Hopewell Township

York County, Pennsylvania

Newsletter

SPRING - 2014

THIS NEWSLETTER

The frequency of this Newsletter is being reduced from quarterly to semi-annually, in the spring and fall.

DISTRICT 1 SEPTIC SYSTEM/CESSPOOL MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

In January, Hopewell Township sent 289 letters to the property owners in DISTRICT 1. The letter explains that their septic systems must be pumped by August 31, 2014. As of April 15th, 18% of those notified have been completed. This is just a friendly reminder, as we realize there is still plenty of time.

COUNTY-WIDE MOSQUITO SURVEILLANCE STARTING IN YORK COUNTY FOR 2014

Penn State Extension – York County West Nile Virus Program is starting county-wide mosquito surveillance for the 2014 season. During the 2013 season adult mosquito trapping in York County collected over 107,000 and included 25 different species. Thanks to cleanup efforts throughout York County, 2013 was the first time less mosquito populations were detected than the previous year. The most common sources of high mosquito populations in urban areas continue to be from trash and yard clutter, particularly standing water. Residents, businesses and municipalities can greatly reduce mosquito concerns and health risk by cleaning up their own property and local community.

RECYCLE BINS

We have plenty of the large recycle bins but only a few of the small ones. If you have any of the small ones and are no longer using them, please return them to the Township Office. Many of our senior residents would prefer to use the small containers and we do not plan to order more because the minimum order is for 500.

ELECTRONIC RECYCLING

Hope you haven't forgotten that residents can bring certain electronic items such as computers, televisions, microwaves, to the Township Bldg Monday thru Friday, 8-4 PM. Our website has a complete list of the items.

EXIT 4 OF I-83

Hopewell Township officials have been meeting with neighboring officials, York County Planning Commission, state representatives, and PennDOT to consider several traffic designs to alleviate congestion at the intersection of Rt. 851 and I-83. The preliminary engineering is scheduled to commence in May.

NEW TAX COLLECTOR

If you have any questions or problems concerning your township, county or school taxes, you should call Darlene Parker at: **717-746-4335.**

22ND ANNUAL STEWARTSTOWN LIONS CLUB 5k ROAD RACE & WALK

The 22nd Annual Stewartstown Lions Journey for Sight 5K Run and Walk will be held June 7, 2014 at Naylor's Winery. You may register online, by May 24th at www.Active.com.

2014 CAMP HARP REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

This Camp is held at the Stewartstown Community Fairgrounds and offers activities for children 4-12 years old.

Go to: www.harp-online.org to register.

Week 1: June 23 - 27 Wildlife Week Cost $95. Friday field trip to Lake Tobias.

Week 2: June 30 - July 3 Camp HARP, Jr. (open to 4 year olds) Cost $40.

Week 3: July 7 - 11 Sports Week Cost $70. Friday field trip to Cherry Crest Farms, Lancaster.

Week 4: July 28 - August 1 Sports Week Cost $70. Friday field trip to Rocky Ridge Park in York.

If you have questions or more information that you cannot find on the website contact Camp Director: Bonni Nelson 717-993-9585.

DEVELOPMENT

At this time, there are three new residential developments and one industrial project being proposed in our Township:

- A preliminary plan has been filed for 112 lots off of Bridgeview Road and Valley Roads comprised of duplex and town houses.
- The Township was advised that a preliminary plan will soon be filed for 26 single family semi-detached homes and three single family homes on a property along Kurtz School Road.
- A sketch plan is being submitted for 143 single-family homes off of Barrens Road South between Scarborough Fare and Plank Road.
- Johnson Controls plans to begin building its new facility in the Stonebridge Business Park this summer.

Feel free to stop in the Township Office to review any of these plans.

ROAD PROJECTS

This year's major road improvement project will be Center Road in its entirety. Two minor projects will be Willwert Road and a portion of Vineyard Road.

EUREKA CARNIVAL

This year's Carnival will be held from July 14-19 with the Parade happening on Saturday, the 19th.

4TH OF JULY FIREWORKS

The fireworks will be held on July 3 and the rain date will be July 4. Activities are scheduled all day with food and music.

REDUCING RUNOFF: CLEAN WATER IS EVERY RESIDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY

The next time it rains or when the snow starts melting with the approach of spring, take a look outside. There, you'll see water trickling over your lawn, down your driveway, and into the street.

To some, this may be a calming sight. However, for anyone who knows anything about runoff, this is an alarming event because as the water flows over land, it picks up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants and carries them to nearby streams, wetlands, lakes, and storm sewer systems. There, the runoff is discharged, untreated, into the water we all use for swimming, fishing, and drinking.

As a result, stormwater runoff is one of the greatest threats to the nation's water supplies. Instead of being part of the problem, though, township residents can be part of the solution by practicing healthy household habits that can keep common pollutants, including pesticides, pet waste, grass clippings, and automotive fluids, off the ground and out of stormwater.

We've pulled together some suggestions to help you get started:

Vehicle and garage

• Use a commercial car wash or wash your car on a lawn or other unpaved surface to minimize the amount of dirty, soapy water flowing into the storm drain and, eventually, local waters.

• Check your car, boat, motorcycle, and other machinery and equipment for leaks and spills. Make repairs as soon as possible. Be sure to clean up any spilled fluids with an absorbent material, such as, cat litter or sand, and remember: Don't rinse the spills into a nearby storm drain; instead, dispose of the absorbent material properly.

• Recycle used oil and other automotive fluids at participating service stations. Don't dump these chemicals down the storm drain or dispose of them in your trash.

Lawn and garden

• Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly. When use is necessary, follow the guidelines for the recommended amounts. Also, avoid application if the forecast calls for rain; otherwise, chemicals will be washed into local streams.

• Select native plants and grasses that are drought- and pest-resistant. Native plants require less water, fertilizer, and pesticides.

• Sweep up yard debris, rather than hosing down areas, and compost or recycle yard waste when possible.

• Don't overwater your lawn and only water during the cool times of the day. In addition, don't let the water run into the storm drain.

• Cover piles of dirt and mulch that are being used for landscaping projects to prevent pollutants from blowing or washing off your yard and into local waterways. Also, vegetate bare spots in your yard to prevent soil erosion.

*(**Note:** This information was provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.)*

DID YOU KNOW THAT . . . .

when your windshield wipers are on, you are required to have your headlights on as well . . .

if you are not able to attend our Planning Commission or Board of Supervisors public meetings, the minutes are posted on our website once they are approved at the following month's meeting. . . .

staff members from State Representative Stan Saylor's office are available in the Township Meeting Room every second and fourth Wednesday 9-12. You do not need an appointment to see them. . .

when development is being proposed, the developer first files a sketch plan, next a preliminary plan and then a final plan. The final plan must be approved by the Board of Supervisors before any construction can begin . . .

at publication, the South Eastern School Board was considering a 2.1% increase in our school tax.