

Perry Township Residents,
Summer has arrived! We didn't use our new snow plow truck much, but we did spread a lot of grit and salt due to ice and snow. The Road Department is preparing for summer mowing and repair of tiles and ditches. Our road crew has been working diligently.

Our Police Department is in the process of upgrading the entire department. We also purchased a new cruiser as part of the upgrades.

We are a part-time department, and our officers are on duty at various times throughout the day and night. For the rest of the time, please contact the Sheriff's Department. For 911 calls, dispatch will send the officer on duty. Our Emergency Service is available 24 hours a day, every day. Call 911, speak clearly, and they will dispatch immediately.

Our Fire Department is a volunteer service, but they are very efficient. As a whole, we are prepared for a wide range of emergencies.

The three Trustees work hard to supply each department's needs while staying within budget. However, the budget is becoming increasingly tight as prices rise.

We are seeing interest in new businesses wanting to come to Perry Township, and I believe we all understand that growth is necessary to maintain our financial health. In order to stay within budget, we need to manage growth strategically.

We all want Perry to retain its quiet, country atmosphere where people enjoy living. If there is anything we can do to help, please reach out if you need anything.

Thank you,
Kevin Cox, Chairman

Fiscal Officer – Christina Stombaugh (Cell Phone) 419-204-8241 (Office phone) 419-221-2412

Hello Perry Township residents, I am currently your appointed Fiscal Officer and will be running on the November 2025 ballot for the unexpired term ending in March 2028. I have learned a lot in the last 1 ½ years and look forward to learning more and supporting the community in the years to come. My husband's family has been lifelong residents and farmers in Perry Township. My husband and I have owned our home in Perry since 2004.

The Ohio Auditors and Ohio Township Association offer great learning resources for this position, along with Conferences and Webinars. I would also like to thank Sandy Hofacker, Lynn Hanson, and Natalie Scott for all the time and training they have provided me, and continue to provide. Without these women and the help from the trustees, this would be an almost impossible position.

As Chairman Cox stated, our budget is being stretched thin with the rising prices, but we will continue to look for ideas that help cut costs and make your dollars go further. Please let me know if there is anything I can help you with!



Hello Perry Residents,

The police department has purchased its first new cruiser in nine years, a 2024 Chevy Tahoe Police Pursuit Vehicle. In doing so, we have retired our 2009 Ford Crown Victoria. We at the police department would like to thank the residents of Perry Township, the Township Board of Trustees, Tim Lalley Chevrolet, Jamie Onion and his team at the dealership, and PARR for the new graphics, for making this project a reality and for presenting a cruiser that the residents can be proud of as well.

This year, there has been an increase in complaints about speeders in the township. The department is working to enhance traffic stops for speeding to make the township safer for all. The Trustees are also addressing this issue by purchasing digital speed signs. These signs are proven to reduce speeds to the posted limits and collect data, allowing officers to identify times when speeding increases occur on targeted roadways. This enables us to serve better, protect the residents, and expand our presence. during those “hot spot” times and locations, and provide enhanced enforcement.

I would also like to remind drivers that the speed limit in the school zone is 20 MPH when school is in session. In my years of service here in Perry, most traffic stops are parents of students. Please slow down for the safety of our students and the bus drivers who are transporting children to and from school. Speeds reaching 35 miles per hour or greater in a school zone are a mandatory court appearance and carry the risk of increased fines from the courts. The Police Department and Perry Schools continue to partner on safety drills necessary to ensure the safety of the students and staff.

With warmer weather approaching, please do not mow your grass clippings into the roadways. This creates unnecessary dangers for motorcyclists and car motorists by reducing traction with the roadway.

We have added a couple of new businesses to our community and hope to welcome a few more this year.

The Township is also looking for residents who would like to be a part of the Zoning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals. If this interests you, I encourage you to visit our website and fill out an application. If you'd like more information, please feel free to give me a call at 419-204-7850. On the positive side, we are in the process of updating our Zoning Resolutions. Some changes have already been implemented, with more updates to come. Please note that a permit is required for any shed that is 10x10 feet or 100 square feet or larger. Additionally, Maxx boxes or storage containers also require a permit and may only be stored in your driveway for a maximum of 60 days. There are other changes as well, so don't hesitate to call me if you have questions about whether you need a permit for your project.

On the negative side, we are still seeing a lot of junk cars in the township. These junk vehicles lower the property values of the homes in the area. If you have a junk car or truck, some junkyards will pay cash for it and even pick it up. The township also has several houses that need repairs or should be torn down. Old barns and sheds are at the top of the list for the upcoming season.

This is the perfect time of year to clear away noxious weeds, which will benefit neighbors, especially those with breathing problems. Additionally, we have received numerous complaints about people living in campers. This is not permitted in Perry Township.

We will have our clean-up day on Saturday, July 19th, from 9 AM to 1 PM. I hope to see everyone there. We will have a dumpster at the Perry Township Road Department on Breese Road, Charledon Ave, and another one at 15th and Reese. This event is free for all residents, so take advantage of this opportunity to get rid of any unwanted items you have lying around.

Hello residents of Perry Township,

This winter was a very busy winter for snow and ice on 18 events. Approximately 400 tons of salt mixture were used at a cost of \$41.43 per ton for a total of \$16,572.00. 154 hours of overtime were worked this winter, with 40 hours of part-time help also being utilized. We logged approximately 2,950 miles plowing. I would also like to ask that you check your mailbox posts to make sure they are in good condition and not rotten. The force of the snow coming off the plows will break rotten posts, and we are not responsible for replacing rotten poles or broken plastic boxes. Just a reminder for next season. Our road program this year is coming in at \$230,498.98. 1.455 miles of roadway will be sealed. We will be paving 2.11 miles. The price of paving and sealing is up in cost around 10 percent compared to last year, so our money doesn't go as far, unfortunately. A mile of roadway 20 feet wide costs approximately \$100,000 to pave. So, as we increase money to be spent on our roadways, it is not getting us any more work done for the extra money, unfortunately. Our Dura-patching of roads is also included in the program. 9.5 miles of roadway were patched in 2024, with plans to patch more miles this year.

Since 2010, the township has paved approximately 44% of roads and sealed approximately 44% of roads. So out of 47 miles of roadways to maintain, 41.6 miles have had some treatment on them in the last 15 years, but with the rising cost of materials, money doesn't go as far, so we are doing the best we can with the money available to keep our roads in good shape.

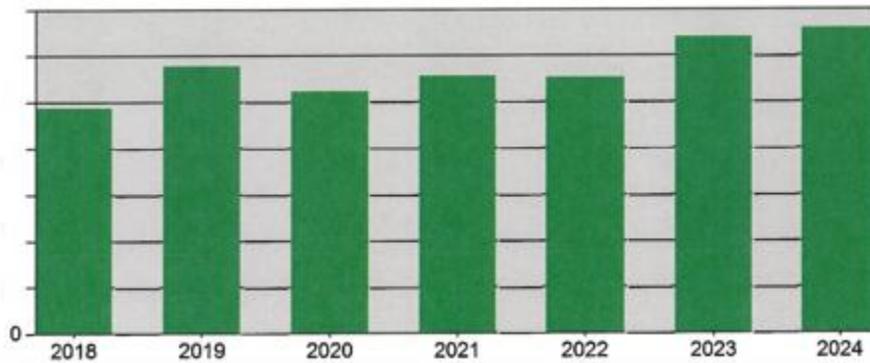
If you see a basin that will not drain off once water has receded or is standing when it has been dry, please contact us at the road department so the issue can be looked into and taken care of. If you see any large holes in the right of way, please contact us so the broken tile can be fixed, so it doesn't create potentially larger problems. Some crossover and basin work will be taking place this year on roads that are on schedule to be paved in 2025 and 2026.

Mowing of the ditches this summer will be done as usual, with mowing starting in early May. Cutting of ditch banks will also be done with the arm mower, as needed. Cemetery mowing is also a big part of our maintenance work in the spring and summer. A list of cemetery rules and regulations is available on our website or can be picked up at the road department office. Also, if any driveway permits or tile tap permits are needed, please contact our office. Driveway and right-of-way permits have been updated as of April 2025 with pricing changes and are available on our website (perryallenohio.com). We will also continue our spraying of underbrush along the woods to prevent overgrowth. If you have any questions about the roads or ditches, contact Corey Lehman (Road Supervisor) or Nick Adams at 419-221-3949. Someone is usually in the shop or office from 7:00- 8:00 AM, 11:30-12:00, and 3:00-3:30 PM. If we are not please leave a message with your name and number so we can return your call. Hope you have a great year.

Hello, residents, stakeholders, and visitors. Perry Township Fire Department (PTFD) provides non-emergency services and emergency services for residents, visitors, and stakeholders. I would like to use this year's newsletter as an opportunity to provide information for residents, stakeholders, and visitors, with Calls for Service statistics, staffing, budget, and operations updates.

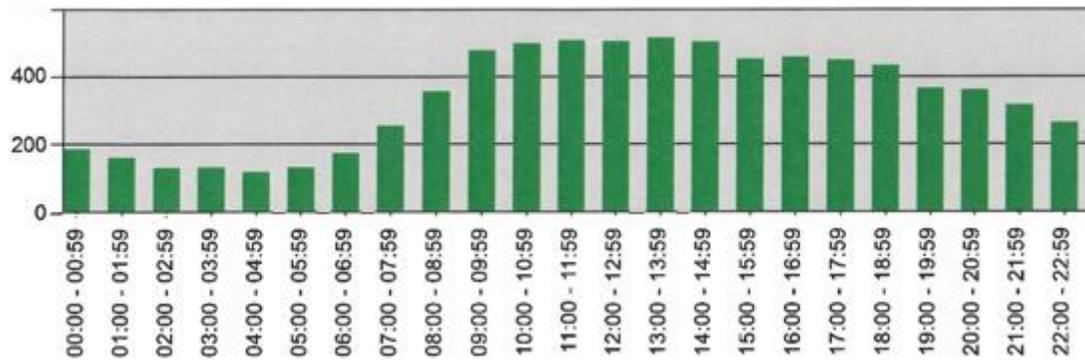
PTFD's call volume has increased year over year and is on track to be higher in 2025 than in prior years. Call volume data is provided from 2018 to 2024. Call volume data is important for several reasons. The Fire and EMS industry provides us with critical information on how to strategically plan for the future. Additionally, we can utilize this data to ensure our resources and services are meeting the service level our community expects.

Perry Township Fire Department Annual Call Volume



YEAR	INCIDENTS
2018	977
2019	1156
2020	1047
2021	1112
2022	1106
2023	1279
2024	1317

Perry Townships Busiest Hours



HOUR	# of CALLS
00:00 - 00:59	186
01:00 - 01:59	160
02:00 - 02:59	130
03:00 - 03:59	132
04:00 - 04:59	118
05:00 - 05:59	131
06:00 - 06:59	173
07:00 - 07:59	255
08:00 - 08:59	356
09:00 - 09:59	478
10:00 - 10:59	499
11:00 - 11:59	508
12:00 - 12:59	505
13:00 - 13:59	515
14:00 - 14:59	503
15:00 - 15:59	453
16:00 - 16:59	458
17:00 - 17:59	449
18:00 - 18:59	433
19:00 - 19:59	366
20:00 - 20:59	361
21:00 - 21:59	316
22:00 - 22:59	264
23:00 - 23:59	245

EMS Statistics for Year 2018

2018	Total
911 Calls	731
Dispatches	741
Patient Transports	746
Patient Contacts	746

INCIDENT COUNT	
INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS
EMS	725
FIRE	252
TOTAL	977

TOTAL TRANSPORTS			
APPARATUS	# OF APPARATUS TRANSPORTS	# OF PATIENT TRANSPORTS	TOTAL # OF PATIENT CONTACTS
1408	0	0	3
1404	0	0	2
F10	0	0	1
1409	0	0	11
M.AID	16	16	19
M1401	176	180	281
M1402	278	279	432
TOTAL	470	475	749

MUTUAL AID	
AID TYPE	TOTAL
Aid Given	51
Aid Received	20

OVERLAPPING CALLS	
# OVERLAPPING	% OVERLAPPING
147	15.05

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EMS Statistics for Year 2019

2019	TOTAL
911 Calls	873
Dispatches	909
Patient Transports	591
Patient Contacts	909

INCIDENT COUNT	
INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS
EMS	885
FIRE	271
TOTAL	1156

TOTAL TRANSPORTS			
APPARATUS	# OF APPARATUS TRANSPORTS	# OF PATIENT TRANSPORTS	TOTAL # OF PATIENT CONTACTS
14001	0	0	1
1408	0	0	3
1404	0	0	3
1409	0	0	11
M. AID	18	18	19
M1401	241	244	368
M1402	317	328	511
TOTAL	576	590	916

MUTUAL AID	
AID TYPE	TOTAL
Aid Given	83
Aid Received	23

OVERLAPPING CALLS	
# OVERLAPPING	% OVERLAPPING
150	12.98

EMS Statistics for Year 2020

2020	TOTAL
911 Calls	813
Dispatches	851
Patient Transports	585
Patient Contacts	851

INCIDENT COUNT	
INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS
EMS	838
FIRE	209
TOTAL	1047

TOTAL TRANSPORTS			
APPARATUS	# OF APPARATUS TRANSPORTS	# OF PATIENT TRANSPORTS	TOTAL # OF PATIENT CONTACTS
14001	1	1	2
1408	0	0	1
1404	0	0	4
M. AID	7	7	8
M1401	300	306	453
M1402	262	265	386
TOTAL	570	579	854

MUTUAL AID	
AID TYPE	TOTAL
Aid Given	74
Aid Received	24

OVERLAPPING CALLS	
# OVERLAPPING	% OVERLAPPING
106	10.12

EMS Statistics for Year 2021

2021	TOTAL
911 Calls	859
Dispatches	932
Patient Transports	592
Patient Contacts	928

INCIDENT COUNT			
INCIDENT TYPE		# INCIDENTS	
EMS		904	
FIRE		208	
TOTAL		1112	
TOTAL TRANSPORTS			
APPARATUS	# OF APPARATUS TRANSPORTS	# OF PATIENT TRANSPORTS	TOTAL # OF PATIENT CONTACTS
14001	0	0	2
1408	0	0	2
1404	0	0	6
M. AID	0	0	1
M1401	18	20	32
M1401	249	250	361
M1402	314	317	508
TOTAL	581	587	929
MUTUAL AID			
AID TYPE		TOTAL	
Aid Given		93	
Aid Received		31	
OVERLAPPING CALLS			
# OVERLAPPING		% OVERLAPPING	
135		12.14	

EMS Statistics for Year 2022

2022	TOTAL
911 Calls	974
Dispatches	1002
Patient Transports	693
Patient Contacts	1008

INCIDENT COUNT	
INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS
EMS	927
FIRE	179
TOTAL	1106

TOTAL TRANSPORTS			
APPARATUS	# OF APPARATUS TRANSPORTS	# OF PATIENT TRANSPORTS	TOTAL # OF PATIENT CONTACTS
14001	0	0	1
1408	1	1	4
1404	0	0	1
1409	0	0	11
M. AID	0	0	3
M1401	421	433	671
M1402	201	211	336
TOTAL	623	645	1027

MUTUAL AID	
AID TYPE	TOTAL
Aid Given	89
Aid Received	33

OVERLAPPING CALLS	
# OVERLAPPING	% OVERLAPPING
143	12.93

EMS Statistics for Year 2023

2023	TOTAL
911 Calls	970
Dispatches	996
Patient Transports	697
Patient Contacts	999

INCIDENT COUNT	
INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS
EMS	8988
FIRE	291
TOTAL	1279

TOTAL TRANSPORTS			
APPARATUS	# OF APPARATUS TRANSPORTS	# OF PATIENT TRANSPORTS	TOTAL # OF PATIENT CONTACTS
14001	0	0	1
1408	1	1	3
1404	0	0	2
1409	0	0	15
M. AID	1	1	3
M1401	566	571	778
M1402	125	128	207
TOTAL	693	701	1009

MUTUAL AID	
AID TYPE	TOTAL
Aid Given	92
Aid Received	41

OVERLAPPING CALLS	
# OVERLAPPING	% OVERLAPPING
213	16.65

EMS Statistics for Year 2024

2024	TOTAL
911 Calls	1056
Dispatches	1075
Patient Transports	748
Patient Contacts	1086

INCIDENT COUNT	
INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS
EMS	1042
FIRE	275
TOTAL	1317

TOTAL TRANSPORTS			
APPARATUS	# OF APPARATUS TRANSPORTS	# OF PATIENT TRANSPORTS	TOTAL # OF PATIENT CONTACTS
14001	0	0	3
1408	0	0	1
1404	0	0	4
1409	0	0	10
M. AID	1	1	2
M1401	505	513	753
M1402	232	236	322
TOTAL	738	750	1095

MUTUAL AID	
AID TYPE	TOTAL
Aid Given	108
Aid Received	19

OVERLAPPING CALLS	
# OVERLAPPING	% OVERLAPPING
161	12.22

Perry Township Fire Department’s Calls for Service from 2018 to 2024 have increased by 35%, with patient contacts increasing by 46%. Transporting patients to an Emergency Department has increased by approximately 54%. Several factors can contribute to the increase as it relates to the Township. An aging population with more elderly individuals living independently can lead to a higher number of falls and other age-related emergencies. 47% of Perry Township residents are 40 years or older. The remaining 43% is under age 40. Perry Township’s over-40 age group is 10% higher than Allen County’s average.

Perry Township population by age range.

8%0-9 17%10-19 9%20-29 9%30-39 14%40-49 10%50-59 15%60-69 13%70-79 5%80+

Nationally, calls for service within a community typically increase based on age and population growth. The population of Perry Township residents is declining. In 2010, Perry Township's population was 3,531; in 2020, it was 3,364, a decline of 167 residents. The infrastructure of a community has an impact on calls for service within a community as well. Infrastructure impacting Perry Township includes 5 Hotels and 1 Motel with a total of 536 rooms, a senior citizen complex with one hundred and eight units, and a nursing home with 70 beds. Perry School system has approximately 795 students and 97 staff members, along with a health center in the high school, which provides medical, mental health, social services, and substance abuse treatment. An Orthopedic Health care facility providing physical therapy, a physician's side, surgery, and a hospital. The facility provides medical care for our township, the county, and many other surrounding communities. There are 100-plus employees and approximately 1,000-plus patients seen daily at the facility. We cover approximately 23 miles of township and county roadways. Three state highways and one interstate, totaling approximately 33 miles and 5 miles of railway. There are facilities in the Township that can be considered high-risk facilities based on what is handled, produced, or stored on location. These include a waste management facility, a recycling facility, an ethanol plant, and several locations that store High Density Polyethylene. An airport with approximately 89 flights daily, with a total fuel storage capacity of 28,000 gallons (jet fuel and 100 octane aviation fuel), along with EMS transports for life flight fixed wing aircraft. The community has natural gas relay stations, along with underground supply lines that can contain fuel or oil. The Allen County Fairgrounds has approximately 400,000 visitors and 221 vendors a year. Several other companies Pepsi Cola, Anheuser Busch, steel facilities, a plastics factory, food producers, and general mercantile companies, are covered by PTFD. Perry Township also has several small business owners, farmers, construction companies, transportation, mechanical, clothing, religious services, day cares and educational institutions, and approximately 1,400 residential structures. We also assist with adjoining townships within Allen County and adjoining counties in emergency services.

PTFD's busiest hours are covered by one to two shift workers, an administrative assistant, and the Fire Chief. The volunteers and part-time staff are normally at their full-time jobs. Many critical non-emergency-related tasks are performed daily. Non-busy hours are covered by one to two full-time employees and part-time staff when scheduled. Staffing is addressed through demands in emergency services and the yearly budget.

Perry Township Fire Department is experiencing a retention problem and a recruitment problem. This issue is not necessarily specific to PTFD, however, emergency services as a whole across the state and nation. Our current average employee's years of service is 6 years. Perry Township has always experienced a high turnover rate since becoming a combination department (with full-time/part-time/volunteer staff) and providing full-time coverage. In 2018, the Fire Department began hiring full-time staff who were below minimum certifications to hire as outlined by the Township. This was based on the available pool of applicants. While below the minimum certifications set by the Township, this did not mean residents received below standard care; it meant not all individuals responding were necessarily trained to Paramedic level for emergency medical care or Level II Firefighters. In 2022, Perry Township Fire Department hired a level one Fire Fighter Basic at 18 years old to oversee daily shift operations and emergency operations. The average years of service for full-time shift workers at that time were four months. The township is not able to hire Level II Fire Fighters/Paramedics. This is based on the demand in the Fire Service in Allen County, Ohio, and nationally. Currently, there are two full-time workers on shift. Of our current full-time staff on shift one is a Level II Firefighter/Paramedic, one is a Level I Firefighter/Paramedic, and four are trained as Level II Firefighters/EMTs.

Our Fire Department provides a healthy family environment, high morale, education opportunities, growth and leadership opportunities, and teamwork. There are several reasons for the retention problem and hiring less qualified employees. Perry Township Fire Department's budget prevents the retention of employees. Several key critical areas need improvement for the retention of staff. Currently, there is no health insurance for employees or family members offered. Not providing health insurance results in individuals who are Level Two Firefighters/Paramedics not accepting job offers, not applying, or leaving for other fire departments, due to the need for insurance. Vacation time and sick time are below the average offered to employees at other departments in the area and within the state. Departments can offer lateral transfers, resulting in more vacation and sick time. Through benefits packages and higher wages, individuals opt to work for other entities. To be competitive in the Fire and Emergency Services market, benefits and wages need to be reviewed and adjusted to address the demand for service locally and statewide, if not nationally.

Based on the dynamics of the Township and the staffing we have, the fire department employees take more calls for service per employee compared to other departments.

As the Fire Chief, I have concerns based on the trends noted above for retention and increases in demand for service that affect our community.

Budget

In 2023, between obtaining grants, not replacing equipment, and reviewing the budget. There was \$100,000.00 plus savings in the budget. I continue to work, making suggestions and informing the Board of Trustees of the status of the Fire Department's budget, retention problems, and areas that should be evaluated for improvements. In 2013, Perry Township Trustees forfeited a fire levy that was up for renewal; revenue received for the Fire Department would have been \$79,533.00. The reasoning provided in 2013 was that the general fund for the township was in crisis. The new levy gave the general fund a revenue of \$92,718.40. While the Fire Department lost revenue. The Fire Department doesn't operate out of the Township's general fund; we operate on Fire levies. Current levies include 2004 (0.5 mil), 2006 (4.4 mil), 2007 (1 mil), and 2007(1.5 mil).

2018 Revenue: \$804,932.00 Budget Balance: \$ 54,068.00
2019 Revenue: \$877,618.97 Budget Balance: \$ -3,618.97
2020 Revenue: \$886,144.21 Budget Balance: \$ 7,855.79
2021 Revenue: \$928,929.66 Budget Balance: \$ -20,929.66
2022 Revenue: \$1,083,173.70 Budget Balance: \$ -156,173.70
2023 Revenue: \$1,005,412.10 Budget Balance: \$ 99,587.90
2024 Revenue: \$1,097,582.17 Budget Balance: \$ 32,217.83

Information Dissemination

Perry Township Fire Department has actively recruited two individuals with years of service and experience. They will assist with an aggressive training program to continue to improve our services to the community. I have also implemented an aggressive training program with First Due staff. Beginning in July 2025, crews will be mandated every two weeks to attend four hours of training. The training will focus on team building, growth, Emergency services, and fire operations. Regarding the budget, I will continue to work with the Board of Trustees on recommendations to slow the retention problems, areas where we will need to make budget cuts to continue operating within the budget. As the Fire Chief, it is my responsibility to ensure our community's safety, maintain and improve the level of services, and be mindful of the budget.

Fire Safety Tips

Install working smoke alarms on every level of your home and inside bedrooms, have a fire escape plan, and practice it regularly. Keep matches and lighters out of children's reach and never leave cooking unattended. Additionally, maintain electrical systems, space heaters, and be aware of the use of candles and other potential fire hazards.

Personalized Message

I have had many discussions with the Board of Trustees over the past two years about the concerns. I encourage the community members to stop by and meet the staff at the Perry Township Fire Department. Feel free to ask them questions. I promote transparency, team effort, and it takes a community, employees, and a governing body to keep a community safe. A few members to speak with would be Trustee Kevin Cox, Fiscal Officer Stombaugh, Chief Rader, Deputy Chief Smedley, Captain Gardner, Lieutenant Myers, Supervisor Aldrich, and Firefighter/EMT Lee. I will be reviewing strong budget cuts to assist with funding the retention issues, and continue making recommendations to the Board of Trustees, and being budget mindful. I am honored and grateful for the opportunity to serve as the Fire Chief for Perry Township and look forward to many more years serving the community.

Thank You

I want to say thank you to Perry Township Fire Department Members for all your dedication, support, and for always looking into ways to improve our services to the community.

Thank you, residents of Perry Township, for taking a moment and reading this year's newsletter. Without your support, donations, yes votes, and involvement, there would not be a Perry Township Fire Department.

Stakeholders, thank you for your investment in the community.

Visitors, thank you for coming to Perry Township and visiting our community.

Sincerely,

Chief Kevin Rader

2025 CLEAN UP DAY

PERRY TOWNSHIP CLEAN UP DAY IS SATURDAY, JULY 19TH FROM 9AM-1PM. NO TIRES OR HAZARDOUS WASTE WILL BE ACCEPTED. PERRY TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS CAN BRING UNWANTED ITEMS TO BE DISPOSED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS AT NO COST:

Perry Township Garage, 9th Street and Charledon Ave, 15th Streets and Reese Ave.

We are also asking for groups or individuals who can help for the day or even a few hours at each location. Please either reach out to any of the Trustees or Department heads to volunteer, or just show up on the day of. We thank all of those willing and able to help!

Hall Rental

Need a space to host a shower, party or event?

Call Jerry Hunt at 419-235-2714 or see our website for a contract and more information at perryallenohio.com!