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Portage Township News

Ottawa County, Ohio

Winter Edition 2022/2023

Looking ahead: Spring Cleanup: April 14 & 15 9:00am – 5:00pm

Township Hall
Office/Garage
2501 E. State Road
419-732-3543

Elected Officials

Fiscal Officer:
Judy Johannsen
419-732-3543

Trustees:

Karl Kopchak (Chairman)
419-341-5128

Keith Heileman
419-656-2767

Molly Sass
419-734-3081

Township Meetings

Regularly scheduled township meetings are held on the 1st Monday at 7:30 pm and the 3rd Monday at 8:00 am. Meetings take place at the Township Office.

Zoning Inspector:

Mary Gardner

Zoning Office Hours:

Mon.: 5:30pm – 7:00pm
Thurs: 8:30am – 10:00am
419-734-7296
zoning@portagetownship.net



The elected officials and employees of Portage Township wish you a Safe and Happy New Year!

Cold Weather Tips from Ohio Edison

Emergency Supplies:

1. Fully charged cell phones, laptops, tablets.
2. Car charger to charge devices if power is out.
3. Flashlight, portable radio and extra batteries.
4. Extra blankets or sleeping bag for each person in the house.
5. First-Aid Kit.
6. Medications and other personal health items.
7. Emergency supply of bottled water.
8. Supply of convenience foods that don't require cooking.

Loose Power:

1. Keep refrigerator and freezer doors closed, remembering they are well insulated.
2. Use a flashlight or battery-powered lantern for light. Use care when using candles. Open flames are a dangerous fire hazard.
3. To safe guard your equipment and ease the initial load when the power is restored - Unplug high usage electrical devices in the home such as refrigerators, freezers, computers, air conditioners. Leave a light on to know when power comes back on.
4. Carbon monoxide is a killer. Do not use in the house gas stoves, charcoal grills, and especially unvented space heaters.

Portage Township Trustee Meetings 2023

The 2023 Portage Township Trustees' meetings will be held on the first Monday at 7:00 pm and the third Monday at 8:00 am of every month.

The first meeting in September will be on Tuesday September 5th.

The meetings are open to the public and everyone is welcome to attend. Time is permitted at the beginning of each meeting for public comment. The sole purpose of the meetings is to manage the operation of the township in a public forum. Come to a meeting, find out what is happening in Portage Township and get to know the elected officials and employees.

IMPORTANT! The Township Zoning is looking for a BZA alternate. Please contact Mary Gardner. (419-734-7296)



FROM OLD TO NEW
 Portage Township is ready to salt the roads! A new salt storage shed (approx.. 200 ton) has been constructed to replace the old facility. The location makes it easier to get salt deliveries and store a larger quantity. The old storage shed will be used to store mulch for use of the residents. These improvements allow for expanded services to and for the residents of the Township.

MEDICATION TAKE BACK COLLECTION

ACCEPTING PILLS ONLY

IMPORTANT NOTICE
 Pills must be removed from medication bottles and blister packs. Empty **PILLS ONLY** into a plastic bag before placing into the medication drop box.

• NO INHALERS • NO NEEDLES •

Ottawa County Drop-off Locations

Catawba Island Police Department Phone: 419-797-2422	Danbury Township Police Department Phone: 419-732-2549	Genoa Police Department Phone: 419-855-8515
Oak Harbor Police Department Phone: 419-898-2055	Port Clinton Police Department Phone: 419-734-3121	Put-In-Bay Police Department Phone: 419-285-4121
Ottawa County Sheriff's Office Phone: 419-734-4404		

Questions? Contact your local police department at the number listed above.

Leaf Collection

There have been over 300 cubic yards of leaves picked up by the township. We thank those residents having their leaves at the side of the road. Always remember, no leaves in ditches. Ditches are for water flow. Please know there is no leaf pickup in campgrounds or mobile home parks, Leaf pickup is for public access roads only.



President Quiz Answers: 1)8)Harrison 3)Grant & McKinley 4)McKinley 5)Grant, 6)Hayes

Vintage Twenties Teddy Bear

The love of Teddy Bears for Christmas lives forever!

In November 1902, U.S. President Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt was involved in a hunting expedition in Mississippi. He was in the area in order to settle a border dispute between Mississippi and Louisiana. An avid hunter, Roosevelt was disappointed because he couldn't find any big game to shoot during the hunt. In response, his host caught a black bear cub and tied it to a tree so Roosevelt could kill it. Legend has it, Roosevelt refused to shoot the bear, reasoning that the action would be cruel since the animal was tethered to a tree and defenseless.

The following year, Morris Michtom (Ideal Novelty and Toy Co) wrote to the president asking for permission to market a (Teddy Bear) and was given permission. Brooklyn store owners created a soft bear toy. They dubbed it "Teddy's Bear" and placed it in the shop window. To their surprise, Americans loved the idea and clamored to buy teddy bears. Teddy Bears were on every Santa's list! The original Teddy's Bear sported a chubby body, a face shaped like a triangle, and long arms and legs. Steiff, German Toy Maker began to manufacture soft bears, never realizing how popular they would become. In 1903, they sold 3000 toy bears to people in the United States. Between 1903 and the start of World War I, millions of bears were purchased from the Steiff toy catalog. Each bear had a button sewn in the left ear, the toys' trademark. Teddy Bears are still a special Keepsake in many families and are passed down from generation to generation.



Bows, glitter, ribbon are not recyclable. Here's how to Recycle your Christmas Leftovers

There's more to recycling your Christmas paper than stuffing everything into the three recycle bins at the township!
Here's how recycling experts say is the right way to clean up from Christmas

Bows

As pretty as they make a package, the plastic-paper composite of most bows doesn't work when you're trying to create cardboard. Add in the glue that sticks them to the gift and they're a no-no in the recycling bin. The good news is that they're probably the easiest Christmas item to reuse rather than recycle. Even if they lose their stickiness, a bit of tape makes them as good as new. During the unwrapping, keep a paper grocery bag next to you and play "can you dunk it?" with the bows that come off the presents.

Wrapping paper

Yes, you can recycle Christmas wrapping paper — unless it's metallic, has glitter or has velvety flocking on it. "Plain wrapping paper is totally recyclable," and don't worry about getting all the tape off before you toss it in the bin. "Tape's okay." Reusable gift bags are nice in that they can be reused.

Christmas cards

In a word, you need to sort them. Plain paper Christmas cards can go straight into the paper recycling bin. But the shiny Christmas cards printed on photo paper need to go into the trash. "You can't recycle glitter,"

Break it down

Online purchases now make up over 9% of all U.S. retail sales, according to the Department of Commerce. All those sales mean more individual boxes being shipping to customers' homes — and in turn more boxes that need recycling. Cardboard is a great material to recycle because it's clean, easy to reprocess and every ton of it that's reclaimed saves 17 trees. The most important thing when recycling boxes is simply to break them down flat. Otherwise, they take up so much room in the recycling trucks that they have to make extra trips, requiring more energy and eating up all the net good recycling would have done in the first place. *Taken from USA TODAY/OSS*

Trivia Facts of Christmas

- *Candy canes originated in Germany. The National Confectioners Association says a choirmaster originally gave the red-and-white-striped candies to young children to keep them quiet during marathon church services.
- *The Germans made the first artificial Christmas trees out of dyed goose feathers.
- *All the gifts in the Twelve Days of Christmas would equal 364 gifts.
- *Christmas trees have been sold in the U.S. since 1850. *Christmas trees were first decorated with foods such as apples, nuts and dates.
- *In Poland, spiders or spider webs are common Christmas trees decorations because according to legend, a spider wove a blanket for Baby Jesus. In fact, Polish people consider spiders to be symbols of goodness at Christmas.
- *Christmas wasn't declared an official holiday in the United States until June 26, 1870.
- *The Christmas Poinsettia (discovered in the 1800's) is known as such because it can be found naturally blooming/growing only for a short period of time around Christmas in Mexico.
- *Many years ago, in England a traditional Christmas dinner included a pig head served with mustard
- *Rudolph first appeared in a 1939 booklet written by Robert L. May and published by Montgomery Ward. A series of postage stamps featuring Rudolph was issued by the United States Postal Service on November 6, 2014.
- *Rudolph was almost named Rollo or Reginald, which doesn't quite have the same ring to it. But his crew also had lots of other names. They've also been called Flossie, Glossie, Racer, Pacer, Scratcher, Feckless, Ready & Fireball!

Presidents Day – Monday, February 20, 2023

1. How many presidents are from Ohio? _____
2. What 2 Ohio Presidents were assassinated in office? _____
3. What two Ohio presidents share the same last name? _____
4. Of the nine Presidents on US paper currency, what two are from Ohio? _____
5. The scarlet carnation was adopted as Ohio's state flower in 1904, in memory of which Ohio President? _____
6. What Ohio President got a speeding ticket? _____
7. What Ohio President was the first to use a telephone in the White House? _____



Portage Township Trustees
2501 East State Road
Port Clinton, Ohio 43452

**Portage Township
Winter Highlights**

December 2022

- 6 Brush Pick-Up
- 19 Trustee Meeting – 8:00am
- 25 Christmas Day

January 2023

- 1 *Happy New Year*
- 2 Trustee Meeting –7:00pm
- 3 Brush Pick-Up
- 16 Trustee Meeting – 8:00am
- 16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- All month Christmas Tree Pick-up

February 2023

- 6 Trustee Meeting – 7:00pm
- 7 Brush Pick-Up
- 14 Valentine’s Day
- 20 President’s Day
- 20 Trustee Meeting – 8:00am

March 2023

- 6 Trustee Meeting – 7:00pm
- 7 Brush Pick-Up
- 12 Daylight Savings Starts
- 17 St. Patrick’s Day
- 20 Trustee Meeting – 8:00am
- 25 – 31 Cemetery Clean Up
- Put decorations back on Apr.1st

Christmas Tree Collection 

*LIVE Christmas trees will be collected the entire month of January.
Remember to remove all decorations and tinsel from the trees.
Trees must be at the edge of the road.*

Township Winter News Bits

Annual Snow Reminder: Please assist the fire department in keeping the fire hydrant on or near your property clear of snow. Do not push snow up to the fire hydrant when cleaning snow away from your driveway.

www.ohgo.com: ODOT’s travel information site with the latest in statewide winter road condition and activity information, as well as access to RWIS (Road Weather Information System) roadway condition sensors and web cameras. Download the **OHGO.com/app** on your smartphone to get real-time traffic alerts.

Inspecting Your Mailbox: You are encouraged to inspect your mailbox and posts for durability now. Your mailbox should be designed and constructed to stand up to the rigors of winter plowing season. It is the resident’s responsibility to make sure the mailbox is secure at all times.

Great Lakes Community Action Partnership

GLCAP is wanting to increase awareness about the Community Housing & Impact Preservation Program (CHIP) which provides home repairs for eligible homeowners. Low-income home owners can receive:

- Electrical system upgrades
 - ADA modifications
 - Exterior repairs including roofs, siding and windows
 - Plumbing system upgrades, including bathroom fixtures, water and waste lines
 - Heating and cooling fixes including water heaters and/or furnace replacement or repair
- Request an application: handeintake@glcap.org 419-333-6049**

*GRANT-FUNDED
HOME
REPAIR*

