As we find ourselves faced with uncertain times, we must look to one another for strength and humility to guide us toward a path of normalcy. Though day-to-day operations are far from normal, the township continues to move in a positive direction as a result of our community’s “in this together” mentality. We thank our residents, business owners and community partners for the many donated resources and services received in the township. We thank our personnel, especially those who have modified work schedules or adapted to a new work environment, for their continual effort shown in a difficult situation. We thank our citizens for patience and cooperation as we develop new ways to meet your needs. We thank our department heads for putting the safety of our community and personnel at the heart of every decision. As we look to the future, we will move toward normal operations, but to get there, we must all do our part and follow guidelines and directives to ensure safety. We apologize for any inconvenience township facility closures or limited services have caused residents, but know we are still here to address concerns or needs until we fully reopen again. Lastly, when you are out and about and see a township employee, exchange a smile or a wave, as a friendly acknowledgement and encouragement of the services and work he or she is performing for our beautiful community.”

James N. Nelson
Board of Trustees President
Over the past two months, state and federal emergency declarations involving COVID-19 have caused state and local officials to issue recommendations on how to minimize the spread of the virus. Bath Township responded quickly to the health crisis, implemented plans to limit public access to facilities, reduced personnel onsite and canceled or held virtually various board and commission meetings normally hosted at the township facilities. As the “stay-at-home” order is lifted, the township has begun to return to normal operations through a phased reopening plan.

Bath Township’s Reopening Plan

PHASE 1 - EFFECTIVE MAY 11, 2020
• Bath Center Building will remain closed to the public.
• The Service Department building remains closed to the public.
• Boards and Commissions will continue to meet virtually. Links may be found on the township website or social media pages.
• A tiered plan will be implemented to bring back administrative staff on a regular schedule while abiding by social distancing guidelines. The administrative offices will continue to limit the number of employees in the office to three per day.
• Administrative employees will be expected to continue remote work when not scheduled in the office.
• All furloughed employees will be brought back on a regular schedule.
• Fire and EMS personnel will continue to respond to calls in appropriate personal protective equipment.
• Fire inspections of businesses will resume with necessary precautions.
• Police officers will continue to take reports over the phone for non-emergency incidents.
• Most non-essential services remain suspended.
• Any outside organization requesting use of a township meeting room will not be permitted indefinitely.
• All parks will remain open, except for the Baseball Park, which remains closed.
• Residents which need to drop off payments, applications or pick-up items from the township offices may do so by appointment only. To make an appointment: Please call 330-666-4007.

PHASE 2 - EFFECTIVE MAY 29, 2020
• The rotunda doors to Bath Center Building will reopen to the public. However, access to the administrative offices, service, police and fire departments will continue to be limited by appointment only.
• Administrative Office employees will return to a full-time work schedule in the office and adhere to safe social distancing practices.
• Boards and Commissions meetings will remain virtual.
• Park statuses will be updated on the website and social media as guidelines change on a day-to-day basis.
• Police, Fire and EMS operations will remain the same as Phase I.
• Any outside organization requesting use of a township meeting room will not be permitted indefinitely.
• Most non-essential services remain suspended.
• Residents which need to drop off payments, applications or pick-up items from the township offices may do so by appointment only. To make an appointment: Please call 330-666-4007.

PHASE 3 - DATE TBD
• Bath Center Building will reopen to the public with safety precautions in place. For example, visitors may be asked to respect social distancing guidelines and/or wear a mask when in the building.
• Any outside organization requesting use of a township meeting room will not be permitted indefinitely.
• Non-essential services will resume.
• Boards and Commissions will continue to meet virtually until social distancing guidelines are discontinued.
• All employees will be brought back to work with additional safety precautions in place.
• Police and fire operations will resume as normal with extra safety precautions in place.
• Parks statuses will be posted on the website and social media as guidelines may change on a day-to-day basis.
Township Website Debut

On Monday, May 18, the township debuted a new website platform for residents to easily navigate services, amenities and frequently asked questions. The simplistic, user-friendly design helps visitors access content within two cursor clicks. Additionally, the website offers compatibility on a mobile device, ADA compliance, and a language translator function. For a customizable experience, users may create an account and subscribe to receive notifications from the township, including upcoming agendas, meeting minutes and critical alerts. A special “thank you” to Mr. John Landis for the website photography. Visit the website at www.bathtownship.org.

Township Virtual Meeting Schedule

The township continues to host virtual meetings for Boards and Commissions at this time. The meeting schedule link can be found on the township’s social media accounts and website. To access them on the website, visit bathtownship.org, hover over the “How Do I” tab, then click “Access” and “Meeting Calendar.” You can also find available meeting agendas on social media and the website.

The Bath Township Board of Trustees meets in Regular Meeting format generally on the first Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. and the third Monday of every month at 4:00 p.m. Please refer to the meeting schedule, as there are some months that do not follow this pattern.

Census 2020

Bath residents are encouraged to respond to the 2020 Census as required by law. Census data is collected to determine federal funds, congressional and state legislative districts, and state programs. As of April 27, 2020, Bath Township’s response rate to the Census was 68.8% Residents may respond by phone at 1-844-330-2020 or visit https://my2020census.gov/ to fill out an online questionnaire.
For both the safety of residents and township personnel, the following guidelines are to be implemented until further notice:

- The Administration Complex is limited to the public by appointment only. To schedule an appointment, please dial 330-666-4007.
- Only visitors with official business or requiring immediate medical treatment will be admitted to the police and fire stations.
- Parks and trails are open.
- Restrooms are open for emergencies only.
- The tennis and basketball courts are open, but the tennis courts will be temporarily closed for resurfacing projects.
- Soccer and football fields have limited access; the fields are available for small groups which abide by current State of Ohio Orders (i.e.; families playing catch or soccer).
- The shelters at the Bath Community Park are open, but the township is not taking any reservations at this time.
- Bath Baseball Park will reopen at the end of May.

During this unprecedented time, please observe the Center for Disease Control’s minimum recommended social distancing of 6’ for other persons at all times. The township empathizes with the challenges this has caused everyone and will continue to monitor the situation, while abiding by local and state guidelines, to ensure the safety of the community. For park status questions, please email Parks Director, Alan Garner, at agarner@bathtownship.org

DO YOUR PART AS YOU ENJOY THE PARKS!

- Do not use parks or trails if you are exhibiting symptoms.
- Follow CDC’s guidance on personal hygiene prior to visiting parks or trails.
- Be prepared for limited access to public restrooms or water fountains.
- Share the trail and warn other trail users of your presence and as you pass.
- Observe CDC’s minimum recommended social distancing of 6’ from other persons at all times.
COVID-19 Update
The fire department continues to staff as normal. However, the suspension of public education programs, such as CPR classes, is still in effect until deemed safe to continue courses within close proximity to one another. At this time, only visitors with official business or requiring immediate medical treatment will be admitted to the fire stations.

An important change in protocol: Dispatchers will be required to ask additional questions at the time of call regarding symptoms, recent travel, and known exposure to COVID-19, if a resident requires transport to a hospital or EMS response. Please offer any pertinent information to dispatchers which may help personnel arrive in the proper personal protective equipment. Additional questions will not delay response from the fire department. If a resident feels sick but not experiencing life threatening symptoms, self-quarantine at home and contact a family physician or medical professional prior to dialing 9-1-1. Bath Township Fire and Rescue will continue to evaluate and transport anyone who requires immediate and life-threatening medical treatment.

It is critical that everyone exercise common sense, basic hygiene, and preventive measures to help minimize the spread of the virus. Bath Township Fire and Rescue is in direct and frequent contact with medical control personnel at University Hospitals who provides the best and most current information available. Thank you for your support and cooperation throughout this challenging time.

Thank you for Personal Protective Equipment
Bath Township Fire and Rescue sincerely thanks the community for the continued donations of personal protective equipment. The supplies received will continue to protect personnel who provide vital emergency services to township residents.

Aluminum Cans for Burned Children (ACBC)
Aluminum Cans for Burned Children raises money to help burn survivors and their families by funding educational and support programs, and paying for non-medical items or services that aren’t covered by insurance. These include special protective clothing that helps skin heal, bicycles that help children exercise burned arms or legs, transportation to outpatient treatment for families in need, and more.

POLICE
For the past two years, the Bath Police Department has partnered with Professor Karl Kaltenthaler of the University of Akron through his master’s level security program to provide an internship opportunity to class participants. The eight-week internship provides talented and diverse graduate students experience working in the police department. Interns also participate in and coordinate meetings with detectives that highlight the work they’re doing in the program, discuss the information being processed for the police department, and evaluate opportunities for professional development.

The Bath Police Department offers an exciting and rewarding non-paid internship program to these graduate students, providing them the forum to gain practical experience in the criminal justice field and introduce them to opportunities and disciplines within law enforcement. The placements are made based on recommendations from Professor Kaltenthaler on the candidate’s interests, skills and the needs of the department. Two students have participated in the internship program thus far.

Interns are exposed to effective problem solving and partnership building skills, and gain a better understanding of day-to-day operations of the department. The interns have been instrumental in processing criminal case information through the use of current analytics tools. This crime analysis provides critical information used to make informed decisions about effective law enforcement response to crimes, and to develop strategies used to investigate and prevent future crimes. Information obtained during the internship is of a confidential nature, and may not be disseminated to persons outside of the department.

The Bath Police Department values and puts a great deal of trust in the interns, and strives to create a work atmosphere that facilitates growth and learning. The department values honesty and integrity and remains committed to enhancing the organization and community through hard work and respect for others. Bath Police Department is very excited about the internship program and the partnership with the University of Akron, and looks forward to meeting and placing new interns in the future.

Thank you for your support and cooperation throughout this challenging time.

The Bath Fire Department’s temporary ACBC collection site is in the fenced area between the station #1 bays and Bath Road. We are working on a location for a new permanent site.
Rumpke Billing Change Effective July 1

Effective July 1, 2020, customers will begin to receive solid waste bills from Rumpke Waste which will provide additional payment options. Rumpke Waste will become the primary point of contact for all customer service inquiries, including billing questions and payment options. Vacation holds will still remain an option for customers, but will be arranged directly through Rumpke Waste. The township will continue to aid in customer service complaints, but will be a secondary option after an initial attempt to contact Rumpke Waste.

Simple Recycling

Simple Recycling has resumed services as of Monday, April 27, 2020. As a reminder to residents: pick-up dates correlate to the solid waste collection schedule. If a resident is in need of Simple Recycling bags, please call the township at 330-666-4007 to make an appointment or visit: https://simplerecycling.com/bag-request/

For a missed pick-up or to schedule a future pick-up, visit: https://simplerecycling.com/schedule-a-pick-up/

Acceptable Items to Recycle:
- Men's Clothing
- Women's Clothing
- Children's Clothing
- Coats and Jackets
- Jewelry
- Shoes
- Purses
- Hats
- Toys
- Blankets
- Drapes/Curtains
- Pillows
- Sleeping Bags
- Tools
- Silverware
- Dishes
- Pots/Pans
- Backpacks

TRASH AND RECYCLING

ROADS AND PAVEMENT MAINTENANCE

Bath Township will take part in the Summit County Engineer’s Regional Pavement Maintenance Program for the township’s 2020 contracted roadway projects. The following work is scheduled to be completed:

- **#405/422 Motor Paving with Chip Seal and Fog Seal:**
  Sourek Road Ext, Rotunda Ave, Ghent Hills Rd, Ranchwood Rd, and Ranchwood Spur

- **#448 Resurfacing (Milling/Hot Mix Asphalt Paving):**
  Mackinaw Ave and Caladonia Ave (Bath Twp. sections only)

- **Concrete Road Panel Replacement:** Panels will be replaced on concrete roads throughout the township. Selected sidewalk sections will also be replaced in the Bath Hills subdivision

- **Crack Sealing:** Firestone Trace, Meadowvale, Charles Ln, Roberts Ridge, Northshore, Mapleleaf, Beechnut, Crystal Point, Winterbury, Tulip, Bath Country Drive, Raintree, and Candlewood

Throughout the construction season, service department crews will be focused on general roadway/drainage system maintenance, along with the resolution of resident-generated requests for service.

For more information on service department operations, visit: www.bathtownship.org
Resident, and former University of Akron Field Station volunteer, John Landis, has photographed extraordinarily beautiful birds in the Bath Nature Preserve for nearly five years. Over that time, he has collected a large inventory of high-quality, high-resolution photographs, which are commonly displayed on the township website, Instagram (@bathparks) and Facebook (visit Bath Parks). In partnership with Dr. Lara Roketenetz, University of Akron Field Station Manager, he is helping to develop the new program, Bird Blitz, an interactive bird-watching experience designed for young children and families to engage in the outdoors. The estimated launch of Bird Blitz was to cost $4,000, which was obtained through the Bath Community Fund grant. With finances secured, a guidebook is to be designed by Alexander Landis and printed for future participants. “The plan is for Alexander to illustrate certain hard-to-photograph subjects, such as the attached woodcock and its babies by a nest. Most people don’t realize that there are many ground nesting birds in the Bath Nature Preserve, like the woodcock. These birds stay well-hidden and we do not want to disturb them by walking through their habitat and taking pictures when they are most vulnerable. There will be other illustrations that will be used for educational purposes for people of all ages,” said John Landis.