

**Richfield Township
3951 Washburn Rd.
Berkey, OH 43504**

Residents of Richfield Township

After much deliberation and consternation, the Richfield Township Board of Trustees has determined the township can no longer pay for garbage pick-up for residents as of September, 2020.

The Trustees have been in discussion over the past year as they have tried to find alternative funding and budget balancing measures. Garbage pick-up provided by the township is an additional service offered beyond what is required by township government which made sense when funds were available.

As state funding sources have been less readily available as well as cost continuing to rise, this program has quickly diminished funds. In addition COVID 19 has further reduced state funding, increasing unanticipated expenses with budget shortfalls.

Unlimited pick-up will continue to be provided by the township once a year.

As a reminder for residents that receive weekly pick-up the township has been picking up the cost for one time a month (9 months out of the year) and two times a month (4 months out of the year). You will see an increase in your bill starting in September.

This change is a “very difficult decision” for the township trustees that was driven by several factors:

- **A substantial increase in fees for garbage pick-up** over the past several years.
 - 41% increase in fees since 2013

- Yearly fee has gone from \$37,440 (2013) to \$52,667 (2019)
- **Decline in revenue.**
 - Local Government Fund reduced by 49%. Revenue decreased from \$38,000 to \$19,470.
 - Property Tax Revenue decreased by 3% due to decreased property values.
 - Rollback & Homestead Exemption revenue decreased by 34%. Revenue decreased from \$21,926 (2016) to \$14,421 (2019).
- **Additional expenses**
 - Lucas County 911 consolidated the county's eight current emergency-services call centers into one.
 - Township Dispatch fees currently are \$5500.00 with Springfield Township. This will be phased out in 2021, replaced by the Lucas County Dispatching Services (this is mandated by Lucas County).
 - Lucas County Dispatching fees will increase gradually over a 3 year period to \$13,738 per year. A 150% increase.
- **What happens from here:**
 - The township remains under contract with ARS for refuse services.
 - ARS will send out letters within the next month notifying residents what the cost will be for weekly pick-up. This will depend on the size of the garbage tote you choose.
 - ARS will bill residents directly.
 - Tentative start date will be in September, 2020

If you have any additional questions you may contact the Richfield Township Trustees.

John Hassen 419-469-0412
 Andy Bick 419-351-2940
 Steve Bettinger 419-343-6262

Thank you,

Linda Decker
 Richfield Township Fiscal Officer

