

—THE VILLAGE OF— SWANTON

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Village VOICE

Winter 2020

Volume 4

Issue 1



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

Public Official Recognition

2019 ends by recognizing many public officials and their contributions to the Village of Swanton.

2020 begins by welcoming two new members to the team.

Mayor Ann Roth and Councilman Jeff Pilliod left their mark on the Village of Swanton and we thank them for their years of service to the community. Mayor Roth served for eight years and contributed tremendously during her two terms as mayor. Councilman Pilliod was first elected in 1996, has served various terms since then, and, arguably, has institutional knowledge to rival anyone. Their impact will be felt for many years to come.

In 2019 the Village of Swanton recognized the following individuals for their years of service to the community:

30 Years of Service: Rick Martin, Patrol Officer

25 Years of Service: Chris Blosser, Police Lieutenant

20 Years of Service: Chad Smith, Fire Captain

5 Years of Service: Anthony Bernal, Firefighter

5 Years of Service: Dan Johnson, Firefighter

5 Years of Service: Amy Miller, Administrative Assistant

In 2020, the community welcomes Mayor-Elect Neil Toeppe and Councilman-Elect Dave Pilliod to the team. Everyone looks forward to working together and continuing the progress made.



Park Levy– March 17, 2020 Primary Election

The Village of Swanton currently has two (2) separate, 0.5 mil park levies which generate \$62,000 per year for Village parks; this helps to cover expenses of operations, utilities and general maintenance. The two (2) levies currently in place have different renewal cycles. Placing issues on a ballot costs money; therefore this expense is duplicated with two (2) levies. Only having one (1) park levy will eliminate the need to place an extra issue on the ballot every few years.

The Village of Swanton is placing one (1) 1.2 mil park levy on the March 17, 2020 ballot. If this new park levy passes, the other two (2) levies will no longer be collected. The new levy will generate \$80,000 per year for Swanton Village parks. It is a slight increase of \$18,000 per year. This is necessary to cover the rising costs of operations, utilities and general maintenance of all the parks in the Village of Swanton. The new park levy will cost homeowners an additional \$7.00 per year, per \$100,000 home value.

Some of you may recall discussion of the Memorial Park Master Plan. The new park levy will not be utilized for capital improvements such as updated restrooms or additional parking. Grants or existing income tax revenue will be used for those items. Questions? Please call the Administrative Office at 419-826-9515 and ask to speak to Jennifer Harkey, Fiscal Officer.



Christmas Tree Pick Up

The Public Service Division will pick up Christmas Trees the week of January 6. Please place at curb, or edge of street, by Monday morning January 6. They will make a few trips throughout the Village limits to pick up throughout the week.

Utility Meter Upgrades

Over the past year, 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. Phase 1 of the project will occur in 2020. Please stay tuned to Facebook or mailed postcards for more information.

Increase in Water and Sewer Rates effective January 1, 2020

Date	Monthly Base Rate Increase WATER	Usage Rate (per 1,000 gallons) Increase WATER	Monthly Base Rate Increase SEWER	Usage Rate (per 1,000 gallons) Increase SEWER
1/1/20-12/31/20	\$1.40	\$0.17	\$1.29	\$0.29



2020

Swanton Village Brush Pick Up Guidelines

Brush pick up will begin on April 6, 2020 and continue **WEEKLY** until April 30, 2020

MONTHLY brush pick up will occur from May 1, 2020 to October 2, 2020 on the **2nd Monday** of each month.

WEEKLY brush pick up will start up again from October 5, 2020 until October 29, 2020

NO WEEKLY brush pick up from October 30, 2020 to April 4, 2021
UNLESS there is a storm which warrants the pick up

Please remember that Lammon Brothers takes all brush and yard clippings at their facility at 7520 County Rd 5-2.

Their hours vary: Spring Hours (April-June)
Monday-Friday: 8am-6pm, Sat 9am-3pm
Sun: Closed

Summer/Fall Hours (July-November)
Monday-Friday: 8am-5pm, Sat & Sun: Closed

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

The Village is divided into four sections to correspond to one day of the week. During April and October, each section will be picked up four (4) times; once per week. *Monday: North of railroad tracks and West of Main Street. Tuesday: North of railroad tracks and East of Main Street. Wednesday: South of railroad tracks and West of Main Street. Thursday: South of railroad tracks and East of Main Street*

March 2020: Census invitations mailed to households

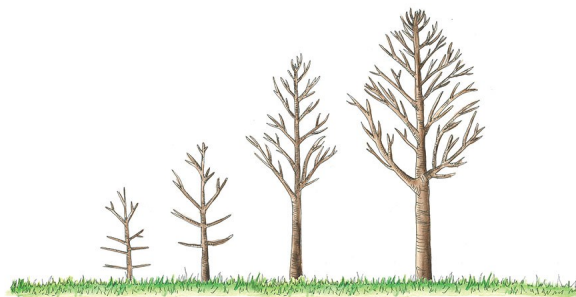
April-July 2020:
Reminder letters/postcards, and eventually a paper questionnaire, is sent if no response received

April 20-27, 2020: A final reminder postcard before the Census Bureau follows up in person

July 2020: Self-response deadline

December 31, 2020: Census Bureau delivers count to President

United States
**Census
2020**



Young Tree Maintenance

The Village of Swanton will have third party specialists perform maintenance to street trees in various neighborhoods. These are trees recently planted over the past few years.

Pruning will be performed by a certified arborist during the Winter of 2020. Work will be done from the ground with all debris being removed from the site. Mulching will include removal of weeds and turf grass from the edge of the sidewalk to the curb and the application of decomposed hardwood mulch. This will be done in the early Spring of 2020. Please call 419.826.9515 if you have questions.

The U.S. Census Bureau will **NEVER** ask for:

- ✗ Your Social Security number
- ✗ Your bank account or credit card numbers
- ✗ Money or donations

They will **never contact you on behalf of a political party.**

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. Memorial Park Pavilion was recently renovated and offers a great view of the park. New rental rates will be effective January 1, 2020 for Memorial Park Pavilion and reservations will be taken beginning January 6, 2020. There is also an updated terms of use agreement all reservation holders must sign. More information, on both of the facilities, including rental fees can be found on our website at villageofswantonohio.us. If you have any questions please contact the Administration Office at 419.826.9515



Daylight Savings Time begins at 2:00 a.m. on **Sunday March 8**. 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.



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.



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.

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

OPEN HOUSE

**Swanton Community
Center**

**January 8, 2020
5pm-6pm**

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SWANTON

Project 10 Sewer Separation

Project 10 Sewer Separation will center on the area of Brookside (between Crestwood and Hallett) and parts of Parkside and Woodside.

Please join us at an Open House to learn more about project timeline, access to driveways, and more.

There will be a representative from Jones & Henry, the Consulting Engineering Firm for the project and Underground Utilities, the General Contractor for the project.

Visit and Connect with us!



www.villageofswantonohio.us



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

Administration/ Finance

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Fiscal@villageofswantonohio.us
419.826.9515

Public Safety

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SPD@villageofswantonohio.us
419.825.5263

Fire/Rescue

SFD@villageofswantonohio.us
419.825.1455

Public Service

PublicService@villageofswantonohio.us
419.826.2531

Water Treatment

Water@villageofswantonohio.us
419.826.5831

Water Resource Recovery

WRRF@villageofswantonohio.us
419.826.5891

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Winter 2020 Meeting Times

Council Meetings 7:00 p.m.

January 13, 2020

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

January 27, February 24, & March 23, 2020

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

February 10 & March 9, 2020

(Water & Sewer 6:00 p.m., Finance 6:30 p.m.)

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

January 7, 2020

February 4, 2020

March 3, 2020

Tree Commission 6:00 p.m.

January 21, 2020

February 18, 2020

March 16, 2020

**Municipal Building CLOSED: January 1 & 20
and February 17, 2020**

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.