

Fall 2021

# Plumstead Township

BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA



*Also pictured: Cpl. Mike Johnson, Det. William Mooney, Sarah Ferri, Brittney Walsh, Det. Kevin Larkin, Chief David Mettin & Lt. Richard Frederick*

### **Plumstead Township Police Department receives accredited status.**

The Plumstead Township Police Department earned the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission's accredited status at the 108th Annual Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Education and Training Conference on July 20th, 2021.

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# Plumstead Township Information

## Contact Information

### Township Office

5186 Stump Road, Pipersville, PA 18947  
 Telephone: 215-766-8914 • Fax: 215-766-9831  
 www.plumstead.org  
 Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

### Police Department

5186 Stump Road, Pipersville, PA 18947  
 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

### Public Works Department

**Floyd S. Bryan Public Works Center**  
 5119 Stump Road, Pipersville, PA 18947  
 Office: 215-766-0189 • Fax: 215-766-1439  
 Hours: Monday - Friday 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM

### Tax Collector - Sherry Labs

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

### State Representative - Shelby Labs

Silo Hill Professional Building, 1032 N. Easton Road, Doylestown, PA  
 Telephone: 215-489-2126  
 Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 AM – 4:30 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

## Board of Supervisors:

**Chairman** Pete Busillo      **Treasurer** Ken Lichtenstein  
**Vice Chairman** Dan Hilferty      **Member** Brian Trymbiski  
**Secretary** Jim McComb

## Administrative Staff

**Township Manager:** Angela P. Benner  
**Assistant to Township Manager & AP:** Debbie DiAngelo  
**Assistant to Township Manager & RTK:** Andrea Susten  
**Director of Public Works:** Alan Bleam  
**PW Administrative Assistant & Water Billing:** Pam Gravel  
**Chief of Police:** David Mettin  
**Police Dept. Administrative Assistant:** Brittney Walsh  
**Police Clerk:** Sarah Ferri  
**Finance:** Jane Faunce  
**Accounts Receivable:** Virginia Bowling  
**Code Enforcement:** Keystone Municipal Services - Phil Neas  
**Zoning Officer:** Keystone Municipal Services - Jesse Hill  
**Zoning Clerk:** Kathleen Power

## Meetings:

**The Board of Supervisors** meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each Month at 7PM (except where otherwise noted) and the Work Sessions will be held on the 4th Tuesday of the month (as necessary).  
**The Planning Commission** meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7PM.  
**The Zoning Hearing Board** meets at the call of the Chairman.  
**The Environmental Advisory Council** meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 7:30PM.  
 All meetings are held at the Township Building unless otherwise noted on the Township calendar.



- |  |          |   |          |
|--|----------|---|----------|
| Law Enforcement Night .....                      | 9/9/21   | Pack the Patrol Car – Food Drive<br>both Giant Food Stores..... | 11/20/21 |
| Fall Blood Drive at Hanusey .....                | 9/23/21  | Giving Tree .....   | Nov-Dec  |
| Halloween Event & Movie Night<br>.....           | 10/16/21 | Annual Tree Lighting at HP .....                                | 12/4/21  |
| General Election .....                           | 11/2/21  | Shop with a Cop .....   | December |
| Veterans Day Observance<br>at Veterans Park..... | 11/6/21  | Winter Blood Drive at Hanusey<br>.....                          | 12/20/21 |

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# **BLOOD DRIVE**

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## **2021 Design Awards**



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# Departments

## Public Works

### Trees

Dead/dying/diseased trees along township roads have become a concern, and a priority, many a result of years of drought, invasive insects and major storms, creating an increased public risk from trees falling on roads, homes, sidewalks, and park trails.

Township officials and private tree-care companies are scrambling to remove huge numbers of dead or damaged trees that are considered the most likely to put the public in danger. The township and homeowners are being forced to wait for weeks to get a tree on their property taken down because of the overwhelming number and the busyness of tree experts.

Township responsibility for tree removal is in parks and on township owned land. Trees along township roads, even though they are in the legal right-of-way are the responsibility of individual property owners. The Pennsylvania Second Class Township Code stipulates that the township can remove brush and trees at its discretion to provide for clear and unimpeded travel on the roads but has no obligation to pay for the removal.

When necessary, the township certified arborist will evaluate trees that are of a concern near or close to the road and the property owner will be notified of their obligation to remove the tree.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping to make our roads safer.



## Employee Spotlight

**Duane Freed, Asst. Foreman Parks (20 years)**



I am an avid hunter and fisher who enjoys the outdoors and spending time with family and friends. I have been married to my wife Connie for 26 years and we have two sons along with our Labrador retriever, who also enjoys the hunting and outdoors! I always look forward to my trips out west which usually involve some type of hunting or fishing along with the visit. Over the years I have been fortunate enough to spend time with my family on these trips in Oregon, Washington, California, Wyoming, Alaska, and Canada.

As for my job, I am happy that I can be part of a strong team that strives to help keep the Township Parks in a good quality condition for everyone to enjoy. I have a wide variety of tasks which typically has us doing something different on a regular basis. Over the past year my role has more involvement with the Parks and Recreation Committee to help plan and host the Township events and camps for the community along with park improvements. With the pandemic this has been a bit challenging, but I am excited to continue to grow our Park and Rec program in the future.

## New Businesses

**The Nook Comic Book Store**  
5776 Easton Road

**The Local Vaporium**  
812 N. Easton Road



# Departments

## Plumstead Township Police Department

A MESSAGE FROM CORPORAL PATRICK MCKEE

### FIREARM SAFETY



Firearms accidents in the home too often result from an unauthorized individual, often a child, finding a loaded and unsecured firearm in the home. As a firearms owner, it is your responsibility to know how to secure your firearm(s) in a safe manner in your home. The decision to maintain a firearm in the home is a serious, personal matter. Unlike passive safety devices, such as alarm systems, firearms require significantly more involvement by the owner. Any added safety benefit that may be derived from a firearm depends in large measure on the owner's commitment to appropriate training and a clear understanding of safe handling and storage rules. Do other adults in your household support the decision to maintain a gun in your home? If they will have access to the firearm, will they join you in a firearms training and safety program? What precautions will be practiced to safeguard children? Do risk factors such as drug and alcohol exist within your household? In addition, issues such as individual temperament, reaction to emergency situations, and specific family circumstances should also enter in the decision.

If you must have quick access to a loaded firearm in your home, you need to take special safety measures. Keeping a gun makes no sense if that same gun puts your family members or visitors to your home at risk. Many home firearms accidents occur when unauthorized individuals -often visitors -discover loaded firearms that were carelessly left out in the open.

If you choose to keep a firearm, your objective should be to create a situation in which the firearm is readily available to you, yet inaccessible or inoperative to others. Special lockable cases that can be quickly opened only by authorized individuals are options to consider.

You must exercise full control and supervision over a loaded gun at all times. This means the gun must be unloaded and placed in secure storage whenever you leave the gun in your home or elsewhere. Secure ammunition separately.

Your most important responsibility is ensuring that unsupervised children cannot encounter loaded firearms. The precautions you take must be completely effective. Anything else invites tragedy and is a serious violation of your responsibility as a gun owner. With owning a firearm there is a great responsibility, consider taking a training course for the reasons your choosing to own one such as personal protection, sport shooting, or hunting. Learn how to use your firearm safely and effectively; not just own it.



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# Departments

## Plumstead Township Police Department

### GENERAL FIREARM SAFETY TIPS

- Keep all firearms locked in a safe place, away from children and other unauthorized persons.
- Store ammunition under lock and key, separately from firearms.
- Read and understand the owner's manual that came with your firearm.
- Follow safe gun handling practices.
- Never point a firearm at anything you are not willing to destroy.
- Treat every firearm as if it were loaded.



### A MESSAGE FOR YOUR CHILDREN

Young people are naturally curious about firearms and, as a result, may be tempted to "play" with a firearm they find. Make sure young people in your home are aware of and understand the safety guidelines described below:



1. Don't go looking for guns in your house or a friend's house. Don't let other kids look for guns in your house.
2. If you find a gun in you house - or anywhere else - STOP! Leave it alone. Don't touch it. Don't let anyone else touch it. Leave the area and be sure to tell an adult at once.
3. Even if a gun looks like a toy, don't touch it. Some real guns may look like toy guns, so don't take a chance. Leave the area and immediately tell an adult.

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# Departments

## Plumstead Township Police Department

### Upcoming Police Events:

- **Coffee with a Cop:** August 26, 2021, 8:30am to 11:00am, Altomonte's Italian Market and Deli, 856 N Easton Road. Come out and meet our new Chief David Mettin. Come and have open discussions with officers, no agendas or presentations, just open dialogue.
- **Law Enforcement Night:** September 9, watch website and facebook for more information.
- **Pack the Patrol Car Food Drive:** November 20, 2021, 10:00am to 2:00pm at both Giant Markets, Cross Keys Place and Plumstead Shopping Center
- **Shop with a Cop:** December. This is the 5th year for this program. Last year we had to do a drive up "Shop with a-Cop' due to COVID restrictions. We anticipate doing an in-person event this year. We take approximately 100 children shopping with Police Officers. These children come from families that have experienced financial hardships.



We fund this program through donations from businesses and individuals. Please consider donating. Contact Officer: Cpl. Michael Johnson, mjohnson@plumstead.gov



Group of students and leaders from the Kiddie Academy in Plumsteadville spent several hours in Landis Park on June 23rd picking up trash. Police Chief Mettin and Officer Snyder stopped by to greet and thank the group.

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# Halloween Safety Tips

## When your Trick or Treater has selected their costume:

- Make sure that the costume fits well & is not a trip hazard.
- Avoid loose fitting masks / apply makeup instead.
- For safety - use reflective tape on costumes.
- Any costume accessories such as, swords & knives should be soft & flexible.

## If you are expecting Trick or Treaters:

- Make sure your home is well lit.
- Remove any/all obstacles from your lawn, driveway, steps or porches.
- Keep any lit candles away from doorsteps, landings or anywhere a costume may come into contact with the flame.
- If using a fire pit or chiminea in your driveway, make sure the kids do not come in contact with it.
- Make sure that you have plenty of candy!

## When Trick or Treating:

- Travel in groups, accompanied by an adult if possible.
- Always carry a flashlight / glow-stick.
- Set a curfew for your children.
- Walk – don't run!
- Respect people's property by staying on the sidewalks, don't walk across lawns.
- Don't stop at dark houses.
- Don't go in any backyards.
- Don't enter any house – unless you know the people.
- Be aware of your surroundings & always look both ways before crossing the street.
- Visit only familiar neighborhoods & homes.
- Never accept rides from strangers.
- Never eat candy until it's inspected (once you get home).
- Have Fun!



**Always report anything suspicious to an adult right away or to the Plumstead Police Department Non-emergency number (215) 766-8741 or 9-1-1.**



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# Spotlight

## Plumstead Township Police Department Receives Accredited Status.

The Plumstead Township Police Department earned the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission's accredited status at the 108th Annual Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Education and Training Conference on July 20th, 2021.

The Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association introduced the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Program to the Commonwealth in July 2001. The Plumstead Township Police Department is now one of 134 agencies currently with accredited status.

Accreditation is a progressive and time-proven way of helping police departments evaluate and improve their overall performance by ensuring compliance to over 130 standards resulting in best practices for the police agency. Independent assessors evaluate each departmental policy, then ensure compliance by evaluating reports, records, training and numerous internal documents. Assessors meet with officers, tour department facilities, evaluate equipment and interview the Chief of Police.

The accreditation process was a true team effort. Every officer is responsible for maintaining and adhering to the compliance standards throughout the year. Many officers took part in preparing areas of expertise for the assessors to review and evaluate. It is a credit to each officer in the department, showing their hard work and commitment to the department and professionalism.

- Benefits of Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation
- Establishes a credible framework for evaluating agency practices and procedures
- Reduces agency risk and exposure to lawsuits
- Decreases some liability insurance expenditures
- Improves law enforcement – community relations
- Increases employee input, interaction and confidence in the agency
- Enlarges the outlook and viewpoints of managers, officers and employees
- Identifies and highlights the capabilities and competence of the agency
- Furnishes a solid foundation for the agency to build upon for further progress
- Provides reliable methods to improve essential management procedures
- Extends agency accountability to the public and elected officials
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- Develops improved methods for providing services to the community



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# Spotlight



**Officer Dockery and Officer Snyder  
(Central Bucks Special Response Team)**



**Lt. Frederick and Officer Moffett  
(Bucks County Major Incident Response Team)**



**Cpl. McKee showing  
Departmental Weapons**



**Community Policing Table**

# Departments

## Plumsteadville Volunteer Fire Company

As Fire Prevention Week™ approaches, Plumsteadville Volunteer Fire Company reminds residents to

### “Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety™”

Plumsteadville Volunteer Fire Company is teaming up with the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®)—the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week for more than 90 years—to promote this year’s Fire Prevention Week campaign “Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety.” This year’s campaign, October 3-9th, works to educate everyone about necessary but straightforward actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe.

“What do the sounds mean? Is there a beep or a chirp coming out of your smoke or carbon monoxide?”

Alarm? Knowing the difference can save you, your home, and your family,” said Lorraine Carli, vice-president of outreach and advocacy at NFPA.

Plumsteadville Volunteer Fire Company encourages all residents to embrace the 2021 Fire Prevention Week theme.

“It’s important to learn the different sounds of smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. When an alarm makes noise—a beeping sound or a chirping sound—you must take action!” “Make sure everyone in the home understands the sounds of the alarms and knows how to respond. To learn the sounds of your specific smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, check the manufacturer’s instructions that came in the box, or search the brand and model online.”

Plumsteadville Volunteer Fire Company wants to share safety tips to help you “Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety.”

- A continuous set of three loud beeps—beep, beep, beep—means smoke or fire. Get out, call 9-1-1, and stay out.
- A single chirp every 30 or 60 seconds means the battery is low and must be changed.
- All smoke alarms must be replaced after 10-years.
- Chirping that continues after the battery is replaced means the alarm is at the end of its life, and the unit must be replaced.
- Make sure your smoke and CO alarms meet the needs of all your family members, including those with sensory or physical disabilities.

Plumsteadville Volunteer Fire Company is planning on hosting a series of events supporting this year’s Fire Prevention Week campaign, “Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety,” including school visits and a fire prevention night at the station. Check our social media for dates and times.

To find out more about Fire Prevention Week programs and activities in Plumsteadville or if you would like to schedule a fire prevention presentation at a school or daycare, please get in touch with the Plumsteadville Volunteer Fire Company at [Battalion24@pvfc2420.org](mailto: Battalion24@pvfc2420.org). For more general information about Fire Prevention Week and fire prevention in general, visit [www.fpw.org](http://www.fpw.org).



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# Departments

## Plumsteadville Volunteer Fire Company

### Your Volunteer Fire Companies Served by Your Neighbors

Winter, spring, summer or fall, all you have to do is call, and I'll be there, you've got a friend. Do you remember these lyrics from the legendary Carole King? Well, be assured that the two volunteer fire companies serving Plumstead are equally reliable. All you have to do is call, and we'll be there. Members of the Plumsteadville and the Point Pleasant Volunteer Fire Companies continue to assist and support the residents and visitors of our township. All of our members are VOLUNTEERS. No money, no fame, no retirement package. Just ordinary citizens performing extraordinary tasks to assist you with YOUR emergency.

The fire companies respond to hundreds of requests for assistance annually from homeowners, business owners, visitors who drive through or spend the day in our township. Recognition is not the primary goal of the members; assisting people is. We hope that you never need the assistance of our fire companies, but you can do some simple things to show your thanks and appreciation. Stop by the fire stations and give a simple thanks to the men and women who protect our community. Invite the fire companies to your event. They love to be there to show their support in the community as well.

Members are consistently there for you, but they need you to be consistently there for them. Membership opportunities are always available for anyone over the age of 14. There are needs for active firefighters, fire police, or even contributing members who assist with committees, fundraising activities, etc. Perhaps you can fill one of these positions. Once again, these VOLUNTEERS are giving up so much to keep the fire companies as professional as any city fire department is. Training, maintenance, and purchasing equipment are necessary but are not possible without adequate funding. The majority of the required funds come from the fire companies fundraising efforts. That's right! The VOLUNTEER members of the fire companies who are already giving up many hours annually for training and maintaining equipment must spend countless hours raising the additional funds to keep the fire companies going. Can't join the fire company? Then partner with them and assist in their fundraising efforts. Let's keep our professional volunteer fire companies going! Help them help you.

For more information, go to the fire company web pages:

- Plumsteadville Volunteer Fire Co: <http://pvfc2420.org/>
- Point Pleasant Volunteer Fire Co: <https://www.engine41.com/>

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## Events and Other Information

### Parks & Recreation

Plumstead Township Parks and Recreation is excited that we can offer programs and events again! In June we held one of our outdoor movie nights and in July we had our first concert in the park. We also offered summer camps- some that we have offered in the past along with some new options. Our camps this summer were Theatre Camp, Tennis Camp, Dance Camp and Sports Spectacular Camp. In addition to the camps, we also brought back our Yoga in the Park holding multiple sessions this Spring/Summer. We are hoping to add some new camps and programs for the fall. Stay tuned for more details as they develop!

**To stay up to date and receive updates about Township events please sign up for the township email, <http://www.plumstead.org/elist.html>**



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# Events and Other Information

## UPCOMING



**October 16**  
**Halloween Event & Movie Night**

**December 4**  
**Annual Tree Lighting at Hanusey Park**



If you have a program you would like to suggest for future consideration please email us at [plumsteadparks@plumstead.gov](mailto:plumsteadparks@plumstead.gov)

Pavilions and the Hanusey Park Community Center are available for rentals. Reservation forms are available on the Township website under the Parks and Recreation page.

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# Volunteer Opportunity

## Join the Park & Rec Committee

If you are looking to be involved in the planning of Plumstead Township Park improvements and programming this is your chance.

It is the mission of the Plumstead Township Parks & Recreation Department to provide safe and attractive facilities for all the residents and visitors, and to offer a variety of programming that will appeal to all ages and interests. The Parks and Recreation Department hosts a variety of events, programs and camps throughout the year at our parks for both children and adults. Our parks include: Joseph E. Hanusey III Community Park, Allohaken Park, Owl's Nest Park, Jennifer Schweitzer Park, Landis Park, Veterans Park, North Branch Neighborhood Park, Cabin Run Neighborhood Park, and Gardenville fields.

Responsibilities and areas of involvement for P&R Committee:

- To assist the Township with surveys for the residents to provide areas and ideas for future improvements, programs and events they would like to have available.
- To recommend to the Board of Supervisors the introduction of new parks and recreation programming they believe would be desirable for the residents.
- To recommend plans for future facility improvement and development to the Board of Supervisors.
- To assist the Township staff with grant applications relating to parks and recreation facilities.
- To assist the Township staff with procuring sponsorship for Township events.
- To assist the Township staff at Parks & Recreation programs/events as needed.



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## EAC

### Attention Well/Septic System Owners

The Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) wants you to protect your own health as well as the health of the environment. If you have a private well and septic tank, it is not mandatory that you routinely test it, but it might be a good idea. Here is why:

Well water contamination can occur for many different reasons, including failure of a nearby septic tank or from naturally occurring chemicals and minerals. Certain contaminants in water have been linked to health issues, including gastrointestinal illness, reproductive problems, and neurological disorders. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) recommend that private well owners check their wells annually for mechanical problems and the presence of contaminants.

You can find out more information about private well testing from the links below, which are hyperlinked on the EAC's webpage (<http://plumstead.org/eacabout.html>):

- From the CDC - <https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/drinking/private/wells/testing.html>
- From the PADEP - <https://www.dep.pa.gov/Citizens/My-Water/PrivateWells/Pages/default.aspx#.V1cuU9krJMw>
- Bucks County Department of Health - <https://www.buckscounty.gov/505/Residential-Well-Inspection-Program>



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