

From the desk of Trustee, Chris Nichols

Canton Township Good Neighbor Program

“A Proud Family Community” should be the home of Good Neighbors

A man is called selfish not for pursuing his own good, but for neglecting his neighbor's. ~Richard Whately

I hope you will indulge me as I step onto a soap-box for a minute, but there have been some things occurring in our township (and other places as well) that have concerned me. I would like to discuss those concerns with you and also introduce a new program in Canton Township to try and address the issue while also recognizing the Good Neighbors in Canton Township.

Canton Township has long been a Proud Family Community, where neighbors looked out for each other. Most of our township residents are still good, caring neighbors. Over the past few years however, we have heard more and more concerns and complaints from residents about neighbors...well, not being so neighborly. Some of the actions we have heard more about are:

- Loud parties that go into the nighttime hours.
- ATV's and dirt bikes running on township roads, sometimes late at night.
- Large trucks illegally driving on township roads and parking in residential neighborhoods.
- Neighbors not taking care of their properties.
- Neighbors intimidating neighbors.

Many of these complaints are not about the young residents of our township, but the adults who are teaching these lessons to our youth. The lessons that should be taught are basic respect and consideration for our neighbors.

We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future. ~Franklin Delano Roosevelt

Good Neighbor Award:

In an effort to remind our residents about being good neighbors and to recognize those who go above and beyond the call of being a good neighbor, we are introducing the Canton Township Good Neighbor Award.

Any Canton Township resident can nominate a neighbor for this award simply by submitting a note to the Township Trustees or on the Good Neighbor page of the township website (<http://www.cantontwp-oh.gov/GoodNeighbor/>). Each resident that receives this award will get a Canton Township Good Neighbor static sticker for their home. Our Good Neighbor Award recipients will also be recognized on the township's website.

The impersonal hand of government can never replace the helping hand of a neighbor. ~Hubert H. Humphrey

Additional Good Neighbor Activities:

In addition to the Good Neighbor Award, other future Neighborly activities will be planned to continue our push to make Canton Township the most neighborly place to call home. Future Neighborly Activities include:

- Neighbors Helping Neighbors Weekend – An opportunity for our township residents to sign up and help those residents who may be older or have trouble getting around to do light chores around the house.
- Get to Know Your Neighbor Night – On a designated night, encourage old fashioned neighborhood block parties to allow neighbors to get to know each other better.

While the politicians in Washington and Columbus do what they can to mess things up (my personal opinion), I feel that we need to do the things that we can to make our township a better place. I hope you will join us in the activities of the Canton Township Good Neighbor Program and keep Canton Township a Proud Family (and Neighborly) Community.

Won't you be my neighbor? ~ Mr. Rogers