



# Newsletter

Fall 2022

Administration Office • 3271 Cheshire Road, Delaware, Ohio 43015

## Trustee Chairman

**Ken O'Brien**

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Twp. Phone: 740-548-6350 Ext. 302  
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## Trustee Vice-Chair

**Meghan Rae Hill**

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## Trustee

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## Fiscal Officer

**Claudia Smith**

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E-mail: clerk@berlintwp.us

## Fire Chief

**AJ Miller**

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E-mail: firechief@berlintwp.us

## Cemetery Sexton - Cheshire

**Larry Buell**

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614-738-3979 Cell

## Cemetery Sexton - Fairview

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E-mail: tfoor@berlintwp.us

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## Assistant Zoning Inspector

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## Zoning Secretary/Assistant

**Cathy Rippel**

Phone: 740-548-5217 Ext. 102  
E-mail: zoningsecretary@berlintwp.us

## Letter from the Chair

Dear Residents,

Your Berlin Township's trustees have been working diligently on many issues that are important to you, but are sometimes not readily apparent. This includes building maintenance, road safety, cemetery attractiveness, and ease of communications and responsiveness.

In the Township Hall, we have recently installed new carpet, added new doors, upgraded our safety and security systems, and made minor repairs. These improvements, with the previous work of inside painting, new lighting and restroom fixtures, allow us to hold meetings and provide for gatherings in an attractive, safe environment. The fire station also has maintenance needs. As the fire station ages, (built in 2007) we will invest time and money in its maintenance, especially regarding the roof. Lastly regarding buildings, the trustees are planning another building for Road Maintenance equipment. It will likely be built to the east of the current building at 3271 Cheshire Road. This building is needed to keep our road equipment in a ready-to-use mode and to reduce maintenance costs that arise from being left outdoors.

We seek to ensure that our roads are safe, long-lasting and efficient. We completed the widening of Piatt Road which allows us to focus more of our budget on the maintenance of our roads this year. Delaware County has also been busy in Berlin Township constructing a single lane peanut-shaped roundabout next to Berlin High School. Projected completion date of this project is August 26. We have asked the County, and they have been gracious to write an article in this newsletter about accessing this roundabout once it is completed.

Communication is important to every successful entity. We continue to work on improving the efficacy in our communications system both internally and externally. It is expensive and time consuming, yet the trustees know that it is imperative that we continually improve in this. In this newsletter, we are seeking your input regarding Parks and Trails through a survey. Please let us know what you feel about these possible services. It is important that you fill out each question. Also, let us know in what other ways we may improve our communication with you.

Sincerely,

Ken O'Brien  
Chairman, Berlin Township Trustees

## Updates from Trustee Raehll

**Zoning.** Over the last term, Zoning has slowed down as far as approved new development plans but new home builds within existing developments continue at a steady pace. Approximately 115 new home builds have been processed so far this calendar year! In addition to new home builds, the Township continues to work on coordinating items related to the Berlin Business Park and the Zoning Commission is working on updates to the Comprehensive Land Use plan. Make certain to stay connected through our website for information on meetings and events.

**Technology.** The Board of Trustees continues to work to provide access to information for the residents. This term, the Board approved a social media policy, procured a new SmartBoard, and will continue to enhance technologies to keep residents informed.

Berlin Township is pleased to share new township logos as part of our rebranding efforts! The new logo features colors that honor our township's history, with the green representing the township's Irish roots, and the blue representing the original Berlin Township school. The icons of the river and road establish defining features in our township and blend together the concept of preserving our township's identity while moving forward into a bright future. Special thanks to the talent at Brinckerhoff design for the excellent work.



## Updates from Trustee Bullard

**Cemetery.** Roads and cemeteries were combined this year to consolidate efforts for maintenance. The Roads and Maintenance department has done a great job with utilizing cemetery grant money to fix headstones at Fairview Cemetery. Also, Cheshire Cemetery continues to be one the nicest maintained cemeteries in all of Delaware County thanks the continued great efforts of long-time Cemetery Sexton Larry Buell..

**Civic Opportunities.** As the township continues to grow so to does our need for continued growth in our staff and volunteers. We are looking to expand the Roads Department, Cemetery, and Zoning over the next term with a variety of positions available. Make certain to check our website for up-to-date information at: [www.berlintwp.us](http://www.berlintwp.us) to stay up to date on current opportunities.



### Resident Pro Tip

Berlin Township has a contract agreement with Rumpke services, who has expanded services to include additional recyclables over the last year. Also, all township residents can take advantage of the Delaware, Knox, Marion, and Morrow (DKMM) Solid Waste District. For more information related to opportunities to get rid of general household recycling, electronics, hazardous waste, latex paint and more, please visit: <https://dkmm.org/>. Another good resource is the Delaware County Public Health District that runs the Keep Delaware County Beautiful (KDCB) program and offers numerous recycling events throughout the year.

# Roads Update

As we head into Fall, the projects of the 2022 season will be coming to a close. Asphalt and protective coatings throughout selective neighborhoods have turned out good with very few issues. Safety on our Township roadways have all ways been at the top of our priority list even more now that we have so much new building and construction. Please always slow down through these work areas and watch for all distractions.

Berlin Township road crews not only take care of road issues but also take care of maintenance in the Township Cemeteries. This year the Township was awarded a grant to begin to straightening and leveling the flush mounted headstones in the Fairview Cemetery. The Road crew was able to fix 77 stones of misalignment which took about one week to accomplish. Berlin Township will be applying for more grant money in order to keep up with the maintenance of the Fairview Cemetery.

Moving forward we would ask our community to please put trash cans at the end of driveways or in the street lawn area. Having a trash can in the street creates hazards for the motoring public and has created quite an issue for snow plowing in the winter. When plow drivers have to navigate around trash cans it slows down the over all response time we have for each neighborhood.

## ROUNDABOUT INFORMATION

The new peanut-shaped roundabout is under construction at the Berlin Station Road/Piatt Road intersection. Despite its unique shape, it operates the same as a circular roundabout. Here are some DOs and DON'Ts for vehicles to safely navigate this intersection.

**DO** - Turn right to enter the roundabout  
**DON'T** - Attempt to turn left (you'll be going the wrong way!)

**DO** - Yield to traffic already in the roundabout  
**DON'T** - Stop in the roundabout  
**DO** - Travel around the roundabout counter-clockwise

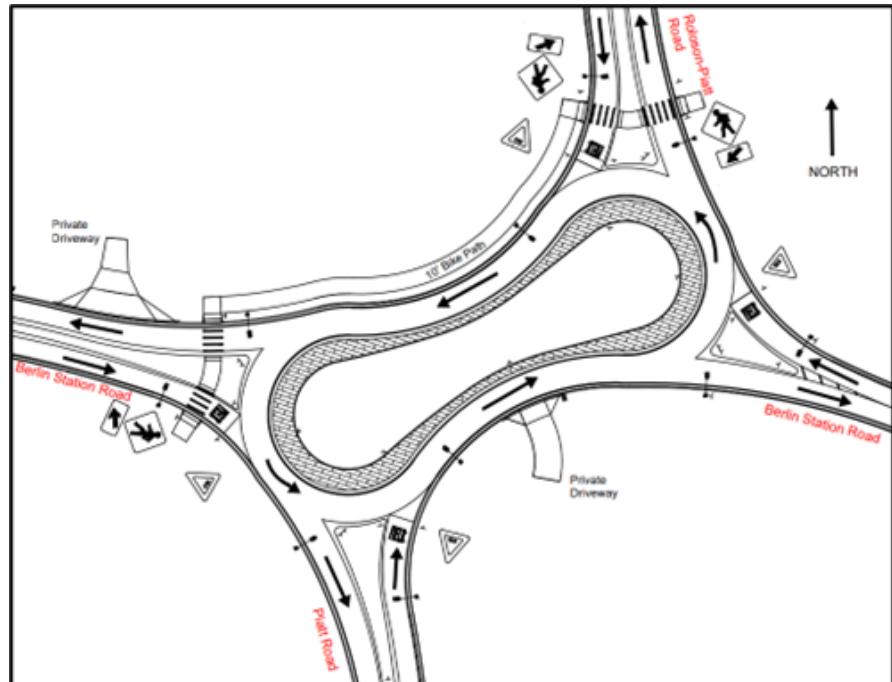
**DO** - Clear the roundabout for emergency vehicles (Do not stop in the roundabout).

**DO** - Yield to pedestrians in the crosswalk.

### For pedestrians:

**DO** - use the designated crosswalks and paths

**DO** - yield the right-of-way to all vehicles when outside the designated crosswalk



### Helpful links for more information on roundabouts

<https://engineer.co.delaware.oh.us/design/roundabouts/>  
[www.transportation.ohio.gov/about-us/basics/roundabouts](http://www.transportation.ohio.gov/about-us/basics/roundabouts)

### **Roundabout Basics for Pedestrians:**

[www.transportation.ohio.gov/static/About/roundabouts/pedestrians.pdf](http://www.transportation.ohio.gov/static/About/roundabouts/pedestrians.pdf)

### **Roundabout Basics for Bicyclists:**

[www.transportation.ohio.gov/static/About/roundabouts/bicyclists.pdf](http://www.transportation.ohio.gov/static/About/roundabouts/bicyclists.pdf)

**RETURN ADDRESS:**  
3271 Cheshire Rd.  
Delaware, OH 43015

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE  
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DELaware, OH  
PERMIT NO. 41

**Berlin Township Zoning  
Commission (BZC)**

Steve Flaherty  
Chair

Angela Brown  
Darcy Kaplan  
Christina Littleton  
Jerry Valentine

BZC Alternates  
Jenny Sloas  
Open Seat

Zoning Clerk  
Lisa Knapp

**Berlin Township Board of  
Zoning Appeals (BZA)**

Don Sutton  
Chair

Jason Acevado  
Brad Cook  
Michele Cook  
Larry Harmon

BZA Alternates  
Jessica Kuenzli  
Quinn Machan

Zoning Clerk  
Lisa Knapp

**Delaware Co. EMS & Berlin Twp. Fire Dept. Present:**

# TOUCH A TRUCK



**August 13, 2022  
9 a.m.-12 p.m.**

**Olentangy Berlin High School  
3140 Berlin Station Rd.  
Delaware, Ohio 43015**

*Canned food and box fan  
donations will be collected for  
People In Need, Delaware County*

Questions? Email:  
gkeating@co.Delaware.oh.us



## From the Fire Chief's Desk

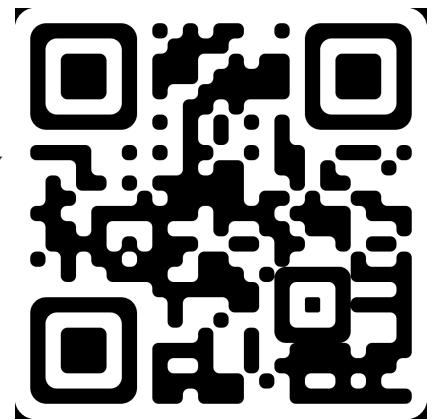
The Berlin Township Fire Department and our partners at Delaware County EMS, cordially invite you to our Touch A Truck event. Come and experience a wide selection of trucks. Of course, your Berlin Township fire trucks and rescue boat will be there as well as DCEMS medic transport trucks, as well as their off-road trail vehicle. Due to the overwhelming success of this event, this years Touch A Truck will be held at the Olentangy Berlin high school at 3140 Berlin Station Rd. Delaware, Ohio 43015. We look forward to seeing all of you there on Saturday, **August 13th from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.** We will be collecting canned food and fan donations on site for People In Need, Delaware county. Make certain to arrive early and don't forget Berlin Station Rd is closed due to construction to plan your route accordingly.

Also, Save the Date for the Halloween Open House  
**October 23rd, 1:00pm-3:00pm**

# Parks and Trails Survey: Feedback Requested

The advisory Parks and Trails committee requests resident feedback to ensure our recommendations align with the interest of our community. While grants and other funding opportunities will be pursued, to effectively plan, it is necessary to understand both what residents want and what we residents are willing to financially support. Both items are vitally important to know so that the committee can effectively advise the Board of Trustees.

This very brief survey will help baseline initial interests. Based on the findings, committee will make recommendations to the Board of Trustee for the level of planning and initial investments to pursue at this time.



Instructions: Please only complete one survey per resident and only submit through one method (e.g., paper drop-off or mailing below to the township hall, phone/tablet QR code noted above, or online through website link at: [survey.berlin.org](http://survey.berlin.org)). Only adults within the township (18+) should complete. Asterisks (\*) are required answers for the survey to count. **Responses will be accepted through Sunday, October 9th, 2022.** If completing below, please circle your answers and return to the Township Hall (3271 Cheshire Rd).

1. Are you a Berlin Township resident? \*
  - Yes
  - No
2. How old are you? \*
  - Under 25 years of age
  - 25 to 34 years of age
  - 35 to 44 ages of age
  - 45 to 54 years of age
  - 55 to 64 years of age
  - Over 65 ages of year
3. What is your gender?
  - Female
  - Male
  - Prefer not to answer
4. Please describe your household: \*

Circle number of adults in your household:

1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | more than 5

Circle number of children in your household:

0 | 2 | 3 | 4 | more than 4
5. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statement: "**Parks, trails, and additional recreational opportunities are needed in Berlin Township.**" \*
  - Strongly Agree
  - Agree
  - Disagree
  - Strongly Disagree
6. How likely are you to support a township tax levy for parks, trails, and additional recreational opportunities in Berlin Township? \*
  - Very likely
  - Likely
  - Unlikely
  - Very unlikely
7. If, any, which of the following amenities would you support township tax dollars funding? (Check all that apply)\*
  - Township Park/Playground
  - Multi-use Paths
  - Splash Pad
  - Community Recreation Center
  - Other (Fill in additional feedback below)
  - None – I am not in favor of using tax dollars to support additional township amenities

Please add any additional feedback you would like the Parks and Trails Advisory Committee to consider: