

# Welcome to Berkshire Township, Delaware County, Ohio

Community and Service since 1806.....August 2018

Greetings!

July was a busy month for the township. The announcement by the developer of Planet Oasis on June 28th made lots of news. The township had only been informed of their plans weeks earlier as was stated at the July 9th Trustee Meeting. At that meeting, there were many questions and concerns shared by attendees; an overriding request we heard was "we want to be kept informed."



Here's how we try to do that for our residents:

- Maintain a website which is current and changes frequently with news and information
- Send a monthly newsletter with pertinent information to everyone who's signed up to be on our email list. Currently, we have emails for less than 1/4 of township residents, but wish we had them all. Communicating by mail is prohibitively expensive; email costs pennies. **Can you help us expand the list by asking your friends and neighbors to sign on at [www.BerkshireTwp.org](http://www.BerkshireTwp.org)?**
- Send email updates, as needed, during the month to inform residents about road, trash or other issues which might affect them immediately
- Hold "open-to-the-public" Trustee Meetings on the 2nd and 4th Monday of every month
- Hold "open-to-the-public" Zoning Meetings on the first Thursday of the month
- Hold "open-to-the-public" Board of Zoning Appeals Meetings on the third Wednesday of the month, as needed

One request which we've already implemented is publishing the agendas for our meetings on the website. *As a reminder, the agendas are subject to change right up until the time of the meeting; they are fluid documents, not written in stone.*

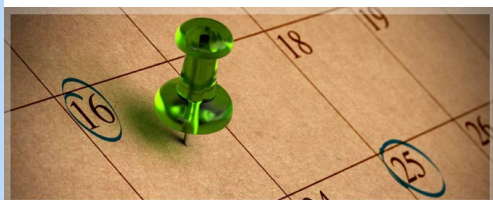
There is one comment we'd like to make regarding development in our area. Not every project brought to us informally comes to fruition. Potential real estate transactions and development concepts are just that; concepts. It's not incumbent on the township to disclose informal conversations prior to having formal rezoning applications submitted, and in fact, could hinder good projects in the long run. When a rezoning application has been submitted it goes on the agenda for the next appropriate Zoning or BZA meeting and that is what we publish. At that time, we are also required by law to send notices by mail to a specific set of nearby property owners who might be affected. These legal criteria must be met and it is done in every applicable case. We hope this clarifies the process.

If you have ideas on how we can better inform township residents we would love to hear them. Please send us an email, or contact us in person. Your opinions matter.

Sincerely,  
Rod Myers, Bill Holtry and Mike Dattilo, Township Trustees

Always, for the most up-to-the minute info, be sure to visit the [CALENDAR OF EVENTS](#) and [TOWNSHIP NEWS](#) page on our website.

## Calendar of Events



**All events listed take place at the Berkshire Township Hall, 1454 Rome Corners Rd., Galena OH 43021 unless otherwise noted**

### AUGUST 2018

- Thursday, August 2nd 7:00 p.m. Zoning Meeting, open to the public
- Monday, August 13 7:00 p.m. Board of Trustees Meeting, open to the public
- Wednesday, August 15 7:00 p.m. Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting, if needed. Open to the public
- Monday, August 27 7:00 p.m. Board of Trustees Meeting, open to the public

### SEPTEMBER 2018

- **Monday, September 3 LABOR DAY, Township Offices Closed**
- Thursday, September 6 7:00 p.m. Zoning Meeting, open to the public
- Monday, September 10 7:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting, open to the public

## YOUR TRUSTEES and BST&G WELCOME A NEW FIRE CHIEF

On Thursday, July 12, 2018 the BST&G Fire Department welcomed Chief Christopher Kovach to their station. The Chief was sworn in at a ceremony attended by local officials and other guests. Chosen by the Fire Board, after the retirement of former Chief Wilson due to medical reasons, Chief Kovach came to our community from North Olmsted, OH.

The Berkshire Township Trustees also welcome the new chief and his family to our area, and we appreciate him visiting us at the July 23rd Trustee Meeting. Congratulations on your appointment, Chief!

*The BST&G Fire District operates out of a facility located at 350 W. Cherry St., Sunbury, and is dispatched through Delaware County 911*

*A special thank you to photographer Lenny Lepola for these photos from the July 12 ceremony*



The BST&G Fire Board & Chief



Chief Kovach and his Wife



The BST&G Fire Department



**Our garden has never been more beautiful**

Spend some quiet time relaxing in

the tranquility of the Berkshire Community Park Learning Garden. It's in full bloom and the butterflies and hummingbirds will keep you well entertained.



## Classes Offered at Township Hall a Success!

In July, a New to Medicare class was presented by Sourcepoint Insurance Specialist, Paula Dean. If you have any Medicare questions I HIGHLY recommend contacting SourcePoint for a one-on-one meeting or to find dates and times for the class.

Then, on July 26th, Delaware Soil & Water Conservation held a Rain Barrel workshop at the Hall. Several local families attended, got a rain barrel and learned best practices for their use.

Have an idea for an activity you'd like to see offered in Berkshire Township? Give me a call and let's talk. Shawna Burkham 740-965-2992, ext. 207

## REMEMBER TO DUMP STANDING WATER

The Delaware General Health District has mosquito traps on the township hall grounds. They are monitoring daily for disease carrying insects. At this writing, no West Nile or Zika insects have shown up in our traps.



Remember, mosquitoes carry many diseases, and the best way to prevent them from breeding on your property is to remember to dump standing water anywhere it might be.

From flower pot saucers to stagnant bird baths to a forgotten old tire behind the barn, if you dump standing water weekly it will interrupt their brief breeding cycle and hold down their numbers.

**You Can Help Delaware County by Completing Two Short Surveys**

## The County wants your input please! Ohio to Erie Trail Survey

Please follow the link below, and take a very brief survey about the Ohio to Erie Trail. Your input on trail design, trail features and barriers to trail usage are very important as many community partners are planning the next segment of the trail through Delaware County.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OTET>



## We need your input please! Quality of Life Survey

The Partnership for a Healthy Delaware County is asking residents to complete a Quality of Life survey. This survey is open to any resident in Delaware County. The information gathered will be used to develop the Delaware County Community Health Improvement plan. This survey should take approximately 3 minutes to complete.

**Please complete it by August 20<sup>th</sup>.** Click on the link below to take the survey.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DelawareCHIP>

## Rent the Township Hall for your next party

If you're a township resident looking for a good place to host your next family gathering, meeting or party; call us! Contact Shawna at [Berkshire.Shawna@gmail.com](mailto:Berkshire.Shawna@gmail.com)

The hall is available for rental to Berkshire Township residents only. More info and photos are available on our website on the "[Services and Maintenance](#)" page. Dates fill up quickly, so make your plans for the rest of 2018 soon.



## TRASH and RECYCLE NEWS

You should have received a separate email from the township a month or so ago with quite a few details and also contact information for the person you need to reach at Republic with any trash or recycling service issues you might have. Please contact Vic directly with your service concerns. If you have misplaced his number, we have included it below.

On another note, to reiterate what we have been told regarding service issues, if it comes to a choice of picking up trash or recycling, due to health reasons they will focus on trash first.

As a reminder to residents who may not be familiar with the decision, the choice to contract with one hauler was made for several reasons, but the two main ones were: 1) Economics (it saved the majority of residents quite a bit on their monthly bill, (plus added recycling) and 2) Safety/Maintenance (it greatly reduced the number of heavy trucks on our roads daily.)

**Your contact person for trash and recycling pick-up issues at Republic Services is:**

**Vic Citro**

[VCitro@RepublicServices.com](mailto:VCitro@RepublicServices.com)

**937-292-0602**

**[CLICK HERE FOR UPDATED REPUBLIC WASTE CALENDAR FOR 2018-2019 TRASH AND RECYCLE PICKUP](#)**

**[CLICK HERE FOR LINK TO MAP OF A and B COLLECTION AREAS FOR RECYCLING SCHEDULE](#)**

## **[TRASH AND RECYCLING DO'S AND DON'TS](#)**

We encourage you to always collect your empty trash cans on Fridays as high winds may cause them to blow into the road, creating a traffic hazard. (It keeps our streets and neighborhoods looking nicer, too.)

***New to the township? Republic Waste is the single authorized trash hauler for Berkshire residents. Call them to subscribe and be sure to tell them you are a Berkshire Township resident to receive our special contract rates.***

**Berkshire Township Offices: 1454 Rome Corners Rd., Galena, OH 43021**

