

Munson Township NEWS NOTES

Geauga County, Ohio

Volume XX Issue I March 2018

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Water • A Precious Commodity

National Groundwater Awareness



What is groundwater?

It's the water that fills cracks, voids, and other openings in soil, sand, and bedrock.

Why is it important?

Persons with wells use groundwater for drinking water. Also, most groundwater flows directly into streams, rivers, and lakes from beneath.

How much is there?

About 99 percent of the available freshwater on Earth is groundwater.

Protect this precious resource!

- 1 If you own a water well, have your water tested yearly. Also test if there is a change in the odor, taste, or smell.
- 2 Don't overapply pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers. Use them in the recommended amounts.
- 3 When you're handling hazardous substances, do so over cement to avoid groundwater infiltration or runoff into surface water from accidental spills.
- 4 Don't dispose of any hazardous substances by dumping them on the ground, pouring them down the drain, or flushing them down the toilet. Contact local waste authorities about proper disposal of hazardous substances such as:
 - Pesticides/herbicides
 - Paint/paint thinner
 - Antifreeze
 - Fertilizer
 - Oil
 - Chemicals.
- 5 If you own a septic tank, have it cleaned and serviced every two years to prevent a breakdown that could pollute your groundwater.



Supported by:



Geauga Soil and Water
Conservation District

GRANTS AVAILABLE—Cost share funding (50% of costs) is available to residents of Munson to address streambank erosion, or to build heavy use pads. There is an informational meeting on the program on March 19, 2018 from 6 to 7 at The West Woods Nature Center. For more information, please contact Alicia Beattie at Chagrin River Watershed Partners (Munson is a member) at (440) 975-3870 or abeattie@crwp.org.



Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste District Collection Events ...

Not to be confused with Munson's Spring Clean-Up the Solid Waste Management District has several collection events scheduled for Geauga County. **All collection events will be located at the Geauga County Engineer's Yard, 12665 Merritt Road (off Route 44) in Chardon.**

Appliance Collection

**Saturday, June 9
9 am to Noon**

This is for washers, dryers, refrigerators, freezers, and other similar household appliances. **No computers, televisions, e-waste or microwaves will be accepted.** Free freon removal. Workers will be available to help unload vehicles.

Document Destruction

**Saturday, April 14
9 am to Noon**

Perfect time to shred up your old tax records and important documents no longer needed. Limit 4 banker boxes.

Household Hazardous Waste

**Date & Time
To Be Determined**

Acceptable household waste: oil, anti-freeze, propane tanks, gasoline, cleaners, art supplies, wood strippers, degreasers, pesticides, etc. All containers must be 5 gallons or less in size. Not accepted: latex paint, 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 or trailer loads. If you have questions, contact Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste District office at 1-800-707-2673

24/7

Operation Empty Medicine Cabinet

**Geauga County Sheriff's Office
12450 Merritt Rd., Chardon**

It is important to clean out your medicine cabinet and dispose of expired and/or unused pills.

You can discard them in the drop-box located in the lobby at the Sherriff's office.

Pills Only • No Liquids Are Accepted

Cemetery Decorations

All artificial flowers, decorations and containers in the Munson Cemeteries must be removed by May 1st. Those items remaining will be disposed of to prepare the cemeteries for Memorial Day and summer mowing. Also, iron plant hooks are not permitted in the cemeteries.

Join us at the Maple Hill Cemetery on Memorial Day, Monday, May 28th at 8:30 am for a short but very meaningful ceremony to honor our veterans.



Recycling Information

As most of you have noticed, the recycling area has been relocated to Sherman Road by Kawalec Field.

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.

Message From the Zoning Inspector

As the result of recent amendments to the Township Zoning Resolution (effective March 29, 2018) there are some revisions and additions to the regulations regarding signs that you should be aware of, both as a resident and a business owner. The revisions and additions are as follows:

1003.4 *Real Estate*

Real estate signs shall be limited to two (2) per principal building or structure or two (2) per parcel of land. No Real Estate sign shall be greater than six (6) square feet per sign face.

1003.5 *Signs Permitted in the Commercial, Industrial, Institutional and Medical Use Zoning Districts*

- d. All permitted signs may be illuminated. In no event shall an illuminated sign or lighting device be placed or directed so as to permit the beams and illumination there from to be directed upon a public or private road or adjacent lots so as to cause glare or reflection that may constitute a traffic hazard, nuisance, or distraction.
- e. Pursuant to Section 1005 and upon any change of business entity as set forth in the first paragraph hereinabove, all existing conforming and nonconforming signs shall be subject to and be in conformity with all current requirements of this resolution.

1003.6 *Temporary Signs*

Temporary signs not previously mentioned in this section intended to draw attention to a particular activity shall be removed within three (3) days following the activity. Not more than one (1) on-site sign which shall not exceed an area of twenty (20) square feet per sign face, and two (2) off-site signs, which shall not exceed an area of sixteen (16) square feet per sign face each, shall be permitted. Temporary signs are not permitted to be erected more than thirty (30) days prior to a particular activity. Temporary signs shall not be illuminated by any means including reflected light. A temporary sign may only be erected with the permission of the lot or premises owner.

- a. Temporary signs erected for no more than fourteen (14) consecutive days that promote a particular event, shall not require a zoning certificate, but must conform to the requirements set forth in the paragraph above. Examples, may include, but not be limited to garage sales, plant sales, festivals, barbecues, flea markets, and graduation parties.

1003.7 *Electronic Changeable Signs*

- a. Each message shall remain fixed for no less than seven (7) seconds. Messages shall not flash, including moving video displays or animation, or emit intermittent light.

1003.8 *Directional Signs*

Directional signs on private property shall have a maximum area of 2.25 square feet per sign face and contain only directional information.

SECTION 1004 *PROHIBITED SIGNS*

- 1004.7 No sign, temporary or permanent, shall be placed in the public road right-of-way or on a public utility pole with the exception of signs erected by the state of Ohio, a political subdivision thereof, a public utility, or an authorized governmental department or entity.

SECTION 1006 *CONDITION OF SIGNS*

Signs and support structures shall consist of weather resistant materials and shall be maintained in good repair and a safe condition so as to prevent rust, rot, peeling, flaking or fading. Broken or cracked sign faces or panels, missing letters, flaking or peeling paint, malfunctioning electrical or lighting components, and other visual damage or deterioration shall be repaired within 30 days of the date that written notification is provided to the owner or lessee of the affected lot or premises by the zoning inspector.

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

Message From the Fire Department ...

Non-Injury crashes account for nearly two-thirds of all crashes according to national statistics. Munson Township is trending with these figures and roughly 60% of our traffic accidents do not warrant transport. Even though the fire department does not transport these injured parties it is imperative that we respond and be present at the scene. Fire Departments provide a safe zone for all of the parties involved, including law enforcement, other emergency responders, and towing and recovery operations.

In 2017, Munson Fire Department responded to 81 traffic accidents. Of these, 32 had injured parties requiring medical treatment and or transport for evaluation. Three required extrication or use of hydraulic tools to gain entry and free the injured parties.

In 2016, Munson Fire Department responded to 87 traffic accidents. Of these, 38 had injured parties requiring medical treatment and or transport for evaluation. Four required extrication or use of hydraulic tools to gain entry and free the injured parties.



CAMPFIRE SAFETY

Here are some additional safety measures you should take when building a campfire:

- Clear all debris from around the fire pit, including garbage and grass. There should be a five-foot perimeter of soil around the campfire space.
- If there is no metal ring, circle the pit with rocks. If your fire grows in size, this will help keep it within the borders of the fire pit.
- Keep any flammable items far from the fire. This includes aerosol cans and pressurized containers.

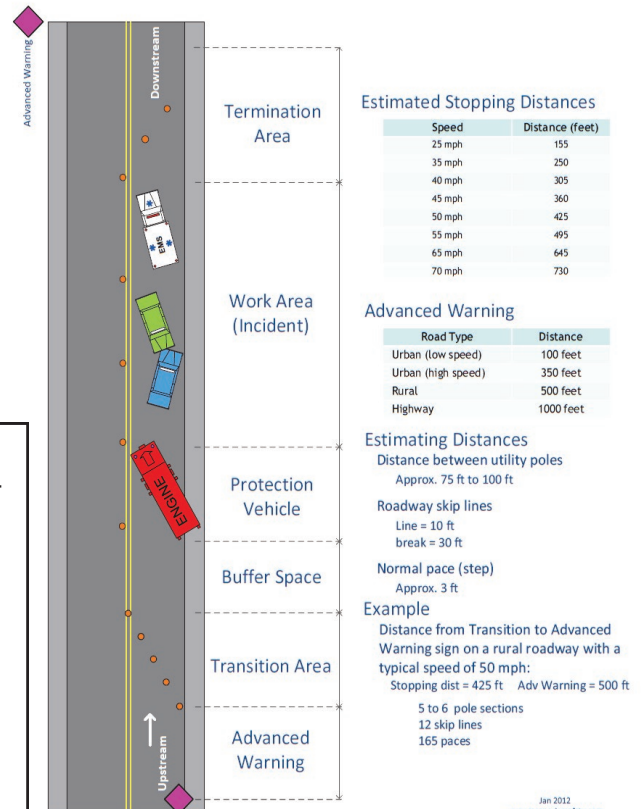


One of the leading causes of death and injury for emergency responders is being struck by vehicles while working an accident scene. Improved incident management, traffic control, the use of vehicles for blocking, cones, and high visibility vests improve and reduce risk exposure to first responders.

Drivers are required to **SLOW DOWN AND MOVE OVER** when approaching traffic incident response vehicles and traffic incidents on the roadway. This helps to prevent secondary incidents and protects first responders, law enforcement and tow/recovery personnel.

Below are some diagrams of how we try to minimize time delays and provide protection to parties involved.

Temporary Traffic Control For 1st Responders



Jan 2012
www.respondersafety.com

Fire Department Hours: Mon. – Fri. 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The station is staffed 24/7 to assist you.

Geauga County Sheriff's Office • Geauga Public Alerts

Sign up for **Geauga 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

Seasonal Household Hazardous Waste Facility

The Geauga-Trumbull Solid Waste Management District's Household Hazardous Waste Recycling Facility (HHWRF) is located at 5138 Enterprise Blvd., in Warren (Off Route 422). District residents are encouraged to use the facility for recycling of household hazardous waste and computer/electronic equipment. It is located about 31 miles from the Munson Town Hall. **The lines for the one day collection of HHW can be over an hour, so it might make sense to take a trip down to Warren to the drop-off site instead.**

The facility is only open to residents of Geauga and Trumbull counties, identification is required from everyone participating in any type of collection event. No commercial loads will be accepted!

The facility will open every Wednesday beginning May 2nd through October 31st 2018. Wednesday hours of operation are 9am to 5pm. The facility will also be open Saturday May 5th, June 2nd and August 4th. from 9am to Noon. Household hazardous waste and electronic/computer equipment will be accepted during these times. New acceptable items include microwave ovens and for a small fee, they will accept television sets.

Easter Egg Hunt

Hop on down to Munson Township's Annual Easter Egg Hunt! A bunny will be there to greet you and your family and will watch your children hunt for eggs. Bring your own basket or bag to collect the eggs, which will be turned in for a bag of goodies! This is a rain or shine event, so dress appropriately.



Where: Munson Township Park
12641 Bass Lake Road

When: Saturday, March 31, 2018

Time: 10:00 am - Easter Bunny Arrives
10:30 am - Hunt Begins

Age Groups: 2-5 years old • 6-9 years old

Senior Citizen Assistance for Spring Clean-Up

The Geauga 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 on April 23, 24 and 25, 2018. **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 Sunday, April 22nd, so that 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.

Munson 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 28
7am to 1pm

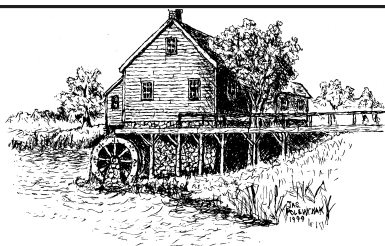
Items NOT accepted: construction remodeling debris, liquids, paint or other hazardous materials, rocks, yard waste, or household garbage.

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.

Did You Remember to Change your smoke detector batteries?



Place
Stamp
Here

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

Munson Township Resident at:

**M U N S O N T O W N S H I P
N E W S N O T E S**

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 440-286-3916
Chair abushman@munsontwp.com

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

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

Judy Toth 440-286-9312 / 440-376-9399
Fiscal Officer jtoth@munsontwp.com

Meetings

Trustees

second and fourth Tuesdays at 6:30 pm

Zoning Commission

third Tuesday at 7 pm (may vary)

Board of Zoning Appeals

third Thursday at 6:30 pm (as needed)

Park Board

second Monday at 6:15 pm

Events

Spring Clean-Up • Saturday, April 28

7am - 1pm at Vetter Ball Field • Behind Fire Station

Fishing Derby • Sunday, June 3

9am - 1pm at Scenic River Retreat • 10900 Mayfield Road

Memorial Day • Monday, May 29

8:30am at Maple Hill Cemetery • 13480 Auburn Road

Community Day Picnic • Saturday, August 4

9am - 1pm at Scenic River Retreat • 10900 Mayfield Road

For more information:

www.munsontwp.com

call 440-286-9255

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