



# Berlin Township

## NEWSLETTER

Administration Office

3271 Cheshire Road • Delaware • OH • 43015

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## From the Chairman of the Board

Dear Residents,

This has been a challenging year to say the least. All aspects of our lives have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Berlin Township has been holding "virtual" meetings for a while and at this point, it looks like we will continue to hold virtual meetings through the end of the year and perhaps even longer than that. Please try and follow the guidelines that have been recommended to help limit the spread of the Covid virus.

Some Township events will be or have been cancelled due to the pandemic: "Touch a Truck" was cancelled and the Fall "Open House" is also cancelled. The township hall is closed for rentals through the end of the year.

Following is a list of current Township related items:

The Piatt Road widening and Improvement project which runs from Peachblow Road to Cheshire Road is moving forward with construction scheduled to begin in 2021.

Meetings are still ongoing in regards to the 36/37 Berlin Business Park. These meetings will continue for the next 2-3 months as we work with county officials and residents to come up with a plan that will be most beneficial to all.

ODOT is busy working on "J" hooks on Route 36/37 which are design built U-turns located in the median of the highway. According to ODOT, these improvements along with the elimination of left turns onto 36/37 at Lackey Old State, N. Old State, and Dunham Roads as they intersect with SR 36/37 will be safer than the current situation.

The Delaware County Engineer is continuing to make roundabouts more common in our Township with another one already planned for the intersection of Berlin Station and the Roloson-Piatt extension just east of the Berlin High School, and at Peachblow/North Road Extension. These new roundabouts can be tricky at first, but in the long run, they have been known to be much safer than the typical 4-way stop intersections.

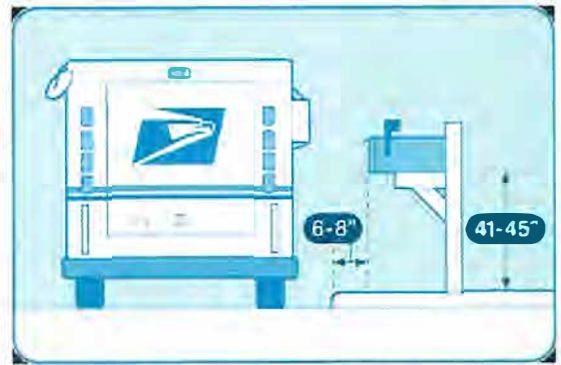
Residents have responded to our needs and we currently have five members and two alternates on our Zoning Commission. We recently hired a resident to fill one of the alternate positions for the Board of Zoning Appeals which leaves one alternate position available. If you would like to be considered for a position on any of our Boards, please contact Cathy Rippel in the zoning office.

*Sincerely, Tom D'Amico*

## Snow Plows and Mailboxes... by Brodi Irwin

Another beautiful summer is now in the history books. Summer work projects are winding down and being completed with a new outlook into upcoming winter snow maintenance and removal. We ask that extra careful attention be given to all township snow removal equipment while they are trying to safely complete their tasks. These large trucks at night have a hard time seeing when working and backing, so please allow them space. Secondly, snow blowing and shoveling snow into the street is not permitted according to the Ohio Revised Code. Obstacles that are in the street could cause someone in the traveling public to wreck or damage their vehicle. Thirdly, all mailboxes need to conform to United States Postal Service code as to the location from the edge of the street. Berlin Township will not pay for damage to any mailbox that does not meet USPS Guidelines. The front of the boxes need to be 6 to 8 inches away from the street.

We strive to give each and every resident of Berlin Township the best services that we can. The safety of all of our residents who travel our roads is our top priority. **Lastly, please remove vehicles from streets when there is snow or snowfall expected.** It is very difficult to maneuver and be timely with snow plowing when we can't easily get around your subdivision.



USPO guideline repairing/installing a mailbox



Rumpke has sent information on reducing the amount of recycling contamination. This is an effort to reduce the cost of handling the recycling material. During the past few years the recycling business has changed dramatically with China drastically reducing the amount of material they are processing and the transportation cost increasing. The following list is for the holiday season but is useful all year long. Keep in mind the list is for the materials that Rumpke has a market for selling. Other materials may be recyclable somewhere, but are not useful here. The following is directly from Rumpke:

**Holiday Messaging:** Americans throw away 25 percent more material during the holidays, according to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, but as a reminder, not everything you want to discard belongs in your trash or recycling containers. Rumpke reminds customers that liquids, flammable items and batteries should be left out of your trash cans. When it comes to recycling, you can stay on Santa's nice list by following some simple guidelines this holiday season. **Recycle These Items :**

Wrapping paper (not foil) • Gift boxes • Gift bags (paper, not foil) • Cardboard boxes • Newspapers and sales ads • Cards & envelopes • Clean pizza boxes • Wrapping paper rolls (cardboard) • Junk mail • Plastic bottles & jugs • Aluminum beverage cans • Steel food and drink cans • Glass bottles and jars • Cartons and juice boxes

**Don't Put These in Your Recycling:**

Christmas lights • Extension cords • Plastic bags • Ribbons, bows and tinsel • Tissue paper • Foil wrapping paper • Plastic packaging • Plastic bags • Plastic toys • Whipped topping and butter tubs • Aluminum pie pans and roasting pans • VHS tapes • Packing peanuts and bubble wrap • Ceramics • Batteries

Rumpke maintains a list of what can be recycled on its website [www.rumpke.com](http://www.rumpke.com). If you are in doubt on whether something belongs in your trash or recycling, reach out through Facebook, or visit the website [www.facebook.com/RumpkeCo](https://www.facebook.com/RumpkeCo). Rumpke also urges residents to consider donating clothing, toys and sports equipment.

## Zoning Department... by David Loveless

The zoning office thanks all our residents for helping to make our township a beautiful and desirable community. By complying with the Berlin Township Zoning Resolution (zoning code), our neighborhoods remains a very attractive place to call home. We are lucky to have Alum Creek Reservoir as a focal point of the area, and with that comes many recreational vehicles, boats and trailers. This is a friendly reminder of what is allowed, and not allowed when it comes to storing your "toys" outside of your home.

If you store your boat, RV, camper or trailer at home, they must be behind "an imaginary line" that extends from the front façade of your home. Your side yard and back yard are where you should store these items. Storage facilities off site are recommended when properties are unable to comply. There are six storage facilities in this area for your convenience. There is a 24 hour maximum on parking boats, trailers and campers in front of your home.

If you have an unregistered or inoperable vehicle on your property, the zoning code requires the vehicle to be in a garage or storage building, not visible to the general public.

The zoning office is here to help residents comply with the zoning resolution. I encourage you to contact the zoning office with your questions and concerns. We are here for you.



## Fire Department News

What Happens when I call 911? How the Fire Department is notified of an emergency is a common question that the Fire Department receives. A person can either call 911 from a phone or can send a text message to 911 in Delaware County. Should you need 911 always try to call 911 instead of texting because the dispatcher can gather more information about the emergency. Many residents have fire alarm or security systems which contact 911. Those systems will send a text message or email from the monitoring company to Delaware County 911 computer advising of an alarm. When a call is placed from either a cell phone or land-line telephone in Delaware County, that call will go to the Delaware County Emergency Communications Center (Delcomm). The dispatcher will answer the phone call and ask what type of emergency is occurring. Once the emergency is determined to need police, fire, or EMS the dispatcher will ask a series of quick questions and will start dispatching first responders to the address of the emergency. The dispatcher can relay information through notes in a computer system that responders can see from computers in their vehicle. They will also communicate the information over the radio. In 2019, Delaware County's 9-1-1 Center processed 40,794 9-1-1 calls and 65,956 non-emergency, administrative calls. A total of 3,151 alarm calls were handled electronically, while 58 "text to 9-1-1" calls came in.



**CLOSE**  
BEFORE YOU DOZE

### IT'S TIME TO ADD "CLOSE YOUR DOOR" TO YOUR FIRE SAFETY CHECKLIST

You know how important it is to have working smoke alarms, escape plans, and a designated meeting place in case of a fire. But did you know that closing your doors in your home is also important for your safety? Closed doors can reduce fire growth, limit damage to your home, keep temperatures down, and can even save your life if you become trapped.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

Because of synthetic materials, furniture and construction, fire spreads faster than ever before.  
NFPA Technical Note 1055-11 February 2008



**MAKE A 900 DEGREE DIFFERENCE** - A closed door can mean reducing 1,000 degrees down to 100 degrees.



**TAKE IT DOWN A NOTCH** - During a fire, a closed door can keep carbon monoxide levels at 1,000 PPM versus 10,000 PPM if the door is left open.



**TAKE A BREATH** - A fire needs oxygen to burn. A closed door keeps more oxygen in the room and away from the fire. When you exit a fire, make sure to close your door behind you to slow down its growth.



**DOZE SAFELY** - 50% of house fires happen between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. Closing your doors before you hit the hay helps keep you safe.

Learn more at [closeyourdoor.org](http://closeyourdoor.org)

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When changing your clocks on November 1, 2020 you should check the condition of your battery and change the batteries in your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors. Fall is also a good time to practice your families escape plan in case of a fire or other emergency inside your home.



**CHANGE YOUR CLOCK  
CHANGE YOUR  
BATTERY**



PRSRT STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
DELAWARE, OH  
PERMIT NO. 41

**RETURN ADDRESS**

3271 Cheshire Road  
Delaware, OH 43015

**CURRENT RESIDENT OR**

Phone: 740.548.6350  
Fax: 740.548.7458

**Berlin Township Zoning  
Commission Members**

Steve Flaherty  
Chairman

Mike Bardash  
Martin Johnson  
Darcy Kaplan  
Jerry Valentine

BZC Alternate  
Christina Littleton  
Angela Brown

Zoning Clerk  
Lisa Knapp

**Berlin Township Board  
of Zoning Appeals**

Don Sutton  
Chairman

Jason Acevedo  
Brad Cook  
Michele Cook  
Larry Harmon

BZA Alternate  
Quinn Machan  
Available

Zoning Clerk  
Lisa Knapp

Zoning Office Hours: Monday—Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Zoning Inspector, David Loveless—Zoning Secretary, Cathy Rippel

Trustee and Zoning Commission meeting minutes, along with other township information can be found on the Township website [www.berlintwp.us](http://www.berlintwp.us) Also, like us on Facebook!

**Berlin Commercial Cloud Zoning for  
Route 36-37 Corridor** *by Ron Bullard*

The area along route 36-37 is becoming a very desirable area for development. The desirability is being driven by the continued expansion of the cities in the area, and the planned availability of sewer, water, and other infrastructure in the area. The planned improvements for the Route 36-37 / I-71 interchange also add to the desirability of the area.

The Berlin Township Zoning Commission is working with Regional Planning and the Delaware County Economic Development Director and township residents to develop new Cloud Zoning Districts along the Route 36-37 corridor. The new cloud zoning district does not change any zoning, but if approved, would permit a land owner to build certain businesses within the defined land areas. The list of businesses is defined by the NAICS\* Codes allowed within the new zoning districts. The cloud zoning would not prevent the land owner from applying, under the normal zoning process, for uses not allowed by the new cloud zoning districts.

The Township Zoning Commission has held public

meetings to define the list of included NAICS codes and to receive inputs from the township residents, landowners, and the County agencies. We would like to thank Olentangy Berlin High School and Grace Point Church for making large meeting rooms available for these public meetings.

\*Note: NAICS is an acronym for North American Industry Classification System, which is developed by the Federal Executive Office of the President Office of Management and Budget. The full NAICS list defines about every type of business.

**Trick or Treat 2020** *by Ken O'Brien*

Halloween is a festive time for our Township's children. The township trustees are committed to staying up-to-date with state and local recommendations. Please refer to our website [www.berlintwp.us](http://www.berlintwp.us) for the latest updates. At this time, the trustees do not plan to cancel trick-or treat. We do ask for flexibility in your planning as guidelines for this festive night of October 31 will be determined as we get closer to the date.