



Plumstead Township

NEWSLETTER



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PECO AWARDS GRANT

At their October 23 public meeting the Board of Supervisors were presented with a \$10,000 check from PECO as part its Green Region Program. The Township was one of 20 municipalities and nonprofits in PECO’s service area to receive the grant, and one of only two in Bucks County.

The money will be used for phase II of the Summer Meadow streambank restoration project. Ted Dorand from PECO and Patrick Gardner from the Natural Lands Trust presented the check to the Supervisors. Pictured in the photo are Patrick Gardner (Natural Lands Trust), Ted Dorand (PECO), Supervisors Dan Hilferty, Brian Trymbiski (Chairman) and Darren Carroll.



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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
 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: Brittney Walsh
Police Clerk: Steve Meredith
Finance: Jane Faunce
Accounts Receivable: Virginia Bowling
P&R Coordinator: Caitlin Johnson
Code Enforcement: Keystone Municipal Services
Zoning Officer: Keystone Municipal Services
Zoning Clerk: Kathleen Power
Receptionist: Maria Strycharski

Board of Supervisors

Chairman
 Brian Trymbiski
Vice Chairman
 Pete Busillo
Secretary
 Nick Lykon
Treasurer
 Dan Hilferty
Asst. Secretary/Treasurer
 Darren Carroll

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 7:30pm. January - April meetings held at Hanusey Park, May-December meetings held at the Township Building.

All Meetings are at the Township Building

SAVE THE DATE

- P&R Egg Stuffing at Hanusey.....2/23
- Blaze of Glory 5K Walk/Run3/16
- P&R Egg Hunt at Hanusey.....4/14
- Spring Blood Drive4/26
- Electronics Recycling at Hanusey4/27
- Camp Plumstead..... 7/15 - 7/19
- Summer Blood Drive7/26
- Fall Blood Drive9/27
- Winter Blood Drive.....12/20



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Departments

Public Works Department



Water System Notes

Calls come in to the Public Works office from time to time regarding water quality concerns and excess use issues.

Potable water is provided to customers from ground water wells across the township. Most notable is the high, naturally occurring, mineral content (hardness) that can cause a light discoloration and sediment build up. The township addresses this concern by flushing the system through fire hydrants at least annually.

From time to time, we receive calls about "cloudy" water. In most all cases, this is simply air in the water. If you fill a clear glass from your tap and see cloudiness, let the glass sit for several minutes and the air will dissipate. You will know it was air even if you were to take a spoon and quickly stir the water in the glass. The water should remain clear. Air can enter the home plumbing through malfunctioning equipment or leaks.

In almost every situation, when we receive a call regarding low or no pressure, it is likely caused by something within the home. In rare cases such as a fire, or in extreme, a main break, a whole house filter, specialized water treatment equipment, or a malfunctioning water softener is the likely cause.

Each of these appliances requires some level of service on a regular basis. Malfunctions include filters not being changed at regular intervals and are a common cause for quality issues and excessive use.

A malfunctioning water softener that was installed and had never been serviced was the recent cause for an extremely high water bill. Thousands of gallons of water went "down the drain" and had to be paid for by the customer. Please consult owner's manuals and reputable service companies for more information on the proper management of these appliances. Adding salt and allowing the unit to automatically backwash are not the only things that need to be done to a water softener.

Finally, you can check your water usage by simply monitoring the water meter in your home. At a quiet time when no use is occurring, stand at your water meter. The numbers/dial should not be moving. If it is, you may have a toilet leaking or other appliance allowing water to flow freely. You can read your own meter on a daily, weekly or monthly basis and calculate your usage to see if you believe it to be within a normal range.

We have a responsibility to provide clean, safe water, and we do. While we cannot offer specific advise, we hope that these few general topics will be seriously considered as a part of your normal home maintenance and care.

Road Work/ Project Schedule

The Township Public Works Department and sub-contractors will complete the following road reconstruction/repairs during the spring and summer of 2019.

- Completion of the final phase of the storm sewer/reconstruction of Silo Hill Road at Curly Hill Road
- Replacement of 22 storm sewer inlets and micro-surface paving of a portion of the Fox Hunt development
- Road drainage corrections and paving of Blueberry Lane
- Maintenance sealcoat of various roads
- Upgrade of the traffic signal at North Easton Road and Cross Keys Place shopping center
- Road maintenance and repair projects on an as needed basis

ATTENTION:

All Plumstead Township Water Customers

Due to the difficulties the United States Postal Service has delivering paper copies of water bills, please clip out and save the attached calendar:

Water Bill Mailed:

January 1, 2019
April 1, 2019
July 1, 2019
October 1, 2019

Water Bill Payments Due on:

February 4, 2019
May 1, 2019
August 1, 2019
November 1, 2019

If you do not receive your water bill by the 10th of the month in which the bill was mailed, please go to the Township website www.plumstead.org and select the Pay / View Water Bill purple box located on the left hand side of the home page. Upon registration, this will allow you to view your current water bill. It does NOT obligate you to pay your bill electronically. If you do not have access to a computer, please call the Public Works office at 215-766-0189 to request the amount due.

New Swing Set

Public Works parks maintenance crews will be installing a new swing set at Hanusey Park this summer.

The new swing set will be a "4 bay" set. There will be two standard belt swings and two child saddle swings.

Crews will install the solid safety surfacing underneath the swing set to meet current requirements.

Bridge Replacement

Beginning March 1, 2019, replacement of the Old Easton Road bridge over Pine Run will begin. We also will be repaving Old Easton Road from Landisville Road to Signature Drive. This project was designed over the last two years and has been under consideration and evaluation since 2011. The project was advertised and placed out for public bid. Seven (7) bids were received ranging from \$1,658,222 to \$2,249,000 for the road work and bridge replacement.

DOLI Construction Corporation of Chalfont, PA was the lowest responsible bidder, in the amount of \$1,658,222. The project is anticipated to take 6-9 months.

A detour will be posted using Sawmill Road, Route 313 and Old Easton Road.

Access to The Water Wheel Tavern will be from the Route 313/Landisville Road side of the bridge closure point. Old Easton Road will be open at all times to the restaurant.

Please use caution in the area in the later stages of the project (August – September) as there will be lane restrictions on Old Easton Road between Signature Drive and Landisville Road for road base repairs and re-paving.



Departments

Plumstead Township Police

Congrats Linda on Your Retirement...

After twenty-six years of service to the Plumstead Township Police Department, we can officially congratulate Linda Barratt on her retirement. As the Administrative Assistant to the Chief of Police, Linda was not only a valuable asset to the department but an enjoyable presence in the office. She was truly an essential component in the daily administrative operations of the department. Linda also acted as the townships internal IT employee, often taking on the task of fixing major computer issues. Linda was not afraid to help with any issues when needed as there was no doubt she could do it all. Her hard work and diligence have significantly benefited the department over the many years and she will be greatly missed.

While we are saddened to see Linda go, we are confident that she will find the same success and happiness in retirement that she experienced during her time here. Retirement will surely offer new opportunities, which we know Linda will embrace wholeheartedly, just as she did with the Plumstead Township Police Department.



Pack the Patrol Car

On November 17, 2018 Plumstead Township Police hosted their first ever "Pack the Patrol Car". The purpose of this event was to collect non-perishable food donations for the local food pantry to help families in our community



before the holidays. The community stepped up and helped us to donate 6,000 lbs. of food! The donations filled three pickup trucks and four patrol cars to the brim. The food was donated to Bucks County Housing Group at the Central Bucks food pantry location. Thank you to Giant Supermarkets for allowing us to host our event at both locations. And thank you to our community for your overwhelming support for families in need during the holiday season.



Plumstead Township Police Benevolent Association awarded Frank Propato, owner of Dominick's Pizzeria and Restaurant, with a Community Service Award. Frank has supported the Police department with many events through donations and sponsorships. Plumstead Police are very grateful for his loyal dedication to the department and community.

A Reminder From Our Police Department:

- 1) It's illegal to leave your pets in cars or outside in extreme temperatures or weather conditions. (Senate bill 636 of 2018)
Please remember to license your dog.
- 2) Drivers are required to use their headlights in inclement weather and when using the windshield wipers. (Section 4302 Subsection a-3 PA Motor Vehicle Code)
- 3) It's illegal to use a drone for surveillance of person (s) in areas of expected privacy (Act 78 of 2018)
- 4) Remember to always be patient and courteous while driving
- 5) Check on your elderly or physically restricted neighbors.

Departments

Plumstead Township Police

Shop with a Cop

The Plumstead Township Police Department hosted their second annual "Shop with a Cop" on December 10, 2018. The event was a huge success once again thanks to the support from our community. This year we welcomed 95 children and their families to the program. The children spend the night shopping with police officers, eating food and snacks that are generously donated by local businesses, and completing holiday crafts while volunteers wrap all the gifts.

This event would not be possible without the support we receive from the community. All the money raised for this event is donated by local businesses, civic groups, and residents. The generous donations from our community allow each child to receive a gift card to K-Mart for the night of the event, as well as, a gift card to Giant for food during the holidays. Local businesses also donated food to the event to keep everyone energized during the event. The event has grown from 75 children in 2017, to 95 children in 2018, and with the hope to grow even more in 2019.

We would like to thank everyone who played a role in making this event a success and for helping to brighten the holiday season for so many families in our community. Thank you to all the businesses, civic groups, and residents who generously donated to the event. Thank you to the volunteers who donated their time and energy to wrap gifts for the families. Thank you to Santa for stopping by for a visit. And lastly, thank you to all the police officers from surrounding departments who jumped in to make sure every child shopped with a police officer. The departments include Bedminster Township, Buckingham Township, Central Bucks Regional, Doylestown Township, Dublin Borough, New Britain Township, Newtown Township, Penridge Regional, Richland Township, Solebury Township, Telford Borough, and Tincum Township.



Code Enforcement Department

Just a reminder that Plumstead Township is now enforcing the 2015 Building Code Practices. The PA Dept of Labor announced it as of October 1, 2018.



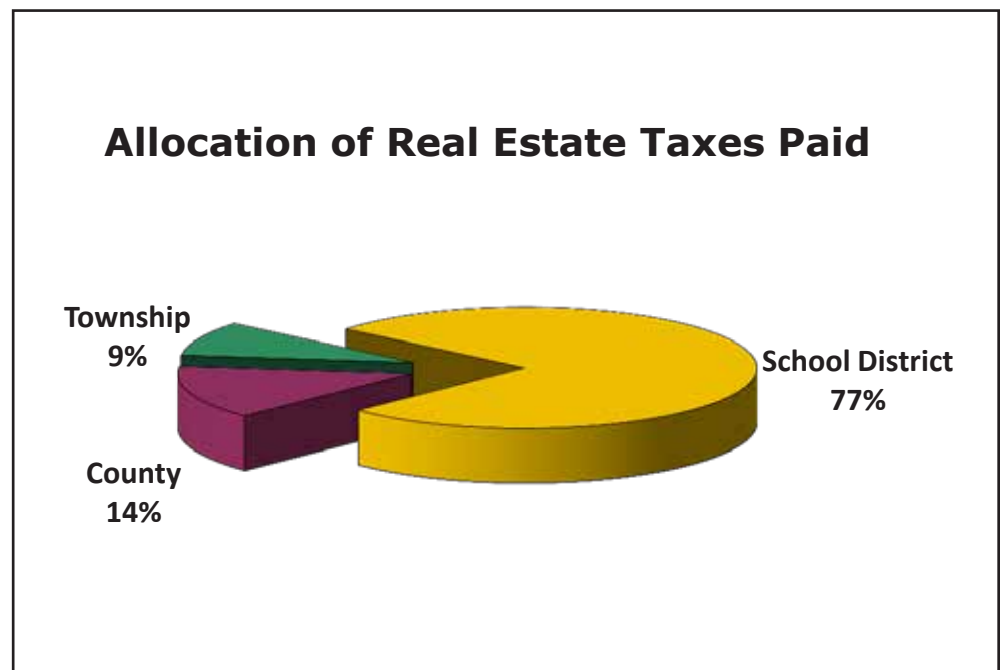
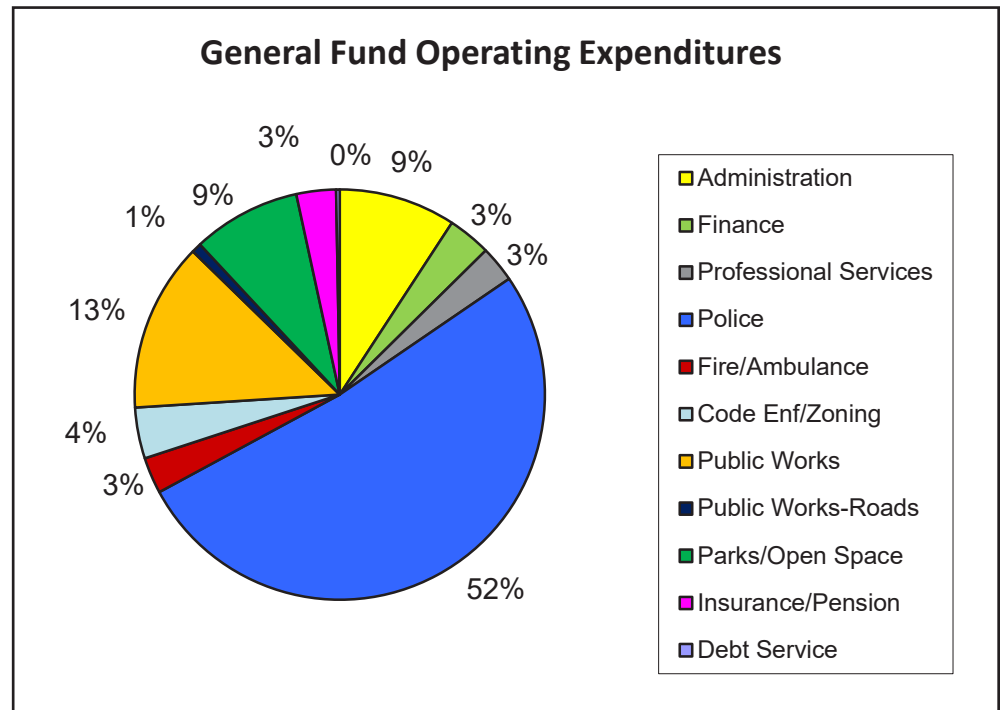
2019 Budget

The Board of Supervisors adopted the 2019 budget at their December 11 public meeting. The total expenditures for the Township are \$13.3 million (all funds). The budget was adopted with no real estate tax increase. The Township millage remains at 13.94 mils.

The General Fund accounts for Police, Public Works, Parks & Recreation, Code Enforcement, and Administration and Finance operations. Of the \$6.4 million in budgeted expenditures 52% of it represents the costs to continue to provide 24/7 Police coverage throughout the Township.

The 2019 budget process began last July when the Board of Supervisors reviewed the revenue and expenditures for the first two quarters of the year compared to 2018. They also reviewed details of proposed infrastructure projects. These projects include the replacement of the Dyerstown Bridge on Old Easton Road by the Water Wheel Tavern (\$1.6 million), the milling and repair of Valley Park Road (\$185,000), and the microsurfacing of roads in the Fox Hunt subdivision (\$185,000). Funding for the Dyerstown Bridge comes from a borrowing the Township did in 2016 when interest rates were at historic lows.

In October, the Supervisors reviewed the preliminary revenue and expenditure projections for 2019 and discussed the various assumptions and methodology used to build the budget. At their public meeting on November 13 the Township Manager formally presented the 2019 budget for the Board's consideration, and authorization to advertise. The presentation included information to provide a broader picture of the Township's financial structure, the status of its various cash reserves, and some of the key components that affect the budget, particularly involving the General Fund. The adopted budget can be found on the Finance page of the Township website under forms and documents.



RECYCLING FAQs

RECYCLING FAQS



Baled plastic bottles to be sold.

Know What to Throw!



WHAT HAPPENS TO THE STUFF I SEPARATE FOR RECYCLING?

WHY CAN'T I RECYCLE EVERYTHING?

Recyclables are **commodities**—useful, raw materials that are bought and sold. All acceptable recyclables that you put out are sorted, baled, transported, and processed into new items.

- It's important to keep your recyclables **CLEAN, DRY AND EMPTY**, and to put out only what is accepted by your collector.
- Unacceptable items contaminate the recycling stream, may damage equipment, and end up as trash.
- Major contaminants are: plastic bags, textiles, food, moisture, diapers, and wires.

WHEN IN DOUBT...THROW IT OUT!

DOES RECYCLING SAVE NATURAL RESOURCES?

Yes! By recycling, we save nonrenewable natural resources, like aluminum and iron that need to be mined, and petroleum oil that needs to be drilled from the earth. Paper comes from *trees* which are renewable, but it takes a long time to grow a big tree! Recycling means that we don't need to extract minerals by digging and drilling the earth, and we can chop down less trees. This way, energy is saved.



- #### WHY CAN'T I RECYCLE PLASTIC BAGS?
- Plastic bags get caught and tangled up in the machines, interrupting the sorting operations.
 - DO NOT** bag your cans/bottles or mix plastic bags with your recyclables! Check your local grocery stores and large retailers to recycle.
 - Reusable bags are a sustainable alternative for when you shop.



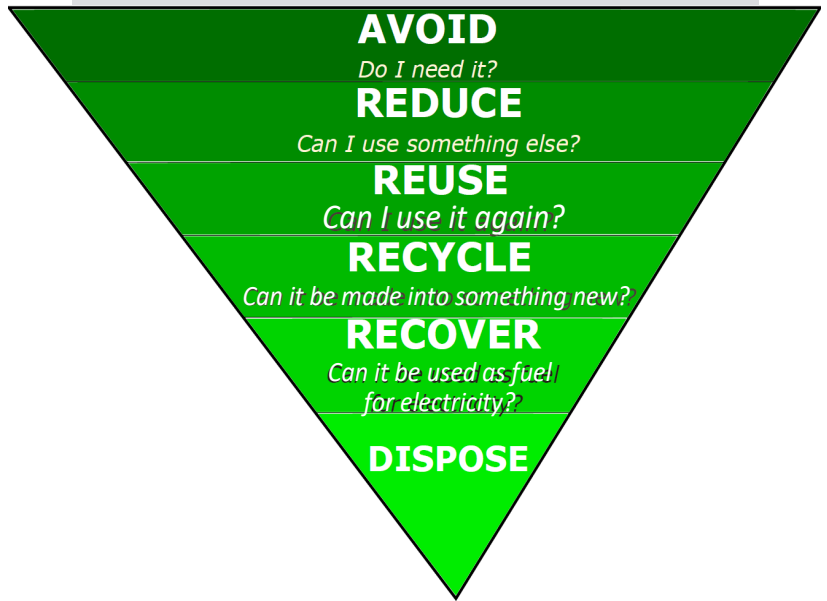
Workers removing tangled plastic bags from equipment.

- #### AREN'T ALL PLASTICS THE SAME?
- #### WHICH ONES SHOULD I RECYCLE?
- Not all plastics are the same**, and not everything that is plastic is recyclable. These manmade materials have different chemical formulations to give them specific properties suitable to their uses—strength, flexibility, heat resistance, transparency.
- Different plastic types must be separated before they are processed into new materials.
 - Most plastic packaging contains a resin identification code (#1-7). Types 1, 2, and 5 are the most accepted.
 - Check with your recycling collector or municipality to be sure of what they collect.
 - Make sure that your recyclables are **CLEAN, DRY, AND EMPTY**.

- #### WHY IS IT SO DIFFICULT TO DISPOSE OF AN OLD TV OR COMPUTER MONITOR?
- In 2010, PA lawmakers enacted the Covered Device Recycling Act (CDRA) to get old televisions and computers into the recycling stream because of the lead and other toxic materials they contain. These electronics can be taken apart to recover their metals, plastic, and other parts. However, by 2017, this law was ineffective due, in part, to the lack of reliable financial resources by manufacturing to support collection events. If you have an old TV or computer, please:
- Check with your local municipality to see if they are holding an E-waste event.
 - Check out our A-Z Recycling Guide at buckscounty.org/recycling for local private vendors who will accept televisions and computers.
 - Call the DEP Electronic Recycling Hotline 1-800-346-4242 and voice your frustration.
 - Urge your state representatives to support legislation with a new approach.

THE WASTE HIERARCHY:

It's time to examine your buying habits and disposal behaviors.



Most common contaminants to keep OUT of your recycling bin:

- NO recyclables in plastic bags.** Empty loose recyclables in the bin and leave the plastic bag out.
- NO foods & liquids.** Compost instead! Otherwise, it belongs in the trash.
- NO electronics, lithium batteries & appliances.** Donate it or check earth911.com for a local drop off site.
- NO textiles, bedding, rugs & carpets.** Donate if it's in good condition.
- NO hoses, holiday lights, hangers & extension cords.** They wrap around equipment and can shut down an entire facility.
- NO plastic bags, sheeting & flexible film packaging.** Take clean and dry plastic bags to a grocer. Prevent them from shutting down recycling facilities.
- NO paper napkins, plates, cups & tissues.** Compost if possible, and remember to recycle the cardboard tube.
- NO polystyrene foam.** Foam and plastic to-go containers are not recyclable curbside. Find a drop off location at earth911.com.
- NO tires, auto parts & scrap metal.** These can damage equipment and are safety hazards. Contact local scrap recyclers or retail tire stores for options.
- NO yard waste & wood.** Compost this instead. Check with municipality or waste hauler for special collection.

Events and Other Information

PLUMSTEAD TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION INVITES YOU TO ATTEND OUR EGG STUFFING DAY!

Help us prepare for our Annual Egg Hunt by stuffing candy into all the eggs!

Saturday, February 23rd

10AM @ Hanusey Park (Gordon Rd.)

All ages and groups welcome! No sign up necessary!

Annual Egg Hunt - Sunday, April 14th



WELCOME NEW BUSINESSES IN PLUMSTEAD TOWNSHIP!

Relax Flat Spa
807 N. Easton Rd

Training for Warriors Fitness Club
5776 Easton Rd

Riegel Federal Credit Union
5936 Easton Rd

PLUMSTEAD TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION

Our Parks and Recreation Department wants to hear from you! Do you have ideas for programs? Do you want to host a program in partnership with us?

Send your ideas to the Parks and Recreation Coordinator at plumsteadparks@plumstead.gov

We will contact you once we review your ideas. Thank you!

www.plumsteadparkandrec.org

Events and Other Information

Plumstead Township Parks and Recreation

ANNUAL EGG HUNT

Join Plumstead Township for our Annual Egg Hunt! Kids will be placed into groups based on age to hunt for eggs! Kids under the age of 10 are invited to attend.

Remember bring your own baskets and to check your eggs for prize slips!

RAIN OR SHINE.

Sunday, April 14th

2PM

Hanusey Park



Events and Other Information

Electronics Recycling Scheduled for 2019

Plumstead Township will be holding its third annual residents only electronics recycling event on Saturday, April 27th from 9:00 to 1:00pm at Hanusey Park.

PAR Recycle Works, a non-profit organization that provides transitional employment to individuals returning from incarceration, will once again be on-site to collect the items. They deconstruct electronics and destroy data, providing funding to pay their employees, while providing training for long-term employment.



Eligible items include computer towers, laptops, flat screen monitors, servers, tablets, printers, phones, flat screen TV's, small appliances, game consoles, stereos/radios & calculators.

A fee is charged by PAR to dispose of certain items, like air conditioners, dehumidifiers, CRT monitors and conventional televisions. These fees will be posted on our website and social media pages in the near future.

Last year the Township collected 12,450 lbs. of materials that didn't end up in a landfill. The winter months are a perfect time to clean out those basements, attics and garages and put your items aside to be recycled.

Let's do our part to help PAR and the environment!

Township Villages

Plumstead retains many of its historic villages, and longtime residents still refer to areas of the Township by these names. All of the villages are small or medium in size, and functioned mostly as centers of commerce in the surrounding countryside.

Villages like Danboro, Dyerstown, and Point Pleasant contain excellent examples of 18th and 19th century architecture. Villages along historic transportation routes, like the village of Point Pleasant, at one time a ferry landing, remain as evidence of early settlement patterns.

The 1998 Township directory identified these various villages:

Plumsteadville	Danboro	Point Pleasant	Gardenville
Wismer	Smith's Corner	Hinkelstown	Fountainville
Groveland	Kepler's Corner	Grier's Corner	Landisville
Dyerstown	Curley Hill	Kendigtown	Carversville
Lower Black Eddy	Melcher's Corner	Devil's Half Acre	

(source: Township Comprehensive Plan)

County Initiates Smart911 with RapidSOS to Quickly Serve Callers

The Bucks County Commissioners and the Bucks County Emergency Communications Department have partnered with Smart911 to begin a new program that will allow for quicker assistance when a 9-1-1 call is placed. Individuals can now sign up for free online and give pertinent information on themselves and their family which will allow 9-1-1 operators to dispatch law enforcement, fire and emergency medical services quicker and with more relevant data.

Residents can now create an account at <https://www.smart911.com/smart911/ref/login.action?pa=buckscounty> with basic contact information. Once the account has been activated, the profile can be customized and residents can share as little or as much as they would like emergency response to have in the event of emergency. The information is only viewable by dispatchers and other emergency personnel when a 9-1-1 call is placed, otherwise it remains safe and secure in the safety profile.

"If your elderly father with Alzheimer's and a history of wandering lives with you, adding his photo to Smart911 allows dispatchers to distribute that photo to emergency personnel as soon as you call 9-1-1," said Audrey Kenny, Director of Bucks County Emergency Communications. "If your daughter has a severe peanut allergy, adding that medical information to Smart911 could give precious moments to the Emergency Medical personnel who won't have to ask as many questions before beginning treatment."

Another major benefit to Smart911 is their partnership with RapidSOS. Each year, roughly 180 million mobile calls are placed to 9-1-1, and over 10,000 lives are lost when those mobile customers cannot be located, according to the FCC. Adding a home address, work address, possibly a church or community center where free time is spent, allows the caller to simply use their cell phone to say "I am home" or even "I am three blocks from work coming from home" and the dispatcher who has the address information can relay it to emergency personnel. RapidSOS takes it one step further. This new system works with the Emergency Communications software to further narrow down the caller's location on a mobile phone. RapidSOS uses a nationwide Location Information Server (LIS) to deliver more precise coordinates and faster service. In some situations, RapidSOS can get emergency personnel to callers up to five minutes faster, which could dramatically alter the outcomes of crises.

Smart911 is currently available in 40 states and more than 1,500 municipalities across the country, and has been credited with positively impacting emergency outcomes including a missing child in which the girl's photo and physical description were immediately available to 9-1-1 and responders, as well as a heart attack victim where an address and medical notes allowed responders to be dispatched to his location quickly.

Bucks County residents are encouraged to create their Safety Profile with Smart911 today to have their information immediately available to 9-1-1 and first responders.

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- Tree Spraying & Fertilizing
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 Elizabeth A. McKenna M.D.
 Scott M. Blore, M.D.

Our board certified family physicians, physician assistant(s) and nurse practitioner(s) are uniquely trained to provide a range of services including health maintenance, disease prevention and disease management from infancy through the senior years. When further specialty services are needed, our staff will coordinate your care and help you navigate through the complexities of the health care system.

Office Services

- Newborn / infant care in and out of the hospital
- Adult, Pediatric, adolescent and geriatric care
- Preventive / Wellness care
- Cancer screening
- Office Gynecology including Pap smears and contraception
- Skin Surgery and repair
- Allergy Shots / Immunizations
- Counseling
- Diagnostic testing such as EKGs, basic labs tests, audiometry, A1c, lung function, strep and flu
- Patient Portal for 24/7 access to your health information

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