

*Bath Township*  
**QUARTERLY**

FALL 2024 | VOLUME 31, ISSUE 4



*Photo by Dr. Lara Roketenetz*



3864 West Bath Road | P.O.Box 1188 | Akron, Ohio 44333 | (330) 666-4007



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Meeting and event information is available on the township website. Please visit [www.bathtownship.org](http://www.bathtownship.org) and select BATH COMMUNITY EVENTS on the home page.**

- 10/2 Bath Gamma Garden Club Fall Plants: 7pm Hale Farm & Village
- 10/5 Fall into Nature: 11am-3pm Bath Nature Preserve
- 10/5-10/6 Harvest Festival: 10am-5pm Hale Farm & Village
- 10/12 Fall Festival: 1-7pm Camp Christopher
- 10/12-10/13 Harvest Festival: 10am-5pm Hale Farm & Village
- 10/18 Hope Meadows Boots & BBQ: 6:30-10:30pm House Three Thirty
- 10/27 Bath Halloween Open House: 3-5pm Police & Fire Open House
- 10/27 Trick or Treat: 5-7pm Bath Township Trick or Treat
- 11/2 Wine Tasting Dinner: 5:30pm Crown Point Ecology Center
- 11/6 Bath Gamma Garden Club Holiday Project: 7pm Hale Farm & Village
- 11/8 BVS 7th Annual Trivia and Tacos: 6pm St. George Fellowship Center
- 11/4-11/19 Death of a Salesman: Western Reserve Playhouse
- 11/14 BVS American Red Cross Blood Drive: 1-6:30p Bath United Church
- 11/28 Wye Road Bridge Lighting: 5:30pm Wye Road Bridge

**TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATION HOURS**  
**Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM**  
**3864 West Bath Road - 330-666-4007**

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Full-time, part-time and seasonal employment opportunities with Bath Township are found on the Bath Township website. To locate this information, follow the steps below:

- Visit [www.bathtownship.org](http://www.bathtownship.org)
- Select HOW DO I
- Select APPLY FOR
- Select EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Positions are updated as they become available.

## Directory

ADMINISTRATION.....330-666-4007  
 FIRE (NON- EMERGENCY).....330-666-3738  
 SERVICE/PARKS.....330-665-5066  
 POLICE (NON-EMERGENCY).330-666-3736  
 RUMPKE (Solid Waste).....800-828-8171

EMERGENCIES DIAL 9-1-1

## Report A Concern

Did you know? Residents have the ability to report a concern through the Bath Township website under the "How Do I" tab. Resident concerns will then be directed to the appropriate department. A staff member will reply within 3-5 business days via the preferred contact method.

## BATH TOWNSHIP ELECTED OFFICIALS

### Board of Trustees:

**Sean F. Gaffney, President**  
sgaffney@bathtownship.org

**Elaina E. Goodrich, Vice-President**  
egoodrich@bathtownship.org

**Sharon A. Troike, Trustee**  
stroike@bathtownship.org

### Fiscal Officer:

**Laura Tuttle**  
ltuttle@bathtownship.org

# Bath Township Welcomes New Fiscal Officer

The Bath Township Board of Trustees is pleased to announce the appointment of Laura Tuttle as the new Fiscal Officer, filling the position left vacant in July of this year. The appointment was made during a Special Meeting held on August 15, 2024, where the Board unanimously voted in favor of Tuttle's appointment.

Ms. Tuttle brings nearly two decades of extensive experience in accounting, payroll, and finance, having held significant roles in both the private sector and nonprofit organizations.



She holds a degree in Accounting and Business Administration from Baldwin Wallace, equipping her with the expertise and knowledge necessary to manage the fiscal responsibilities of Bath Township effectively.

Ms. Tuttle and her husband Colin are Revere graduates and have owned a home together in Bath Township for 10 years. They are proud parents to two young daughters.

The Board looks forward to her contributions in maintaining the township's financial health and supporting its growth.

**SUNDAY  
OCTOBER  
27TH**

**BATH TOWNSHIP**

**HALLOWEEN**

**FD/PD OPEN HOUSE 3-5PM**

**TRICK OR TREAT 5-7PM**



# Emergency Warnings with **Reverse Alert**

Reverse Alert is a vital component of the County of Summit's Emergency Notification and Warning System. This service is designed to alert citizens about severe threats to health and safety by sending emergency messages through various communication channels, including email, devices for the hearing impaired, and telephone lines. These messages can reach business lines, cell phones, and home numbers, ensuring broad coverage during critical situations.

## When Will Reverse Alert Be Activated?

Reverse Alert is activated when there is an imminent threat to health and safety within a Summit County community. Examples of situations that could trigger a Reverse Alert include:

- Amber Alerts: When a child is abducted and believed to be in danger, a Reverse Alert can help disseminate information quickly to aid in the search.
- Boil Alerts: In the event of contamination in the local water supply, a Reverse Alert can notify citizens to boil water before use.
- Evacuations: If there is a need to evacuate an area due to natural disasters, chemical spills, or other emergencies, Reverse Alert will inform affected residents promptly.

These alerts are designed to provide timely and potentially life-saving information to residents, helping them take the necessary actions to protect themselves and their loved ones.

## Who Receives Reverse Alert Emergency Messages?

Reverse Alert emergency messages are sent to all Summit County citizens with published telephone numbers listed in the white pages, covering both business and residential lines. Additionally, citizens who proactively register their communication devices, such as cell phones and email addresses, will also receive these alerts.

This ensures that even those who rely on mobile devices or digital communication methods are kept informed during emergencies.

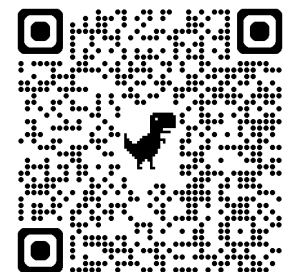
## Why Register Your Personal Contact Information?

Even if your telephone number is already listed in the white pages, it's highly recommended to register additional personal contact information with Reverse Alert. The more lines of communication you have registered, the greater the likelihood of receiving an emergency message promptly and efficiently. By providing multiple contact points, you increase the chances of being reached in various circumstances, ensuring that you stay informed no matter where you are or what communication method you are using at the time.

## Conclusion

Reverse Alert is a crucial tool for enhancing public safety in Summit County. By understanding its purpose, activation criteria, and the importance of registering multiple contact methods, residents can be better prepared to respond to emergencies. Taking a few moments to register your personal devices could make all the difference when time is of the essence.

For find more information, or to register for Summit County Reverse Alerts, please visit: [https://embeds.regroucloud.com/orgs/summitoh/channels/summit-county-emergency-alerts/signup\\_embed](https://embeds.regroucloud.com/orgs/summitoh/channels/summit-county-emergency-alerts/signup_embed) or scan the QR code below.



# Fall Into Nature Returns October 5

Autumn is upon us, and it's time once again for the annual Fall Into Nature event at the University of Akron Field Station, located within the scenic Bath Nature Preserve at 4240 Ira Road. This free family friendly community event will take place on Saturday, October 5, 2024, from 11 AM to 3 PM—rain or shine.

Residents and guests can look forward to a fun-filled day packed with activities for all ages, including hayrides, scarecrow-making, a pumpkin patch, face painting, and pumpkin painting. The University of Akron Field Station will host hands-on exhibits showcasing the innovative projects led by university students.

Here's a look at the scheduled events:

- 11:30 AM: Blessing of the Dogs (dog/cat food donations requested to support PeopleCarePetPantry.com)
- 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM: Zoo Mobile
- 2:30 PM: Drawing for two bikes

In addition to the main activities, various local community groups will be on hand with displays and interactive booths.

Delicious food will be available for purchase from DJ Food Truck, Liquid Lab & Studio (serving bubble tea), and Papa Bear Ice Cream. Live music will be performed by local guitarist Keith Barnett. Don Witt, the pumpkin carver extraordinaire, will be showcasing his talent with incredible pumpkin sculptures.

Visit [www.bathtownship.org](http://www.bathtownship.org), email [BathParkBoard@gmail.com](mailto:BathParkBoard@gmail.com), or check out Bath Parks on Facebook for more details.



Bath Volunteers for Service (BVS) was established in 1958 when 13 local women came together with a goal of helping to better the lives of local children and adults through fundraising and volunteer service.

Each year hundreds of volunteer hours are spent in the community, including two annual Red Cross Blood Drives, Bath Parks "Fall into Nature", ringing the Salvation Army bell during the Holiday season, and many other activities including clothing, food and toiletry collections for various Summit County agencies. There are also regular social events such as book club, hikes, and field trips.

Trivia & Tacos is one of three fundraising events sponsored by BVS each year. Thanks to outstanding community support, in 2023 BVS was able to return over \$57,000 to the local community in the form of student scholarships and monetary grants to 35 area not-for-profit community service organizations.

 presents the **7th Annual** 

**TRIVIA & TACOS**  
COMPETITION FUNDRAISER

**Friday, November 8, 2024**  
St. George's Fellowship Center  
3204 Ridgewood Road, Fairlawn 

Trivia presented by **Sporcle Live**  
Doors open at **5:30 p.m.**

For tickets and information, go to [www.bathvolunteersforservice.com](http://www.bathvolunteersforservice.com)

Proceeds distributed to local charities and students

# Holiday Season starts with Santa's Arrival at Wye Road Bridge Lighting

A favorite family Thanksgiving tradition in Bath is the annual Wye Road Bridge Lighting and Santa Arrival, courtesy of the Bath Business Association (BBA).

This is the 20th year for families, friends, neighbors and children of all ages to gather at the Wye Road Bridge, near The Bake Shop in Ghent, on the Friday after Thanksgiving – this year on Nov. 28, starting at 5:30 p.m.

The stretch of Wye Road along the bridge takes on a winter fairyland appearance with evergreen garlands and lights draping the bridge, Frosty the Snowman tucked in the background, and the decorated Christmas tree lighting. Thanks to the magic “sleigh” of the Bath Fire Department, Santa Claus will arrive and alighting from his transport will spend the evening listening to the holiday wishes of kids of all ages.

Rudolph the Red-Nose Reindeer, and The Grinch will mingle among the crowd, and gift bags with goodies will be passed out to the younger attendees thanks to the BBA members. As always, there will be holiday cookies, courtesy of Vaughn & Company Salon, along with coffee and hot chocolate, compliments of The Bake Shop.

“The Wye Road Bridge Lighting helps draw attention to the unique and distinctive businesses here in Bath, many of which are members of the BBA,” said Nancy Fay, BBA member and owner of The Bake Shop in Ghent. “Why not enhance your holiday shopping experience by shopping locally? It’s a great way to support the businesses of your friends and neighbors!”



For details about the Wye Road Bridge Lighting or to peruse the listing of BBA members, check out the BBA website at [www.bathbusinessassociation.com](http://www.bathbusinessassociation.com) or call 330-666-3347.



Bath Fire Department will once again be partnering with Toys for Tots by hosting a collection sight for toy drop off. Toys can be dropped off at Bath Township Fire Station located at 3864 W. Bath Road beginning on 11/1. Toys should be new and unwrapped and appropriate for anyone toddler through teenage.



Bath residents may dispose of trimmed trees, branches, etc. at the township's Organics Recycle Trailer during daylight hours. The trailer is located at 1188 N. Cleveland Massillon Road south of the Bath Township Center building.

# WINTER HOLIDAY SAFETY



Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.


## HOLIDAY DECORATING


- Choose holiday decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.




## HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING

- Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- Keep children and pets away from lit candles and keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- Stay in the kitchen when using the stovetop.
- Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.

 More than 1/3 of home decoration fires are started by candles.

 More than two of every five decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.

 Blow out candles when you leave the room or go to bed.

# Your Gift, Bath's Future

Have you ever thought about making a contribution that could benefit your local community for generations to come? Bath Township now offers a variety of ways for residents, organizations, and businesses to give back, ensuring that donations are used in ways that truly enhance Bath Township.

Whether it's through a gift of land, equipment, money, or personal property, Bath Township's Board of Trustees is dedicated to honoring the intent behind every donation. Contributions large and small can make a difference, helping to improve public spaces, fund important projects, or support services that benefit everyone in our community. The Board carefully reviews all gifts and will provide acknowledgment letters suitable for federal tax purposes. All contributions are handled with transparency and respect for the donor's wishes.

For those interested in donating, a simple application form is available on the Township's website. Whether you're considering a memorial in honor of a loved one, contributing equipment, or even exploring sponsorship opportunities, the Board is ready to work with you to ensure your gift serves the township in a meaningful way.

Bath Township welcomes contributions that help shape a stronger, more vibrant community. If you're considering a donation, please reach out to township officials for more details on how to get involved. Your generosity can leave a lasting legacy in Bath Township!

# Bath Township Comprehensive Plan

Bath Township is continuing to work on an update to its Comprehensive Land Use Plan. The Township has engaged a Comprehensive Plan Committee (made up of residents and community members) to guide the process and has contracted with Envision Group LLC, based in Cleveland, to prepare the plan. The vision statement is to “Keep Bath Township Rural”. The Comprehensive Plan Committee has met four times this year and two public forums have been held at Bath Elementary School to engage residents and community members and to solicit feedback and preferences on planning issues. The first public forum was held on April 24th and the second was held August 14th.

The most recent forum centered around recommendations for future land use township wide as well as specific focus on several key areas within the Township. Future land use discussions highlighted the Medina Line / SR 18 area and the Ghent Road Interchange area at Interstate 77. Specific focus area discussions included proposed placemaking and traffic calming enhancements at Northern Cleveland-Massillon Rd / Hammond’s Corners, the Ghent Hamlet as well as development opportunities in the Springside Drive commercial area.



In addition to the Comprehensive Plan and public engagement meetings, Envision has also conducted in-person meetings with local businesses and property owners to gain further insights into the development and/or redevelopment of key parcels within the Township. Feedback from all of these meetings has been positive and Envision continues to refine the plan as we move forward into the third quarter

Next steps include revising focus area recommendations based on community input, developing an actionable implementation plan and prioritization, and developing a draft plan document in Fall of 2024. The Steering Committee will meet two more times and a third and final public forum will be held this Fall. The plan is anticipated to be completed in final draft form by end of 2024, with formal reviews and approval/disapproval by the Township Trustees in early 2025.