

# Sycamore Township NEWS

Spring 2009

## In this Issue

- 2 EMS/Fire Department  
Chief Jetter
- 3 Police and Crime Prevention  
Cpl. Kristy Fritz  
Blockwatch
- 4 Parks And Recreation  
Sycamore Township Parks  
Summer Concert Series  
Festival In Sycamore
- 5 Planning and Zoning  
Harry L. Holbert Jr.
- 6 Maintenance Department  
Compost Giveaway  
Trash Bash  
Storm Damage Collection
- 7 Sycamore Township  
Residents Make a Difference  
Calendar of Events
- 8 Contacts

After a long Winter, the flowers and trees are blooming and Spring is finally here. The Township is providing a couple of services that will help you with your "Spring Cleaning". While the Township used salt to clear the roads of snow this past winter, the County used "grit" which is the black substance that is seen on County roads and unfortunately has been tracked onto our Township roads, creating a serious mess in many of our neighborhoods. Starting in the month of April, the Trustees have contracted with an outside company to run street sweepers on every Township road (except those under re-construction). They will continue the process until all roads are completed. We will also be holding one of our two always popular "Trash Bash" weekends with the first one being at Bechtold Park from Friday May 15th through Sunday, May 17th.

In a follow up from our wind storm in the Fall and ice storm in the Winter, I wanted to inform you that we have had multiple meetings with Duke to discuss how the restoration of power was executed for our residents during these two events, and how Duke's lack of communication with the Township put some of our residents in extraordinary situations. Duke has acknowledged that because of the magnitude of the storms, their communication with our Township emergency personnel was not as good as it should have been. Duke has taken corrective action in response to the concerns we expressed and set up an email Storm Distribution List with Chief Jetter and the Trustees on it to communicate through email or Blackberries and provide advance notice of all storms that are eminent, and what precautions Duke is taking to guarantee minimal outages from the storms. If there are any residents with special medical needs, Duke has also developed an Energy Life Support Program which will allow Duke to target power restoration to the medically needy in our community. The form for this program can be found on the web at: <http://www.duke-energy.com/ohio/special-assistance/life-support.asp>. If there are any residents that do not have access to the web, feel free to contact the Township and we would be happy to fill out the form for you and get you registered.

Your Trustees are committed to expanding our already great park facilities in the Township, and we hope you will mark your calendars for what we think will be a park dedication like no other. On

Saturday, August 22nd, we will be dedicating our newest park on Deerfield Road that encompasses 18 acres. It will include a Class A lighted baseball facility, 3 soccer fields, walking track and playground area. The park will also house our newest Fire Station and community meeting room, which will be a LEED Certified building. The day will include our dedication ceremony, tours of the new Fire Station, and performances by local favorite Ooh La La and the Greasers, and Oldies Great, Tommy James and the Shondels. All of the Family Friendly events that day will be FREE. We will have booths available to purchase food and refreshments, and all you need to bring is a lawn chair. Updated details will be available on our website and in future newsletters.



Tom Weidman

On behalf of fellow Trustees Cliff Bishop and Dick Kent, along with our Fiscal Officer Rob Porter, I want to thank you for your continued support of Township government, and look forward to seeing you at one of the many Township activities scheduled in the upcoming months.

Sincerely,

Tom Weidman, President  
Sycamore Township Board of Trustees

## Festival in Sycamore

**Bechtold Park**  
**4312 Sycamore Road**  
**Friday, July 17 &**  
**Saturday, July 18**





# EMS/Fire Department



EMS & Fire Director/  
Fire Chief  
William "BJ" Jetter,  
Ph.D. MIFireE, CHSIII

## VIAL OF LIFE

As the weather is springing forward the Fire Department wants to provide you with the best possible care should you experience a medical emergency. One way for us to do that is to supply you with a Vial of Life. This easy to use plastic tube contains forms for you to fill out. You simply answer the questions on the forms and put the Vial of Life in the top shelf of your refrigerator door. A magnet that comes with the Vial is placed on the outside of your refrigerator door. If you have

a medical emergency the EMS crew will then have immediate access to your emergency contact phone numbers, doctor's name, number and prescription information.

If you don't currently have a Vial of Life, please call the **Fire Department at 792-8565** and we will be happy to deliver one to you. If you need new forms for your Vial you can either access them by going to our website at **www.sycamoretownship.org** and click on departments, then on **Fire & EMS, then on public information.** At the bottom of the paragraph about the Vial of Life you will find a link that will enable you to print the forms. If you don't have access to the internet you are welcome to call the Fire Department and we will make sure you get the forms.

Another key safety point for spring is to make sure that all combustible materials such as gas cans, oil and oil rags are sealed and hung to air dry so that these volatile materials are safely stored.

Many residents have recently observed the Fire Department training in various locations throughout the Township. State law requires all personnel to maintain CEU's and be trained for recertification. You may also see department members in your neighborhood this spring checking and flushing hydrants. In order to maintain a Class 2 ISO insurance rating we must provide hydrant servicing and log in required hours for training in both EMS & fire exercises. Enjoy the spring!

Yours in Life Safety,

William A. Jetter, Ph.D. MIFireE  
EMS & Fire Director/Fire Chief

**Personal Information Form**  
*Preparation is the best Prevention*

Sycamore Township  
Fire EMS Rescue

**Vial Of Life**  
Sycamore Township  
EMS Fire Department  
Hamilton County Sheriff's Office

Any questions about the Vial Of Life Program please call the fire station at (513) 792-8565

Station locations:  
8540 Kenwood Rd ( South Syc)  
11745 Soltzman Rd (North Syc)

Additional Vial Of Life tubes or refrigerator magnets can be picked up at either Sycamore Fire Department locations.

**Hospital of choice**

Please understand we want to take you to the hospital of your choice. However, If your health is at risk your choice of hospital may be too far to travel. It is imperative that we get you to the closest hospital based on your condition. Our EMS personnel will have to make that determination based on your condition.

Cut along dotted line and place in Vial Of Life tube

Place Vial in top shelf of refrigerator.

Place Vial Of Life magnet on door of refrigerator door.

The Vial Of Life provides important medical information about you to the medical personnel in an emergency situation where you are unable speak.

Please fill out the personal information form and the medical history form.

Fill out a form for each member of the family.

Do you have a:

**DNR**  
If yes check one. EMS must have this document in hand in order to honor your request. Please indicate the location of your documents.

Clearly Print the information requested. In order for the EMS services to fulfill your request, information must be kept updated

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Social Security No.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Religion:** \_\_\_\_\_  Male  Female

**Primary Doctor:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Doctors Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Which hospital do you prefer to receive medical care.**

**Hosp.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Medicare No.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Secondary Insurance/Policy No.** \_\_\_\_\_

**In case of Emergency / Notify:**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Relationship:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Relationship:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Power of Attorney Notify:**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Relationship:** \_\_\_\_\_

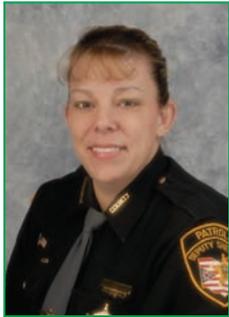
**Alternative Contact** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cell phone, pager, office, etc. number** \_\_\_\_\_

DNR  DNR Comfort Care  Living Will

**Location:** \_\_\_\_\_

# Police and Crime Prevention



Cpl. Kristy Fritz,  
Sheriff's Liaison

Sycamore Township and the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office have been teamed up for years to provide one the area's premier BlockWatch programs. This program has been extremely successful in the past and now we invite you to be part of this well informed group of residents who assist local government through out the neighborhoods and business districts in the Township.

Topics such as burglar tactics, home security, personal security, alarms, con-artists, domestics, when to call 911 and others have enhanced the knowledge and capabilities of people just like you who attend and practice BlockWatch. We teach you how to be the 'eyes and ears' of law enforcement.

The best part of BlockWatch is that it is 'neighbors helping neighbors'. In the fast paced world we all live in today, isn't it nice to know that your neighbors are watching out for your safety along with the Sheriff's Office? Very often, neighbors are uninformed about what goes on in their community. At BlockWatch, we share crime statistics as well as current trends that have been occurring in the Township.

Whether you want to voice your concern over a problem or want to be part of the well informed organization, we would love to see you at our next BlockWatch meeting. Meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month at 7 pm in the Training Room at the Sycamore Township Fire House next to the Administration Building at 8540 Kenwood Rd.

Sincerely,

Cpl. Kristy Fritz  
Sheriff's Liaison



**MEETING DATES**  
**For 2009 Sycamore**  
**TWSP EMS & Fire**  
**Department**  
**Training Room**  
**8540 Kenwood Rd.**

**7:00 pm**

**May 19**

**June 16**

**July 21**

**August 18**

**September 15**

**October 20**

**November 17**

**December 15**



# Parks and Recreation



Hope to see you there!

## SYCAMORE TOWNSHIP PARKS

Spring has arrived!! After what seemed like a long, long winter, our parks are ready for another busy, fun filled year. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee has been busy planning events and the Township Maintenance Department has been busy preparing Township parks for all of the activities that will take place this year. If you have any questions or comments concerning any of our Township park facilities or programs, please contact Mike McKeown at **791-8447**, or [mmckeown@sycamoretownship.org](mailto:mmckeown@sycamoretownship.org).

### SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

We are pleased to announce that four summer concerts will be presented this year. Bands, dates and locations are listed below.

**May 17 – AJA** (Steely Dan Tribute)  
behind Administration Building, 8540 Kenwood Road, (45236) – 6 PM – 8PM

**June 14 – Blue Stone Ivory**  
North Sycamore Recreational Facility, 11797 Solzman Road (45249) 6 PM – 8 PM

**June 20 – Jump N Jive Band** (Big Band and Swing)  
Bechtold Park, Bechtold Pavilion,  
4312 Sycamore Road (45236) 6 PM – 8 PM

**September 20 – After Midnight** – (Great 70's, 80's, 90's cover band) North Sycamore Recreational Facility, 11797 Solzman Road (45249) 5 PM – 7 PM

You can bring your own food and refreshments or buy concessions at the concert. Bring a blanket or a lawn chair.

### FESTIVAL IN SYCAMORE

Mark your calendars for **Friday, July 17 and Saturday, July 18** for the **17th Annual Festival in Sycamore**. This year's event promises to be the best ever with great music, food and rides for the kids. Some very talented regional and local groups including the JuJu Bees Rhythm Revue, G. Miles and the Hitmen and the Natalie Wells Band will be joined by three national acts this summer. Ambrosia, which made such a splash at last year's festival, will be joined on July 17 by Orleans, which had many hits including "Still the One". Elvin Bishop, legendary rock and blues guitarist, will headline July 18. Best known for "Fooled Around and Fell in Love", Bishop remains a very popular touring act. Also, because of the very positive response last year, Rides will again be \$5.00 per day per person. Look for all festival details in the next newsletter.

We are very interested in your feedback. Please contact Mike McKeown with your comments.





# Planning and Zoning

**Harry L. Holbert Jr.**  
**Sycamore Township**  
**Planning and Zoning Inspector**



Greetings Sycamore Township Residents:

As your new Planning and Zoning Inspector for Sycamore Township, I am honored to do this job and will continue to serve the residence of Sycamore Township.

I would like to tell you a little about my previous career. My professional background consists of providing architectural and engineering services to builders, contractors, and homeowners. Other responsibilities included submitting plans and presentations to local Building and Zoning Departments in Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana for their approvals. As my career evolved, I found myself doing plan reviews, field supervision and field inspections of both residential and commercial projects, which was a great way to transition into my current position.

Today, I find myself in one of my most challenging careers. As Sycamore Township Planning and Zoning Inspector, I not only deal with great projects such as the Kenwood Towers and Kenwood Crossing, but also small room additions or a fence being erected in your neighbor's yard.

An important part of my job responsibility at Sycamore Township deals with property maintenance. Summer is quickly approaching and so will the concerns about yard and property maintenance. In today's economy, now more than ever, it is important to maintain your home and property to continue the prosperity of Sycamore Township. The Planning and Zoning Department's high standards for residential, commercial and recreational development promote the wellbeing and enrichment of all our lives.

In closing, please take advantage of the various residential programs listed in this newsletter. Please know that if you are unable to care for your property and need help, you may call me at **792-7252** for a list of volunteers to help you. When we take care of our property, we all win.

Best Regards,

Harry L. Holbert, Jr.  
Planning & Zoning Inspector  
(513) 792-7252  
hholbert@sycamoretownship.org



At the February 19th Sycamore Township Board of Trustees meeting, the Trustees presented Joshua Howard with the Sycamore Senior Center a check for \$25,000 from the Township. Left to right: Trustee Dick Kent, Joshua Howard of the Sycamore Senior Center, Trustee President Tom Weidman and Trustee Cliff Bishop.



Helen McAninch accepted Resolution #2009-05 honoring her mother, Bertha McAninch, at the March 5th Sycamore Township Trustee meeting. Left to right: Trustee Dick Kent, Trustee President Tom Weidman, Helen McAninch and Trustee Bishop.





## Maintenance Department

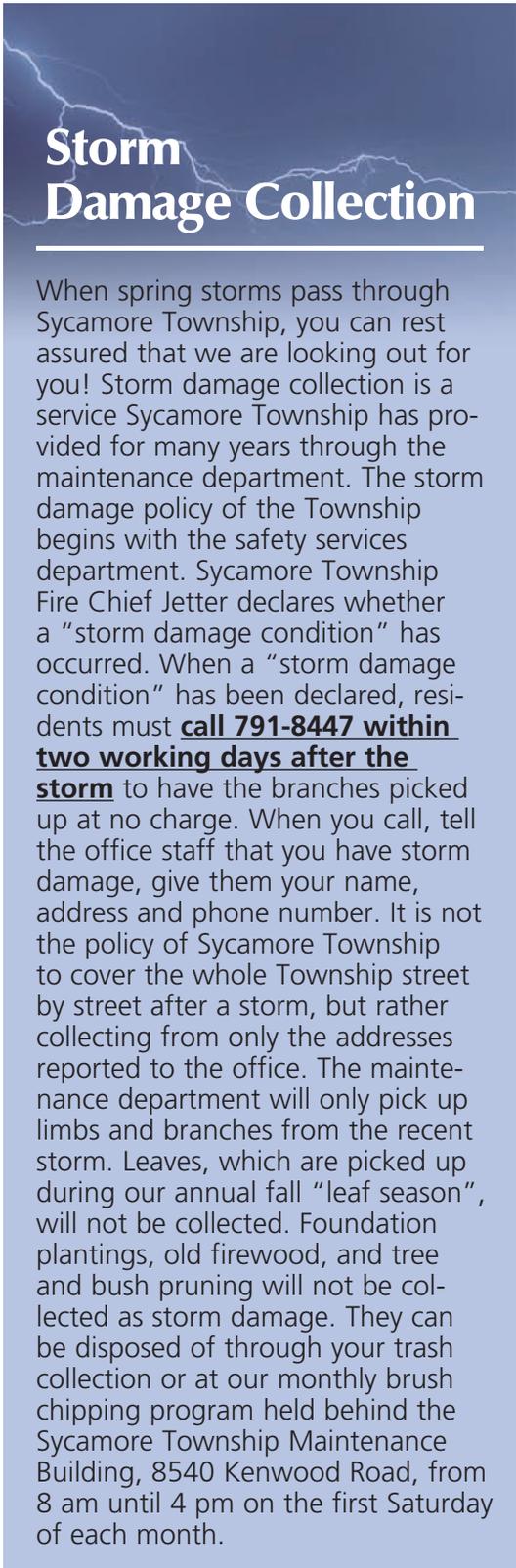
### COMPOST GIVE-AWAY

The Township will again provide free compost and wood chips on Saturday, May 9, from 8:00 am until 4:00 pm. The material may be picked up at the Township's compost site adjacent to Hartzell United Methodist Church at 8999 Appplewood Drive.

Maintenance personnel will be on hand to assist you in loading the material. There is an abundant supply of both compost and wood chips so come early and come often. No rain date has been set at this time.

### TRASH BASH

To better serve the residents of Sycamore Township, the schedule of the 2009 Trash Bash will be one event in the spring and one event in the fall, as last year. Sycamore Township residents are welcome to take advantage of both events. The dates for the south Trash Bash at Bechtold Park, 4312 Sycamore Road, 45236, are scheduled for **Friday, May 15th through Sunday, May 17th**. The dates for the north Trash Bash at the North Sycamore Recreational Facility, 7841 School Road, 45241, are scheduled for **Friday, September 18th through Sunday, September 20th**. The Trash Bash hours of operation shall be from noon to 4 PM on Friday and Sunday and 8 AM to 4 PM on Saturday. The Sycamore Township maintenance staff will be on hand to offer assistance at both locations. Trash, junk, debris, tires, old construction materials, furniture, lawn mowers and appliances of all sorts will be accepted. **Please note that paint, chemicals, pesticides and yard waste including leaves, limbs and brush will not be accepted. Be prepared to show proof of residency. A valid driver's license or utility bill with your Sycamore Township address will be accepted.**



## Storm Damage Collection

When spring storms pass through Sycamore Township, you can rest assured that we are looking out for you! Storm damage collection is a service Sycamore Township has provided for many years through the maintenance department. The storm damage policy of the Township begins with the safety services department. Sycamore Township Fire Chief Jetter declares whether a "storm damage condition" has occurred. When a "storm damage condition" has been declared, residents must **call 791-8447 within two working days after the storm** to have the branches picked up at no charge. When you call, tell the office staff that you have storm damage, give them your name, address and phone number. It is not the policy of Sycamore Township to cover the whole Township street by street after a storm, but rather collecting from only the addresses reported to the office. The maintenance department will only pick up limbs and branches from the recent storm. Leaves, which are picked up during our annual fall "leaf season", will not be collected. Foundation plantings, old firewood, and tree and bush pruning will not be collected as storm damage. They can be disposed of through your trash collection or at our monthly brush chipping program held behind the Sycamore Township Maintenance Building, 8540 Kenwood Road, from 8 am until 4 pm on the first Saturday of each month.

# SYCAMORE TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Congratulations Sycamore Township residents! In 2008, you recycled 646 tons of metal, glass, plastic, and paper. Sycamore Township recycled 42 tons more in 2008 than in 2007! Residents saved resources, conserved energy, and reduced pollution by recycling.



The recycling efforts in Sycamore Township:

- Saved 5,440 trees
- Conserved enough energy to power 123 average homes for an entire year
- Avoided the need for 72 tons of iron ore, limestone, and coal
- Reduced greenhouse gases equivalent to removing 422 cars from the road for a year

Recycling reduces pollution so the air we breathe is cleaner, conserves natural resources so we will have them to use in the future, and decreases the energy needed to make new products. Recycling also boosts our local economy by creating 169,000 jobs and \$6 billion in annual wages just in the State of Ohio.

On average, each household in Sycamore Township recycled 156 pounds in 2008. That's 9.2 % of all the waste you generate. If you would like to see even more

material recycled in 2009, check out the list below to make sure you include all these materials in your recycling bin. Don't have a bin? Call 242-4600 if you have Rumpke or 771-4200 if you have CSI to request your bin today!

Good Work, Sycamore Township, your recycling efforts made a big difference!

## Recyclable Materials

- Plastic bottles and jugs (remove lids)**
- Glass bottles and jars (remove lids)**
- Empty aerosol cans (remove lids and tips)**
- Aluminum and steel cans**
- Paperboard (cereal boxes, etc.)**
- Junk mail and envelopes**
- Magazines, catalogs, and phone books**
- Newspapers**
- Cardboard**
- Office Paper**
- Brown grocery bags**

Have a question about recycling? Call Hamilton County's Recycling Hotline at 946-7766 or visit [www.hamiltoncountyclecyles.org](http://www.hamiltoncountyclecyles.org).



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Monthly Brush Chipping Program

8AM – 4PM  
Chipper behind the Township Admin Building  
8540 Kenwood Road  
May 2  
June 6  
July 11  
August 1

### Compost/Woodchip Give-Away

Hartzell United Methodist church  
8999 Applewood Drive  
Saturday, May 9  
8AM-4PM

### Spring Trash Bash

South Bechtold Park  
4312 Sycamore Road  
Friday, May 15 NOON-4PM  
Saturday, May 16  
8AM-4PM  
Sunday, May 17  
NOON-4PM

### Fall Trash Bash

North Sycamore Recreation Facility  
School Road Entrance  
7841 School Road  
Friday, September 18  
NOON-4PM

Saturday, September 19  
8AM-4PM  
Sunday, September 20  
NOON-4PM

### Festival in Sycamore

Bechtold Park  
4312 Sycamore Road  
Friday, July 17  
6PM-MIDNIGHT  
Saturday, July 18  
6PM-MIDNIGHT





# Contacts

## Spring 2009

Tom Weidman, President

Cliff Bishop, Vice President

Dick Kent, Trustee

Robert C. Porter III, Fiscal Officer

R. Douglas Miller, Law Director

Rob Molloy, Administrator

Tracy Kellums, Superintendent

Mike McKeown, Parks & Recreation Director

**791-8447 – Fax 792-8564**

Greg Bickford, AICP, Planning Zoning Director

Assistant Township Administrator

**792-7250 – Fax 792-8571**

EMS & Fire Department/Fire Chief

William "BJ" Jetter, PH.D., MIFireE, CHSIII

**792-8565 – Fax 792-8564**

Sheriff's Liaison, Corporal Kristy Fritz

**791-8447 – Fax 792-8564**

Fire and Police Emergency – 911

[www.sycamoretownship.org](http://www.sycamoretownship.org)



8540 Kenwood Road  
Sycamore Twp., Ohio 45236

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
CINCINNATI, OH  
PERMIT NO. 1693

*"There's More in Sycamore"*



## Trustees available to better serve you

To serve you better, the Trustees have designated areas of Sycamore Township to service. If you have a question about your neighborhood, please contact the appropriate Trustee.



**Tom Weidman**  
President  
Northern Area



**Cliff Bishop**  
Vice President  
Dillonvale/Rossmoyne



**Dick Kent**  
Trustee  
Kenwood



**Robert C. Porter III**  
Fiscal  
Officer

You can reach your elected officials by calling the Sycamore Township Administration Office at 791-8447.