

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2026



Happy summer, neighbors! While we missed our timing of the spring newsletter, we are hitting the ground running for the sunny months ahead. As we move further into the season, Franklin Township continues to see progress. In this issue, you'll find updates on our new pickleball courts, ongoing road and bridge construction, some Franklin fun, along with a few highlights from the Ohio Township Association Convention attended by all three trustees and our Road Superintendent. Our fiscal officer, Lise Russell also attended the 2026 Local Government Officials Conference. We are pleased to share that we have continued to enhance safety measures, including new cameras at all three township parks. Additional updates include the brush chipping reminder, update on a strong turnout for our 4th year in offering dumpster drop off in aiding your spring cleanup, and information again on permit requirements during this busy time of year for outdoor projects.

PICKLEBALL COURTS



Let's play ball, pickleball courts are open for play! We're thrilled to have qualified for the grant that made this new recreational amenity possible for our Franklin Township residents. A special thank you to Jenny for her hard work in securing the grant funding for our new pickleball courts. We appreciate her commitment to Franklin Township. We also want to thank our hard working Franklin Township crew who work so hard for this township.



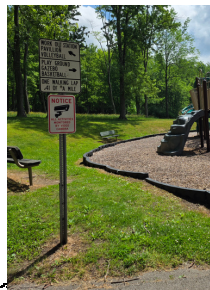
1119 Ravenna Road

SAFETY

In our commitment to enhance community safety in the township, we have recently added cameras to all three township parks for the safety of our residents and to help protect all the great improvements made to the parks.

Jenny is at it again, working hard, applying for a Natureworks grant for a total rehab of the boardwalk at Chase Park. We are hopeful in getting some financial help in addressing the expense we have with the boardwalk.

The new weather siren is installed and **WORKING!** After the City of Akron Water Plant accidental chemical mixture hazard, we received a few calls asking why our residents were not notified. Please see the last page of our newsletter under important numbers and make sure you sign up for Kent Emergency Alerts.



Franklin Township maintains the majority of roadways within the boundaries of the township. However, both Portage County and the state of Ohio are responsible for some of the roads within the township. If you have questions or concerns about these roadways, please contact the appropriate agency.

State of Ohio Maintained Roads –
Contact

ODOT District 4 at
330-786-3100
State Route 43
State Route 59
State Route 261

ROAD AND BRIDGE WORK



Roadway Improvements for 2026: Westview, Woodway, Basswood and Thorndale.

Ravenna Road Bridge: The Portage County Engineer has given us a schedule of 2026-2027

Est. Construction Cost: \$2,666,665

Judson Road Bridge is open. The deck and the outdated channel cross-bracing was replaced with new structural supports.

Portage County Maintained Roads –
Contact the Portage County Engineer's
office at 330-296-6411

Brady Lake Road
Dawley Road
Diagonal Road
Ferguson Road
Lake Rockwell Road
Newcomer Road
Overlook Road
Ravenna Road
Redbrush Road
Summit Road

BUDGET AND EXPENSES

2027 FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP TAX BUDGET- EXHIBIT A

FUND:	2027 ESTIMATED REVENUES	2027 PERSONNEL EXPENSES	2027 OPERATING EXPENSES	TOTAL 2027 EXPENSES
1000 GENERAL FUND	\$ 787,100.00	\$ 344,075.00	\$ 357,525.00	\$ 701,600.00
2011 MOTOR VEHICLE TAX	\$ 15,500.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
2021 GASOLINE TAX	\$ 153,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 180,000.00	\$ 190,000.00
2031 ROAD & BRIDGE	\$ 870,000.00	\$ 502,200.00	\$ 356,300.00	\$ 858,500.00
2111 FIRE FUND	\$ 1,150,000.00	\$ 19,480.00	\$ 1,013,550.00	\$ 1,033,030.00
2231 PERMISSIVE TAX	\$ 98,000.00		\$ 130,000.00	\$ 130,000.00
2401 LEAF RECYCLING	\$ 115,000.00		\$ 115,000.00	\$ 115,000.00
2901 JEDD FUND	\$ 499,500.00		\$ 641,000.00	\$ 641,000.00
4301 SR59 IMPROVEMENT	\$ 75,000.00		\$ 75,000.00	\$ 75,000.00
4302 PHILLIPS PARK				\$ -
4303 CHASE PARK	\$ 166,000.00		\$ 166,000.00	\$ 166,000.00
4902 NOPEC FUND				\$ -
TOTALS:	\$ 3,929,100.00	\$ 882,755.00	\$ 3,042,375.00	\$ 3,925,130.00

OTA CONVENTION



The annual Ohio Township Association convention drew our full leadership team—including all three trustees and our road superintendent—into the thick of some of the state’s most pressing local debates. The leadership divided and conquered day-long classes to target different sessions with critical topics like proposed tax abolishment, the regional impact of incoming data centers, and staying ahead of ADA technology compliance.

FRANKLIN FUN



Franklin Township was proud to participate again in this year’s City of Kent Memorial Day parade, and the Portage DD Touch-a-Truck event, continuing to celebrate our community spirit and connection with our neighbors.

Save the date! The Brady Lake community welcomes all Franklin Township residents to Captain Brady Day—a once-annual, fun-filled tradition returning to bring community together again!



DID YOU KNOW?

PORTAGE COUNTY CENTER FOR HARD TO RECYCLE MATERIALS (CHaRM) is now open! CHaRM facilities provide outlets for materials that cannot go in curbside trash or recycling carts. Some of the acceptable items include appliances, scrap tires, cooking oil, plastic bags, electronics, paper shredding, automotive liquids, batteries and scrap metal.

Portage County Recycling
3588 Mogadore Road, Kent, Ohio 44240
330.678.8808

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 07:30 am – 04:00 pm
Recycling Drop-Offs Open 24/7

CHaRM Facility Hours: Mon or Thurs 10-2
First Monday of the Month 10-5 (Excl. Federal Holidays)
Household Hazardous Waste: First Monday 2-5 (Excl. Federal Holidays)

Prices – (cash or check)

TV's & CRT Monitors \$20

Printers – \$10

Tires – \$0.50

Farm Tires– \$1 – \$10 depending on size



WOOD CHIPPING 2026

Chipping starts the first week in April, June, August, and October. If we get a storm with high winds that bring down many limbs, we will be chipping. Remember, this is for storm limbs and MINOR tree pruning.

SPRING CLEANUP 2026



We really have a great crew! Shout out to our Franklin Township crew for their hard work. The team worked tirelessly unloading vehicles and trailers while efficiently filling four large dumpsters to the brim. This year marked our 4th annual spring clean up. Due to the response, we will continue to hold it again next spring. Residents were very appreciative of the crew's help and the township holding this annual event.

DO I NEED A PERMIT ?

- Fence – yes and privacy fences are not permitted in Franklin Township. All fences must be open 25 % to light and air. Maximum height is 6 feet for the back and side yards and 4 feet for the front yard.
- Driveway – You do not need a zoning permit for a driveway (concrete or otherwise)
- Roof – You do not need a zoning permit to replace a roof but you will need a building permit from the Portage County building department.
- Addition – Residential or Commercial additions do require a zoning permit and a building permit from the county.
- New Residential Dwellings and New Commercial structures do require a Zoning permit and a Building permit.
- Sign – Permanent signs do require a zoning permit. There are multiple size options with corresponding fees for the different sizes.
- Yard Sale Sign or any other temporary signage does require trustee approval but not a zoning permit. Temporary signage requests can be submitted during public comment at our bi-monthly meetings. They are held the second and fourth Tuesdays at our town hall at 7:00 pm. The address is 218 Goughler Ave. Kent, OH 44240
- Pools – All permanent above ground and in ground pools do require a Zoning permit.
- Temporary Above Ground Pools – Cannot be erected before May 1st and Must be dismantled by October 1st do not need a zoning permit. The maximum height is 4 feet. If left up past October 1st it becomes a permanent above ground pool and needs a zoning permit.
- Demolition – Both residential and Commercial demolitions do require a zoning permit and a demolition permit from Portage County.
- Well or Septic work – does not require a zoning permit however you will need a permit from Portage County
- Deck, Porch or Gazebo – You do need a zoning permit for a deck, porch or gazebo.
- Shed – You do need a zoning permit for any accessory structure
- Solar Panels – You do need a zoning permit for all solar systems mounted either in your yard or on your roof.
- A full list of zoning fees can be found at www.franklintownshipohio.org

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP

Trustees



Scott Swan
216-952-3477

trusteescottswan@gmail.com
Term runs through 12/31/2027



Glenn Russell
330-571-1985

Franklintwpgr@gmail.com
Term runs through 12/31/2029



Kellie Kapusta
330-388-9905

kelliekapustatruster@gmail.com
Term runs through 12/31/2029



Jenny August
Franklin Twp Admin.



Lise Russell
Fiscal Office



David Akerley
Road Superintendent



Joe Ciccozzi, Zoning Inspector
Zoning Inspector is by appt. only



Richard Smith
Deputy Fire Prevention Officer

We want to be effective in our communication with residents. Please forward an email address to Jenny August at franklintwpadm@gmail.com to be added to our list for future newsletters and updates.

The Franklin Township Trustees welcome residents to attend monthly Trustee meetings held every second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 7pm.

ESSENTIAL CONTACTS

Portage County Soil & Water (for flooding or drainage issues) 330-235-6815

Tinkers Creek Watershed Partners (learn and get advice about storm water, drainage, stream cleanup, rain barrel workshops, restoration projects, water quality) 330-963-6863 facebook: @TinkersCreekWP

Portage County Water Resources (Brady Lake Boat ramp access) 330-297-3670

Portage County Sheriff- non-emergency line 330-296-5100

Kent Police non-emergency- 330-673-7732

Kent Fire non-emergency- 330-676-7393

Reserving a pavilion at our parks (Jenny) 330-673-2194 ext 0

First Energy- Street light outage 888-544-4877

Sign up for Kent Emergency Alerts- text KentOH to 38276

218 Gougler Avenue
PO Box 291, Kent, OH 44240

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 1-4
330-673-2194

WEBSITE
franklintownshipohio.org