

Tippecanoe news

A monthly summary of municipal affairs and activities in Tipp City, Ohio

Capital Improvement Program Workshop

The five year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) workshop will be reviewed by City Council on Monday, October 8 beginning at 3:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. This meeting is open to the public and all interested persons are encouraged to attend. ●



Tipp City Operations and Clean Rivers

Tipp City is located on one of the area's main rivers, The Great Miami River.

Did you know? In a typical year our crews clean and check approximately 340 storm water catch basins. These basins get loaded with silt, sand, debris, and leaves. The Ohio EPA requires reports from cities documenting river related activities which the City completes annually.

The City collects approximately 320 truckloads of leaves each year. The City and the EPA recommend that leaves be chopped up with the lawn mower until they disappear into the grass and then left in place. This practice adds humus to the soil and keeps the lawn looking better with less water. Many fertilizer companies also recommend this practice. By mulching leaves onto their lawn, homeowners have actually

60th Annual Tipp City Mum Festival

Cruise-In

Friday, September 28
Downtown Tipp City

Run for the Mums 5K Run

Saturday, September 29

Registration at Roundhouse at Tipp City Park from 6:30 – 7:30 am, run begins at 8:00 am

Tipp City Mum Festival Parade

Saturday, September 29

Craft Hours

Saturday, September 29

10:00 am – 9:00 pm

Sunday, September 30

11:00 am – 6:00 pm

Tipp City Mum Motorcycle Ride

Sunday, TBD



Boy Scouts of America Troop 586 are once again offering everyone the opportunity to join in the celebration of the festival by adopting a mum. The Boy Scouts will be painting mums on the sidewalks and driveways of those wishing to adopt a mum. Cost of a mum is \$10. The mums are approximately 3'x3' and can be painted in your choice of red, white, yellow or a combination. Order forms are located on the official mum festival website: www.tippcitymumfestival.org. ●

reduced the phosphorous in their lawn fertilizers. The City is required to report the number of loads of leaves collected each year to the EPA. The goal is to see a report a declining number of truckloads annually.

Each Winter, the City spreads 400 to 500 tons of salt on its 154 "lane-miles" of roadway. This salt is not good for the river, but winter driving and automobile safety requires the use of salt.

Some cities purchase special trucks with a built-in GLS and salt weighing system to document the exact amount of salt spread on each segment of road lane. Tipp City does its best to monitor the use of salt on each road in the City. The City incorporates some of the latest techniques to minimize the amount of salt needed by adding grit to the salt. This pre-wetting of

the salt and using beet juice to pretreat the roads when a big snow is expected helps to reduce the salt usage in the City. Salt usage is also reported annually to the Ohio EPA.

The City has 17 parks covering 436 acres. In the Summer, the City mows approximately 240 acres of lawn, including open space, soccer, and baseball fields. The City minimizes the use of fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides. Any of these that are used must be reported to the EPA.

We should all be reducing the use of salt as much as possible in Winter, reducing mowing in the Summer, chopping up leaves in the Fall and leaving them on the lawn and avoiding the use of fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides, whenever possible, not only to help keep the rivers healthy, but to help reduce costs. ●

Fire Hydrant Obstruction Clearance

Fire hydrants in the City of Tipp City are maintained by the Public Works

Department and are designed to provide water for fire suppression purposes. The hydrants are supplied by large underground water mains beneath most residential and commercial neighborhoods in the City. They are strategically placed to provide the best water protection available and for cleaning the water mains. Having a good water system allows Tipp City to have a better ISO rating. ISO inspectors also review the accessibility, condition and maintenance of fire hydrants. The better the ISO rating, the better insurance rates that are available to homeowners.

Residents are being asked for their assistance in the removal of landscaping, debris, fences, and other removable objects that are obstructing fire hydrants.

Fire hydrants are only effective if personnel can find them and fully operate them. There should be no obstructions in front of the hydrant to the street and no obstructions within three feet of the hydrant. Fire hydrants must be clear enough to be visible from the street during day or night. The required distance is necessary in operating the hydrant safely. No obstructions such as shrubs, plants or fences should be in front of the hydrant. Obstructions such as these make it difficult to find a hydrant quickly and add to response times when it matters.

FAQ's about Hydrants:

Q: Why is it important not to have obstructions around fire hydrants?

A: When responding to a fire situation, the fire apparatus carries a limited supply of water. Strategically located fire hydrants are used to supply fire equipment with the water needed to help with extinguishing a fire. To do their job more efficiently, they must be able to locate these fire hydrants quickly. Therefore, they must be clearly visible and unobstructed by vehicles, fences, or vegetation. The laws in our jurisdiction recognize this and address the issue.

Q: Can I paint the fire hydrant in front of my house?

A: No. Fire hydrants are yellow with white

tops, with sometimes additional colors that have a significance to firefighters. The hydrants are yellow so as to be easily seen, and readily recognized by the fire department as being active.

Q: Why does the Public Works or Fire Department tell me to move my fence or bushes around a fire hydrant?

A: Annually, the City conducts fire hydrant maintenance and inspection all hydrants for code compliance. The City of Tipp City requires by fire code that all hydrants be clear of obstacles inhibiting their use, and that they remain visible on approach from the roadway, regardless of direction of travel. The hydrant:

- must not have anything higher than ground cover placed between it and the road,
- nothing higher than six inches of ground cover within three to five feet of the hydrant,
- clearance around the fire hydrants must have three feet around the sides of the hydrant and nothing blocking the hydrant from view and the hydrant must be visible to vehicle traffic in either direction

Q: The fire hydrant in front of my house is ugly and I want to hide it, can I?

A: No. Simply putting up some kind of natural (plant) or artificial (fence) screening between your residence and the hydrant may be OK, as long as it maintains an adequate working radius around the hydrant, and does not block its view from the roadway and approaches. If you wish to do some landscaping, wall building, or fence construction near a hydrant, please contact the Public Works or the Fire Department to see if it meets the proper clearance required.

Q: What can I do as a resident of the City of Tipp City to help?

A: You can help by simply monitoring the hydrant, trimming any growth nearby, notifying the water department of any damage or maintenance issues, and ensuring that adequate clearances and proper visibility are maintained. If a hydrant cannot be found, it cannot be used. In winter, keeping the hydrant clear of snow can be a tremendous help to firefighters in responding to a fire. Snow piled up around a hydrant can act like an obstruction and cause a delay in response. ●

Hydrant Flushing

The Tipp City Water Department will be flushing fire hydrants Monday, October 1, 2018 through Friday, October 12, 2018, during the hours of 7:30 am to 3:30 pm.

The following schedule will be followed.

- Monday, October 1 – (Main Street South) all hydrants from South First Street to Hathaway, including the Roslyn area.
- Tuesday, October 2 – (Main Street North) all hydrants starting at North First Street to Bowman Avenue.
- Wednesday, October 3 & Thursday, October 4 – (South West area) Tipp Plaza areas, Hathaway, Spring Hill, Willow Glen, Cottonwood, Hampton Woods, Hunters Ridge, York Meadows and Sycamore Woods.
- Friday, October 5 – along Evanston Road, and S. County Road 25-A south of Evanston Road going to Corner Stone Drive.
- Monday, October 8 & Tuesday, October 9 – (North West area) all hydrants starting at Westedge, Tippecanoe Village, Manchester Chase, North Tipp-Cowlesville Rd, Tweed Woods, Commerce Park Drive, Weller Drive and Curry Branch.
- Wednesday, October 10 & Thursday, October 11 – (North West area) all hydrants starting on County Road 25-A, Spring Meade, Woodlawn, Donn Davis Way, Windmere, Oakwinds and Rosewood Creek.
- Friday, October 12 – will be used as a makeup day if needed.

Water in these areas may be discolored. Residents are advised to avoid using laundry or hot water facilities during the flushing period. If residents find their water to be discolored, they should run cold water for 5 to 10 minutes until the water clears. Although the water will not be turned off, a drop in pressure in some areas is likely.

Flushing hydrants is a preventive maintenance program to periodically clean out natural residues which deposit in the water lines, as well as to test the hydrants.

Any questions can be directed to the City Utility/Services office at (937) 667-6305. ●