

Washington TOWNSHIP

Lehigh County • Pennsylvania

Slatedale
Friedens
Emerald



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Thank you for taking a few minutes to look at this year's edition of our Township newsletter. Inside you will find a wealth of information relating to government services, news, and activities occurring within the Township this year. As always, we encourage you to support our many community organizations, as well as those businesses who sponsor our newsletter.

Letter from the Supervisor

As 2024 begins, I felt it was a good time to take a mental inventory of how we are doing as a Township. I have always had the philosophy that there is a hierarchy of what a good municipality should provide. In order, it goes as such:

1. Roads, infrastructure, and public safety
2. Planning, zoning and quality of life
3. Recreational spaces and opportunities

When I look at these three areas, I believe we are currently in a very good spot. The roads that are maintained within the Township are in pretty good condition right now, and we make it a priority to keep them that way. We have three well-functioning fire companies to service residents in emergencies.

Our zoning and planning department is modernized, efficient, and responsive to residents' needs and complaints. Our multi-municipal plan is currently being updated, and a new zoning code will follow.

In another section of this newsletter are details of the new Slatedale Playground. Along with existing parks like Eagle's Nest and the Slate Heritage Trail, we can be proud of our recreation areas. The Northern Lehigh Recreation Authority has been a wonderful partner in providing recreational and arts programs for people of all ages.

I know that, like every municipality, there are things we can improve upon. But not every idea originates from us. As a citizen of the township, if you have suggestions for our betterment, please let us know. Together, we can keep Washington Township a great place to live and raise a family.

Josh Friebolin, Supervisor Chairman



Slatedale Park Renovations



Last year, 2023 brought great progress with the renovation to the Slatedale Park. We were able to install a sand volleyball court, pickle ball court, and a dog park. Additionally, the basketball court has been completely resurfaced, painted, and is now equipped with the reinforced glass backboards and new rims. Supervisor Josh Friebolin had this to say about the new court. "I've played at a lot of basketball courts over the years, but I truly believe this is the nicest outdoor basketball court in the county."

We are happy to announce that the playground portion of the park was completed in early Spring of 2024. It has been nice to see the kids already enjoying the new equipment!

The Slatedale Park is a community asset. Let's all work together to keep it beautiful for generations to enjoy. We can do this by following park rules, cleaning up after pets, and reporting any vandalism that we may see.



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Check website for additional information

Township Staff

Josh Friebolin – Chairman of the Board of Supervisors-610-248-6906

Shawn Wanamaker – Vice Chairman of the Board of Supervisors

Thomas Dengler– Member of the Board of Supervisors

Wade Marlatt-Township Manager

Alberta Scarfaro-Zoning Officer & Planning Director

Brooke Lichtenwalter-Secretary & Treasurer

Joan Jones-LST Clerk

David Wotring-Roadmaster

John Tarafas-Code Enforcement Officer

Keith George-Residential Building Code Inspector-484-866-4888

Christopher Noll-Sewage Enforcement Officer-610-865-4555

All personnel can be reached at 610-767-8108

The Washington Township Board of Supervisors meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM in the Township Municipal Building.

Zoning Board Members

Aaron Oswald – Chairman of the Zoning Board

Timothy O'Brian – Vice Chairman of the Zoning Board

Jason Williams – Member of the Zoning Board

Scott Green – Alternate for the Zoning Board

Shane Pepe-Alternate for the Zoning Board

The Zoning Hearing Board meets on the third Wednesday of the month on an as needed basis. Hearings begin at 6:30 PM and are conducted in the Washington Township Municipal Building.

Planning Commission

David Lear – Chairman of the Planning Commission

Andrew Mack – Vice Chairman of the Planning Commission

Roy Dengler

Robert Herzog Jr

Paul Krepicz

Brian Hoffman

Gary Van Norman

Planning Commission meets on the last Monday of the month at 7:00 PM in the Township Municipal Building.



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To Place An Ad Call Mr. Kim Kriebel At Hometown Press • 267-371-2833

Thomas Dengler

After more than 20 years of service, Thomas Dengler, Roadmaster has retired. We are very thankful for his hard work and dedication that he has shared with the township all of these years. He will still be able to serve the community on the Board of Supervisors for his elected term. We wish him a wonderful retirement, and look forward to seeing him around town.

*HAPPY
retirement*



THANK YOU

Washington Township would like to thank the businesses that appear in this newsletter and to recognize them each as supporters and cornerstones of our community. It is with their contributions that this newsletter has been produced at no charge to our residents.



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*Kyle Follweiler,
Owner*

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The Northern Lehigh Historical Society

The mission of the Northern Lehigh Historical Society is to contribute to the conservation and preservation of the natural and historic resources of the Northern Lehigh area for the benefit and use of local families, individuals, and visitors to the region. The major project of the NLHS was the initiation, planning, and construction of the Slate Heritage Trail. As a member of the Venture Group, the NLHS participated in the development of the Slatington Trail and Slatington Trailhead. The NLHS and Venture Group meet the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Slatington Trailhead pavilion at 6:00 PM. Meetings are held March through October.

FMI: nlhs101@hotmail.com



Learn and explore at the Lehigh Gap Nature Center!

Are you a nature lover? If so, did you know that Washington Township is home to one of the region's best places to discover and explore the great outdoors? Lehigh Gap Nature Center (LGNC) invites you to visit our 756-acre wildlife refuge on the Blue Mountain, where you can walk, hike, or bike our 13 miles of trails, access the Lehigh River, and join our wide array of educational programs. The best part? Our refuge is open to the public free of charge every day of the year!

Begin your visit to LGNC at our Osprey House visitor center at 8844 Paint Mill Rd., Slatington. Additional parking is available on the western end of our refuge near Bowmanstown. Free trail maps are available at most parking areas. For more information on upcoming programs and events, sign up for our email list at <https://lgnc.org/newsletter-sign-up/> or visit us online:

Website: www.lgnc.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/lehighgap

Instagram: www.instagram.com/lehighgapnaturecenter

LGNC is a small nonprofit organization with a big impact. Thanks to the support of our members and volunteers, we have restored life to a once barren and polluted stretch of mountainside, provide educational programs to over 10,000 people each year, and offer a free community resource that is visited by thousands annually. If you would like to be a part of our conservation and outreach efforts, we encourage you to get involved as a member or volunteer of our organization. We are currently seeking new volunteers to help with visitor engagement, hawk migration research, education programs, and refuge maintenance. Please consider joining our conservation community!

To contact LGNC, please call us at 610-760-8889, email us mail@lgnc.org, or write us at P.O. Box 198, Slatington, PA 18080. We hope to see you on the refuge or at an upcoming program!

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Northern Lehigh Food Bank 2024 - Submitted by: Barbara Scheirer, Director, Northern Lehigh Food Bank



The Northern Lehigh Food Bank serves the Northern Lehigh School District in Lehigh County, as well as referrals from the Northern Lehigh Pastoral Association, Inc.

Office/Delivery Hours: Tuesday 9:00 am to 1:00 pm and other hours by appointment. Food Distribution: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Thursday from 4:00 pm to 5:45 pm; and Last Saturday from 9:30 to 11:15 am each month. Also 2nd & 4th Mondays from 1:00 pm to 2:45 pm. New clients please call to register.

Because of the support of the community, we have also been able to give additional food for Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. We will also be collecting school supplies and individual food items for kids packs for the summer and new either handmade or store bought gloves, hats, scarves, fuzzy socks, and blankets/afghans/lap robes.

The household sizes are from 1-11 people. Last year we served about 170 households per month which is about 442 people monthly. Food and cash donations are always needed and appreciated. We no longer accept clothing, books, toys, furniture, or household items.

The Northern Lehigh Food Bank is located at 7884 Center St., Emerald.

The mailing address is PO Box 255, Slatington, PA 18080.

The telephone number is 610-767-9525.

Slatington Lions Club

The Slatington Lions Club recently celebrated their 75th Anniversary serving the Northern Lehigh community.

We currently have 58 members who join together to contribute their time and efforts to improve our community.

Our mission is to provide assistance to those who are blind or visually impaired, as well as helping those in need in our community.

Our Club has physical assistance equipment available to borrow for anyone in the area who might need something. (Wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, bathtub chairs) Message the club on our Facebook page.

Our events for 2024 include a Big Game (Super Bowl) raffle; Comedy Night on Saturday, March 2nd at Emerald Fire Hall; Community Summer Bash, Saturday June 22nd at Slatington Skeet Club Grove; Christmas tree sales in December at the Slatington Trailhead. For tickets and information about any of these events contact Lion Steve Walden, 610-390-3275, or check us out on Facebook.

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Fire House Activities

Emerald Fire Co. • Emerald, PA

Officers:

- President - Wade Marlatt
- Vice President - Chad Christman
- Secretary - Rodney Cressman
- Treasurer - Marc Chandler
- Financial Secretary - Brent Williams
- Fire Chief - Tito Burgos
- Trustees - Brandon Williams, Dennis Scholtis, Allen Rex, Donald Berger, Dan Hamm

To rent Emerald Picnic Woods,

call Josh Friebolin at 610-248-6906

Please visit starhosefire.com for hall rental information.

2024 UPCOMING EVENTS

July 6

Fireworks and Picnic, 4:30 pm

July 7 rain date

August 24 Emerald Classic Golf Tournament

Continue checking starhosefire.com and Emerald Fireworks and Picnic Facebook page for the latest updates.



Citizens Fire Co. #1 • Slatedale Fire Co.

Officer List 2024

Fire Company Officers:

- **President** - Michelle Schramel-610-760-9652 or 610-248-7217
- **Vice President** - Tiffany Yesik-484-866-0173
- **Secretary** - Dave Vaillette-484-695-0760
- **Treasurer** - David Delong
- **Financial Secretary** - Suzanne Zellner-610-767-2305

Fire Officers:

- **Chief** - Robert Schramel-610-760-9652 or 610-248-8207
- **Deputy Chief** - Brandon Danner 610-984-5404
- **Fire Police Captain** - Mace Olmeda 610-597-8750

Board Members:

5 Year: Tyler Danner 610-984-5405

3 Year: Susie Horn-610-767-3983, Tami Dimmig-610-767-0130

1 Year: Ricky Kistler-610-730-8901, Alex Scott-443-877-8084

Trustees:

Jim Hagerty-610-442-2196

Randy Schmoyer-610-554-9887

Robbie Schramel-610-760-9652 or 484-330-1538



2024 SLATEDALE FIRE COMPANY EVENTS

January 4th, 14th, 18th, 28th Bingo

February 1st, 11th, 15th, 25th, 29th Bingo

February 24th Adult Bingo

March 10th, 14th, 24th, 28th Bingo

March 16th Craft Show

March 16th Filling and Hot Bacon Dressing Sale Pick-Up

March 30th Breakfast w/ Easter Bunny and Egg Hunt

April 7th, 11th, 21st, 25th Bingo

April 23rd Primary Elections

May 5th, 19th, 23rd Bingo

May 12th Mother's Day Dinner

June 1st and 2nd Basket Social

August 3rd Fire Company Community Picnic

September 8th, 12th, 22nd, 26th Bingo

October 6th, 10th, 20th, 24th Bingo

November 3rd, 7th, 17th, 21st Bingo

November 5th Election Day

November 23rd Thanksgiving Filling Sale Pick-Up

December 1st, 15th, 19th Bingo

December 7th Craft Show

December 15th Santa Rides Around Town

December 22nd Santa Rides Around Town (Rain Date)

Friedens Fire Co.

Fire CO. Fire Line Officers:

Fire Chief- Joel Merkel 610-844-1668

Deputy Chief- Jeremy Merkel 610-739-0145

Asst. Chief- Bob Schmoyer 610-442-9474

Captain - Tim Jones

1st Lieutenant- Brent Merkel

Social Side of Fire CO.:

President - Jeremy Merkel 610-739-0145

Vice President - Taylor Jones

Recording Secretary-Amanda Sterner

Treasurer - Kim Blank

Trustees - Tim Jones 484-764-7231

Brent Merkel-610-597-4010

Chris Sterner-610-984-4895

RENTALS

Our hall has two floors to rent.

Upstairs-Can hold 75 people

Downstairs-Can hold 175 people

If you would like to rent the hall please contact Joel at 610-844-1668

Look on our sign on 873 across from Friedens Church for all of our upcoming events.



They count on your mammogram too.

To take care of others, you need to take care of your own health. Screening mammograms can find breast cancer in its earlier, most treatable stages. Make the time for your annual mammogram today – your loved ones will thank you tomorrow.

Schedule your mammogram | LVHN.org/mammo



SPRING & SUMMER

AT A GLANCE

Wednesday UnWine'd

The Slatington Trailhead is the place to be this summer for good wine and great music!

D&L Trailhead - Slatington | 6 to 8 P.M.

June 12 | June 26 | July 10

July 24 | August 7 | August 21

Shakespeare in the Park

Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival presents:

"Play On!" Community Tour:

The Comedy of Errors.

Come see the wonderful performance of a classic comedy.



Victory Park | June 14

Summer Concert Series

Grab some food from the local food truck, enjoy a drink from a local vendor, bring a lawn chair, and sit back & relax!

Victory Park | 6 - 8 P.M.

June 21 | July 12 | August 2 | August 23

DAY IN THE PARK

Lovers of food, the outdoors and community will be able to indulge all at the upcoming Northern Lehigh Day In The Park!

Victory Park | July 20

BULLDOG BLAST

7 WEEKS OF GAMES, SPORTS, ARTS & CRAFTS, FIELD TRIPS, SWIMMING AND SUMMER FUN!

ONLINE REGISTRATION ONLY

- Ages 6-12
- Northern Lehigh High School
- June 17th - August 2nd
- 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
 - Extended hours: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
- Monday - Thursday
 - Fridays will be at Eagle's Nest Park
- Registration opens mid-March

MINI-BULLDOG SPORTS CAMPS

Are your children interested in sports, but don't know where to start? Try one of our 2 hour summer camps to spur their interest!

Online Registration only

- Ages 6-12 years old
- NLHS Sports complex
- Dates and times TBD- Stay tuned!

MAD SCIENCE CAMP

Interactive, hands-on science programs to keep kids engaged! Projects to bring home everyday!

Online Registration only

- K-6th grade
- Eagle's Nest Park
- August 12th - August 16th
- 9:00 am - 12:00 pm



THE BARKER: 2024 SPRING & SUMMER EDITION

AT A GLANCE: VISIT NORTHERNLEHIGHREC.ORG MORE DETAILS

RECREATION & FITNESS

SIMPLY ATHLETIC STRETCH AND STRENGTH (SASS)

Join us for this adult group of any age fitness class and discover your new favorite way to get into shape, stay fit, and have fun using a combination of stretching, light weights, resistance bands and balls.

Instructor: Erna Lake
Days: Mondays & Fridays, ongoing after 1/5/24
Times: 10:00 am - 11:00 am
Location: Emerald Fire Company
Cost: Resident: 10 class Discount Card: \$25
Drop-In: \$3
Non-Resident: 10 Class Discount Card: \$30
Drop-In: \$3.50

YOGA WITH SHARON

Whether you are brand new to yoga or yoga master, this weekly class is for you! **Online pre-registration required.**

Instructor: Sharon Schnyder
Days: Thursdays
Times: 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Location: Peters Elementary School, Music Room
Dates: Session I: January 11 - March 14
Session II: April 4 - June 6
Cost: Resident: \$55
Non-Resident: \$65

YOGA WITH DEEPA

This class focuses on alignment, sequence, and timing with the use of props

Instructor: Deepa Savant, 200RYT
Days: Wednesdays, ongoing after 1/10/24
Times: 10:00 am - 11:00 am
Location: St. John's Lutheran Church
Cost: Resident: 10 class Discount Card: \$45
Drop-In: \$5
Non-Resident: 10 Class Discount Card: \$55
Drop-In: \$6

MELT WITH SHARON

Do you suffer from chronic pain, nagging injuries, anxiety or stuck stress living in your body? Try this soft tissue conditioning class for YOU based in soft-science which is proven to result in a profound change in your body! Here's what you can expect:

- Better body-wide awareness and signaling
- Pain reduction
- Inducing the relaxation response
- Strategies for neck pain and tech neck
- Improved digestive function
- Better breath mechanisms
- Core relaxation / activation

Online pre-registration required.

Instructor: Sharon Schnyder
Days: Wednesdays
Times: 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Location: Peters Elementary School, Music Room
Dates: Session I: March 20 - April 10
Session II: TBD
Cost: Resident: \$20
Non-Resident: \$25

WALK WITH EASE (WWE)

Walk With Ease is an evidence-based program that has been proven to help people with arthritis or other related conditions, reduce pain, improve balance, strength and walking pace, and overall health.

Instructor: Erna Lake
Days: Mondays & Fridays
Times: 11:15 am - 12:15 pm
Location: Slatington Trailhead
Dates: April 15th
Cost: \$5

THE BARKER: 2024 SPRING & SUMMER EDITION

AT A GLANCE: VISIT NORTHERNLEHIGHREC.ORG MORE DETAILS

Watershed-Friendly Deicing

As autumn gives way to winter, we'll once again face the dreaded challenge of clearing snow and ice from our sidewalks, patios, and driveways. One popular approach is to apply chemical deicing materials. However, there are other ways to keep paved surfaces on our property safe, while also minimizing pollution to our waterways.



Dangers of Deicers

Precipitation, including snow and ice, transports pollutants into our waterways in the same manner as does rain. The only difference is the time it takes for the snow and ice to melt. Once melted, runoff flows across paved surfaces, washing deicers and other harmful pollutants into the storm sewer system or roadside gutters and eventually discharging untreated into the waterbodies we use for swimming, fishing, paddling, and drinking water.

One could argue that using chemical deicers on your walk or driveway may not cause much harm individually. But when you consider all the deicing compounds applied over the course of the winter throughout the Township and beyond, we're talking about a significant amount of salt and other chemical pollutants entering our streams, rivers, ponds, and lakes. These pollutants can be toxic to the animals living in and around the receiving water as well as to many of the plants in your yard and along our roadways.

Did you know? Chloride is virtually impossible to remove from a waterbody. Once it's there, it's there for good. Just one teaspoon of salt contains enough chloride to pollute five gallons of fresh water forever.

Not All Deicers are Created Equal

- Deicers come in several forms, each with their own advantages and disadvantages.
- Rock salt (sodium chloride) is the most commonly used but contains cyanide as an anti-caking agent that can be toxic to aquatic life and is the most harmful for plants.
- Calcium chloride is considered a better choice than rock salt because it does not contain cyanide. However, it can also harm animals and plants. Calcium chloride costs about three times more than rock salt but you only need to use about one-third as much.
- Magnesium chloride is considered the least toxic deicing salt because it contains less chloride than either rock salt or calcium chloride, making it safer for animals and plants.
- Calcium magnesium acetate (CMA) is considered the best overall choice for safely melting ice. It is less toxic than deicers containing chloride but can cost considerably more than rock salt.

Less is More

- Follow the label directions. If only a handful of product per square yard is needed, using more isn't more effective, just more expensive.
- Spread deicer before snow and ice start to accumulate.
- Remove as much snow and ice as possible before applying deicer.
- Don't use rock salt within 5-10 feet of salt-sensitive plants.
- Once you establish a dry, safe route to your house, block off slippery areas you won't be walking on!
- Never use fertilizer as a deicer. Nutrients in fertilizer and urea-containing deicers promote algae growth which can lead to reduced oxygen levels in our waterways.

Watershed-Friendly Alternatives

- Chemical deicers are not your only option. The following are a few watershed-friendly alternatives.
- Old-fashioned elbow grease is the best way to remove snow and ice from your property. Shovel early and often during a snowstorm so that the snow has less chance to become compacted and/or turn to ice.
- Warm water mixed with table salt or water conditioning salt
- A light application of sand will improve traction on slippery areas
- A heavy-duty waterproof tarp or plastic sheet can be used to cover small areas (such as your steps)

SLATINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

650 Main Street, Slatington • 610-767-6461 • Web Site: www.slatelibrary.com • Email: slatlib@ptd.net
Hours: Mon. & Wed. 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.; Tues. 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.; Fri. 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Sat. 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.; Closed Thurs. & Sun.

Charles Dickens in *A Tale of Two Cities* said, “It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of light, it was the season of darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair.” Librarians Rosanne Pugh and Louise Bechtel can lead you right to this book and many others can be found in our historic building on 650 Main Street in Slatington.

Recently, the Board of Directors and the Librarians celebrated some exciting accomplishments. First, after almost four years, the elevator is fully operational. It’s construction and installation was an arduous four-year process. Second, the Skylight Restoration Project is completed. What an exciting sight to see all the daylight. An Open House is in the planning stage. Check our website and social media for information. The Board of Directors wrote a six-year Strategic Plan, outlining the library’s future goals. This plan adheres to our mission: to improve and enrich the lives of the residents in our community through information, recreation, and education, using both traditional methods and emerging technologies.

The library was busy during the fall and winter months with the following programs and events:

- Book Club met at St. John’s Lutheran Church and on Zoom while the elevator was being installed. The book club meets on the first Monday of the month at 1:00 PM at the library.
- Genealogy Club continues to meet at the library on the second Saturday at 11:00 AM. The library invites new members to each of our clubs.
- Children enjoyed hearing stories read by Mrs. Santa, Board Treasurer Lynne Fedorcha, and received coloring books and crayons and refreshments.
- Peters Elementary teacher Marshelle George, delighted the youngsters with stories at our Dr. Seuss’s Birthday Celebration on March 2. The library provided snacks, goodie bags, stickers, certificates, and a photo op with Thing One and Thing Two.

Reminder: If you have applied for a library card and have not received it, please stop by the library during open hours to pick it up. Library cards are free to residents of the Northern Lehigh School District area.

We thank everyone who has responded to the community and Century Club letters with a donation. In addition to these donations, we appreciated the support from the following fundraisers: Pampered Chef, Thirty-One, Basket Social, and our ongoing book sale. The Slatington Public Library is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation. We continue to seek grants and alternative money sources. Board member Joyce Thompson attended a grant-writing conference at Lehigh University, sponsored by Senator Bob Casey.

This year’s officer’s election and member for the Board of Directors, office, year term expires, and the municipality represented are as follows:

Wanda Owens	President	2024	Slatington
Marilyn Steckel	Vice President	2025	Washington Twp.
Lynne Fedorcha	Treasurer	2026	Washington Twp.
Hali Kuntz	Asst. Treasurer	2024	Walnutport
Joyce Thompson	Secretary	2025	Slatington
Beverly Benfer		2026	Slatington
Renee Evans		2026	Washington Twp.
Donna Funk		2026	Walnutport
Debbie Moyer		2026	Walnutport

Our Librarians:

Louise Bechtel	Librarian
Rosanne Pugh	Library Director

LIBRARY HOURS:

9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays; 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesdays; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays; and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays.

Website: www.slatelibrary.com.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

Joyce Thompson, Secretary





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Township Clean-up

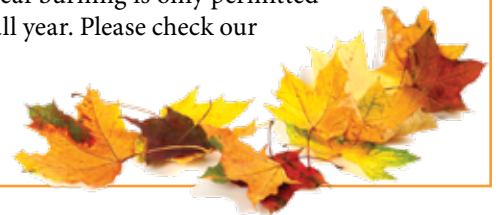
Township clean up will be held on Saturday, June 1st, 2024 from 8:00AM to 12:00PM. Items that will be accepted are old furniture and trash. Items that will be recycled are white goods, metals, electronics, and tires. We also accept old batteries, which are used to offset the purchase of batteries for Township equipment. Tires are now \$2.00 each. Large truck or tractor tires are now \$10.00. Tires should not have rims. No commercial or race tires. There will be a \$15.00 charge for removal of freon. Electronics will be accepted with fees.



TV prices are \$40.00 for under 42". TV's (in wooden cabinet, Projection, Over 42", TV Tubes (broken TV's) is \$58.00. No construction material will be allowed, this would include insulation, plaster board, etc. This will be the only clean up for the year and it is not known, at this time, if there will be other fees involved with collection. There will be a charge of \$25.00 for every mattress accepted. Starting in April the Township will be open to drop off yard waste on Saturdays between the hours of 8am-12pm.

Fall Leaf pick up:

Soon after the leaves start falling, the township will start our leaf pick up. Please remember to place your leaf piles as close to the road or curb as possible. Also be sure that leaf pile only contain leaves, vacuuming up rocks, branches or debris can be harmful to our staff and equipment. The township cannot safely pick up leaves on the following state roads: PA 873, Mountain Road or Old Post Road. Before putting leaves along any state road, please call the township to see if pick up will be possible. If you prefer to drop off your leaves or brush, this can be done at the township yard on Center Street between the hours of 7:30am and 3:30pm, Monday – Friday. Please be aware that brush burning is prohibited and leaf burning is only permitted during the month of November. Leaf burning in the VC zoning district is prohibited all year. Please check our web site for a copy of the complete burn ordinance and our yard hours.



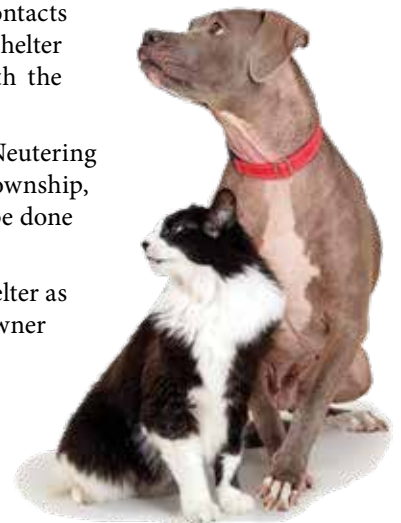
The Sanctuary at Haafsville

Washington Township has a partnership with The Sanctuary of Haafsville to provide contacts for the Trap/Neuter/Return of feral/wild cats. The Sanctuary is a non-profit, no kill animal shelter located in Breiningsville, PA. Currently, The Sanctuary does not have a team to help with the trapping of feral/wild cats.

Information for No Nonsense Neutering will be provided or you can contact No Nonsense Neutering directly at www.nnnlv.com and search the community cats tab. For feral cats in Washington Township, The Sanctuary will loan traps to residents to assist in trapping feral/wild cats. Trapping will be done by citizens and trapping volunteers in the community.

If you find a friendly stray cat, contact The Sanctuary to see if it can be accepted into the shelter as space permits. Please note, there may be a wait list. Every attempt is made to find the cat's owner prior to vetting and making them available for adoption.

The Sanctuary has great success in locating owners and returning loved pets. Contact 484-285-5445 for more information on any of the above-mentioned services.





Road Maintenance

Roads for Road Maintenance this year are:

Mill Creek, Bake Oven, Northwood, Part of Grove, Oakland, Swamp Hollow, Clover Hollow, Molasses Barrel, Rextown, Part of Walnut, Shady Nook, and Smith Hill.

Property & Per Capita Taxes

Township property tax, School property tax, and Per Capita tax are issued and collected yearly. Please direct all questions regarding these taxes to the new Tax Collector, Ashley Wilk. Sally A. Mantz is retired effective January 31st, 2024, and Ashley was appointed as the new Tax Collector commencing on February 6th, 2024 for Washington Township. Her phone number is 610-767-8108 Ex. 6. Office hours will be held at the Municipal Township Building (7951 Center Street, Emerald, PA 18080) on Wednesday's from 4:30 PM until 6:00 PM or by appointment.

NOTE: Mortgage companies pay township, county, & school taxes – township taxes are paid by your mortgage companies so do not pay them or duplicate payments are made. Most mortgage companies receive your tax amounts electronically without receiving the tax bill from you, but it is recommended for you to check with them. Per Capita taxes are not paid by your mortgage company – you are responsible to pay them.

- Township Real Estate is Issued April 1
- School Real Estate is Issued July 1
- Township and School Per Capitas are on the same bill and are issued together July 1

Delinquencies are turned over to the following companies and once turned over these companies are who need to be contacted for resolution

- Township – Elite Revenue Services
- Township Per Capita – Berkheimer Associates
- Township Street Light and Hydrant – Creditech Collection Agency – if applicable
- School – Portnoff Associates
- School Per Capita – Statewide Tax Recovery

YOUR PROPERTY TAXES

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Help Us Help You

In an emergency, can the ambulance quickly find your residence, access your driveway, and get to your house? The extra minutes emergency response teams spend searching for your address or trying to navigate your driveway can make a real difference for a loved one in need. Ordinance #63 requires all property owners to post their address on their mailbox or building face. Make sure your driveway is maintained and is clear of obstructions such as low branches so that the emergency equipment can get to your house. Excessive swales in your driveway can also be an issue for the larger emergency vehicles. Contact the NOVA 610-262-1075 if you would like a number sign for your home.

REFLECTIVE ADDRESS SIGN ORDER FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Sign made: (Circle one) Horizontal Vertical

Cost: \$10.00 per sign

Mail this form to:

Northern Valley Ambulance

Attn: Address Sign Order

2375 Levans Road

Coplay, PA 18037-2202

Please do not mail money to NOVA.

Payment is due when picked up.

Payment can be cash or check (*Neffs Volunteer Fire Company*)

Emergency Preparedness: POWER OUTAGES

Power outages can occur during any season and have different effects so it is helpful to be prepared at all times.

Before a power outage occurs:

- Make sure you have an emergency kit created. You can find what you should put in it at ready.pa.gov
- Always have cellular devices charged
- Have enough water in the home for 4 days along with food (that may not require electricity to heat)
- If you have a generator, always maintain enough fuel and test the generator monthly
- Keep your car's fuel level up
- If you have electric medical equipment, ensure you have a battery or manual way of handling the equipment.
- Have a working battery-operated radio so you can receive updates for shelters and evacuations if necessary

During the power outage:

- Utilize flashlights rather than candles due to the risk of fire
- Keep refrigerators/freezers closed so the temperature can remain consistent
- Dress in layers according to time of year
- Disconnect appliances so that there no surges when power does return
- If using a generator, remember to not have the generator inside and away from your home so fumes do not enter your home

Once power returns:

- Throw away any food that may have dropped below approved temperatures
- Slowly turn electrical devices back on
- If you have natural gas and need someone turn it back on, have someone approved come out
- Restock any supplies you may have used out of your emergency kit or go bags.

Remember: BE PREPARED



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Josh Friebohn, Chairman

Shawn Wanamaker, Vice Chairman

Thomas Dengler, Member

2024 Newsletter • Issue 34



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5 Star Reviews



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7419 Saegersville Road, Germansville, PA