

# Town of Battle Ground Newsletter

Town Hall

October 2017

**Town Hall  
Weekday Hours  
7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

**Emergency 911  
Business 765-567-2603**

## Directory

Town Marshal  
Business line 567-2223  
Jerry Burk

Deputies  
Mark Gosney  
Ben Beutler  
Bill Dearing

Crossing Guard  
Mike Owens

Tippecanoe Sheriff Dispatch  
call for Police service: 423-9321

Township Fire Station 567-2011  
Township Fire Chief  
Dave Bisher

Water Dept 567-4020  
Superintendent  
Dan Gemmecke  
Assistant  
Joey Talley

Street Dept 567-4002  
Town Supervisor  
Ron Holladay  
Assistant  
Larry Bickett

Utility Office 567-2603

Utility Billing Deputy  
Beth Whitus  
Clerk-Treasurer  
Georgia Jones

## Town Council Members

Steve Egly, President  
Mike Bird  
Greg Jones  
James Miller  
Zach Raderstorff

## Battle Ground Conservancy District Board Members

Andrea Agree, Chairman  
Kerry Smith  
Pam Gramelispacher  
Steve Hancock  
Ron Holladay  
Shauna Summers  
Carol Watson

## Community Crossings Grant Award

The Town Council recently applied for and received a Community Crossings matching grant through INDOT for seven road construction projects in town. The total amount awarded in 2017 is \$291,862.50. This represents a 75% match to town funds, for a total \$389,150.00 to repave some areas and reseal others that are starting to show deterioration.

This is the second grant award in two years: in 2016 the town received \$80,500 and completed a total of \$129,527.63 in repairs.

The most noticeable and possibly most appreciated project is the repaving of CR600 hill, which had been patched but was still rough and hazardous. After the surface was removed, the road bed was found to be unstable and required additional work, adding time and cost to the project. The process took a few days longer than expected, and the result was worth the wait.

For a more complete description of the road projects, see the Community Crossings article on our web site: [www.battleground.in.gov](http://www.battleground.in.gov).

### North Street Reconstruction

The North Street reconstruction project had been in the planning stages for nearly four years, and is now expected to be completed by November 7<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of the project is to make the “downtown”

area safer for pedestrians. The sidewalks are wider with accessible ramps at the corners, and bump-outs on Railroad street allow drivers to easily see pedestrians crossing. All but one of the commercial buildings now have entry at grade. No more steps and only one ramp, which will soon have a handrail. As a bonus, the war memorial is repaired and will continue to be a focal point of the area.

As with every construction project some items did not go as planned, primarily the timeline. Thank you for your patience as we had no control over the schedules of the many interdependent contractors.

The new curbs and sidewalks provide another safety feature to North Street, the narrowing of the travel lane coming into town will encourage slower speed approaching the intersection. The new stop sign at Railroad Street will ensure vehicles take time to see pedestrians and vehicles coming from Main Street.

The main road surface was not part of the project, and we hope it won't take long for INDOT to pave the section of North St. and Tecumseh St. for everyone to enjoy.

We appreciate your patience with the construction on North Street and hope it positively impacts our town.

## Street Department LeafVac On the Move

The Street Department will be around town every Monday with the leaf vac to keep the curbs and streets clean during leaf fall.

To have leaves removed, rake them to the curb as close to the street as possible and away from storm drains or parked vehicles. The vac does a great

job in the street but does not reach out past the curb.

The crew will add more pickup days as needed when weather conditions bring down more leaves. You may also take leaves to the compost pile at your convenience, but please do not leave any bags, just the contents!

*Pet tags are required by town ordinance, and help us reach you when a pet is found away from home.*

**Domestic Animal License**  
Ordinance #252

Dogs and Cats over 6 months of age need an annual tag. Bring proof of rabies vaccination when you come to purchase tags at Town Hall, weekdays 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Cost is \$3.00 for unaltered animals and \$1.00 with proof of spay/neuter. 2018 tags will be available in January.

**Town Calendar**

- October**  
 31 Trick or Treat, 6-9:00 p.m.  
 31 Recycle and trash pickup
- November**  
 4 Daylight Savings Ends  
 14 Recycle and large trash pickup  
 10 Veteran's Day observed  
*Town Hall closed*  
 13 Town Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.  
 15 Conservancy Board 6:00 p.m.  
 23,24 Thanksgiving Holiday  
*Town Hall closed*  
 28 Recycle and trash pickup
- December**  
 11 Town Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.  
 12 Recycle and large trash pickup  
 20 Conservancy Board 6:00 p.m.  
 22,26 Christmas holiday  
*Town Hall closed*  
 27 Recycle and trash pickup
- January 2018**  
 1 New Year's holiday  
*Town Hall closed*  
 3 Trash pickup  
 9 Trash and recycle pickup  
 15 Martin Luther King Day  
*Town Hall closed*

**Attend a Meeting, Know the Plan.**

Town Council meetings and Conservancy District meetings are open to the public at Town Hall, and residents are encouraged to attend.

Town Council regular meeting night is the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The Conservancy Board meets the third Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m.



Meeting agendas for both the Town Council and Conservancy District are posted three days in advance, at Town Hall and at the Battle Ground Post Office. If the meeting time changes, it will be noted on the posted agenda.

If you have a concern for the council or board, contact the staff at Town Hall to be included in the next meeting agenda.

**Bright Lights in the City**

Street lights in Battle Ground are starting to have a new look with updated LED fixtures. There is no formal plan for replacement, but as the older lights in each neighborhood reach the end of service life, Tipmont will install energy efficient fixtures. You may notice the difference in color and intensity, the new lights offer more security for homeowners. Please report any vandalism to lights in town. Many have been found to be deliberately damaged.

The town pays a monthly rental fee instead of having to purchase all the new lights. We appreciate the additional security and thank the employees at Tipmont who help us throughout the year.



*Holiday Decorations*

There are new lamp posts on Railroad Street and North Street as part of the INDOT reconstruction grant. The town council has started to consider holiday lights, if you have ideas to help decorate on a small budget please call town hall to volunteer!

**Pay utility bill online with a credit or debit card.**

[www.battleground.in.gov](http://www.battleground.in.gov)

Payments made by midnight on the due date are considered timely and avoid penalties. Transactions are processed with PayGov, which charges a transaction fee. It takes 24 hours to receive your online payment, call the office if you have concerns.  
765-567-2603



## Services provided to Battle Ground residents

As a resident of the tax district "Battle Ground Civil Town" you enjoy municipal services which are funded by property tax.

There are many homes in the utility service area or that have a Battle Ground zip code, which are not part of the municipal area. Ordinances and services only apply to homes within town limits. These are some of the services your taxes provide.

**Security:** The Town Marshal and Deputies patrol during early morning hours, after school, and through the evening. For emergency assistance call 911. For non-emergency issues call 765-567-2603. As a reminder, please keep vehicles locked.

**Roads and Alleys:** The Street Department handles road repairs, signs and painting, mowing, snow plowing and autumn leaf removal. Leaf pickup follows the leaf drop season, Oct 1 to Dec 1. Rake leaves to the curb for Monday pick-up. If there is storm debris on the road, call 765-567-4002.

**Compost center:** Residents may use the compost to dispose of grass clippings, leaves, and organic garden waste. There is a separate collection area for small limbs and tree branches. Use is limited to residents. The fine for unauthorized use by contractors and non-residents is \$500.00 per occurrence.

**Wood chip mulch and soil:** Residents may pick up FREE compost and mulch. Please call Town Hall in advance to request help loading a truck or trailer.

The compost site is open weekdays 7:30am to 9:00pm and weekends 12:00pm to 4:00pm.

**Trash service:** Trash totes and recycling totes are provided to each residential address. Weekly trash collection is Tuesday. If Monday or Tuesday is a holiday, collection is delayed to Wednesday.

Recycling collection occurs every other Tuesday and the second Tuesday of every month is large item pickup. The tote plus one

bag on top is accepted, additional items require a trash tag.

On large item day, one piece of furniture or appliance with no tag will be accepted. Additional items need a tag, purchased for \$1.00 at Town Hall. Check the town website for guidelines on large items.

Tippecanoe County Solid Waste Management District offers recycle/disposal of liquids that should not go to the landfill: fryer oil, motor oil, liquid varnish, oil paint, and oil based stain. Call 765-423-2858 or visit their web site [www.tippecanowaste.org](http://www.tippecanowaste.org) for more information about disposal of these and other items.

Waste Management's system does not recycle plastic grocery bags (these get caught in the machinery), food or liquid, or wet cardboard and paper which can spoil an entire load of otherwise recyclable materials.

A more complete list is posted on the town website. Thank you for taking care to "Recycle Right" and keep our contract costs low.

## New utility in 2018

On September 11, 2017, the Town Council signed an ordinance enacting the Battle Ground Storm Water Utility.

As part of the federally established Clean Water Act of 1972, the Town must comply with regulations regarding storm water runoff. Historically the costs of compliance, roughly \$50,000 per year, have been funded through the Wastewater Utility, draining much needed funds from sewage system maintenance. The storm water utility was created to raise funds for capital projects and cover the cost of compliance with the Clean Water Act and subsequent regulations.

The utility fee structure is based on the amount of impervious structures that contribute to the volume of storm water a property creates. All property owners, whether residential, for-profit, or non-profit, will pay a fee.

For a detailed description of the rate study, calculations, property descriptions, and further information, please see the Storm Water Utility document in the Document Center on the Town's website at [www.battleground.in.gov](http://www.battleground.in.gov).

You may also read or print a copy of the ordinance at Town Hall.

**Q.** Is there any restriction on burning leaves?

**A.** Indiana Department of Environmental Management states that even the smoke from clean wood and leaves can harm human health and community safety. Smoke creates a nuisance and ill will among neighbors.

Town Ordinance 231 prohibits burning leaves on any paved street. Campfires using clean, dry hardwood are more safe when fire pits have raised sides and screen covers. Take the same precautions you would expect of neighbors, and avoid any fires in town after dark. For more info on open burning: [www.in.gov/idem/airquality/2411.htm](http://www.in.gov/idem/airquality/2411.htm)

## BATTLE GROUND TOWN HALL

100 College Street  
PO Box 303  
Battle Ground, IN 47920

Phone: 765-567-2603  
Fax: 765-567-4115  
Email: [treasurer@battleground.in.gov](mailto:treasurer@battleground.in.gov)

### *Inside:*

- ⇒ Community Crossing Grant
- ⇒ Free mulch at town compost site
- ⇒ Meeting calendar
- ⇒ New street lights
- ⇒ Municipal services for residents
- ⇒ Domestic Animal License

### **Alert!**

Emergency Alert is now available for utility customers to receive notice of Boil Advisories, utility and street projects. Go to the Conservancy website, click "Sign up for Alerts" on the right side menu bar. Request text or email alert.

[www.water.battleground.in.gov](http://www.water.battleground.in.gov)  
**Be prepared!**



### **SORRY, SON...THERE'S NO APP FOR THAT**

It's guaranteed, snow is on the way. When the day comes, remember to park vehicles in your drive, so the plow trucks may clear both the travel lanes and parking spaces.

We take care of the street, you clear the sidewalks! Ordinance 2009-467 establishes responsibility for property owners to remove snow and ice from sidewalks within 24 hours after snow ceases to fall. Everyone does their part to make winter travel as safe as possible.