installation of a suspended ceiling and new lighting.

To assist the township in this endeavor, a \$1,195.00 grant has been awarded to the township by the Ottawa-Sandusky-Seneca Joint Solid Waste Management District. The OSS district offers two grant cycles a year. The intent of the OSS Grant program is to encourage local governments, non-profit organizations, and non-profit educational institutions to expand environmentally friendly activities by developing recycling programs or by purchasing materials composed of recycled products. Additional information on the Ottawa-Sandusky-Seneca County Joint Solid Waste Management District grants can be found by visiting their website at <<http://www.recycleoss.net>>.

The ceiling tiles and grid have enough recycled content to qualify for the grant. This is the fourth grant the township has received through the OSS grant program. Upon completion of this current grant, Portage Township will have received a total of \$12,668.00 through the OSS grant program.

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 2014

(Refrigerator Friendly Calendar)

March

26-31 Cemetery Clean-Up

April

1 Brush Pick-Up

7 Trustee Meeting - 7:00pm

4-7 Spring Clean-Up

21 Trustee Meeting - 7:00pm

**26 Household Hazardous
Waste Recycling***

May

10 Appliance Recycling*

5 Trustee Meeting - 7:00pm

6 Brush Pick-Up

31 TV Recycling*

19 Trustee Meeting - 7:00pm

June

2 Trustee Meeting - 7:00pm

3 Brush Pick-Up

16 Trustee Meeting - 7:00pm

* See related story on Page 2.

Spring Clean-Up

The Portage Township Spring Clean-Up will be held Friday, April 4th through Monday, April 7th. 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.