



The Town Crier

July 2010

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Did You Know?



The Minster-Jackson Township Fire Department will be testing fire hydrants July 19, 20, 26 and 27, 2010 from 6:00 p.m. until dusk. Testing will start on the west side of Minster and will move east. Residents may notice a discoloration in their water and may want to refrain from doing laundry during these times.

Summer Crisis Program Available

The hot summer months can be dangerous to the health of consumers who have difficulty paying higher utility bills. With an estimated one in nine Ohio residential utility customers experiencing disconnection of either their electric or natural gas service for non-payment during the past year, the need for assistance programs such as the Summer Crisis Program is more vital than ever.

The Summer Crisis Program, available from July 1 through Aug. 31, is administered annually by the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD). This year, households with an annual income at or below 200% of the 2009 federal poverty guidelines (\$44,100 for a family of four) will be eligible for assistance. Income-eligible

households will receive up to \$175 toward bill payment assistance. Consumers should contact their local community action agency to determine the availability of air conditioners, fans or other assistance that might be available.

In addition to the income guidelines, households must meet the following criteria to be eligible for assistance:

- Have a member who is at least 60 years of age or older; or
- Have a member under the age of 60 with health issues that are verified by documentation from a physician.

For additional information about all available assistance programs or to obtain help in avoiding a disconnection, con-

sumers should contact the OCC toll-free at 1-877-PICKOCC (1-877-742-5622) or visit the OCC website at www.pickocc.org.

For additional information about how to apply for the 2010 Summer Crisis Program or to locate the nearest community action agency, consumers should contact the Ohio Department of Development consumer hotline at 1-800-282-0880 or TDD 1-800-686-1557 or via the Internet at www.energyhelp.ohio.gov. Consumers also can identify their local community action agency by visiting the ODOD website at <http://www.odod.state.oh.us/cdd/ocs/locate.htm>.

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Find future meeting dates online at www.minsteroh.com/calendar/Calendar.htm

Enroll Today in Direct Payment

Many cost and time-conscious Minster utility customers are taking advantage of the FREE direct Minster utility bill payment program. With Direct Payment your utility bill is automatically deducted from your bank account—checking or savings (you choose)—on its due date. You will still receive your monthly utility bill, but

there are no checks to write, stamps to buy or envelopes to lick.

Want to get started with Direct Payment right away? There is a short form to complete and in most cases your account is activated in the current billing cycle. You can obtain the necessary form in a number of ways:

- Online: www.minsteroh.com/forms/utilpayform.pdf
- Email: skemper@minsteroh.com
- Phone: 419.628.2850

Join the growing number of Minster utility customers enjoying Direct Payment. Enroll today!

Village of Minster

5 W. Fourth Street
P.O. Box 1
Minster, OH 45865

Administration
419.628.3497

Electric Department
419.628.2850

Parks & Recreation
419.628.3404

Police Non-Emergency
419.628.2378

Street Department
419.628.3404

Wastewater Treatment
419.628.2663

Water Department
419.628.2850

Utility Billing
419.628.2850

FOR THE LATEST NEWS

VISIT US ON THE WEB:

WWW.MINSTEROH.COM

Upcoming AOA Activities

August 5
RSVP

AOA Lunch Bunch
Youth Building—11 am

August 11

AOA Movie
F.J. Stallo Library —1 pm

September 2
RSVP

AOA Lunch Bunch
Youth Building—11 am

September 8

AOA Movie
F.J. Stallo Library —1 pm

Exterior Maintenance Code Enforced in Minster

Minster has a long-standing tradition for being a well-groomed community. Every property owner plays an important part in keeping this tradition alive and well. To help carry on this tradition, the Village also enacted an Exterior Property Maintenance Code in 2004.

The Exterior Property Maintenance Code establishes the minimum standards for the

maintenance of the general exterior, exterior surfaces, foundations, roof, gutters, downspouts and yard areas of all structures within the community. In short the code states that all exterior surfaces of a structure must be maintained in good repair (i.e. no excessive peeling paint, broken windows or doors, missing roofing) and any exterior part (i.e. gutters, downspouts,

porch railings.) must be capable of performing the function for which it was designed. In addition, the entire yard area must be maintained in a safe, clean and sanitary condition.

If there is a property in your neighborhood that you think may need addressed under the Exterior Property Maintenance Code please contact the Zoning Administrator at 419.628.3497.

Make Sure to RSVP in Advance

RSVP is a French acronym that means "Repondez S'il Vous Plait" which is translated in English to mean "please respond or respond please". The acronym RSVP is typically associated with invitations related to formal events such as weddings, but is becoming more frequently used for informal events.

The Parks and Recreation Department requests that participants in the Active Older Adult (AOA) monthly luncheons RSVP

at least three days prior to the luncheon date. When hosting a partially catered luncheon, the Village relies on an accurate number of guests to determine how much food to provide. If you reply that you'll attend and then don't show, the Village has paid for food that won't be eaten. Similarly, if you show up unannounced there may not be a place setting or enough food for everyone.

There are many ways to RSVP

to the AOA luncheon:

- Email: rgeise@minsteroh.com
- Phone: 419.628.3404 Ext. 107 (Please leave a message)

RSVPs are required only for the AOA luncheon. No reservations are necessary the AOA movie.

An RSVP is critical to the planning of a successful event so please take the time to respond in advance if you plan to attend the monthly luncheon.

Historical Society Updates

The Minster Historical Society continues its "A Tribute to the 1950's and the Korean War Era" exhibit. Many new photos are on display along with artifacts, music of the era, and the video of our Korean War Veterans that was produced by the Minster High School. Stop for a visit on Tuesdays from 10 to 2 or Sundays from 1 - 3. The museum is free of charge and this exhibit will run through December 2010.

The Historical Society would like to add a display of toys from the 1950's to the exhibit for the months of November and December. Find your original Barbies, Matchbox cars, View Masters and more! If you have a collection or a single toy you would like to loan to the museum please call 419-629-4600.

In other Historical Society news, the "Heart and Heritage

Cook Book" will be coming out by or before Oktoberfest. It will contain over 300 old and new recipes and 100 old pictures—many never published before—that have been added to the Society's collection, along with wonderful bits of Minster's history throughout the 1950's. This is a new fundraiser for the Minster Historical Society and all proceeds will help defray Minster history preservation expenses. Stop by and pre-order your copy today!