Are you subscribed to our E-News? If not, here’s a recap of what you missed in 2018... 

Winter Walk at Boehnke Nature Preserve in January, and Easter Egg Hunt in April

State of the Township Address

Citizen-centric Financial Report
In March, we released this annual report as part of our mission to promote transparency and communication with our residents. The report details previous year accomplishments, the services your tax dollars support, and priorities and goals for the current year.


Public Hearing Notices for two proposed rezoning cases

Surveys about trash, recycling, and yard waste collection in the Township, and about park improvements at Jefferson Community Park

A community forum with the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission to learn about population growth in central Ohio

2018 Road Maintenance

The schedule of streets to be resurfaced and repaired in 2018 was shared as part of our August E-News. Your Board of Trustees approved over $700,000 in road maintenance in 2018. These improvement projects are your tax dollars at work!

Ice Cream Social in July and the Hog & Corn Roast in August

Fire Station Open House in September

Winter Walk 2018
Trash, Recyclables, and Yard Waste: New Contract with Waste Management

After a competitive bidding process this summer, Waste Management was selected by the Board of Trustees to continue as the exclusive hauler of residential trash, recyclables, and yard waste in Jefferson Township. The collection schedule remains the same, with every week collection of trash, and alternating every other week collection of recyclables and yard waste. Existing accounts will carry over, but new residents must contact Waste Management to establish an account.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the cost to me?
Effective October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2021, a base rate of $15.99 per month will be collected by Waste Management. Residents are invoiced quarterly in advance.

What carts are provided?
A 96-gallon wheeled container (with a green lid) is provided by Waste Management for residential trash. A 65-gallon wheeled container (with a yellow lid) is provided by Waste Management for household recyclables. Additional carts are available for $4.00 per month. Residents will also have the option to swap out their standard trash and recycling carts for a $25 swap fee. A smaller 65-gallon trash container (with a green lid), and a larger 96-gallon recycling container (with a yellow lid) can be selected.

Contact Waste Management to set up a cart rental or cart swap.

Yard waste containers are not provided by Waste Management. Yard waste can be placed in compostable bags or in clearly marked containers not to exceed 45 pounds. Brush and branches should be bundled and tied not to exceed 4 feet in length.

What is the collection schedule?
Collection days are Tuesdays. Please place your carts at the curb on Monday evening to ensure pickup.

Trash is collected every week, recyclables and yard waste are collected on alternating weeks. Residents living between Hamilton Road and the west side of Reynoldsburg-New Albany Rd follow the west district collection schedule. Residents living between the east side of Reynoldsburg-New Albany and the Licking County line follow the east district collection schedule. East/West District collection calendars are available on jeffersontownship.org

Waste Management observes the following holidays: New Year’s Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. If a holiday falls on a Monday/Tuesday, collection services will be delayed by one day for the remainder of the week. Service may also be delayed due to inclement weather.

How can I have large items collected?
Pickup of bulk items is included at no additional charge, but must be scheduled. Residents can contact Waste Management to schedule a bulk pickup for carpet, appliances, televisions, furniture, mattresses, etc.

WM contact information: 866-797-9018 customerservice_MIOHIN@wm.com

More information can be found at jeffersontownship.org. Click the icon on the homepage!

Why recycle?
In 2016, 2.1 million tons of waste was generated by the residents and businesses in Franklin County. That’s enough material to fill Ohio Stadium four times! And even though nearly half of that material is being recycled or composted, over one million tons of waste still finds its way to Franklin County’s landfill every year. Recycling has never been more important.

It’s time to throw out bad recycling habits.
It’s not enough just to recycle. It’s also important to recycle right. Have you heard the phrase, “one bad apple spoils the bunch”? The same is true for recycling, where one unacceptable item can spoil an entire batch of otherwise good materials. Unacceptable items includes plastic bags, plastic or foam food containers, food waste and liquids, styrofoam, and any plastic that isn’t a bottle or jug. Remember to keep materials loose, don’t bag your recyclables!

In Franklin County, there are five materials that can be put into your recycling bin:

Paper & Cardboard
Please flatten.

Plastic Bottles & Jugs
Lids and labels ok.

Glass Bottles & Jars
All colors accepted.

Metal Cans
Remove aerosol tips.

Cartons (i.e. milk & juice)
Rinse and remove lids.

RECYCLE RIGHT
HOW TO GUIDE

RECYCLE RIGHT
★
MAKE A DIFFERENCE

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JOIN US FOR A SPOOKTACULAR HALLOWEEN PARTY

SUNDAY OCTOBER 20th
FROM 6PM UNTIL 8:30PM

HAULIDEES • BONFIRE • NOCTURNAL ANIMALS
GAMES • FACE PAINTING • STORY TELLING
CANDY • HAUNTED (& SPOOKY) FORESTS

JEFFERSON COMMUNITY PARK

2 • Fall 2017

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Residents were recently asked to participate in a survey all about Jefferson Community Park, the township’s oldest and most popular park. The park land was purchased in the late 1970s, and most major improvements were last made in the 1990s. The purpose of the survey was to gather and incorporate community feedback into an improvement plan for Jefferson Community Park, and to better prioritize funding.

The majority of respondents were ages 30-49, with households of 3-5 people. Among other questions, participants were asked to select their top five priorities for Jefferson Community Park from a wish list of park amenities. The top five responses were: a paved walking/running loop, improved/expanded playground equipment, driveway and parking lot upgrades, sledding hill, and improved shelter house facilities.

Responding to resident feedback, your Trustees have approved a grant application to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for their Land and Water Conservation grant program (due November 15). The details of the application are still being finalized, but the request will be for funding to construct a paved recreational path at the park. The proposed 8-foot asphalt paths will consist of a bikeway connector trail to promote alternative transportation from surrounding neighborhoods, and looped paths throughout the park for runners, walkers, strollers, etc. These proposed path routes will be finalized based on funding and environmental factors. A second NatureWorks grant application to ODNR is anticipated for June 2019 to replace the park’s playground equipment.

Protecting More Open Space:
Over 265 acres of open space were preserved this year as part of the rezoning for the Farms at Jefferson subdivision in northeast Jefferson Township. This land, mainly along Morse Road and McOwen Road, will now be owned by the township and protected from future development in perpetuity. 86 of the 265 acres are adjacent to the north side of Jefferson Community Park, providing opportunities for future park expansion. When this new land is formally transferred, the township will have over 700 acres of parks and open space, making Jefferson Township a truly exceptional place to live.

Jefferson Township 2050 Comprehensive Plan
Looking to the Future
In 2014, Jefferson Township began the process of writing a community-driven comprehensive plan that addresses the topics of land use, economic development, parks, roads, trails, and public safety. In 2018, drafts of the plan were presented and discussed at two public hearings held by the Jefferson Township Zoning Commission and Board of Trustees. The Township’s new Comprehensive Plan, Jefferson Township 2050, was finalized and adopted by your Trustees on September 10, 2018.

Purpose
The purpose of the Jefferson Township 2050 Comprehensive Plan is to provide a vision that achieves the goals of preparing for future growth while protecting the township’s rural roots; enhancing the quality of life for Jefferson Township residents; and ensuring that the community is safe and well cared for.

Public Participation
Jefferson Township 2050 is a community-driven document. Over the course of a three-year planning process, a total of fifteen public meetings were held, where comments were captured from more than 100 participants.

Hot Topics
- Improved walkability & bikeability
- Park improvements
- New commercial development
- Preservation of rural aesthetic
- Enhanced community culture

A Modern Comprehensive Plan
As a long-range visioning document, Jefferson Township 2050 explores several topics that relate to the mechanics and aesthetics of Jefferson Township:
- Current land use
- Park improvements
- Growth forecasting
- The impact of annexation
- Land management
- Roads
- Parks
- Public safety

Local Spotlight: Jefferson Township Land Conservation Association
The Jefferson Township Land Conservation Association was established in 1998 by a group of citizens dedicated to protecting Jefferson Township’s wide open spaces and natural resources. Since that time, the Conservation Association has supported the Township Trustees’ mission to preserve and protect the rural character and natural beauty of Jefferson Township. Through decades of planning efforts and strict development standards, the township has protected hundreds of acres of land, and defining features such as historic homes and barns, split rail fences, creeks, woods, scenic corridors, and visible open spaces. The conservation association supports the township’s work through the acceptance of conservation easements and land grants, and by working closely with township officials to encourage community participation in preservation efforts.

With continued growth and development pressure expected throughout central Ohio, the Conservation Association is increasing its efforts to preserve Jefferson Township’s land and unique character for future generations. The conservation association currently has more than 250 acres of privately held land secured as conservation easements. A conservation easement acts as a permanent deed restriction that runs with the land and determines to what degree it may be developed. Landowners have the greatest power to make the largest impact as stewards of Jefferson Township. If you are considering a conservation easement or other land conservation mechanism, or want to learn more about preserving Jefferson Township, you can reach out to the Land Conservation Association at 644-560-7633.
Fire prevention week, your Jefferson Township Fire Department encourages you to “Look. Listen. Learn.” What does that mean? Today’s home fires burn faster than ever. In a typical home fire, you may have as little as one to two minutes to escape safely from the time the smoke alarm sounds. Knowing how to use that time wisely takes planning and practice. This year’s campaign highlights three steps that people can take to help quickly and safely escape a fire: Look for places fire could start. Listen for the sound of the smoke alarm. Learn two ways out of every room. And don’t forget to change your smoke alarm batteries when you change your clock! Daylights saving time ends Sunday, November 4.

Firefighter Cancer Prevention Initiatives

Whether career or volunteer, no firefighter ever expected that cancer would be a threat in this line of work. New risks for firefighters contracting carcinogenic diseases have been coming to light in recent years, causing the fire service to take note and action. Modern building materials, synthetic furnishings and diesel engine exhaust have come to threaten the health of firefighters. Research has determined that firefighters run a 250% higher risk of developing cancer than other lines of work. JTFD, with help from our staff, are taking steps to lower those risks to our firefighters.

Firefighting protective clothing has mainly been designed to combat heat from fires. It is now evolving to provide better protection for firefighters exposed to carcinogens at fire scenes. The weakest point of firefighter protective clothing is in the neck area. Recently JTFD Battalion Chief William McCullough and Lieutenant John Harbaugh worked on acquiring and testing newer style hoods that provide for better particulate protection. Through field testing, Lt. Harbaugh was able to determine what hood should be selected for our firefighters, and those hoods are now in use by the JTFD.

Upon starting, diesel engines produce the highest exhaust risks to firefighters. To combat this, Firefighter-Paramedic Adam Bryan researched systems that can be installed inside the fire station. Bryan wrote a winning application for a $15,000 grant from the Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation to help fund the installation of a direct capture diesel exhaust system. These types of systems hook to a diesel powered vehicle’s exhaust pipe, and eject the exhaust outside of the station when the vehicle starts up. Final planning and installation of the new system is underway.

Stop for School Buses

Now that school is back in session, it’s important to remember that state law requires drivers to stop at least 10 feet away from a stopped school bus to allow passengers to safely enter or exit the bus. If the bus is stopped on a street or road with fewer than 4 lanes, traffic traveling in both directions must stop. If the bus is stopped on a street or road with 4 lanes or greater, traffic traveling in the same direction as the bus must stop. Drivers who fail to stop for a school bus face fines up to $500, and must appear in court. A judge has the discretion to suspend your driver’s license for up to one year.