

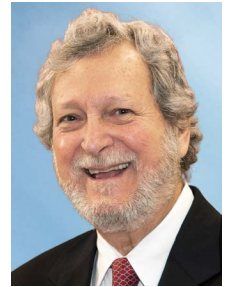
Sycamore Township NEWS

Spring 2020

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Spring has arrived and Mother Nature is showing off her beautiful flowers, trees and green grass. It's not just the weather that's changing in Sycamore Township. We've made a number of changes. Ray Warrick is our new Administrator. He is a former township administrator who has a wealth of knowledge from working in both the public and private sector. Deepak Desai has replaced Doug Miller who retired as Law Director after 29 years. Our new Parks Supervisor, Jason Petty, is forming a Parks and Recreation Board to find ways to better use our parks.



Jim LaBarbara
Chairman

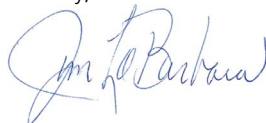
In being more transparent and keeping you better informed, you can now watch video of our Township monthly and workshop meetings on our website. To further open communication with our residents, if you would like to receive an electronic version of this Newsletter as well as other Township news in your email box, go to our web site www.sycamoretownship.org and enter your email address. Check the lists that interest you. In the future, we hope to have a biweekly or weekly email newsletter.

Once again to help our Township residents with their "Spring Cleaning", we'll have our annual "Trash Bash" events on April 10th and 11th at McDaniel Park, 7841 School Road and April 24th and 25th at Bechtold Park, 4312 Sycamore Road. Hazardous materials disposal will also be included at the Bechtold Trash Bash. Both events run Friday from noon to 4:00 p.m. and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Our document shredding service will be free to all residents from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on April 18th behind the administration building at 8540 Kenwood Road. More information is available in this newsletter.

The new roundabout at Plainfield and Sycamore Road is open and the Sycamore Road Reconstruction Project, according to our Road Superintendent Tracy Kellums, is moving along on time. Contractors have been busy installing new water main, gas main, and overhead utility lines. The major roadway construction is now underway in early spring and is scheduled to be completed in the fall.

On behalf of Vice Chairman Tom James, Trustee Tom Weidman and Fiscal Officer Rob Porter, I want to thank you for your support. We look forward to seeing you during these wonderful spring days.

Sincerely,



Jim LaBarbara
Chairman, Board of Trustees





Police & Crime Prevention

LICENSE TO FLY

Sometimes there's simply nothing better than a family vacation or a long weekend getaway to spend quality time with your family & friends, visit a new or interesting place, and recharge your batteries. Traveling enables us to broaden our horizons, explore new cultural experiences, and create lifelong memories. However, if a vacation involving air travel is in your future, there are some important changes coming soon that we all need to know.

As of October 1st, 2020, the Federal Government will no longer consider your normal, state-issued driver's license or I.D. card as a proper form of identification for commercial air travel within the United States. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) will require a new, federally compliant driver's license in order to fly. This program began in Ohio in July of 2018. However, a significant number of Ohioans have not initiated the process of obtaining their new federally compliant driver's license. A recent report by one of our major, local news outlets reported that over fifty percent of Americans either do not know of the new regulations, or have not obtained their new credentials.



Compliant Drivers License

Ohioans can obtain their new federally compliant driver's license by visiting their local BMV office as per normal. During your visit, you will be required to furnish the deputy registrar with documentation proving your name, date of birth, social security number, and at least two additional documents proving your residential address. This can be accomplished easily by taking your birth certificate, passport, social security card, or recent W2. A utility bill or bank statement can be used to confirm your address. For people who have changed their name, some additional documentation is required. These forms of documentation include a certified marriage certificate, divorce decree, United States passport, or official court order reflecting their legal name. You can visit the Ohio BMV at bmv.ohio.gov for a full list of acceptable credentials and there is an interactive checklist you may utilize to create a customized, printable list of documents.

There is one more thing to consider. When you visit the BMV to obtain your new license, you will be given a paper document with your photo and pertinent information included. Don't lose it or discard it! You will need to carry this document with you as you would a normal driver's license until your new federally compliant license arrives in the mail. Don't delay! If procrastination sets in it could mean long lines at your local BMV this fall. Safe travels!

OFFICER SPOTLIGHT

PATROL OFFICER MIKE GORDON, HAMILTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Patrol Officer Mike Gordon is a ten year veteran of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office. Mike began his career with the Sheriff's Office as a Special Deputy in the summer of 2010. In September of 2013, Mike was hired as a full time Patrol Officer and was assigned to District 1 where he patrolled areas like the Village of Lincoln Heights and our far western townships.

Mike was assigned to District 3 in 2016 and he has run day shift in Sycamore Township exclusively for the past three years. During this time, Mike has established himself as a hard-working, proactive Deputy, leading his squad statistically in performance. In 2019, Mike answered over 1,300 calls for police service. He filed 100 police reports, made 48 criminal arrests, six of which were of the felony variety, and he filed criminal charges in an additional 100 cases. Mike also issued over 130 traffic citations, 170 traffic warnings, and handled 56 auto crash investigations.

In addition to his regularly assigned duties as a Patrol Officer, Mike serves as a Field Training Officer (FTO) for new Deputies entering the field training portion of their fledgling careers. This phase of training is a crucial part of the employee development process where the importance of policy & procedure, productivity, and best practices are instilled.

Lastly, Mike comes from good stock; Mike's father is retired Hamilton County Sheriff's Sergeant Chuck Gordon. Sergeant Gordon also policed Sycamore Township and served as a K-9 handler many years ago. There's absolutely no doubt that Sergeant Gordon's intelligence, work ethic, and dedication to duty were passed down to his son Mike.

Patrol Officer Mike Gordon is a solid, driven Deputy who is dedicated to serving the Sycamore Township community. Mike lives in north-central Hamilton County with his wife and two sons.



EMS/Fire Department



Rob Penny, Fire Chief

Hope everyone had a safe winter season. With spring here I would like to share some Spring Cleaning and Safety Tips to ensure you have a safe and healthy spring and summer. I have also included a couple of reminders about services your fire department offers.

FIRE EMS SERVICES

For everyone's convenience, we have moved the Prescription Drop Off Box into the lobby at the fire station at 8540 Kenwood Rd. It is now located between the entry doors and may be accessed from the main lobby door which is unlocked all the times. You will be able to drop off any old, unwanted prescriptions any time at your convenience.

The fire department also has available an Emergency Contact Information Form for businesses and residents. Go to www.sycamoretownshipfire.org to fill out your information and designate your emergency contacts. In the event of a medical emergency in which you are unable to talk, we will then have the information needed to let your emergency contact person know about the situation.



HYDRANT MAINTENANCE

Maintaining our hydrants is very important to us. We will be out again this summer to paint hydrants and perform maintenance on them. As we perform maintenance on the hydrants, we will list the streets each week on our website and Facebook page so you are aware of what streets we will be working on and when.

SAFETY TIPS FOR SUMMER

- Clean your garage, basement and other storage areas of any newspapers and items that can fuel a fire.
- Clean lint filters in your dryer every time you use it. Also, check outside dryer vent for obstructions.
- Keep outdoor debris and dead vegetation away from your house.
- Keep gasoline stored in an approved container and use gasoline only as a fuel for motors, never clean with gasoline. Store gas in a detached garage or yard shed.
- If you cook with a gas grill, check the hoses for leaks before firing it up this spring. Use soapy water to check for leaks. Never try to start a charcoal grill using gasoline.
- Do not mix ammonia and bleach to clean with, this will produce harmful or fatal vapors. When using chemicals to clean, always do so in a well ventilated area or open a window or door.

You can stay up to date on fire department activities and view photos on our Sycamore Township Fire Department Facebook Page!





Parks & Recreation

PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED!

Are you interested in giving back to our community by volunteering your time? Would you like to provide ideas and input about parks and park events in the Township?

Sycamore Township is currently seeking volunteers to serve on the Parks Advisory Committee. If interested, please send your resume or a brief biography to Sycamore Township Administrator Ray Warrick at 8540 Kenwood Road, Sycamore Township OH 45236 or rwarrick@sycamoretownship.org. Be sure to include your name, address, phone number, email address and the number of years you've been a resident of Sycamore Township.

PICNIC SHELTERS, COMMUNITY ROOM AVAILABLE FOR RENT

Planning a picnic, graduation party, family reunion, meeting, or any kind of friendly get together? Consider renting a shelter at Bechtold Park or the Community Room at the Schuler Sports Complex. They are available at very reasonable prices. To check availability or make a reservation for Bechtold Park Shelters or the Community Room, go to our website at www.sycamoretownship.org. Please call (513) 791-8447 with any questions or for more information.

Bechtold Park Pavillion



Bechtold Park Shelter #2

SAVE THE DATES!

*Jump 'n' Jive
Show Band*



Summer Concert
Jump n Jive Show Band
Saturday, June 27, 2020
5PM – 7PM
Bechtold Park Pavillion
4312 Sycamore Road

10th Annual Sycamore Township Car Show
Saturday, August 1, 2020
9AM – 3PM
Schuler Sports Complex
11532 Deerfield Road



Schuler Community Room

TOWNSHIP TIDBITS

TOWNSHIP ADOPTS 5G REGULATIONS AHEAD OF POTENTIAL APPLICATIONS

At their March 3rd, 2020 Workshop Meeting, the Board of Trustees adopted Small/Micro Cell Design Guidelines in order to regulate future project applications for the installation of 5G wireless sites in Right-of-ways within Sycamore Township. The Township Administration is making every effort to be proactive in light of emerging technologies and their impact on the community. As new laws are passed and the methods for community rollout evolve, the Township will update the policy. Federal and State laws limit the Township's authority over absolute regulation of these cell sites but allow for design standards to be adopted. For more information and to view the policy, please go to the Township's website.

2020 CENSUS – SHAPE OUR FUTURE!

The U.S. Constitution requires that each decade the U.S. Census Bureau takes a count—or a census—of America's population. This information is vital for you and the community. It determines how many representatives each state gets in Congress and is used to redraw district boundaries. Communities rely on census statistics to plan for a variety of resident needs including new roads, schools, public safety and emergency services. Look for an invitation in the mail to respond to the 2020 Census. Every household will have the option of responding online, by mail or by phone.

Shape
your future
START HERE >

United States®
Census
2020

You can learn more about this year's census online at <https://2020census.gov/en>.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

The 2020 Memorial Day Parade is planned for May 25, 2020, and is a joint event with Deer Park, Silverton, and Sycamore Township. Line up starts at 9:15 a.m. at Silverton Park. This year, due to road construction, the parade route will travel north on Plainfield Road instead of Blue Ash Road, ending at Bechtold Park. Please visit the Township or Fire Department websites and social media outlets for any updates that may occur.



NEW SYCAMORE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE

New Sycamore Township Trustee Tom James, shown here with his wife, Jill, was sworn in by Judge Curt Hartman. Trustee James will serve a four year term as Township Trustee.

ALERT HAMILTON COUNTY

Be sure you are always aware, prepared and notified, so that you will not be caught off guard by severe weather. Sign up for Alert Hamilton County to receive weather updates and emergency information via text, call and email. By signing up for Alert Hamilton County, you will also be signed up for Smart911, a life-saving technology that allows you to give vital information to 9-1-1 call takers BEFORE an emergency. Sign up today: WWW.ALERTHC.ORG





Planning & Zoning



Skylor R. Miller,
Planning & Zoning Administrator

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS ALTERNATE NEEDED

The Township is in need of an alternate to serve on the Board of Zoning Appeals. The Board of Zoning Appeals is made up of Township residents, five members and one alternate, appointed by the Trustees. The Board of Zoning Appeals reviews applications and submittals for residential and commercial variance and conditional use requests. Interested residents should send a resume or brief biography to Skylor Miller, smiller@sycamoretownship.org or 8540 Kenwood Road, Sycamore Township, OH 45236.

TOWNSHIP OFFICE:

- 513-791-8447

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE:

- Call 513-792-7250 or 7249 (staff member)
- Call 513-792-7279 (hotline)
- Visit our website (online Services, Property Complaint Form)

****We do take anonymous complaints.***

RESIDENTIAL PROJECTS - ZONING CERTIFICATE REQUIRED

Spring brings the promise of warmer weather and with it thoughts of home improvement projects!

Please keep in mind that a zoning certificate is required for the following residential projects:

- New Single Family Homes
- Room Additions
- Garages
- Decks
- Pools
- Sheds/Accessory Use Structures
- Fences/Retaining Walls
- Front Porches
- PODs (Movable Storage Units)
- In-Home Occupations



A zoning certificate ensures that the project is compliant with the current zoning resolution. For most residential projects, with the exception of fences and sheds under 200 sq. ft. in area, the zoning certificate is the first step in the process and a building permit through Hamilton County Building Department will also be required.

Zoning certificate applications, submittal requirements and fee information are available on our website at www.sycamoretownship.org. Many residential projects have no review fees associated with them, and those that do have minimal fees, provided residents apply prior to beginning any work. If you have any questions, or are unsure if a permit is necessary, please call the Planning and Zoning office at 513-792-7250 before starting your project.

SPRING EVENTS

Chipping Program

April 4, May 2, & June 6
8AM – 4PM
Behind Administration Bldg.
8540 Kenwood Rd.

North Trash Bash

Friday, April 10
Noon – 4PM
Saturday, April 11
8AM – 4PM
McDaniel Park
7841 School Rd.

Document Shredding

Saturday, April 18
10AM – 2PM
Behind Administration Bldg.
8540 Kenwood Rd.

South Trash Bash

Friday, April 24
Noon – 4PM
Saturday, April 25
8AM – 4PM
Bechtold Park
4312 Sycamore Rd.

National Day of Prayer

May 7 | 12:00PM
Administration Building
8540 Kenwood Rd.

Compost Giveaway

May 9
8AM – 4PM
Hartzell Methodist Church
8999 Applewood Dr.



Maintenance Department



Tracy Kellums, Superintendent

ROAD WORK AHEAD

Sycamore Township will have several road and sidewalk projects going on this year to better serve the residents of the community.

The first one is the continuation of the Sycamore Road Improvement Project. If any of you have traveled down Sycamore Road in the last 10 months, you have already endured many road closures and detours. You have also seen quite a change with the addition of the roundabout at the Plainfield Road intersection, along with work by all the utility companies from one end of the street to the other. When this project is completed (scheduled for November of this year), it is all going to be worth the inconvenience. This corridor will be vastly improved, not only with a new smooth road, but also with sidewalk, curb and an improved storm sewer system. Though this is a large project, it is not a heavy burden to Sycamore Township tax payers. It is being paid for by a combination of grants and local funds. There is a federal grant paying for 78% of the project and a state grant paying for another 11%. This leaves only 11% of the project cost to be paid for by local funds.

The second project that you will see in the Township this year will be a sidewalk project on Montgomery Road starting at Dearwester Drive and continuing north to tie into existing sidewalk just south of Pinehurst Lane. This is the final piece of sidewalk on Montgomery Road to tie our subdivisions together, helping to make the Township a more walkable community. This will allow residents to walk anywhere along the corridor from the City of Montgomery Corp. Limit to the north, to the City of Silverton Corp. Limit to the south. This project is paid for by a combination of an 80% federal grant and 20% local funds.

A third project planned, though you will not see road work until later in the year, is the Kugler Mill Road Reconstruction Project. This project will include the total rebuild of the road from Blue Ash Road to the west, to Montgomery Road to the east. It will also include the addition of curbs, sidewalks, storm sewers and a right turn lane at Montgomery Road. Utility companies have already started working on this project and, if you live on this street, you should have been contacted by now about needed easements for this project. This project is funded by a 50% state grant with Hamilton County paying for the other 50% of the road rehabilitation and the Township paying for the other 50% of the sidewalk portion of the project.

Finally, the Township has plans in place for the 2020 Curb and Sidewalk Replacement Program. There are two major local roads in this year's project, Bayberry Drive in Heitmeyer Farms in the southern part of the Township, and Marlette Drive in the northern part of the Township. Both of these streets will complete the curb replacement in their respective subdivisions. This project will be paid for strictly with local funds.

2020 TRASH BASH

North Trash Bash –

McDaniel Park, School Road Entrance, 7841 School Road, 45249
Friday, April 10, 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. and
Saturday, April 11, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

South Trash Bash –

Bechtold Park, 4312 Sycamore Road, 45236
Friday, April 24, 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. and
Saturday, April 25, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Sycamore Township Maintenance staff will be present at both Trash Bash events to offer assistance to residents. Trash, junk, debris, old tires, used motor oil, construction materials, furniture, lawnmowers, appliances of all kinds and electronics will be accepted. Mattresses and box springs will also be accepted provided they are wrapped in plastic or in a plastic mattress bag. Oil based paint, household chemicals and pesticides will be accepted at the SOUTH TRASH BASH ONLY. Please note that latex paint and yard waste, including brush and leaves, will not be accepted. Latex paint may be taken to Matthew 25 Ministries at 11060 Kenwood Road. Be prepared to show proof of residency.

2020 DOCUMENT SHREDDING – LOCATION CHANGE

The annual Document Shredding for Sycamore Township residents will take place on Saturday, April 18th, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the rear parking lot of the Township Administration Building at 8540 Kenwood Road. This event was moved to a date and location separate from the Trash Bash to alleviate traffic congestion at the South Trash Bash.



Contacts

Spring 2020

Jim LaBarbara, Chairman

Tom James, Vice-Chairman

Tom Weidman, Trustee

Robert C. Porter III, Fiscal Officer

Deepak K. Desai, Law Director

Ray Warrick, Administrator

792-7277 – Fax 792-8564

Tracy Kellums

Superintendent/Assistant Administrator

792-7257 – Fax 792-8564

Skylor R. Miller, Planning & Zoning Administrator

792-7252 – Fax 792-8564

Rob Penny, Fire Chief

792-8562 – Fax 792-8564

Tory L. Smith, Lieutenant

District Three Commander

Hamilton County Sheriff's Office

774-6351 – Fax 774-6350

Fire and Police Emergency – **911**

Non-Emergency Dispatch – **825-2280**

Sycamore Township Administrative Office

791-8447

www.sycamoretownship.org



8540 Kenwood Road
Sycamore Twp., Ohio 45236

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE

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CINCINNATI, OH
PERMIT NO. 1693

"There's More in Sycamore"



Trustees available to better serve you



Jim LaBarbara
Chairman



Tom James
Vice-Chairman



Tom Weidman
Trustee



Robert C. Porter III
Fiscal Officer

You may leave messages for your elected officials by calling the Sycamore Township Administration Office at 791-8447.