



May 20, 2010

Dear Columbia Township Property Owners, Residents and Businesses:

On May 11, the Columbia Township Board of Trustees passed Resolution 10-08, 2010 "Adopting Exterior Property Maintenance Code" which will become effective June 14, 2010. If you are not familiar with the code, please visit our web site (www.columbiatwp.org) or view a copy of the code at the Township Administrative Office at 5686 Kenwood Road.

The purpose of the exterior property maintenance code is to protect the public health, safety and general welfare as it pertains to premises and buildings used for residential, commercial, and industrial purposes. This protection is provided by:

- Establishing minimum standards for maintaining residential, commercial and industrial property; preserving and achieving the presentable appearance of existing structures and premises; avoiding blighting effects of the substandard maintenance of structures and premises and their negative impact on the value of surrounding properties; and eliminating hazardous conditions;
- Establishing the responsibilities of owners, lessees, occupants, and persons or entities having charge of structures and their premises; and
- Providing for administration, enforcement, and penalties.

The Township anticipates enforcement activities will initially be driven primarily by complaint. As a reminder, complaints may be submitted by completing the Comments/Service Request form on our web site, completing a Complaint Form at the Township Office, or by letter with complainant name, address, telephone number or e-mail address and nature of the complaint. The Code Enforcement Officer will then initiate a review of the complaint and take appropriate action to remedy any non-compliance with the new code.

It is the intent of the Township to work with all citizens to further the best interests of the community, through the fair and consistent administration of this Exterior Property Maintenance Code. The Township will work with property owners as necessary to resolve non-compliant property issues as long as commitment and progress on correcting issues is evident.

We all will be adjusting to the new code and appreciate your cooperation and patience with its implementation and enforcement.

Sincerely,

Columbia Township Board of Trustees