

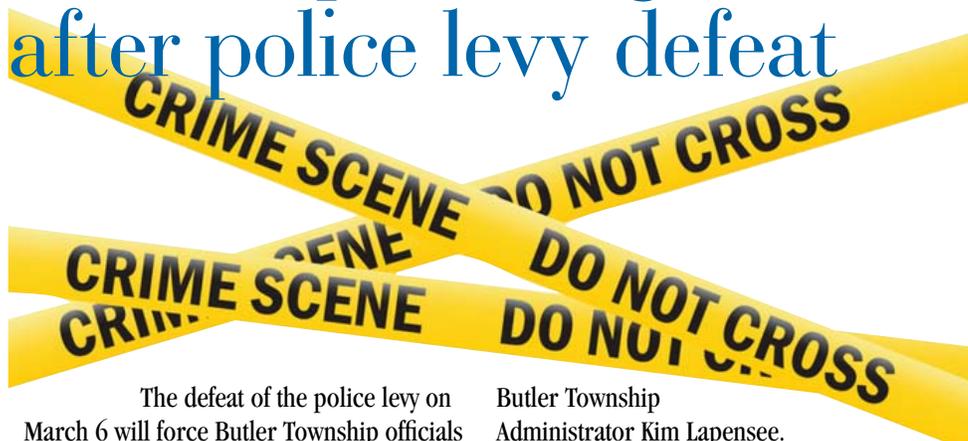


Around The Township

Serving the needs of the citizens and businesses of **Butler Township**

SPRING 2012

Township making cuts after police levy defeat



The defeat of the police levy on March 6 will force Butler Township officials to make difficult decisions about cuts in the police department. The levy would have provided the \$645,000 needed to keep police services at current levels.

Personnel costs represent the single highest expense in the department, so staffing will be reduced. For the near term, this means that three vacant positions – one captain and two officers – will remain unfilled.

“Unfortunately, the impact of these cuts will be a decrease in police services and an increase in response times,” said

Butler Township Administrator Kim Lapensee.

If the budget issues are not resolved by 2015, the township will be forced to make deeper cuts to balance the budget. Laying off at least six police department employees is likely.

“We’re thankful for the residents who voted in favor of the levy despite hard economic times,” said Lapensee. “Moving forward, we’ll make the adjustments necessary to balance the budget. And we pledge to continue giving the best possible public safety services we can with the resources our residents provide.”

Township finds a bargain

When Butler Township officials decided to purchase a mower designed to handle the challenges of mowing various steeply graded areas, they went bargain shopping. They found that the Miami Conservancy District hoped to sell one of its “slope” mowers – still in good shape – for just \$8,000. A brand new slope mower would have cost about \$25,000.

“It’s not always possible to find such a great price on a piece of equipment, but when we can, we’re all about saving the tax dollars,” said Township Administrator Kim Lapensee.



Eyesore: Rodeway Inn demolished

The demolition of the Rodeway Inn has been completed, and all buildings have been removed. Debris clean up will continue into spring. The project had recently been delayed because of asbestos issues, which have been cleared with the Regional Air Pollution Control Agency.



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Tracking township residents' tax dollars

Reality of property tax dollar allocation more widely dispersed than expected

In difficult economic times, it's important for Butler Township residents to know exactly how their property tax dollars are being used. While many would think tax revenue is divided between the local school district and the township, that's not the case. Here's a breakdown of the agencies that receive a portion of township residents' tax dollars:

- Montgomery County's General Fund
- Mental Health and Retardation
- Five Rivers Metro Parks
- Human Services
- Sinclair Community College
- Vandalia-Butler School District
- Miami Valley Career Technology Center
- Dayton Metropolitan Library
- Butler Township

This breakdown shows how the 81.49 effective mills paid in property tax by Butler Township property owners is distributed. The township's police department receives only five percent of property taxes.

Receiving Agency/ Department	2011 Revenues	% of Total
Vandalia/Butler Schools	\$8,996,032	50%
County (first 5 funds listed above)	\$4,503,689	25%
Butler Twp. Fire/EMS	\$1,855,879	10%
Butler Township Police	\$1,045,265	5.7%
Butler Township Roads	\$ 596,881	3.3%
MV Career Tech Center	\$ 545,729	3%
Dayton Metro Library	\$ 388,673	2%
Butler Twp. General	\$ 119,933	1%



Third Grade Seatbelt Program

What could be more important than keeping a child out of harm's way? For this very reason, the Butler Township Police Department has presented a seatbelt safety program to the third graders at Murlin Heights Elementary school every year for the past seven years.

During this interactive program, a police officer talks to the children about the importance of seatbelt safety, demonstrating proper use and fitting. The students learn the consequences of not wearing a seatbelt during a car crash and ways to encourage their parents to wear their seatbelts. More than 700 children have participated since the program started.

"It's critical to develop this habit in a child early in life," said Police Chief Carl Bush. "Parents tell us that sometimes, after the program, the child becomes the family's most vocal advocate for wearing seatbelts."

Police officers also make regular visits to each school located in the township.

"In this way, we're able to introduce police officers to children in a positive manner," said Bush.

The Third Grade Seatbelt program is sponsored and funded by the Ohio Department of Highway Safety.

Seatbelt safety is habit-forming. If you are a parent, please set the example and do your part to reinforce the importance of buckling up each and every time you ride in a vehicle.

Drug Take-Back Initiative to be repeated in April

The Butler Township Police Department is again providing the opportunity for residents to clean out their old, expired and unused medications and dispose of them safely.

This spring, the police department will once again host a site for the National Drug Take Back Initiative sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Administration. During three previous Take-Back events, Butler Township has collected over 150 pounds of medications for proper disposal.

"Experts tell us it's dangerous to the environment to dispose of medications by throwing them in the trash or flushing them down the drain," said Police Chief Carl Bush. "This program makes it easy for township residents to do the right thing."



Mark your calendar for the Drug Take-Back program!

WHEN: Saturday, April 28
from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m

WHERE: Butler Township Administration Building, 8524 N. Dixie Dr.

EARLY DROP-OFF: Friday, April 27
from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Butler Township Police Department, 8526 N. Dixie Dr.

If possible, please place pill and capsule forms of medications in a zipper-type bag.

Police: Staffed to protect and serve

Your police department is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. The department consists of four auxiliary (non-paid) officers, eight full-time patrol officers, three full-time sergeants (one to serve as the command officer for each eight-hour shift), one full-time detective, one full-time support specialist in records and one full-time chief.

“Many times, to balance our staffing with our calls for service, we all share certain non-patrol tasks,” said Police Chief Carl Bush. “This is how we get the job of public safety done every day.”

All fulltime officers are certified evidence technicians and are certified in CPR/AED and first aid. They also must complete the Ohio Peace Officer Basic Training Academy. Annually, each must qualify with all carried firearms and participate in at least 12 hours of in-service training. Officers receive additional specialized training as well.

The average tenure of a police employee is 8.5 years.

Indulge: Taste at the Crossroads

The Vandalia-Butler Chamber of Commerce and Butler Township will co-sponsor the Taste at the Crossroads on Tuesday, June 5 from 5 to 9 p.m. The event will be held on Town Center Dr. and feature local restaurants in Vandalia and Butler Township with entertainment on the big stage.

The chamber board has decided to move this event, normally held inside during April in Vandalia, to the outdoors in Butler Township.

Beer and wine will be available for purchase and tickets for the food will cost \$15 for anyone 10 years and older. Children 9 and under are admitted free with a paying adult.

Hazardous waste is “unacceptable” waste

If you need to dispose of hazardous wastes, be sure NOT to mix them with your regular trash. Examples of such wastes include

- Automotive products (antifreeze, fluids, motor oil)
- Batteries (home and car)
- Cathode ray tubes (TVs, computer monitors)
- Chemical paint strippers and thinners
- Fire extinguishers
- Fluorescent light bulbs and ballasts
- Gas or propane tanks
- Heavy metals (mercury, silver)
- Household cleansers
- Medicines
- Mineral spirits
- Photographic chemicals
- Pool chemicals
- Thermometers, thermostats
- Oil-based paint
- Pesticides, herbicides, insecticides

Montgomery County offers the Household Hazardous Waste program to all Montgomery County residents with home-generated hazardous waste. All patrons must present valid proof of residency. Weekly drop off is available at two locations:

North Transfer Station, 6589 Old Webster St., Vandalia - **Tuesdays only, 8 am – 2 pm**

South Transfer, 1001 Encrete Ln., Dayton - **Saturdays only, 8 am – 2 pm**

For more information, visit the county’s solid waste website at http://www.mcoho.org/services/swd/household_hazardous_waste_drop_off.html.

Free brush drop-off offered this spring

Looking for a way to clean up your yard after winter? Butler Township’s free brush drop-off program for residential cleanup only will be offered again this spring, every Saturday from April 14 through May 19 at the Service Department, 3710 West National Rd. The hours are 8 a.m. to noon. The program is available only to Butler Township residents, so be sure to bring valid current ID to verify that you live in the township.

Please follow these requirements if you plan to use this program:

- Do not bring construction materials, old firewood, yard waste, landscaping or lawn service debris.
- Do not chop brush and limbs too small, as this makes as this them more difficult to handle.
- Remove nails, wire, root balls and similar items.



Your projects may need permits

If you’re planning a fix-up project around the house this spring or summer, don’t forget to check with Butler Township to find out if you need a zoning permit. Generally, any construction that adds building space or covered area to a lot, or that requires structural change, requires a permit.

It’s best to make your zoning inquiries BEFORE you begin your project. Please contact the Butler Township Zoning Department at 898-6735 for more information.

Planning a garage sale?

Garage sales held over one or two days do not require permit. While not strictly allowed by zoning laws, garage- and yard-sale signs are forgiven for short-term sales provided such signs are not attached to traffic-control devices such as stop signs or speed-limit signs and are removed immediately after the event.

Around The Township



8524 N. Dixie Drive
Dayton, OH 45414

Township Trustees

(937) 898-6735

Martin Russell, President - x1197

Doug Orange, Vice President - x1199

Michael Lang, Trustee - x1196

Mark Adams, Fiscal Officer

(937) 898-6735 - x1198

Kimberly Lapensee, Administrator

(937) 898-6735 - x1121

Carl Bush, Police Chief

(937) 890-2671 - x1231

Dan Alig, Fire Chief

(937) 890-2491

Doug Brunk, Public Works

(937) 890-1218

Jeff Bothwell, Development Director

(937) 898-6735 - x1113

Trash Department

(937) 898-6735

Police, Non-emergency

(937) 890-2671

Fire, Non-emergency

(937) 890-2491

Service Department

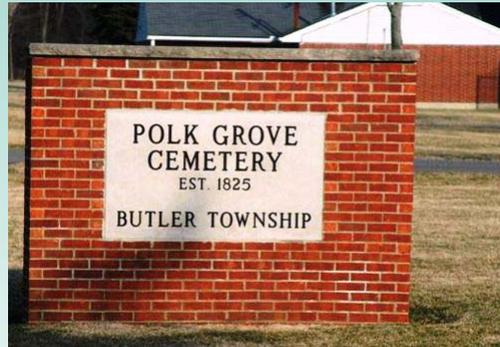
(937) 890-1218

PRSR STD
U.S. Postage
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Permit 137
Dayton, OH

Building consolidation

Butler Township will soon combine administrative and police functions into one building at 3510 Sudachi Dr. to save money on utilities and to share common spaces. Butler Township trustees decided to award the contract to VanCon Inc. in March and construction should be completed by October. The current government center and police station at 8524/8526 N. Dixie Dr. will be sold and the meeting room will be moved to Fire Station 88 on Little York Rd.

The township will also sell the property at the corner of N. Dixie and Reinwood and the site for Station 87 on Little York Rd. at Guilford.



Cemeteries have long history in township

Some Butler Township residents may remember back just 35 years or so when grave diggers at the Polk Grove Cemetery used dynamite to blast through the bedrock less than a foot below the ground's surface. The process has become somewhat less disruptive these days with the use

of a hydraulic jackhammer, now the tool of choice for digging 35-40 new graves per year.

Although the nearly 200-year-old Polk Grove Cemetery is the only one still active, the Township Service Department maintains five cemeteries in all. In addition to digging the graves, township personnel pour bases for headstones, mow the grass, control weeds and keep the cemeteries clean and attractive.

Some 5,000 plots are still available for purchase. Pricing information is available on the township's website (www.butlertownship.com/departments-services) or by calling the service department at 890-1218.