



# Gates Mills Fire Department

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## NEWS FROM THE CHIEF!

### SPRING IS HERE!

Please be cautious of the hazards that may come with outdoor clean-up activities. In Gates Mills we have had a number of fires that were caused by leaves, debris and other yard waste that had accumulated around the house, garage and storage sheds. To keep your home safe from these types of fires, remove the buildup of these materials. Please remember that open burning of leaves, tree branches, yard waste, and lumber/construction material is not permitted and is a violation of Ohio EPA regulations. Sparks and embers can and do start other fires.

Another SAFETY concern is people that may come too close to the edge of the numerous ravines and cliffs in Gates Mills while doing yard work or just enjoying the outdoors. Over the last few years a number of people in Gates Mills (both residents and visitors) have fallen into deep ravines and were rescued by members of our Safety Forces and our Regional Technical Rescue Team. Enjoy the natural beauty of our village, but be aware of your surroundings and always carry a cell phone to use in the event of an emergency.

### Safety Tips:

- Never store yard waste or compost materials near your home, garage, or any structure, these items can and have started fires.
- Always store fuel for lawn and garden equipment in approved containers with lids.
- If you have a gas grill, make sure all connections are tight and check the condition of the hose(s) for cracks or damaged areas.
- Never store gas grills or spare propane cylinders indoors.
- Turn off propane cylinders after every use.

Until the next Pink Sheet...

*Chief P. Thomas Robinson*

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