

# Tippecanoe news

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

## Holiday Lighting and Decorating Safety Tips

**A**ccording to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission approximately 12,800 people are treated each year in hospital emergency rooms from injuries related to holiday lights and decorations including falls, cuts, and shocks. Additionally, an estimated 300 home fires involve Christmas trees annually.

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Use only holiday lights with an Underwriters Laboratory (UL) safety certification label.
- To prevent short circuit and overloads, make sure light sets are fused. UL listed sets rated 120V are always fused.
- Replace any string of light with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Connect no more than three strands of mini light sets and a maximum of 50 bulbs for screw-in-bulbs. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of LED strands to connect.
- Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not for both.
- Ensure that all outdoor lighting and equipment are certified for outdoor use and that they are plugged into ground fault circuit interrupter outlets.
- Avoid stringing holiday lights along aluminum siding, which can conduct electricity.
- Fasten holiday lights securely to buildings and trees to prevent damage from wind.
- Always stay clear of power lines.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Always test the lights on a non-flammable surface for 15 minutes. If they start to melt, smoke, or overheat, throw the string away.
- If using a live Christmas tree, make sure it is watered, and prevent the lights from coming into direct contact with the branches.
- If using an artificial tree, make sure it is made from fire retardant material.
- Never use lights on metallic trees.
- Do not exceed the manufacturer's guidelines on how many strings of lights can be safely connected together.
- Turn off lights while you are sleeping or away from home. Consider using an automatic timer.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.
- Never put real candles on live or artificial trees. ●

**GIVING TREE** The Giving Tree is once again up at the Government Center and is ready to receive donations of hats, gloves, underwear and socks for local children. Please stop by and add something to our tree.

Your generosity at this time of giving is appreciated. ●

### Safety Spotlight

only a UL-approved unit with an automatic tip-over shut-off switch. Keep it on a level surface away from foot traffic. It should also be located at least three feet away from household combustibles such as drapes or bedding. ●

Electric space heaters are the only unvented space heaters safe for inside use. All others need to be vented for use in home or used outside the home in a ventilated area. In selecting an electric heater, buy

## Holiday Trash Pick-Up Schedule

**R**umpke will not provide service on the following holidays. During the weeks that these holidays occur, collection will be delayed one day.

- New Year's Day
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Day

Service will occur as scheduled on all other holidays. Rumpke will retrieve Christmas tree refuse during the first two weeks of January with your regular refuse pickup. ●

## Board Openings

**T**he City is seeking citizens to serve on the following Boards.

- Board of Tax Appeals
- Board of Zoning Appeals
- Community Reinvestment Area Housing Council
- Parks Board
- Planning Board
- Restoration & Architectural Board of Review
- Tree Board

Citizens wishing to be considered for appointment for any of the Boards listed must complete an application and submit to Janice Bates, Clerk of Council by December 21, 2018. Applications and a complete description of the boards are available online at [www.tippcityohio.gov](http://www.tippcityohio.gov) or the Government Center located at 260 S. Garber Drive, Tipp City. ●

## Tipp City EMS and Fire Gift Boxes for Children



For two years now Tipp City EMS and Fire has participated in Samaritan's Purse "Operation

Christmas Child". Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, an international relief organization. Their mission is to provide local partners around the world with shoeboxes filled

with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies as a means of reaching out to children in their own communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ. They ship these simple gifts outside the United States to children affected by war, poverty, natural disaster, famine, and disease; and to children living on Native American reservations in the U.S.

Over the past two years the EMS and Fire Departments have completed 20-25 Christmas Gift boxes each year that go throughout the world. Last year boxes

were placed in the United States, Africa and Europe. At the present time gift boxes have reached children in over 150 countries and 157 million children.

This is a project that lets both departments reach out and touch children in the United States but throughout the world. Hopefully this a tradition that can continue and grow.

Merry Christmas  
Tipp City Fire and EMS ●

**GOVERNMENT CENTER CLOSURE** In observance of Christmas Day, the Government Center will be closed on Tues., Dec. 25, 2018. The Government Center will also be closed on Tues., Jan. 1, 2019 in observance of New Year's Day. We wish you and yours a wonderful Holiday Season. ●

## Message from City Manager Eggleston

Another year is nearly over. On behalf of City Council and Administration, we would like to thank you for your support in 2018 and continued support in 2019.

2018 brought completion to several projects to include the Maple Hill Bridge replacement project as well as the creation of two new citizen led groups. The first is "Tipp Kitty". This group is helping with the feral cat problem in the City. The second group that formed in 2018 is the Quiet Zone Citizens Committee. This group is looking into the possibility of the creation of Quiet Zones at multiple railroad crossings throughout the City.

The following projects are moving forward: Updates to the Parks Master Plan (thank you to those that have responded to the survey), Casey's General Store has begun clearing the site at the corner of CR25A and Donn Davis Way and site work for the new water tower will begin soon with foundation beginning in the Spring.

Council has adopted the 5-year Capital Improvement Plan and by the end of the year, the 2019 Operating Budget. Council has also approved upgrades to sub-station #1 in order to meet the current and future electrical power needs of our residents, businesses and industries. The Electric Department is currently converting from 4 KVA transformers to 12 KVA transformers. This upgrade is less costly and will be more efficient. With the constant reduction in State financial assistance, Council has approved the reorganization of various departments in an effort in keeping revenues and expenditures in balance. This allowed for the reallocation of \$160,000 for other purposes.

Happy Holidays and wishes for a prosperous New Year. ●

## Call for Artists

If art is a passion, pastime or profession, this is a great opportunity to showcase your talent! We are currently seeking artwork from Tipp City residents to display in the Government Center. Interested persons should contact Janice Bates at (937)667-8425 or [batesj@tippcity.net](mailto:batesj@tippcity.net) for further information. ●



## Important City Contacts

**Automated Attendant/  
Direct Connect**  
(937)669-TIPP

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

**Miami County Communications  
Center (Non-Emergency)**  
(937)440-9911

**Police (Non-Emergency)**  
(937)667-3112

**Fire and EMS (Non-Emergency)**  
(937)667-9199 or (937)667-1680

**Utility Billing**  
(937)667-8424

**Planning/Zoning**  
(937)667-6305

**Tax Department**  
(937)667-8426

**Engineering and Utilities**  
(937)667-6305

**Residential Refuse Collection  
(Rumpke)**  
(866)522-3712

**Service Center  
(Parks and Streets)**  
(937)667-8234

**City Manager's Office**  
(937)667-8425

**Clerk of Council**  
(937)667-8425

**Construction Notice Update**  
(937)667-6293