

News Notes

Volume XVI Issue 2 July 2015

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Volunteers Lend Many Hands

Munson Township is fortunate to have the volunteer resources of many of our residents. Some who volunteer for the township do not live here, but they still contribute in meaningful ways to our community. We thought you'd like to learn about the variety of help we have from residents and friends alike.

A few long-standing groups volunteer for the township on an ongoing basis. Boy Scout Troop 91, Pack 91, Brownie Troop 1189 and Junior Troop 222 all provide service, as a group of individuals, to the township. From running Breakfast with Santa, to planting flowers, to washing woodwork in the community room to stuffing Easter candy bags, these groups can always be counted on to lend a hand. It would be hard to miss the myriad of Eagle and Gold Award projects that have enhanced our parks and Town Hall. Sports Leagues help us with field maintenance.

The Board of Zoning Appeals holds meetings and hearings, the Zoning Commission keeps the Zoning Resolution up to date and the Park & Recreation Board plan events and helps to make our parks what they are today. These are all volunteer board positions that require a year-round, sustained commitment from the members, to whom we are eternally grateful.

Local companies contribute to the township in large ways and small. The Healthy Munson Initiative involved many Munson businesses, UH Geauga and the Cleveland Clinic in wellness activities during the past year. Separately, companies like Fairmount Santrol (Best Sand) have allowed their employees to volunteer and help the township with various projects for the past several years in addition to making monetary contributions. Many smaller businesses have donated their time and materials to help our township. Local, private, parochial, Chardon and West Geauga Schools send volunteers to events or create projects that benefit our community.

Some residents volunteer as a family, stuffing envelopes or helping with newsletters. Resident Sophie Horvath writes the Munson News Notes article faithfully in a local paper. Many individuals help with events, doing jobs as varied as playing Taps on the Bugle, reciting the Gettysburg Address, and putting worms on hooks at the Fishing Derby and other park related events. The Sisters of Notre Dame also volunteer their time and lend us their facility on occasion.

Township and Fire Department employees and their families also volunteer their time and efforts to help with the community picnic and Fire Department events such as the Halloween Open House.

There are upcoming opportunities to volunteer for the township. Please call 440-286-9255 or email Julie at julie@munsontwp.com if you can volunteer to help at the Community Picnic on August 1st (there are many different jobs, and we will work around your schedule).

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Message From the Zoning Inspector

I always like to write about the most popular topics of the season. This summer it is fences and pools. They shall be in conformity with the following provisions:

FENCES:

- Fences, gates, and walls shall be erected outside of the right-of-way of any public or private road.
- Fences, gates, and walls shall not block or impede clear sight distance of vehicle operators at the intersection of any public or private road.
- Fences and walls shall be a maximum of four (4) feet in height in any front yard and no more than six (6) feet in height in any side or rear yard, except as otherwise provided in Munson Township's Zoning Resolution.

POOLS:

The Zoning Resolution for both in ground and above ground pools has been updated (section 514). If you are considering adding a pool to your residence, please call with any questions or concerns before you install.



Appliance Collection

The Solid Waste Management District has one more collection event scheduled for Geauga County. **The collection event is located at the Geauga County Engineer's Yard, 12665 Merritt Road (off Route 44) in Chardon.**

Appliance Collection
Household Hazardous Waste
Saturday, October 3
9 am to Noon

Acceptable household waste: paint, oil, anti-freeze, propane tanks, gasoline, cleaners, art supplies, wood strippers, degreasers, pesticides, etc. Not accepted: televisions, smoke detectors, acetylene tanks, medical waste, or electronic equipment (E-waste).

Check Geauga Trumbull's website www.startrecycling.com under "events" for a more extensive list.

All collections are for residents only, no commercial businesses. If you have questions, contact Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste District office at 1-800-707-2673



Residents have most likely noticed the different mixed recycling containers at the drop-off facility for recycling at the Vetter Ball Field parking lot behind of the fire station.

Mixed Recycling - The following items may be recycled: clear, green and brown glass, plastic, aluminum and bi-metal cans, and clean aluminum foil and foil pans. Plastic **must** have a small triangular symbol with the numbers 1 through 7 in the center. Without the number, the recycling facility cannot determine the type of plastic and therefore cannot process it. Exceptions are the plastic bags from grocery and retail stores, which do not need to have the printed triangle. **Tarps, laundry baskets, garden hose, lawn furniture, large plastic toys, and plastic pots and buckets are NOT recyclable** unless there is a triangular symbol. Glass is restricted to bottles and jars – no plate glass windows, no corning ware, no drinking glasses, no mirrors, and no canning jars. Also not recyclable: any expanded polystyrene foam (Styrofoam), aluminum gutters, window frames or cooking pans. Recyclables should be rinsed clean with lids and caps left on, and should be separated from garbage. **Do not leave bags on the ground.**

Paper Recycling - Cardboard, newspapers, magazines, office paper, mail, phonebooks and paperback books (**no hardback books**) can be commingled in the yellow and green receptacles. Always flatten cardboard and **never leave items on the ground.** Shredded paper must be bagged in a transparent plastic bag - handlers will discard a bag if they cannot see the contents. No pizza boxes or waxed containers. Remove and discard all packing materials.

We hope that residents, once informed, will be more conscientious about what they bring to the site.

JUST A NOTE ABOUT SIGNS ...

Placing a sign at the triangular piece of land on the corner of Wilson Mills and Auburn Roads is Not Permitted.

Munson Township maintains that area for our residents. Flowers are planted every year to enhance the beauty of our Township.

Volunteers - continued from cover

We have families, churches and individuals who have volunteered at the picnic for years. New faces are always welcome!

We are also looking for members of boards that help the township run smoothly. There are currently openings for the Park & Recreation Board and Zoning Commission (see article below).

We are also looking for expression of interest from residents who may be able to help plan our celebration for the upcoming 2016 Munson Township Bicentennial. For additional information, please contact the Munson Township office at (440)286-9255. Please help out in any way you can. Many hands make light work! Voluntary service is an opportunity to meet some of your neighbors and make new friendships while contributing to the quality of life for all of us.



Board Openings

Munson residents interested in serving on the Munson Township Park & Recreation Board or Zoning Commission, which are non-compensated public service appointments, are requested to send a letter of interest and resume to the attention of the Munson Township Trustees at 12210 Auburn Road, Chardon, OH 44024. Applications may also be dropped off at the Township Hall between the hours of 9am and 3pm weekdays. The Park & Recreation Board currently meets the second Monday of the month at 6:15pm and the Zoning Commission meets the third Monday of the month at 7pm (subject to change). For additional information contact the Munson Township office at 440-286-9255.

Road Department

Every season offers different weather patterns from one year to the next. With all of the rain this June, water runoff has been a constant issue. There are many factors to look at in order to keep the water flowing. One of the factors of the drainage system that comes to mind is the driveway culvert. The culvert is located under the drive near the road which is part of the ditch that carries the water to and from the culvert pipe. The drainage infrastructure works together to not only collect the water running off the roads, but off the properties as well. The main objective is to keep the water runoff from entering the roadway. Culverts are also designed to drain the soils under the road, called the roadbed, to keep it from becoming saturated, soft and unable to support the traffic on the roads.

The Geauga County Engineer determines the ditch depth and culvert pipe size. They look at the amount of water intake and the storm water runoff. When a culvert pipe is placed in a ditch, it becomes part of the ditch drainage system and needs to be sized properly in order to function correctly.

A driveway pipe or any pipe in a ditch in the township right-of-way requires a permit including a driveway that enters a field. There are other specifications that need to be met and approved before any work is performed. Call or stop in to discuss your ditch options and specifications.

Desirable Location

Munson Township would like to welcome the nesting killdeer on the parking lot edge in the gravel at Town Hall.

Killdeer are considered shorebirds who often live far from water. They live in grassland habitats such as fields, meadows, and pastures.



Did you know...

Munson Township is looking to form a Bicentennial Planning Committee for the 2016 celebration. Please submit your letter of interest to the Board of Trustees.

Message From the Fire Chief . . .

**** Munson Fire Department wishes everyone a safe and healthy Summer. ****

The warm weather has finally arrived. Kids are out of school and vacations are in full swing. We all need to stay **SAFE** to enjoy this sought after season.

Smart, Alert, Focused and Educated in everything you do.

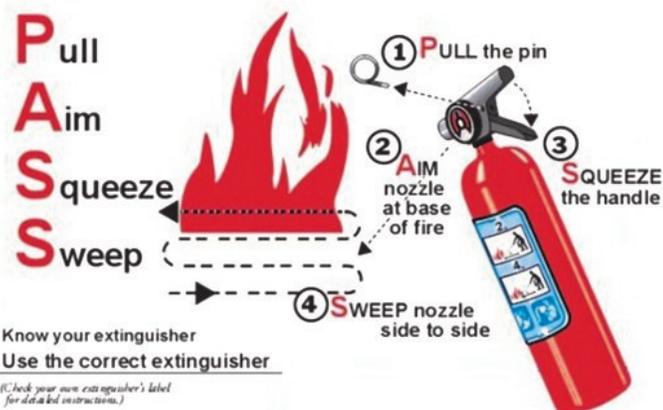
Along with summer, yard work and home improvement projects are taking place. Munson Fire Department would like to take some time and remind our residents, neighbors, and contractors of an update to Senate Bill 378. This bill takes effect January 1, 2016, and governs underground utilities and imposes fines and loss of service if you do not call before you dig. It's a one call process to notify all Ohio Utility Companies. You must call the Ohio Utilities Protection Service, at 8-1-1 or 1-800-362-2764, at least 48 hours before you dig but no more than 10 working days (excludes weekends and legal holidays) before beginning any digging project. To be compliant with the law, any digging, planting, excavating, stump grinding, and or trenching requires the contractor or homeowner to call and have the utilities marked. Ohio Utilities Protection Service notifies the following companies of the excavation, Dominion East Ohio, Time Warner Cable, First Energy and AT&T to name a few. The utilities are marked and flagged, with the approximate location. The flagging has a "tolerance zone "meaning the underground utility could be plus eighteen inches to either side of the marking. OUPS utilizes and marks all utilities in accordance with the Ohio Universal marking standards they are - Safety Red for Electric power Transmission, Safety Yellow for Gas or Oil line Distributions, Safety Orange for Communications and Telephone. Call 8-1-1 before you dig. It's the law. Safe digging starts with you. Residents can also fill out an online dig request at <http://www.oups.org/edig>. Information you will be asked, your name, address where the work is performed, specifics on the excavation site, what are the closest intersection, and the contractor performing the work.



By calling 8-1-1 before you dig you can minimize the impact on the utility companies, minimize the cost of repair and or loss of time, and keep emergency services freed up from potential hazardous situations. Keep in mind that the average response times for utility companies to respond and assist the Fire Department in the event of an emergency is usually around an hour, unless they are already operating in storm mode. This may also require emergency services to evacuate and or secure the area for mitigation, taking up to several hours.

Fire Station office hours: Mon. – Fri. 8am to 4pm. Our station is staffed 24/7 to assist you.

To operate an extinguisher:



Geauga County Sheriff's Office Gauga Public Alerts

Sign up for **Gauga Alerts!**

In the event of an emergency or severe weather condition, a text message alert will be sent to the phone number provided. To reach the registration page go to the Sheriff's Office page

(<http://www.sheriff.co.geauga.oh.us/>) and select "Gauga Public Alerts".

The direct url is

http://entry.inspironlogistics.com/geauga_county_oh/wens.cfm

Community Day Picnic

Saturday, August 1, 2015 •



12 Noon to 5pm
Munson Township Park
12641 Bass Lake Road

Scheduled Events

- 12-3 Free Picnic Meal**
- 1-4 Euclid Beach Rocket Car Rides**
- 1:30 UHHS MedEvac Helicopter**
- 2:15 The Magic of Rick Smith Jr.**
- 3:45 50/50 Raffle**
- 4-5 Raffle/Auction/Grand Prize Awards**

Games • Prizes • Inflatables
Music • Raffles • Silent Auction
Fire Trucks • Ice Cream & More
rain or shine event

GRAND PRIZE - \$500
Donated by Royle Insurance

Community Room Rental



The new community room is available to rent for family reunions, meetings, bridal or baby showers, graduation parties, etc. Call the township to reserve a date. Forms may be picked up at the Town Hall between 9am and 3pm Monday through Friday, or can be downloaded from our website at www.munsontwp.com.

- Residents - \$125
- Non-Residents - \$250
- Security Deposit - \$50
- Alcohol Security Deposit - \$250

To view the rules and regulations in their entirety, go to www.munsontwp.com under the "Documents & Forms" tab.

Your Parks

Town Hall Park

12210 Auburn Road

Munson Township Park

12641 Bass Lake Road
two pavilions available for rental
Emmons & Pavilion #2

Nero Nature Preserve

12150 Bean Road

Scenic River Retreat

10900 Mayfield Road
one pavilion available for rental

Park Pavilion Rental Fees

Munson Township offers three pavilion rentals, two at Munson Township Park, and one at Scenic River Retreat. The fees are as follows:

- Residents - \$25
- Non-Residents - \$50
- Security Deposit - \$25
- Alcohol Security Deposit - \$250

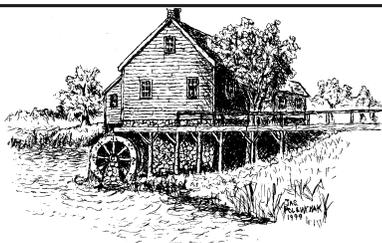
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New Playground at Town Hall



The newest attraction to Town Hall has been a big hit with children and parents alike. Meyer Design completed the installation of our new playground in May. A special thank you to Faimount Santrol for their generous contribution to the playground.

We are looking to borrow...
Old photos or memorabilia related to Munson Township for the Bicentennial Celebration in 2016. Please let us know if you have something of interest.



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**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 - 3pm

To reach the Trustees or Fiscal Officer:

Andy Bushman Chair	440-286-3916 abushman@munsontwp.com
Jim McCaskey Trustee	216-789-1436 jmccaskey@munsontwp.com
Irene McMullen Trustee	440-796-6825 imcmullen@munsontwp.com
Judy Toth Fiscal Officer	440-286-9312 / 286-9255 jtoth@munsontwp.com

Meetings

Trustees

second and fourth Tuesdays at 6:30 pm

Zoning Commission

third Monday at 7 pm (subject to change)

Board of Zoning Appeals

third Thursday at 6:30 pm

Park Board

second Monday at 6:15 pm

Events

Community Day Picnic • Saturday, Aug. 1

Noon - 5pm

At Munson Township Park • 12641 Bass Lake Road

Fishing Derby • Saturday, Sept. 12

9am - 1pm

At Scenic River Retreat • 10900 Mayfield Road

Outdoor Flea Market • Saturday, September 5

9am - 2pm

At Munson Township Park • 12641 Bass Lake Road

For more info... www.munsontwp.com or call 440-286-9255

Youth athletic programs that lease the township fields:
www.chardonbaseball.com
Geauga YMCA 440-285-7543