

# Replacement Officers Hired



While the Village’s Police/ Fire Department staffing levels have been reduced over the past several years, three vacancies within the department exist under the new organizational staffing model. Two Police Officer/Firefighter positions were filled by recently hired Brian Baker and Brandon Gehring. The Village is please to introduce its new officers to the community.

Officer/Firefighter Brian Baker began his police career with the Norwood Police Department in 2004. Baker has attended the 240-hour fire fighter training course and has been working on the road patrol doing a great job for the Village. Baker is married to Wendy with three children.

Officer/Firefighter Brandon Gehring began his police career in 2005 with Arlington Heights part-time, then started full-time with the Village of Lockland in 2006. Gehring has been a firefighter with Lockland since 2004, where he held the rank of Lieutenant. He has also worked with the West Chester and Sycamore Township Fire Departments. Gehring is currently in training and will be joining the road patrol by the end of October. Gehring is married to Lindsey with 2 children.

Chief Wallace commented that the Village is excited to have the knowledge and experience these two officers bring to the community and they will be great additions to the Police/Fire Department.



Village Manager Lahrmer administers Oath of Office to newly hired Brian Baker.



Mayor Muething administers Oath of Office to newly hired Brandon Gehring.

Amberley Village Municipal Building  
7149 Ridge Road  
Cincinnati, OH 45237  
(513) 531-8675  
www.amberlevillage.org

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# Safety Training for Fire Firefighters



First responders act immediately to provide aid and life-saving measures in emergency situations. In the case of responding to a fire, Village firefighters must be ready to deploy at any time of the day or night and apply their specialized professional training. The Amberley Village Fire Department currently has 23 members who are certified through the State of Ohio and receive training throughout the year.

The monthly training covers a broad range of topics including structural firefighting, vehicle extrication, first responder medical care, fire behavior, pumping operation, firefighter safety and health to name a few. The department places training among the highest of its priorities. Firefighters must be continually trained to sharpen response skills and maintain certifications as well as stay up to date on

current events in professional fire services. This photo shows firefighters learning fire behavior and techniques used for extinguishment in a controlled training simulator.

If you have questions for the fire department you can stop by the station 24/7 or call (513) 531-2040 and ask for the police/firefighter officer on duty.



Firefighter training includes live fire scenarios.

## Community Calendar

**Council Meeting**  
September 8 - 6:30 p.m.

**Amberley Green Dam Tour**  
September 11  
(rain date Sept. 15)

**Environmental Stewardship Committee**  
September 22 - 7:00 p.m.

### Public Information Meeting

WHEN: September 29 at 1:30 or 7 p.m.  
WHERE: Amberley Room at the JCC

Join us for a presentation by Village Manager Scot Lahrmer which will cover important Village topics like current finances, status of the Village-owned property, and other items of interest to Village residents. Village Council and staff will also be available for resident questions.

### 2013 Extended Tax Returns Due

If you filed an extension for your 2013 Tax Return, it is due on October 15. Filing and paying on time can save you a late filing penalty as well as interest. To contact the tax office, call Patty Meiers at 531-0130.



FALL 2014

## Compliance Modifications Begin on Dam

Prior to the Village purchasing the Amberley Green property, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) found deficiencies in the dam structure and ordered “required remedial measures” to be completed by the property owners, the Crest Hills Country Club. These orders had been noted in the 2000 Dam Safety Report issued after the safety inspection however, were not implemented.

The Village assumed those responsibilities when it purchased the property in 2008 and has until January 2015 to bring the dam into compliance with the current standards. The Village had requested an extension of the deadline to allow for the planning of the future development of the site, but the request was denied.

The Streets, Public Utilities & Sewers Committee received conceptual estimates for three options to either reconstruct or modify the dam in order to comply with ODNR’s requirements. The costs ranged from figures in excess of \$1 million dollars for the reconstruction scenario to \$340,000 for the modification scenario.

The options available to the Village included:

- 1) Rebuilding the dam to meet the current standards;
- 2) Modifying the dam to gain exemption from the current regulations; or
- 3) Removing the dam entirely and reestablishing the natural stream.

The Streets, Public Utilities & Sewers Committee recommended and Council approved the scenario that would modify the existing dam structure to the non-regulated status thereby removing the dam from ODNR’s jurisdiction. The Village received four bids on the project and the lowest and best bid was submitted by Ford Development in the amount of \$338,670. The dam modification will include lowering the height of the dam, replacement of the primary spillway and control structure, plunge pool, and emergency spillway.

Work began the first week in August and is anticipated to conclude prior to the October 10 completion deadline. While the dam is under construction, areas near the dam, including portions of the walking trails, will be fenced off and closed to public access.







## Tour Amberley Green Dam Work

The Environmental Stewardship Committee has organized a tour of the modification work on the Amberley Green dam which has been set for September 11 to give residents the opportunity to observe the worksite area.

The dam structure is being modified to a non-regulated status to remove the dam from ODNR's jurisdiction. Contact the administration office at 531-8675 to sign up. A rain date of September 15 has been reserved.

## 2014 Road Repair Update

Since Council approval in March, repair work has been actively underway in various areas throughout the Village this summer. The 2014 Road Repair Program is a combination of paving entire streets, asphalt patching and replacement of deteriorated curbing on several streets.

While rehabilitating entire roadways is the preferred method of a comprehensive approach to repaving Village streets, these repairs are attempting to address the more severe issues in the road infrastructure inventory. The Village manages these core projects while operating within the established austerity budgets to continue concentrating on revitalizing the streets.

### Summer Construction Projects

- **Total curb replacement and paving of the entire street on Fontaine Court and Frontenac Avenue.** This project included total curb replacement.
- **Pavement Repairs (patching) on Fairhaven Lane and Sagamore Drive.**
- **Curb Repairs on Springvalley Drive (south of Galbraith), Gardener Avenue and Fairhaven Lane.**



Fontaine Court

## 2014 Storm Water Program Update

The 2014 Storm Water Program is in the final planning stages and will go to bid in fall. The program consists of the lining of sections of pipe and replacement/repairs of storm water pipes under Section Road near Farm Acres Drive and on Arborcrest Court. This work will repair deteriorated sections of storm pipe and prevent further sink holes. The program will also replace a deteriorated, steel corrugated, 12-inch storm pipe and catch basins on Verger Lane.

Modifications to the Amberley Green dam will also be completed as a part of the 2014 Storm Water Repair Program in response to the mandates from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. As the feature article on the cover page described, lowering the dam will relieve the Village from its requirement to maintain it as a Class I dam, thus saving the significant cost of bringing the dam into compliance with state standards.

## Gas Aggregation

Since the program began in October 2012, Village residents have saved \$34,177 over Duke's rates with gas aggregation. This has been accomplished through variable gas pricing and locking in the price when it's attractive. With the program concluding in October, the next step is to have a new gas aggregation program in place. Eagle Energy, the Village's energy consultant, sent Requests for Proposals (RFPs) to seven potential suppliers and recommended an agreement with IGS for a fixed price for two years.

Upon entering into the agreement, residents will be notified of the gas rate by the Village and IGS is required to give residents the choice of opting out of the gas aggregation program.

Currently, the Village gas aggregation rate of \$5.785/ccf, which was secured for June through

October, is less than Duke's gas rate of \$6.27 in June, \$6.448 in July and \$6.070 in August. The new gas aggregation rate will be \$5.28/ccf for a two year period.

Residents will be notified and unless you are with an alternative gas supplier, you will become part of the Village gas aggregation program and will begin saving money.

If you are with another provider and would like to switch, contact IGS Energy to sign up for the Village's gas aggregation program.

**Gas:**  
IGS Energy  
P.O. Box 9060  
Dublin, OH 43017  
1-800-280-4474 (8 am – 8 pm weekdays)  
www.IGSenergy.com

## Electric Aggregation

The Village electric aggregation 2 ½ year program that saved residents over \$475,000 concluded in May was not renewed until electric rates became more competitive. The Village, through its energy broker, Eagle Energy, recently sent Requests for Proposals (RFPs) to potential electric suppliers and received competitive responses that enable the Village to resume electric aggregation. The Village has signed an agreement with IGS for electric aggregation to occur in October.

Residents will be notified by the Village of the electric rate and IGS is required to give residents the choice of opting out of the electric aggregation program. A fixed price of \$0.0576/kWh has been secured. Residents will be notified and unless you are with an

alternative electric supplier, you will become part of the Village electric aggregation program and will begin saving money. The new electric aggregation rate will be \$0.0576/kWh for a three year period.

If you are with another provider and would like to switch, contact IGS Energy to sign up for the Village's electric aggregation program.

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## Brush Pick-Up Ends in October

Continuing with streamlined operations and limited staff, the Village's Maintenance Department crew will concentrate on bulk leaf collection during mid-October through December. The last pick-up day for residents will be their regularly scheduled pick-up day during the week of **October 6** through

October 10. Brush pick-up will resume in January.

To find out the last day of brush pick-up on your street, please visit the News section at [AmberleyVillage.org](http://AmberleyVillage.org).

## Leaf Collection Starts October 13

The Village's annual leaf collection program will begin on Monday, October 13 this year. The Maintenance Department has readied its equipment and the crews will make regular routes throughout the Village to provide leaf collection to residents until January 2, 2015.

The black and white advisory signs will be posted at the entrance to your neighborhood in advance of the crews, projecting the estimated day of collection in your area. Crews will stay on schedule as much as possible. Weather, equipment, parking on the street, and debris mixed with leaves all affect the Village's ability to collect leaves.

### Tips When Raking Your Leaves:

- Please avoid placing leaves in the street to keep gutters and storm drains from clogging.
- Please avoid parking in front of leaf piles; crews are not able to pick up piles with access issues.
- Never place leaves around fire hydrants, mailboxes, sign posts, utility poles or guy wires.

