



the township *Scribe*



Washington Township . . . Your Community, Your Future

Mutual aid agreement expands water rescue team resources and capabilities

Washington Township is one of only five agencies in the Columbus region that operates a dive team. While each agency has a full complement of divers and equipment, some water emergencies require the assistance of a back up team, especially if the dive operations are extensive or lengthy.

For this reason, Washington Township Fire Department maintains a mutual aid agreement with nearby Marysville Fire Department. Mutual aid agreements between agencies or fire departments are used to formalize and specify the conditions under which agencies will assist each other. The agreement between Washington Township and Marysville allows each to provide fire, EMS, and rescue resources for each other, when needed.

However, sharing resources isn't as simple as it may seem. In addition to the diverse set of tools and equipment needed to address a wide array of



Rescue technician instructor Dalan Zartman (right) is one of 17 Washington Township firefighters who serve on the FEMA Upper Scioto Swift Water Rescue Team.

emergencies, there is also complexity to consider, based on equipment brand, age, and the technology employed.

While participating in training exercises with other departments can help rescuers become familiar with another

<i>In This Issue</i>	
Accepting applications for part-time firefighters	2
Change clocks and batteries	2
Keep our recycling stream clean	2
Close the door on fire	3
Lightning danger inside and out	3
If hydrants could talk	4
LUCAS™ devices now on all medics	4
Community garden plots available	4
Reduce water run-off	5
Safety education/Free CPR	6
Wetsuits and Way-Cool Trucks	7

agency's rescue equipment, nothing is better for maximizing efficiency and speed of rescue at emergency scenes than having identical or similar equipment and standardized training.

Continued on page 3

Call if you can, text if you can't

As of January 23, 2019, Franklin County's Emergency Communications Centers can receive *Text to 911* messages. This new service will be especially valuable to those who have a speech or hearing impairment, those who are in circumstances where a voice call could put them in danger, or to those who are in a location where the wireless signal is weak.

Text to 911 differs from a voice call in that your location is not automatically transmitted with your text. So, when using *Text to 911*, include all pertinent information that the emergency dispatcher will need, such as your location and the nature of your emergency. Photos and videos cannot be sent to *Text to 911* at this time.

If you are not within Franklin or Delaware Counties, where *Text to 911*

service is currently available, you will receive a "service not available" message from your wireless carrier.

Also, to ensure your *Text to 911* message is sent, make sure:

- your phone is not "roaming."
- you don't include any other recipients.
- you use English to convey your message, as translation services are not currently available.

Accepting applications for part-time firefighters

If you'd like to be a full-time Washington Township firefighter, you must first be hired as a part-time firefighter.

Applications are accepted continuously for part-time firefighter positions. If you are interested, here are the steps:

1. Complete an employment application which will remain active until the next selection process is completed.

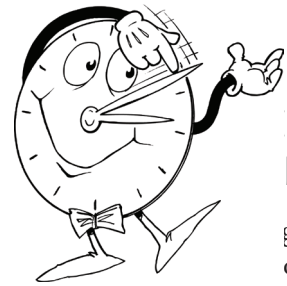
2. Earn a satisfactory score on a written exam. Applicants are notified by mail and email of exam dates, which usually occur once or twice a year, depending on need.
3. Pass a timed physical abilities test.
4. Succeed through two face-to-face interviews.

Candidates may go through the application and selection process without having their Firefighter II and

EMT-B certifications, but must have them prior to being hired.

Part-time firefighters who have earned their Paramedic certification and who are in good standing, are eligible to apply for full-time firefighter positions, as they come available.

Download our employment application on the *Careers and Volunteer* page at wtwp.com. Questions? Call (614) 652-3942.



Change clocks batteries

Right Saving Time
on Sunday, March

10! So before you go to bed on Saturday night, or when you rise on Sunday morning, make sure you set your clocks ahead one hour.

After you set your clocks, locate your home smoke alarms and add a fresh battery to each. If your home has no smoke alarms, purchase and install them. Most are installed with two screws and include a 10-year battery.

Believe it or not, plenty of homes today have no smoke alarms. Because building codes didn't require them until the early 80's, many homes were built without these life-saving devices. Look up. Do you see smoke alarms in your home? Fire safety officials recommend one in every bedroom and in every hallway adjacent to a bedroom, in addition to those in close proximity to your kitchen and other living spaces.

Keep our recycling stream clean

Many believe they are doing the right thing by putting as many potentially recyclable products into their recycling bin as possible. Unfortunately, when items that are not accepted for Rumpke's recycling program are placed into recycling bins, they can contaminate entire streams of other recyclable materials. This causes items that could have been recycled to be disposed of in a landfill, leading to higher costs for recycling.

Use the chart below as your guide for determining what can be recycled in

Rumpke's recycling program.

Make sure your recyclables are free of contaminants like food and liquids. Do not include greasy cardboard pizza boxes or aluminum foil with food stuck to it.

Empty and rinse recyclables and leave them loose in your bin. No bags or can liners, please.

For more information, go to swaco.org

Recycle			Recycle Right MAKE A DIFFERENCE		Not Accepted	
Paper & Cardboard <i>Please flatten</i>	Plastic Bottles & Jugs <i>Lids and labels accepted</i>	Glass Bottles & Jars <i>All colors accepted</i>	No Plastic or Foam Food Containers	No Tanglers <i>Hoses, wires, chains, clothing, or electronics</i>		
Metal Cans <i>Remove aerosol tips</i>	Cartons <i>Rinse and remove lids</i>	Keep them loose <i>Don't bag items</i>	No Plastic Bags <i>Return to retailer</i>	No Cups <i>Coffee, Yogurt, or Party</i>		

Mutual Aid Agreement *continued from page 1*

To this end, Washington and Marysville Fire Departments have agreed to standardize their selection of dive equipment. Replacement of the township's existing equipment will take place over a period of years, as equipment reaches the end of its useful life. This will lessen the burden on the operating budget while making full use of existing equipment.

Washington and Marysville Fire Departments are also members of a new National response team, the Upper Scioto Swift Water Rescue Team, sponsored by the Federal

Emergency Management Agency. When deployed as part of this team, having similar equipment improves operations efficiency and diver safety. Other departments with members on this team include Norwich Township, Jackson Township, Liberty Township, and Concord Township.

The team's first deployment was September 2018, when three of the township's certified water rescue technicians were dispatched to North Carolina to assist during a catastrophic flood.

Close the door on fire

Fire needs fuel, heat, and oxygen to survive. The materials commonly used to construct today's homes provide plenty of fuel and heat for a fire's healthy appetite. Carpeting, furniture, wood, a variety of adhesives/glues, and engineered wood (in wall sheathing and trusses) are quick to ignite.

Once a fire starts, there is little you can do to remove these fuel sources. However, you can impact the speed and direction of the fire's movement by reducing the heat or eliminating the oxygen it needs to survive.



Photo courtesy of Beverly City Fire Department

Closing doors can be an effective way to delay or block a fire from spreading. By confining the fire within a closed space, you can reduce the amount of oxygen and heat available to the fire, thus slowing its progress. This can give your family more time to escape and also dramatically reduce the damage to your home and belongings.

A closed door can also provide refuge from a fire, reducing the amount of smoke that enters the room and preventing deadly temperatures. Fire safety officials recommend closing bedroom doors at night for this reason. If a fire were to start outside the bedroom, a closed door could save lives.

Lightning danger inside and out

If you can hear thunder, you are within striking distance of lightning. Find a safe place immediately and stay there until 30 minutes after you hear the last clap of thunder. Don't wait for the rain to start before finding a safe place and don't leave your safe place just because the rain has stopped or slowed.

The safest place to be during a storm is in a completely enclosed building or hard-topped vehicle. Avoid being in, on, under or near high places, open fields, isolated trees, car ports, tents, shelters, baseball dugouts, flag and light poles, bleachers, metal fences, and water. Put down all metal items such as golf clubs, umbrellas and tools.

If you are in your home during a storm, be aware that lightning can enter your home as a direct strike, through wires or pipes that extend outside your home (e.g., water and gas pipes). Once inside your home, current generated from lightning can travel through electrical and phone lines, plumbing pipes, and radio/television reception systems and can permanently damage appliances.

Grounded surge protectors can provide some level of protection to your appliances. However, you won't get full protection from a direct lightning strike with a surge protector as the energy of lightning is too great to be blocked by the device. Protection from the power of lightning would require changes to the electrical feed coming into your home or can be achieved by simply unplugging electrical devices and appliances.

Gas line, especially flexible gas line, is also susceptible to lightning damage. It is not uncommon for a hole in the flexible gas line to result from a lightning strike, creating a risk of fire. This can happen when gas escapes from the hole caused by lightning and reaches a concentration that allows a spark from a nearby appliance, such as a furnace or hot water tank, to ignite the gaseous air. This situation is more common than you may think. *Continued on page 4*

If hydrants could talk

The City of Dublin contracts with the Washington Township Fire Department to flush the City's 3,171 public water hydrants in the spring and pump the hydrant barrels clear of water in the fall in preparation for freezing temperatures.

It's often during hydrant maintenance that firefighters find hydrants blocked from view by overgrown vegetation or landscaping. If you live near a hydrant, please make sure it is clearly visible



from the street and has clearance of at least three feet around it so it complies with the Ohio Fire Code.

The three-foot clearance gives firefighters the room they need to access the hydrant quickly in emergencies and perform maintenance. The City's public hydrants have green bases and green caps. Hydrants with white

bases and green caps are privately owned, and are, therefore, the

responsibility of the association that owns the hydrant(s).

If you have questions about fire hydrant maintenance or would like to make us aware of a hydrant that is blocked from street view, please call Fire Marshal Mike Altomare at 614-652-3920.

Spring hydrant pumping will take place from May 6 through June 10.

LUCAS™ devices now on all medics

With grant funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the fire department purchased a LUCAS™ device for each of its four front line medics. LUCAS™ devices are the most technologically advanced EMS tool available to deliver chest compressions

delivering uninterrupted compressions at a consistent rate and depth for as long as is needed.

Studies have shown that consistent, uninterrupted compressions help maintain good circulation, which helps to improve a patient's chances for a successful outcome.



Firefighter/Paramedic Chris Biasella shows his former patient and cardiac arrest survivor Simon Blake the LUCAS™ device used to help save his life.

Another advantage of the LUCAS™ device over manual compressions is its portability. The device can move with the patient, from the emergency location to the emergency room. And because the LUCAS™ replaces manual compressions, it frees paramedics to perform other tasks critical to patient care and transport. Since going into service, the devices have helped save several suffering from cardiac arrest.

to patients suffering from cardiac arrest. Because the device is battery operated and automated, the LUCAS™ system doesn't fatigue like humans do,

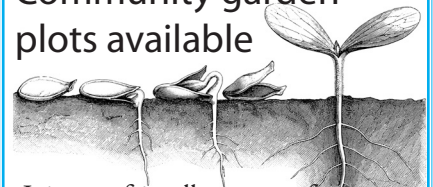
The cost of the devices with a four-year warranty was \$78,128.

Lightning danger *continued from page 3*

During and after a lightning storm, look, listen and smell for natural gas or evidence of a fire. If the fire is small or smoldering, and is located in a remote or closed area such as a crawl space, basement or attic, you may not be able to see flames. However, you can often detect the smell of natural gas or see/smell smoke.

If you detect any unusual odors or see any smoke, call 911 immediately.

Community garden plots available



Join our friendly group of community gardeners who grow food and flowers at the corner of Cosgray and Rings Roads. For a fee of \$40 (residents) or \$50 (non-residents), you can grow all the fruits, vegetables and flowers you like within a 12'X14' area.

Gardeners share a water tap and small storage shed.

Reserve your plot on our web site through our *Classes* link on wtwp.com.



REDUCE WATER RUN-OFF

to improve water quality for all living things

Attach a spray nozzle with a shut-off valve to your garden hose to stop water flow when you don't need it.

After applying lawn fertilizer, sweep any fertilizer off of paved surfaces to prevent it from washing into storm drains and negatively impacting aquatic ecosystems.

Plant grass, ground cover or apply mulch to bare areas to prevent erosion and its harmful effects on nearby rivers and streams.

Adjust direction and volume of irrigation heads to keep spray off of sidewalks, roads, and driveways.

KEEP IT GREEN AND GROWING

Cut grass at your mower's highest setting to promote deeper roots, which improves drought tolerance.

Tall, well-established grass also reduces light at the soil surface which can keep some weeds from growing.

Leave grass clippings on your lawn where they will break down, adding nutrients and improving soil moisture retention.

Take the "Get Grassy" pledge at

www.getgrassy.org/pledge

and receive a free rain gauge and seasonal lawn care tips from Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District.

Safety Education

Register at wtwp.com



Free!

Family & Friends® CPR Class

Wednesday May 22, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

@ the Dublin Community Recreation Center

This course is intended for anyone who wants to learn CPR, but does not need a course completion card to meet a job requirement. It's ideal for community groups, parents, grandparents, caregivers and students (must be at least 12 years old by class date). Topics include:

- Adult, child and infant CPR and AED
- How to help a choking adult, child, infant

To accommodate the maximum number of people in the space we have available, we will have only a few tables and chairs available for those who need them, so please wear comfortable clothes suitable for activities on the floor.

Registration begins April 1 for residents and April 10 for non-residents.

Red Cross babysitting

Students will learn the skills needed to safely and responsibly provide care for children and infants. Course topics include leadership skills, considerations for starting your own babysitting business, personal and child safety, and techniques for encouraging youth cooperation and contentment.

Ages: 11-15

Date: Saturday, April 27 *Register by April 19*

Tuesday, June 4 *Register by May 28*

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Location: Township Administration, 6200 Eiterman Road

Fee: \$45 (Township/Dublin residents)

\$50 (non-residents)

Family fishing with a firefighter

Grab a cane pole and bait (provided) and see how many Bluegill, Bass, and Sunfish you can catch in the Dublin Recreation Center pond. Don't forget to dress for the weather and wear closed toe shoes. If available, a fire truck may visit at the program conclusion.

Register at www.dublinohiousa.gov/recreation

Date: Tuesday, May 14

Time: 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Fee: \$10 per family

Infant CPR for expecting & new parents/grandparents

If you are expecting or adopting a child, have a newborn at home, or will be babysitting your new grandchild, this class is for you! React quickly with the knowledge and skills that can help a baby if they are choking or need CPR. Our certified car seat technician will offer tips on securing your child's car seat.

Ages: 18 & older

Date: Tuesday, April 30 *Register by April 22*

Time: 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Location: Township Administration, 6200 Eiterman Road

Fee: \$10 (Township/Dublin residents)

\$15 (non-residents)

Storytime at the fire station

We'll read a story, meet Sparky, our big furry fire safety mascot, and take a short tour of the fire station. Pre-registration is required as space is limited. Parents/guardians must accompany children.

Ages: 3-5

Date/Location: May 3 Station 93, 5825 Brand Rd.

Register by April 26

June 7 Station 95, 5750 Blazer Pkwy.

Register by May 31

July 12 Station 91, 6255 Shier Rings Rd.

Register by July 5

August 9 Station 92, 4497 Hard Rd.

Register by August 2

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Fee: Free. Registration required at wtwp.com

download the app

PulsePoint

Are you trained to administer CPR and willing to help someone suffering from cardiac arrest?

Download the free PulsePoint app to receive notification if/when a person (within 1/4 mile of your location and in a public place) is in cardiac arrest.

Until Help Arrives

If you are ever involved in or witness a traumatic accident, will you know what to do until emergency responders arrive? Would you be prepared to help save someone's life? This course will walk you through each step: how to recognize that there is a problem, how to assess the surroundings so you can act safely, what information is most important to share on a 911 call, and the care you can administer until law enforcement and or fire/EMS arrive. Washington Township Fire Department Battalion Chief Mike Riebel and 911 emergency dispatcher at Northwest Regional Emergency Communications Center, Stephanie Skipworth, present this class in a format that includes lecture, demonstrations and hands-on skills practice.

Ages: 13 & older (Parent/guardian must register and attend with 13-16 year olds)
Date: Tuesday, April 16
Register by April 8
Time: 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Location: 6200 Eiterman Rd.
Fee: Free

Wetsuits and Way-cool Trucks

**Friday June 14
10 am – Noon**

- ★ Dive demonstration in recreation center pool at 10:30 am
- ★ Bike helmet fittings
- ★ Bike safety information
- ★ Sparky's fire safety house tours
- ★ Engine and medic



**Coffman Park
near Amphitheater**

**5600 Post Road
Dublin, OH**

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

Board of Trustees

Gene Bostic

gbostic@wtwp.com

Denise Franz King

dking@wtwp.com

Charles W. Kranstuber

ckranstuber@wtwp.com

Fiscal Officer

Joyce Robinson

jrobinson@wtwp.com



Washington.Township.Dublin.Ohio



@wt_dublinohio

Partner for a
safe & healthy
Dublin



Administration

6200 Eiterman Road

Dublin, Ohio 43016

(614) 652-3920

Hours: M-F 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Eric Richter, Administrator

Alec O'Connell, Fire Chief

Bill Lynn, Assistant Fire Chief

Leslie Dybiec, Communications Manager

Catherine Grossman, HR Manager

Fire Stations

Station 91: 6255 Shier Rings Road

Station 92: 4497 Hard Road

Station 93: 5825 Brand Road

Station 95: 5750 Blazer Parkway