

# —THE VILLAGE OF— SWANTON

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# Village VOICE

Winter 2019

Volume 3

Issue 1



*We wish the Swanton community a very happy,  
healthy, and prosperous new year!*

## Looking Forward to 2019

The past year provided infrastructure improvements to a few areas within the Village of Swanton. The sewer separation on Lawrence, Harrison, portion of E. Garfield, and Church Street went smoothly. The Church Street road improvement and Garfield Avenue Bridge replacement had a few challenges. Garfield Avenue Bridge will be complete and the road paved from the bridge to Main Street; this will occur once the weather is nice enough for asphalt plants to open. Tentatively scheduled for Summer 2019 is the repaving of West Pointe Estates and a portion of South Main Street from the subdivision to Airport Highway. Then the next sewer separation project will begin in late summer. This project area centers around Parkside, Woodside, and Brookside (from Hallett to Crestwood). Additionally preliminary engineering work will begin related to road improvements of the N-S alley (Church to Zeiter Way) between Main Street and Lincoln and the alley just north of the railroad tracks from Main Street west to Dodge Street. Further, crack sealing will occur on portions of Lincoln and Woodland Avenues. With the multitude of projects slated for 2019 please stay tuned for opportunities to learn more about said projects. An open house will be scheduled closer to construction dates and this information will be posted on the Village's website and Facebook page.

Along with the major construction projects will be the remodeling of Memorial Park Pavilion, tentatively slated for later in 2019. Please refer to page 4 for more information on the Master Plan process for Memorial Park. Village residents will also see a levy renewal on the ballot in May for parks. Currently the levy is .5 mil and generates about \$30,000 a year for park maintenance.

Finally, Village officials evaluated the aging Public Service Division fleet. In 2018, a 33 year old sewer cleaning truck was removed from service and replaced with a new unit. In 2019 two vehicles, one over 20 years old and the other 19 years old, will be replaced with one new vehicle which will be more efficient in use.

Village officials are committed to continued progress and 2019 is sure to include many great advances.

# Utility Billing Payment Options

There are a few payment options for your convenience:



1. ACH direct payment, authorizing the Village of Swanton to automatically deduct your bill from your checking or savings account. The Village rolled out this option in 2017 and each month more and more customers elect to have their bill paid this way.
2. Newly installed payment drop off box conveniently located as you pull into the Municipal Building lot near the Police Station entrance.
3. Send payment by USPS. The Village is not responsible if payment is lost or is not received by the 15th.
4. Make payment at the Village Municipal Building. Payments must be received by the 15th day of the month. The Village accepts cash, money order, check, or credit/debit (processing fee applied).
5. Pay online through your local bank bill pay or through SmartBill located on the Village website. As a clarification, if a customer utilizes bill pay online, a paper check is generated by their respective bank. Therefore it may take seven-nine business days for the check to arrive at the Village. This is out of the Village's control and must be discussed with the customer's respective banking institution. The Village stamps checks the day they arrive, if a check arrives after the 15th of the month it is marked as late. If the 15th falls on a holiday or weekend, payment must be received by 8:00 a.m. the next business day.



## Utility Meter Upgrades

Over the past 6 months, Village Officials discussed options to update current utility meters. As with many other pieces of equipment, there is a industry standard for utility meters; this standard is typically between 10-20 years. After that period of time, it is recommended utility meters are replaced to ensure correct usage is calculated. This is vital to water accountability. Each month, the Village compares water produced to water usage billed; this percentage is referred to as water accountability. Currently the Village averages 73% accountability. A leak detection survey performed in 2018 found a few leaks but not enough to increase water accountability a substantial amount. Therefore Village Officials continue to identify areas where water loss could occur and malfunctioning meters, which are passed the industry standard benchmark, are the next major project to evaluate. Please follow the Village Facebook page and future newsletters for more information.

## Increase in Water and Sewer Rates effective January 1, 2019

Date	Monthly Base Rate Increase <b>WATER</b>	Usage Rate (per 1,000 gallons) Increase <b>WATER</b>	Monthly Base Rate Increase <b>SEWER</b>	Usage Rate (per 1,000 gallons) Increase <b>SEWER</b>
1/1/19-12/31/19	\$1.34	\$0.16	\$1.23	\$0.31

## Combined Sewer Overflows and Sewer Separation Projects

Combined sewer systems convey both storm and sanitary sewer flows. During periods of wet weather, either heavy rain or snow melt, the volume of the water flowing through the sewer pipes can exceed the system capacity and overflow to nearby streams and rivers through overflow/relief structures. During wet weather these events are called combined sewer overflows, CSOs. The Village is working to reduce CSOs, by separating storm water flows from sanitary sewer flows.

As you can see in the CSO Monitoring Comparison chart, rainfall amounts from 2010 through August 2018 were pretty steady with an average of 41 inches annually. Rainfall did not affect the number of overflow occurrences dramatically. The sewer separation projects that have taken place since 2010 are the primary reason we are now only seeing one-third the number of overflows. This will only improve with completion of the remaining sewer separation projects.

### Sewer separation projects completed

Project 4 Broadway (Zeiter Way)	January 2007
Project 2 Fulton Street	September 2011
Project 2 Lincoln Woodland	September 2012
Project 6 Clark Street	June 2016
Project 7 Church Harrison Lawrence	October 2018

Project 10 Sewer Separation Project is scheduled for 2019. This project area includes Brookside (Hallett to Crestwood), Woodside, and Parkside. Consulting engineers are currently reviewing preliminary findings to create a final scope of work. Preliminary estimates indicate construction cost of approximately \$700,000. This does not include engineering costs. Please follow the Village Facebook page and future newsletters for more information.

Locations		Overflow Occurrences (September through August)								
		2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	1/1/18 to 12/16/18
002	Storm Basin Discharge	11	7	0	1	2	0	0	0	0
008	Main St. Bridge (NW)-Al Creek	1	6	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
013	Dodge St. RR Bridge-Al Creek	2	3	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
016	High School Foot Bridge - Al Creek	7	7	0	2	3	4	3	2	0
018	Fulton St. - Al Creek	10	12	0	2	3	2	1	0	0
019	Main St. (Apple Orchard) - Al Creek	5	6	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
020	E. Garfield (Street Dept.) - Al Creek	5	4	1	1	1	2	0	5	0
024	Brookside @ Crestwood-Mary Wander Ditch	13	16	13	11	13	3	7	11	0
027	Church St. - Mary Wander Ditch	26	37	10	0	4	0	3	1	3
028	Hallett @ Zeiter Way - Mary Wander Ditch	24	27	26	17	20	8	15	18	4
<b>Total</b>		<b>104</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Rainfall (inches)</b>		<b>39.0</b>	<b>44.6</b>	<b>40.2</b>	<b>34.2</b>	<b>47.3</b>	<b>39.4</b>	<b>40.3</b>	<b>43.6</b>	<b>10.3</b>

## Winter is Coming



We ask everyone to be aware of the workers plowing snow. If there is snow and ice, please remember to take it slow and allow enough room between you and the plow. Further, throughout snowfalls, of more than 3 inches, removing parked cars from the street allows for a more efficient snow removal per Section 73.05 of the Codified Ordinances. Further per Section 95.12 illustrates the duty to remove snow from sidewalks and around fire hydrants within 24 hours of its accumulation.

To avoid clearing your driveway entrance repeatedly, wait until the plow trucks have completely cleared the roadway curb to curb. Please do not shovel or plow snow into the streets. Please do not pass a snowplow truck. Each truck has blind spots that reduce side and rear visibility. If you cannot see their mirrors, then they cannot see you. Increase the following distance between your vehicle and others. Also allow for safe distances between your vehicle and a salt truck to reduce the chance of loose materials striking your car and to give you more time to react to sudden stops.



## Memorial Park Master Plan

Village Officials are aware of the importance of Memorial Park and have committed to reviewing all aspects of its use to better plan for the future. With this in mind, the Village will utilize the services of Poggemeyer Design Group to lead the coordination of a Master Plan for Memorial Park. The planning began in late 2018 will continue into 2019; public forums will be a part of this process. *Please stay tuned to the Village's website and social media account to learn more about having your voice heard in what you would like to see Memorial Park look like in the future.*

## Rental Spaces

Looking for a place to host a graduation party, family reunion, bridal shower? The Village of Swanton offers two facilities to rent for small to medium size gatherings. Swanton Community Center can seat 60-75 comfortably. Please stay tuned for information on reserving Memorial Park Pavilion during its remodeling. More information, on both of the facilities, including rental fees can be found on our website at [villageofswantonohio.us](http://villageofswantonohio.us).



Daylight Savings Time begins at 2:00 a.m. on **Sunday March 10**. Please remember to move your clocks ahead one hour. It is also recommended to change the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms on this day.





Currently, Brush Pick Up is provided weekly, Monday-Thursday, from the first week of April to on, or around, November 1 (subject to change). The Village is divided into four sections to correspond to one day of the week. Please check with the Village when the respective pick up day is in your neighborhood.

Please also remember that the Village is NOT a tree removal company. This service is for fallen tree limbs. Village officials reserve the right to not pick up brush that do not abide by the regulations set forth.



# Swanton Village



## Brush Pick Up Guidelines

Please have brush to the curb, or side of the road, by 7:00 a.m. on scheduled pick up day.

Please place all limbs with cut end towards the street.

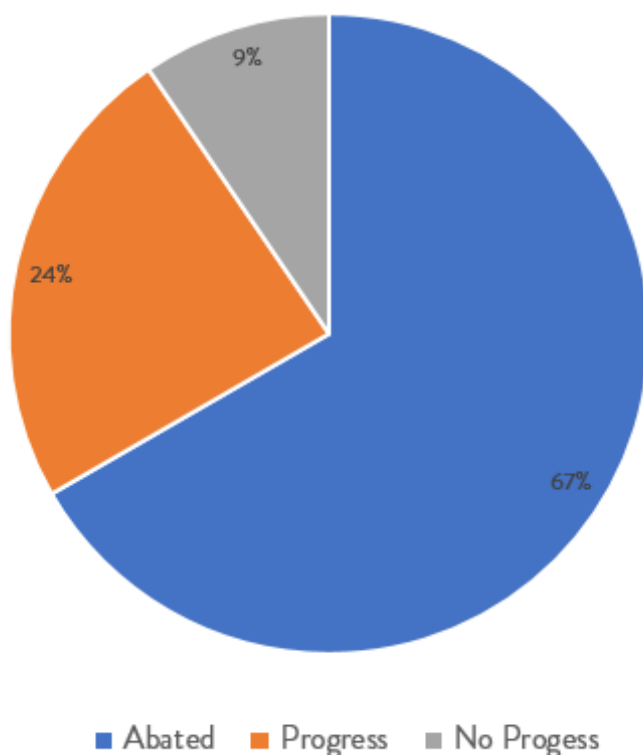
Please remember that any contractors hired (professional tree trimmers, landscapers, etc.) are required to remove from your property any tree limbs, trunks, logs etc. that they generate.

***Brush pick up provided by the Village of Swanton is for fallen tree limbs not for clearing of lots or removal of entire trees.***



All residents of the Village of Swanton, age 18 and older, with earned income are required to file a Village income tax return annually. The Village of Swanton contracts with the Regional Income Tax Authority (R.I.T.A) to administer income tax collection. Please note that many of the self-preparation software programs such as Turbo Tax DO NOT e-file Village income tax return. If you self-prepare your taxes, please make sure you e-file your Village tax return at [www.ritaohio.com](http://www.ritaohio.com).

Please notify R.I.T.A if you have moved in or out of the Village or have retired.



## Code Enforcement

The Village of Swanton's Code Enforcement Official, Dennis Brown, was busy in 2018. Throughout the year Mr. Brown made 84 contacts related to nuisances on properties. To be clear: this does not mean 84 properties as some properties had multiple contacts for different nuisance violations.

Of the 84 contacts: 67% abated the cited nuisance, 24% made progress towards abating the cited nuisance, and 9% made no progress. This is where Mr. Brown will begin in the new year. Thank you to all who cooperated in this process.

Visit and Connect with us!



[www.villageofswantonohio.us](http://www.villageofswantonohio.us)



Village of Swanton, Ohio  
Village of Swanton Police Department  
Swanton Fire/EMS

### **Administration/ Finance**

[Admin@villageofswantonohio.us](mailto:Admin@villageofswantonohio.us)  
[Fiscal@villageofswantonohio.us](mailto:Fiscal@villageofswantonohio.us)  
419.826.9515

### **Public Safety**

#### ***Police***

[SPD@villageofswantonohio.us](mailto:SPD@villageofswantonohio.us)  
419.825.5263

#### ***Fire/Rescue***

[SFD@villageofswantonohio.us](mailto:SFD@villageofswantonohio.us)  
419.825.1455

### **Public Service**

[PublicService@villageofswantonohio.us](mailto:PublicService@villageofswantonohio.us)  
419.826.2531

### **Water Treatment**

[Water@villageofswantonohio.us](mailto:Water@villageofswantonohio.us)  
419.826.5831

### **Water Resource Recovery**

[WRRF@villageofswantonohio.us](mailto:WRRF@villageofswantonohio.us)  
419.826.5891

# — THE VILLAGE OF — SWANTON

## **Winter 2019 Meeting Times**

### Council Meetings 7:00 p.m.

**January 14, 2019**

(Committee of the Whole 6:00 p.m. Finance  
6:30 p.m., Water & Sewer 7:45 p.m.)

**January 28, 2019, February 25, 2019, &  
March 25, 2019**

(Public Service 6:00 p.m.,  
Public Safety 6:30 p.m., Committee of the  
Whole 7:45 p.m.)

**February 11, 2019 & March 11, 2019**  
(Water & Sewer 6:00 p.m., Finance 6:30 p.m.)

### Planning Commission (as needed) 6:30 p.m.

January 8, 2019

February 5, 2019

March 5, 2019

### Tree Commission 6:00 p.m.

January 21, 2019

February 18, 2019

March 18, 2019

**Municipal Building CLOSED: January 1, 2, & 21  
and February 18, 2019**

*Typographical Errors: Our staff has made every effort to prepare this newsletter as accurately as possible, however, errors can occur. Circumstances may require that adjustments be made to programs, fees, schedules, etc. All typographical and printing errors are subject to corrections.*