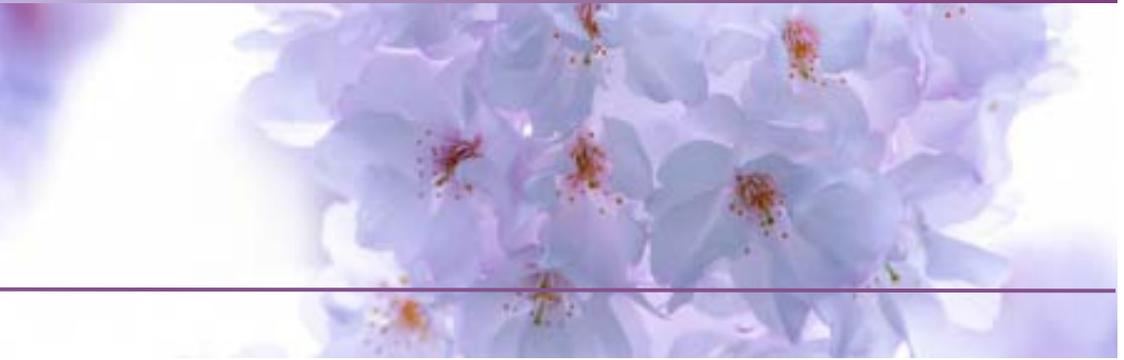


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*Spring 2014*  
*Volume 39*

**Trustees: John McGraw ♦ Lloyd Acres ♦ Matthew Beamer**  
**Fiscal Officer: Ron Campbell**

## *Asian Longhorned Beetle: The Threat*

Living in Union Township, you may have heard about the Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB) infestation in Bethel and Tate townships. No, this isn't the little green insect that's killed so many ash trees in the Tri-state and elsewhere. This is a new and different pest, and its damage is worse.

The Asian Longhorned Beetle was discovered in Bethel in June, 2011. Smaller populations of these beetles were also discovered in Monroe Township and Stonelick/Batavia townships just east of Amelia-Olive Branch Road by U.S. Route 50. To help control the pest, more than 60 square miles in these communities were put under state and federal quarantines, which means that firewood, downed trees, and other wood materials cannot be taken out of the regulated areas without a permit. In addition, 35,756 infested and adjacent trees have also been removed. Over 1,000,000 additional trees in these areas have also been inspected and found negative for the beetle, so progress is being made, but the threat from this pest is still very real.

ALB is an invasive insect that feeds on and eventually kills certain species of hardwood trees. It doesn't belong here and we don't want it here. The trees the beetle attacks become weakened, structurally unsafe, and eventually they die. Unfortunately, the hard truth is that once a tree is infested by the beetle, it must be removed to save the others. The threat from this pest is just too great to do nothing.

Here's how this insect kills a tree from the inside out: in her lifetime, the adult female chews up to 90 shallow egg sites on a host tree's bark, and lays one egg in each. Eggs are the size of a grain of white rice and hatch in roughly two weeks. The new worm-like larvae tunnel into and through the outer growing layers of the tree. After several weeks, larvae then tunnel deeper, heading into the woody tissue, where they continue to feed and develop over the winter. Larvae can become as large as your pinky finger. In the spring, beetle larvae develop into adult insects. In early summer and over the warmer months, adult beetles chew their way out, leaving dime-sized, perfectly round exit holes. The beetle begins to emerge in Ohio as early as May, to mate and lay more eggs over the summer, and thus the cycle occurs all over again.

We are asking you to inspect your trees and the trees in your neighborhood for signs of ALB damage and report any suspicious findings. The sooner we know about the infested trees, the sooner we can save more trees from being lost.

Adult beetles are most active during the summer and early fall. Although amazingly well-camouflaged, they can be seen on trees, branches, walls, outdoor furniture, cars, sidewalks, and in pool filters. While this insect may look threatening, it is harmless to humans and pets. The beetle has these unique characteristics:

- ... 1 to 1 ½ inches in length
- ... Long antennae banded in black and white (longer than the insect's body)
- ... Shiny, jet black body with random white spots
- ... Six legs
- ... Legs may appear bluish in color



*Continued on page 2*

# Spotlight on business

## www.union-township.oh.us

The Union Township website has a new look. Easier to read and more user-friendly, you will find department categories at the top and Quick Links and calendars on the right, among other changes.

The last website was developed in 2009. The core components had not been updated, and the system used outdated architecture. Security enhancements were unavailable.

The new website uses technology not only for standard browsers but for mobile and tablet connectivity. Updated security features, as well as enhanced calendar and document functions, are welcome additions to the site. Up-to-date technology features a breaking news article display, a weather widget, all new calendars that are updated real time, and a new document archive.

Although the calendars are not interactive, they are a valuable resource for those who want to see what facility availability looks like at any given time. Instead of going through a series of e-mails or phone calls, for instance, gym users can look up what is available and call to make reservations in one easy step.

The Mt. Moriah Cemetery search function allows visitors to locate graves and to add notes and even photos for genealogical purposes.

The UT Business Link is a one-stop shop that has the potential to link up customers and businesses. One minute is all it takes to enter your information. As the website drives more visitors, your company can draw from this increased traffic. Don't miss this opportunity to grow with the township.

Check out the new website. We think you'll be pleased with the changes.

QUICKLINKS
Meeting Documents
Resource Documents
Newsletters
Mt. Moriah Cemetery
Cemetery Search
Post Office
Contact Us
Master Calendar
UTTV Schedule
Gym Schedule
Meeting Room Schedule
FAQ

*Continued from page 1*

### Asian Longhorned Beetle

In addition to looking for the beetle, you can search for signs of infestation, including one or more of the following:

- ... Round exit holes in the tree, from 1/4" in diameter up to a little bit smaller than a dime
- ... Shallow divots in the bark where the eggs are laid
- ... Sawdust-like material, called frass, on the ground and the branches
- ... Sap seeping from wounds in the tree
- ... The loss of a large branch from the tree or dieback in the canopy



Unfortunately, a successful eradication involves very difficult realities. The toughest of these includes removal of the infested trees and other exposed trees. This is not only a complicated issue but an emotional one, too. When the goal is to protect our nation's natural resources from threats, the concept of removing trees is a difficult one. But the threat from this invasive insect is far too severe to do nothing. The 13 types of trees the insect is known to infest make up a sizeable portion of the trees in our woods and landscapes and similar areas over the eastern half of North America. In Clermont County, the beetle has attacked maples, buckeyes, elms, willows, poplars, birches, and sycamore. It also attacks ash, Goldenrain trees, hackberries, Katsura trees, mimosas, and mountain ash.

We're in this fight together. Please help stop the Asian Longhorned Beetle's destruction by checking your trees and reporting any signs or symptoms of an infestation immediately. To report a possible infestation or for more information, call the ALB Eradication Program office in Amelia at 513-381-7180, toll free 1-866-702-9938, or visit [www.AsianLonghornedBeetle.com](http://www.AsianLonghornedBeetle.com).

**These are full-sized (full-grown) larvae in the interior (heartwood) of the tree. They vary from 1 to 1-1/2" long. The larger one is straddling a hole in the tree—that's the chamber it created when it tunneled its way through.**



## WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU CALL 9-1-1

In 2013, Union Township dispatchers answered 20,721 calls to 9-1-1. Being prepared and knowing what to expect can make a stressful situation a little easier.

When your 9-1-1 call is answered, you will be asked three important questions. The first question will be, "What is the address of your emergency?" After your location is given, the dispatcher knows where help is needed no matter what happens during the call.

Next, you will be asked, "What is the phone number you are calling from?" This allows the dispatcher to call back to gather information if the line is disconnected or the cell call is dropped. The dispatcher will verify the address and phone number based on what is shown on his computer screen. If you are calling from a cell phone, your address does not appear on the screen. Be aware of your location and be prepared to describe where you are. Make sure to practice your address and phone number with your children in case they ever need to call 9-1-1.

Third, you will be asked, "What is your emergency?" Be specific and tell the dispatcher exactly what is happening.

During the remainder of your call, the dispatcher will ask follow-up questions related to your emergency and will give you instructions. Try to be patient and listen to what you are being asked. Do your best to stay calm and keep your answers brief

and to the point. These questions help to better assess the situation and gather important information for responding units.

At this point, help is already on the way to you and is not being delayed by the questions. If you are calling to report a crime, be prepared to give descriptions of people and vehicles involved. If you are reporting a medical or fire emergency, you will be asked to answer simple questions about the patient or the fire. Answer to the best of your ability. It's okay to say you don't know if you are unsure.

After all necessary information has been gathered, the dispatcher will give you instructions. You will be told what to do to stay safe and prepare for responding units. If your call is for a medical emergency, you will be given instructions to help the patient until help arrives.

Remember not to hang up until the dispatcher tells you to.

**Remember to use 911 for emergencies only.** Some examples of when to call are:

- ... a serious medical problem
- ... any type of fire
- ... any life threatening situation
- ... crimes in progress

Union Township Communications is staffed 24 hours a day. The non-emergency phone number is 752-1230.



## Bulletin Board

### Neighborhood Watch Presentation

Sgt. Tony Rees will host a Neighborhood Watch meeting at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 16, at the Civic Center. This hour long class is free to township residents and will include lots of useful information on observing and reporting crime, tips to avoid becoming a victim of crime, and valuable steps to crime-proof your home and neighborhood. To register, call Sgt. Rees 753-2247.

### Spring Junk Days

Union Township will hold Spring Junk Days from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, April 28 through May 2, and from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 3, at the Service Department complex, behind the Police Department at 4312 Glen Este-Withamsville Road. Items can include furniture, clothing and appliances, including refrigerators and air conditioners. Items that cannot be accepted are tires, batteries, used motor oil, paints, hazardous waste, yard waste, home oil tanks and insulation. Proof of residency is required. Please contact the Service Department at 753-2221 with any questions.

### Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Picnic

The annual Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Picnic is set for noon Sunday, June 29, at Veterans' Memorial Park. All alumni are invited. Please RSVP to Sgt. Tony Rees at 753-2247.

### Save the Date—Police Night Out

Formerly known as National Night Out, Police Night Out will be from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 5, at Veterans' Memorial Park. This is the eighth year the police department has hosted this free festival designed to heighten crime and prevention awareness, generate support for and participation in local anti-crime

efforts, strengthen neighborhood spirit and police community partnerships, and send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back. Lots of food, games and activities for the whole family. Plan on getting there early!

### Citizen's Police Academy

This year's Citizen's Police Academy will begin on Aug. 21. If you are interested, watch for more details in your local media and the summer newsletter.

### Lantern Lighting Ceremony

The 7th Annual Lantern Lighting Ceremony is set for Sept. 20 at Mt. Moriah Cemetery. This is one of the most popular events the Board of Trustees hosts. Look for more details in your local media and the summer newsletter.

### Women's Self-Defense Class

Dates for this popular class will be announced later in the summer. Look for an early fall date.

### Children's Gun Safety Class

The Union Township Police Department will host a Gun Safety class for children from ages 6 to 13 at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 19, at the department, 4312 Glen Este-Withamsville Road. The class will be approximately two to three hours long and will cover topics such as the safe handling of hand guns, shotguns and rifles, as well as the nomenclature of these guns. This class will be taught by the agency's certified firearms instructors and gun armorers and **will not** consist of the firing of any weapons. This class is open to the public and is free of charge. Donuts, juice and coffee will be provided. To register for the class, please contact Sgt. Tony Rees at 753-2247.

## Make these spring safety tips standard operation procedure!

**A**fter enduring the long and hard Cincinnati winter, many of us are looking forward to a springtime routine. Spring, like all seasons, arrives with its own set of inherent hazards. Whether performing spring cleaning or working with equipment in the yard, there are several things to consider and steps that can be taken to ensure a safe and healthy spring.

These safety tips are tried and true, but bear repeating. Take a little time to make them part of your routine.

### Grilling

Do NOT use a grill in garages or under wooden balcony overhangs. The use of grills inside puts you at risk of fire and carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning. Inspect propane tanks to ensure that no damage or leaks exist.



### Ladders

Whether cleaning out your gutters or making a roof repair, ladders are essential for most households. Unfortunately, it is estimated that ladders result in about 150,000 visits to hospital emergency rooms each year. To reduce the possibility of ladder related injury, inspect ladders for loose rungs or other damage prior to each use. Follow weight restrictions and avoid extended reaching that can lead to imbalance and falls.

### Lawn Care

Lawn mowers pose a serious hazard and result in some 60,000 emergency room visits each year. It is essential that yard debris (sticks, rocks, toys) be removed prior to using a lawn mower. Always wear shoes and proper fitting clothes. When the lawn mower is not in use, leave the gas in the OFF position and be sure to store approved containers of gas in areas away from children, pets and homes. Never leave a running mower unattended. As with all outside work, be sure to drink plenty of fluid to avoid dehydration. Make proper use of gloves, safety glasses and other protective clothing. Remember, when not in use, power equipment should be stored unplugged.



Poison Ivy

### Poisonous Plants

Familiarize yourself (and family) with what poison ivy and other common poisonous plants look like. A simple Google search will assist in familiarizing you with common characteristics of poison ivy, oak, sumac and other potentially harmful plants that can be found most anywhere.



Poison Sumac

### Spring Cleaning

Always keep cleaning products and all other chemicals out of reach of children and pets.

Properly discard medications and chemicals that are no longer needed. Prevent the accumulation of combustible items, such as newspapers and rags, around heat sources like dryers and water heaters. Change smoke detector batteries at daylight savings time.

### Water Safety

Water activities bring enjoyment for many families but do come with an element of danger. Heavy rain and thawing of winter snow can make local streams and rivers very hazardous. Avoid getting near swift-moving water as it can sweep people and vehicles away with no warning. Remember that even with warm air temperatures, water can be cold enough to cause hypothermia. When boating, wear life vests, have all required safety equipment, and be cautious of other boaters and objects in waters.

### Weather

With spring comes frequent lightning storms and other weather related concerns.

Check local weather reports for potential storms before venturing outdoors or near water. Prepare for significant events such as tornadoes by knowing where to seek shelter and have an emergency kit prepared that should include a minimum of a flashlight, radio and batteries.

# THE UNION TOWNSHIP AMPHITHEATRE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

After Midnight 8 p.m. May 31	CPO Cincinnati Brass Band 7:30 p.m. June 7	Sycamore Community Band 7 p.m. July 5
Leroy Ellington & The E-Funk Band 8 p.m. July 19	Eastfork Junction 8 p.m. July 26	Chuck Brisbin & The Tuna Project 8 p.m. August 9
Clermont Philharmonic 7:30 p.m. August 16	Burning River Band 8 p.m. August 23	The Gamut 8 p.m. August 30
Stagger Lee 8 p.m. September 6	Robin Lacy & DeZydeco 7:30 p.m. September 13	

## Some home projects may need permits

Springtime signals an unthawing from the winter deep freeze and a desire to make improvements to our properties before the mercury rises to those summertime extreme temperatures so often found in the area. With the arrival of spring, the Planning & Zoning Department would like to issue a friendly reminder to obtain the necessary permits prior to construction of property improvements. Aside from new homes, sheds, attached or detached garages, fences, swimming pools, decks and room additions are some of the most common projects requiring the issuance of zoning certificates. Similarly, new businesses or relocating businesses must obtain permits as well to document compliance with law. Failure to obtain permits in a timely fashion can lead to unnecessary delays in gaining an approved occupancy. If special circumstances apply, our staff will most happily assist you in navigating the regulatory approval process.

However, some projects may not require a permit. For

instance, as a homeowner, you may remodel, refinish or alter the inside of your structure without zoning permits as long as you do not enlarge the building or convert any space into separate living quarters or into space for a business purpose. Some landscaping projects may not require a permit either. Most new construction or interior remodeling projects will also require building permits, so always be sure to contact Clermont County Permit Central as well to see if additional approvals will be required. The Union Township Planning and Zoning Department is available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. to provide answers to all your permitting questions. Please contact us today to discuss your upcoming project, so you can break ground and beat the summer heat!

For more information, call 753-2300.



Union Township Board of Trustees  
 John McGraw  
 Lloyd Acres  
 Matthew Beamer  
 4350 Aicholtz Road.  
 Union Township, Ohio 45245

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Union Township, Clermont County

**Monthly Meetings**

Trustees	2nd & 4th Thursday	7 p.m.
Zoning Commission	2nd Wednesday	7 p.m.
Board of Zoning Appeals	1st Thursday	7 p.m.

**Contacts**

**EMERGENCY NUMBER**

**911**

Trustees & Administration <a href="http://www.union-township.oh.us">http://www.union-township.oh.us</a>	752-1741
Fiscal Officer	753-2216
Planning & Zoning Department	753-2300
Fire Department <a href="http://www.utfire-ems.org">http://www.utfire-ems.org</a>	528-4446
Police Department <a href="http://www.utpd.org">http://www.utpd.org</a>	752-1230
Service Department	753-2221
Post Office	947-7330
UTTV	947-7336

**Don't forget** to make the Union Township U.S. Postal Service Contract Unit your one-stop shop for all your postal needs. Stamps, envelopes, packages, priority mail, express mail. Conveniently located on the lower level of the Civic Center.

**Stop in and see us today!!**



**We're on the web!**

[www.union-township.oh.us](http://www.union-township.oh.us)