

# MUNICIPALITY OF GERMANTOWN

## Mark your Calendars for our Upcoming Events

September 24 & 25	Pretzel Festival
September 28	V V Homecoming
October 7-13	Fire Prevention Week
October 22	Leaf Pick-Up Begins
October 30	Beggars' Night
November 4	Daylight Saving Time Ends
November 6	Election Day
November 12	Veterans Day
November 22	Thanksgiving Day
December 1	Dog Tags on Sale
December 8	Christmas in the Park

The Municipal offices will be **closed** the following days:

Veterans Day ~ November 12  
Thanksgiving ~ November 22 & 23  
Christmas holiday ~ December 24 & 25  
New Year's ~ December 31 & January 1

## Halloween

Beggars Night has been set for October 30 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Germantown Police and Fire Departments want to remind everyone of these few safety tips

- Stop only at homes that are well lit and never enter a stranger's home.

- Make sure costumes are flame retardant and consider using non-toxic and hypoallergenic makeup instead of a mask.

- Every child should have a flashlight with fresh batteries.

- Plan a route in advance and tell your kids to stick to it.
- Agree on a time to return home.



**Walk, don't run.** Cross the street at a corner or crosswalk. Leave bicycles and skateboards at home. Don't forget to keep jack-o'-lanterns and other open flames a safe distance from kids' costumes.

If your house is vandalized, call the police.

## NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION WEEK CELEBRATED OCTOBER 7—13

This year's theme, "**Have 2 Ways Out!**" focused on the importance of fire escape planning and practice. Germantown Fire-EMS visits the Germantown Elementary School to teach kids the importance of planning and practicing a fire escape plan.

A proper plan should outline two ways out of the home in case one route is blocked by smoke or fire.

According to the National Fire Protection Association and the U.S. Fire Administration, the average survivability time for persons in a structure fire is three minutes.

Having a planned and practiced fire escape plan together with a working and tested smoke alarm can save your life.

Almost all U.S. homes have at least one working smoke alarm, but 62% of home fire deaths resulted

from fires in homes without working smoke alarms. Often, smoke alarms are found after a fire with a non-working battery or no battery at all.

It is estimated that a smoke alarm has an average life of 10 years. After 10 years, a smoke alarm needs to be replaced.

Test your smoke alarm often and practice

**TWO WAYS OUT!**

## Reminder

Visit our website at [www.germantown.oh.us](http://www.germantown.oh.us) for useful information and current events.



# MUNICIPALITY OF GERMANTOWN

## 2012 LEAF COLLECTION

Leaf collection is provided to all the Germantown residents who live adjacent to a public roadway. The Municipality began leaf collection on Monday, October 22 and will continue thru Friday, December 14.

We ask that you rake your leaves to the edge of your property as soon as possible, but not into the curbs. It will impede

the flow of water in the storm sewers and cause flooding.

Please pile them in an open, accessible area to the work crews rather than behind mail boxes, shrubs, trees, parked cars, etc. as it will slow the pick up process.

The Street Department will be collecting leaves daily and will get to each property as soon as possible.

The Municipality will continue to allow residents to bring leaves to the Service Department located at 148 South Water Street.

Please dump the leaves in the designated area.

Bagged leaves must be emptied and the bags taken back.

Brush **will not** be accepted at the Service Department.

**Mother Nature usually has something to say about the leaf collection, so please be patient. \*Due to holidays, there will be no leaf pick up on Veteran's Day (November 12), Thanksgiving Day and the day after Thanksgiving Day (November 22 and November 23).**



## Rumpke's 2012 & 2013 Holiday Schedule

**Veteran's Day**  
November 11 – No Delay

**Thanksgiving**  
November 22  
Collection will occur as normal for customers who have Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday pick-up the week of Thanksgiving.

There will not be collection on Thanksgiving Day; collection will be

delayed by one day the remainder of the week. (Customers who typically have Friday collection will be picked up Saturday.)

**Christmas and New Year's**  
December 25 & January 1  
Collection will occur as normal for customers who have Monday pick-up.

There will not be collection on Christmas Day or New Year's Day; collection will be delayed by one day the remainder of the week. (Customers who typically have Friday Collection will be picked up Saturday.)

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**  
January 21-No Delay

### Reminder...

*Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday November 4. Don't forget to set your clocks back an hour before you go to bed Saturday night. The Fire Department also encourages you to change the battery in your smoke detectors when you change your clocks.*

## HELP KEEP OUR STREAMS CLEAN

Public Works crews routinely repair and remove obstructions from pipes and ditches.

Your help in keeping smaller ditches and curbs free of debris can dramatically improve the run-off capacity of low-lying areas, as well as greatly reduce blockages that significantly contrib-

ute to flooding.

Please be aware that it is illegal to dump leaves, grass or any material into a City waterway, streets or curb inlets, or any part of the storm water drainage system.

If you see someone in the act of dumping or see debris in one of our waterways or inlets along

the street, please call 855-7255.

Thank you.

**Remember...Only Rain Down the Drain!**



## SIDEWALK PROGRAM



*Please remove parked cars from the streets during snow events*

In 2013 we will begin to implement a sidewalk and curb program. This program will be following the same West to East progress as the Street Program and the fire hydrant painting program.

Along with the sidewalk and curb program we will be working to replace all the water meters throughout the Municipality. By replacing the wa-

ter meters the Staff will be able to read your meter by remote. This will eliminate the need to have access to your home and have residents read their own meters.

Along with these conveniences it will also reduce the Municipal Staff time in half, allowing other projects to be completed. The meter project will be completed by

Utility Sales Agency and they will be contacting each resident by mail to inform you when your meter will be replaced.

The Municipal Council and Manager appreciate your patience in these projects and we are looking forward to a more efficient system.

## WINTER SAFETY TIPS

It's getting cold outside and before you light that fire for a warm cozy evening at home, make sure you've had your chimney cleaned for the season.

Dangerous creosote can accumulate in a chimney over time and

ignite causing a house fire. There are many chimney sweeps to choose from in the area.

We recommend that you contact the Better Business Bureau before hiring a professional service company to ensure that the chimney

sweep you are selecting has a reputable customer service record.

Also, remember it's that time of year for snow. Sidewalks need to be cleared of ice and snow in accordance with Ordinance 521.06. This protects the safety of those walking on the sidewalk. Thank you

*2013 Dog Tags  
Can be renewed  
and purchased  
from December 1,  
2012 through  
January 31, 2013  
at the Municipal  
Building. For  
More information  
please call  
855.7270*

## POOL LEVY

On the November 6 ballot there will be a recreation renewal levy for the residents of the Municipality of Germantown and German Township. This is a renewal for the Germantown Aquatic Center Pool. The levy is used for capital improvements and opera-

tions of the pool. We encourage you to get out and vote on Tuesday, November 6.

**We thank you for your support!**



## Don't Forget to Trim Your Trees

While picking up the leaves, don't forget about those tree branches that can get in the way of pedestrians on an evening stroll or school buses which are driving down the street.

Tree branches need to be maintained a minimum of 9' above public sidewalks and 14' above public streets and alleys.

Keeping branches and overhanging shrubs trimmed to the proper height reduces the potential for injury and vehicle damage. If you have any questions, please contact the Municipal Office at 855.7255.



**School is Back!**

With school back in session, please keep in mind the reduced speed in school zones (20 mph). The buses make frequent stops and some are on very busy streets. Look



for the flashing

lights, as a child may be crossing the street! Also be aware that there are kids going to and from school and to after school activities as well. Remember that home ball games also produce a lot of pedestrian activity around the schools and parks, so let's be careful out there and

**SLOW  
DOWN!**

**A Watchful Eye**

Be mindful that unattended, open garage doors are often targeted for both daytime and nighttime burglaries.

Although most thieves do not enter the main area of the house, they do target valuable items found in the garage such as sports equipment, beer from a garage refrigerator, yard equipment and power tools.

Additionally, unlocked vehicles parked on the street, in the driveway, or even inside the garage, are often explored for items including, but not

limited to, purses, wallets, GPS units, radar detectors, iPods, cell phones and other valuables.

Shortly after finding a purse or wallet, thieves use the credit and debit cards as quickly possible.

It is very important to keep your car locked and not store items of value in the vehicles. Keep overhead garage doors shut, even if you are only in the back or a side yard.

Thieves work quickly and quietly and often their pres-

ence is unnoticed even by neighbors. Unfortunately, our parks are also targeted for senseless acts of vandalism during the kids sports events. If you are at the parks, don't let your guard down.

Please keep your eyes open and report any suspicious activity immediately to the Police Department. A community working in cooperation with law enforcement can make a big difference in lowering crime rates and maintaining a safe environment.—Germantown Police Department

**2012 TAX INFORMATION**

- The Municipality of Germantown has a mandatory filing per Ordinance 181, if you are age 18 or older.
- Tax returns for 2012 are due April 15, 2013. First Quarter declaration of estimated tax for 2013 are also due April 15, 2013.
- If you owe \$100.00 or more on your 2012 taxes you MUST make a declaration of estimated tax for 2013 and pay quarterly.
- If you paid taxes to other cities and are claiming a credit please be sure to attach a W-2 that shows the wage taxed, tax withheld and city name so that we can allow the credit. We will not accept a W-2 that has Total or Various cities in Box 20 of the W-2. Cities must be itemized showing wages and amount withheld. We do not give credit for school tax.
- Business loss cannot be used to reduce W-2 wages.
- Please sign your return.
- The Municipality is no longer able to fill out Municipal tax forms.
- If you have any questions please contact the Municipal Tax Office at 855-7258.

*Christmas in the  
Park 2012*

Join Santa and Mrs. Santa Clause for our third annual Christmas in the Park on December 8 from 5:30—8:30 p.m. Stroll through Veterans Park and enjoy the lighting displays from 30 of our local businesses and organizations. The lighting display will be lit the entire month of December for you to visit at your leisure.

