

# Plumstead Township



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## International Bike Race Comes to Plumstead

Saturday, September 15 proved to be a perfect day for the inaugural Thompson Bucks County Classic bike race to be brought to Bucks County.

Residents, visitors and bicycling enthusiasts of all ages were able to see a race that holds both national and international sanctions draw top North American and European racing teams to compete.

The racecourse was a 14.6 mile long course, going through six Townships and Boroughs (New Hope, Solebury, Plumstead, Buckingham, Doylestown, & Bedminster). The Township played a prominent part as riders took to Tohickon Hill Road in the most grueling leg of the race. It took the field about 35 minutes to complete each of the 6 laps with only the best advancing on and finishing the ride in Doylestown Borough.

The race began with approximately 140 riders and finished with only 71. The winner was Patrick Bevin, from the Bissell Pro Racing Team; posting a time of 4:12:31.

Thanks to all the people who participated to make this event a success including: the Townships and Boroughs, the Police & Fire Departments, those who cheered the riders on and especially the Thompson Organization for sponsoring what we hope will become an annual event for our community.



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**Donald B. Veix, Jr | Partner**

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# Plumstead Township Information

## Contact Information

### Township Office

5186 Stump Road, P.O. Box 387, Plumsteadville, PA 18949-0387  
 Telephone: 215-766-8914 • Fax: 215-766-9831 • [www.plumstead.org](http://www.plumstead.org)  
 Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

### Police Department

Office: 215-766-8741 • Dispatch: 215-766-8740 • Fax: 215-766-8509  
 For EMERGENCY Dial 911  
 Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM or by appointment

### Floyd S. Bryan Public Works Center

Office: 215-766-0189 • Fax: 215-766-1439  
 Hours: Monday - Friday 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM

### Tax Collector

6162 German Road, P.O. Box 433, Plumstead, PA 18949  
 Telephone: 215-766-3785 • Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM

### Water Department

Billing Questions: 215-766-0189 • Repairs & Maintenance: 215-766-0189

For after hours service disruption or non-emergency issues of concern, please contact Police Dispatch at 215-766-8740. Identify yourself as a Plumstead Township Water Department customer. The dispatcher will contact the on-duty officer, who will then contact the on-call Public Works personnel. For Police, Fire or Medical Emergencies: 911

## Administrative Staff

**Township Manager:** Carolyn McCreary  
**Assistant to Township Manager:** Debbie DiAngelo  
**Director of Public Works:** Alan Bleam  
**Administrative Assistant & Water Billing:** Pam Gravel  
**Chief of Police:** Duane Hasenauer  
**Police Dept. Administrative Assistant:** Linda Barratt  
**Police Clerk:** Jen Schmitt  
**Finance:** Jane Faunce  
**Accounts Receivable:** Virginia Bowling  
**Code Enforcement:** Keystone Municipal Services  
**Zoning Administrative Assistant:** Teri Murphy  
**Receptionist:** Maria Strycharski

## Board of Supervisors

Frank Froio, Chair  
 Stacey Mulholland, Vice Chair  
 Dan Hiltferty, Treasurer  
 Wayne A. Stork, Secretary  
 Tom Alvare, Asst Secretary/Treasurer

## Meetings

The Board of Supervisors' meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM. Work sessions are held on the last Thursday of the month, also at 7:30 PM.

The Planning Commission meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM

The Zoning Hearing Board meets at the call of the Chairman

The Environmental Advisory Council meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM

All Meetings are at the Township Building

## PLUMSTEAD TOWNSHIP RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS AWARD



Plumstead Township was among 13 local governments and four individuals who were recently recognized for their outstanding programmatic and personal contributions by ICMA, the International City/County Management Association. ICMA's 2012 Annual Awards Program recipients were officially honored at the Celebration of Service to the Profession, as part of the organization's 98th Annual Conference, October 10, in Phoenix/Maricopa County, Arizona.

The ICMA Annual Awards Program recognizes creative contributions to professional local government management and demonstrates the value that profession contributes to the quality of life in

our cities, towns, and counties. This year, an independent, 17-member evaluation panel reviewed more than 90 eligible nominations.

Plumstead Township received the Community Health and Safety Award along with Doylestown and Buckingham Townships for the Cross Keys Water Project. This \$2.76 million project was funded in part by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection with commercial property owners funding the difference. Because of the collaborative efforts of all parties involved, business owners and residents are able to enjoy clean water and no longer rely on a carbon filtration systems or bottled water for their daily needs.

The Managers of each Township were also individually recognized for their contributions in making the project a success.

## SAVE THE DATE



Annual Tree Lighting	12/8/12
Grizzly 5K Run	3/10/13

[www.plumsteadparkandrec.org](http://www.plumsteadparkandrec.org)

## New Year Will Bring New Rules for Disposing of Electronic Devices

Courtesy of the Pennsylvania Township News magazine

New rules for disposing of electronic devices that take effect on January 24, 2013, will prohibit consumers from throwing away laptops, computers, monitors, televisions, and other such electronics with their trash. Under the state Covered Device Recycling Act of 2010, waste haulers will no longer be able to take these items unless the municipality has a curbside electronics collection program that ultimately sends the devices to an electronics recycler.

"Proper recycling is important because there are millions and millions of devices, that have a limited useful life span, and contain heavy metals, such as lead, cadmium, and mercury, as well as other materials that do not belong in the normal trash stream," state Secretary of Environmental Protection Michael Krancer said in a news release.

Many of these devices also contain valuable metals, such as gold, silver, and platinum, and base metals, such as copper, iron, and aluminum that can be separated and reused in new products.

The law also requires manufacturers of covered devices to provide for the collection, transportation, and recycling of these items through one-day events, permanent collection programs, or mail-back options. Some retailers also accept electronics for recycling either at no charge or in exchange for rebates or coupons.

A current list of collection opportunities, including those offered by manufacturers and retailers, is available by calling DEP's toll-free recycling hotline at (800) 346-4242. Consumers may also obtain electronics recycling information from their county recycling coordinator. Contact information for county recycling coordinators can be found on the DEP website at [www.dep.state.pa.us](http://www.dep.state.pa.us), keyword "Recycle."



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Montgomery County office:  
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**Plumstead Township's 13th  
Annual Tree Lighting  
December 8th at 5:00 PM**  
  
[www.plumsteadparkandrec.org](http://www.plumsteadparkandrec.org)

## PLUMSTEAD TOWNSHIP VETERAN'S COMMITTEE

The Plumstead Township Supervisors and the Township's Veterans' Committee hosted the annual Veterans' Day Observance on Saturday, November 10, 2012. The observance was held at the site of the future Township Veterans' Park on Route 611.

The observance began with the presentation of colors by local Boy and Girl Scouts and U.S. Naval Sea Cadets. Township residents have served our nation since before the Revolutionary War and the Committee recognized Township Veterans who have proudly served our nation. In attendance and participating in the observance were veterans who have served in our military in conflicts which span from World War II through the current Global War On Terrorism (GWOT). Several Veterans addressed those in attendance and younger members were encouraged to speak with all Veterans during the breakfast following the outdoor ceremony.

An overview of the status of planning for the Veterans' Park was given. Committee members continue to meet

with members of the design group, Quercus Studios. Finalization of planning includes use of materials, maintenance, and costing.

Members of the Bucks County Recorder of Deeds Department were on site and recorded Veteran's DD214 forms and provided Bucks County Veterans with a County Veterans Photo ID card. To date more than 6,000 ID cards have been processed for Bucks County Vets. Over 300 Bucks County and surrounding locale businesses are enthusiastically participating in this program and honoring Veterans with discounts. The List of participating vendors is on the Bucks County website [www.buckscounty.org](http://www.buckscounty.org).

A future program under investigation by the committee will be to incorporate ongoing efforts of local schools to collect items of need for both deployed military personnel and hospitalized veterans in military hospitals.

Jerry Fox

[plumsteadvets@yahoo.com](mailto:plumsteadvets@yahoo.com)

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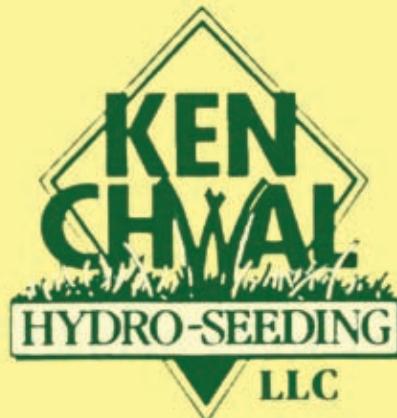
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# NEW PARK COMING SOON!

A new park is coming to Plumstead Township! Carriage Hill Park will be coming online in 2013. The Township and the developer are working on an aggressive schedule to get this newest park up and running by July of 2013.

As our local sports associations and our community has grown, the need for more sports fields also has grown and the Township has answered the call.

Carriage Hill Park will be the home of active recreation facilities and will have lights. Many years of planning with Supervisors, the local developer and the current developer went into this project. Plumstead residents will reap the benefits of this good planning and looking towards the future.

## Highlights of the park facilities include:

- 48 acres located between Route 611 and Gordon Road with entrance on Gordon Road (Directly across from 611 Self Storage)
- Two (2) Soccer Fields
- One (1) 75'-90' Baseball field with outfield fence
- One (1) shared 90' Baseball field and All-purpose field
- Two (2) Bullpens
- One (1) Batting Cage
- Three (3) Basketball Courts
- One (1) 3200 square foot Community Building with public restrooms
- One (1) 25'x50' Pavilion
- One (1) 20'x40' Pavilion
- Extensive walking trails around all the athletic fields
- 196 paved parking spots
- Approximately 24 acres of wooded parkland

## More Details:

- The sports fields have been planted and mowed for four years allowing time for the fields to mature while planning and development of the residential section continued.
- A timeline for the improvements was provided to the Plumstead Supervisors by the Developer at their August 2012 meeting so we are getting excited about this park coming online after years of planning.

## Park Name:

Carriage Hill Park is the temporary name. The name for the park will be selected in the future. Please send your name suggestions to the Park and Recreation Committee through the Township office or email [info@plumsteadparkandrec.org](mailto:info@plumsteadparkandrec.org).



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## CAMP VALLEY VIEW 2012



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## RECOGNITION



At their 9/25 meeting the Board of Supervisors recognized the community services of Susan Groff and Marcia Simcox (not pictured) who have developed, organized and run Camp Valley View for the last five years. Their commitment to the community is an ongoing effort as they work to ensure that the local food pantry is always stocked.

# HURRICANE SANDY DESCENDS ON TOWNSHIP

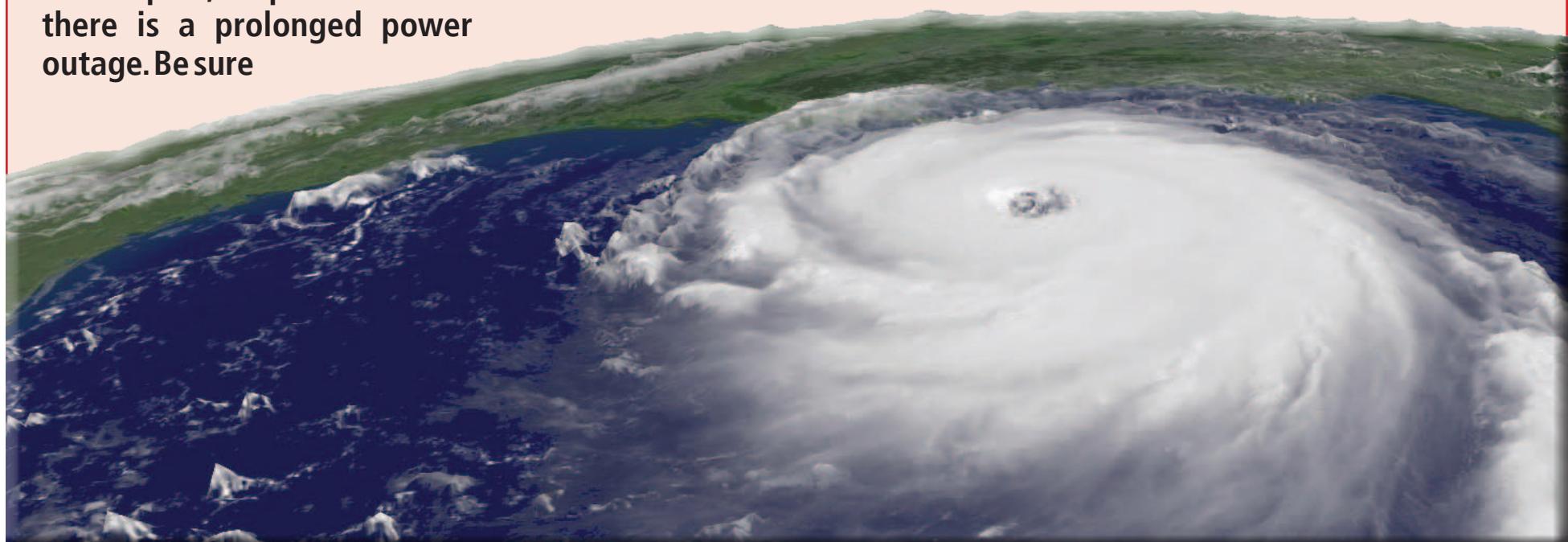
On the night of Monday, October 29 Plumstead Township felt the full effects of Hurricane Sandy with rainfall, sustained high winds and wind gusts. The level of damage and destruction in the Township was far-reaching and not truly known until daylight hours. Residents awoke to no power, downed trees, many entangled with power lines, snapped utility poles and no access to Township roads.

Special thanks to our Police Department, Public Works staff and our volunteer fire companies for all of their hard work during and after the storm. Police Officers and Public Works crews were the eyes and ears for emergency management officials during the storm. After the storm residents were able to go to the café at the Plumsteadville Fire Co. for something hot to drink and a place to stay warm. Point Pleasant Fire Co. also served as a temporary shelter for residents in that area of our community. Many of these volunteers and employees didn't know what they would find when they returned to their own homes.

As cleanup continues, we ask that everyone re-evaluate their emergency preparedness. As we all discovered, all the technology that we rely on cannot help us, or provide us information when there is a prolonged power outage. Be sure

to have more than one flashlight (with extra batteries), large containers for holding water, and non-perishable food that doesn't need to be heated. A portable radio with batteries is still vital for getting up-to-date information. The Township building was without power and internet access for several days after the hurricane, so we could not update the Township website. However, even if we could with so many people not having power, updates would not have been seen. Likewise, automated calls would have gone unheard because both land lines and cellular phone service were out during the critical hours immediately after the hurricane.

Finally, if you consider using a generator please be sure to follow all the directions from the manufacturer and call someone if you are uncertain about operating it. Generators should never be connected directly to home wiring or plugged into household outlets. Generators connected to home wiring can 'backfeed' into PECO's electric delivery system, risking serious injury or death to PECO crews. Generators should always be placed outside to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.





## **State Representative Marguerite Quinn**

143rd District, Pennsylvania House of Representatives

### **Measure to Track Purchases of Non-Prescription Pseudoephedrine in Real Time Passes State House**

*By Rep. Marguerite Quinn (R-Bucks)*

In an effort to prevent the manufacturing of methamphetamines and other illegal drugs, I introduced legislation that would enable real-time tracking of ephedrine and pseudoephedrine purchases in Pennsylvania. Earlier this month the House passed House Bill 2480, my proposal that would amend the state's Controlled Substance, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and allow technology to track potentially illegal purchases. Ingredients in many over-the-counter products that are commonly used to treat cold and allergy symptoms are key for the production of methamphetamines and other illegal drugs.

State and federal laws presently limit the amount of over-the-counter pseudoephedrine (PSE) consumers can purchase, but unfortunately, the system we're using is antiquated and doesn't allow for the most accurate tracking. With my legislation, Pennsylvania will have an effective way to enforce those limits statewide and across state borders to eliminate "smurfing," a practice in which individuals make purchases at multiple stores to acquire illegal quantities of PSE.

The real-time tracking will be administered through the National Precursor Log Exchange (NPLEx) program, a multi-state electronic sales tracking and blocking system funded by the manufacturers of medicines containing PSE. This system allows law enforcement, as well as retailers that sell medicines containing PSEs, to track purchases made in Pennsylvania and in all participating states so that meth cooks can't skirt the system by crossing the border to another state to make their purchase.

To date, 23 states are linked to this program, and House Bill 2480 adds Pennsylvania to the list of participating states. NPLEx is available to any state that mandates real-time, statewide electronic blocking of illegal PSE sales, and there is no cost to the Commonwealth for participating in the system.

House Bill 2480 states that retailers may not sell, and individuals may not purchase, more than 3.6 grams of ephedrine or pseudoephedrine base contained in a product or combination of products per day; and more than 9 grams per 30-day period. Additionally, consumers will not have direct access to nonprescription products containing ephedrine or pseudoephedrine. Consumers will still need to present valid government-issued photo identification for such a purchase. When purchasing these products, you will not notice a change from current practice. The difference will be that the pharmacist will enter information about the purchase into the NPLEx database so real-time information is available to the pharmacist and to law enforcement.

This bill was sent to the Senate for its consideration. For more information, contact my Doylestown office by calling (215) 489-2126.

## **LIMITED EDITION POSTCARDS**



**Plumstead Historical Society is selling limited edition post cards:**

Plumstead Historical Society is selling 10 limited edition historical post cards, packed in 2 sets of 5 cards. The collector's pack is priced at \$5.00 per set. (Cash Only).

Some of cards feature Gardenville Chapel, Danboro Hotel, Plumsteadville Inn, Plumstead Friends Meeting House.

They can be purchased at our monthly meetings 3rd Monday of the month January to November at 7pm (meetings are held at the Township Building) and also at the Plumstead Township office.

Please check our facebook page or the Historical Society's website at [www.plumsteadhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.plumsteadhistoricalsociety.org)

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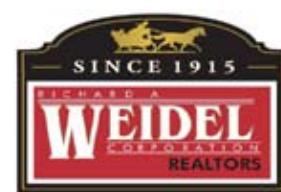
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## GREAT GRIZZLY 5K RUN:

Runners & Walkers – Save the Date: All are invited to start 2013 off on a healthy foot by training for and participating in the 7th Annual Great Grizzly 5k & 1 Mile Fun Run. The date for the run/walk will be Sunday, March 10th at the Plumsteadville Volunteer Fire Company. Registration will open at 7:30am. The one mile fun run/walk will begin at 9am and the 5k run/walk will start at 9:30am. Come and run/walk through beautiful Plumsteadville while supporting the Plumsteadville Volunteer Fire Company and Groveland Elementary health and wellness activities. For more information please visit [www.greatgrizzlyrun.com](http://www.greatgrizzlyrun.com). To help sponsor or volunteer at this event, please contact Chrissy Grube at [christinagrube@comcast.net](mailto:christinagrube@comcast.net). See you at the start line!

## PLEASE SLOW DOWN AND MOVE OVER!



The members of the Plumstead Township Police Department are asking for your co-operation and help in keeping our roads safe during police, fire and medical operations. We ask that you please remember to comply with the "Move Over" requirement when you approach an emergency vehicle and personnel who are working to keep us all safe.

Please take a few moments to watch the short reminder video [[see link located below](#)], which was provided by David P. Shallcross, Senior Community Liaison, Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General, Public Protection Division, 1000 Madison Avenue, Suite 310, Norristown, Pa 19403, for our use.

<http://nij.ncjrs.gov/multimedia/video-slow-down-move-over.htm>

We would also ask you to help us "Take a Bite Out of Crime" and immediately report any suspicious person, vehicle or event by calling 215-766-8740 or if an emergency dial 9-1-1!

## 64TH ANNUAL MIDDLETON GRANGE FAIR



Doylestown teenager Morgan Wasser was named Queen at this year's 64th Annual Middletown Grange Fair in Wrightstown PA held in August. The first runner-up was fellow Doylestown resident Madison Ochoco; both girls are seniors at Central Bucks East High School and are active in the Bucks County 4-H Club.

## Holiday Safety Tips

from the Plumstead Township Police Department

### Before you shop:

- \*Avoid wearing expensive jewelry as this may attract thieves.
- \*Inform others about where you will be throughout your shopping excursion and let them know what time they should expect you to return.
- \*If possible, shop with a friend or family member, as there is safety in numbers.
- \*Do not carry large amounts of cash, use checks or credit cards when possible.

### Parking:

- \*When parking your vehicle, park as close as possible to the entrances and exits.
- \*If you have to park in a distant lot, seek a spot that is well lit and well traveled.
- \*Avoid walking to and from your vehicle alone. If you are not shopping with another person, consider walking near other shoppers in the parking lot.
- \*When leaving the mall, ask a security guard to escort you.
- \*As you approach your vehicle, always have your keys ready.

### Shopping:

- \*If carrying a purse, hold the purse close to your body with the opening facing towards you.
- \*If walking with another person, the purse should be held between you and the other person.
- \*When possible, avoid using revolving doors, especially the automatic revolving doors. A thief could grab your purse and escape in the time it takes you to emerge.
- \*A man should keep his wallet in his front pocket of his pants instead of the back pocket.
- \*Use bathrooms that are in well-trafficked areas like the food court.
- \*Avoid darkened hallways and other backroom or concourse areas.
- \*Always consolidate your purchases into one or two large shopping bags as this will help you keep track of your purchases.
- \*Never leave your packages or purse unattended.
- \*If you have to return to your vehicle to unload your purchases, do not place items in plain view, place them in the trunk. Also, after placing your packages in your car, consider moving your vehicle to another area of the lot in case a thief is watching you.
- \*Save your most expensive purchases until last, so you can immediately leave and head straight home.

### Child Safety While Shopping:

- \*In the malls or stores that you frequent, find out whether they have procedures in place to search for a missing child. Many retailers participate in a program developed by the National Center on Missing and Exploited Children called "Code Adam." This program was named after Adam Walsh, a 6 year-old boy who was tragically killed after being abducted from a shopping mall in 1981.
- \*Always accompany your child to the bathroom.
- \*Never use a video arcade or toy store as a babysitter.
- \*Never leave your child unattended, not even for a moment.
- \*Be careful when using shopping carts for carrying your children, as numerous children are injured every year due to falls or a tip-over of the carts.

### ATM Use:

- \*Avoid using an ATM at night.
- \*If you use an ATM at night, select one where there are many people around, that is well lit, that is not secluded in a low visibility area.
- \*Be aware of your surroundings and the people around you.
- \*Try to have a friend accompany you when using an ATM as they can be a set of extra eyes while you complete your transaction.
- \*Finally, always be aware of your surroundings and report any suspicious activity or persons to security or the police.

**Happy Holidays!**  
Police Dept non-emergency: 215-766-8741 Emergency: 9-1-1

## FROM THE PLUMSTEADVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

The last two articles covered the costs involved in providing our two fire stations and the fire trucks housed in those fire stations. In this article we would like to cover the cost of providing the personnel to man those fire trucks. Compared to the costs for fire stations and fire trucks, equipping a fire fighter is a bit more modest:

### Safety Equipment for Each Fire Fighter

Turn Out Gear (Coat and Pants)	\$2,600
Boots	\$60
Helmet	\$250
Gloves	\$40
Face mask	\$375
Air Pack	\$3,500
Alerting Device	\$495
Total	\$7,320

**The Plumsteadville Volunteer Fire Company is a 100% VOLUNTEER fire company consisting of 48 volunteer fire fighters, representing an investment of over \$350,000 in safety equipment.**

State statistics show that the number of volunteer fire fighters has dropped state wide 84% since 1974. The ladies and gentleman that provide your fire protection 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, every day of the year do so out of a desire to protect their community. When we receive a dispatch for a call our members respond from:

- work if they are able to
- from home leaving family and special events
- from their children's school events, sporting events or recital's

The time investment by our volunteers is significant. There is no difference between volunteer or paid fire fighters in national and state requirements to be certified as a fire fighter. Training is done at our fire house or at the Bucks County Emergency Training Center in Doylestown at the no costs to the member.

Fund raising to purchase equipment not funded by taxes or our fund drive requires many additional hours from our volunteers. This has directly affected our ability to attract new volunteers. Candidates would rather volunteer where you just train and responded to calls versus the additional requirement of raising funds.

How can you help? Volunteer to be a fire fighter. Volunteer to help fund raise for the fire company. Volunteer your talents to help the fire company: human resources, mechanics, plumbers, electricians, lawyers, accountants, landscapers, gardeners, painters, insurance agents. Patronize Ember's Café, run by the fire department to raise funds for the fire department. Rent our banquet hall for your next catered event, party, meeting, gathering, or wedding. Our hall can accommodate groups both small and large (up to 220 people). If you see a vehicle with blue lights on, they are responding to the fire house, please pull over and let them pass.

Our next article will compare the costs savings provided by a volunteer fire company over a paid fire department.

## THE PLANNING COMMISSION – DEVELOPMENT'S FRONT LINE

By: Donald B. Veix, Esq., Chair, Plumstead Township Planning Commission

Plumstead Township's paid administrative staff, professionals and governing body, the Board of Supervisors, are supported by several commissions, boards and councils comprised of volunteer Township residents. One of these commissions, the Planning Commission is the first step in the development process in the Township.

The Planning Commission is a creature of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, a state law the Commission is made up of five (5) residents who volunteer their time to provide the initial formal review of development applications filed with the Township. While the Planning Commission members, by state law may be paid, Plumstead Township's Planning Commission is comprised of volunteer residents. These residents are appointed by the Board of Supervisors and each has a four (4) year term. The Supervisors have tried to comprise a Planning Commission with members who have diverse and specialized experience in land development. The current Board is comprised of a local attorney, a local engineer, a local farmer, and several businessmen with interests in real estate. The Commission meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Township Building on Stump Road at 7:30 p.m.

The Planning Commission members are aided and often rely upon the expertise of the Township professionals; the Township Engineer, the Township Solicitor, the Chief of Police, the Director of Public Works, and the Planning and Land Use Department. The Commission also works closely with the other Township Committee's and Board's whose input may be necessary on a particular land development application. This includes the Historic Advisory Committee and the Environmental Advisory Counsel.

At the County level, the Bucks County Planning Commission also provides a formal and professional review of all land development applications filed in Plumstead Township. The Bucks County Planning Commission presents a written formal review of each application to the Plumstead Township Planning Commission for each filed application. The Bucks County Planning Commission is comprised of professional planners and professionals with specialized land development education and experience.

The primary purpose and practical function of the Planning Commission is to review all subdivision and land development applications filed in Plumstead Township and provide guidance and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. The Commission does not approve or deny applications. It serves as a filter and an initial review of filed applications. In short, it simplifies the work of the Board of Supervisors in this specialized area. By law the Planning Commission has sixteen (16) specific powers and duties. The brevity of this article does not permit the listing and discussion of all sixteen (16) powers and duties. In fact, many of the statutorily defined powers and duties of the Planning Commission are rarely exercised due to the tremendous amount of time involved in the review of subdivision and land development applications. More recently, due to the economic recession, the Planning Commission has had much more time to focus on its other duties which are more of an academic and planning nature.

### The primary powers and duties which typically occur on a monthly basis are the following:

1. Primarily, the Planning Commission reviews all subdivision and land development applications filed with the Township. Historically, due to the availability of large tracts of reasonably priced land, these subdivision and land development applications have involved large projects by regional and national residential real estate developers such as Toll Brothers, Heritage Building Group and US Home. The Planning Commission reviews the plans submitted by the developer/applicant, the Township and County professional reviews of these plans, and often times physically inspects and views the subject property with the owner's consent. Following this, a public hearing is held at the Township Building at which time the developer applicant discusses its proposal and all related legal and engineering issues. The developer/applicant is often subjected to questioning and cross examination by the Planning Commission Members. Members of the public who attend the hearings are also permitted to engage in and ask questions of the developer/applicant and the Planning Commission. Following a thorough review, the Planning Commission makes recommendations to the developer to improve the proposed subdivision or land development and bring it into conformity with the Township Ordinances both on a technical, planning and resource protection perspective. The Planning Commission review and recommendations are passed along to the Board of Supervisors which engages in a subsequent public hearing and, ultimately, a decision as to whether the subdivision or land development application is approved, denied or approved with conditions.

2. The other important function of the Planning Commission is the constant review of the Township Subdivision and Land Development and Zoning Ordinances as well as the Township's Comprehensive Plan. The ordinances are updated to reflect changes in technology, the land development process and land use planning theories. Examples of this are the most recent amendments to address new technologies related to clean energy, both wind and solar are generated. Ordinances are also amended or added to address practical issues in their implementation. Some examples of amendments to Ordinances stemming from their practical application are the reduction in the width of certain subdivision internal roadways, the requirement of providing accessible and usable open space and recreation areas within residential subdivisions; and the increase of buffers and set-backs between permitted but conflicting adjoining zoning districts such as commercial and residential districts. The Planning Commission through its Ordinance and Comprehensive Plan review endeavors to plan for the future development of land within the Township.

Through the drafting and amendment of the Township ordinances and Comprehensive Plan, the Planning Commission identifies, analyzes and balances environmental, economic and human resources and interests. Its goal is to determine how to best promote proper use of land within the Township, provide for the efficient transportation of people and goods, preserving the Township's natural resources and the most appropriate and economical use of natural and human resources by careful planning. This process involves the important input of the Township's residents who are invited to attend each meeting and offer their comments and perspective.



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## EAC- RECYCLES

Plumstead Township and the Environmental Advisory Council are striving to achieve 100% compliance with currently mandated recycling and solid waste management. These efforts will benefit everyone by way of a cleaner township and in grants and other funding received based on tonnage of recycled materials collected by all haulers servicing the township residents.

The other issue is what to do with "green" waste otherwise known as yard waste. Current regulations ban the inclusion of green waste in the municipal solid waste stream. Residents are encouraged to create a compost pile somewhere on their property and dispose of leaves, grass clippings, small twigs and other biodegradable materials. Over time these materials are broken down by naturally occurring organisms in the soil and air. The resulting material can be returned to the earth and used to enrich the soil.

Composted materials do not produce an odor or attract animals. Brown leaves will be returned to the earth in as little as one year. Leaf compost can be spread on top of existing lawns as organic matter. Composting leaves is a very simple process. The hardest part of the process is raking the leaves. Once piled you do not really have to do anything else. Turning the pile will enhance and speed up the decomposition process. But turning the pile is not necessary.

Please consult the township website under the Public Works heading to learn more about the programs that are available to residents such as curbside leaf pick up during the fall. There is a map of the township indicating the zones and dates of leaf collection. There is also information about branch and larger material collection.

In addition to these resources, many of the trash haulers servicing township residents also make green waste pick up available as a separate service. Some include in the cost of the service with restrictions, some provide it at additional cost. Please contact your hauler for specific regulations.

The following spreadsheet is provided to compare the major trash haulers who service Plumstead Township. The information contained has been obtained either by telephone contact with the hauler or through their websites. No pricing data is provided as it

varies by the service location and degree of service provided. To obtain the best fit for your needs, contact the haulers directly. Your specific needs can be addressed.

There is always the question about what to do with certain "special" items such as car batteries, discarded electronic equipment, old paint, household chemicals and of course bulky items such as refrigerators and furniture. Many of the haulers offer their customers 1 bulk item per week. Again it is best to contact your hauler for details. Most haulers do charge extra for carting away items with FREON in their system. Landfills cannot accept these items until they have had the Freon evacuated from the system by a qualified recycler.

Electronic equipment and chemicals can be taken to designated collection points during annual county household hazardous waste collections or once again, contact your hauler. Latex paint can be disposed of by mixing the remaining paint with kitty litter and allowing it to dry then dispose of it with the household trash. The metal can be recycled with your normal recycling.

Comparison Between Trash Haulers' Recycling Programs  
Plumstead Township, Bucks County, PA

	Republic Services (Formerly Allied Waste)	Waste Management	Chesmont	G&C	DelGuerico's
<u>Website:</u>	<a href="http://www.republicservices.com">http://www.republicservices.com</a>	<a href="https://www.wm.com">https://www.wm.com</a>	<a href="http://www.advanceddisposal.com">www.advanceddisposal.com</a>	<a href="http://www.gcwaste.com/residential">www.gcwaste.com/residential</a>	<a href="http://delguericosinc.com">http://delguericosinc.com</a>
<u>Phone Number:</u>	215-723-0400	800-869-5566	610-584-5450	610-313-9710	610-346-9500
<u>What territory do you cover?</u>	Bucks/Mont	Bucks/Mont	Bucks/Montgomery Counties	Call to ask if they pick up on your street	Any township resident
<u>What materials do you accept to recycle?</u>	Cardboard, tin, plastic, glass, steel, magazines/paper	Plastic #7, paper, glass (clear, green, brown), metal	Plastic, tin, magazines/paper, small appliances other than those containing or having contained freon.	Cardboard and boxboard, tin, plastic, glass, magazines/paper	Corrugated boxes, plastic, metal, magazines/paper, small appliances other than those containing or having contained freon.
<u>What pick-up frequencies do you offer?</u>	Once per week (Wednesday)	Once per week	Once per week	Once per week	Pickup frequency by prior arrangement with the customer
<u>What container options do you offer? (i.e. bin size, wheels)</u>	Two 96-gallon with wheels & up to 6 extra bags/cans of trash - \$5 initial delivery fee, free if replacement ever needed	96-gallon with wheels / 18-gallon bin, \$3.75 per additional bag	96-gallon with wheels	96-gallon with wheels and 18-gallon recycling bin, \$25 one-time rental fee	98-gallon trash container, 98- or 65-gallon single stream recycler, all with wheels. The company also has a pre-paid bag program for low-trash-generating customers.
<u>Single Stream / Co-mingle or Separate Recycling?</u>	Single stream / co-mingle	Single stream / co-mingle	Single stream / co-mingle	Single stream / co-mingle	Single stream / co-mingle
<u>How do you handle specialty items (i.e. batteries, paint)</u>	None	Handles some items, call for acceptable items and disposal instructions	Handles some items, call for acceptable items and disposal instructions (no batteries or tires)	Does not accept and hazardous materials	Handles some items, call for acceptable items and disposal instructions
<u>Policy for bulk items?</u>	1 bulk item per week with a minimum of 1 day notice. Specific disposal requirement may be necessary	1 bulk item per week with a minimum of 1 day notice. Specific disposal requirement may be necessary	1 bulk item per week	No additional cost. One bulk item per week (washer, dryer, range, sofa, chair etc) (refrigerant illegal)	Customers arrange pickup of large, bulky items, including appliances.
<u>Do you accept yard waste?</u>	10 bags per wk	Up to 5 bundles, included if in tote, additional charge if separate	Up to 5 bags, call to schedule	4 bags of yard waste per week, 50lbs or less, limbs and sticks may be substituted for bags, 50lbs or less, 4 foot lengths	Lawn clippings, weeds, tree/shrub/flower trimmings, wood scraps and chips

Note: Information in the above table was gathered by either calling the company or searching their website. The recyclable materials listed are just a general guideline and are not comprehensive. Residents are encouraged to contact each company to verify the information provided in the table above.

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## Have you seen this sign?

Residents along ALL township maintained roads are reminded that parking during winter storms is limited based on the provisions set forth in Ordinance #2003-03. Parking is prohibited following the accumulation of one inch or more of snow or ice. Vehicles in violation of this ordinance are subject to towing and storage costs.

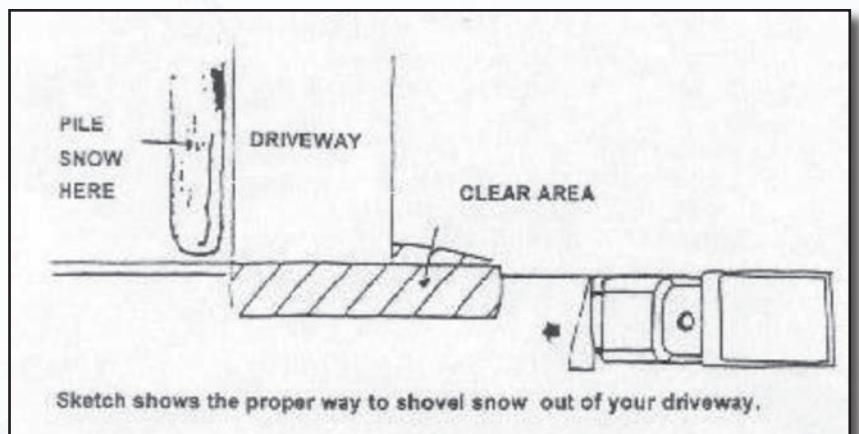
Residents are reminded to make guests and visitors to their home aware of this ordinance. It would also be helpful if you could pass this information along when selling a home.

### Winter Driving Tips

- Always wear your seat belt, drive at a reduced speed, and always drive defensively.
- Always turn on your headlights during inclement weather.
- Give yourself plenty of time to get to where you're going during the winter.
- Keep your gas tank full.
- Maintain at least twice the normal following distance when driving on snow or ice.
- Rear-end collisions account for most winter crashes.
- Periodically check the level of your windshield washing fluid and only use fluids containing an anti-freeze solvent. Keep an extra container of windshield fluid in the trunk.
- Clear snow and ice from your windows, mirrors, hood, headlights, taillights, and trunk before driving.
- Keep the following items in your vehicle during the winter: an ice scraper/snow brush, de-icer, small snow shovel, warning devices (flares or triangles), bag of salt or sand, flashlight, battery cables, tire chains, paper towels, and a blanket.
- Maintain a distance of at least six car lengths behind a snow plow.
- Do not pass a snow plow because the plow blades are wider than the truck.
- Car pool or use mass transit whenever possible during the winter. Fewer cars on the road make travel safer during a snowstorm and expedite snow plowing operations.
- Use extra care when driving on a bridge or elevated ramp during the winter because they freeze before roads do.

### Snow Shoveling Tips

- After a snowstorm, how many times have you shoveled your driveway or sidewalk only to have it plowed in?
- Public Works suggests that you wait until the street is cleared before you shovel the last five feet of your driveway or your sidewalk. Always clear an area to the right of your driveway (as seen in the diagram below) to give the snow on the blade of the plow a place to empty before it gets to your driveway. This way you won't have to do the same job twice.
- Public Works also reminds you that it is illegal to push snow from a parking lot or driveway onto a township roadway.



### Winterizing your mailbox

- Public Works and the U.S. Postal Service are both expected to deliver during the winter season... come rain, sleet, snow, or all of the above. The location of your mailbox along the roadway can affect the efficiency of both mail service and snow plowing operations.
- Where is your mailbox located? Your letter carrier will make every effort to deliver the mail. However, if the mailbox is not accessible to the carrier due to snow buildup, or if it is not properly located along the road, you may have to pick up your mail at the post office.
- Plumstead Township allows property owners to place mailboxes within the township legal right-of-way, out of respect for the U.S. Postal Service's need to deliver, and mail customers' convenience of delivery; however, mailbox damage is the responsibility of the property owner.

Normally, if a mailbox is placed as far from the shoulder of the road as the carrier can reach from a vehicle and the mailbox rests on a firm support, the mailbox should be able to withstand the force of snow from the plowing operation. Be sure your mailbox has a strong support. You also may wish to use reflective tape or other material to make the mailbox easier to see during storms or during dark hours.

Plowing operations can push snow against or in front of mailboxes, limiting access and perhaps causing damage to supports. If the mailbox support is within the highway right-of-way, it's the owner's responsibility. Check your mailbox and support often, clearing snow from it and depositing the snow properly (never shovel snow onto the road). Homeowners who have followed these tips in the past and have still experienced mailbox damage may wish to consider installing a cantilevered mailbox support that will swing a mailbox out of harm's way. If you have questions as to the proper location of your mailbox along the roadway, contact your local post office. PennDOT urges your cooperation in winterizing your mailbox for the snow season. Taking steps to ensure the visibility and stability of your mailbox will help PennDOT and letter carriers deliver their best this winter.



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# Plumstead Township

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\*Source: HospitalCompare.hhs.gov, 2012

