

# Copley Connection

Number 111

[www.copley.oh.us](http://www.copley.oh.us)

May 2021

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Stay  
SAFE  
AND  
healthy

## Save The Dates

Concerts in the Circle  
to resume after July 4, 2021

Copley Car Show  
Copley Community Park  
Sunday, July 11, 2021

Heritage Day Festival  
Copley Community Park  
Saturday, August 7, 2021

**Nixle ALERTS**  
Text your zip code to  
888777  
or register at [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com)

## Welcome Back Copley!

Is it just me or does this Spring seem to emulate life more than usual? Traditionally, “Spring” is the time of rebirth, renewal and revitalization, but I think all those terms have taken on a new meaning this year. We’ve had a rebirth, so to speak, as we have emerged from 2020 with deeper appreciation for just “being normal”; yearning for things to be the way they have always been and hoping for a time when we can gather - minus face coverings! Hope that we can achieve normalcy has been renewed with the increased availability of the COVID vaccine. We have begun to make plans for vacations, family reunions and community gatherings with a renewed sense of gratitude because we realize all that we have missed by not having these events in our lives. The old saying, “You don’t know what you got ‘till it’s gone” has never been more appropriate!

What is most exciting, perhaps, is the revitalization beginning to grow in the Township. The last year has provided, in many cases, a much needed rest; a break from the constant schedule around which many of us found our lives revolving. We’ve had time to relax and reflect on all the “stuff” that we have learned we don’t need as well as the many things that we absolutely need to get back to! Community groups are starting to reorganize, new businesses are opening their doors, plans are underway for a few community events, residents are looking for ways to contribute...and from those who serve you, Copley Township says “Welcome Back”!

Copley Township is revitalizing some existing concepts – neighborhood ambassadors and community volunteers – and hoping to create some new initiatives that can bring together all the amazing efforts underway in the Township. The goal? To support all projects that are focused on promoting Copley Township – its residents, its businesses, its schools, its philanthropies, its growth, its potential! To bring together those that have a stake in the future of the Township and combine our many talents and passions to ensure that the Township thrives and remains a great place to grow up, raise a family and eventually retire. The plan for accomplishing this task is developing and information will be posted on all our social media platforms and in future editions of this newsletter. Keep an eye out for ways to get involved because it takes innovative and creative ideas combined with a willingness to take a risk...and a lot of elbow grease!!

## Heritage Day is Back for 2021!

The Copley Heritage Day Festival will return this year on Saturday, August 7th from 12:00 PM to 7:00 PM at Copley Community Park. While the event will be somewhat modified due to current COVID19 restrictions, most of your favorites will return to welcome back the Copley Township community after what seems like far too long!

The Copley Heritage Day Committee is looking for volunteers to assist with planning this year’s event. This is a HUGE undertaking and will require some seasoned volunteers to ensure its

**See HERITAGE DAY ON Page 4**



# Community & Economic Development

## Zoning Certificates

Summer is the time for home improvements and we are here to help. Zoning Certificates help to ensure land is being used appropriately, support positive property maintenance and protect home values. Visit <https://www.copley.oh.us/364/Start-A-Project> to get started on your next home improvement project.

Please note that properties located on septic and/or well must receive approval from the Summit County Public Health prior to receiving a Zoning Certificate.

<https://www.scph.org/sites/default/files/editor/WQ/BZ%20Application%202019%20Nov20.pdf>

Residents are also encouraged to contact the Department of Community & Economic Development for assistance prior to the start of any project! 330-666-0108 x 1108. Resources available from the department include Plot Plans, historical permits, environmental data, service connections and much more.



|                                | Copley Township  | Summit County Building Standards   |
|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Deck                           | Yes  | Yes  |
| Detached Garage                | Yes  | Yes  |
| Driveway                       | Contact agency upon which road is located. <a href="https://www.copley.oh.us/DocumentCenter/View/161/Copley-Township-Street-Directory-PDF?bidid=">https://www.copley.oh.us/DocumentCenter/View/161/Copley-Township-Street-Directory-PDF?bidid=</a> |  |
| Fence                          | No (Check with Copley for regulations)   | Possibly   |
| Gazebo/Pergola                 | Yes  | Yes  |
| Home Addition                  | Yes  | Yes  |
| New Home Construction          | Yes  | Yes  |
| Patio                          | No (Check with Copley for regulations)   | Possibly   |
| Pond                           | No (Check with Copley for regulations)   | A permit may be required for the installation of a pond from Summit County, OHEPA and/or the Army Corp of Engineers. Check before digging. |
| Pool (Above & In Ground)       | Yes  | Yes  |
| Roof                           | No   | Yes  |
| Shed (All Accessory Buildings) | Yes  | Yes, if over 200 Square Feet   |
| Siding                         | No   | Yes  |

## Home Occupations

Copley supports home based businesses, however, these Home Occupations are designed to be limited in scope and secondary in use to the primary home structure. Home Occupations are not permitted to advertise addresses or employ individuals outside of the immediate home residents. If you are interested in operating a business from your home, please contact us in advance so that we may assist or help you find an appropriately zoned area to make your business a success.



## Buying a Home in Copley?



Home buying is one of the most significant life experiences one can undertake. Let us help you ensure you are making the best decision with the most relevant information. Copley has several residential zoning classifications, including Low Density, Medium Density and High Density. Density determines how large and close structures can be to your property lines.

Additionally, Copley is a wonderland of beautiful rural landscapes and features. Many of these features are designed by nature and are intended to remain open and free and clear of structures and disturbance. Properties within Copley Township may have natural features including floodplains, Riparians and wetlands. These features are protected under the Riparian Regulations adopted by Copley Township. Learn more about these natural features so that you can be sure the property you chose is right for your future plans.

**TIP: Wetlands are not always wet.**

### Summit County Agency Partners

Copley Township relies on the assistance of Summit County agencies regarding the review and authority of the permit process. For more information on Summit County agency partners visit:

#### Summit County Soil & Water Conservation District

Pond Management, Drainage Concerns, Soil Information, Conservation

<https://sswcd.summitoh.net/>

#### Summit County Public Health

Water Quality, Septic/Well Inspections, Site & Soil Evaluations

<https://www.scph.org/water-quality/permitting-procedures>

#### Summit County Planning-Department of Community & Economic Development

Lot Splits, Lot Consolidation, GIS Data, Addressing

<https://co.summitoh.net/committee-pages/Planning-GIS.html>

<https://data-summitgis.opendata.arcgis.com/>

#### Summit County Building Standards

Building Permits, Floodplain Management

<https://co.summitoh.net/departments/Building-Standards.html>

## Code Enforcement is Vital to Community Development

A Code Enforcement Officer is an inspector, officer or investigator, whose primary duties are the prevention, detection, investigation, and enforcement of violations of laws regulating public health, public convenience, comfort, prosperity, building standards, or general welfare as it pertains to areas, premises and buildings used for residential, commercial, industrial, travel, and public purposes. Code Enforcement is a function local governments perform that citizens consider important for accomplishing community goals, such as protecting property values and the environment.

When used in the context of Community Development, the term pertains to property upkeep and standards for new construction. Bringing property owners into compliance with Property Maintenance Codes, Zoning Resolutions, Building Standards, Health Codes and other ordinances can be an important part of maintaining the appearance, functioning, and property values of a neighborhood. New Property Maintenance Codes were adopted by Copley Township Trustees on December 12, 2016 and have been in effect as of January 2, 2017. The newly adopted codes can be viewed online by visiting Copley Township's website [www.copleyoh.us](http://www.copleyoh.us).

If you need help with your property or would like to report a violation, please email or call Copley Township's Code Enforcement Officer, Jeff Newman, at [jnewman@copleyoh.us](mailto:jnewman@copleyoh.us) or 330-666-0108.

## Spring Cleaning

Is right around the corner; please keep in mind that it is a violation to have unsightly debris, or junk in your yard or around your property. Properties are expected to be kept free and clear of all weeds, or cut all such weeds and vegetation on land so they do not exceed eight (8) inches or more in length. Fallen leaves, branches, diseased plants, etc. should be collected and properly disposed of.

All buildings, and the exterior of all premises should be properly maintained so as to achieve an appearance characteristic to the neighborhood and to avoid blighted effects and hazardous conditions. Properly dispose of tires, vacated swimming pools, and other objects



See SPRING CLEANING ON Page 4



# Service Department

## Copley Community Park Sports Fields - House Bill 143

The park has two baseball fields and three soccer fields that are reserved for organized youth play by local youth sports teams throughout the spring, summer, and fall. In addition, there is another soccer field located on Sunset Drive by the Police Department. The baseball fields were designed to accommodate both younger and older teams with bases that can be lengthened or shortened for whichever league may be playing. The pitcher's rubbers, however, are set in place and are not adjustable. Ball Field 1 (closest to the north parking lot) is designed for Bronco League and Pony League play. Pitching rubber is 52' from home plate and the bases adjust from 70' (Bronco) to 80' (Pony). Ballfield 2 is designed for smaller players in the Little League and Bronco League. The pitching rubber is 48' from home plate and the bases adjust from 60' (Little League) and 70' (Bronco). Fields may be reserved Mondays through Saturdays but no reservations are accepted for Sundays. The Trustees want the fields open one day per week so residents have a chance to use them. In 2013, the General Assembly of the State of Ohio passed House Bill 143 (HB143) that required all sports team managers, coaches, and referees to undergo training by the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) in concussion protocol. This was enacted for the safety of players because of the numerous cases of concussions that were occurring with some going unreported. Players were sustaining and then hiding a head injury so they could stay in the game. The ODH training teaches how to recognize signs and

symptoms of a concussion so, if any player exhibits a change in their behavior or appearance, they can be pulled from the game and questioned. If it is suspected they did sustain a head injury they would be placed on concussion protocol for the players safety. They would be required to be examined by a physician for clearance before returning to future play. The ODH also provides a Parental Information Sheet that explains what a concussion is and helps parents recognize signs and

symptoms in case a coach or referee does not spot an injured player. Parents may approach a coach or referee during play with their concerns about any player. Since Copley provides the venue for these teams, and to ensure all teams are in compliance with HB143 mandate, the Trustees passed a Resolution in 2013 that requires all team coaches and referees to provide proof of their ODH training before reservations may be accepted.

With almost 9000 total baseball

and soccer players using Township fields in 2021 (342 baseball reservations and 189 soccer reservations scheduled) the odds are one or more of these players will sustain a head injury. Safety of all players is paramount. Copies of the Resolution and Parental Information Sheets are available upon request or on the Township website.

You can view the documents on Copley Township Website at: <https://www.copley.oh.us/138/Copley-Community-Park>



### HERITAGE DAY

#### Continued from Page 1

success! Whether you are a front line "go-getter" or a "behind the scenes" worker, there is an opportunity waiting for you! Volunteers are needed to assist with organizing the vendors and their spaces, raffles, tournaments, parking, a community art project, baking contest, beer tent, kids zone, games, set-up and take-down of canopies and tables, and so much more...the opportunities are endless! Students who volunteer 4 hours or more will receive a \$10.00 food voucher.

Watch for more information and a schedule of events on the Township website [www.copley.oh.us](http://www.copley.oh.us), or at <https://www.facebook.com/copleytownship>. To volunteer, please contact Beth Siddall at Copley Town Hall, [bsiddall@copley.oh.us](mailto:bsiddall@copley.oh.us) or 330-666-1853.

### SPRING CLEANING

#### Continued from Page 3

that retain standing water in order to reduce mosquito and other insects from nesting, which can create an increased nuisance.

Foundations, floors, walls, ceilings, and roofs of every structure shall be properly constructed and maintained, and shall be kept in good repair and in safe condition, so as to make all occupied rooms and other interior areas weather-tight, water-tight, rodent-proof, fit for human habitation, and kept so as not to adversely affect the neighborhood in which they are located. Junk, including Inoperable or Junk Motor Vehicles shall not be maintained on private property unless such vehicle, junk, is stored within a completely enclosed permanent structure. Enclosed permanent structures do not include tarps, tents, or temporary carports with canvas tops. Large metal containers, enclosed truck beds, shipping containers, and other similar items are not permitted to be used as an accessory building.



# Police Department

## Safety Town 2021

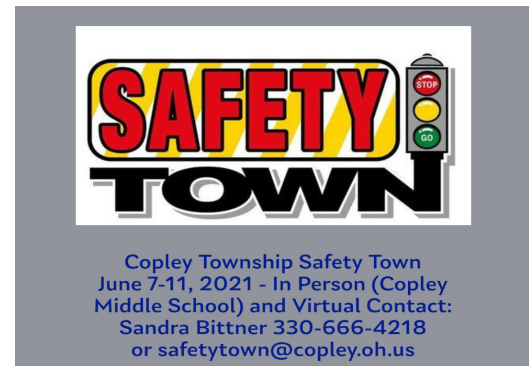
The Copley Township Safety Forces will be conducting our annual Safety Town School this summer, which provides needed training for the kindergarten child. Due to the recent pandemic, we will have a VIRTUAL Safety Town School and IN-PERSON Safety Town! You can only choose one for your child. Everyone attending in-person Safety Town will be required to wear masks including all volunteers. We will follow all CDC guidelines and take the children outside when possible!

Safety Town is a five-day summer educational program for children who will be entering kindergarten in the fall. The children are provided instruction in a wide assortment of safety topics. A simulated village is used to teach children most important pedestrian and bicycle safety rules. The village is constructed of miniature buildings, streets, and traffic signals and signs. In addition, children view videos, listen to speakers from several different safety agencies, and check out a school bus. The serious subject of safety is combined with craft activities, songs, videos and lots of fun.

The 2021 Copley Safety Town School will be conducted Monday, June 7 - Friday, June 11, 2021 at Copley-Fairlawn Middle School, 1531 South Cleveland-Massillon Road. There will be two time sessions, from 9:15 A.M. to 11:15 A.M. and from 1:15 P.M. to 3:15 P.M. Parents are to pick the time session of their preference; however, **the morning session does tend to reach capacity quickly.** Typically, the afternoon class is a smaller class size (and usually less hectic!) Registration will

be limited to the first 100 participants. Safety Town is open to children living in Copley Township or within the Copley-Fairlawn City School District who will be starting kindergarten in the fall. Students from Spring Garden Waldorf School that are not Copley residents may attend in the afternoon session. There are no exceptions to this requirement due to space and equipment restrictions. Proof of residency may be requested. Fairlawn residents are encouraged to attend Fairlawn Safety Town.

You may register your child for Safety Town School by completing the registration form that is available on the Copley Township website, [www.copley.oh.us](http://www.copley.oh.us), or in the lobby of the Copley Police Department and Copley Town Hall. Please call Sandy or email [safetytown@copley.oh.us](mailto:safetytown@copley.oh.us) or [sbittner@copley.oh.us](mailto:sbittner@copley.oh.us) if you have further questions.



# Fire Department

## Severe Weather Alert!!

It's that time of year once again...news alerts of severe weather flash across the screen, the tornado sirens go off and everyone thinks...is this for real? Should I be worried and take these warnings seriously? The answer? Yes...and here are some helpful tools to get you ready!

- Tornado warning signs include seeing a funnel cloud, hearing a loud roar and noticing a change in the sky color; lightning and hail are also common in tornado weather
- Best protective location is a safe room or shelter. Get to a sturdy building with a small, interior, windowless room at the lowest level – a basement is best
- Practice moving quickly to a protective location in the places where you spend a lot of time
- Be prepared for power outages by gathering supplies for each household member
- Take time now to safeguard critical documents and take pictures or videos of your belongings
- Go to <https://www.ready.gov/tornadoes> for more information.



COPLEY TOWNSHIP  
1540 S. Cleveland Massillon Road  
Copley, Ohio 44321-1908

PRSRT STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO. 351  
AKRON, OHIO

#### NOTICE OF 2020 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

The 2020 Annual Financial Report for Copley Township, Summit County, Ohio has been completed and is available for public inspection at the Copley Townhall located at 1540 S. Cleveland Massillon Road Copley, Ohio 44321

#### Motor Vehicle License Tax to Copley Township

Please remember - when renewing your annual license plate/sticker, make sure you state you live in COPLEY TOWNSHIP so the Township rightly receives its portion of the license tax fee. Copley has six zip codes - Akron 44320, Akron 44333, Barberton 44203, Copley 44321, Norton 44203, and Wadsworth 44281. The registrar will write the city address name on your driver's license in the jurisdiction area unless you state you live in Copley Township!

### Meeting Notes

Regular Board of Trustees Meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

Please visit our website [www.copley.oh.us](http://www.copley.oh.us) for updated meeting times and special meetings.

Check our website for the Board of Zoning Appeals, Zoning Commission and Architectural Review Board Meeting Schedules.

All Meetings Are Open To The Public.



*This is an official newsletter published as a service to residents under authority of the Ohio Revised Code. Copley Township Trustees review and approve the contents. Please direct comments and improvements to the Township Trustees.*

### Copley Township Telephone Numbers

Emergency Police & Fire .....9-1-1  
Non Emerg. Police & Fire .....330-666-8866

#### Administrative Offices

Fire .....330-666-6464  
Police .....330-666-4218  
Service .....330-666-0365  
Community/Economic Dev.....330-666-0108

#### Trustees

Jim Schulte  
Scott Dressler .....330-666-1853  
Bruce Koellner

#### Administrator

Janice Marshall .....330-666-1853

#### Fiscal Officer

Linda Peiffer.....330-666-1853

#### COPLEY ONLINE

WEBSITE: [WWW.COPLEY.OH.US](http://WWW.COPLEY.OH.US)  
EMAIL: [TOWNSHIP@COPLEY.OH.US](mailto:TOWNSHIP@COPLEY.OH.US)

