

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

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Spring/Summer 2019



A SHOUT OUT TO OUR ROAD CREW



We would like to give a Shout Out to our Road Department for the work that they do. They have a crew of 4 individuals who stay busy keeping our Township cleaned up and countless hours keeping our roads safe during winter storms. They do their best to work within the limited resources that they have to work with. On a daily basis the “To Do” list for the Road Department increases especially during the summer months. The Road Superintendent prioritizes the requested work orders along with the daily tasks required to maintain the Township’s roadways. Many folks do not realize all of the services provided as well as the overall scope of work the Road Department faces daily.

Due to their limited resources and increased costs of supplies many projects are sitting idle or they are not fully executed. There is no reason to panic, as all basic services continue with minimal impact on our residents. Operating without a levy is challenging for the Road Department as the tax revenue stream has been the same or decreasing but the needs of the Township and the supplies to fulfill the projects have increased. With that being said, the Road Department continues to operate within their means but on a very limited budget. The Road Superintendent is very cognitive of their revenue stream and works diligently to find grants and other financial resources to fill the gaps whenever possible to avoid project delay.

Recently, the Road Department received a \$2.4 million grant to complete a road resurfacing, sidewalk, and curb project in the Havenwood Apartment Community. This project would not be happening without the funds from this grant. The funds awarded in this grant are unusually high and provides a plat form to showcase the costs of such a project. The Township is grateful for the grant as the funds are desperately needed to fill the gap of an idled road project. The Fire and Police Departments rely on levies to operate their services and those levies have assisted in new equipment to better serve the residents. The Road Department works within their budget and is creative with resources to be able to purchase new trucks and plows to increase their fleet when faced with winter weather. Besides taking care of road maintenance below are just a few “fun facts” about other serves the Road Department has provided within the last 12 months as well as upcoming projects/collaborations. There is not enough to print everything but highlights are below:

- Mowed over 80 properties (due to high grass/noxious weeds), many properties were mowed multiple times
- Picked up over 600 illegally dumped tires
- Hauled over 250 tons of brush from the Township right-of-way for residents
- Picks up brush 12 months out of the year (contingent on weather conditions)
- Uses leaf-vac to up leaves from Township right-of-ways for residents
- Spread over 250 tons of road salt from October 2018 to present during winter storms
- Erected additional Stop Signs in specific areas of the Township for the safety of our residents
- Collaborating with Prairie Township and O.D.O.T. on the I-270/W. Broad Street interchange enhancement project
- Joining forces with ODOT on a revised maintenance agreement for the islands on W. Broad (between Georgesville/I-270)
- Strategically planning to build a new salt barn due to the deterioration of the existing structure

As you can see, the Road Department provides many great services to their residents. The storm drains throughout the Township are old and are deteriorating; unfortunately, this is a project which is sitting idle due to lack of funds/resources to replace the aging storm drains. Instead when a big rain fall comes the Road Department does all they can do to defer the surface water away from homes when it is more than the storm drains can handle. Many of our roadways need more than pot holes patched, they need repaired, birm maintenance, etc. these projects have to be prioritized to be able to work them into the budget. In emergency situations, our Township has to sub-contract specific services out due to not having the resources/equipment available as other Townships.

We hope you have found this information to be helpful. If you have any questions about the services of the Township Road Department or scope of their work please call 614-279-9411. The next time you see your Road Crew out working, give them a shout out or a wave, it will definitely make their day.

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES

From the Desk of the Police Chief



Safe Driving, Saves Lives!

Franklin Township has been plagued with citizen complaints about the ongoing speeding issues throughout the Township particularly in our school zones. In December 2018, the Township started implementing a civil speed traffic camera system. The way this works is very simple a camera is attached to one of our traditional speed laser devices, the officer operates this as they normally would. Instead of being pulled over at the time of the speeding infraction, in approximately one week the owner of the vehicle will receive a citation in the mail via the U.S. Postal Service. Upon receipt of the citation the vehicle owner may pay the citation as outlined on the mailing or at their discretion they may contest the citation at a traffic hearing. By using this system it opens up additional time to schedule officers in the neighborhoods and utilize more resources to combat the increasing opioid epidemic.

Congratulations to Officer Pollock



Officer David Pollock was awarded a Certificate of Merit for his courageous action in apprehending an armed robbery suspect in the parking lot of the Hollywood Casino on January 1, 2019. We want to take this time to congratulate Officer Pollock for a job well done.

Congratulations to Officer Ratliff



On Wednesday, March 20, 2019, Officer David Ratliff was promoted to the position of Lieutenant. In this new role, Lt. Ratliff will be assisting the Police Chief in various duties and special assignments. Lt. Ratliff has been employed in over 28 years as a Franklin Township police officer. We are all very excited to work with Lt. Ratliff in his new role.

From the Desk of the Road Superintendent



Storm Water Run Off and Management

With the warm weather and the summer months approaching we all need to do our part to prevent storm water runoff pollution from entering our waterways.

Always remember that all of our storm drains eventually end up in a local waterway such as a creek or river. These pollutants harm the wildlife and also pose a threat to our drinking water. There are many ways that residents of Franklin Township can do their part to reduce these harmful pollutants, here are a few examples:

- If you have a Household Sewage Treatment System (septic system or aerator) make sure it is functioning properly.
- If you fertilize your lawns please read the labels to ensure proper applications and timing. Sweep up any extra fertilizer from the sidewalks, driveways and any other hard surface so that it doesn't wash into a storm drain.
- Keep lawn & yard waste out of the street and backyard streams/water ways.
- Pick up pet waste and dispose of it properly.
- Wash your car in an area where the wash and rinse drains to a grassy area and not into the street or wash it at a local car wash.
- Install practices that infiltrate rain water into the ground such as rain barrels. Directions to build a rain barrel can be picked up at your Township office.

Brush Collection

If you have a brush collection need during the week please call 614-279-9411 (ext. 1) Road Department and leave your address on the recording.



Road Work

With the weather getting warmer we will be working on our roadways, potholes and berms. Please use caution when approaching anyone working within the roadway and give them plenty of "Safe Room" to work.

From the Desk of the Fire Chief



As another year is upon us, we want to thank you for allowing us to continue serving you and the community that surrounds Franklin Township. Last fall, Chief Welch and Asst Chief Adams diligently prepared for an audit from the Insurance Services Office (ISO) to see how your fire department is protecting you and your property. We are proud to announce, that due to appropriate staffing, excellent training by the department, increased fire prevention programs, and a well-structured fire department, that our ISO rating improved almost two full points to a "3". This is a significant increase in ISO ratings. This has the potential of decreasing your home insurance premiums. Please contact your homeowner's insurance company and make sure that they have the updated numbers that may decrease your yearly premium. This is exciting news because this is the first time that Franklin Township has seen an improvement in its ISO rating. If you have questions about how ISO rating are figured and how they affect you and your property, please go to <https://www.valuepenguin.com/iso-fire-rating-home-insurance>

Your fire department has also scheduled some community outreach projects again this year. On April 18th, your firefighters will be working with Franklin County Public Health on the "Stop the Bleed Program". Your firefighters will then go to our schools and teach bleeding control and other lifesaving tactics to our teachers and staff at our local schools in case of an "Active Violence Incident". We want everyone to know how to make a difference in an emergency, even before the fire department arrives. Two main reasons for this project:

1. The top cause of preventable death from trauma is bleeding
2. 20% of people who have died from traumatic injuries could have survived with quick bleeding control

We look forward to assisting our local teachers and staff with this important training.

We will also be holding a **FREE** CPR class for all township residents on May 8th. This will be held at Station 192 (4100 Sullivan Ave) at 6:30 pm. This class will last approximately 1 1/2 hours. You will leave this class as a Certified CPR provider. There is no need to register prior to the class. We hope to see you there.

Also, we are once again working with the American Red Cross and will be canvassing a portion of the township offering and installing **FREE** smoke detectors and home safety information. Your firefighters, along with Red Cross staff, will be canvassing the Eastbrook/Westbrook (Davis Addition) neighborhood on June 1st starting at 10:00 am. And as always, if you or a neighbor needs a smoke detector or just a home safety check, please contact your fire department at 614-279-0089. We will be more than happy to stop by and help out.

On behalf of Chief Welch and the rest of your Franklin Township Fire Department, I hope you all have a safe and happy spring.

Assistant Chief Chas Adams

Monthly Block Watch Schedule

Eastfield/Westbrook Area: **3rd Mon.**
 Ongaro Area – **online/as needed**
 Hart Road: **3rd Tues.**
 Broadlawn/Mon-E-Bak/ElPaso Drive: **last Weds.**
 Havenwood Apartments: **As Requested by Management**

Our annual National Night Out event will be held in Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at Central Baptist Church located at 1955 Frank Road from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Juanita Kaufman Outstanding Citizen Award Nominations are being accepted:

Do you know a Township resident who stands out? Who you go to with questions? Who goes out of their way to help others? Then why not nominate them for the Franklin Township Juanita Kaufman Outstanding Citizen Award.

Nomination forms are available by stopping by the Township office and asking the Secretary for a form or go to our website at www.franklin-township.com and click on the link.

A formal certificate presentation will occur on August 6, 2019 at National Night Out. Call 614-279-9411 for details.



National Drug Take Back Day 2019 April 27, 2019

Take Back Day is meant to engage participation in DEA's Take Back Day, and to educate about the disposal of any unwanted, unused or expired prescription medications in your home. Bring your unwanted medicine (prescription and over-the-counter) to 2193 Frank Road.

Tire Collection April 27, 2019



The annual tire collection day will be held on Saturday, April 27, 2019 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at 2193 Frank Road.

2019 Franklin Township Business Meeting Schedule

- January: 10th & 24th
- February: 7th & 21st
- March: 7th & 21st
- April: 4th & 18
- May 2nd, 16th & 30th
- June: 13th & 27th
- July: 11th & 25th
- August: 8th & 22nd
- September: 5th & 19th
- October: 3rd & 17th & 30th
- November: 14th
- December 19th



Fire Hydrant Flushing is scheduled from April 15th through April 30th, 2019

Monitor your water closely for rust during the flushing process. The rust is only temporary. We recommend not doing laundry when the hydrants on your street are being flushed.

Franklin Township Directory

Township Departments

Fire Department Emergency.....911
Fire Chief James Welch614-279-9411
Asst. Fire Chief Chas Adams...614-279-9411
Station 192.....614-278-4660
 4100 Sullivant Ave., Columbus, 43228
 Houses; Engine 192, Medic 192
 Foam Truck 199,
Station 193.....614-279-9411
 2193 Frank Rd, Columbus, 43223
 Houses: Engine 193, Medic 193
Fire Prevention Bureau
 Captain Todd Broecker**614-279-9411**
 Total of 39 Full-time firefighting personnel
 between both stations.
Road Department
Superintendent, Jim Stevens
 2193 Frank Road, Columbus, 43223
 Four Person Crew**614-279-9411**
Police Department Emergency911
Non-emergency Dispatch.....614-525-3333
Chief Byron Smith.....614-279-9411
 2193 Frank Road, Columbus, 43223
 Total of 12 full-time Police Officers



Elected Officials

Aryeh Alex, Trustee: 614-594-9789
 Serving term 01/01/18 – 12/31/22

John Fleshman, Trustee 614-272-8595
 Serving Term 01/01/18 – 12/31/22

Ralph Horn, Trustee: 614-279-6833
 Serving term 01/01/16 – 12/31/19

Lisa Morris, Fiscal Officer: 614-279-9411
 Serving term 04/1/16 – 03/31/20

Office Staff

Robyn Watkins, 614-279-9411
Asst. Fiscal Officer

Erin Crome, Secretary 614-279-9411