

Munson Township NEWS NOTES

Geauga County, Ohio

Volume XXVI Issue I March 2023

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Munson joins one of the fastest growing sports in America!

Yes, Pickleball – With the addition of the Pickleball court at Munson Township Park at the end of last year, we can say we are part of the Pickleball craze!



Pickleball is fun, social, and friendly! The rules are simple, and the game is easy for beginners to learn, but it can develop into a fast-paced, competitive game.

Pickleball is an indoor or outdoor racket/paddle sport where two players (singles), or four players (doubles), hit a perforated hollow plastic ball over a 36-inch high (0.91 m) net using solid-faced paddles. Opponents on either side of the net hit the ball back and forth until one side commits a rule infraction. Pickleball was invented in 1965 as a children's backyard game on Bainbridge Island in Washington. In 2022, pickleball was adopted as the official state sport of Washington.

The appearance of a pickleball court, and the manner of play, resembles tennis, but the court is less than a third the size of a tennis court. Court lines and rules are specific to pickleball and include two 7-foot areas on either side of the net known as the *non-volley zones*, where the ball cannot be hit with the paddle unless the ball bounces first. The official rules specify side-out scoring, where only the serving team can score a point. All serves are made with an underhand stroke. The hard plastic ball used in pickleball produces significantly less bounce than softer flexible balls, such as a tennis ball. The minimal bounce combined with the non-volley zone and underhand serve give the game dynamic pace and strategy ranging from soft *dink* shots that stay within the two non-volley zones to powerful *drive shots* and *overhead smash* shots. To minimize any advantage the serving or receiving side might have at the beginning of the game, the ball must bounce once on each side of the net before either team may *volley* the ball, which is to hit the ball in the air before it bounces.

Between 1965 and 2020, pickleball became a popular sport in the U.S. Pacific Northwest, and in the meantime began to grow elsewhere. In recent years, the sport was named the fastest-growing sport in the United States by the Sports and Fitness Industry Association, with over 4.8 million players. A growing interest in the sport is attributed to several factors, including a short learning curve, appeal to a wide range of ages and fitness levels, and low startup costs. There are now thousands of pickleball tournaments throughout the United States, including the U.S. National Championships and the U.S. Open Tournament, along with two professional tours and one professional league. Pickleball is also experiencing growth outside the United States with several other national and international competitions.

So as the weather breaks this spring, make sure you check out the new pickleball court and who knows, we may need to add another one in the future.

Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste District



HAPPY EARTH DAY 4.22.23

DOCUMENT SHREDDING 1-DAY Paper Shredding EVENT Saturday, April 22nd 9am - Noon

Geauga County Collection Facility
12685 Merritt Road
Chardon, OH 44024

Limit of 4 boxes/bags per vehicle*

* Due to covid-19, empty boxes will not be returned



For more information
Geauga -Trumbull Solid Waste
Management District
1-800-707-2673
330-675-2673

www.gottagogreen.org

When Renewing Your License Plates



Residents are reminded to list Munson Township as your place of residence. Otherwise, the motor vehicle license tax revenues will be given to the community in your address.

Photo Contest

Promote the beauty of Munson Township Parks and win a prize at the same time! The Township will be holding a photo contest to showcase the natural beauty of our four parks (listed at the bottom of this page).



Deadline: submit photographs by August 1, 2023.

Submission: submit your photo entries via email a (jpeg format) to julie@munsontwp.com. In the email, include your name, address, phone number and the park your photo is taken in.

In addition to the prize, selected photos may also be used in future Munson Township materials such as newsletters or advertising.

Please note ... all photographs become the property of Munson Township. By virtue of their submission, participants irrevocably agree that Munson Township may adapt, edit, and/or modify their photographs and may also publish or otherwise use their photographs for the promotion of Munson Township without prior approval or inspection and also without compensation.

Cemetery Rules & Regulations

We take pride in maintaining our cemeteries while also allowing residents some freedom to honor their loved ones. Winter wreaths and artificial flowers will be removed between April 1st and May 1st to prepare cemeteries for Memorial Day. Veterans' flags will be displayed for a reasonable time for Memorial Day. These flags are the property of Munson Township.



Your attention to the rules are greatly appreciated. Please check our website for our Cemetery Rules and Regulations. If you are unsure of what is permitted, please do not hesitate to call the Township office.

Enjoy Picnicking at a Munson Park:

- Munson Township Park
12641 Bass Lake Road
- Nero Nature Preserve
12150 Bean Road
- Scenic River Retreat
10900 Mayfield Road
- Town Hall Park
12210 Auburn Road



Road Department



The Road Department is busy throughout the year. Besides snowplowing and crack sealing the roads, they are responsible for maintaining three Township parks, two cemeteries, town hall grounds and buildings. They also maintain safe

roadways by removing impeding trees from the road right-of-way. It takes a lot of equipment to keep our Township running smoothly.

Here is a list of some of the larger equipment used on a regular basis: Eight large trucks ranging in age from 1989 to 2011; three pick-up trucks (2013, 2018 and 2019); a 2022 roadside flail mower; a 1999 long-arm boom mower to cut the inside and backside of a ditch and beyond; a 2020 CAT 926M loader; a 2000 Gradall wheeled excavator used for ditching and berm repair; and a Kobelco excavator used for ditching and burial plots.

Some examples of maintenance work includes:

Roadside Mowing – Tall grass along the roadside is dangerous and can cause accidents. Roadside mowing is done during the growing season as needed.

Berming – Maintaining the berm is important since water should run off the road as quick as possible. Cinders can build up on the sides of roads from winter plowing. Berming is done so the water will run off the road instead of pooling on the street causing icy patches in the winter.

Drive Pipe – The Road Department will replace broken/rotted drive pipes located under the driveway on Township roads. Residents are billed for materials only.

Ditch Enclosures – This work is done by a subcontractor hired by the homeowner at the homeowner's expense. Residents are required to obtain a permit from the Township office prior to a ditch enclosure. A simple drawing is required as part of the permit process. The Road Superintendent reviews all permits prior to approval.

Board Appointments

In December 2022, the Township Trustees reappointed Roger Simpson and Don Ondrejka to the Board of Zoning Appeals, Glen Peck to the Zoning Commission and Dave Jirsa to the Park & Recreation Board. Glenn Kinter was appointed to the Park & Recreation Board in February 2023.



Senior Citizen Assistance for Spring Clean-Up

The Gauga County Department on Aging and Munson Road Department will join forces and aid seniors by picking up and transporting their items to discard at the Clean-Up Day dumpsters April 18, 19, 20 and 21, 2023 **To qualify**, you must be 60 years of age or older and live in Munson Township. Only 10 household items will be accepted per home.

To receive assistance:
You must call the Department on Aging at 440-279-2130 to register. The following information will be needed:

senior's name, address, phone number and a list of the items to be picked up.

The Township will be divided into three sections, one (possibly more) to be serviced each day. Make sure your items are set out by Monday, April 17, so you do not miss your scheduled pick-up. The senior must also be home to sign a release for the items at time of pick up.

To prevent possible bed bug transfer, mattresses and all furniture with fabric **MUST** be wrapped in plastic and taped securely or they will not be taken.

Spring Clean-Up

Bring your large items and boxes of accumulated items to discard to the **Vetter Ball Field Parking Lot** located behind the Munson Fire Station at 12200 Auburn Road.

Saturday, April 22, 2023
7am to 1pm

Items NOT accepted: construction remodeling debris, liquids, paint or other hazardous materials, rocks, yard waste, or household garbage.

Reduce wood or pipe to six foot lengths. We can **no longer accept** televisions, computer monitors or other small appliances with electronic components. Consolidate all small materials in strong boxes or containers. We will accept unbroken car batteries, lawn mowers, and tires off the rim - 4 per load. Call the Township if you have a junk auto or truck to dispose of (440-286-9255).

Recyclable items such as cardboard and newspaper will not be accepted.

For Munson Township Residents Only, Identification may be requested.

Message From the Fire Chief...



Did you know, the Munson Fire Department Inc. is a nonprofit 501 C4 organization? The Munson Fire Department has been in existence since 1952, contracting with Munson Township Trustees for fire and emergency medical services for the community. Through the years Munson Fire Department has grown, starting as a volunteer fire department. The organization now has kept up with the demands and times of our growing community. Munson Fire Department provides an array of preventative fire and emergency services.

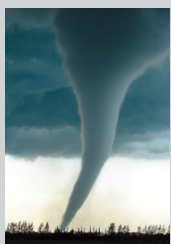
Community Risk Reduction and Fire Prevention Programs are just as important as any emergency. The more incidents we can alleviate, the safer our community is. Munson Fire Department is launching a new pilot emergency notification program this fall. Our plans are to make emergency notifications by email to our residents. This notification is designed to notify of road closures, inclement weather and any other special circumstances. If you're interested in this program, send an email with your name, address and phone number to munson.alert@munsonfire.org. Some of the programs we offer are Fire Prevention Talks and Education at Munson Elementary, Notre Dame Educational Center and business day cares for the prekindergarten age group. Other programs we offer to Notre Dame High School include participation in state mandatory exercises like Rescue Task Force Training, Lock Down Drills, Fire Alarm Drills, Career Day and Prom Promise Exercises. Our Fire Prevention offers a Vial of Life Program to residents, area residents in the Jennings of Notre Dame and Maplewood are some who have taken advantage of this program. Battery installation along with our smoke detectors programs have always been available to compliment our residential Lock Box access program. Munson Fire Department also offers scheduled CPR Training, AED Training, Stop the Bleed Training and Live Fire Extinguisher Training to Munson residents including businesses. The Munson Fire Department participates in the following activities: Memorial Day Recognition, Community Day Picnic, Mayfield Drive Inn Safety Night, YMCA Safety Days, University Hospitals Safety Days, Special Needs Fishing Derby, and Munson Fishing Derby. Some of these programs are special delivery and able to be conducted on site while others, like the Annual Halloween Festivities, take place at the fire station. Munson Fire Department is planning to offer our first Munson Resident Citizens Fire Academy, a program to educate the residents as to what we do at the Fire Department. If interested, please email us for more information munson.fireprevention@munsonfire.org

Look us up on Facebook for the 2022 run stats

CHANGE SMOKE ALARM BATTERIES!

SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK • MARCH 19 - 25, 2023

DID YOU KNOW



Peak *tornado* season in *Ohio* is generally April through July, and they usually occur between 2 p.m. and 10 p.m. but can and have occurred at any time, during any season. Before a tornado hits, the wind may die down and the air may become very still. This is the calm before the storm. Tornadoes generally occur near the trailing edge of a thunderstorm and it is not uncommon to see clear, sunlit skies behind a tornado. Ohio has about 16 *tornados* per year.

Tornado Watch: Tornadoes are possible in the area. Stay tuned to radio or TV and watch the sky.

Tornado Warning: A tornado has been sighted. Take cover at once.

EARLY EFFECTIVE CPR & AED's SAVES LIVES

An automated external defibrillator (AED) is a medical device designed to analyze the heart rhythm and deliver an electric shock to victims of ventricular fibrillation to restore the heart rhythm to normal. Ventricular fibrillation is the uncoordinated heart rhythm most often responsible for sudden cardiac arrest.

If you're a Munson business looking to purchase an AED for use in the work place, please contact us. It is important to have interoperability with your local fire department and area hospitals. This saves time.



**The Munson Township Fire Department is staffed 24/7 to assist you.
Non-Emergency • 440-286-6797**

2023 Community Events

April 1 • Indoor Flea Market Town Hall 12210 Auburn Road

The Indoor Flea Market is from 9am to 2pm at the Town Hall and in the Fire Station Bay. There is a \$1 admission fee for shoppers which goes towards the Munson Township Scholarship Fund (no charge for age 12 & under). You will find a wide variety of new, vintage and antique items. Come and browse for that special treasure you have been searching for.



April 8 • Easter Egg Hunt Township Park 12641 Bass Lake Road

Hop on down to Munson Township Park at 10:15am. The Easter bunny will greet you and your children and watch your kids hunt for eggs. Get a great photo too! Bring your own basket or bag to collect the eggs, which will be turned in for a bag of goodies. Children will be divided into 2 age groups, 2-5 years and 6-9 years. This is a rain or shine event, so dress appropriately.



June 17 • Fishing Derby Scenic River Retreat 10900 Mayfield Road

The Community Fishing Derby is open to all Munson Township residents. Please join us for a morning of fishing fun from 9am to 1pm. Don't forget your fishing pole. Catch and release only. Bait will be provided. Door prizes awarded.



August 5 • Community Day Picnic Town Hall 12210 Auburn Road

We look forward to seeing you at 12:00 Noon at townhall. A fun day is planned for the entire family starting with a light picnic lunch and ice cream for dessert. Also enjoy music, Magic by Rick Smith Jr., Euclid Beach Rocket Car rides, rock climbing wall, raffles, games and activities. This is a rain or shine event.



Does Your American Flag Need Retirement?

Bring your torn and tattered American Flag to our Fire Department drop box located in front of the building. It will be properly disposed of.



Message From the Zoning Inspector

Effective November 24, 2022, recent amendments to the Township Zoning Resolution have been enacted that could affect both residents and business owners. Revised sections include the following:

- 202 Definition of Premises
- 401.2 Residential District (R1, R2, R3 and R4) – Permitted Principal Uses and Structures
- 405.2 Flood Prone District – Conditional Uses, Principal Buildings and Structures: Conditional Use Zoning Certificate Approval per Section 806 Required
- 509.5 Accessory Structure – Fences, Gates, and Walls
- 805 Commercial Recreational Facilities
- 1003.7 General Provisions – Electronic Changeable Signs

Another round of revisions to the Zoning Resolution are currently underway that will include corrections to current language, clarifications and additions that would better serve the Township and residents.

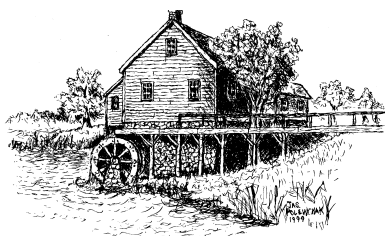
To view the Zoning Resolution in its entirety, go to www.munsontp.com. Feel free to call Zoning Inspector Jim Herringshaw with any questions. The Zoning office is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9am to 3pm or by appointment.

Message From the Fiscal Officer

Preserving Lands in Munson

In land use surveys dating back a few decades, Munson Township residents have long expressed their appreciation for the rural character of the township and a love for the open spaces, agricultural fields and forest lands intermingled with residential areas. Our township has benefitted from the preservation of some high-quality natural areas by both the Geauga Park District and our own Township government.

In addition to the land protection role that our local government has played in our community, several private property owners have joined the effort and voluntarily secured portions of their lands under legal protection that bars development in perpetuity. These properties are preserved by the execution of conservation easements placed on the property. The property owners continue to pay real estate taxes, so the tax base remains the same, but the community enjoys the benefits of beauty and wildlife all around us. Western Reserve Land Conservancy has been a great partner for landowners in Munson wishing to keep more of Munson in a natural state that makes it special.



PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CHARDON, OH
PERMIT NO. 42

**MUNSON TOWNSHIP
NEWS NOTES**
12210 Auburn Road
Chardon OH 44024-9454

Munson Township Resident at:

**MUNSON TOWNSHIP
NEWS NOTES**

12210 Auburn Road
Chardon OH 44024-9454

Phone: 440-286-9255
Fax: 440-286-1180

munson@munsontwp.com
www.munsontwp.com

Office Hours: Weekdays 9am - 4pm
(closing hours may vary)

To reach elected officials:

Andy Bushman - Trustee 440-669-2483
abushman@munsontwp.com

Jim McCaskey - Trustee 216-789-1436
jmccaskey@munsontwp.com

Irene McMullen - Trustee 440-286-9255
imcmullen@munsontwp.com

Todd Ray - Fiscal Officer 440-286-9312
trray@munsontwp.com

MEETINGS

Trustees

second and fourth Tuesdays at 6:30 pm

Zoning Commission

second Wednesday at 6:00 pm

Board of Zoning Appeals

third Wednesday at 6:30 pm (as needed)

Park Board

second Monday at 6:15 pm

Check munsontwp.com for the monthly meeting
schedule and event information

EVENTS

April 1 • Indoor Flea Market

Town Hall 12210 Auburn Road

April 8 • Easter Egg Hunt

Township Park 12641 Bass Lake Road

June 17 • Fishing Derby

Scenic River Retreat 10900 Mayfield Road

August 5 • Community Day Picnic

Town Hall 12210 Auburn Road