



THE TOWNSHIP

# Scribe



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## Every emergency vehicle arrives ready for medical emergencies

Of the 6,317 emergency calls Washington Township first responders answered in 2019, 74% were for emergency medical services. A fast response by qualified staff with the right equipment and supplies can improve patient outcomes, dramatically. That’s why the fire department operates a medic vehicle from each of its four fire stations, which have been strategically located within the department’s service area to minimize response time.

What if the medic vehicle closest to the medical emergency is already on another call when the emergency dispatcher receives a 9-1-1 call? Other emergency response vehicles closest to the address of the emergency will be dispatched along with a medic unit from another station. In this case, the emergency response vehicle

that arrives first on the scene may be a rescue truck, fire engine, or ladder, or even the Battalion Chief.

Since all firefighters are either paramedics or emergency medical technicians, any member of the department is qualified to help in a medical emergency. In addition, all emergency vehicles are equipped with the equipment and supplies needed to address a medical emergency until the medic unit arrives.

This allows the department greater flexibility in determining how staff and trucks are utilized, a strategy that is cost-effective while providing for emergency response times that are well below the national average.

**Of the 6,317 emergency calls Washington Township first responders answered in 2019, 74% were for emergency medical services.**



## Bicycle helmets absorb the impact

When properly fitted and secured, a helmet can help to absorb the force of impact that results when a moving object (like your head) comes into contact with a one, like the road, a fence, or a pole. Because the helmet absorbs part of the force, less of it is transferred to your head, which can reduce the incidence and severity of injury.

Helmets are designed to protect against catastrophic injuries, such as skull fractures and bleeding of the brain. That's why wearing a helmet can really save your life.

How can you increase the likelihood of your child wearing their helmet? Make sure it's comfortable by ensuring it fits and is properly adjusted and positioned. Age is not a predictor of helmet size so try them on before you purchase one.

### The helmet should be positioned on the head so that:

- the top of the helmet touches the top of the head. The helmet should be snug but not tight.
- the bottom of the helmet is parallel to the ground, not tipped back.
- the straps at the ears fall in front, behind and below the ears
- the chin strap, when secured, allows space enough for two fingers to fit snugly between the strap and skin. This room should be ample enough to allow the user to move their jaw freely but not loose enough to allow the helmet to slip backward on the head.

### Strategies you can employ to encourage your child to wear their helmet are:

**Start early.** Habits are formed through consistency and repetition.

Set an example. Wear one when you are cycling, skating, scootering etc.

**Make it easy.** Store the helmet where it is convenient and accessible for your child to retrieve.

**Make it fun.** Give your child a choice in selecting his/her own helmet.

### Explain the importance and purpose of the helmet to the extent that his/her understanding allows.

It is important to remember that, despite all the technological advances in helmet design, they are only primarily effective in reducing the severity of concussions. The only sure way to reduce the dangerous and long-term effects of concussions on the brain is to eliminate the incidence of concussions.

If your child plays sports, know the signs of a concussion and support your child sitting out when they have suffered a concussion. No matter the sport, if a young athlete is showing signs of a concussion, "If in doubt, sit it out."

## When thunder roars, go indoors

Did you know that all thunderstorms produce lightning and that lightning can strike as far as ten miles away from the storm? Many injuries and deaths from lightning occur because people often wait too long to seek shelter. The safest shelter during a thunderstorm is inside a large, enclosed building. If no substantial buildings are available, an enclosed metal vehicle is a suitable alternative.

Buildings and vehicles with open or soft tops/sides are not safe. These include beach shacks, metal sheds, picnic shelters/pavilions, carports, baseball dugouts, porches, golf carts, convertibles, tractors, and construction equipment.

If a storm is expected, unplug major or unnecessary appliances such as televisions and air conditioners, as power surges can damage appliances beyond repair. Avoid using corded phones or any electrical appliances.

Lightning can enter your home as a direct strike, through wires or pipes that extend outside your home (i.e. water, gas pipes), or through the ground. Once it makes it into your home, the current generated by the lightning strike can travel through electrical lines, plumbing, phone lines, radio or television reception systems. Flexible gas line is more susceptible to lightning damage than iron pipe. Look, listen and smell for gas leaks and any evidence of a fire. If the fire is small (smoldering) and in a remote location such as the crawl space, basement, or attic, you may not be able to see flames but you can often smell or see smoke.

**If you detect any unusual odors or see any smoke, call 9-1-1 immediately.**

## Get help to replace smoke detector batteries

If the battery is dead in a smoke detector, it's worthless. Make sure the batteries that provide primary or back up power to them are changed annually. Smoke detectors that are wired to a home electrical system will be powered until electricity is interrupted, as might occur during a temporary power outage. During the outage, these detectors rely on power to be supplied by a 9 volt battery, located in each unit.

If your home's smoke detectors aren't wired directly to your home's electrical system, they will be powered exclusively by a 9 volt battery. These, too, need to be replaced annually to ensure they keep your detector doing it's job---"sniffing" for deadly smoke.

If you need help replacing the batteries in your detectors, the fire department can help. Call 614-652-3920 Monday - Friday between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm to request assistance. Provide your name and Washington Township/Dublin address. We will alert our on-duty first responders of your request and they will assist you with up to one battery replacement for each level of your home. We will supply the batteries if you don't have them. Because our firefighter/paramedic's first priority is emergencies, they fill requests as time and staffing permits.



If your smoke detectors are more than 10 years old, replace them. Detectors available today are powered by a sealed battery that has a 10-year lifespan. So, after 10 years, when the battery fails, the entire unit will need to be replaced.

Purchase a dual sensor type with both photoelectric and ionization sensors. The photoelectric sensor detects smoke. The ionization sensor detects heat from flames.

**If you have questions about smoke detectors, our firefighters are happy to help. When you call, let us know what times would be best to reach you. We will do our best to call at a convenient time.**



## Citizen Fire Academy is a lesson in adventure and fun

The Citizen Fire Academy (CFA) is a school like no other-- no homework, no tests, no hall passes, and super cool teachers: Firefighter/Paramedics. They'll show you some of the tools and techniques they use as emergency responders and you'll get the chance to climb, cut, smash, carry, crawl, hang suspended, pull, and push your way through several firefighting, EMS, and rescue techniques.

There is no pressure to do all the activities offered in the class. However, the friendly camaraderie that develops between class members usually encourages most to give it a try. There is some lecture, but most class time is dedicated to demonstrations, tours, "gearing up," and getting firsthand experience (if you choose).

The 2020 class will meet on eight consecutive Thursday evenings from 6-9 pm and one Saturday from 9 am-5 pm. The dates are: August 6, 13, 20, 27, September 3, 10, 17, 19, and 24. Apply online at [wtwp.com](http://wtwp.com).

**Questions about the program can be directed to Training Manager Jamie Ross at 614-652-3935 or [jross@wtwp.com](mailto:jross@wtwp.com)**



## Fire department recruiting firefighters

The fire department is looking for part-time firefighters to join its ranks. Part-time employment is the first step to becoming a full-time firefighter as part-time firefighters who successfully complete the department's mentoring program are invited to apply for full-time positions as they become available.

### Requirements for applying to become a part-time firefighter are:

- At least 18 years of age
- Valid Ohio Motor Vehicle Operators License without excessive violations
- High School diploma or equivalent, Associate's or Bachelor's Degree desired
- Clear background check and drug screening
- State of Ohio Firefighter Level II (240 Hour) card
- State of Ohio EMT-B (emergency medical technician- basic) certification
- Advanced Cardiac Life Support certification
- International Trauma Life Support certification
- National Incident Management System certification

## Community garden plots available

Join our friendly group of community gardeners who grow food and flowers at the corner of Cosgray and Rings Roads. For a fee of \$40 (residents) or \$50 (non-residents), you can grow all the fruits, vegetables and flowers you like within a 12'X14' area.

Gardeners share a water tap and small storage shed.

Reserve your plot on our web site through our "classes" link on [wtwp.com](http://wtwp.com).



If you have these credentials, you are ready to complete a township application and take the exam. You must achieve a passing score on the exam. Complete the application and apply to take the exam at [www.nationaltestingnetwork.com](http://www.nationaltestingnetwork.com). Practice tests are available at [www.fireteamtest.com](http://www.fireteamtest.com).

At the time of application, you will select the fire departments that you would like to receive your application and test scores. You may apply to more than one department at a time through the National Testing Network.

When Washington Township has openings for part-time firefighters, we invite those applicants who meet the requirements to participate in a scheduled physical ability test and in-person interview. The starting pay for part-time Washington Township Firefighter is \$12.40/hour if you hold an EMT-B certification or \$12.78 if you have a Paramedic certification.

Where can you get your Firefighter Level II card? There are several schools in the Central Ohio area that offer the program including Columbus State Community College, Delaware Area Career Center, Ohio Fire Academy, and Tolles Career & Technical Center. The time required to complete the Firefighter II course varies depending on the class format offered. Some schools that offer Firefighter II training also offer EMT-B certification classes.

**If you are interested in a career in the fire service, there is no better time to get started.**

To find out more about the skills and abilities that successful firefighters need, check out the part-time firefighter job description at [www.wtwp.com](http://www.wtwp.com) or call Human Resources at 614.652.3942.



## Only rain down the storm drain

Storm drains connect directly to streams and rivers. Keep everything except water from entering storm drains. Even natural material like leaves and grass clippings can have harmful effects on aquatic ecosystems.

## EMS Week

All programs are offered at 6200 Eiterman Road Free of charge but preregistration is required at [wtwp.com](http://wtwp.com)

### Monday, May 18 Strokes and Cardiac Arrest

#### Stroke Awareness

Symptoms of a stroke are not always the same for men and women. Learn how to recognize them and what to do to help until emergency responders arrive. **Ages: 13 & up (ages 13-16 need to be accompanied by a parent/guardian), 5:30 pm - 6:00 pm**

#### CPR with AED

Ideal for community groups, parents, grandparents, caregivers and students, this course is for anyone who wants to learn CPR, but does not need a course completion card. Topics include adult, child and infant CPR and AED, and how to help a choking victim. To accommodate the maximum number of people in the space we have available, we will have only a few tables and chairs available for those who need them, so please wear comfortable clothes suitable for activities on the floor. **Ages: 12 and up, 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm. Registration begins April 1 for residents and April 10 for non-residents.**

#### Diabetes Awareness

Learn how to recognize high and low blood sugar and how to treat it. **Ages: 13 & up (ages 13-16 need to be accompanied by a parent/guardian), 6:00 pm - 6:30 pm**

### Tuesday, May 19 Safety in Schools

#### Hot Topics in School Safety

Chuck Collier, retired Dublin Police Officer/School Resource Officer, and current Coordinator of Safety & Security for Dublin City Schools, will discuss various safety related topics and answer your student safety concerns and questions. Social media, active shooter, and safety drills are included. **Ages: 13 & up (ages 13-16 need to be accompanied by a parent/guardian), 5:30 pm - 6:15pm**

#### Dispatchers and bystanders work together

Staff members from the Northwest Regional Emergency Communication Center (NRECC) will give a fascinating presentation that includes audio from actual local 911 calls. Find out what information is most important to share when placing a 911 call, how and when it's best to use the Text to 911 service, and how a Smart 911 profile can help enhance the speed and quality of an emergency response to you or a family member. **Ages: 13 & up (ages 13-16 need to be accompanied by a parent/guardian), 6:30 - 7:15pm**

### Wednesday, May 20 EMS for Infants and Children

#### Infant CPR for Expecting & New Parents/Grandparents

If you expecting or adopting a child, have a newborn at home, or will be babysitting your new grandchild, this class is for you! React quickly with the knowledge and skills that can help a baby if they are choking or need CPR. Get tips on securing your child's car seat. Although this is an American Heart Association course, completion cards will not be issued. **Ages: 18 and up, 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm**

#### Pediatric Health, Safety & Emergencies

Dr. Anne Dietrich, MD, will present on youth sports injuries, concussions, safety at home, and how to determine if an injury or health issue warrants an ER visit. **Ages: 18 & up, 6:45 pm - 7:15 pm**

### Thursday, May 21 Save a Life & Stop the Bleed

#### CPR with AED

See May 18 program description. **Ages 12 and up, 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm. Registration begins April 1 for residents and April 10 for non-residents.**

#### Stop the Bleed

Learn to recognize a life threatening, traumatic bleeding situation and what to do until first responders arrive. This class will include hands on tourniquet training and practice. **Ages: 13 & up (ages 13-16 need to be accompanied by a parent/guardian), 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm**

### Friday, May 22 Recognizing EMS Professionals

#### Medic Unit Demonstration

Take an interactive tour of a medic unit. Paramedics will demonstrate the life support procedures they employ when responding to a heart attack or cardiac arrest emergency where CPR is in progress. See the Lucas device in action and find out how it improves the care paramedics can provide in such emergencies. **Ages: 13 & up (ages 13-16 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian) 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm**

# Safety education for every age

Register at [wtwp.com](http://wtwp.com)

## American Red Cross® Babysitting

This course covers the skills needed to provide care for children and infants safely and responsibly. Topics include leadership, considerations for starting your own babysitting business, personal and child safety, and techniques for encouraging youth cooperation and contentment. Please bring a lunch to class.

**Ages:** 11-15  
**Date:** Saturday April 25 Register by April 17  
 Thursday June 11 Register by June 3  
**Time:** 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.  
**Location:** 6200 Eiterman Road  
**Fee:** \$45 (Township/Dublin residents), \$50 (non-residents)

## CPR for Teens NEW!

Do you need CPR training for your summer job or for babysitting? Learn CPR and how to use an automatic external defibrillator, or AED. Developed by the American Heart Association, this class addresses child and adult CPR, recognizing and relieving a choking victim, recognizing the signs of a heart attack, and how to use an AED

**Ages:** 12-17  
**Date:** Friday June 12 Register by June 5  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  
**Location:** 6200 Eiterman Road  
**Fee:** \$35 (Township/Dublin residents), \$45 (non-residents)

## Storytime at the Fire Station

One of our firefighters will read a children's book. Children will have the chance to meet Sparky, our big furry fire safety mascot, and take a tour of the fire trucks. Pre-registration is required as space is limited. Parents/guardians must accompany children.

**Ages:** 3-5  
**Date:** Friday May 1 Register by April 24  
**Location:** Station 95, 5750 Blazer Memorial Parkway  
**Date:** Friday July 10 Register by July 3  
**Location:** Station 91, 6255 Shier Rings Road  
**Date:** Friday August 7 Register by July 31  
**Location:** Station 93, 5825 Brand Road  
**Time:** 10:30 a.m.  
**Fee:** Free. Please list one child per registration.

## AED Consultations NEW!

Automatic External Defibrillators or AEDs are becoming more common in public places, businesses, and even private homes. Many who learn CPR also learn how to use an AED with CPR, providing the potential for bystander response that can really make a difference in a cardiac arrest victim's outcome. If you have an AED or are thinking about purchasing one, our safety technician can answer your questions about their use, features, and cost.

**To arrange for a site visit, Dublin/Washington Township residents and businesses can call 614-652-3920 or complete the AED consultation request form at [wtwp.com](http://wtwp.com).**

## Until Help Arrives

If you are ever involved in or witness a traumatic accident, will you know what to do until emergency responders arrive? Would you be prepared to help save someone's life? This course will walk you through each step: how to recognize that there is a problem, how to assess the surroundings so you can act safely, what information is most important to share on a 911 call, and the care you can administer until first responders arrive. Washington Township Fire Department Battalion Chief Mike Riebel and 911 emergency dispatcher at Northwest Regional Emergency Communications Center, Stephanie Skipworth, present this class in a format that includes lecture, demonstrations and hands-on skills practice.

**Ages:** 13 & older (Parent/guardian must register and attend with 13-16 year olds)  
**Date:** Tuesday April 7 Register by April 3  
**Time:** 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
**Location:** 6200 Eiterman Rd.  
**Fee:** Free

## First Responder Teen Academy NEW!

Dublin Police Officers and Washington Township Firefighters will take you into their world of work as first responders. Learn about the skills and training they need to perform rescues, searches, fight fires, and provide emergency medical care.

Tour the 9-1-1 dispatch center. Learn how investigators collect evidence at a crime scene. Use the tools firefighters use to free victims trapped in vehicles. Suit up in full firefighter turnout gear. Do you dare? Lunch and snacks provided.

**Ages:** entering 9th-12th grades  
**Date:** Thursday June 18  
**Time:** 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
**Fee:** no cost



## Wetsuits & Waycool Trucks

**Friday June 26, 10 am - noon | Coffman Park, near amphitheatre**

Bring your family, friends, youth group, or neighborhood play group for a morning of fun! The Washington Township Fire Department will have a variety of activities to help make your summer safe!

- Tour Sparky's fire safety house
- Watch a dive demonstration in the Recreation Center pool (10:30 am)
- Get your bicycle helmet checked for size and fit
- Climb inside our fire and medic trucks
- It's free!



## Food & Personal Care Products Drive

**April 15-April 30**

We're collecting non-perishable, unexpired, unopened food and personal care items to benefit the Dublin Food Pantry. Items for which there is high demand include flour, sugar, rice, pasta, skillet meals (boxed rice/pasta side dishes), spaghetti sauce, jam/jelly, canned fruit, deodorant, toothpaste, individually packaged toothbrushes, toilet paper, and feminine hygiene products.

Drop your donations at any of the four fire stations: 6255 Shier Rings Road, 4497 Hard Road, 5825 Brand Road, 5750 Blazer Parkway. **Thank you for your kindness and generosity!**

# Washington Township

DRIVEN TO CARE, EVERY DAY.

## Board of Trustees

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dking@wtwp.com

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**Joyce Robinson**  
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## Administration

**6200 Eiterman Road**  
**Dublin, Ohio 43016**  
614.652.3920  
Hours: M-F 8:00 am-4:30 pm

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Administrator  
**Eric Richter**

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**Alec O'Connell**

Communications Manager  
**Leslie Dybiec**

Human Resources Manager  
**Catherine Grossman**

## Fire Stations

**Station 91**  
6255 Shier Rings Road

**Station 92**  
4497 Hard Road

**Station 93**  
5825 Brand Road

**Station 95**  
5750 Blazer Parkway

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