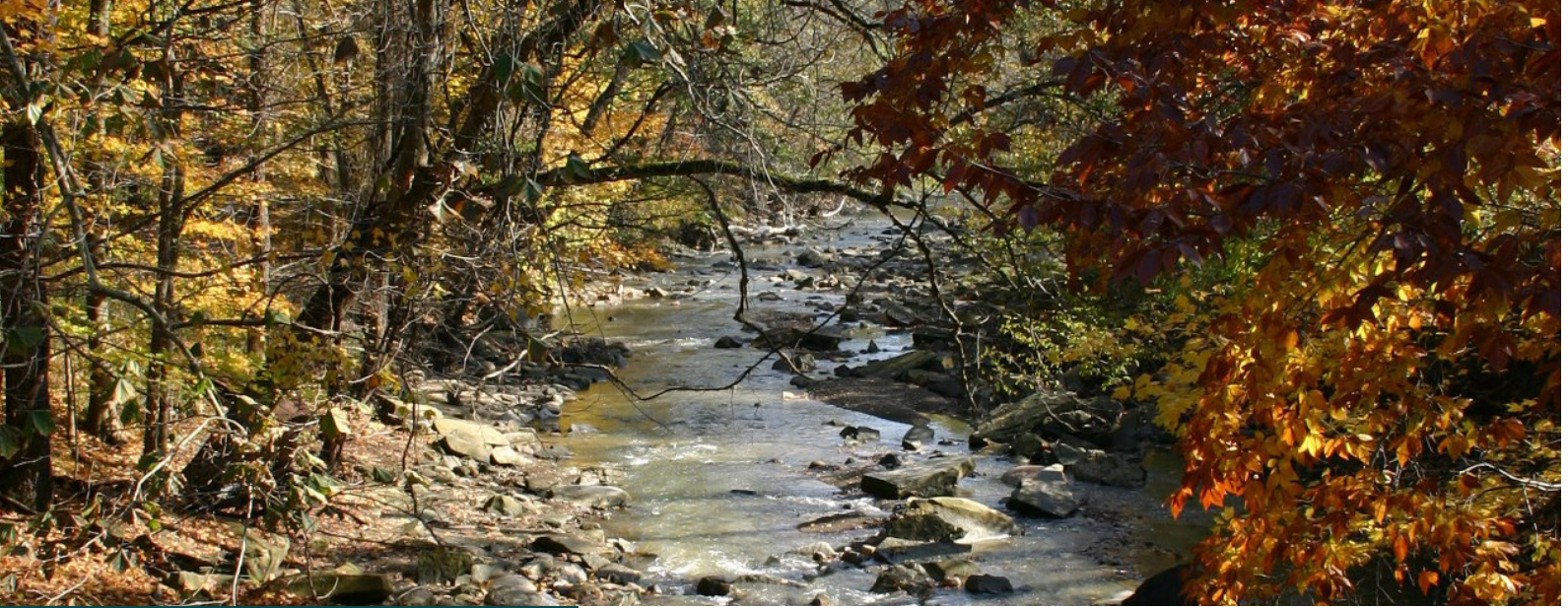


Bath Township QUARTERLY

FALL 2020 | VOLUME 28, ISSUE 4





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Township Administration Hours
8:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Monday – Friday



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ON FACEBOOK!**

FALL 2020

Administration Office Closures

Thursday, November 26, 2020

Friday, November 27, 2020

Friday, December 25, 2020

Friday, January 1, 2021

Trash Delays

**Trash pick-up is delayed by one day following the holiday.*

Thursday, November 26, 2020

Friday, December 25, 2020

Friday, January 1, 2021

Toys for Tots Donations

Bath Fire and Rescue is now accepting Toys for Tots donations until December 7, 2020.

Unwrapped donations are accepted for ages toddler to teenager. All donations may be dropped off at Fire Station #1 (3864 West Bath Road) at the entrance at the bottom of the stairway facing Bath Elementary.



IMPROVEMENT PROJECT: INTERSTATE 77

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) recently issued a press release regarding proposed lane improvements to Interstate 77 extending between Ghent Road and the Ohio Turnpike. ODOT requested public comment on the project and the Bath Township Board of Trustees provided input on several important issues that will affect Bath Township. Several years ago the township was informed that the lane widening project was in the early conceptual stages of review, but no firm plans for the project were in place. ODOT issued its release on September 8, 2020 and reported funding for the project will be pursued in 2021 with an anticipated construction start date projected for 2024.

The proposed project on Interstate 77 has been identified as a priority transportation project designed to accommodate increased traffic along this important corridor. The trustees recognize the proposed improvements will make it safer for motorists to access important places in the region and generally support the project. However, residents living in close proximity to the interstate have expressed concern with two important issues on which input was provided.

Stormwater

Bath Township has experienced flooding in the Yellow Creek Watershed in recent years related to stormwater runoff. In a dramatic storm event on May 12, 2014, stormwater caused extensive flooding and erosion throughout the township, but areas adjacent to Interstate 77 appeared to sustain the greatest amount of damage. Contributing to the flooding and erosion was the stormwater that was diverted from the interstate at the overpasses on Yellow Creek Road, Bath Road, Shade Road and Ira Road. Open downspouts extending from the interstate bridges concentrated water from the impervious interstate pavement, potentially causing some of the damage experienced in the township. In an effort to address concerns with flooding and erosion in Bath Township, our community voluntarily elected participation in the Summit County Engineer's Surface Water Management District. Under the plan, residents and businesses are assessed a monthly fee with revenue generated to be used to address stormwater projects. Last year, two separate studies of the Yellow Creek Watershed identified a number of projects eligible for remediation which may have an impact on future stormwater issues in the township.

With the proposed widening of Interstate 77, the township remains concerned with the increased impervious surface area that will be created. At a minimum, incorporating stormwater controls to address runoff from the interstate would be an important design element to be included in the engineering plan. The township recommended coordination between ODOT and the Summit County Engineer's Office that manages the Surface Water Management District, to work collectively to design a stormwater management plan to minimize the speed and volume of water diverted from the interstate.

Interstate Traffic Noise

In recent years, residents living in areas adjacent to the interstate have brought concerns to the township about increased motor vehicle noise. At the time the interstate project was first discussed, several residents provided information to the ODOT District 4 Director about the interstate noise and their request to include sound attenuation with any improvements being considered.

While the township recognizes any decision to include sound walls/barriers in a road construction project is based on a variety of complex factors, the Board of Trustees supports design elements on any project which improves the peaceful enjoyment of residential and commercial properties in the community. In its letter to ODOT, the Bath Township Board of Trustees welcomed the opportunity to discuss sound attenuation options, as well as stormwater management on the upcoming project.

The Interstate 77 road project exemplifies the type of multimodal investments needed in our region to support greater safety for motorists who travel the roadways. Bath Township remains committed to supporting the Ohio Department of Transportation and its efforts through this project to increase safety and efficiency of our interstate highways. We will continue to work with public stakeholders involved in the interstate project and keep residents informed on any developments affecting the community.

West Bath Road Closure

A landslide stabilization project, along West Bath Road at Revere Road, began the week of Monday, November 9, 2020. The road will be closed for approximately 210 days.

Residents on West Bath Road will have access to their driveways coming in from the east side of the roadway. Motorists traveling in the area will be re-routed to Revere Road and Shade Road. Great Lakes Construction will be the contractor on the project.



All work is subject to changes due to inclement weather. For full press release, visit: <http://bit.ly/westbathclosure>

Surface Water Management District Update

The Surface Water Management District (SWMD) has regulations to assure that streams, waterways, wetlands and ditches shall remain open and free-flowing, shall not be altered without a permit, and shall not be polluted. To this end, SWMD has established a Grading Permit for filling, grading, excavating, or pond construction activities.

The SWMD has submitted two pre-applications for grants under the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program of the Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) to the Ohio Emergency Management Agency (EMA), for funding coming from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The two projects of interest are the Wye Road Drainage Improvement and the Idle Brook Bankfull Wetland off Hametown Road. In each case, the grant funding maximum is \$600,000, and a local match of at least 25% is required. SWMD is currently in preliminary discussions with officials at Ohio EMA about the benefit-cost analysis for each project. Ms Consultants is assisting with the Wye Road project, for which they performed the preliminary study last year.

For more information and to view the latest Surface Water Management District newsletter, please visit SWMD online at: <http://bit.ly/surfacewatermanagement>

Neighbors App by Ring

Bath Township Police Department has joined the “Neighbors App by Ring.” The free app is designed to connect community members to one another, and to local law enforcement, to stay up to date on the world around them. Local police officials may use Neighbors to share important crime and safety information with residents, and work with the community to keep neighborhoods safe. Neighbors assists with open lines of communication between local police and the community they serve.

WORK TOGETHER

Users have the option to provide helpful information to the police department to assist with an ongoing investigation. Users may choose to share videos/information, or opt out of future requests. The process has been designed to ensure no user information is shared with local police unless the user chooses to do so, including whether or not they received a request.

HOW USER PRIVACY IS PROTECTED

No Access to Devices

Local police are never given access to users’ cameras or devices through Neighbors by Ring.

No Device Locations

The Neighbors Portal does not provide local police with the addresses where devices are located without a user’s express consent.

No User Account Information

Users are identified in the Neighbors app posts/comments only as “Neighbor #.” Local police see the same information on Neighbors as regular users and do not receive additional information.

No Direct Access to Users

Local police can use Neighbors to ask their community for assistance with an investigation. Users retain absolute control to determine whether they may have potentially relevant videos, whether or not they elect to share any videos, or opt out of future requests.

WYE ROAD BRIDGE LIGHTING CANCELED FOR THE SEASON



What has become a Bath tradition for the past 17 years, the Wye Road Bridge Lighting and Santa arrival, has become the latest casualty of COVID-19.

“With regret, members of the Bath Business Association (BBA) have cancelled this year’s Wye Road Bridge Lighting and Santa arrival,” said Jeremy Davis, BBA president. “While reluctant to impact this very popular family event, we wanted to act on the side of caution and consider the health and safety of community members and our membership.”

While the holiday tree in front of The Bake Shop in Ghent will still be decorated and the lights along the picturesque Wye Road bridge will be in place, the caroling, Santa visits, Frosty the Snowman and Rudolph appearances as well as the goodie bags for the children and the complimentary cookies, hot chocolate and coffee will not be happening for the first time in 17 years.

But even without the festivities that helped to jump start the annual holiday season, the BBA is encouraging holiday shoppers to patronize the local and smaller businesses of Bath. Many of the small businesses are operated by neighbors and friends, most of whom have been adversely impacted economically this year.

“We’re encouraging holiday shoppers to be creative and to ‘Shop Local – Shop Bath’ this season,” said Davis.

“We hope everyone will take advantage of the

BBA website and Facebook pages to look up our membership base of more than 70 member businesses and check out the variety of ideas and options available through them for creative gift giving this year.”

Helping to turn a spotlight on the “Shop Local – Shop Bath” effort, BBA members are sponsoring the raffle of a holiday gift basket. “The basket will be filled to overflowing with holiday items, gift certificates, money cards and a multitude of surprises, all courtesy of BBA member businesses,” said Mary Ann Krejci, BBA treasurer. “The winning ticket will be drawn Dec. 15, just in time for the goodies in the basket to make someone’s holidays very special.” To enter the drawing, visit the many BBA businesses in the community and fill out the raffle tickets available onsite at member business locations. There is a limit of one ticket per family per business, but there’s no limit on the number of BBA businesses you can visit to enter the drawing again.

While hardly a substitute for the Wye Road Bridge Lighting and Santa arrival, the gift basket drawing may entice shoppers to consider local businesses as holiday gift shopping options, said Krejci. “Maybe next year, we can go back to the traditional way of ushering in the holiday shopping season in Bath!”

For details on the drawing or the member businesses, call 330-666-3347 or check the website at www.bathbusinessassociation.com.



DIRECTORY

Administration Offices	330-666-4007
Service/Parks	330-665-5066
Police (Non-Emergency)	330-666-3736
Fire (Non-Emergency)	330-666-3738
Rumpke (Trash)	800-828-8171
Simple Recycling	866-835-5068
Summit County Building Dept.	330-630-7280

ELECTED OFFICIALS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

James N. Nelson, President	jnelson@bathtownship.org
Becky Corbett, Vice-President	bcorbett@bathtownship.org
Elaina E. Goodrich, Trustee	egoodrich@bathtownship.org

FISCAL OFFICER

Sharon A. Troike	stroike@bathtownship.org
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VIRTUAL MEETINGS

The community is invited to participate in Bath Township's public meetings in the month of December, held virtually via ZOOM, a meeting application. For those who may not have access to a computer or tablet, a dial-in option is available. **Reminder: Please keep your microphones muted and video cameras off during virtual meetings.*

Board of Trustees – Work Sessions

Mondays at 9:30 AM

Meeting ID: 915 7614 1033

Phone: 1-929-205-6099 | **Passcode:** 750008

Appearance Review Commission

Monday, December 7, 2020 at 5:00 PM

Meeting ID: 977 5525 1137

Phone: 1-929-205-6099 | **Passcode:** 245285

Board of Trustees – Regular Session

Monday, December 7, 2020 at 7:00 PM

And Monday, December 14, 2020 at 4:00 PM

Meeting ID: 916 3176 7285

Phone: +1 929 205 6099 | **Password:** 059138

Settlement Meeting TBD

Water and Sewer District Board

Monday, December 21, 2020 at 6:00 PM

Meeting ID: 916 3176 7285

Phone: +1 929 205 6099 | **Password:** 059138

Board of Zoning Appeals

Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 7:00 PM

Meeting ID: 963 6249 8281

Phone: 1 929 205 6099 | **Password:** 383066

Zoning Commission

Thursday, December 10, 2020 at 7:00 PM

Meeting ID: 976 0424 3627

Phone: 1 929 205 6099 | **Passcode:** 146614