

# Munson Township NEWS NOTES

Geauga County, Ohio

Volume XXV Issue I March 2022

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

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Paula Friebertshauser

Office Assistant, Park &  
Recreation Board Secretary,  
Zoning Commission  
Secretary  
Julie Johnston  
(Newsletter Editor)

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Fire Chief  
Mike Vatty

Assistant Fire Chief  
Brian Gray



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## **Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste Collection Facility**

**OPENING SOON!** Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste Management District is happy to announce that their new facility located at 12685 Merritt Road will be opening soon. Everything taken at the Trumbull location will be accepted at the new Geauga location. The new facility is heated with a drive-thru lane. This will allow facility operation ALL-YEAR ROUND even in inclement weather. Residents will drive into the building, and a crew will unload the vehicle.



Facility operating days are based on the season, with collection information below:

### **May - October**

The facility will be open 2 days a week during warm months.

- One day will be for electronics and appliances only.
- The other day will be for everything – electronics, appliances and household hazardous waste (HHW) – chemicals, oil-based paints, etc.

### **November – April**

The facility will be open 1 day a week during cooler months.

- Everything taken that day - electronics, appliances, and household hazardous waste (HHW) (ie, electronics, appliances, Chemicals, oil-based paints, etc).



### **Open 7 days a week**

Also on site is the new recycling drop-off site. Residents can bring their bottles, cans, jugs, jars and paper/cardboard to the site 7 days a week. There is access to the bins even when the facility is closed.

**We DO NOT accept construction materials** - like old doors, windows, scrap wood or old furniture. Those items might be accepted by the Lake-Geauga Habitat for Humanity ReStore or taken to a landfill or transfer station for disposal.

For a list of accepted items go to our website: [www.GottaGoGreen.org](http://www.GottaGoGreen.org) or <https://startrecycling.com/index.php/hhw-facility/what-waste-is-acceptable>

This is not a list of everything, just the most asked about items.  
Feel free to call if you have something that is not on the list.

**1-800-707-2673**

## Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste District

### 2022 SPECIAL COLLECTION



## DOCUMENT SHREDDING 1-DAY Paper Shredding EVENT Saturday, April 23rd 9am - Noon

**NEW Geauga County Collection Facility**  
12685 Merritt Road  
Chardon, OH 44024

Limit of 4 boxes/bags per vehicle\*

\* Due to covid-19, empty boxes will not be returned



**For more information**  
**Geauga -Trumbull Solid Waste**  
**Management District**  
5138 Enterprise Blvd. Warren, Ohio  
**1-330-675-2673**

## When Renewing Your License Plates



Residents are reminded to list Munson Township as your place of residence. Otherwise, the motor vehicle license tax revenues will be given to the community in your address.

## Community Day Picnic News



After a two year sabbatical because of the world wide pandemic, our Community Day Picnic is scheduled. If all goes as we plan, Saturday, August 6th will be a fun filled day for Munson Township residents. We are looking forward

to getting things back to normal.

As most of you know, picnic proceeds go to our Scholarship Fund. We will be selling Grand Prize Tickets at the Township office now through picnic day. The lucky winner will receive \$1,000. Tickets are \$5 each or 5/\$20. We awarded 9 scholarships last year and 11 this year. Don't miss out on your chance to win!

## Cemetery Rules & Regulations

We take pride in maintaining our cemeteries while also allowing residents some freedom to honor their loved ones. Winter wreaths, and artificial flowers will be removed between April 1<sup>st</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup> to prepare cemeteries for Memorial Day. Veterans' flags will be displayed for a reasonable time for Memorial Day. These flags are the property of Munson Township.

Your attention to the rules are greatly appreciated. Please check our website for our Cemetery Rules and Regulations. If you are unsure of what is permitted, please do not hesitate to call the Township office.



## Board Appointments

In December 2021, the Township Trustees reappointed Danielle Pitcock to the Board of Zoning Appeals, Jim O'Neill to the Park & Recreation Board and Adriano Fiucci to the Zoning Commission. Roger Simpson was newly appointed to fill a vacant alternate position on the Board of Zoning Appeals – Welcome aboard Roger! Thank you to these Board members for volunteering their time to make our community a better place! If you would like to get more involved call town hall.

*thank you*

## Road Department

### ROAD WORK



Munson Township is planning to repave Sherman Road between Heath Road and Fowler's Mill Road. The Township has been awarded a \$200,000 OPWC grant to aid in the completion of this work. In

order to qualify for the grant, the Township has to agree to bring it up to statewide safety standards. This will enable our firefighting equipment to travel within its lane if you should ever have an emergency, and not use part of the lane reserved for oncoming traffic.

To get an idea of what this project would look like, please take a look at Sherman Road in Chester Township, just west of Heath Road, between Sperry and Heath. This repaving project was recently completed and is twenty-one feet wide in most locations. Please note that the section of Sherman Road in Munson that is east of Fowler's Mill Road is twenty-four feet wide. This width is not required by the State and will not be used.

The Township will continue to make improvements to the drainage prior to the projects commencement. Plans are currently being made and delays should be expected.

## Meet Your Road Crew



Meet the crew that keeps the Township roads, parks and buildings in order. From left to right: Road/Service Superintendent Kirk Walker, Service Department Members: Ross McKinstry, Josh Helms, John Toth (Foremen), Steve Grzsik and Jason Vatty (welder).

## Senior Citizen Assistance for Spring Clean-Up

The Geauga County Department on Aging and Munson Road Department will join forces and aid seniors by picking up and transporting their items to discard at the Clean-Up Day dumpsters April 25, 26, 27 and 28th, 2022 **To qualify**, you must be 60 years of age or older and live in Munson Township. Only 10 household items will be accepted per home.

### To receive assistance:

**You must call the Department on Aging at 440-279-2130 to register. The following information will be needed:**

senior's name, address, phone number and a list of the items to be picked up.

The Township will be divided into three sections, one (possibly more) to be serviced each day. Make sure your items are set out by Monday, April 25, so that you do not miss your scheduled pick-up. The Senior must also be home to sign a release for the items at time of pick up.

To prevent possible bed bug transfer, mattresses and all furniture with fabric **MUST** be wrapped in plastic and taped securely or they will not be taken.

## Spring Clean-Up

Bring your large items and boxes of accumulated items to discard to the **Vetter Ball Field Parking Lot** located behind the Munson Fire Station at 12200 Auburn Road.

**Saturday, April 30, 2022**

**7am to 1pm**

**Items NOT accepted: construction remodeling debris, liquids, paint or other hazardous materials, rocks, yard waste, or household garbage.**

Reduce wood or pipe to six foot lengths. We can **no longer accept** televisions, computer monitors or other small appliances with electronic components. Consolidate all small materials in strong boxes or containers. We will accept unbroken car batteries, lawn mowers, and tires off the rim - 4 per load. Call the Township if you have a junk auto or truck to dispose of (440-286-9255).

**Recyclable items such as cardboard and newspaper will not be accepted.**

**For Munson Township Residents Only, Identification may be requested.**



## Message From the Fire Chief...

YOUR  
TAX  
\$\$  
AT  
WORK

I hope everyone has had a safe Holiday Season and Happy New Year. Munson Fire Department would like to thank the community for the continued support. Munson Fire responded to 1407 Emergency Incidents in 2021. Most of those incidents 85% were Emergency Medical Incidents. The remaining 15 % were Fire related incidents or service call for assistance.

During 2021, Munson Fire experienced several reliability issues with a 2012 Ford F450 rescue squad. This squad had numerous repairs ranging from the replacement of a short block motor, turbo chargers, fuel injectors, diesel injector pumps, along with many emissions related issues. Our response time and service to the community was frequently affected by the squad issues. Recognizing this, the Munson Board of Trustees approved the purchase of a much-needed replacement rescue squad. We are pleased to announce that the new rescue squad # 4056 is now in service!

The new rescue squad is a 2022 Freightliner with a 350-horsepower diesel motor costing just under \$ 250,000 and is paid for unitizing Emergency Medical Service billing revenue. This rescue squad has LED lighting, Opticom preemption and UV interior lighting to perform daily disinfection. This UV lighting greatly reduces the manpower hours currently utilized to clean and disinfected the rescue squad between calls and also ensures that nothing has been missed. The ventilation system has a High efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filter integrated into the design. The rescue squad is also equipped with an electric oxygen cylinder lift system, this system is designed to reduce work related injuries. The oxygen bottles weigh approximately 140 pounds. This rescue squad is equipped with all a Stryker Power Load Cot, and other fire related support equipment.



## CHANGE SMOKE ALARM BATTERIES!



### Burn Permit Information

As the nice weather approaches, the number of burning inquiries increase. If you are looking to burn the branches and sticks you have picked up in your yard, you are required to get a burn permit.

Burn Permits are FREE of charge and are valid for 15 days. Time of burning must be done between 9am to 5pm, weather permitting.

1. No wood over 3' in diameter.
2. Fire watch to stand guard until the fire and all of the coals are totally extinguished.
3. Height of wood piles should not exceed 5'x5'x5' in size.
4. Either a charged hose line (garden hose) or fire extinguisher shall be provided.
5. Excessively high winds may result in the revocation of the permit.
6. Location of the fire shall not be within 50' of any type of structure.
7. At least 1 person, 18 years or older shall be present at all times.
8. Supply a diagram (on the application form) of the area where the burning will take place. Include all the buildings in the area.



**The Munson Township Fire Department is staffed 24/7 to assist you.**  
**Non-Emergency • 440-286-6797**

## Zoning Department



As most of you already know, a Zoning Certificate is not required for the use of land or buildings or structures primarily used for agricultural purposes per

Article 12, Section 1201 of the Munson Township Zoning Resolution. The definition for 'Agriculture' per Article 2, Section 202 reads as follows:

**Agriculture** - Includes farming; algaculture meaning the farming of algae; ranching; apiculture; horticulture; viticulture; animal husbandry, including, but not limited to, the care and raising of livestock, equine, and fur-bearing animals; poultry husbandry and the production of poultry and poultry products; dairy production; the production of field crops, fruits, vegetables, nursery stock, ornamental shrubs, ornamental trees, flowers, sod, or mushrooms; timber; pasturage; any combination of the foregoing; and the processing, drying, storage, and marketing of agricultural products when those activities are conducted in conjunction with, but are secondary to, such husbandry or production.

What you may not know, is that an extended agriculturally related use of land or buildings or structures, growing in popularity, known as 'Agritourism', is also exempt from zoning as long as it meets certain requirements. Per Article 2, Section 202 reads as follows:

**Agritourism** – as defined in O.R.C. Section 901.80(A)(2) or as amended, means an agriculturally related educational, entertainment, historical, cultural, or recreational activity, including you-pick operations or farm markets, conducted on a farm that allows or invites members of the general public to observe, participate in, or enjoy that activity.

Some of the general requirements for this initiative include that the property is 10 acres or more or gross \$2,500 per year from commercial agricultural activity.

Several current residents of the township that are taking advantage of this opportunity are 'Basil Place' on Bass Lake Road, 'Fogle Farm' on Bean Road and 'Healing With Horses' (along with the future 'This Is Me Academy') on Heath Road.



## Fiscal Office

### Munson Acquires New Ambulance

In January Munson Fire Department took delivery on a new ambulance. The Munson Trustees authorized the order of an ambulance in December of 2020, and after production delays related to the pandemic, including supply-chain issues for some manufactured parts, the Fire Department welcomed the new squad into the Fire Department fleet, allowing an older ambulance to be retired from service.

### Lease-to-purchase Program

The new ambulance is now the fourth emergency response vehicle to be acquired by the Township without levying a real estate tax on Munson property owners. The equipment includes a 2014 Sutphen fire engine, a Sutphen aerial bucket fire truck modified and upgraded in 2016, a 2019 Freightliner ambulance, and the 2022 Freightliner ambulance just received. Each piece of equipment was acquired through a lease-to-purchase finance method. This arrangement allows the township to take advantage of low interest rates, take title to the vehicles and let the Fire Department put the equipment immediately into service. The lease payments are made from income generated by the use of those vehicles, as the Fire Department bills insurance companies for emergency services.

In the period from 2016 through 2021, Fire Department billing for EMS services has brought in \$1,667,979. Over this same period, the township has made lease-to-purchase payments totaling \$642,620. Per the contract between the Munson Trustees and Munson Fire Department, Inc., revenue collected from this billing accrues first to pay all obligations in the lease-to-purchase agreements. After those obligations have been met and paid, the balance of all collections are paid directly to the Fire Department to subsidize operation expenses.

The final payment on the fire engine will be made April 1 of this year, and the final payment on the Aerial truck will be made in June. From that point forward, EMS collections will be covering the lease payments on the two newest ambulances.

### **Enjoy Picnicking at a Munson Park:**

Munson Township Park  
12641 Bass Lake Road

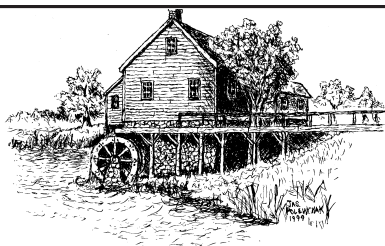
Nero Nature Preserve  
12150 Bean Road

Scenic River Retreat  
10900 Mayfield Road

Town Hall Park  
12210 Auburn Rd.







**MUNSON TOWNSHIP  
NEWS NOTES**  
12210 Auburn Road  
Chardon OH 44024-9454

PRSRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
CHARDON, OH  
PERMIT NO. 42

**Munson Township Resident at:**

## **MUNSON TOWNSHIP NEWS NOTES**

12210 Auburn Road  
Chardon OH 44024-9454

Phone: 440-286-9255  
Fax: 440-286-1180

[munson@munsontwp.com](mailto:munson@munsontwp.com)  
[www.munsontwp.com](http://www.munsontwp.com)

**Office Hours: Weekdays 9am - 3pm**

**To reach the Trustees or Fiscal Officer:**

**Andy Bushman - Trustee** 440-669-2483  
[abushman@munsontwp.com](mailto:abushman@munsontwp.com)

**Jim McCaskey - Trustee** 216-789-1436  
[jmccaskey@munsontwp.com](mailto:jmccaskey@munsontwp.com)

**Irene McMullen - Trustee** 440-286-9255  
[imcmullen@munsontwp.com](mailto:imcmullen@munsontwp.com)

**Todd Ray - Fiscal Officer** 440-286-9312  
[rray@munsontwp.com](mailto:rray@munsontwp.com)

## **MEETINGS**

### **Trustees**

second and fourth Tuesdays at 6:30 pm

### **Zoning Commission**

Second Wednesday at 6:00 pm

### **Board of Zoning Appeals**

third Wednesday at 6:30 pm (as needed)

### **Park Board**

second Monday at 6:15 pm

Check [munsonwp.com](http://munsonwp.com) for the monthly meeting schedule.

## **EVENTS:**

### **March 12th • Indoor Flea Market**

Town Hall 12210 Auburn Road

### **April 16 • Easter Egg Hunt**

Township Park 12641 Bass Lake Road

### **June 18 • Fishing Derby**

Scenic River Retreat 10900 Mayfield Road

### **August 6 • Community Day Picnic**

Town Hall 12210 Auburn Road