



South Russell Village NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 1

www.SouthRussell.com

Spring, 2007

Keep Septic Systems or Switch to Sewers?

The subject of septic versus sewers has recently resurfaced in South Russell Village due to changing EPA laws at the state and county levels. There are still approximately 350 residents on private septic systems at the eastern end of the village, while the balance of homes in the village have public sewer systems.

The main reason for the increased discussions regarding this topic pertains to the increased obligations by the home owner for septic systems that went into effect Jan 1st, 2007. Legislation passed by the state has changed various requirements, ultimately raising the expected installation, maintenance and repair costs of septic systems. While there are a number of considerations that will affect the type and cost of a new septic system, current estimated costs

range between \$20,000 and \$25,000. In addition to these new legislative changes, requirements for inspections have also escalated. New requirements have gone into effect that a septic system must be inspected upon the sale of the home. This legislation has forced many home owners to have new systems installed at rapidly escalating costs as a point of the sale. In addition to the point of sale inspections, South Russell is now required to do additional inspections by the EPA Regulations related to the Storm Water Management, Phase II program.

The most prominent concern of homeowners that choose to remain on the septic systems is the potential of having to be required to replace their existing septic systems at an estimated cost of \$25,000, and then later be also be required to switch

to a public sewer system at an additional but similarly significant cost.

In an effort to help educate our residents, the Village will take a more active role in providing information regarding the various options available to homeowners. This will include providing updated information regarding requirements, mandates and legislative changes, potential informational sessions for our residents, and possibility of conducting some type of survey to better understand our residents' wishes.

Please feel free to contact Village Hall or our Building Department to obtain additional information.

Mayor Matthew E. Brett

Village Bids Fond Farewell to Clerk Nancy Gallagher

After years of dedicated service as Village Clerk for South Russell Village, Nancy Gallagher is retiring at the end of March. Nancy has been an employee of South Russell Village since 1986 and has been the Clerk since 1995. She was named "2006 Employee of the Year."

Nancy has been active in the International Institute of Municipal Clerks, the Ohio Municipal Clerks, the Western Reserve Clerks and the Northeast Ohio Municipal Clerks Associations. Nancy has also been a member of the Association of Public Treasurers of the United States and Canada, the Ohio Municipal Treasurers Association and the Municipal Finance Officers Association of Northeast Ohio.

Nancy achieved the designation of Certified Municipal Clerk from the International Institute of Municipal

Clerks in 1997 and was recently presented the professional credential of Certified Municipal Finance Administrator by the Association of Public Treasurers of the United States and Canada.

On the announcement of her retirement, Nancy said "It has been my privilege to serve the residents of South Russell for 21 years. I have seen many changes over the years, but I have always been fortunate to work with such dedicated and hard working elected officials and employees. I will miss you all."

We have affectionately referred to Nancy as the 'Glue' that keeps the Village together. It has been an honor, a privilege, and a pleasure to serve and work with Nancy. Nancy will be truly missed within the Village government and we wish her the absolute best in her retirement.



Thursday, June 14th

Show respect to our Nation's Flag.
Replace old, faded, torn and damaged flags properly.

South Russell Service Department will accept old and damaged flags through Friday, June 15th to be properly destroyed by the Boy Scouts of Troop 241 from St. Joan of Arc, Troop 150 from the Federated Church, and Troop 177 from the United Methodist Church.

A special ceremony will be held at Evergreen Hill Cemetery in Chagrin Falls on

Saturday, June 16 at Noon
for proper disposal of these flags.



Walking is fun and great exercise, but it must be done safely. How can you avoid getting hurt? Here are some safety tips for walkers from the South Russell Police Department.

- Always walk on the side of the road facing traffic, so you can see on coming traffic.
- Dress to be seen. Brightly colored clothing makes it easier for the drivers to see you during the daytime. At night, you need to wear special reflective material on our shoes, cap or jacket to reflect the headlights of cars coming towards you.

Tips for crossing the street.

- Cross only at corners or marked cross walks.
- Stop at the curb or the edge of the road.
- Stop and look both ways before stepping into the street and crossing the road.
- If you see a vehicle approaching, wait until it goes by. Then look left, right and left again until no cars are coming.
- If a car is parked where you are crossing, check and make sure there is no driver in the car. Then go to the edge of the car and look left-right and left again to make sure no cars are coming. Keep looking for cars while you are crossing and remember walk, don't run.

Home-based Businesses

The Village of South Russell is primarily a residential community and we strive to retain that environment for all. It is intended that any home-based occupation is incidental to the main use of the dwelling unit which must be the primary residence of the person engaged in the business.

Home-based businesses are permitted, provided that the business:

- ❖ Has no more than 1 employee, exclusive of direct family members.
- ❖ Use does not alter the exterior residential character of the home.
- ❖ Is limited to service oriented businesses.
- ❖ Has no equipment in use that would create dust, noise, odor, glare, vibrations or electrical disturbances.
- ❖ Does not attract any more than 3 automobiles at any one time, or maximum 10 per day.
- ❖ Does not use accessory buildings for storage of products or materials.
- ❖ Utilizes less than 300 ft² within the dwelling unit for ANY and ALL home-based businesses at that location.
- ❖ Has signage in accordance with the sign requirements permitted in residential districts.
- ❖ The following are not permitted uses:
 - food or beverage sales
 - motor vehicles or equipment sales or repair
 - laundries
 - production or assembly of products or goods

Should you have any questions regarding these requirements, please feel free to contact our Building Department for assistance.

Village Looks for Renewal of Operating Levy

This May, South Russell Village will be looking to renew its operating levy. This operating levy has been in place since 1976, and has never been increased. A renewal levy is not a tax increase. A renewal levy will keep tax rates at their current level. The Village has been very diligent in controlling costs, ultimately providing us the ability to keep this levy in place without increase for 30 years.

This operating levy generates approximately \$160,000 per year and is used for the general operating expenses of the village.

This levy is a five-year levy, with an effective date of Jan 1st, 2008. This levy has an estimated current cost per home of \$31.08 per year per \$100,000 Market Value.

Please visit the South Russell Website, click on the 'Tax Facts' link to be linked to the Geauga County Auditors Levy Calculator to obtain additional information.

Geauga Fresh Farmers' Market Opens Soon With Plant Sale



The Geauga Fresh Farmers' Market opens its sixth season on Saturday, June 2, 2007 in the South Russell Village parking lot at Rt. 306 and Bell St. This year the Market will start with a pre-season Plant Sale on Saturday, May 19 and 26 featuring vegetable and flowering plants, hanging baskets, cut flowers, honey, baked goods, and other seasonal products.

The goal of the Farmers' Market is to provide local farmers with a means to sell their produce and other products directly to consumers and to afford residents the opportunity to buy the freshest seasonal produce and meet their friends in a community setting. The Market will be open from 9:00 to 1:00p.m. every Saturday rain or shine, through early October and features seasonal fruits and vegetables, mushrooms, meat, eggs and cheese, cut flowers, honey and jams, maple syrup, baked goods, herbs, crafts, soaps and lotions, and a variety of other local hand-made products.

Monthly events will include grilling meats in June, corn and garlic roasting in July, tomato tasting in August, and salsa tasting in September. The Village is looking for volunteers to help with parking and events. Those interested should call the Village, 440-338-6700 or Market Manager Kris DuBois at 440-220-0871 or email at kdubois1@mac.com.

2007 SCHEDULE OF COLLECTION EVENTS

SEASONAL HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE RECYCLING FACILITY

5138 ENTERPRISE BLVD., WARREN, OHIO

The seasonal facility will open May 2, 2007 every Wednesday through September 26, 2007

**WEDNESDAY HOURS OF OPERATION:
10:00 AM TO 6:00 PM**

Saturday, May 5, 2007 – 9:00 am to 12 Noon

Saturday, June 2, 2007 – 9:00 am to 12 Noon

Saturday, July 7, 2007 – 9:00 am to 12 Noon

Saturday, August 4, 2007 – 9:00 am to 12 Noon

Household hazardous waste such as paint, oil, anti-freeze, propane tanks, etc., and computer equipment will be accepted at the seasonal facility.



2007 ONE DAY COLLECTION EVENTS

APPLIANCE COLLECTION

Saturday, April 14, 2007, 9:00 am to Noon

Geauga County Engineer's Yard, 12665 Merritt Road, Chardon, Ohio
Free Freon Removal. Workers will be available to unload vehicles. No televisions or microwave ovens!

APPLIANCE COLLECTION

Saturday, April 21, 2007, 9:00 am to Noon

**Geauga-Trumbull Solid Waste District Seasonal Recycling Facility
5138 Enterprise Blvd., Warren, Ohio**

Free Freon Removal. Workers will be available to unload vehicles. No televisions or microwave ovens!

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

Saturday, April 28, 2007, 9:00 am to Noon

Geauga County Engineer's Yard, 12665 Merritt Road, Chardon, Ohio
Household hazardous waste such as paint, oil, anti-freeze, propane tanks, etc.



Solid Waste Management District

www.startrecycling.com

330-675-2673 or 1-800-707-2673

All collection events are free of charge!
Events held rain or shine! No Commercial Businesses!
Residents of Geauga and Trumbull Counties Only!



Sponsored by Geauga-Trumbull Solid Waste District, Trumbull County Board of Commissioners and Geauga County Board of Commissioners



**Village of
South Russell**
5205 Chillicothe Road
South Russell, Ohio 44022

**SOUTH
RUSSELL**
Village

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2007 SPRING TRASH DAYS ARE SCHEDULED for South Russell Residents

SENIOR CITIZEN SPRING RESIDENTIAL TRASH PICKUP DAY

Please note changes in collection dates and contact
phone number for information

WEST END OF THE VILLAGE -

WEDNESDAY, May 9, 2007 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

EAST END OF THE VILLAGE -

THURSDAY, May 10, 2007 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

Seniors living in South Russell Village wishing to have a pickup
scheduled on Senior Trash Collection Day should call the
**Geauga County Department on Aging at 564-7131
extension 5520.**

Information needed when placing your request for a pick-up is:

Your Name

Your Address

Your Phone Number

Items needing to be picked up.

Small items should be in containers such as a box. These items
should be items not able to be picked up during normal weekly
collection such as: newspapers, garbage and household waste. All
items should be placed in the driveway or at the curbside. South
Russell Village employees and volunteers are not permitted to
enter the home.

SOUTH RUSSELL SPRING TRASH DAY DROPOFF

SATURDAY MAY 12, 2007

8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

South Russell Village has authorized and the Service
Department will provide village residents
a Spring Cleanup Trash Day noting the date and times above.

ITEMS THAT WILL BE ACCEPTED ARE:

General trash and debris

Items containing freon (refrigerators, freezers, dehumidifiers
and air conditioners)

Scrap metal

White metal such as appliances

TIRES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT THIS CLEANUP

Residency I.D. is required and may be asked for.

*** NO YARD WASTE***

*** NO HAZARDOUS**

HOUSEHOLD CHEMICALS ACCEPTED *

*** NO CONTAINERS WITH**

LIQUEFIED PRODUCTS ACCEPTED *