

BROWN TOWNSHIP

ESTABLISHED 1830

Spring 2021

New Items Are Now Recyclable

In recent years, central Ohio's residential recycling program has allowed only for the recycling of plastic bottles and jugs which feature a neck smaller than the base. A recent announcement expands the existing recycling program to include a wide variety of plastic tubs such as butter, cottage cheese, and sour cream tubs; fruit, pudding, and apple-sauce cups; and all yogurt containers. These items need to be empty and clean before they are put in the recycling cart. Lids and labels can be left on but the foil tops that sometimes come on yogurt containers should be removed and not recycled.

Like most businesses, recycling is commodities-based. Taking care to recycle correctly is an important act we can each take to support the businesses which make it possible for each of us to recycle our unwanted materials. In order to expand the plastics recycling program, Rumpke has secured several long-term buyers and users of our recycled plastics. In addition to securing end users, Rumpke is also investing in new equipment and the necessary workforce to separate and sort these materials at their Materials Recovery Facilities (MRF). Once separated at the MRF, these materials are baled and shipped to businesses, many of which are in Ohio, to become new products such as water bottles and plastic lumber.

In order to recycle right, it's important to know which items are still not accepted for recycling in Franklin County's curbside and drop-off recycling pro-

grams. Items on the "no-no" list include disposable plastic cups such as party cups and plastic take-out and clamshell containers like those used for strawberries and blueberries. Unfortunately, if you are not able to avoid using these items, the only current options for disposing of them are to either reuse them—look for someone in your local Facebook Freebies group who may use them for a craft, to organize art supplies, or for a school project—or put them in the trash where they will be safely disposed of at the landfill.

To learn more about all of the materials accepted as part of Franklin

County's recycling program, visit RecycleRight.org.

This expansion of central Ohio's recycling program is a wonderful step forward for our environment, our economy, and our community. Let us show our appreciation and do our part to keep these items on the accepted list by committing to recycle right today and every day. Together we can make a difference.

Information provided by Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio

Brinkerhoff Named to Panel

The Brown Township Board of Trustees has appointed Melissa Brinkerhoff as the township's representative on the Big Darby Accord Advisory Panel. The Panel, made up of representatives of the Big Darby Accord's member jurisdictions, is charged with reviewing development applications from member jurisdictions in view of the provisions of the Big Darby Accord and making non-binding recommendations to the governing body of the relevant jurisdiction.

Raised in Portage County, Melissa is a graduate of The Ohio State Uni-



Melissa Brinkerhoff

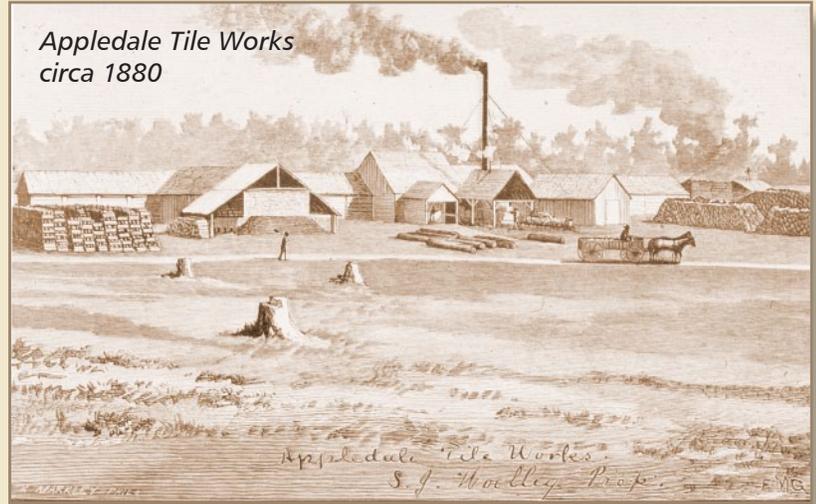
versity and a 14-year resident of Brown Township. She and her husband, Bruce, are employed full-time in the agriculture industry, raising Standardbreds, Chiangus cattle, and Duroc hogs. They have two sons who graduated from Hilliard Darby High School and were both high school and collegiate volleyball players.

Melissa is a member of Hilliard United Methodist Church and various professional organizations.

Her interest in serving on the Panel stems from her desire to preserve and protect Big Darby Creek and its watershed for future generations. The Board thanks Melissa for her willingness to serve.

Solomon Woolley founded the Appledale Tile Works in 1866, and by 1880 this factory employed a staff of 12 men. The driveway to his property, off of Scioto and Darby Creek Road near Langton Road, passed through his 40-acre apple and peach orchard. This may be why he chose the name Appledale. The large factory powered by steam engines was located near the center of his property and south of his home. To meet an ever-increasing demand for tile in this flatland area, Solomon Wooley used the locally available slate colored fire clay from his farm and others in the area. From three to eighteen inch tile was manufactured at Appledale.

Originally published in Brown Township Summer 2005 newsletter, contributors to this township history were Ray Bradley and Sandy Andromeda



PUBLIC SAFETY SUMMARY

Each issue of the Brown Township newsletter contains a quarterly wrap-up of public safety reports and calls in Brown Township.

Norwich Township Fire Department

Calls to addresses in both incorporated and unincorporated portions of Brown Township:

	Fire Calls		EMS Calls	
	Incorp.	Unincorp.	Incorp.	Unincorp.
Dec. 2020	3	3	3	14
Jan. 2021	1	3	4	24
Feb. 2021	2	3	0	21

Franklin County Sheriff's Department

Calls to addresses in unincorporated Brown Township:

December 2020

Reported December 14, occurred December 11—theft of personal identifying information from a victim at an address on Scioto Darby Creek Road.

Reported December 18, occurred

December 17—obstructing official business and resisting arrest at an address on Feder Road.

December 24—drugs seized at an address on Patterson Road.

December 29—theft of a riding lawn mower and various tools from a garage at an address on Amity Road.

Reported December 29, occurred between November 29 and December 9—identity fraud involving a victim at an address on Golfview Place.

January 2021

January 4—theft of coins from a vehicle at an address on Morris Road.

January 4—theft of coins from a vehicle at an address on Morris Road.

January 4—theft of a bag and coins from a vehicle at an address on Morris Road.

Reported January 11, occurred between January 5 and 7—aggravated menacing at an address on Patterson Road.

Reported January 22, occurred January 10—theft of personal identifying information from a victim at an address on Morris Road.

February 2021

Reported February 1, occurred January 29—identity fraud involving a victim at an address on Walker Road.

Reported February 1, occurred between August 1, 2020 and February 1—identity fraud involving a victim at an address on Scioto Darby Creek Road.

Reported February 2, occurred between January 21 and February 2—identity fraud involving a victim at an address on Darby Knolls Boulevard.

Reported February 3, occurred between January 1 and December 31, 2020—identity fraud involving a victim at an address on Elliot Road.

February 11—identity fraud involving a victim at an address on Amity Road.

February 1—identity fraud involving a victim at an address on Roberts Road.

Reported February 24—occurred between February 12 and 24—identity fraud involving a victim at an address on Abbey Chase Road.

Hilliard Division of Police

Non-routine calls to Brown Township addresses within the City of Hilliard:

December 2020

No information available.

January 2020

No information available.

February 2020

No information available.

Meet the Darby Creek Association

When driving through the Brown Township countryside it's easy to forget that the farms, large acreages, woodlots, and fields are only 10 miles from downtown Columbus, which raises the question: how is it that this rural oasis has escaped the urban sprawl that has swallowed up other parts of Franklin County?

The truth is the scenery is not there by accident. It is there because of Big Darby Creek. The presence of a National Scenic River, in combination with countless citizens who are determined to protect it, has resulted in the Brown Township that we know today.

Things could have been much different. Over the decades there have been many plans to turn the township into a bedroom suburb of the ever-expanding state capital.

As early as 1938, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers authorized a flood control and water supply dam to be built in southern Franklin County around the village of Harrisburg, which would have drawn recreation and housing westward. By 1960, Columbus was actively planning a second dam for Brown Township which would have flooded land where Prairie Oaks Metro Park is now. An even more ambitious plan to create an "upground" reservoir would have created a lake covering a large chunk

of the township. Fortunately, at the same time these plans were advancing, biologists at The Ohio State University were realizing that Big Darby was a special place, home to rare and endangered fish and freshwater mussels, some of which existed in only a few places in the world. In 1968, in response to the growing threat of the dams and residential development, the local Sierra Club formed a committee to study the Darby issue. By 1972, this group split into an independent organization called the Darby Creek Association (DCA) focused solely on protecting the creek.

DCA attracted both environmentalists and concerned watershed residents who wanted to see the creek preserved. This coalition, which remains active to this day, proved to be a formidable force. Through dogged advocacy the dams were eventually defeated—a long and fascinating story that is too long a tale for this article. After the "Dam Wars," DCA successfully advocated for state and national Scenic River status for both Big and Little Darby creeks, insuring that the creeks would never be dammed. Acreage that had been purchased for the reservoirs was acquired by Metro Parks, resulting in the giant parks we all enjoy today.

But the threat of urban sprawl remained long after the demise of the dams, and in 2002 many of DCA's

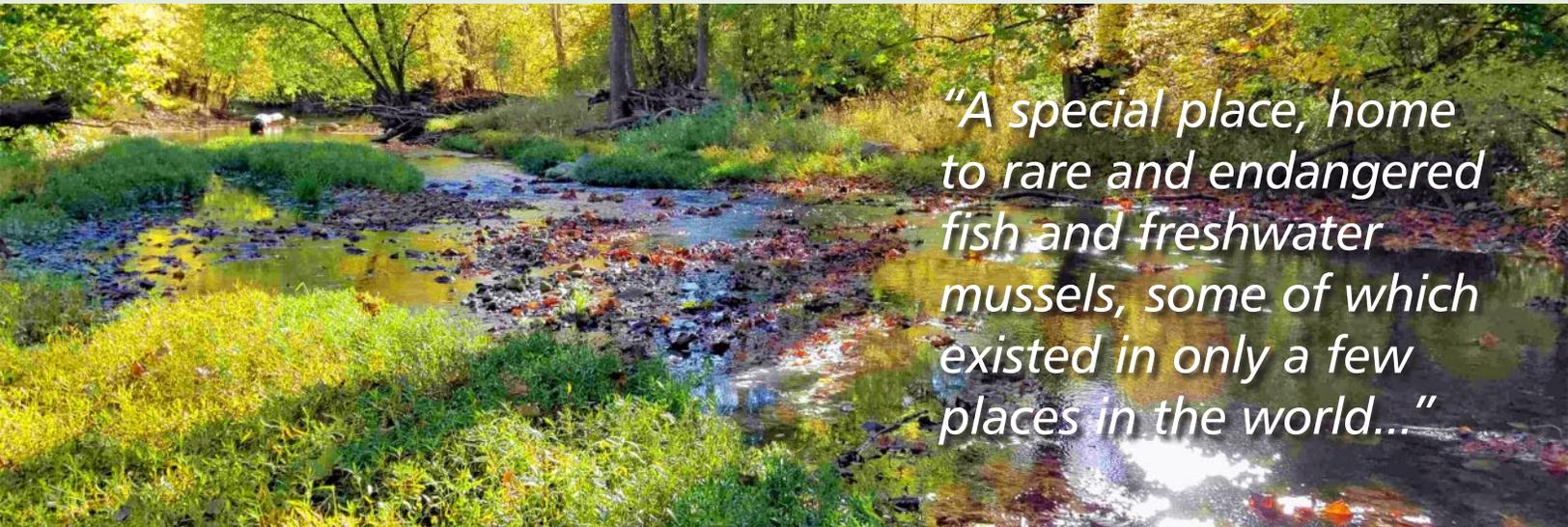
members joined another group, PEER, to collect 20,000 signatures aimed at sending the sprawl issue to the ballot in Columbus. This move brought the city to the bargaining table, resulting in the historic Big Darby Accord agreement that limits development in western Franklin County.

Unfortunately, developers continue to threaten the mostly rural character of the watershed. Recently Hilliard commissioned a study to expand west to the Big Darby—a violation of the Accord that would effectively eliminate Brown Township. At the same time, Plain City has petitioned the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency to expand that town into a city the size of Hilliard and Dublin combined, which would stretch to the northwest border of Brown Township.

And so, with the future in doubt, the Darby Creek Association will continue uniting passionate people who believe that preserving the creek is worth fighting for. Please consider joining this fight!

Find us on Facebook at Darby Creek Association, on Instagram at [darby_creek_association](#) and on Twitter @ [Big_Darby_Creek](#). Our website is [darbycreekassociation.org](#).

*Information provided by the
Darby Creek Association*



"A special place, home to rare and endangered fish and freshwater mussels, some of which existed in only a few places in the world..."



Brown Township
2491 Walker Road
Hilliard, Ohio 43026

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PAID
COLUMBUS OH
PERMIT# 5964

Brown Township Administration Office

2491 Walker Road, Hilliard, Ohio 43026
(614) 876-2133

Website

www.BrownTwp.org

Fiscal Officer

Becky Kent • (614) 446-2359

Trustees

Mr. Gary Dever • (614) 876-4768
Mrs. Pamela Sayre • (614) 582-01901
Mr. Joseph Martin • (614) 309-8879

Norwich Fire Department

Jeff Warren, Chief • (614) 876-7694

Franklin County Sheriff's Department

Emergency • 911
Non-Emergency • (614) 525-3333

Meetings are held the third Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at 2491 Walker Road, Hilliard, Ohio.



L-R: Trustees Pam Sayre,
Gary Dever and Joe Martin
Seated: Fiscal Officer Becky Kent

Streamside Buffer Benefits

Is your house located along a stream? Streams are dynamic systems—meaning they are constantly changing. Your stream may be a babbling brook most days, but after a heavy rain, it can become a roiling river.

The best way to get along with your stream is to protect the edge with a buffer strip of native grass, trees, and/or shrubs. To an uninformed eye, a buffer of natural unmown or rarely mown native vegetation may give an unkempt appearance. However, the buffer is beneficial for many reasons:

- Plant roots help stabilize the stream bank. Native plants have robust root systems which hold the soil in place.
- Buffers intercept sediment and prevent its accumulation in the stream. Sediment can smother aquatic organisms that live on the stream bottom and make it difficult for fish to find food. Murky water affects the aesthetics of your stream.
- Within the water, small fish and other aquatic organisms will find vital cover under plants that hang over the edge.
- The shade provided by the plants in the buffer helps to moderate the temperature of the stream. Cooler water holds more oxygen and reduces stress on fish and other aquatic features.
- Flourishing vegetation on the bank attracts desirable wildlife such as mammals, reptiles, and amphibians.
- Buffers entice insects like dragonflies and various birds which feed on mosquitoes and ticks.
- Buffers provide an excellent food

- source for our valuable pollinators.
- Buffers provide connecting corridors that enable wildlife to move safely from one habitat area to another.
- Buffers help filter trash as well as leaves, grass clippings, fertilizer, and other debris that can cause excessive nutrient spikes. If the stream receives runoff laden with nitrogen and phosphorus, nuisance vegetation and algae can grow. Excessive growth may lead to water quality problems such as foul odors and low dissolved oxygen levels potentially leading to fish kills and harmful algal blooms which are unsafe for people, pets and wildlife.
- Buffers absorb rainwater which recharges ground water supplies and allows storm runoff to be released more slowly. This can reduce the intensity and frequency of flooding.



Information provided by Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District