Plain Township Fire Department 18th Annual Open House

The Plain Township Fire Department and the Firefighters Local 3850 invite you to the Fire Department’s 18th Annual Open House on October 11th from 10 am to 4 pm. Meet firefighters, explore emergency equipment and learn about fire safety.

This year’s theme is “Hear the Beep Where You Sleep. Every Bedroom Needs a Working Smoke Alarm! “In a fire, seconds count,” said Chief John Hoovler. “Half of home fire deaths result from fires reported at night between 11 pm and 7 am when most people are asleep. Home smoke alarms can alert people to a fire before it spreads, giving everyone enough time to get out.”

Location matters when it comes to your smoke alarm.

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement.
- Interconnect all smoke alarms throughout the home. This way, when one sounds, they all do.
- Test alarms at least monthly by pushing the test button.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old or sooner if they don’t respond properly.
- Make sure everyone in the home knows the sound of the smoke alarm and understands what to do when they hear it.
- If the smoke alarm sounds, get outside and stay outside. Go to your outside meeting place. Call the fire department from outside the home.

To learn more about smoke alarms and “Hear the Beep Where You Sleep. Every Bedroom Needs a Working Smoke Alarm!” visit NFPA’s web site at [www.firepreventionweek.org](http://www.firepreventionweek.org) and [www.sparky.org/fpw](http://www.sparky.org/fpw).

Register now for ALERT Franklin County!

Plain Township is pleased to announce its partnership with Franklin County Emergency Management & Homeland Security to implement the ALERT Franklin County Public Notification System.

ALERT Franklin County is a state-of-the-art system that will be used to alert residents about emergencies and other important community news in all 42 jurisdictions within Franklin County.

ALERT Franklin County enables officials to provide critical information directly to residents as emergencies happen. The alerts provide information on where to go, what to do and how to stay informed through text message, email, cell phone, home phone or work phone. Text message is the fastest way to receive notifications. Register today at [www.alertfranklincounty.org](http://www.alertfranklincounty.org)!

Stay Connected

[Facebook](http://facebook.com)  [Twitter](http://twitter.com)  [Email](mailto:)  [Website](http://www.plaintownshipnews.com)
Election Day will be here soon

Below are guidelines to ensure that political signs comply with Plain Township zoning regulations. No permits are required.

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.

Helping to Protect Ohio’s Waterways From Our Own Backyards

While the current nutrient-related water pollution incidents in the news leave challenges for policy makers, there are things we can do at home to reduce nutrient pollution in our streams. We know nutrients can be beneficial to plant growth; elevated nutrients that wash off the land and in our streams can pose a threat to human health. Elevated concentrations of nitrates present a health risk to both infants and women who are pregnant. This spring nitrate levels were identified in drinking water coming from the Columbus Dublin Road water plant, resulting in a water advisory.

Fall Leaf Removal

Did you know that grass and leaves can be harmful to our waterways? Many leaves will naturally fall into waterways, but as homeowners, we should be mindful not to upset nature’s balance.

The leaves that fall on our lawn should never be placed in ditches, creeks or streams. Excessive decaying leaves use up the water’s oxygen, harming animals that live in the water.

Leaves can also get into our creeks and streams through storm drains. Leaves and pollutants can easily be washed into the storm drain when it rains. When cleaning up this year’s leaf drop, follow these simple steps to keep our waterways clean!

Never rake leaves into your storm drains, ditches, creeks or streams. Mulch leaves by running over them with your lawn mower at your next cutting. Leaves and grass clippings are the best fertilizer for your lawn. Or.... rake leaves into a compost pile for a nutrient-rich fertilizer to use on your garden next spring.
Fire Prevention at New Albany K-1
The Plain Township Fire Department’s prevention staff has the privilege of visiting the New Albany Plain Local Schools K-1 students to discuss and practice important lifesaving fire safety skills this fall. The goals this year are to know the sound of a smoke alarm, have two ways out of every room, practice your home escape plan, and have a safe meeting place.

“Residential fires account for 92% of structure fire fatalities. Home fires spread rapidly and leave families as little as two minutes to escape after a smoke alarm sounds,” said Chief John Hoovler. “We know smoke alarms save lives. Yet, people rarely make the direct connection that the smoke alarm means there is a fire. Generally, people consider what’s going on, or what is wrong, instead of concluding there is a fire and they should evacuate the building. We need families to teach their children about what to do when the smoke alarm sounds, create a home escape plan, practice the escape plan and have a safe meeting place. Smoke alarms can only save a life if you take action.”

Put Your Shine On: It may save your life!
The Plain Township Fire Department has received concerned calls for the safety of residents utilizing the roadways to exercise in the early morning and late evening. Vehicle operators report being unable to see walkers, runner and cyclists during these hours. According to the CDC, in 2012 there were 76,000 traffic related pedestrian injuries. Be safe and make sure drivers can see you.

Look out for vehicles, assume they cannot see you. Consider implementing these preventative measures:
- Wear reflective or brightly colored clothing designed for night.
- Wear a headlamp or carry a flashlight to alert vehicles of your presence before it is too late.
- Ditch the headphones. If listening to music, leave a single ear bud in so the other ear can hear for oncoming cars. According to a 2014 study from the University of Maryland, incidents in which pedestrians were hit by cars and trains while wearing headphones increased threefold in the past six years. In 70% of those incidents, the walker or runner was killed.

CPR Saves Lives
A 911 call was made for a man suffering cardiac arrest on the 7th green at the New Albany Links Golf Club. While Plain Township medics were dispatched, CPR instructions were given to the patient’s friends over the phone. Thanks to joint dispatching by the MECC (Metropolitan Emergency Communications Consortium) the call did not need to be transferred.

There were no delays in dispatching the medics and no delays in giving CPR instructions, which made a huge difference in the patient’s recovery. Upon arrival, firefighters were able to provide electric shock to return the patient’s heartbeat to normal rhythm and he recovered.

You never know when CPR could save a life. Sign up for a community CPR class or visit www.redcross.org to find a class near you. Learn hands only CPR and how to use an Automated External Defibrillator, called an AED.

Firefighters For Kids Toy Drive
The Plain Township Fire Department and the Firefighters Local 3850 invite the community to support the annual Firefighter’s for Kids toy drive.

“Each year we are reminded what a wonderful and generous community we live in. Businesses and families come together in creative ways to provide holiday gifts for families in need,” said Chief John Hoovler. “Some of our businesses invite customers to bring a gift to donate; others invite staff to join in the gift giving. There are many touching moments over the holiday season as groups and individuals stop in the fire station to leave a gift for the program. The Firefighters that volunteer to run the program tell us every year the needs seem to get greater”.

Plain Township wishes to thank all of the amazing people who make something special happen for the many families they do not know. The Firefighters for Kids program accepts new unwrapped gifts, gift cards, and monetary donations. The program serves families of Plain Township and surrounding central Ohio. Visit www.firefighters4kids.com to apply for assistance.
HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF

The Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio (SWACO) provides free Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) disposal services for all Franklin County residents.

Regular HHW drop-offs can be made at 645 E. 8th Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43201. Visit www.swaco.org for hours and a complete list of accepted items.

SWACO holds mobile collections around Franklin County each quarter. Dates for the mobile collection drives can be found by visiting www.swaco.org.

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