

WEBSTER TOWNSHIP

Wood County, Ohio

November, 2021

Contact Webster Township:

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9637 Middleton Pike

Bowling Green, OH 43402

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Township Hall:

SE Corner of Sugar Ridge Road
and State Route 199

Public Meetings:

2nd Monday - 7:30 A.M.

4th Monday - 7:30 P.M.

Trustees:

Isaac Bailey 419-308-9945

Mark Bushman 419-262-9302

Jim Cajka 419-260-4980

Fiscal Officer:

Julie Foos 419-409-0053

Zoning Inspector:

David Welling 419-208-6055

P.O. Box 932

Luckey, OH 43443

Cemetery Sexton:

Mark Bushman 419-262-9302

On the Web:

www.webstertwp.org

www.facebook.com/webstertwp

www.checkbook.ohio.gov

Fire and EMS Coverage:

Center Township

Freedom Township

Middleton Township

Troy Township

Webster Township is responsible for maintaining township roads, taking care of two cemeteries, and providing fire and EMS services to residents while trying to be as fiscally responsible as possible with residents' tax dollars. Read on to learn how Webster Township is spending its resources to better the community.

ARP Revenue

Under the American Rescue Plan Act, the State of Ohio allocated COVID relief money to all the townships in Ohio based on population. Webster Township's portion is \$139,423.66 and will be split into two payments. The Township has already received the first half of \$69,711.83 and will expect the second half in 2022. These funds must be spent on eligible uses by December 31, 2026. No decisions have been made yet regarding how these funds will be spent.

New Road Signs

Webster Township received the LTAP Sign Grant funded by ODOT in 2021. This grant is meant to bring townships into compliance by upgrading all existing township road signs and adding other necessary road signs. Road name signs are not covered. The grant pays for the signs, posts, and hardware, and the township will pay for the labor to install the signs. Webster Township will receive 127 new signs, at a value of \$13,500.

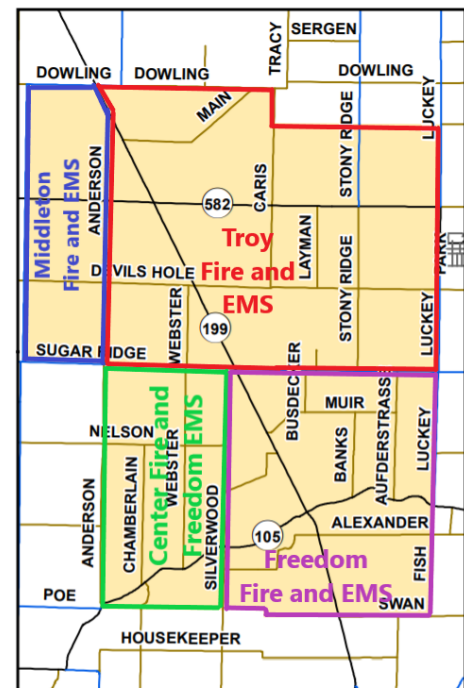
Nexus Pipeline

In 2018, the Nexus pipeline was installed in the northern end of the township. Pipelines are considered public utilities and are included in the township's total valuation. Nexus is supposed to pay taxes based on the valuation of the pipeline. Nexus has appealed this valuation multiple times, drastically reducing what it owes in taxes. The State of Ohio has not settled these appeals yet. Depending on the final determination, Nexus may owe back taxes plus interest, or the township may have to pay back some of the \$46,643 that it has already received.

Fire and EMS

Webster Township contracts with Center, Freedom, Middleton, and Troy Townships to provide fire and EMS protection for its residents. In 2021, the township paid \$126,341 for these services. The revenue to cover this expense comes from a 3.1 mill levy that has been supported by voters for many years. This equates to \$0.31 for every \$100 in valuation. In 2017, the fire and EMS levy was increased to 3.4 mills, but by 2020, many factors of the equation changed. The township decided the 0.3 mills was no longer needed, and the residents voted in favor of a renewal with a decrease bringing the total millage back down to 3.1.

Expenses for fire and EMS departments are continually rising as they try to comply with state regulations. Local departments host various fundraisers such as chicken barbeques throughout the year. Any support is appreciated.



Fire and EMS Coverage Map

Active and Inactive Cemeteries

Webster Township has one active cemetery, Webster Township Cemetery off of State Route 199 and north of State Route 105, and one inactive cemetery, Old Belleville Ridge Cemetery on the southeast corner of Carter and Dowling Roads. There are 180 veterans buried at Webster Township Cemetery and 15 veterans buried at Old Belleville Ridge Cemetery.

Improvements to Webster Township Cemetery

In 2021, a portable restroom was purchased and placed at the end of the main drive, and a new flagpole was installed on the north side. The main drive was sealed again, and the Trustees are hoping to have section and row numbers painted on it yet this fall. The database and mapping projects are still in the works. The Township is also looking into having a kiosk built to house the map, list of burials, list of veterans, etc.

Memorial Day Service

The Troy-Webster American Legion Post 240 holds a service with the firing squad every year on Memorial Day beginning at 9:00 A.M. at Webster Township Cemetery. The ceremony is then performed at Old Belleville Ridge Cemetery as well as three other local cemeteries.

Wreaths Across America

On December 18, 2021, a Wreaths Across America event will be held at Webster Township's two cemeteries. 2021 will be the third year for this event organized by Eastwood alumni Chad and Victoria Albright and will also be held at six other local cemeteries. A short ceremony will be held at Eastwood High School. Volunteers will then disperse to all the cemeteries where they will lay wreaths on all the veterans' graves.

Each wreath is sponsored by a \$15 donation. This year, about 850 additional wreaths are needed to cover all of the veterans' graves, since 550 extra wreaths were sponsored and carried over from last year. Eastwood's Key Club and the two local American Legion Posts are working on securing sponsors. Check out the Eastwood Community Wreaths Across America Facebook page or visit www.wreathscrossamerica.org for more information.



Webster Township Zoning

Webster Township is zoned, which means there are rules and regulations for houses, buildings, ponds, etc. All of these rules can be found in the Zoning Resolution on the Township's website. The Zoning Resolution covers setbacks from property lines, minimum lot size, frontage requirements, junk vehicles, permitted property usage and much more. The Township is zoned agricultural with only a few exceptions.

The Zoning Inspector, David Welling, has been appointed by the Trustees to enforce the Zoning Resolution by means of issuing permits for new construction and making sure residents stay in compliance. Permits are required for houses, accessory buildings, additions, pools or ponds, some fences, signs, and satellite dishes as well as road bores or road cuts. Conditional use permits can be issued for in-home businesses, which would otherwise not be allowed.

Zoning Boards

The Zoning Commission has five members and one alternate and has been meeting monthly to work on updating the Zoning Resolution. The Zoning Commission has been looking into various issues that have come up in the Township or in nearby townships that are not covered in the current Resolution such as solar panels and nuisance properties.

The Board of Zoning Appeals comes into play when a resident does not meet the requirements for a zoning permit. The resident can appeal to the BZA, made up of five members and one alternate, and have his case heard by a jury of his peers. The BZA may approve an appeal if a hardship is found.

If anyone is interested in serving on either the Zoning Commission or Board of Zoning Appeals, please contact a township official. Each member serves a five year term.



A new sidewalk, new curbs, and new mulch at the playground

Election Day

Election Day is Tuesday, November 2, 2021. Trustees Isaac Bailey and Jim Cajka are up for re-election this year. There are no other township issues on the ballot. Voting in person will take place at the American Legion Hall in Pemberville instead of at the Township Hall. The polls will be open from 6:30 A.M. to 7:30 P.M. Visit www.co.wood.oh.us/boe to register to vote, apply for an absentee ballot, or see election results.

Address Signs

There are many green 911 address signs missing throughout the township, and many of the older signs have lost their reflectivity. If anyone wants a new sign or wants to update their old sign, contact Isaac Bailey.



The new storage building

Webster School Property

Playground Improvements

Webster Township applied for and received a grant from the Wood County Park District in late 2020. This grant funded the sidewalk from the parking lot to the south bleachers, the curbs around the newly designated playground area, and the mulch for a total of \$14,015. The Township applied for a grant through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to fund a new merry-go-round, swing set, and three free standing pieces which will complete the new playground. The grant would pay for 75% of the new equipment and installation and will be awarded by November. Webster Township is currently working on its applications for this year's Wood County Park District grant which will also be awarded in November. The rest of the old equipment outside of the curbs will be removed once the new equipment is installed.

Ball Diamonds

As anyone driving by would notice, the ball diamonds at the Webster School Property have seen lots of activity this year. Northwest Ohio Eagles, Total Baseball, and as many as five Velocity teams have been utilizing the property during the spring, summer, and/or fall ball seasons. There are practices or games happening six or seven days a week. Thank you to all the coaches and volunteers who have spent so much time maintaining and improving the ball diamonds, batting cages, and concession stand throughout the year.

Property Improvements

A new building for storing equipment was completed in August by Morton Buildings. The overhead doors have been installed and soon the electric service will be installed also. Electricity will then be run out to the concession stand. The Township has a list of projects to tackle as funding becomes available such as putting up a shelter house for outdoor gatherings, building a kiosk to house pertinent information, adding a stone driveway for easier access to the concession stand, and adding a walking path around the edges of the property.

Township Roads

Webster Township is responsible for maintaining Alexander, Anderson, Aufderstrasse, Banks, Burgess, Busdecker, Caris, Chamberlain, Devils Hole, Dunipace, Layman, Main, Muir, Nelson, Silverwood, part of Stony Ridge, and Webster Roads. The Township shares part of Anderson Road with Center Township, part of Dowling Road with Perrysburg Township, and Fish and Swan Roads with Freedom Township. The other roads within the township are the County's or State's responsibility. The Township is charged with mowing, snowplowing, berming, and improving as needed all the roads in its care.

This summer, Premier Patching spray patched parts of Devils Hole and Stony Ridge Roads. The County Engineer's Department Durapatched all the township roads and tar and chipped all five miles of Devils Hole Road. The Township planned on having Silverwood Road tar and chipped also, but decided to wait until the Dunipace Ditch cleaning project was completed.

Community Clean-Up Day

Got junk? April 23, 2022 is the date for the upcoming Roadside and Community Clean-Up Day. Every year around Earth Day, residents are asked to pick up litter along the roads and dispose of it at the Township Hall. This year, the Township will provide multiple dumpsters at the Webster School property from 8:00 A.M. until 4:00 P.M. for roadside trash and all trash needing to be disposed of. This will be a great opportunity for residents to do some spring cleaning not only along the roadsides, but in their houses, barns, and properties as well. A scrap bin will be provided, but tires will not be accepted. If any resident has garbage they would like to get rid of but has no way of hauling it, please contact a Trustee.

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Feedback

If anyone has any feedback regarding ways the township could better serve its residents, please either contact a township official or come to a public meeting. Meetings are held at the Webster Township Hall on the second and fourth Monday of every month. Visitors are always welcome.

Hall Rental

The Township Hall, located on the corner of Sugar Ridge Road and State Route 199, is available for gatherings. For \$100, anyone is able to rent the hall for the day. Groups or organizations may also use the hall for scheduled meetings.

PLACE
STAMP
HERE