



Focus On Community



Nuisance Properties

As we continue to focus on our community, it would be prudent to point out issues that would help to keep things running smoothly in the neighborhoods. More often than not, neighbors get along amazingly well. However, from time-to-time there are issues that arise that eventually come to the Township's various departments for a resolution.

Below is a list that highlights the calls received at the township and the tools given by federal, state and county laws to assist in these issues.

Nuisance Properties - Probably the most calls received during late spring, all summer and early fall are nuisance property complaints, noxious weeds, vegetation, debris and garbage. Ohio Revised Code Section 505.87 addresses these issues and grants township trustees authority to order the noxious weeds, vegetation, debris and garbage abated and the cost of abatement is placed as a lien on the property.

High Grass - Second place are calls for uncut lawns. Summit County's Codified Ordinances Chapter 521 Health Safety and Sanitation, Section 521.10 Noxious Weeds and Rank Vegetation cites grass over eight inches high on **improved lots**. Once per year, The Clerk of County Council shall publish in one (1) newspaper of general circulation during the first day of May each year notice of the County's determination that noxious weeds and rank vegetation are public nuisances. "The notice shall further demand that all owners of property in any township remove all noxious weeds and regularly cut rank vegetation to a height of less than eight inches on improved property and within the right-of-way portion of any non-improved property." The cost of abatement is placed as a lien on the property and considered a third degree misdemeanor.

Please see Nuisance p.2

Sweep the Streets

Wednesday, April 22 is Earth Day! On Saturday, April 25, 2015 Copley Township will hold its first **Sweep the Streets** event. All residents and business owners are asked to participate by clearing their neighborhoods or business area of litter and debris. Make it a fun day by organizing a neighborhood contest; an Earth Day Walk with trash bags. The trash bags can be dropped off at the service yard at 3722 Copley Road immediately east of the Historic Copley Depot in a designated area. The cleanest neighborhoods will be recognized by the township trustees and reported in the township's newsletter, the *Copley Connection*.



Donate Glasses and Hearing Aids

Imagine if you could help a child read. An adult succeed in his job. A senior maintain his/her independence. And provide a community with more opportunities to grow and thrive. Every day, the Lions Clubs recycled eyeglass and hearing aid programs do all of this and more. Here's how you can donate glasses and hearing aids.

The Copley Lions Club has a collection site located at Copley Township Hall, 1540 S. Cleveland-Massillon Road in the main lobby. Please consider donating your old glasses and hearing aids to those less fortunate.

Thank You for Your Service

In the past six months, four employees from Copley Township retired with a combined 125 years of service. Full-time Fire Lieutenant Chuck Hrubik (33 Yrs), full-time Assistant Service Director Doug Miller (30 Yrs) part-time firefighter David Sandmann (25 Yrs), System Administrator David Sattler (37 Yrs), have served Copley Township residents well. The trustees wish each of them the best in their retirement and thank them for helping to make Copley a better place to live and work.



Lt. Chuck Hrubik



Doug Miller



Dave Sandmann



David Sattler

Police Department

Pay It Forward Program

The Copley Police Association and the Copley Fire Department have joined forces to bring a national slogan to our area "Pay it Forward". A specific charity has been selected for each remaining month in 2015 and items donated for that month will go directly to that charity. There will be a donation box set up at the police and fire departments where all the donations will be collected. At the end of the month the items will be collected and transported to the charity that was selected for that month. Please see the list below:

- April - Copley Food Pantry
- May - Veterans Group - Hygiene Items
- June - Victim's Assistance - Used Cell Phones
- July - Children's Services of S. C. - School Supplies
- August - Boys and Girls Club - School Supplies
- September - Battered Woman's Shelter - Diapers
- October - Haven of Rest - Hats and Gloves
- Nov - Akron Children's Hosp. - New/Used Children's Books
- Dec - Toys for Tots Program - New Toy

Safety Town Registration begins May 15, 2015.

Applications are available at Kindergarten registration, on our website www.copley.oh.us and in the lobby of the Copley Police Department.

Nuisance

Continued from Page 1

Placement of Trash Cans - Complaints of trash cans set out days before pickup or never taken in come into the township. Trash cans set out for periods of time attract all sorts of animals and we find that the trash company is not going to clean it up when the garbage is scattered about.

This is an issue that most people do not know they are violating any laws. The rule of thumb for trash pickup is to place the cans out the night before and take in by the evening of pickup. Summit County's Codified Ordinances Chapter 521 Health, Safety and Sanitation, Section 521.08 Littering and Deposit of Garbage, Rubbish, Junk, Etc. addresses this in Section 521.08 (c) No person shall cause or allow litter to be collected or **remain in any place** to the damage or prejudice of others or of the public, or unlawfully obstruct, impede, divert, corrupt or render unwholesome or impure, any natural watercourse. This is considered a fourth degree misdemeanor.

Yard Waste Disposal - Federal and state law cover this one. Storm Water Management Best Management Practices (BMPs) evolved out of the Clean Water Act of 1972. The water's edge should be free and clear of any yard waste and debris. Lawn clippings should be bagged and placed out for trash pickup or composted. NEVER should they be dumped on any green space or vacant lots in a subdivision or **anywhere** in the township. EPA fines are stiff.

Fire Department

Tornado Facts

Quick facts you should know about tornadoes:

- They may strike quickly, with little or no warning.
- They may appear nearly transparent until dust and debris are picked up or a cloud forms in the funnel.
- The average tornado moves Southwest to Northeast, but tornadoes have been known to move in any direction.
- The average forward speed of a tornado is 30 mph, but may vary from stationary to 70 mph.
- Waterspouts are tornadoes that form over water.
- Tornadoes are most frequently reported east of the Rocky Mountains during spring and summer months.
- Peak tornado season in the southern states is March through May; in the northern states, it is late spring through early summer.
- Tornadoes are most likely to occur between 3pm and 9pm, but can occur at any time.



Know the Terms

Familiarize yourself with these terms to help identify a tornado hazard:

Tornado Watch - Tornadoes are possible. Remain alert for approaching storms. Watch the sky and stay tuned to NOAA Weather Radio, commercial radio and television for information.

Tornado Warning - A tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. Take shelter immediately.

Lawn Mower Safety

Lawn mowers are helpful tools, but can be very dangerous if not used properly. Each year thousands of people suffer deep cuts, loss of fingers and toes, and broken bones due to improper or careless use of lawn mowers. Injuries can be avoided by following proper safety precautions.

- Keep lawn mower in good working condition. Have it serviced annually to ensure proper working condition.
- Be sure the motor is off prior to inspecting or repairing the lawn mower.
- Use a stick or broom (not hands or feet) to remove debris from lawn mower.
- Do not remove safety devices such as shields or guards.
- Add fuel before starting the engine.
- Do not walk away from a running lawn mower. Shut the engine off if you must walk away.
- Wear protective gloves, goggles, sturdy shoes and long pants. Never sandals or flip flops.
- Teach children to stay away from all running mowers.
- Never allow a child to ride on a mower, even with parents.
- Children should be at least 12 years of age before operating a push mower and 16 to operate a riding mower.
- Use caution when mowing hills or slopes.



Zoning News

Preserving and Improving the Tree Canopy

As the spring season approaches, warm weather invites us to come outdoors and begin another season of enhancing and beautifying our properties. A common activity during this time of the season involves the planting of new trees. In fact, Arbor Day is celebrated this year on April 24, the perfect time to plant a tree. Planting trees is strongly encouraged as it provides numerous benefits including but not limited to:

- Cleans the Air We Breathe
- Conserves Energy by Providing Shade
- Prevents Soil Erosion
- Flood/Storm Water Control
- Increased Property Value
- Sense of Place

The Township has been intentional in working towards preserving and improving the tree canopy. Such improvements include tree preservation and landscaping requirements for new development projects. Such changes have led to 1,063 new trees being planted along with nearly twenty-five (25) acres of woodlands being preserved. While this is progress, equipping residents with further knowledge of tree care will compliment these efforts and provide a beautiful canopy and natural areas for generations to come.

While many have become well aware of the emerald ash bore (EAB) and the devastation it has caused to millions of ash trees, this spring season offers an opportunity to evaluate your trees. Ash trees infested with EAB that may have declined or died since last season, could pose a risk to people and property, and may need to be removed. In addition to ash trees, your oak trees warrant an inspection this growing season. Specifically, oak wilt is a serious and often deadly threat to oak trees. Oak wilt is a fungal

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disease which grows within the water tissues of oak trees and plugs the vessels which leads to wilting and/or death of the tree. While this area has several species of oaks, the red-black oak group (black, pin, northern red, and scarlet oak, among others) have a high risk of infection. The white oak family (bur, swamp, white, and chinquapin) are more tolerant and disease resistant.

According to Joe Gregory (Certified Arborist with

The Davey Tree Expert Company), a Copley resident, and Chair of the Copley Architectural Review Board (ARB), “Oak wilt has been confirmed in communities nearby, including Fairlawn, and Copley residents should be aware of



the signs and symptoms of oak wilt so they can monitor their oak trees this growing season. If oak wilt is suspected, contact a professional arborist to confirm it and discuss management options. One key aspect of oak wilt management that residents need to know is that they should avoid pruning oaks, especially red oaks, from April 1 through July 15. “Picnic” beetles are thought to be attracted to fresh pruning cuts where they can transmit the fungus and cause new infestations.

As we approach the growing season, take a moment to celebrate and appreciate trees this Arbor Day. You can learn to look for these common pests that threaten our landscape by using these resources from The Ohio State University Extension.

http://ohioline.osu.edu/hyg-fact/3000/pdf/HYG_3306_09.pdf

<http://www.ashalert.osu.edu/>

North Jacoby Road Area Residents Water/ Sewer Rates

The township receives calls from North Jacoby Road area residents who have Akron water but do not yet have water meters installed. Questions on how water usage is billed were answered recently in an email inquiry to the City of Akron who supplies water to Copley.

“The customers that do not have meters are charged a flat fee that assumes 7 units of water. For example, the flat fee for Loch Raven is 7 times the water rate applicable to the area plus 7 times the sewer rate plus billing charges. Copley Square includes a few small condominium units whose flat fee is based on 5 units of water. The bill for Lock Raven also reflects the number of condo units in each building. For example, if there are eight units in each condo building,

we multiply the figures below by 8 for the total bill for each building.”

For customers with meters: “We calculate our customers’ bills by multiplying their actual or estimated water usage by a water rate, a sewer rate and adding in billing charges. The intent of our bill print format is to show our customers how we spend the money we are billing them. The amount shown for EPA mandates is 15% of the water bill and 83% of the sewer bill. We have different rates for customers outside the City, but all are allocated by the same percentages between EPA mandates, capital improvements and operations.”

Further inquiries should go to the City of Akron, Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. excluding holidays. Call 330-375-2554.



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

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

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 that range from 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 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m.

Please visit our website 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



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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 & Fire9-1-1
 Non Emerg. Police & Fire 330-666-8866

Administrative Offices

Fire 330-666-6464
 Police 330-666-4218
 Service 330-666-0365
 Zoning330-666-0108

Trustees

Helen Humphrys
 Scott Dressler330-666-1853
 Dale Panovich

Fiscal Officer

Janice Marshall 330-666-1853

COPLEY ONLINE

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