



Around The Township

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

Spring 2020

Township Provides Essential Services Through COVID-19

Like the rest of the nation, Butler Township is responding seriously to all health concerns and social distancing mandates resulting from the COVID-19 crisis. The township is complying with the statewide stay-at-home order, and we hope that our residents are doing the same.

All township facilities and offices are currently closed to the public, although we are still conducting business and issuing permits via telephone and email. Should you need to contact the township, please visit our website (www.butlertownship.com), or call 937-898-6735. You can leave a message with the appropriate department, and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

Your health, safety and well-being is of utmost importance during this pandemic. Please stay informed by visiting the following websites and information hotlines:

Public Health Dayton & Montgomery County
www.phdmc.org/coronavirus-updates

Ohio Department of Health
www.coronavirus.ohio.gov

Centers for Disease Control
www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html



Census 2020: Shape Our Future

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the U.S. Census Bureau has extended the Self-Reporting Phase to August 14, 2020. During this phase, citizens are strongly encouraged to complete their census questionnaire online, although doing so by phone or mail are also options. The online form can be found at respond.census.gov/acs, or call 1-844-330-2020.

As this newsletter goes to press, the Bureau's website states, "Due to the outbreak of COVID-19, the Census Bureau is temporarily changing how we collect information through our ongoing demographic and economic activity surveys. Instead of visiting you in person, the Bureau will likely contact you by phone to participate in one of our surveys."

Your participation determines how billions of dollars are allocated to local communities, so please take a moment to respond.



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Meet Our New Hires



New Equipment Improves Efficiency

Maintenance on township roadways, Polk Grove Cemetery and at community-event venues is more efficient thanks to the Service Department's recent replacement of two pieces of equipment. A new skid loader and utility vehicle replace similar equipment that was over 20 years old and unreliable. Both pieces of equipment were part of the department's 2019 and 2020 Capital Equipment Plan.

Grant Will Educate Citizens on Recycling

The Montgomery County Solid Waste District has awarded Butler Township an incentive grant of \$13,508 to help promote waste reduction and incorporate new recycling programs.

The township will add \$5,789 for its local match and apply the funds to provide new trash and containers for recyclables in the business district, initiate new community-oriented recycling projects, and educate citizens about how to reduce waste.



Several Butler Township departments have welcomed new employees to fill open positions and meet citizens' needs.

Service Department

The Service Department has hired two service workers who will be responsible for maintaining roadways, rights-of-ways, cemeteries and buildings in addition to other maintenance projects. This brings the department to six full-time positions.

- **Michael Roberts** was hired as Service Worker II after having served as a highway worker for Montgomery County, frequently doing work in Butler Township. He brings 33 years' experience to the job.

- **Adam Butler** was hired a Service Worker I. A graduate of Ohio State University with a degree in agriculture, Adam previously worked at Nutrien Ag Solutions in Greenville. Adam brings experience and a strong work ethic, which will be a great asset to the department.



Service workers (l) Michael Roberts and (r) Adam Butler.



Fire Department

- The Fire Department has hired **Tom Janowiecki** to fill a recent firefighter/paramedic vacancy. He brings 25 years of experience in firefighter/EMT and paramedic roles. The Butler Township resident last worked as a paramedic for the city of Riverside.



Township Unveils New Logo

Butler Township entered into an agreement last year with Catapult Creative to refresh the Butler Township brand, including a modernized, mobile-friendly website; a business district rebranding; and an updated township logo.

“The new Butler Township logo is a contemporary refresh of the existing round township seal,” said Township Administrator Erika Vogel. “It reflects our community's commercial and residential growth, while preserving our traditional rural nature.”



*Courtyard by Marriott
Ribbon Cutting*

New Business Ticking Up

Commercial development and redevelopment remain strong in Butler Township.

Here are the details:

Hotels

In 2019, two more hotels, the Fairfield Inn and Suites and Holiday Inn Express and Suites, broke ground in the business district. Also, officials gathered on November 12 for a ribbon-cutting to celebrate the re-opening of Courtyard Marriott after extensive renovations, including room updates and the addition of modern meeting spaces and common areas.

When completed this year, the new hotels will bring the total number of hotels to 16 and total number of rooms to 1,580. Few people realize that Butler Township is home to roughly 25 percent of Montgomery County's total hotel base and is a prominent destination for people traveling to the Dayton area. These hotels are at full capacity many weekends and bring in over \$800,000 annually in lodging tax revenue.

Restaurants

The former Max & Erma's building has been repurposed as a new IHOP. It was enhanced with new stone accents and blue awnings to represent the IHOP brand. The new restaurant opened its doors in December, and township officials participating in a ribbon-cutting and grand opening on January 22.



IHOP Ribbon Cutting

Banking

After a much-anticipated groundbreaking ceremony in late October, a new Minster Bank is under construction at 8530 North Dixie Dr. The township sold the vacant land to Minster Bank in July 2019 so they could establish a local branch in Butler Township.



Minster Bank Ground Breaking

Senior Living

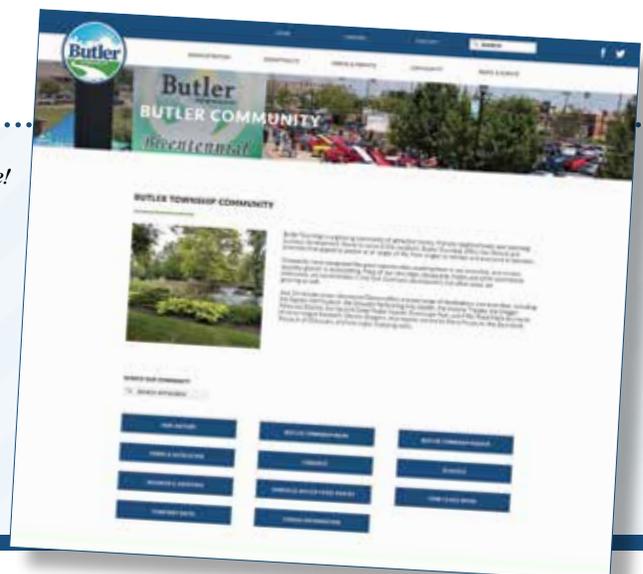
The Zoning Commission approved a preliminary plan for a new assisted living facility to be built next to the Stonespring Transitional Care facility, off of Singing Ridge Boulevard.

"We're excited to see more options being provided for our residents as they transition into senior living," said Vogel. "This will be a great asset to our community."

Check back for our updated website!

Website Update Coming

As part of Butler Township's rebranding effort, the website is being improved with convenient features to make it more user friendly. It will go "live" in the coming months. You can find the township's website at www.butlertownship.com.



Mark Your Calendar

2019 Events and More to Come in 2020

Thanks to strong support from active and engaged residents, Butler Township's 2019 community events were successful by every measure. Here's a recap and an invitation for 2020:

Community Shred Day

In June, the township partnered with event sponsor Day Air Credit Union to hold our first-ever Community Shred Day. Many residents took advantage of this free event. Township officials and staff were on hand to provide curbside service and unload boxes of documents that were safely shredded on site. The 2020 Shred Day will take place June 6 from 9 a.m. to noon.



July 3rd Star Spangled Celebration

Cosponsored annually by Butler Township and the city of Vandalia, this event was again held at the Vandalia Recreation Center. Hundreds of folks came out to enjoy friends, food trucks, and fireworks, along with live music. Mark your calendar for July 3, 2020.

National Night Out

With this annual event – supported by local businesses such as Stonespring Nursing Home and planned by Police Sergeant Amy Carr – Butler Township joins hundreds of communities across the country to send criminals the message that residents and police are united against crime. Held at Stonespring on the first Tuesday in August, National Night Out features free activities,

games, prizes and hot dogs for kids of all ages. We hope you'll come out the evening of August 4, 2020.

Cruise-In to Butler Township

With 85 cars on display on the perfect August day, the 6th Annual Cruise-In drew hundreds of people for the best turnout ever. Don't miss this year's Cruise-In, Saturday, August 8, 2020.



Brush and Limb Drop-Off Day

Many residents took the opportunity last October to dispose of their yard waste safely and conveniently at the

Service Department facility on National Road. Stay tuned for brush drop-off dates in 2020.

Party in the Park

Modeled after the successful 2017 Bicentennial Celebration, Butler Township hosted the Party in the Park on October 5. Art Van Atta Park provided the perfect setting for folks to enjoy great music, food trucks, a petting zoo and popular wagon rides through the park. The Party in the Park will return Saturday, October 10, from noon – 6 p.m.



New Equipment Aids Fire Services

To provide the most efficient, reliable service possible, the Butler Township Fire Department has replaced two first-responder pickup trucks that were 13 and 14 years old. The new vehicles include a 2019 Chevy Tahoe and a 2019 Ford F-250 pickup truck.

In December, the department took delivery of a new water rescue-boat trailer – one that's lighter, shorter and updated to improve overall efficiencies, increase safety for rescuers and provide better storage arrangements. It will meet the department's needs for years to come.



Protect Your Property Value

Butler Township enforces codes to eliminate nuisance conditions, keep the community attractive and preserve property values.

Here are the most common problems inspectors look for:

- Vehicles must be licensed, operable and parked on a driveway at all times. Vehicles are not permitted to be parked on the grass in the front yard of any property.
- Parked RV's, trailers and boats must be stored within an enclosed building or at minimum, behind the front foundation of the house on a concrete/paved surface.
- Garbage containers may not be placed at the curb more than 24 hours before or 24 hours after a scheduled pick-up. When not set out for pickup, garbage containers must be stored in an enclosed area or behind the front foundation line of the home.
- Tall grass and weeds on a property may not exceed a height of 8 inches. If not cut in a reasonable amount of time, the township will have the grass cut and charge a fee, which will be assessed to the property owner.
- Property owners are responsible for maintaining the right-of-way in front of their property.
- Butler Township is not responsible for maintaining ditches or curb lawns. Please help keep Butler Township beautiful by maintaining the right-of-way.



Does that Project Require a Permit?

If you're planning a 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 covers an area of a lot, or that requires structural change, requires a permit. This includes detached garages, sheds, gazebos, pools and decks.

Although a permit is not required to install fencing, fences may not exceed a height of 6 feet in any side- or rear-yard. Fences in front yards are limited to 3 feet in height, and not more than 50 percent of the lot frontage. Any front yard fencing must be decorative; chain link or other wire fencing is not permitted.

Remember it's best to make your inquiries before you begin any project.

Please contact the Zoning Department at 937-898-6735 or website at www.butlertownship.com for permit forms or more information concerning any property maintenance issue.



Before Your Garage Sale...

If you're planning a garage or yard sale this season, here are the zoning rules you need to know:

- You do not need a permit for a garage sale or yard sale lasting three consecutive days or less.
- Two off-premise signs pertaining to garage sales are allowed as long as the signs measure 4 square feet or less, and they are removed within 24 hours following the event. Signs posted on poles, street/stop signs, or other traffic control devices within the public right-of-way are not permitted and will be removed.

Trash Payment Now More Convenient

Residents can now receive and view trash bills electronically online, make payments 24/7 with credit/debit card or e-check and/or choose to go paperless. A quick, one-time payment can be made without registering.

However, creating an account allows for additional features, such as making automatic payments.

Visit www.butlertownship.com to register and learn about the new system.



Police Get Help with Crisis Intervention

The Butler Township Police Department is part of a mobile crisis-intervention pilot program that aims to make a licensed mental health professional available 24/7 to assist police. Also involved in the program are the Vandalia Police Department and Montgomery County Alcohol Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS). South Community Inc. is providing the service.

The goals include

- Providing support for police when they encounter people with mental health issues.
- Reducing repeat calls by, or on behalf of, the same clients by linking those clients with other community services, and

- Reducing jail admissions for people experiencing a mental health crisis.

The program has hired a clinician to work alongside officers, offering individuals in crisis resources and initial counseling.

Vandalia Police Chief Kurt Althouse and Butler Township Police Chief John Porter



Academy: Residents Learn about Policing

The Butler Township Police Department graduated 12 residents from its first-ever Citizens' Police Academy last fall. The seven-week academy explored topics including criminal, drug and crash investigations; police K9; and use-of-force options. Many participated in police ride-alongs.

Interested in participating? The 2020 academy will be held next fall, with registration starting in August. Be sure to check the township's website at www.butlertownship.com the police department's Facebook page.



2019 Police Academy participants include (front row) Karen Engelbert, April Lay, Robyn Flanagan, Jennifer Allen, Michelle Weber; (middle row) Chief John Porter, Diane Daily, Jason Lay, Pam Luke, Joe Flanagan, Christopher Baker; and (back row) Martin Blasko, Tony McKee.

Thank You, Skyline!

For the second year in a row, Skyline held a fundraiser for the Butler Township Fire Department. This year's event was held in conjunction with Touch a Truck Day that allows kids to safely explore their favorite big trucks and meet the people who operate them.

Skyline donated \$676 to the fire department, for health and safety programs for personnel.



Recycling Do's and Don't's

So much is reported these days about what's recyclable and what's not, it's hard to keep up. Rumpke, Butler Township's trash hauling contractor, offers these guidelines:

Items Rumpke Accepts for Recycling

Paper and cardboard
Glass bottles and jars
Cartons
Plastic bottles and jugs
Metal cans

Unacceptable Miscellaneous Items

Hazardous or flammable material
Anything touched by gas or oil
(*even if empty or clean*)
Paint cans (*spray and liquid*)
Wood and yard waste

Rubber hose
Rope and string
Electronics
Styrofoam
Car parts
Batteries
Cassette and VHS tapes
Pressurized tanks
Clothing and sheets
Hoses and chains
Plastic bags
Hangers

Unacceptable Glass Items

Ceramic and porcelain
Drinking glasses
Window glass
Light bulbs
Dishware

Unacceptable Paper Items

Toilet paper, paper towels and contaminated items
Photos, photo paper and specially-treated paper
Laminated paper
(*thick or waterproof coverings*)
Paper plates and cups
Tissues

Unacceptable Plastic Items

Plastic items without a bottle neck
Plastic tubs, trays and cups
Plastic toys and bikes
Plastic buckets
Plastic wrap

Have questions about recycling? Please call Rumpke at 1-800-828-8171.

Stop Thieves this Vacation Season

If you're planning to be away this vacation season, remember to safeguard your home against thieves. Here are some things you can do:

- Have a close friend or family member check your residence frequently while you're gone.
- Use light timers or have someone change the lights frequently.
- Cancel newspaper and mail deliveries or be sure to have someone collect them daily.

- Make sure your lawn is cut and shrubs are kept cut back. Arrange for your grass to be cut while you're gone.
- Let your neighbors know your plans so they can report any suspicious activity.
- Consider installing a home security system.
- Avoid advertising your vacation on social media. If you post, you're letting everyone know you're gone and your home is vulnerable to break-ins.

Vacation House Checks Available

The Butler Township Police Department offers a Vacation House Check. Officers will periodically stop by your residence to check on the property. Residents can register for this service by visiting to the township website at www.butlertownship.com or by contacting the dispatch center at 937-223-2080.

Mobile Computers, Body Cams Assist Police



The Butler Township Police Department's recent cruiser replacements have been upgraded with new mobile computers and in-car video systems. These systems are being integrated with the

department's new Body Camera Initiative that will streamline and combine the in-car camera systems and the new body cams onto a single digital video platform. This approach will save the department thousands of dollars over the life of the system.

Body cameras help police agencies provide transparency to encourage community trust and accountability. Body cams also record vital evidence for officers performing criminal investigations.



Government Center

3510 Sudachi Dr.
Dayton, Ohio 45414

Township Trustees

(937) 898-6735
Michael Lang – x1196
Kenneth Betz – x1199
Missy Pruszynski – x1197

Fiscal Officer

(937) 898-6735
Greg Brush - x1198

Township Administrator

(937) 898-6735
Erika Vogel - x1113

Police/Fire/EMS

Emergency
9-1-1
Non-Emergency Dispatch
(937) 233-2080

Fire Department Admin.

(937) 890-2491
Chief Dan Alig – x1403

Police Department Admin.

(937) 890-2671
Chief John Porter – x1231

Service Department

(937) 898-6735
Jeff Barnett, Director - x1302

Trash Department

(937) 898-6735 x1119

Zoning/Property Maintenance

(937) 898-6735 x1111

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
Paid
Permit 137
Dayton, OH

Yard Waste Disposal Options

Yard waste is an inevitable part of maintaining your home. But what to do with it once you've collected it? Here are some options:

Rumpke weekly residential trash service

- Yard waste may be disposed of in any type of trash bag. Each household with regular service is limited to a total of six bags/containers per week. The six bags may include any combination of trash and yard waste, as long as it's within the weekly six-container limit.

- Low-volume service yard waste must be co-mingled and fit inside your 35-gallon trash container.

- For regular service, limbs and brush can be tied into bundles no larger than 4 feet x 2 feet.

Montgomery County Solid Waste District

The Montgomery County Solid Waste District, at 1001 Encrete Ln. in Moraine, accepts yard waste Monday - Friday, 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

- Proof of residency in Montgomery County is required to use this service.

- Yard waste disposal is free of charge. Limbs and brush must be clean and free of debris.

- Yard waste, limbs and brush in plastic bags is accepted and also free of charge.

Visit the district's website at www.mcswd.org or call 937-225-4999 for more information.