



Prairie Township Hall
23 Maple Drive
Columbus, OH 43228
614-878-3317

Prairietownship.org



Doug Stormont, 2019 Chairman	614-209-9122
Cathy Schmelzer, Vice Chair	614-679-9485
Steve Kennedy, Trustee	614-260-5090
Dan McCardle, Fiscal Officer	614-878-3317 Ext.111
Rob Peters, Administrator	614-878-3317 Ext. 114
Randi Good, HR/Operations	614-878-3317 Ext. 112
Connie Swisher, Zoning Inspector	614-878-3317 Ext. 105
Dave McAninch, Service Director	614-878-3316
	614-402-2745
Chris Snyder, Fire Chief	614-878-4571
James Gant, Recreation Director	614-907-7994

Township Trustee Meetings are held bi-weekly on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Hall (23 Maple Drive)

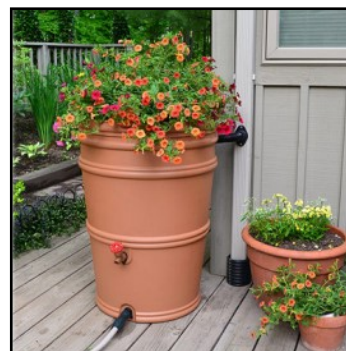
Rain Barrels - Good for Water Quality, Good for your Garden!

When it rains, water from roofs, driveways, sidewalks, and roads is directed to storm drain inlets and travels, unfiltered and untreated, straight to the nearest stream or river. Rain barrels help by reducing runoff that would otherwise contribute to stormwater pollution, a leading cause of poor water quality and urban flooding. Water collected from rooftops can be used to water vegetable gardens, trees, container plants, and flowerbeds. Using rain barrels provides an alternative, free water supply for outdoor use that plants appreciate: rain water is soft and free of salts, minerals, and chemicals found in municipal water and groundwater.

A Solution to Storm water Pollution?

Impervious surfaces including roofs, driveways, sidewalks, and roads generate a significant amount of runoff during even a small rainstorm. This water often flows to storm drain inlets that are directly connected to the nearest stream or river. Without filtration or treatment, runoff picks up a variety of pollutants: pesticides, litter, fluids from leaky cars, nutrient-rich fertilizers, and pet waste with disease-causing organisms.

It isn't only the pollutants in stormwater runoff that are a problem, but its sheer volume. Since precipitation isn't able to sink it as it would in a naturally wooded and undeveloped area, our creeks and streams are often overwhelmed when receiving large amounts of water that erode and scour streambanks. This impairs important habitat, muddies water, and threatens property.



PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP
Ohio

ISSUE 7 SPRING/SUMMER 2019

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP WELCOMES A NEW TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR



Prairie Township welcomed a new Administrator on January 7, 2019. The Board of Trustees worked with a consulting firm who gathered 57 applicants for the position. Rob

Peters was appointed to the Administrator position in late November 2018. Rob came to Prairie Township from Streetsboro, Ohio, about 30 minutes northeast of Akron. He was the Director of Economic Development for Streetsboro before coming to Prairie Township. Rob has over 20 years of public administration experience. Prior to Streetsboro, he was the Chief of Operations for the metro parks in Summit County for six years and spent six years as the Assistant Director of Public Service for the City of Wadsworth.

Rob holds a Masters Degree in Public Administration from the University of Akron. He is also a certified Economic Development Finance Professional (EDFP), Certified Park and Recreation Executive (CPRE) and a graduate of the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy program. He served in the United States Army and the Ohio Army National Guard.

Next time you have a chance, feel free to stop by the office to meet Rob and introduce yourself.

2019 MILITARY HOMETOWN HERO BANNER PROGRAM

Last year, the Township introduced a Military Hometown Hero Banner Program. This program was created to pay tribute to the brave men and women of Prairie Township and Westland High School who are serving, have served, or have given their life to our country in the United States Armed Forces. Each Banner features their name, branch of service and photo. This year the Township Trustees approved increasing the number of participants from 15 to 30. The cost per banner is \$109.00 which includes the production, installation, and removal of the banner. Banners are displayed along West Broad Street from May through August. Participants from last year are also welcomed to return their banners to the Township Hall by April 1st to have them hung this year.

Applications must be received by April 1, 2019. Additional information along with guidelines, the application form, and release statement can be found on our website at <http://prairietownship.org/294/Military-Hometown-Hero-Banner-Program>. Completed forms with payment can be submitted to the Prairie Township Administration department at 23 Maple Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43228. This program is a first come, first served basis.



Upcoming Events

Community Center

- Family Game Night
1st Friday of Every Month
- Touch a Truck
May 18, 2019 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Fire Department

- Flower Sale
May 10 thru May 12
Station 241 and Station 243
- Annual Fish Fry
June 28 and June 29, 2019
11 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Station 241 123 Inah Avenue

Roads, Cemeteries, and Parks Department

- Memorial Day Services
May 27, 2019
Galloway Cemetery 9:30 a.m.
Alton Cemetery 12:00 p.m.
(Subject to Change)

Zoning Department

- 2019 Spring Clean Up
May 2 thru 4 and
May 9 thru May 12
6725 Alkire Road Galloway, Ohio 43119
(see next page for details)

2019 Bicentennial

Prairie Township is celebrating its bicentennial this year! The Township was formed in 1819 and we are celebrating its 200th year of operation.



COMMUNITY CENTER

Touch a Truck

On May 18, 2019 from 12 p.m.—2 p.m., the Community Center will be hosting its annual Touch a Truck event. This event features various vehicles and family activities. Some vehicles include the Franklin County Sheriffs Department, the Prairie Township Fire Department and Road Department.



Mother Son Adventure Night

Mothers get ready for a rowdy time being active and crazy with your favorite little man! For ages 5 & up. For more information and to register go to www.recreation.prairietaownship.org

Want to be a Lifeguard?

Want to join our team? Complete the American Red Cross Class and get hired right away! Please call the Community Center at 614-907-7990 to register. Class is 9a.m.-4p.m. M-F March 25-29. You must be at least 15 years old to participate.



2019 Farmers Market

One of our favorite summer events is returning for its fourth year! The farmers market will kick off June 10, 2019 from 4-7 p.m. and will continue thru September 9, 2019. There are several event days throughout the summer that will feature live music, food trucks, and activities for the kids! Please contact the Community Center at 614-907-7990 or submit a vender application if you are interested in participating in the Farmers Market. An updated food truck schedule will be provided on the Community Center page on our website.



2019 Summer Camp

The 2019 Summer Camp Program will runs from, June 3-August 9, 2019. Camp operates Monday thru Fridays from 7:15 a.m.-5:45 p.m. each day. Campers must be between the ages of 6 to 12 years old. For additional information and to register online please visit <http://prairietaownship.org/208/Summer-Day-Camp> or register in person at the Community Center. Please contact Matt McCallum, the Recreation Supervisor at 604-907-7993 or mmcallum@prairietaownship.org for any questions.

COMMERCIAL BUILDING & ZONING DEPARTMENT

Preventing and Eliminating Rats Workshops

Rats are a community problem that will take a community effort to resolve.

- Don't feed them
- Don't give them a place to live
- Call pest control professionals



Get the Facts - Join us as we partner with Franklin County Public Health to learn how to properly trap and protect your home from their access, learn what conditions encourage rat populations, how to prevent infestation, and more!

When: Tuesday, March 19, 2019 - 6:30pm
Thursday, March 21, 2019 - 6:30pm
Monday, April 1, 2019 - 1:00pm
Wednesday, April 3, 2019 - 6:30pm

Where: Prairie Township Hall
23 Maple Drive
Columbus, Ohio 43228

Cost: FREE!



2019 Spring Clean-Up

The 2019 Prairie Township Annual Spring Clean-Up will be held at the **Prairie Township Road Dept. 6725 Alkire Road, Galloway, Ohio 43119** for Township residents only. Residents will be asked to provide proof of residence, so have your photo ID with current address ready at the gate. There will be dumpsters available for trash and tires - unlimited trash (no hazardous waste), limit of 8 tires per day, no businesses.

Hours of Operation:

- ▶ Thu. May 2, 10am-8pm
- ▶ Thu. May 9, 10am-8pm
- ▶ Fri. May 3, 10am-8pm
- ▶ Fri. May 10, 10am-8pm
- ▶ Sat. May 4, 10am-4pm
- ▶ Sat. May 11, 10am-4pm

Rain Barrel Demonstration at the Cleanup Saturday May 11, 2019 at 11am-12pm

Drop by to drop off your trash, stay for our rain barrel demonstration! Learn about rain barrels, how they work, and how to properly install one on your property.



Household Hazardous Waste Disposal - You can drop off Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) at the SWACO Hazardous Waste drop-off location at 645 E. 8th Avenue, Columbus, at the corner of E. 8th and Essex Avenue. For more information, call (614) 294-1300.



ROADS, CEMETERIES & PARKS

Street Sweeping in the Township

Contract Sweepers and Equipment will be conducting multiple street sweeps again this year. The street sweeps for curb and gutter streets is currently scheduled for the week of April 1st and the week of September 3 (weather permitting). Sweepings on West Broad Street are scheduled for April 1, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 3, October 7 and November 4. West Broad Street includes the area between the I-270 interchange and Hilliard Rome Road. These sweepings are extremely important in keeping our township streets maintained properly.



2019 Sidewalk Program

The 2019 Sidewalk Program will be starting soon. If you are interesting in participating in this years' program, please contact the Road Department at 614-878-3316, or dmcainch@prairietaownship.org. The program allows residents the option to have their sidewalks replaced and the costs assessed to their property tax bill, payable over 10 years, interest free.

Memorial Day Services

Memorial Day is May 27, 2019. There will be services at both Galloway and Alton cemeteries. Times for both services will be announced next month.

Road Resurfacing

Roads included in the Franklin County Engineers road resurfacing program have not been determined at this time. Upon determination, postcards will be sent to residents in the affected areas.

Curbside Chipping

Residents can contact the Road, Cemeteries and Parks Department at 614-878-3316 year round to schedule curbside chipping. The guidelines for curbside chipping are available on the townships website, or by calling the Department.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Prairie Township Fire Department is excited to celebrate our 75th Anniversary this year, as well as the 70th Anniversary of its Association. Look for some special features in our annual Fish Fry and other events in 2019!

Thanks to an extremely successful audit by the Insurance Service Office (ISO), PTFD's Public Protection Classification (PPC) has improved significantly, from a rating of 5/8b in 2011, to 2/2y this year. The PPC is an evaluation of fire protection based on emergency communications, fire department operations, and water supply. Insurance companies use PPCs to determine the severity of fire risk to properties they insure. Essentially, the lower the rating, the less the risk. Both residential and business property owners often pay less for insurance if their fire department has a lower rating. "After the 2011 PPC audit, PTFD made two significant changes," Assistant Chief Allen Scott, who lead the recent audit process, said. "The first change involved contracting with the Ohio Fire Academy to provide online training for all personnel. Secondly, the department entered into an automatic aid agreement with the City of Columbus Fire Department (CFD). This agreement allows each department to utilize the other's equipment and personnel as if they were its own."

Because of our community's support in last May's Fire Levy, look for some new vehicles on the road soon. We have already ordered a new medic, which will debut in about 3 months, and

are in the process of researching a new engine. We are putting your dollars to work, and this is only possible due to your continued support – we greatly appreciate the opportunity to keep you safe.

Finally, please save the date for our two upcoming events in the spring and early summer – our Flower Sale (Mother's Day Weekend, May 10-12 at both fire stations) and our Fish Fry (June 28-29 at Station 241, coinciding with the Independence Day Parade). There's a lot to celebrate, so we look forward to seeing you soon!



Pictured here is Jake, a dog which was rescued catching ducks in a frozen pond in January in Galloway. The effort to save Jake was captured on the show Live PD on A&E and local news stations, making him a local celebrity. Also in the photo are his family, the Cornwall's, Captain Cloud, and Firefighters Evan Strauss, Matt Powers and Mike Habak of PTFD, who were involved in the rescue.