

BROWN TOWNSHIP

ESTABLISHED 1830

Fall 2021

Ditch Petitions in Brown Township

Petition ditches have been a part of Franklin County's drainage system since the 1800s. These systems were privately funded, designed for agricultural use, and have since gone mostly unmaintained because the maintenance provisions did not come into effect until the late 1950s. Because of this, residents have experienced drainage problems such as increased flooding and standing water on their residential and agricultural properties. Often, the solution to these problems exceed the property boundaries of an individual property owner. The scale of the problem can also be larger than one property owner can afford to pay themselves. The Ohio Revised Code (ORC) provides a process whereby private property owners can petition their county to construct a drainage improvement, and ultimately distribute the cost for the improvement across all of the property owners who benefit from the improvement. For further information, the petition process is outlined in the ORC Sections 6131, 6133 and 6137.

Three petitions have been filed in Brown Township in the past year. All three petitions have been through the View and First Hearing, and are moving forward into the survey and design phase. The View brings the property owners and Commissioners together to share information about the problems in the watershed and discuss the need for an improvement. At the First Hearing, the Commissioners are presented a

preliminary report from the County Engineer, including a preliminary cost estimate, which discusses the feasibility of the project. The Commissioners then vote to either approve or deny the Engineer proceeding with formal survey and design (all three petitions have recently been approved for proceeding). Topics such as the estimate, proposed path of the improvement, and assessments are difficult to discuss prior to the First Hearing as the ORC does not allow significant funds to be spent until this point. As each petition progresses through the design phase, more information will be available on these topics and can be discussed with property owners in better detail.

Once the design phase is complete, the estimate will be created and the assessments will then be determined. Each property is evaluated individually

and assessments are based on the benefit of each property. The definition of benefit according to the ORC is detailed in Section 6131.01. The assessments as well as the plans are submitted to the Commissioners and presented at the Final Hearing. It is at this stage that the Commissioners will vote to approve or deny these plans and assessments and ultimately determine if the project will move to construction.

Please contact Jim Ramsey, P.E. at the Franklin County Engineer's Office (614-525-7469 or JRamsey@FranklinCountyEngineer.org) with any questions regarding these petitions and the petition process. Residents are understandably unfamiliar with this process, and the Engineer's Office encourages residents to reach out to them in order to receive accurate information.



Residents have experienced drainage problems such as increased flooding and standing water on their residential and agricultural properties.

County, Township Crews Clear Snow From Township Roads

Both Franklin County and Brown Township crews are responsible for clearing snow from roads in unincorporated Brown Township. County roads are treated by Franklin County crews and township roads are handled by Brown Township personnel. Streets and roads in Brown Township within the City of Hilliard are handled by Hilliard crews.

The three-person Brown Township crew typically works 12-hour shifts to clear snow from Langton, Creek, Carter, Morris, Widener, Cole, Hardwood, Woodsend, Spicewood, Golfview, Darby Knolls, Jerman Lane, and

Old Walker roads.

Both the county and the township use plows, road salt, and anti-icing chemicals to keep the roads safe for motorists. In an effort to combat drifting, Franklin County also erects snow fencing in areas that typically experience high winds. The Franklin County Engineer conducts an annual program in agricultural areas to encourage farmers to leave partial cornstalks to help to prevent snowdrifts.

Drivers should be aware that it is extremely dangerous to pass a snow plow and they should maintain a safe distance behind them.



PUBLIC SAFETY SUMMARY

Each issue of the Brown Township newsletter contains a quarterly wrap-up of public safety reports and calls in Brown Township.

Norwich Township Fire Department

Calls to addresses in both incorporated and unincorporated portions of Brown Township:

	Fire Calls		EMS Calls	
	Incorp.	Unincorp.	Incorp.	Unincorp.
June 2021	1	3	7	19
July 2021	1	7	2	14
Aug. 2021	2	5	2	23

Franklin County Sheriff's Department

Calls to addresses in unincorporated Brown Township:

June 2021

June 1 – interference with custody at an address on Davis Rd.

Reported June 21, occurred between June 18 and 21 – stolen property at a new build on Hayden Run Rd.

June 21—stolen property at a new build on Hayden Run Rd.

July 2021

Reported July 13, occurred between July 5 and 13 – stolen property at an address on Scioto Darby Creek Rd.

Reported July 25, occurred on July 24 – grand theft from victims at an address on Davis Road.

July 21—criminal damaging at an address on Amity Rd.

July 27 – stolen property at an address on Roberts Road.

August 2021

August 22 – Missing person report filed at an address on Roberts Rd.

Reported on August 30, occurred between August 27 and 30 – breaking and entering at an address on Walker Rd.

CORRECTION: In the Summer 2021 Newsletter, it was inadvertently reported that theft of funds occurred at an address on Langton Rd. Property damage occurred at an address on Langton Rd. between March 24 and 27 and was reported on April 2. We apologize for the inaccurate information.

Hilliard Division of Police

Non-routine calls to Brown Township addresses within the City of Hilliard:

June 2021

June 11—criminal damaging at an address on Hayden Run Rd.

July 2021

No non-routine calls.

August 2021

No non-routine calls.

Heith Good Receives Patriot Award During Hilliard's 9/11 Ceremony

Heith Good is a Firefighter/Paramedic with the Norwich Township Fire Department and has 23 years of experience in the Fire Service beginning in his hometown of Ashville, Ohio with the Harrison Township Fire Department. Heith was instrumental in developing a PEER/CISM (Critical Incident Stress Management) Program at Norwich and also directing collaborative efforts of peer support to many outside agencies and individuals in Ohio as well as outside the state.

Heith also serves on the leadership team for the Columbus Area Peer Support Team, frequently coordinating and leading requests for response in the region and state of Ohio. Heith has helped many of these agencies develop their own support programs and in 2018 was further trained by the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) as a PEER Supporter Master Instructor. Heith works closely with the IAFF and National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) to develop behavioral health protocols and to aid departments nationwide after major incidents. Heith serves as an exceptionally respected trainer,



consultant, presenter and advocate for Peer Support programs nationwide. He is fully committed to the well-being of every firefighter and first responder by being intentional and believes "that a healthy mind will reflect a healthy firefighter."

Heith was recently sent to the

Champlain Tower collapse in Surfside Florida to assist with peer support. He assembled a team of peer support members from across the country whose sole mission was to be there to support the rescuers working "the pile." The team spent a total of 9 days working 12 to 18 hour shifts in extreme weather conditions. For his work in offering peer support to rescuers, Heith was awarded the Ohio Federal Security Director's Patriot Award at Hilliard's observance of the 20th anniversary of 9/11 at First Responders Park on September 10th.

Heith is very active in his local church. He has been married to his wife Pamela for 20 years, and they have three successful children. When not working, Heith enjoys coaching football and baseball and anything with his family.

Contributed by Dave Baird, Norwich Township Fire Chief

The Trustees and the Fiscal Officer of Brown Township salute Heith Good and all first responders of the Norwich Township Fire Department.

A photograph of a two-lane asphalt road in a rural area with green fields and trees. A speed limit sign is visible on the right side of the road.

County and township roads have a speed limit of 55 miles per hour.

(unless otherwise specified)





Brown Township
2491 Walker Road
Hilliard, Ohio 43026

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
COLUMBUS OH
PERMIT# 5964

Brown Township Administration Office

2491 Walker Road, Hilliard, Ohio 43026
(614) 876-2133

Website

www.BrownTwp.org

Fiscal Officer

Becky Kent • (614) 446-2359

Trustees

Mr. Gary Dever • (614) 876-4768
Mrs. Pamela Sayre • (614) 582-0191 cell
Mr. Joseph Martin • (614) 309-8879 cell

Norwich Fire Department

David Baird, Chief • (614) 876-7694

Franklin County Sheriff's Department

Emergency • 911
Non-Emergency • (614) 525-3333

Meetings are held the third Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at 2491 Walker Road, Hilliard, Ohio.



L-R: Trustees Pam Sayre,
Gary Dever and Joe Martin
Seated: Fiscal Officer Becky Kent

Safety Tips for Open Burning

It is that time of year when leaves start to fall, and the weather turns a little colder and campfires begin. Whether or not you are using an approved fire pit or rocks and bricks in a circle on the ground, the Norwich Township Fire Department would like for you and your family to follow some tips and guidelines for a safe experience.

The Ohio EPA defines Open Burning as any set outdoor fire that does not vent to a chimney or stack.

Quick tips for open burning or recreational fires that do not require a permit:

- Use only clean, dry seasoned wood.
- No leaves ever!
- No bigger than 3 feet wide by 2 feet high pile.
- Minimum 25 feet from any structure.

- Always attended by a responsible adult.
- Completely extinguished before leaving unattended.

Quick Tips for Ceremonial Fires that do not require a permit but do require a notification to the Ohio EPA and local fire department:

- Wood stack no larger than 5 feet high by 5 feet wide.
- No longer than 3 hours.
- Use clean, dry seasoned firewood.
- Must be attended by an adult.

When having that backyard fire keep these safety tips in mind. If you have questions of clarification, please call the Norwich Township Fire Prevention Bureau at (614) 876-3331.

*In the interest of fire safety,
Scott Tigner, Fire Marshal*



Helpful links:

Ohio EPA Open Burning (<https://epa.ohio.gov/dapc/general/openburning>)

NorwichTownship Fire Department (<https://cms5.revize.com/revize/norwichtwpoh/FORMS/Burn%20Permit%20Application%20&%20Standards.pdf>)