

Tippecanews

A monthly summary of municipal affairs and activities

2015 Miami County Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off

The Miami County Sanitary Engineering will be holding a hazardous waste drop-off program the first Wednesday each month from 9:00 am – noon. Dates for 2015 events are June 3rd, July 1st, August 5th, September 2nd and October 7th. Cost is \$1/pound. They are located at 2200 North County Road 25A in Troy.

Items for proper disposal include: paint cans (latex & acrylic), aerosol cans of paint, strippers, pool chemicals, gasoline/kerosene, fluorescent light bulbs, household cleaners, antifreeze, varnishes and stains, wax/adhesives/sealants, pesticides, transmission fluid, mercury, turpentine and fertilizers.

For more information contact Miami County Sanitary Engineering at 937-440-3488. ●

Guidelines for a Recreational Fire

A recreational fire may be rekindled providing the following restrictions are adhered to:

1. The fire is not offensive or objectionable because of smoke or odor emissions or when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous.
2. The wind velocity must be less than 10 MPH as indicated by the National Weather Service, and is in a direction to carry smoke away from neighbors. This can be monitored by TV channels 23 and 56.
3. The fire must be located a minimum of 25 feet from any structure. Conditions which could cause a fire to spread within 25 feet of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition.
4. It must be fueled with clean dry firewood, natural gas or equivalent.
5. Fire extinguishing materials must be at site of burning at all times.
6. The fire shall be attended by a sober, responsible adult at all times.
7. The fire shall be extinguished immediately when the event is completed and/or the responsible adult is leaving the fire.
8. The fire shall be limited in size not larger than 3 feet in diameter and 2 feet in height.
9. A recreational fire is one that is intended for cooking or enjoyment of those present.
10. Trash, yard debris, leaves or any other smoke producing materials shall not be burned. ●



Summer Reminders

Home Improvements If you are considering building a deck, fence, shed, pool or expanding your driveway, please contact the Planning/Zoning Office at 667-6305 for more information.

Parking Boats, campers, trailers, or recreational vehicles are permitted to be parked in a front driveway for 48 hours in any 7-day period.

Garage sales are limited to 3 per year at any residential location. One Garage Sale sign is allowed on the property where the sale is being held, not in the curb lawn. Sign are not allowed to be posted on utility poles or traffic signs, but must be placed on private property. No permit is required.

Dogs No person owning or having control of a dog shall permit it to run at large in any street, alley, public park, other public place or unenclosed property. Collection and proper disposal of pet excrement is required.

Mowing Weeds and grass must be mowed and maintained at a level not to exceed 10" in height. ●

EMS Week

EMS Week was May 17 – 23. Accommodations and presentations were made to members of the EMS Division who achieved the following time-in service milestones: **Gary Jackson, Supervisor – 35 years, Chief Mark Senseman – 25 years, Denise Grove, MD, Medical Director Emeritus – 25 years, Ian Lees, Advanced EMT – 15 years, Eric Henry, Supervisor – 10 years** and **Tony Fleet, Supervisor – 10 years.**

Congratulations to everyone and thank you for your many years of dedicated service! ●

Tips for a Water-Wise Yard and Garden

During the rainy spring season it seems odd to “worry” about a drying garden problem, but not too long from now (two months?) it will be a typical hot, dry, Ohio summer, and we will be concerned about the lawn and garden getting too dry. Landscape watering is one of the biggest users of water, but there are a number of easy ways to save on the water bill and still maintain a beautiful yard and garden:

1. Install a rain barrel and catch water from the downspouts. Not only is rainwater free, it is not chlorinated and therefore a better option for plants. Rain barrels have become more popular in recent years, come in a variety of sizes with lids to prevent mosquitoes, and are easy to use. Most home improvement places carry them.

2. Aim your downspouts toward the lawn (or a rain barrel), not the pavement. Many homes come with the downspouts aimed onto driveways, or straight into underground pipes and out to the street or storm drains; this shoots the water quickly away from garden or lawn and it causes “shock loading” of the storm drain system and the rivers.

3. Add compost or similar organic matter to your soil. Adding at least one inch per year enhances the water-holding capacity and improves soil texture and composition.

4. Plan ahead of time. Group your plantings into high, moderate, and low water-using zones; take advantage of your yard’s natural characteristics.

5. Apply mulch to the garden surface. Mulches reduce water evaporation, erosion and weed growth while enhancing the look of your garden.

6. Mow up your leaves and lawn debris and leave it on the lawn. While it may require two mowing to make the leaves and pruning debris small enough to fall in amongst the leaves of grass, it will add “compost value” to the soil surface and thereby assist in retaining scarce rainfall during the hot summer months.

7. Water before 10 AM. Watering in the heat of the day means more evaporation and less water for the lawn. Afternoon or evening watering may also promote lawn diseases.

8. Minimize the addition of fertilizers and pesticides. Extra fertilizer increases water consumption and phosphorous-containing products that run off into the storm drains where they feed the weeds in our rivers. Check how much your lawn needs; many home improvement stores carry soils self-test kits for under \$20, less than the cost of the wasted fertilizer! When fertilizing, take care to avoid throwing any on sidewalks, curbs, or streets because all of it will go straight into the creeks and rivers with the next rainfall.

9. Consider the best type of grass and plants for your yard. Some grass types need more water than others. Fescues tend to require less. Ask your grass seed supplier which choices will need less water and maintenance. There are also grass types that need less mowing while still looking good.

10. Reduce the size of your mowed grass areas. Consider using more low-maintenance area plantings of perennials or groundcovers. Let the hedges and border planting spaces get a little wider and reduce the area to be mowed. Choose water-thrifty perennials that are native to Ohio. Use low-maintenance area plantings and groundcovers to round your corners to make for faster mowing and less trimming.

11. Mow high. Set your mower blade at three inches, or higher. Taller grass helps prevent weed growth (and the use of weed killers!). Additional grass height shades the surface of the soil better and thus reduces its temperature and the evaporation of water from the soil in midsummer. It may seem counterintuitive, but taller grass needs less mowing, partly because of it having fewer weeds and because taller grass makes the unevenness of the surface is less obvious. Try it!

12. Aerate your lawn every few years. Aerating is a simple process that extracts soil cores and strews them over the lawn surface to stimulate grass root growth, enhance oxygen levels, build surface loam, and loosen soil to increase the penetration of water and nutrients. Aerators can be rented at lawn and hardware stores.

By the way, all of these practices are better for the streams because they reduce lawn water loss, shock stream loading, and fertilizer runoff. ●

Yard Waste Pick-Up

By Ohio law, source-separated yard waste may not be landfilled. As a result, Waste Management and Tipp City have created a yard waste program where lawn bags are purchased at the Government Center or Food Town for \$1.75 each. The cost of the lawn bag includes pick-up and compost fees incurred by Waste Management. Lawn bags purchased from other retail locations will not be picked up by Waste Management.

All lawn waste should be placed in these bags and then set out Sunday evening for pick-up on Mondays, from April through November. If the yard waste does not fit in a bag but is more than 2 feet in diameter and 4 feet long, it can be placed for pick-up with a lawn bag attached to the bundle. If you have additional questions regarding yard waste pick-up, please call Waste Management at 866-695-3433. ●

IMPORTANT CITY CONTACTS

**Automated Attendant/
Direct Connect 669-TIPP**

**Police, Fire and EMS
(EMERGENCY) 9-1-1**

**Miami County Communications
Center (Non-Emergency)
440-9911**

**Police (Non-Emergency)
667-3112**

**Fire and EMS (Non-Emergency)
667-9199 or 667-1680**

Utility Billing 667-8424

Planning/Zoning 667-6305

**Engineering and Utilities
667-6305**

**Refuse Collection
(Waste Management Inc.)
(866) 695-3433**

**Service Center (Parks and
Streets) 667-8234**

City Manager’s Office 667-8425

Clerk of Council 667-8425

**Construction Notice Update
667-6293**