

December 9, 2014

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Village personnel are wrapping up the Ash tree removal necessary in our parks, cemeteries and along the public right-of-ways throughout the village. It is a shame to lose such large mature shade trees but unfortunately we had no choice due to the ash borer and the danger possible from the dead and/or dying trees. We are in the process of planting 25 trees as a start in replacing those trees removed and will do more tree plantings next year. As a Tree City it is our policy to replace any trees removed on village property with a newly planted tree somewhere on our grounds. We will continue to monitor our trees to keep them safe and replace those that become a liability.

Also as previously discussed, we have completed all leaf pickup and brush pick-up for the year and will not start the curb side brush pick-up until spring and the winter weather is gone. Any further leaves must be put in the Maharg yard waste bags for pickup on Wednesday mornings.

Progress continues on our planning for improvements to our wastewater lagoons as does our final budgetary process for 2015 which will likely include some updated equipment along with some funding for street overlays on the streets impacted by the recent sewer separation project.

The utility aggregation programs for both electric and natural gas are up and running. Anyone that has any questions or needs assistance, please feel free to contact me at the village offices. Looking at some of the latest supply numbers for both utilities, the aggregation program will save most people a decent amount of money so we want to make sure everyone is notified and takes advantage of these programs.

I want to take an opportunity over the next few weeks to recognize and thank the individuals that serve on various boards and committees for the village. The village Park Board is made up of five individuals of whom three are appointed by the village mayor and two are appointed by the Fort Recovery School Board. They meet monthly to discuss the operations of our parks, do planning for future projects and improvements, and are in charge of the pool operations and park facilities. These gentlemen serve as volunteers and we truly appreciate the commitment they give to our community by keeping our parks progressing forward and recommending necessary improvements. The current Park Board members are Bill Bechtol (President), Bob Staugler (V-P), Harold Fiely, Tom Staugler and Dan Carr. These members have been very committed to our parks over the years as all have over 5 years of service to the village. On a special note, Bill has served on the Park Board since its creation back in 1981 and has been president for over 20 years. Thank You Bill. It is this type of commitment and service to our community that continues to make Fort Recovery special!! I want to personally thank each of them and hope you take the opportunity when you see them next to do the same.