



Village of Mariemont

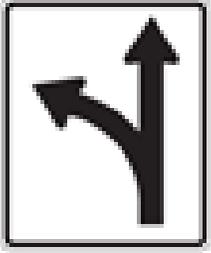
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www.mariemont.org
MAYOR'S BULLETIN

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ODOT FINALLY AGREES WITH US CONCERNING LEFT-TURN LANE WITH ARROW ON WOOSTER PIKE AT POCAHONTAS AVENUE

There have been some auto accidents on Wooster Pike at Pocahontas Avenue involving high school students trying to turn left to get to school. These accidents and concern for the safety of our kids prompted us to contact ODOT several months ago, asking if the Village could add a left-turn arrow at that intersection while still allowing cars in both eastbound lanes of Wooster Pike to continue going straight, as well. ODOT told us that if we wanted a left-turn arrow, we would have to make one eastbound lane a dedicated left-turn-only lane. We went with ODOT's plan and, as you know, it did not work! Traffic on Wooster Pike was backing up and causing unacceptable congestion, especially during the evening rush hour. Once again, we contacted ODOT and on October 4th, their traffic engineer, Tom Arnold and I met with Vice Mayor and Safety Committee Chairman Dennis Wolter, Councilman and Safety Committee Member Andy Black, Police/Fire Chief Rick Hines, and Village Engineer Chris Ertel at the Wooster Pike and Pocahontas Avenue intersection, and Mr. Arnold was able to see for himself the problems we were dealing with at this location. ODOT has now agreed to allow the Village to install a left-turn arrow WITHOUT making the inside eastbound lane a dedicated, left-turn-only lane. We have made changes to the striping and have changed the traffic signal on the inside lane to make it possible for drivers to turn left or go straight. The timing of the light has been adjusted to allow for eastbound traffic to turn left before the westbound traffic gets a green light. These changes still provide us with the safety we were wanting for our high school students turning left in the mornings while allowing traffic to flow through the Village without the awful backups we had during the evening rush hour. Thank you for your patience while these changes were put in place.



NEW AMBULANCE IN SERVICE

The Safety Committee, Assistant Fire Chief Jeff Travers, and Fire Marshall Tim Fiechtner acted in record time. Our new ambulance has already arrived and was immediately put into service, replacing the 1984 life squad that was very near the end of its life span. Recent costly repairs to the old ambulance made it apparent that it was time to invest in a new one. Fire Marshal Fiechtner did extensive research and was able to find a 'demo' unit, saving the Village approximately \$75,000 when compared to the cost of ordering a new squad. We knew this expense was coming and prepared for it by setting aside Capital Improvement funds just for this purpose. The new, better equipped ambulance will allow our Fire Department to provide the best care possible to our residents.

REMINDER – OCTOBER IS BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

In conjunction with Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the Mariemont Theatre has arranged for a mobile mammography unit to offer services in the Village on **Saturday, October 30th, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** at the Village Square. To sign up, call 956-3729, press Option #2 and then Option #1. Thanks to the Mariemont Theatre for arranging for the mammography van and for making this method of early detection so convenient for our women residents.



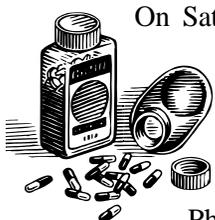
TRICK OR TREAT

Beggar's Night will be held in the Village from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 31st. Please use extra care when driving through the Village during that time. Remember to make sure your ghosts and goblins can see clearly through their masks to prevent falls and other accidents. You can find other Halloween Safety Tips at <http://www.halloween-safety.com/>. Also, **Mercy St. Theresa will host a Halloween event on Thursday, October 28th from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. for children ages 10 and under. Residents will pass out treats inside where it is warm and well-lit for the little ones. This annual event is always a hit!**

LEAF COLLECTION

Due to the extremely dry weather we had this summer and fall, the Service Department will continue to concentrate on watering our new trees until late October. Therefore, leaf collection by the Village will not begin until Monday, November 1st. It will continue through December 20th. Leaves need to be raked to the curb (but NOT into the street). EACH STREET will receive leaf collection ONCE PER WEEK. To insure your leaves are collected each week, please have them on the curb no later than 7:00 a.m. each Monday. You may still bag your leaves (in clear plastic or brown paper lawn waste bags) and place them at the curb before 7:00 a.m. on your regular trash day and Rumpke will pick them up. If we get a good, soaking rain, we will start pick up ahead of the scheduled date.

PHARMACEUTICAL COLLECTION DAY SCHEDULED



On Saturday, November 13th, from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., residents are encouraged to drop off any old outdated drugs at the Mariemont Police Department. The Police Department will then destroy the drugs in the appropriate manner. The drugs can be over-the-counter medications and/or prescription drugs you no longer need. Starting November 1st, if you are not able to bring your outdated medications to the Police Department, please call 271-4089 and a Police Officer will schedule a time to come to your home to pick up the drugs. This program is part of Hamilton County Soil & Water Conversation District's Pharmaceutical Take-Back Event as a way of keeping discarded drugs out of our drinking water supply.



THANKS FOR PITCHING IN!

The Village of Mariemont will be honored on November 16th for achieving the highest recycling rate of any community under 10,000 residents in 2009. We are also among the best recycling communities in all of Hamilton County for the first half of 2010. We are now recycling 29.72% of all the trash collected in the Village. This allows us to earn the highest rate available for Residential Recycling Incentive Program funds. For the first half of 2010, we earned \$8,873.72 from the Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District. Thank you to all of you who have made recycling a regular part of your routine. For those who would like more information on recycling, please join Council members on Saturday, November 6th for a class on recycling and composting. (See details below) If you need a recycling bin to get started, please call the Village office at 271-3246.

SAVE MONEY ON TRASH DISPOSAL

As you know, Council voted to increase the annual waste collection fee and the cost of trash stickers as a way to reduce the Village's budget deficit, but *that does not mean you have to spend more money to dispose of your trash!* Try composting and recycling instead! It is easier than you think to get started. A class outlining both of these cost-saving and environmentally-friendly methods of trash reduction will be held in the council room of the municipal building on Saturday, November 6th, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Composting and Recycling Experts will be on hand to provide information and answer questions. Composting and recycling are great family projects! Don't miss this opportunity to keep your costs down and help your kids learn about protecting the environment! To register for the class, please send an e-mail to info@mariemont.com or call 271-3246.



HELPFUL HINT: BUY YOUR TRASH STICKERS BEFORE NOVEMBER 11TH FOR \$1 EACH. THEY WILL BE VALID UNTIL YOUR SUPPLY IS GONE – EVEN AFTER THE PRICE GOES UP!

COUNCIL DECIDES AGAINST ROUNDABOUT WITH A 5 TO 1 VOTE

At the September 20th Committee of the Whole meeting, Council voted not to support Columbia Township's proposal to join them in converting the intersection at Plainville Road, Madisonville Road and Murray Avenue to a roundabout. The majority of residents who attended the meeting spoke out against the roundabout, saying the costs for the change could not be justified when safety at that intersection has never been a problem. Police Chief Rick Hines backed the residents' position, stating his records indicated there have only been four accidents there in the last five and a half years and none of those were serious or involved any injuries. Council also disagreed that the roundabout would encourage new businesses to locate in the area and/or improve the economy in the Village. They felt instead that it could have a negative impact on the Historic District due to the amount of green space that would have to be sacrificed to make room for the new traffic plan. Council was also concerned about the legal and land cost of having to use eminent domain to acquire some of the property necessary for the roundabout. Other reasons for rejecting the proposal included:

- A roundabout would not be friendly to pedestrians in our Village which was designed for walking, especially for handicapped and senior citizens
- The estimated Village cost was between \$70,000 and \$130,000 which does not include eminent domain expenses
- The area is just not big enough to accommodate a roundabout
- The Mariemont Parks Advisory Board voted 7 to 0 against the roundabout and the Mariemont Garden Club voted 22 to 0 against it
- Safety concerns due to having two schools in the area (the elementary school and the church's pre-school)
- It would be difficult for our fire trucks to get through a roundabout
- Roundabout would be too close to tennis courts and Murray Avenue townhouses

While Council did say they hoped to improve the working relationships with adjacent communities, they simply could not back this proposal. As the saying goes, "If it's not broken, don't fix it!" And in this economy, we cannot afford to waste our money.



GET OUT YOUR POOPER SCOOPER

Finally. . . we are still getting numerous complaints about residents not cleaning up after their dogs, especially along Miami Bluff and on the island by Hiawatha Avenue. Even though this is public property rather than private property, you must still pick up all feces left by your dog.

Sincerely,

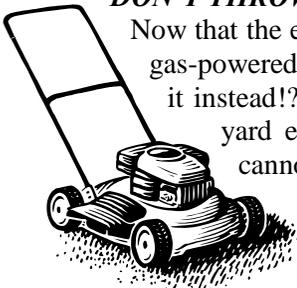
Dan Policastro

Dan Policastro, Mayor

Clip Here and Save the Information Below for Future Reference



DON'T THROW THAT LAWNMOWER OUT



Now that the end of the season is upon us, many people will be tempted to throw out that old mower or other gas-powered lawn care equipment. What happens when you do? It ends up in a landfill. Why not recycle it instead?! One of our Village residents has organized a program to refurbish unwanted gas-powered yard equipment and work with local charities to donate it to those homeowners and tenants who cannot afford to purchase such items. This program not only helps the environment by reducing the trash going into landfills, it also helps families in need and helps to encourage good property maintenance. If you have a lawnmower, weed trimmer or other gas-powered yard equipment you would like to donate, please send your contact information to pickup@cinci.rr.com.