Plain Township Fire Department 15th Annual Open House

The Plain Township Fire Department and the Firefighters Local 3850 invite you to the Fire Department’s 15th Annual Open House on October 7 from 10am to 4pm. Meet firefighters, explore emergency equipment and learn about fire safety.

The Open House kicks off Fire Prevention Week. This year’s theme is “Have Two Ways Out!” Every family should have an escape plan in case of an emergency.

“One home structure fire was reported every 85 seconds in 2010,” says Plain Township Fire Chief John Hoovler. “Fire is unpredictable and moves faster than most people realize. Having a tried and true escape plan with two ways out is essential to ensuring your family’s safety should a fire occur in your home.”

The Plain Township Fire Department recommends the following tips for planning your family’s escape:

1) Make a map of your home. Mark a door and a window that can be used to escape. Make sure everyone can open these.
2) Choose a meeting place outside in front of your home. This is where everyone can meet once they’ve escaped. Draw a picture of your outside meeting place on your escape plan.
3) Write the emergency telephone number for the fire department on your escape plan.
4) Have a grown-up sound the smoke alarm and practice your escape plan with everyone living in your home.
5) Keep your escape plan on the refrigerator and remind grown-ups to have your family practice the plan twice a year or whenever anyone in your home celebrates a birthday.

To learn more about “Have Two Ways Out!” visit NFPA’s Web site at www.firepreventionweek.org.
Share the Road

Event draws participants to growing cycling community.

Five of the six routes for the 2012 Pelotonia passed through or ended in New Albany. 6,200 bicycle riders raised an estimated $15 million in what is now the largest single-event biking fundraiser in the United States. Follow these simple rules and bicycling becomes safer and more enjoyable for everyone.

- Bicyclists are required to ride as far to the right of the road as practicable, but are legally permitted to utilize the full traffic lane when necessary to protect their own safety.
- Bicyclists should be treated like any other slow-moving vehicle: they should only be passed when there are no oncoming cars and sight lines are clear. When passing a bicyclist, ensure there is a minimum of 3 feet between your car and the bicycle.
- Beware of bicyclists who might be in your blind spot or are otherwise difficult to see.
- Bicyclists are allowed to ride two abreast.
- Exercise extra caution when approaching children on bikes and at multi-use path crossings.

Election Day will be here soon.

Below are some guidelines to ensure that political signs comply with township zoning regulations.

Plain Township Zoning Resolution
Section 425.03.9 Political Signs.

a) No political sign shall be posted in any place or in any manner that is destructive to public property upon posting or removal.
b) No political sign shall be posted in a public right-of-way nor shall any such sign be posted on a utility pole.
c) Candidates for public office, their campaign committees, or other persons responsible for the posting of campaign material on public property are responsible for removing those campaign materials following the election.

Maplewood Cemetery Road Project Complete

The resurfacing of the streets and parking areas of Maplewood Cemetery by Stantec Consulting and Strawser Paving has been completed.

Full access to the cemetery has been restored. Thank you for your patience during these improvements to the cemetery.
Carbon Monoxide Detectors

Often called the silent killer, carbon monoxide is an invisible, odorless, colorless gas created when fuels (such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil, and methane) burn incompletely. In the home, heating and cooking equipment that burn fuel can be sources of carbon monoxide. Test CO alarms at least once a month and replace them according to the manufacturer’s instructions.

If the CO alarm sounds, immediately move to a fresh air location outdoors or by an open window or door. Make sure everyone inside the home is accounted for. Call for help from a fresh air location and stay there until emergency personnel arrive.

If you need to warm a vehicle, remove it from the garage immediately after starting it. Do not run a vehicle or other fueled engine or motor indoors, even if garage doors are open. Make sure the exhaust pipe of a running vehicle is not covered with snow.

During and after a snowstorm, make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove, and fireplace are clear of snow build-up. A generator should be used in a well-ventilated location outdoors away from windows, doors and vent openings.

Blood Drive: The Gift of Life

Plain Township Fire Department supports the American Red Cross local blood drive.

The American Red Cross in partnership with the New Albany Methodist Church will hold a blood drive on October 15, 2012 at the NA Methodist Church in support of Fire Prevention Week, October 7-13. At the PTFD Open House, residents will have the opportunity to sign up to donate blood at the October 15th blood drive and learn more about the Red Cross blood bank and disaster services.

The Central Ohio Red Cross supports patients at 42 area hospitals, and has an average daily need of 800 units of blood. The need for blood is constant. Every two seconds, someone in the United States needs a blood transfusion. Blood and platelets are needed for many different reasons, including accident and burn victims, heart surgery patients, organ transplant patients, premature babies – when there are complications during childbirth – and for patients receiving treatment for leukemia, cancer or sickle cell disease.

Join us on October 7th for the PTFD Open House to find out more about the American Red Cross and to sign up to give the gift of life. Call 1-800-RED-CROSS to donate blood.

Home Heating Safety

Cool weather is just around the corner. It's time to check the heating mechanics in your home!

In 2010, heating equipment was involved in an estimated 57,100 reported U.S. home structure fires, with associated losses of 490 civilian deaths, 1,540 civilian injuries, and $1.1 billion in direct property damage. These fires accounted for 16% of all reported home fires.

Space heaters, whether portable or stationary, accounted for one-third (32%) of home heating fires and four out of five (79%) of home heating fire deaths.

Fire Prevention

Fire Prevention Week has been observed since 1922, and has its roots in the historic Chicago fire of 1871. This annual event marks a time to focus on fire prevention and safety.

Including children in fire prevention is an important role of Plain Township's fire safety education program. Fire Department staff work with teachers and students every year to ensure that students know the basics of fire prevention and safety.

With a basic floor plan, help your children map out escape routes. Be sure to include a meeting place on your map. Ask the children in your family about fire safety and review your family's emergency escape plan.

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Plain Township Office
45 Second Street
P.O. Box 273
New Albany, Ohio 43054

Hours: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Phone: (614) 855-2085
Fax: (614) 855-2087

www.plaintownship.org

To receive news and updates by email, please send a request to:
e-news@plaintownship.org

ELECTED OFFICIALS
Board of Trustees
David Ferguson, Chairman
dferguson@plaintownship.org
David Olmstead,
daveolmstead@plaintownship.org
Tom Rybski
trybski@plaintownship.org

Fiscal Officer
Bud Zappitelli
PTFO@plaintownship.org

STAFF
Township Administrator
Ben Collins
bcollins@plaintownship.org

Fire Chief
John Hoovler
jhoovler@plaintownship.org

Maintenance Supervisor
Bobby Pharris
bpharris@plaintownship.org

DEPARTMENTS
Fire & EMS
855-7370 (Non-Emergency)

Maintenance
855-9015

Administration & Zoning
855-2085

Aquatic Center
775-9430 (Seasonal)

Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off

The Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio collects household hazardous waste. Regular HHW drop-offs can be made at 645 E. 8th Avenue, Columbus, 43201. Visit www.swaco.org for operation hours and a complete list of accepted items.

SWACO holds mobile collections around Franklin County each quarter. The next mobile collection is on October 13, from 8 am to 2 pm, at 6300 Gantz Road, Grove City, 43123.

Used Oil • Antifreeze • Paint Thinners • Turpentine • Polishes Drain Cleaners • Adhesives Kerosene • Propane • Bleach Insecticides • Vehicle Batteries Pool Chemicals • Old Gasoline

Trash collection and recycling is provided by RUMPKE

To set up service or for information, call 800-828-8171 or visit: www.rumpke.com.

Weekly collection is scheduled for Thursdays. Seniors receive a 10% discount at age 60+

Curbside recycling includes:
- Newspaper, magazines, catalogs, telephone books
- Mail, computer paper, brown bags
- Paperboard (i.e. cereal boxes)
- Cardboard boxes (broken down into 3 x 3 ft. sections)
- Plastic and glass bottles and jars
- Aluminum cans, siding and gutters
- Steel soup, food and aerosol cans