

# VILLAGE OF CASTALIA

FALL 2025

## Yard Waste/Leaf Pick Up for Village Residents

### **ALL LEAVES AND YARD WASTE MUST BE IN PAPER BAGS**

#### **REMINDER: NO PLASTIC BAGS, OR CANS OF ANY SIZE WILL BE EMPTIED \*\***

Starting Monday November 3rd pickup will be every Monday. Bags need to be at curbside before 7AM. Pick up dates are as follows: November 3, 10, 17 and 24. Last pick up will be on Monday November 24th. **Margaretta Township** also offers a Leaf and Yard Waste drop off at the township garage. It runs October 20th through November 19th. **NO BAGS of any kind!!** Only loose leaves, shrubs and tree limbs no larger than 6" diameter will be accepted. No commercial businesses please.

### **Reminders to Village Residents:**

1. Residents living near the streams in the Village please do NOT blow grass clippings into the waterways. The Village has been spending approximately \$2000 annually to diminish the growth of watercress occurring. Blowing grass into the streams defeats the purpose.
2. With winter approaching, a reminder property owners are responsible to shovel, salt or sweep the sidewalks in front of their property.
3. Any vehicles on your property must be maintained, licensed and in running condition.

### **ROAD UPDATE**

In the spring we shared our goals for the summer of 2025. In summary, we are happy with what was accomplished but we were unable to complete all of our goals. The first road project of the year was the intersections of Lowell, Lucas and Bardwell. The work went great and we are very happy with the result; we're sure you're all happy to not have the washboard bumpy road coming down Lucas Street to the traffic light. The project was approximately \$80,000; however, the Village received a grant for the \$55,000 to go toward the intersection project.

Next the short section of Bardwell Street was resurfaced. Through our agreement with Margaretta Township, they completed the Bardwell resurfacing at a minimal cost when they were resurfacing the Township part of Bardwell Street.

Lastly, ODOT striped and resurfaced State Route 101 through the Village. As a reminder, through State legislation, ODOT can charge municipalities for any repairs needed outside of stripping the road 1.5 inches and resurfacing it. The Village had to prepay \$72,000 for the sub-surface work. Resurfacing 101 was originally planned for late July giving us a chance to see final costs and move on additional road projects. Unfortunately, Erie Blacktop was delayed with their work on State Route 2 and pushed the 101 project back, finishing in early October. At the time of publishing the newsletter we do not know the final cost to the Village of State Route 101; depending on final costs, we may get some of our prepayment back or owe more to ODOT, but we are very pleased with the work and hope you too.

Our unachieved goal was to resurface the remainder of Lucas Street. The ODOT 101 project delay made this impossible for 2025 but it is first on our list for June of 2026. For the spring newsletter we'll have a better idea of what road projects will be completed in addition to completing the resurfacing of Lucas Street.

### **Village of Castalia Website**

We highly recommend you check out [VillageofCastalia.com](http://VillageofCastalia.com). You will find current announcements and last minute updates for residents. You will also be able to read the Minutes from our Council Meetings as well as new Village Ordinances among other items. If you have already done so, you can sign up to receive the Newsletter by email. Once you have signed up you are on the email list and don't need to sign up again.

### **2025 Village Council**

*Mayor: Jim Johnson*

*Council Pres Pro Tem: Barb Weyer*

*Council Vice Pres: Silas Nicholson*

*Jacob Smith*

*Cindy Crawford*

*Georgia Artrip*

*Village Council Meetings are the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 7:00PM in the village hall. The public is welcome to attend.*

### **MAYOR: Jim Johnson**

**419-271-5815**

**[jjcastaliamayor@gmail.com](mailto:jjcastaliamayor@gmail.com)**

### **Fiscal Officer: Kathy Niehm**

**[KNiehm.castalia@gmail.com](mailto:KNiehm.castalia@gmail.com)**



## **ITEMS VILLAGE COUNCIL IS WORKING ON:**

Village Council members met with the engineers who conducted the ODOT study for updating the Main Street traffic signal and pedestrian signage and submitted the grant application in August. We hope to hear if we get it in early 2026.

### **ODOT Safe Routes to School Program:**

The ODOT Safe Routes to School program is a grant which provides resources, technical assistance and project funding to encourage and enable students in grades K-12 to walk or ride their bike to school. In July Village Council approved moving forward to work with Erie Regional Planning Commission (ERPC) in applying for the Safe Routes to School grant which ODOT awards annually. It could help provide sidewalks, signage and controls as well as helping to educate our students about pedestrian safety. This would not only benefit our students, but also all residents and pedestrians in the Village. .

This grant process can be lengthy and very competitive. There are no guarantees we will get the grant; however we are optimistic and feel Castalia is a good candidate given the opening of a new K-12 school in the Village and our need for accessible sidewalks to our new school. The first requirement is to have a School Travel Plan (STP) in place which can be updated and used again if we need to reapply in the future. A steering committee was formed. It is composed of Village and Township residents as well as village business, law enforcement and school representatives. Their first meeting was in September. ERPC is in the process of securing the necessary data needed for mapping the Village and near outlying areas around the new school facility. The goal is to have the STP completed within the next 12-15 months then be ready to move through the other steps to submit the grant application in early 2027 AFTER the new school is open, during ODOT's application period. Since completion of this project could take years the Village is also working on a plan to try to update some of the existing sidewalks. We hope to have more information in the Spring Newsletter

**A special edition newsletter will go out in January to inform residents about Ohio General Assembly passage of HB 331 and how it will affect the Village of Castalia.**

**VILLAGE OF CASTALIA  
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**POSTAL PATRON**