

## BETHEL TOWNSHIP JUNK VEHICLE ABATEMENT PROGRAM

In the Spring of 2006, a small community survey was sponsored by the Bethel Township Community Improvement Corporation to help identify community issues. In the survey, nearly 68% of respondents stated that there are too many junk cars in the community.

The purpose of the Bethel Township Junk Vehicle Abatement Program is to demonstrate the township's ability to take a proactive stance in dealing with junk vehicles and the associated issues that accompany them. Junk vehicles can have a deteriorating effect on the community by giving a negative visual perception of our township. Together, we can help provide a better visual appearance to our community by taking a tougher stand on junk vehicles.

If you see a junk vehicle in your neighborhood, please feel free to call the township office and report the violation. While we will ask for your name and telephone number, all reports will remain confidential. If you have any comments or questions, please do not hesitate to give the township building a call at 845.8472 or check us out on the web at [www.betheltownship.org](http://www.betheltownship.org).

Thanks for helping put Bethel Township First!

Sincerely,

The Board of Trustees of Bethel Township

### About this publication...

This publication is designed to provide individuals with information on those processes that are used to abate nuisances caused by junk vehicles. The information herein may change with little or no notice due to changes in township policy, changes in state law or other circumstances beyond the control of the Board of Trustees of Bethel Township, Miami County. Nothing in this document should be implied as obligating the Board of Trustees to certain actions. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to exercise any and all privileges granted to it by the Ohio Revised Code or other applicable laws and codes.



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## JUNK VEHICLE ABATEMENT PROGRAM

Bethel  
TOWNSHIP  
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## **JUNK CAR ABATEMENT PROGRAM**

In the Spring of 2006, a small community survey found that over 68% of respondents felt that there were too many junk cars in Bethel Township. The Board of Trustees of Bethel Township will use specific sections of the Ohio Revised Code to abate junk cars throughout the process. This brochure is designed to inform individuals of the legal process used to abate such cars from Bethel Township.

### **Step #1—Letter to Property Owner**

When there is a property that has a junk vehicle, Township Staff will send a letter to the owner of the property notifying them of the situation and requesting that the junk car be moved within 10 days the letter was sent. Township staff will later investigate whether the vehicle was moved or whether or not arrangements to move the junk vehicle was made by the property owner. If no arrangements were made and the junk vehicle has not been moved, step two will take place.

### **Step #2—Enforcement of Section 505.173 of the Ohio Revised Code**

Under Section 505.173 of the Ohio Revised Code, township staff will file charges in Miami County Municipal Court. Violations under Section 505.173 of the Ohio Revised Code are considered minor misdemeanors punishable by a \$100.00 fine. Each day the violation is occurring shall be considered a separate offense. Under this section a junk vehicle is defined as being three model years or older, apparently inoperable and extensively damaged, including but not limited to, missing wheels, tires, engine or transmission. If the junk vehicle is still on the property after this legal process, the township reserves the right to move to the most harshest step in the program.

### **Step #3—Enforcement of Section 505.87 of the Ohio Revised Code**

Under Section 505.87, the township can provide for abatement of certain nuisances, including junk vehicles. Under this section, the Board of Trus-

tees may adopt a resolution allowing township officials to remove junk vehicles through towing the vehicle. The costs incurred to the township for towing the vehicle will be placed on the tax duplicate of the property owner.

### **Exempt Industries**

Certain industries engaged in the scrap metal and automobile salvage business are exempt from these provisions if they are properly licensed by the State of Ohio. Scrap metal processing facilities must be licensed under Sections 4737.05 to 4737.12 of the Ohio Revised Code. Operations as a salvage motor vehicle dealer, salvage motor vehicle auction or salvage motor vehicle pool must be licensed under Chapter 4738 of the Ohio Revised Code. Towing and recovery services conducted under Section 4513.60 to 4513.63 are also exempt from this program. For more information please call the township office at 845.8472 or check out the township website at [www.betheltownship.org](http://www.betheltownship.org).