

# NORWICH

## T O W N S H I P

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Charles Wm. Buck  
Michael D. Cope  
Larry Earman

### 2010 TRUSTEE MEETINGS

FEBRUARY 1, 12:00 PM

FEBRUARY 16, 6:30 PM

MARCH 1, 12:00 PM

MARCH 15, 6:30 PM

APRIL 5, 12:00 PM

APRIL 19, 6:30 PM

### MEETINGS ARE HELD AT:

Norwich Township  
Safety Services Building  
5181 Northwest Parkway

If you have questions,  
please call (614) 876-7694.



NORWICH TOWNSHIP

## A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

With governments and businesses throughout the nation suffering through a major economic recession, 2009 was a busy and challenging year for Norwich Township. In spite of the challenges, 2009 was filled with many accomplishments, including:

- Moved offices into the new Safety Services Building on Northwest Parkway
- Implemented a meeting room reservation program that allows local residents and civic groups to use meeting room facilities free of charge
- Replaced our traditional employee healthcare plan with a high-deductible plan resulting in an annual savings to the Township of over \$200,000
- Implemented an EMS billing program which will generate over \$600,000 in additional revenue annually
- Revived the Norwich Township quarterly newsletter to improve communications with residents
- Implemented a program to sell surplus or unfit Township vehicles and other property via Internet auction
- Developed an electronic reporting system that allows residents to report problems, complaints, or issues through the Township's website (This program will be operational January 1, 2010, and is described in detail within this newsletter.)
- Negotiated a new contract with the City of Hilliard to continue to provide Police services to the residents in the unincorporated areas of the Township
- Negotiated a new 3-year collective bargaining agreement with Firefighter's Local 1723
- Joined with other cities and Townships to petition PUCO to avert or reduce Ohio American Water's (OAW) unreasonable rate increase proposal (OAW's initial proposal would increase water rates for Timberbrook residents by over 60% in the next 4 years.)
- Participated in a successful effort to persuade the Franklin County Commissioners to reject a request to construct a cell tower along Dublin Road near the Ridgewood residential area
- Purchased a new replacement multi-purpose fire engine that can be used for firefighting, rescue, and emergency medical services

Although the economy is showing signs of improvement, we expect 2010 to be another year of challenges. Nevertheless, we are confident that Norwich Township will continue to provide quality service to our residents in a cost-effective manner. The Township's elected officials and employees are committed to finding new and better ways to meet the needs of our residents. 🌱

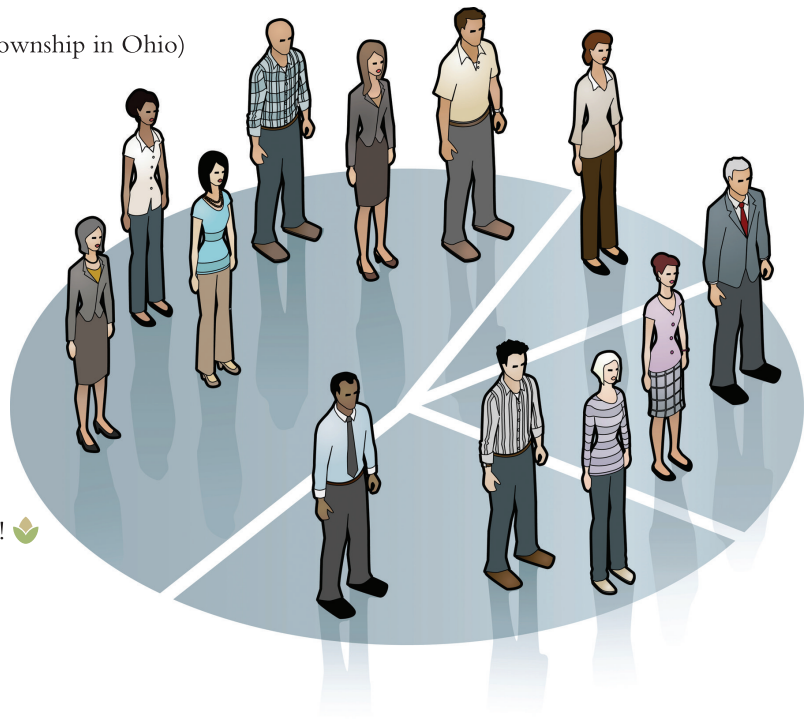
[www.norwichtownship.org](http://www.norwichtownship.org)

# THE CENSUS IS COMING!

Sometime in the next few months, residents will be receiving materials from the U.S. Census Bureau for the 2010 census. Conducted every ten years, the census is more than just a head count. The census gathers important demographic information that allows federal, state, and local governments to improve the delivery of services to their constituents. The data is also used in determining eligibility for state and federal financial assistance. It is important that all residents provide complete and accurate information to the Census Bureau.

To illustrate the type of information gleaned from the census, listed below is some of the data on Norwich Township from the 2000 census:

- Population: 27,488 (26th most populous Township in Ohio)
- 94.7% White
- 3.5% Asian
- 1.7% African-American
- 96.1% U.S. native
- Median age: 34.5 years
- Median family income: \$77,489
- 20.5% high school graduates
- 20% some college
- 52.3% associate degree or higher
- 9,768 households
- Average household size: 2.79 persons
- 80% of housing units owner-occupied




Please do your part and participate in the 2010 census! 

## FISCAL OFFICE UPDATE

In light of the economic challenges that our nation faced during 2009, Norwich Township did experience some financial success. At the beginning of 2009, the Township adopted a Health Reimbursement Account (HRA). This change to our employee healthcare program reduced our medical expenses for 2009 by more than \$200,000. In addition, overtime expense dropped more than \$150,000 due in large part to a significant decline in the number of on-duty/off-duty injuries. Lastly, the mid-year implementation of EMS billing generated more than \$175,000 in new revenue for 2009. While these items have positively impacted our financial position for 2009, the impact is small in comparison to the loss of revenue we will continue to see due to the phase out of Tangible Personal Property taxes.

**In 2010, we will continue to seek alternative ways to reduce expenses and explore new sources of revenue.**


In 2010, we will continue to seek alternative ways to reduce expenses and explore new sources of revenue. We remain committed to collaborating with the City of Hilliard and other local governments to share services and participate in joint contracts that will enhance our efficiency and effectiveness. In addition, we will continue to carefully manage the Township's finances and exercise good fiscal prudence with our expenditures. 

## ATTENTION TIMBERBROOK RESIDENTS!

In May of 2009, Ohio American Water (OAW) notified Norwich Township that they were submitting a proposal to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) that would result in a rate hike in excess of 63% over the next four years. In Norwich Township, this rate hike would affect about 280 residences in the Timberbrook subdivision. However, statewide, about 8,000 OAW customers would be subject to these excessive rates.

In an effort to combat OAW's proposal, your Norwich Township Trustees made a decision to join with other affected areas to create a consortium called "Fight the Hike Ohio". Largely through the efforts of Fight the Hike Ohio, PUCO's staff report issued in December recommended that OAW's rate hike be reduced to a one-time rate increase of about 7-12%.


PUCO will be conducting a formal hearing in January to consider OAW's proposal. We are confident that the Commissioners will listen to reason and reject OAW's outrageous request.

For more information or to lend your assistance to the effort, you can go to [www.fightthehikeohio.com](http://www.fightthehikeohio.com) or call Norwich Township at (614)876-7694. 

[www.fightthehikeohio.com](http://www.fightthehikeohio.com)

**Norwich Township Trustees made a decision to join with other affected areas to create a consortium.**

## ISSUES, QUESTIONS, OR CONCERNS?

Do you have issues, questions, or concerns that you want to bring to the attention of Norwich Township? You now have a way to relay those issues, questions, and concerns to the Township electronically anytime day or night. Go to the Norwich Township website at [www.norrichtownship.org](http://www.norrichtownship.org). On the menu on the left side of home page, you can click on the "issues, questions, or concerns" link and you will be given a screen to fill out some basic information such as name, address, and e-mail address. You can then write a brief description of the matter that you want to bring to the attention of the Township. Once you submit this page, it will be transmitted to Norwich Township Administration and you will receive a prompt response to your submission from the appropriate Township official. 

**"You now have a way to relay those issues, questions, and concerns to the Township electronically anytime day or night."**

[www.norrichtownship.org](http://www.norrichtownship.org)





NORWICH 1813 TOWNSHIP

### **Norwich Township**

5181 Northwest Parkway  
Hilliard, Ohio 43026  
(614) 876-7694

### **Board of Trustees**

Charles Wm. Buck, *Chairman*  
Michael D. Cope, *Vice-Chairman*  
Larry Earman, *Trustee*

### **Administration**

Wayne A. Warner, *Administrator*  
Mildred Brooks, *Administrative Assistant*

### **Road/Cemetery Department**

Steve Montgomery, *Road Superintendent/Cemetery Sexton*  
Mike Johnson, *Asst. Road Superintendent/Asst. Cemetery Sexton*  
3225 Dublin Road  
Hilliard, Ohio 43026  
(614) 876-2236

ORC 9.03 Allows for Public Funds to be used for newsletters

### **Fiscal Office**

Jamie Miles, *Fiscal Officer*  
Ellen Woodford, *Assistant Fiscal Officer*

### **Fire Department**

Dave Long, *Chief*  
Robert Kaufman, *Assistant Chief*

PRSRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
COLUMBUS, OH  
PERMIT NO. 8766

## **SCHIRTZINGER ROAD PROJECT UPDATE**



The Norwich Township Trustees and Franklin County Engineer's Office hosted a second Public Involvement Meeting on November 16th to inform residents of the latest plans to improve Schirtzinger Road and the drainage within this area. Another important aspect of the meeting was to seek comments and feedback on the project from the affected residents. Currently, the County Engineer's Office is reviewing the public comments in an effort to develop final plans and cost estimates. In early 2010, the Township Trustees will decide whether to proceed with the project and, if so, how to fund the project. It should be noted that residents will NOT receive assessments and taxes will NOT be raised to pay for the improvements. 🌱

## **LOCAL WASTE CONTRACT EXTENDED**

The Norwich Township Board of Trustees has extended the waste disposal contract with Local Waste Services for the second and final year. The monthly rate for waste disposal for Norwich Township residents in 2010 will increase by 42 cents (less than 3%) to \$15.34. The rate for Seniors (65 or older) will be \$13.81 per month. If you are 65 or over and do not receive the Senior discount, you can contact Local Waste at (614)409-9375 to register for the discount.

This is the final year that the Local Waste contract can be extended. Later in 2010, Norwich Township will be seeking bids from vendors for waste disposal services for Township residents. If you have any ideas or suggestions on ways that we can improve the waste disposal service that you receive, please submit your suggestions electronically at [www.norwichtownship.org](http://www.norwichtownship.org) or you may contact Township Administration at (614)876-7694. 🌱