Acceptable items for new recycling cans

Recycling in Jackson Township and Grove City increased 403 tons through February 2017 following delivery of 65-gallon recycling totes the last quarter of 2016. However, several residents have questioned what materials are acceptable for recycling.

Here is a non-exhaustive list.

* **Paper:** newspaper, magazines, cardboard, mixed office paper and envelopes, paperboard (cereal boxes), pizza boxes free of food debris and grease, telephone books and catalogs
* **Plastic bottles and jugs** (empty, crush, reattach lid) including those with small mouths and wider bases: milk and laundry detergent jugs; water, shampoo and contact solution bottles
* **Glass (all colors) bottles and jars**
* **Cartons:** food and beverage cartons, such as milk, soup, wine, broth and other cartons
* **Metal cans:** aluminum and steel cans and lids; and empty aerosol cans with lids and tips removed

Operation Medicine Drop: April 29, 2017

The 8th annual Operation Medicine Drop offers residents a safe and environmentally protective way to dispose of unwanted or expired prescription and over-the-counter medications in pill or powder form, including pet medicine, at no charge. Potential health hazards and safety issues caused by disposing of drugs in toilets or landfills are avoided, and empty prescription bottles are shredded.

Items not accepted include needles, lancets, syringes, inhalers, aerosols, liquids, creams, pastes, and foil and blister pack pill packaging.

Operation Medicine Drop will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 29, 2017 at Station 202, 3650 Hoover Road in Grove City. Call (614) 277-3058 for more information.

Residential trash collection rates to dip

The Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio reduced the Franklin County Sanitary Landfill tipping fee rate by $3 per ton beginning April 1, 2017 resulting in a 25-cent decrease in monthly trash collection rates for Jackson Township residents.

Jackson Township residents will continue to pay $14.45 per month to Local Waste Services for services through March 31, 2017. The new monthly rate of $14.20 will automatically go into effect April 1, 2017.

Learn more at www.jackstw.org, or contact Local Waste Services with questions at (614) 409-9375.
Common zoning code violations

Jackson Township’s zoning administrator handles complaints from residents or passersby about township zoning code violations. The top complaints received are the following.
1. Accumulation of junk, trash or debris
2. Parking or storing of inoperable (junk) vehicles
3. Semitrucks and commercial vehicles in residential areas
4. Excessive weeds and tall/unmowed grass

There are three ways to report township nuisance issues or zoning violations: online at www.jacksontwp.org/report-a-complaint; by e-mail: zoning@jacksontwp.org; or phone (614) 875-0100.

Order trees, shrubs, plants by April 10

Plants and trees native to Ohio or neighboring states such as White Pine, Pawpaw and Redbud trees are offered for sale during the Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District’s 2017 Spring Tree and Plant Sale. Important items to note: there will be no refunds (unless plant ordered is unavailable); pickup dates and location are April 28-29, 2017 at the Ohio Division of Wildlife at 1500 Dublin Road in Columbus.

“Research shows native plants and trees support more biodiversity than non-natives,” said Sara Ernst, FSWCD conservation implementation specialist. “They provide shade, climate change mitigation, cleaner air and habitats to nurture and sustain the living landscape for birds and other animals.”

Fire Chief’s corner
by Fire Chief Randy Little

The Jackson Township Fire Department offers many services and training opportunities for the public. Some of the most popular are CPR and first aid instruction, child safety seat installation and inspection, smoke detector installation, station tours, fire safety inspections, fire safety trailer for children and a variety of public relations events in the community. I would encourage you to take advantage of one of the many excellent programs we offer.

We frequently are asked about ways citizens can become active and contribute locally when disaster strikes. An excellent way to get involved is to take part in a Community Emergency Response Team. The CERT program in managed by local public safety organizations under the direction of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Along with community partners, we are in the planning stages of establishing our very own CERT team in Grove City.

CERT teams have proven themselves invaluable in times of crisis. CERT members are instructed by local public safety organizations and citizen volunteer trainers in the skills needed to perform. CERT teams from around the United States have assisted in disasters including tornados, flooding, fires, disaster medical operations and search and rescue missions. CERT can also be of immense value to their communities prior to a disaster by implementing projects and programs that increase public safety.

If becoming a member of the CERT sounds like something you would be interested in participating in look for information on our website at jacksontwp.org/fire-department.

“…Franklin County has ranked by potential impact ranging from tornados and severe winter weather to dam failures and terrorist incidents. CERT provides a way for Grove City residents to prepare so we can help our family and neighbors if a disaster hits our community. By starting CERT in Grove City, residents can be prepared for the immediate hours following a disaster when our local first responders will not be able to reach everyone. CERT is about neighbors helping neighbors, and Grove City is the type of community where people want to help.”

— CERT resident in training Matt Yerkes

7 middle-school students learn about fire service

Jackson Township Division of Fire Prevention Bureau Fire Marshal Scott Burris and Inspector Indol Moore in cooperation with Jackson Middle School guidance counselor Dave Allmon offered a five-week Fire Explorer program for students to learn about a career in the fire service. Fire Explorers from Jackson Middle School were eighth-graders Carter Binford and Aron Downs; and seventh-graders Jordan Burley, Andrew Elliott, Chandler Holstein, Jacob Murphy and Noah Snedeker.

Students put on firefighter gear, did firehose and simulated rescue training; learned CPR and first aid, and rode in a fire engine. The Fire Explorer program was held Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Feb. 25, 2017 through March 25, 2017.

“I really loved the experience,” Binford said. “I first did this for a Boy Scout requirement and wasn’t happy about waking up early on Saturdays, but I had a great time learning about firefighting. I think that is what I want to do when I am older.”
Kickmaster Footgolf holds grand opening

Deborah Guzzo and Bob Clannin, Jackson Township residents and co-owners of Kickmaster Footgolf — the first-ever dedicated nine-hole footgolf course in the country — held the grand opening for their new outdoor sports facility at 1700 Dyer Road in Grove City, Ohio Feb. 24, 2017. The new soccer-themed recreation park features a 12-acre footgolf course set to open in spring 2017.

Go to kickmasterfootgolf.com or call (614) 736-1470 for more information.

Cape sealing on tap for Ridpath, Zuber

Jackson Township 2017 road projects include cape sealing of Zuber Road from Hoover Road east to Borror Road, and cape sealing of Ridpath Road.

Project start dates have not yet been scheduled.

New sheriff: Grove City resident

Greetings and allow me to properly introduce myself. I am Dallas Baldwin, and it is an honor to be your new Franklin County Sheriff. I have been on duty since January, but I am just now getting an opportunity to say hello to you all. However, now that I am finally in office, I want to let you know I will be around much more often. That’s because I am not only the sheriff, but am also your neighbor because I live in Grove City, so we actually might have already encountered each other.

I wanted to point out my connection to Jackson Township because it is something that I am passionate about; that is, I am big on community. So much so, that I made building and strengthening the bonds between the sheriff’s office and communities one of my five campaign points when I ran for sheriff. For me, the relationship between law enforcement and community relies on not simply having a better understanding of each other, but rather a genuine bond with one another.

There are a lot of good things already happening in the sheriff’s office, which you will be hearing more about as we continue to forge ahead. In the coming weeks, I will be communicating more regularly with leaders and communities members as we continue to grow and work together to make our neighborhoods, villages, townships and all of Franklin County — the safest and best place to live. I am looking forward to all of us working together.