

Plain Township Office
45 Second St.
P.O. Box 273
New Albany, OH 43054

Hours: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Phone: (614) 855-7770
Fax: (614) 855-7761 or 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

Jack Rupp
jrupp@plaintownship.org

Maintenance Superintendent

Bobby Pharris
bpharris@plaintownship.org

Finance Officer

Courtney Rogers
crogers@plaintownship.org

DEPARTMENTS

Fire & EMS

614-855-7370 (Non-Emergency)

Maintenance

614-855-9015

Administration & Zoning

614-855-2085

Maplewood Cemetery

614-855-2085

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P.O. Box 273
45 Second Street
New Albany, OH 43054

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RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

Upcoming Events

November 2	Election Day	December 9	Zoning Commission
November 3	Board of Trustees	December 14	Zoning Appeals
November 9	Zoning Appeals	December 15	Board of Trustees
November 10	Zoning Commission	December 16	Rocky Fork Blacklick Accord
November 11	Offices Closed-Veterans Day	December 24	Offices Closed
November 17	Board of Trustees	December 25	Christmas Day
November 18	Rocky Fork Blacklick Accord	December 31	Offices Closed
November 25	Thanksgiving Day	January 1	New Years Day
November 26	Offices Closed-Thanksgiving	January 5	Board of Trustees
December 1	Board of Trustees	January 11	Zoning Appeals

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
- 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
- Yogurt/butter containers and tubs
- Milk/juice cartons and Tetra Paks



PLAIN TOWNSHIP NEWS

Established 1810

VOLUME 18 | ISSUE 2 | FALL 2021

NEW ALBANY, OHIO

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Stormwater Awareness Week

While rainwater is great for lawns and gardens, it can be dangerous for streams and rivers when pollution is discharged to waterways. Communities across Ohio are urging residents to “Be the Change for Clean Water” and take action during Stormwater Awareness Week, October 17-23.

Stormwater can push common household items such as trash, lawn fertilizer, grass clippings or paint into local waterways, threatening our environment and clean drinking water. During Stormwater Awareness Week, Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District is urging residents to take one or more of the following actions:

- Pick up trash in your neighborhood or a local park.
- Check the weather report before applying chemical treatments to your lawn.
- Keep lawn clippings and leaves out of streams and storm drains.
- Plant native plants that have deep roots, which will help break up clay soil and increase the amount of water remaining on a property.
- Plant a tree in your yard or install a rain garden. Trees can soak up 900 gallons of rain a year, and a well-designed rain garden will reduce stormwater on your property.

Pollution left on roadways, sidewalks, driveways, and parking lots drains directly to our streams and rivers. Simple actions can improve water quality and reduce stormwater runoff. Stormwater can also erode away streams, which can cause flooding. Each year, Conservation Districts investigate multiple sources of pollution and assists hundreds of homeowners concerned with stream erosion and flooding, all caused by stormwater runoff.

There is so much we can do for Clean Water in Ohio. Please take a moment at home and at work during the week of **October 17th – 23rd**, to make your family and co-workers aware of what they can do to make Ohio a great place to live, work and play.

The mission of Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District is to promote land-use decisions for the conservation, protection and improvement of soil and water resources by providing information assistance through effective partnering, technical guidance and education.

Zoning Boards

Plain Township is seeking volunteers to serve on two zoning boards. Members must live in the unincorporated area of Plain Township. The **Board of Zoning Appeals** considers variance requests and conditional use permits. The BZA meets as needed on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm.

The Township is also seeking volunteers to serve on the **Zoning Commission**. The Zoning Commissions meets as needed on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm. The Zoning Commission reviews rezoning requests and development plans. The Zoning Commission has met infrequently over the past several years due to limited development within the unincorporated area of Plain Township.

Woody Hoffer Retires



Fire Inspector Woody Hoffer will retire this fall after decades of public service. Fire Inspector Hoffer has been a priceless asset to the Plain Township Fire Prevention Bureau. His dedication to life safety is demonstrated in his professionalism and resolve every day. Woody and his wife, Tora, love the sunny Florida beaches, golfing and retirement!

Compost?

Do you compost? Fall is a great time to restore soil health in your yard. It's also a perfect time to start a compost pile with the raked-up yard waste! A compost pile started in the fall will ensure there's enough time for the pile to be ready come spring. Flower beds and vegetable gardens will benefit from the addition of organic matter due to stimulated microbial activity.



Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District has an annual grant program that provides \$50 towards a compost bin, or other purchases. Visit their program page at franklinswcd.org.

COMMUNITY BACKYARDS GET \$50 FOR YOUR YARD!



Rain Gardens Reduce Stormwater Runoff



A rain garden is an attractive landscaped area in a low spot on a property designed to catch stormwater runoff from hard surfaces (i.e., rooftops, driveways, sidewalks). You can connect gutter downspouts and other drainage to your rain garden. Rain gardens are planted with native perennials, shrubs, or trees that allow runoff to infiltrate naturally into the ground, prevent pollutants from entering our streams, slow the flow of water from a yard during and after a storm, and recharge groundwater.

Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District offers matching funds to encourage property owners to construct rain gardens. As part of the application process, you are asked to work with Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District to help with sizing, location, and planting options. This assistance is available throughout the process of rain garden planning in a remote or onsite manner. Matching funds of up to \$250 may be provided as reimbursement for the purchase of plants, mulch, compost, and drainage hardware for a rain garden on your property. See the website for further details. www.franklinswcd.org/rain-garden-reimbursements



Yard Waste Guidelines

Unincorporated Plain Township does not have curbside leaf collection. Residents are responsible for their own leaf removal. Please keep leaves out of storm sewers and ditches as leaves may cause the storm sewers and ditches to overflow.

Rumpke residential collection service includes yard waste collection. They will pick up your leaves on your scheduled trash removal day if you place them in trash containers CLEARLY LABELED "YARD WASTE" or bag them in paper yard waste bags (available at garden or home improvement stores). Thank you for keeping your leaves out of our storm sewers and ditches.

Recently Hired Firefighters

Please welcome our newest Plain Township firefighters to the community. Each of them brings years of experience and great positivity to our fire department.



Firefighter Paramedic Joseph Petticrew graduated from Newark Catholic High School in Newark, OH. Joe attended C-TEC in Licking County, where he obtained his EMT-B, FF1, and FF2 certificates. In 2014 Joe obtained his paramedic certification from Grant Medical Center.

Joe started his career in 2010 at the Monroe Township Fire Department, Licking County, and worked through the transition from volunteer, part-time, then becoming full-time in April of 2016. He was hired at Plain Township as part-time staff in 2019. Joe is married to his beautiful wife, Erin. He has 2 children and his wife is expecting another child in January 2022. Joe enjoys spending time outside with his family and hunting.



Firefighter Paramedic, Josh Kemmerer was born and raised in Baltimore, Ohio. Josh graduated from Liberty Union High School and then went on to The Ohio State University where he graduated in December 2003 with a Bachelor's Degree in Agriculture Business. He continued his education and earned his fire card from the State Fire Academy in July 2010. He completed his paramedic training at Ohio University Lancaster in April 2011. Josh has been a full-time firefighter for 8 years. Most recently, he worked full time for the Basil Joint Fire District. Josh also works part time in equipment sales for Columbus Equipment.

Josh and his wife Kendra reside in Baltimore, Ohio and have three children. In Josh's spare time he enjoys playing golf, snowmobiling, and outdoor off-road activities and watching his children at their sporting events.



Firefighter Paramedic Grant Reader is a lifelong resident of New Albany and graduated from New Albany High School in 2015 where he played hockey. When he was a sophomore at New Albany High School, Grant knew he wanted to become a firefighter, so he joined the Plain Township Fire Explorer Program.

While attending High School he also studied to be a Firefighter and EMT at Delaware Area Career Center and graduated from New Albany in 2015 with his Firefighter and EMT certifications. After graduating high school, he attended Paramedic School at Columbus State Community College and Fire Officer I school at Franklin University. While furthering his education, Grant was also the New Albany High School Head JV Hockey Coach for 4 years, where he was able to share his love for hockey.

Grant started his fire service career in Northeast Champaign County in 2018 as a full-time Firefighter/Paramedic where he was promoted to Lieutenant. During this time, Grant also served as a part-time employee of the Plain Township Fire Department. Grant still resides in New Albany and is proud to serve his community with this new full-time opportunity.

Departing Firefighters



Fire Fighter Paramedic, Mike Tocci grew up in Worthington, OH. He is married to the love of his life, and best friend, Joni. They have an amazing daughter and live in Westerville.

Mike joined Plain Township in 2003. He always had a passion for EMS and helping people. Mike managed EMS supplies and was involved in the union as treasurer of Local 3850. Unfortunately, due to a work-related injury, Mike retired from PTFD in August 2021.

Mike enjoys spending time with his family, traveling, working on his truck ("Mr. Grumbly"), WWE, reading, whale-watching, and meditation. Mike is very involved with the Save A Warrior (SAW) community.



Firefighter Paramedic Paul "PJ" DuBeck graduated from Cambridge High School in 1997 and began his fire service career at Falls Township Volunteer Fire Department. He started

part-time at Plain Township in 2001, becoming full-time in 2002. While employed at Plain Township PJ earned his associates degree in Fire Science. PJ has been a Fire Instructor since 2005, teaching at both C-Tec and DACC.

He and his wife Jamie live in Delaware with their dog and cat. Paul's last day with Plain Township was September 17th. He has accepted a full-time Firefighter position with Liberty Township Fire in Powell.

Election Day is November 2

★
ELECTION
2021
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Below are some guidelines to ensure that political signs comply with township zoning regulations. No permits are required.

- No political sign shall be posted in any place or in any manner that is destructive to public property upon posting or removal.
- No political sign shall be posted in a public right-of-way nor shall any such sign be posted on a utility pole.
- 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.