2014 Pool Season

After a long, cold winter, we’re all looking forward to summer. Summer 2014 promises to be warmer than last year and we expect better weather overall. Plan to make the Plain Township Aquatic Center part of your summer schedule. Want to train for the New Albany Triathlon? We have lap lanes available daily.

Movie night is back for 2014! We will be showing two movies, one on June 20 and the second on July 18. We will also coordinate our Float n’ Fireworks with the date of New Albany’s fireworks. Come relax in our heated pool and watch the fireworks. The pool will remain open until 11 pm (weather permitting).

We are introducing Member Only Hours for 2014. Saturdays in June from 11 am – 12 pm, members only will be allowed to enter the pool, as long as they swipe their cards. Members without their cards and paying guests will be allowed in after 12 pm. Member appreciation days will be back on Tuesdays June 24, July 22 and August 12. Each member may bring one guest, for FREE! Family Night will also continue on Thursday evenings, starting at 5 pm. The concession stand will be running specials so you and your family can enjoy dinner at the pool.

Those of you looking to sign up for swim lessons and swim team, mark your calendars! We will again offer Early sign-up for members only on Sunday, May 18 (11-2 pm). Memberships must be processed prior to May 17th to be included on the “Member List” for lesson and swim team registration. All registrations **must** be made in person by a parent or legal guardian. Registration on opening day, Saturday May 24, will be for members and residents. Open registration will begin on Sunday May 25. Swim lesson forms are available on our website.

Summer job opportunities at the pool can be found on the Plain Township website by clicking on “Aquatic Center – Employment.”

Early-Bird Rate Ends March 31

The membership application with payment must be received in the office by March 31 for you to receive a discount and a free guest card of 10 visits (15 visits for renewing members), a value up to $80. The membership form was mailed to Plain Township and New Albany residents the end of January and e-mailed to all existing members, with a brief survey. The form can also be picked up at the Township offices located at 45 Second Street, as well as on our website at www.plaintownship.org. Membership rates are either Resident or Non-Resident, depending on your taxing district.

New Albany Triathlon

Something brand new is coming to our community in July! Challenge Family New Albany will take place the weekend of July 26th – July 27th. This community event will include open Olympic and half-iron man triathlon courses as well as women’s and kid’s triathlon courses. This event will include biking and running through the streets of New Albany.

The Plain Township Aquatic Center will host the swim portion for the women’s and kid’s triathlon events. For more information about this event please visit: challenge-newalbany.com

Participate in Local Government

Citizens are invited to participate in local government by attending meetings of the Plain Township Board of Trustees.

Time is set aside at the end of each meeting for residents to ask questions and voice comments and concerns. Meetings typically take place at 7:00 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month at the first station 9500 Johnstown Road and at 7:15 a.m. on the third Wednesday of the month at the administrative offices, 45 2nd Street.
Storm Water Runoff

Storm water runoff is the leading cause of degradation to Ohio’s waterways, including Big Walnut Creek, which Blacklick and Rocky Fork creeks drain into. As rain falls into the watershed, it begins to soak into the soil. When the ground becomes saturated, the excess storm water begins to flow across the landscape. Excessive impervious surfaces exacerbate the problem of storm water runoff because it blocks the water from soaking into the ground.

Impervious areas include hard surfaces such as roofs, sidewalks, parking lots, driveways, pavement and even compacted soil. Instead of soaking into the ground, the storm water runoff picks up contaminants from yards and impervious surfaces, including automotive fluids, road dirt, fertilizers, pesticides, pet waste, and erosion sediments.

Managing potential household contaminants can greatly reduce the amount of pollutants that enter our waterways. These contaminants can be picked up by storm water runoff include household chemicals, yard waste, pet waste, automobile and fluids, litter, pesticides and fertilizers. Be conservative when applying pesticides or fertilizers. Make sure the liquid or powder doesn’t spill into drainage areas. If it spills onto the driveway or sidewalk, sweep it up for disposal. Do not apply fertilizer or pesticides within 24 hours before an expected rainfall. Follow all listed instructions for chemical application and disposal.

Wildlife Habitat

Do you have a stream, creek, pond or other water feature on your property? Does your property include native plants that produce nuts, seeds, nectar, berries, or fruit? Do you have mature trees, dense shrubs, thickets or other dense vegetation? You may qualify to certify your yard as a wildlife habitat with the National Wildlife Foundation!

Protect natural habitats and wildlife. Visit www.nwf.org to find out how you can certify your property and join 166,000 other certified wildlife habitats.

Well Water

If you have concerns about your well water quality or suitability, contact Franklin County Public Health for consultation, sampling and qualify parameters. Visit the website at www.myfcph.org or call for more information: 525-3160.

About the Emerald Ash Borer

(Agrilus Planipennis)

Ohio has local and federal quarantines in place to prevent infestations from spreading. Though this primarily concerns producers who ship nursery stock, homeowners are highly encouraged to burn and buy local firewood. Contact the Ohio Department of Agriculture for questions about moving firewood and local quarantines effective in your area at www.agri.ohio.gov/, (614) 728-6201.

All ash trees are at risk. Treatment may be more effective if trees have at least 50% healthy canopy. Costs vary according to size, duration, frequency of treatment, and method used. Find a certified arborist at the International Society of Arboriculture, www.isa-arbor.com/faca/find Arborist.aspx.

You may be asked to remove dead or dying trees on your property, if they pose a public safety threat. Unfortunately, there is no financial assistance available for private landowners. If a diseased Ash tree is in the Right-of-Way, contact local authorities. Visit The Ohio State University Cooperative Extension Program’s EAB Website at ashalert.osu.edu or go to www.emeraldashborer.info (a national cooperative website) for more information.

Cemeteries

The Township maintains the grounds of three cemeteries: the Maplewood Cemetery located on Reynoldsburg-New Albany Road, the Smith Burying Grounds located north of the village on Route 62 and the Smith Cemetery located at Walnut Street and Lee Road.

Maplewood Cemetery is the only cemetery where lots can be purchased. For information on lot pricing and burials, or if you have other questions, please contact us at the township offices.

Lawn Maintenance

We look forward to spring and summer with warm weather and sunshine. Remember to maintain your lawn in a neat and orderly state. Overgrown grass and noxious weeds are a nuisance and the source of frequent zoning complaints. Failure to maintain lawns may result in a notice of zoning violation. Complaints can be submitted to the Plain Township zoning office through the website on the homepage or by phone at 855-2085.
Severe Weather: Are you prepared?

There are many types of natural disaster that affect our community. Over the years, Plain Township has experienced a mix of severe weather, such as, ice storms, thunderstorms, tornadoes, flooding, and lightning strikes. These events have left residents without water, power, heat, and often without a way to communicate due to the increased dependency on cell phones.

The Plain Township Fire Department is staffed on a daily basis with a Duty Crew of eleven fulltime Firefighter Paramedics. The fire department provides services to the estimated 10,500 City of New Albany and Plain Township residents, in addition to the business and school campuses. The New Albany School serves approximately 4325 students and there are 300+ businesses and an estimated 12,000 employees commuting into the business park daily.

If a disaster occurs in Plain Township, local government and disaster relief organizations will provide assistance, but you need to be ready as well. Local responders may not be able to reach you immediately, or they may need to focus their efforts elsewhere.

CodeRED Notification

The City of New Albany and Plain Township offer the CodeRED Emergency Alert Notification System as a service to residents of the area. The system will send critical communications to residents such as evacuations notices to missing child alerts.

CodeRed also includes emergency weather alerts regarding severe storms and tornados. Register today to receive emergency alerts. The CodeRED system is target specific and only covers the immediate New Albany and Plain Township area. Residents must register to receive notices. Registration can be completed by following the link at [www.plaintownship.org/township-govt/code-red/](http://www.plaintownship.org/township-govt/code-red/).

PTFD Emergency Equipment

Medic 121 – 2013
Medic 122 – 2008

Engine 121 – 2010
Engine 122 – 2001
Ladder 121 – 1996

Emergency Preparedness

Are you prepared to care for your family for 72 hours after a disaster?

Water, food, and clean air are needed if an emergency happens. Each family or individual’s kit should be customized to meet specific needs, such as medications and infant formula. It should also be customized to include important family documents.

Recommended emergency supplies:
- Water, one gallon of water per person per day, for drinking and sanitation
- Food, at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food, any needed medications.
- Battery-powered radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert, and extra batteries for both.
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First Aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Infant formula and diapers, if you have an infant
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Dust mask or cotton t-shirt, to help filter the air
- Plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Can opener for food (if kit contains canned food)

Hydrant Flushing

The Plain Township Fire Department will begin its annual spring hydrant flushing program at the end of April.

The process includes inspecting and flushing each hydrant located in the City of New Albany. Residents may notice a slight discoloration in their water.

Any questions can be directed to Captain Myers at the Plain Township Fire Department (614) 855-7370.
UPCOMING EVENTS

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Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Saturday, April 19

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 April 19, from 8 am to 2 pm, at Ashland Inc., 5200 Blazer Pkwy, Dublin, 43017.

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