



## BRUSH PICKUP WHERE DOES THE TOWNSHIP STAND



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The Township places the safety and welfare of all of its citizens as its highest priority and the public works department continues to uphold this priority through the completion of key infrastructure projects. The maintenance and repair of the infrastructure is a critical, township-wide safety issue and definitely does affect all residents of the Township. Additionally, the Public Works department takes responsibility for such things as mowing, street sweeping, and snow removal, as well as three (3) brush pickups and a township wide 'household item' pickup in September each year.

Over the years the township has evolved from a tranquil less populated community to a mature sought after residential community. During this period of growth occasionally the township had directed the Public Works department to perform fragmented, inconsistent brush pickup, in an effort to serve intermittent requests for additional debris pickup. When the public works crews are diverted to perform brush pickup during 'construction season' it severely compromises infrastructure projects throughout the township.

The Township has responded to specific needs following storms in the past, occasionally to the detriment or delay of the necessary continuing infrastructure repair. One or two summers ago we had devastating flooding from a week of torrential late spring rain. Once the flooding of roadways was under control, the township did provide strategically located dumpsters for all the township residents to utilize, but we could do this without interrupting other maintenance and repair projects. There was a financial cost to the township to rent the dumpsters, but we did not utilize road crews.

Nonetheless, several residents have assumed that the township has a regular "storm damage" pickup, and in fact a few residents have been dragging back yard debris to the front yard. This has continued now well past the actual storm.

Recently, early summer storms produced a similar situation with some areas of the

township incurring a significant amount of damage to private property. Immediately following the storms the Public Works Department removed all 'downed' trees from the public roadways and then continued to clear 'storm damaged township owned property'. Again, crews were not removed from their on-going infrastructure projects to perform a township-wide brush pickup. Instead property owners were encouraged to properly care for their private property debris. Private property owners gathered varying degrees of debris from their private property- ranging from monstrous downed trees to small strewn branches, for disposal. A variety of disposal methods were utilized from private tree removal companies to local trash removal providers.

The past policy of the Township and the policy that continues has been two-fold: (1) clear the roadways of storm-related trees, branches, and other hazardous debris; and (2) remove the debris which is in the right of way and for which the township is otherwise responsible. In other words, the first issue obviously is safety and removing all hazards, and this involves not just the road crews but also the police and fire departments (downed power lines, etc.) Clearing the roadways is an emergency situation. By law, the township is responsible for maintaining the right-of-way, which includes the roads and small strips of land adjacent to the roads. When a tree is planted in the right of way, the township is responsible. When the tree is not in the right-of-way it is the homeowners responsibility.

The township will continue to provide the winter holiday pickup, a brush pickup in April and in September along with the annual General Household Large Item Pick up. (see separate article) However, we hope that residents will not wait until September to make arrangements to remove debris in their yard. **As a reminder, it is unlawful and a hazard to the general public to stack private yard waste or debris in the roadway or public right of way**, other than scheduled brush pick up periods. Brush must be in lengths no longer than 6 feet and/or 6 inches in diameter and in a neat, manageable pile.

## SYLVANIA TOWNSHIP ANNUAL RESIDENTIAL LARGE ITEM PICK-UP STARTING SEPTEMBER 8, 2008

Sylvania Township will hold its annual Residential Large Item Pick Up September 8 – 11, 2008. ***THIS PICK-UP IS FOR RESIDENTIAL ONLY (COMMERCIAL ITEMS WILL NOT BE PICKED UP).***

**Crews will provide one (1) pass through the community.** To avoid being missed, the Public Works Manager requires all items be placed at the curb or edge of the road by **Sunday, September 7**. This service is available to Township residents only and all are invited to take advantage of this program.

### ITEMS THAT ***WILL BE PICKED UP:***

BED SPRINGS	DRUMS (EMPTY 55 GALLONS)	MATRESSES
BIKES	DRYERS	SINKS
BUNDLED BOOKS & MAGAZINES	FENCING	STOVES
CARPETING	FURNITURE	TELEVISIONS
COMPUTERS	GAS GRILLS (WITH PROPANE TANK REMOVED)	TOILETS
CONTAINERS (EMPTY)	GATES	TOYS
DISHWASHERS	LANDSCAPE TIMBERS	WASHERS
DOORS	LAWN MOWERS	WINDOWS

Small loose material should be placed in some type of container other than plastic bags.

**Please limit large appliances to one per household.**

**Brush will also be picked up at this time. It must be no longer than 6 feet and no larger than 6 inches in diameter. Please keep brush in a neat, manageable pile and do not put brush in the roadways. Brush is a ONE-TIME Pick-up and requires approximately 4 weeks to complete.**

### ITEMS THAT ***WILL NOT BE PICKED UP:***

AIR CONDITIONERS	FUEL OIL TANKS	NEWSPAPERS
AUTO PARTS	GARAGE DOORS	PAINT OR LIQUID OF ANY KIND
BATTERIES	GARBAGE BAGS	PROPANE BOTTLES
BOATS	GARDEN REFUSE	RAILROAD TIES
CONSTRUCTION or BUILDING MATERIALS	GRASS	REFRIGERATORS
DEHUMIDIFIERS	IRON OR STEEL PIPE	TIRES
EARTH	LEAVES	TREE STUMPS
FREEZERS	MANUFACTURED WASTE	VEHICLES

## WHERE TO GO FOR HELP

To help homeowners find resources to deal with storm damage debris, here is information that you may find helpful:

- "Clean Wood Recycling" is managed by the Lucas County Solid Waste District and offers free drop-off of yard debris to all township residents. Phone: 419-843-9663. Address: 6505 W. Bancroft
- Many refuse companies offer yard/branch curbside pickup. Some offer this as part of their regular service, some charge extra.
- Landscape and tree companies also offer this service.
- Private Homeowners Insurance Company Information
- Sylvania Senior Center- 'yard helpers' for senior citizens
- United Way 211 for assistance for senior citizens

# ROADreport



## 2008 Road Department Projects:

### Resurfacing - Subcontract

	Miles
1 Mitchaw Road	0.49
2 Westchester Woods Subdivision	1.69
3 Allen Road - Joint w/ Richfield TWP - Lead Agency	0.23
4 Annual Resurfacing (Sub-Contract):	
a Blossman Road, Holland Sylvania to McCord Road	1.02
Add; turn lane(s) at Holland Sylvania w/ drainage & curbs	
b Bonsels Pkwy, Holland Sylvania to Moffat Drive	0.50
c Chaney Drive	0.51
d Covington Ct. - curb work	0.08
e Dennison Drive	0.53
f Fairbanks Drive:	
i Central Avenue to Blossman Road	0.50
ii Red Oak to Chaney Drive	0.06
g Marsrow Ave.	0.34
h Piero Ave.	0.34
i Rose Glenn Drive - curb work	0.34
j Sweetbriar Ct	0.15
k Warner Ave.	0.34
l Westcastle	0.15
m Westmar Ct	0.19
n Black Oak	0.16
o Red Oak	0.26
p Pin Oak	0.05
q Scarlet Oak	0.07
r Huntingfield	0.05
<b>Total Resurfacing Subcontract Mileage</b>	<b>8.05</b>

residential roads, 32 miles of County roads, and 10 miles of State Highways, totaling 173 miles of roadways. Our community is landscaped largely with wooded areas. These trees are very beautiful and a true nature's jewel, until the leaves drop and fall to the ground. Unfortunately, Mother Nature decides when the leaves fall, and some years the leaves drop late in the season and all at once. The "soft wood" trees drop their leaves the earliest. As the leaves fall, the Road Department devotes its entire staff to operate 5 crews during the leaf pickup season. Each crew consists of 2 full time employees and 1 or 2 part time/temporary employees. Early snowfalls and above average rain are two factors that spell trouble for leaf pickup. These attributes cause the leaves to become saturated and "heavy" to pick up, thus causing inefficiencies. Our preferred and most efficient method of picking up leaves is utilizing "vacuum tow behind" type of equipment. However, if we encounter above average snow falls and rain, then our crews switch to front loader buckets and dump trucks. We are aware that it is frustrating waiting for your neighborhood pickup. The average truck hauls 14 cubic yards of leaves and the average leaf pickup season produces 1800 truck loads. Our crews work 55 hours per week during the leaf pickup program. During a difficult leaf pickup season, it has been necessary to subcontract some of the leaf removal.

We encourage residents to log on to our web page for schedule updates.

(Look for the Leaf Icon on the Home Page @ [www.sylvaniatownship.com](http://www.sylvaniatownship.com))

### **Finally, here are a few helpful items that residents can do to assist in the leaf pickup program:**

1. The most important suggestion is to separate leaves from grass clippings, brush, and other debris.
2. Place your leaves along the side of the street as close to the edge of the roadway as possible.
3. Place your leaves away from obstacles such as mailboxes, fire hydrants, landscaping timbers, and landscaping rocks. These obstacles become hidden within the leaf piles and can cause injury to the machinery and employees.
4. Prior to raking your leaves or scheduling your lawn service, log on to our web page and see the latest leaf pickup schedule.
5. Keep in mind our **Free Drop Off location** at 6505 W. Bancroft Rd., just east of McCord Rd.

## DOWNED POWER LINES

The following information has been taken from Toledo Edison's Web site.

Touching a live power line can cause serious injury or death. You cannot tell by looking whether a line is "hot" or not. Even if a downed line is not actively sparking, always assume it is carrying electricity.

If you come upon a downed power line:

- 1) Do not go near the wire or anything it is touching.
- 2) Warn others to stay away.
- 3) Call Police Dispatch (419/882-2055) or call Toledo Edison's toll-free, 1-888-544-4877).

It is important to provide the exact location when reporting an electric emergency. eg. street name, house number, nearest cross street, phone number nearest the location. If on private property, give location (front, side or rear).

## LEAF PICKUP SCHEDULED FOR MID OCTOBER

The Township plans to begin Leaf Pick Up in mid October and continue through mid December. This will be handled on a patrol basis. It generally takes 3 weeks to cycle through the Township. At the end of the cycle, crews will start over again at the beginning of the route. Depending on weather conditions, the goal is to perform at least three (3) cycles. Leaves should be placed at the curb side or along the edge of the street and free of brush and garden waste. **PLEASE DO NOT PLACE LEAVES IN THE STREET OR IN PLASTIC BAGS!**

Inclement weather and temporary equipment failure makes it somewhat difficult to predict the location of crews at any specific time.

The Township's leaf pickup program consists of servicing 131 miles of

**SYLVANIA TOWNSHIP  
CLIP'N SAVE CALENDAR**

**Brush & Christmas Tree Pick Up**

Begins January 2 through  
mid March  
Patrol Basis

**Spring Brush Pickup**

*(Storm damaged brush and leaves)*  
Starts 3rd week of April  
One (1) Time Pickup Only

**Fall Brush Pickup and General  
Household Pickup**

*(Storm damaged brush and leaves -  
collected with General Household Pick up)*  
Begins 1st Monday  
after Labor Day - September

**Leaf Pick Up**

Starts mid October

**AUGUST**

- 4 Board of Zoning Appeals – 6:00 p.m.
- 5 Board of Township Trustees – 4:00 p.m.
- 19 Board of Township Trustees – 6:00 p.m.
- 27 Zoning Commission – 6:00 p.m.

**SEPTEMBER**

- 2 Board of Township Trustees – 4:00 p.m.
- 8 Board of Zoning Appeals - 6:00 p.m.
- 16 Board of Township Trustees – 6:00 p.m.
- 24 Zoning Commission – 6:00 p.m.

**OCTOBER**

- 6 Board of Zoning Appeals – 6:00 p.m.
- 7 Board of Township Trustees – 4:00 p.m.
- 21 Board of Township Trustees – 6:00 p.m.
- 22 Zoning Commission – 6:00 p.m.

*Meeting dates and times are subject to change.*

PRSRST STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
TOLEDO, OH  
PERMIT No. 1027

4927 Holland-Sylvania Rd.  
Sylvania, Ohio 43560



**TRUSTEES**

Pam Hanley

Carol Conrada

DeeDee Liedel

**FISCAL OFFICER**

David J. Simko

**ADMINISTRATOR**

Hugh Thomas

**ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR**

Susan Wood

**PLANNING & ZONING MANAGER**

Tim DeWitt

**PUBLIC WORKS MANAGER**

Gregory W. Huffman

**CHIEF OF POLICE**

Robert Metzger

**FIRE CHIEF**

Frederick Welsh

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