

# The WH Village Voice

#### From the Office of the Mayor

Season's greetings to all!

We hope you are enjoying the holiday season with family and friends and that the new year brings you and your family good health and much happiness.



#### 'Tis the Season

Village Hall has been dressed up this holiday season thanks to the underwriting of a long-time resident who, upon request, will remain anonymous. In the words of our benefactor, "with all the problems in today's world, bringing a few holiday lights to our Village Hall and sharing a little light with everyone will hopefully be amazing. I just hope that the lights bring as much joy and happiness to others as it does to my extended family."



I suspect all of you have seen the great lighting display adorning the large fir tree in front of Village Hall. Judging by the dozens of texts, emails, phone calls, social media posts and other positive comments received, the lights are a resounding hit and, hopefully, a new tradition that will continue in the years to come.

To our donor, on behalf of all Waite Hill and neighboring residents, thank you for your generosity and sharing joy and happiness this holiday season. The Village of Waite Hill 7215 Eagle Road Waite Hill, Ohio 44094

#### waitehilloh.gov

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#### **Another New Face**

With the passage of time comes many things. One of those is retirements and reduced workloads. The Waite Hill Police Department has been lucky to have been served by many part-time police officers over the past years and currently has three part-timers on staff. We anticipate one will be retiring in the coming months, and the other's availability will be lessening.

This is an exceptionally challenging time to identify, hire and train new police officers. Many of our surrounding communities have been unable to fill vacancies in their forces due to a scarcity of candidates to replace retiring officers. We are constantly on the lookout for such candidates, particularly candidates with experience and who have spent time with neighboring police forces. Our strategy in this regard has served us well, as we have been able to fill our pipeline with qualified, experienced police officers when vacancies arise.

In anticipation of the diminishing role of our part-time officers, the Village was able to fill those hours with another solid, experienced candidate. Officer Tom Sherwood was sworn in as a new patrolman in November. Prior to joining the Village's Police Department, Tom served in law enforcement for over 28 years, most recently as a full-time member of the Lake Metroparks Police Department and a part-timer for the Willoughby Police Department. Welcome, Tom!

#### Recycling

Our recycling program is underway. Currently, we are considering expanding our efforts to include glass. We are also evaluating our aluminum can recycling program and ways to improve it. Council's Marcia Merritt again spearheads our efforts on this front. Please stay tuned in early 2023 as all updates to the overall recycling program will be communicated to residents on the Village website and email.

#### Paving Projects; Road Striping

As you know by now, Hobart Road has been repaved – with a substantial contribution toward the overall cost being funded by the Ohio Public Works Commission – and all Village streets and roads have been restriped. At this time, we do not anticipate any other roads being repaved over the next two years.

Periodically we get questions about the need to restripe roads every two years. The short answer is that road striping is a matter of safety, particularly at night and during the winter when our Service Department is out plowing at all hours to keep the roads clean. Our workers need to know where the road is in the middle of snowstorms, and striping enables them to navigate where they are driving.

#### **Budgeting**

The administration, department heads and Council are actively developing the Village's budget for the calendar year 2023. Like everybody else, we as a Village face the same inflationary pressures embedded in the broader economy and have been challenged with increased expenses in the ensuing year. That has

caused us to revisit the costs incurred for items such as our annual insurance sources and coverages, the purchase and replacement of capital assets, wages and many other items. Suffice it to say we are working hard to minimize our annual expenditures and maximize our revenues on every line item that comprises a part of our budget.

#### Waite Hill Foundation

As residents consider year-end charitable giving, we encourage you to consider the Waite Hill Foundation. Since its formation in 2015, the Foundation's assets have grown to approximately \$840,000, with an additional \$145,000 of gifts above that amount being made to the Village to fund various road projects. For further information, please visit <a href="www.waitehillfoundation.org">www.waitehillfoundation.org</a>.

#### **Public Notices**

A lot is happening in the Village, and communications are predominantly via email. Please be sure to furnish your email addresses to Robbi Laps at Village Hall so that you remain informed. Alternatively, all public and meeting notices are routinely posted on the bulletin board in the vestibule of Village Hall, and you are encouraged to stop by from time to time to get caught up on Village happenings.

#### Village Website

Remember to stay on top of all Village happenings by visiting our website, www.waitehilloh.gov.

Please do not hesitate to call Village Hall or email us with any questions, comments or concerns. As always, we will do our best to address them. Thank you for your time and interest, and Happy Holidays to all.

Best Regards,

Bob Ranallo

Robert A. Ranallo





## From the Office of the Chief of Police Carl H. Dondorfer

Season's Greetings from the Waite Hill Police Department. We hope all the residents of the Village enjoy a happy and safe holiday season.

I want to take this opportunity to introduce our new full-time village police officer. Patrolman Thomas J. Sherwood is a seasoned law enforcement veteran from Lake County and brings years of experience and specialized training to our police department. Officer Sherwood is an outstanding addition to the department, and we are happy he is part of our team.

I want to thank Mayor Ranallo and the entire Village Council for approving and adding a full-time officer position to the department's staffing. The number of qualified part-time and full-time peace officers entering the profession of law enforcement have decreased substantially over the past few years. The additional full-time position Officer Sherwood has filled will ensure that the Waite Hill Village Police Department can continue to provide excellence in public safety services to the residents of the Village.



As the winter months are now upon us, I would like to remind the Village's residents that the Deer Hunting/Bow Season Program is in progress. The village hunting program coincides with the State of Ohio deer season from September 24<sup>th</sup> through February 5<sup>th</sup>, annually. Several residents within the Village participate in the program. Each hunter is assigned to a specific property and has a valid hunting license through the State of Ohio. These hunters have also been approved by the Waite Hill Police Department for the village hunting program and have been provided a list of rules they must obey to hunt in Waite Hill. Hunting with firearms is prohibited within Village limits, and only bow hunting is allowed. Hunters are prohibited by law from pursuing wounded deer or other wild animals or recovering an animal from private property without the permission of the landowner.

All licensed hunters in the village program have been made aware of this law. Before pursuing a wild animal, they must seek permission from the property owner or contact the police department to assist in gaining consent. If permission is not granted, the hunter is forbidden from trespassing on the owner's property to retrieve the wild animal. If you encounter an issue with a hunter or have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me or anyone on our team for assistance.

Respectfully,

Carl H. Dondorfer

Carl H. Dondorfer Chief of Police

#### Did you know?

There is a Safe Room located just inside the front entrance of Village Hall that allows for anyone who is in distress or immediate need of safety services to be secure until those services arrive. Upon entering the Safe Room, the door will lock upon closing and prevent anyone else from entering. When used, the phone in the room will automatically connect the individual to Central Dispatch so police or fire services can be requested. The room is designed to secure the individual and keep them safe until services arrive. The room is equipped with an emergency button that will unlock the door and allow the individual to exit the room.



#### Service Department News

#### Greetings to all.

Thank you to everyone that attended this year's Halloween party. It was our largest attendance yet! We enjoyed serving the residents our annual Halloween feast, and it was wonderful to see so many kids! We have already lined up a fan-favorite entertainer for everyone's enjoyment next year.

The Service Department sends you all our appreciation for your patience with the various road projects that we did this summer. Watching for road closures and slowing down around our team working on the road keeps us all safe! As the weather gets bad, please continue these safety measures: slow speeds and cautious driving!! Flying snow from the plow and Mother Nature make it very difficult to see at times.

As we head into the winter season, trash pick-up comes with a few extra challenges. Please try to keep driveways plowed or place trash in an easily accessible area. Limiting the weight of trash bags and ensuring they are securely tied helps keep us from slipping as we throw bags into our trucks. Carefully packed trash also prevents loose items from scattering around the Village. We will not collect any overloaded or untied bags.

Please remember, with the introduction of the Village Paper Recycling Program, we will no longer pick up loose cardboard or empty boxes from your home as an extra pickup. Residents must bring cardboard to the Village Recycling Park on the bi-monthly recycling day. The recycling park is located behind Village Hall. If you prefer not to recycle your cardboard, it will be picked up on trash day and disposed of as trash.

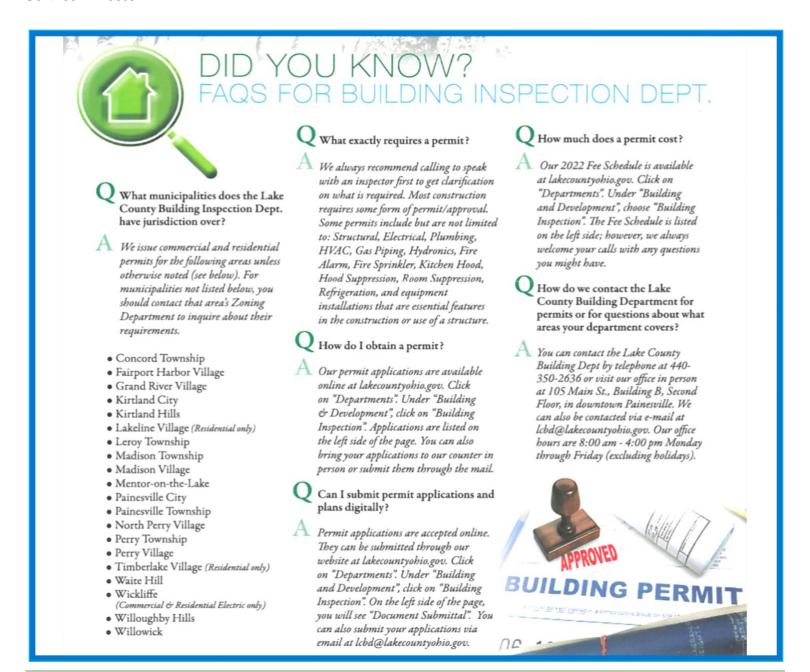
As a reminder, aluminum recycling will now be picked up once a month, on the first Thursday. We cannot accept steel products at this time. If you are in doubt, try a magnet: steel is magnetic, aluminum is not.

Keep an eye on your inbox. An email will be sent in early 2023 introducing the addition of glass recycling. To register for the recycling program or to add your name to the village email list, please get in touch with Robbi Laps at <u>rlaps@waitehilloh.gov</u>.

The goal of the Service Department continues to be providing residents with the best service possible! If you have any questions or suggestions, feel free to contact us at 440-942-2074 or stop up and say hello. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all of us in the Service Department.

Regards,

Bob Haynik Service Director





#### Elizabeth Gale Kennedy Kelly Jerry

9591 Hobart Road 9495 Metcalf Road

#### Come visit Waite Hill Village's Little Free Library located in the Village Hall lobby. "Take A Book"



Little Free Library is a nonprofit organization that inspires a love of reading, builds community, and sparks creativity by fostering neighborhood book exchanges around the world. There are more than 80,000 registered Little Free Libraries in all 50 states and over 90 countries.

Through these Libraries, millions of books are exchanged each year, profoundly increasing access to books for readers of all ages and backgrounds.

Little Free Library has received recognition from the Library of Congress, the National Book Foundation, *Library Journal*, the Women's National Book Association, and more.

#### December 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
18	19	20	21	22 Extra Pick Up	23 Trash	24 Christmas Eve
25 Christmas Day	26	27	28	29 Extra Pick Up	30 Trash	31 New Year's Eve

### January 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5 Aluminum Can Pick-up Extra Pick Up	6 Trash	7 Paper Recycling 8:00am - Noon
8	9 Finance Mtg 7:30am Council Mtg 8am	10	11	12 Extra Pick Up	13 Trash	14
15	16 Martin Luther King Day	17	18	19 Extra Pick Up	20 Trash	21 Paper Recycling 8:00am - Noon
22	23 Planning and Zoning 8am	24	25	26 Extra Pick Up	27 Trash	28
29	30	31				

## February 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 Aluminum Can Pick-up Extra Pick Up	3 Trash	4 Paper Recycling 8:00am - Noon
5	6	7	8	9 Extra Pick Up	10 Trash	11
12	13 Finance Mtg 7:30am Council Mtg 8am	14	15	16 Extra Pick Up	17 Trash	18 Paper Recycling 8:00am - Noon
19	20 President's Day	21	22	23 Extra Pick Up	24 Trash	25
26	27 Planning and Zoning 8am	28				

## March 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 Aluminum Can Pick-up Extra Pick Up	3 Trash	4 Paper Recycling 8:00am - Noon
5	6	7	8	9 Extra Pick Up	10 Trash	11
12 Daylight Savings Time Starts	13 Finance Mtg 7:30am Council Mtg 8am	14	15	16 Extra Pick Up	17 Trash	18 Paper Recycling 8:00am - Noon
19	20	21	22	23 Extra Pick Up	24 Trash	25
26	27 Planning and Zoning 8am	28	29	30	31	

## April 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Paper Recycling 8:00am - Noon
2	3	4	5	6 Aluminum Can Pick-up Extra Pick Up	7 Trash	8
9	10 Finance Mtg 7:30am Council Mtg 8am	11	12	13 Extra Pick Up	14 Trash	15 Paper Recycling 8:00am - Noon
16	17	18	19	20 Extra Pick Up	21 Trash	22
23	24 Planning and Zoning 8am	25	26	27 Extra Pick Up	28 Trash	29
30						