

—THE VILLAGE OF— SWANTON

219 Chestnut Street Swanton, Ohio 43558

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Village VOICE

Winter 2021

Volume 5

Issue 1

Happy New Year
2021

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

Looking Forward to 2021

2020 was a year like no other. As with many of you, the Village of Swanton had to make quick changes in response to the pandemic. Village officials are proud of the work accomplished in 2020 and look forward to 2021.

The upcoming year will be filled with initiatives and projects to continue the momentum of progress in the Village. The Village received a proposal from a firm to work on a comprehensive master plan for the Water Resource Recovery Facility. This plan will provide data and information in order to make informed decision on future upgrades at the plant. This is vital as many projects can amass a price tag of over \$1 million. Village officials continue to be conscious of fiscal stewardship and will continue to compile the information before making those decision to ensure services are provided at an exceptional rate. Further in 2021, there will be another sewer separation project as part of the Long Term Control Plan. This project will center on Mettabrook, Allen, West, Sanderson, and parts of Browning and W. Garfield. As preliminary design is complete, please stay tuned for public information meetings.



Village Council approved moving forward with installing a membrane system at the Water Treatment Plant. This project will begin in earnest in 2021 with estimated final completion in 2022. Village officials believe this project will add to the quality of water treated and distributed by the Village of Swanton.

Village officials anticipate proposals, from qualified firms, to assist with updating Title XV: Land Usage of the Codified Ordinances. This centers on the zoning code, subdivision regulations, and flood damage prevention. This is paramount to ensure the Village has regulations that are in line with current trends.

Finally, there will be updates through the Safe Routes Through School grant program. Most aspects of this project center on installing sidewalks in areas leading towards schools. There will also be updated signage as well as z-gates at the railroad grade crossing on Main Street.

Village officials are committed to continued progress and 2021 is sure to include many great advances.

Public Official Recognition

In 2020 the Village of Swanton recognized the following individuals for their years of service to the community:

10 Years of Service: Steve Kovar, Water Treatment

5 Years of Service: Chad Branum, Firefighter

5 Years of Service: Zachary Holdridge, Public Service

5 Years of Service: Lee Kusz, Police Officer

5 Years of Service: Neil Tedrow, Public Service

5 Years of Service: James Zywocki, Firefighter



Municipal Building Closure

Municipal Building will continue to be closed to foot traffic from January 4 to January 31, 2021. The Municipal Building will reopen on Monday February 1, 2021.

Staff will continue to work for YOU! Please call or email if there is something for which we can help! 419.826.9515, Monday– Fridays 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Email addresses can be found on at www.villageofswantonohio.us.

Utility payments can be mailed or dropped in the secure dropbox near the Police Station. Further, ACH payment is also available at no additional cost. You can also sign up to receive a paperless copy of your bill via email. Please contact utility billing at 419.826.9515 and press 1.



Christmas Tree Pick Up

The Public Service Division will pick up Christmas Trees the week of January 11. Please place at curb, or edge of street, by Monday morning January 11. They will make a few trips throughout the Village limits to pick up throughout the week.

Utility Meter Upgrades

As with many other pieces of equipment, there is an industry standard for utility meters; this standard is typically between 10-20 years for water meters. After that period of time, it is recommended 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 80% accountability which is an improvement over last year's rate. Village Officials continue to identify areas where water loss could occur and malfunctioning meters, which are passed the industry standard benchmark, are up for replacement. Phase 1 of the project occurred in 2020; phase 2 will occur in 2021. If you are a Village resident receiving Village water and you did not have a new water meter installed in 2020, please be on the look out for more information to come your way on scheduling in mid 2021.

Increase in Water and Sewer Rates effective bills due February 15, 2021

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	\$1.35	\$0.17	\$1.25	\$0.30

Republic Services– Waste & Recycling

The Village of Swanton strives to protect the health, safety, and public welfare of our residents. Recently, there were concerns raised regarding the current residential waste and recycling hauling agreement within the Village. Please visit the website for more details on current agreement with Republic Service or feel free to reach out to the Village Administrator for more information. She will be happy to discuss with you and provide accurate information and work towards any clarifications needed. admin@villageofswantonohio.us or 419.826.9515.

Swanton Village Brush Pick Up 2021 Schedule

Brush pick up will begin on April 5, 2021 and continue **WEEKLY** until April 29, 2021.

MONTHLY brush pick up will occur from May 10, 2021 to September 17, 2021 on the **2nd Monday** of each month.

WEEKLY brush pick up will start up again from October 4, 2021 until October 28, 2021.

NO WEEKLY brush pick up from October 29, 2021 to April 3, 2022
UNLESS there is a storm which warrants the pick up.

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

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



No Wipes in the Pipes

The Public Works Department (spanning a couple Divisions) has spent much time in 2020 working on clogged pumps in the wastewater collections system. Most of the clogs are caused by wet wipes; these could be cleaning wipes (Clorox, Lysol, etc.) or “flushable” wipes used to clean yourself or your children. Please understand these wipes do not disintegrate when flushed. If you are looking for a New Year’s resolution, think about what ****not**** to flush to keep the wastewater collections system flowing properly and preventing backups!

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COMMUNITY CLEAN UP DAY

**SATURDAY
MARCH 20 from
1:00-3:00 p.m.**



Interested in helping get Memorial Park ready for Spring?
Volunteer to pick up branches, rake leaves, and clean up litter.
Grab a friend, a pair of work gloves, and meet at
Memorial Park Pavilion. The Village will provide bags.

CIVICREADY

Mass Notification System

Since July 2019, the Village of Swanton has used the CivicReady system, through Fulton County, to send out mass notification messages through email, phone calls, and texts.

There are two notification groups for the Village of Swanton: General notifications and Boil Advisory notifications. Haven't joined yet? The quickest way is through Text to Join.

Text 30890, and in the message type Join SwantonGeneral or Join SwantonBoil (it is case sensitive and there needs to be a space between Join and the keyword).


You can also sign up by accessing the website, <https://fultoncounty-oh.reggroup.com> and following the prompts.

FACILITY RENTAL PROCEDURE 2021

- Facilities can be rented during the following time periods:
Memorial Pavilion: April –October 2021
Community Center: April – December 2021
- Staff will begin taking reservations on January 5, 2021 for 2021 events.
Please call 419.826.9515 and press 8.
- Applications for reservations are still required and must be submitted within two (2) weeks of reserving the date.
- NO payments will be taken upon reserving the date.
- Full payment will be required two (2) weeks prior to the reserved event date.

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Set up ACH: Easy as 1-2-3



Did you know we offer automatic monthly withdrawal from your checking or savings account with no processing fee for utility bills?

1. Access the ACH form on Village of Swanton's website (under Resource tab, Forms)
2. Complete form
3. Email completed form to utilitybilling@villageofswantonohio.us

Someone will confirm when the automatic monthly withdrawal is set up. Payment will always process from bank account on the 15th of the month, or next business day, never before!

Please email utilitybilling@villageofswantonohio.us if you have any questions.



Daylight Savings Time begins at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday March 14. 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.

Lights On Swanton

The Village of Swanton is embarking on a campaign to encourage community members to report streetlight outages. The goal is to improve visibility at night and promote safety throughout the Village.

Please email admin@villageofswantonohio.us or call 419.826.9515 to report the exact location (street address preferred) with the closest intersection street.



Career Opportunities

The Village of Swanton has a couple career opportunities available. If you are interesting in serving the public for a great organization, please check out the Village's website for more information.

We
SWANTON
YOU!

Visit and Connect with us!



www.villageofswantonohio.us



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



@swantonvillageoh

Administration/ Finance

Admin@villageofswantonohio.us
Fiscal@villageofswantonohio.us
419.826.9515

Public Safety

Police

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 2021 Meeting Times

Council Meetings 7:00 p.m.

January 11, 2021

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

January 25, February 22, & March 22, 2021

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

February 8 & March 8, 2021

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

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

January 5, 2021

February 2, 2021

March 2, 2021

Tree Commission 6:00 p.m.

January 19, 2021

February 16, 2021

March 15, 2021

**Municipal Building CLOSED: January 1 & 18 and
February 15, 2021**

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.