April 2010

Village of GALENA FOUNDED 1809

Newsletter

Orange Barrel Season

Construction season is upon us and the Village has several projects coming up.

At their March meeting, residents and Council members heard a progress report from EMH&T Engineer Jon Dean about the Walnut St. paving project. Council learned that contractor Decker Construction will be unable to start the project until May due to the late opening of asphalt plants. The project was originally scheduled to begin mid-March.

Village officials have been temporarily patching larger potholes in anticipation of the road being rebuilt. Now, the Village will have to cold patch larger potholes to make due until the repaving begins. The project is expected to occur from May 1-15. Two-way traffic will be maintained with one-lane traffic detours in the specific construction area.

The Delaware County Engineer's Office will replace the Old 3C Highway/ Columbus St. bridge this summer.

Columbia Gas must first relocate a gas line that is attached to the bridge. Front St. will be closed near the bridge while Columbia Gas bores the new line under the reservoir. They will also have to close Columbus St. for a period of time. The project should be completed by May 1.

The bridge will be closed for the duration of the project which is expected to last from May 15-August 15.

Construction Schedules

Project	Expected Schedule
Gas Line Relocation	March 1-May 1
Walnut St. Reconstruction	May 1-15
Old 3C Highway Bridge Replacement	May 15-Aug. 15

In other road news, Council held a first reading on a resolution to assist with paving of Alexander Road. The Berkshire Township Trustees have requested that the Village pay approximately $1,500 to pave Galena's portion of the road when the township resurfaces its portion. Concerns were raised that since the Village is still part of Berkshire Township, the residents already pay property taxes to the township. Village Solicitor Ken Molnar is checking into several issues.

Construction of the Kane's Crossing Trail will occur this spring as well.

Easter Egg Hunt

The Galena Easter Egg Hunt will be April 3. Local children are invited to hunt Easter eggs and coins at Ruffner Park, 152 Harrison St., in Galena. The event begins at 1 p.m. sharp, rain or shine. Be prompt because the event is over quickly.

More than 2,200 eggs will be prepared with 10,000 pieces of candy as well as pennies. The Easter Egg Hunt will be divided into age groups for infants-4 years old, 5-7 years old, and 8-10 years old. The 5-7 year olds and 8-10 year olds also can participate in a nickel and candy toss. Ages 11-14 can participate in a Scavenger Hunt for 25 presidential dollars.

One child in each age group will be lucky enough to find a big egg that qualifies them for a special Easter basket prize. Each child will receive a gift and can visit with the Easter bunny.

Other Council News

Public Service Director Scott Jamison reported to Council that the Village is updating its Comprehensive Master Plan. The last plan was created in 1994 and an update was started by a consultant in 2004 but was never completed. The Zoning and Planning Commission began informal review of several chapters in March.

Council discussed renting the Ruffner Park shelter house June 12-29 to Victory Harvest Church from Sunbury. The church will be shooting an "Art in the Park" movie at the park.

Levy on May Ballot

The Village will have a replacement two-mill tax levy on the May ballot. The tax will cost Village residents $5.11/ month or $61.26/year per $100,000 in property valuation.

Be sure you are registered so you can vote. You may download a voter registration card at http://www.co.delaware.oh.us/boe/vr.asp. The form must be received or postmarked by the 30th day before the election which is Monday, April 5.

BST&G Dedicates New Truck

The BST&G Fire Department dedicated their new fire truck in March complete with a Fallen Heroes Memorial mural.

Sewer Bills

Second quarter sewer bills will be sent out on May 3 and will be due by June 10. Sewer fees are set up on a quarterly

Galena Dates

The following are Village Council and committee meeting dates as well as other local events. Village meetings are open to the public and are at 7 p.m. in the basement of the Municipal Building, 9 W. Columbus St., unless otherwise stated.

April 2	Trash Day
April 3	Easter Egg Hunt, 1 pm, Ruffner Park
April 9, 16	Trash Days
April 21	Zoning & Planning Commission
April 23	Trash Day
April 26	Council Meeting
April 30	Trash Day

billing cycle to save money. Residential bills are $121.35 per quarter. Be sure to pay on time to avoid penalties and further action.

Customers have several options for payment:

- Mail payments to Water Quality Management at 161 S. Liberty St., Powell, OH 43065. Call them with any questions at 614-781-9376.
- Set up monthly sewer bill payments with no additional fees at the Delaware County Bank's Galena branch. Bring your sewer bill with you the first time.
- Set up automatic payments to have $40.45 debited from your checking account at any bank on the 8th of the month. Forms are available in the Village offices and on the village's web site under local links/sewers: http://www.galenaohio.org/link.html#sewer.

Only Rain Down the Drain

Many people think the greatest threats to our rivers are from industry or wastewater treatment plants. Fortunately, the Clean Water Act has been successful in reducing these sources of pollution.

We, as members of our community, are now important actors in reclaiming and preserving our streams for wildlife, recreation, drinking water, quality of life, and as a legacy for our children.

How do our behaviors influence water quality? Storm drains (storm sewers) on streets and in parking lots do not end at a wastewater treatment plant, but at the closest river or stream. They carry everything the rain has picked up along its path, including litter, chemicals and excess nutrients. You can actually see the results of your efforts to remove these pollutants as they move from yard to street to storm drain to river.

What We Can Do . . .

In the Yard

Plant grass or groundcover in areas of bare soil. Rain can carry large amounts of soil to a storm drain or stream even on gentle slopes. Eroded soil is the major pollutant in Ohio's rivers.

Remove yard waste and leaves from street gutters and storm drains. This organic material decomposes in streams and decreases the oxygen necessary for aquatic life.

Minimize the use of fertilizers and consider non-chemical pest management. Apply chemicals in dry weather and water sparingly to keep them in your yard. Sweep from sidewalks and driveways back into the yard. For more information: http://ohioline.osu.edu/hyg-fact/4000/4031.html.

Bag pet waste and throw it in the trash. It contains nitrogen, phosphorous and harmful bacteria and parasites which pollute our streams. Never hose it down a storm drain.

Direct roof drains to the yard, a rain barrel, or rain garden instead of to driveways, streets or storm drains. For information on rain gardens, visit www.franklinswcd.org.

...In the Garage

Wash your car on grass or gravel, or use commercial car washes because they are required to recycle water and send it to a wastewater treatment plant. Car wash water carries soap, dirt, and grease down the storm drain to the nearest stream.

Use a broom instead of a hose to clean parking areas. Use kitty litter to soak up auto leaks or chemical spills, then sweep up, double bag, and put it in the trash.

Recycle used oil at Advance Auto Parts, AutoZone and Napa auto-parts stores and Jiffy Lube Service Centers.

...Around the House

Treat oil-based paint, thinners, solvents and polishes as household hazardous waste. Latex paint is water-based so rinse brushes in a sink. Allow unneeded latex paint to dry and throw it in the trash.

Store all chemicals in a dry place protected from the rain. Household hazardous waste must be properly disposed of to prevent pollution.

Decide if and when you need heavy duty cleaning power. Some household cleaners are difficult for wastewater treatment plants to remove. Phosphates in some dishwasher soaps and the antibacterial ingredient triclosan are examples of this.

– This information is from the Ohio Environment Protection Agency's Ohio Environmental Education Fund.

Remember that it is illegal to hook your sump pump, down spouts, or storm sewer into the Village's sewer system. The Village will conduct smoke testing and illegal hookups will be disconnected. If you have questions, contact the Village Offices for more information.

Spring Yard Chores

One of the great rewards of spring is getting outside in the fresh air and cleaning up your yard. Composting is an effective way to dispose of weeds and yard clippings.

Composting

All organic matter eventually decomposes. Composting speeds the process by providing an ideal environment for bacteria and other decomposing microorganisms. The final product, humus or compost, looks and feels like fertile garden soil. This dark, crumbly, earthy-smelling stuff works wonders on soil and provides vital nutrients for your plants.

Decomposing organisms consist of bacteria, fungi, and larger organisms such as worms, sow bugs, nematodes, and numerous others. Decomposing organisms need four key elements to thrive: nitrogen, carbon, moisture, and oxygen.

For best results, mix materials high in nitrogen (clover and fresh grass clippings) and those high in carbon (dried leaves and twigs). If there is not a good supply of nitrogen-rich material, a handful of general lawn fertilizer will help the nitrogen-carbon ratio. Moisture is provided by rain, but you may need to water or cover the pile to keep it damp but not saturated. Turning or mixing the pile provides oxygen and yields faster decomposition.

Materials you can add include leaves, grass clippings, straw, woody brush, vegetable and fruit scraps, coffee grounds, livestock manure, sawdust, and shredded paper. Do not use diseased plants, meat scraps or dog or cat manure which can carry disease.

– This information is from www.friendsofalumcreek.org. The article is continued on the Backyard Conservation link.

Remember, chipper day will be back in May so you can save your limbs up to 4". Mulch First, 725 N. Kintner Parkway in Sunbury, also accepts tree trimmings.

Electronic News

The newsletter is available online or can be e-mailed directly. Contact admin assistant@galenaohio.org to be added.

Village Contacts

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web:	www.galenaohio.org
In an emergency, dial	**911**
BST&G Fire Dept.	965-3841
Big-O Refuse	888-924-2446
Cable: Time-Warner	800-617-4311
Columbia Gas	800-344-4077
Del-Co Water	548-7746
Dog Warden	368-1915
Electric: AEP	800-277-2177
Galena Post Office	965-2371
Health Dept.	740-368-1700
	www.delawarehealth.org
Immediate Urgent Care, 101D W. Cherry St., Sunbury,	965-8305
Mayor Tom Hopper	965-1024
Phone: Embarq	800-407-5411
RITA (income tax)	800-860-7482
web:	www.ritaohio.com
Sheriff	833-2800
Sunbury Post Office	965-2471
Wastewater Plant	740-602-1234
Lift Station Emergencies	740-972-8646
Water Quality Mgt. (sewer billing)161 S. Liberty St., Powell, OH 43065	614-781-9376