

## **Project of the Year Award**

Sylvania Township has received the "Project of the Year," award for using pervious pavement for the parking area at it's new fire station on Whiteford Road, just north of Monroe Street.

Wayne Moening, of the Ohio Concrete Association, which presented the award, said the use of the material is an environmentally friendly way for paving surfaces and the township was given the award for using the relatively new technology.

The parking area of the station, to the south of the building, is made of pervious pavement, a substance which allows water to flow through the surface. In the case of the station, the water flows through the surface to a stone base and then into perforated pipes. The water then flows through the pipes into a rain garden located next to the parking lot.

Mr. Moening said the primary benefit of pervious pavement is that storm water isn't added to the storm-water sewer system. If it is used in enough quantity in large developments it could reduce the need for developers to construct retention ponds to hold storm water to reduce the possibility of flooding. Pervious pavement is more expensive than other materials used for paving, but Mr. Moening said he intends to show it to developers and others in the construction industry as a possible alternative to more traditional materials.

The fire station is the only known site in the township with pervious pavement and it was paid for through a state grant as a demonstration project. Mr. Moening said the material isn't suggested for areas where there is a high rate of traffic, or where vehicles might turn frequently. He said particles of the material can be caught in tire treads and pulled from the surface. Daryl Graus, manager of the planning and zoning office, said pervious pavement is a material which could be used in other parking areas adjacent to travel lanes and possibly in large commercial parking lots for spaces a distance away from stores which are only parked in a few times a year.

Mr. Moening said a special rolling mechanism is required to lay the pavement. He said a couple of area contractors own the device and the association also has one which is made available for contractors when they need it.