

Plumstead Township

BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

Plumstead Township Police Department

Plumstead Township Police Department has recently joined with the Central Bucks Regional Police Department and the Buckingham Township Police Department to better assist victims of crime by creating a multi-jurisdictional Victim Services Unit.



The Victim Services Unit partners with officers, detectives and community partners to create a network of care and support for victims of crime. Two victim advocates will assist victims with follow-up care and advocacy, criminal justice support, and community agency referrals, filling the gaps in social services and assisting officers in providing advocacy and support.

The Victims Services Unit is a collaborative effort of the three police agencies, supported by grant funding awarded by the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, and the U.S. Department of Justice.

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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

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
 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

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

SAVE THE DATE

- Egg Hunt at Hanusey3/28/21
(pending mass gathering approval)
- Electronics Recycling4/17/21
(Residents Only)
- Blood Drive at Hanusey.....4/21/21
- Blood Drive at Hanusey.....7/21/21
- Blood Drive at Hanusey.....9/23/21
- Blood Drive at Hanusey12/20/21



Committees

Calling All Veterans



The Plumstead Township Veterans Advisory Committee would like to know who you are. Why? To help us properly plan to appreciate your service at our annual Veterans Day observance. We may also periodically provide pertinent information to you. All we ask is that you send us your name, branch of service, years served and your e-mail address. Please send your information to jmccomb@plumstead.gov. We will not disclose your information to anyone else. If you have any questions about our request, you may contact Jim McComb, Plumstead Supervisor, at 267-281-8738 or jmccomb@plumstead.gov.

Environmental Advisory Council



Protect Yourself and the Environment During the Pandemic

Due to the pandemic, the use of masks, gloves and other personal protective equipment (PPE) has gone up exponentially. Improper disposal of such PPE can be harmful to the environment. Most forms of PPE are not recyclable or biodegradable in landfills, so as litter, it is no better than single-use plastics such as bottles and straws. Such waste can also get into habitats and be mistaken as food by animals or birds, harming the ecosystem as a whole—hence, their proper disposal is essential.

If your cloth mask is damaged and/or it becomes difficult to breathe through it, discard it safely and replace it with another. It is not recommended that disposable masks or gloves be used more than once, and after use, you should discard them immediately in an appropriate trashcan without littering. Together let's continue to protect ourselves and the environment through this pandemic.

EAC Community Survey (Plastic Reduction): <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BK5GCWB>



Hanusey Park Baseball Field Signage



Advertise with Us: Plumstead Township is offering baseball field advertising signage at Hanusey Park. This is a great opportunity for all to see to your company information.

<http://www.plumstead.org/publicworks/hpbaseballsigns.pdf>



Thank You To The Businesses

This publication is made available through the generous advertising sponsorship of the businesses listed throughout our newsletter. We wish to encourage your patronage of these establishments; they play a substantial role in the economic vitality of our community.

Departments

Building / Zoning Department

Building / Zoning Department Permits:

Spring is a popular time to pull permits for home updates and renovations. We are continuously working to mainstream the permit process. Our Zoning Officer, Jesse Hill, and our Building Inspector, Phil Neas, can be contacted to answer questions and help you to be informative with the permitting process regarding your specific project. Our updated, fillable Permit Applications can be found on the Township's website at <http://www.plumstead.org/forms.html>.

Below for a few reminders and tips for pulling common summer permits:

- All contractors must provide their Certificate of Liability Insurance and PA license and expiration date with permit submission.
- Homeowners may request a copy of their plot plan if needed, but contractors would need to fill out a Right to Know Form to obtain your plot plan.
- Any projects introducing electric requires plans be approved by a third-party electrical inspection agency prior to submitting an application to the Township.
- **Fences** are not required to be set back from the property line and can be installed right along your property line. Fences can be up to 6 feet high in the rear yard and up to 4 feet high in the front yard. Zoning and Building Permits are required with a plan detailing where the fence will be installed.
- **Swimming Pools -**
 - **(Inground)** - pools can be in the rear yard only and will require a fence either on the top of the pool, if the yard will not be fenced in. If the pool has over 1,000 square feet of impervious area, a stormwater management review is required along with review from the Bucks County Conservation District if over 2,000 square feet of earth disturbance. A Stormwater Management Application, a Professional Services Agreement, a plot plan, Building and Zoning Applications, 3rd party electrical approved plans, and 2 sets of pool plans are required.
 - **(Above Ground)** - Building Permit and Zoning Applications are required and a plan showing where the pool is located on the property. If must have a fence around the top of the pool or a fenced in yard.
- **Sheds** - Small (120 square feet or less) will required a Zoning Permit Application, 2 sets of plans and a site plan where it will be placed on the property along with a shed brochure. Large (over 120 square feet will also require a Building Permit Application.
- **Patio** - Will require Zoning Permit Applications, 2 site plans and 3rd party electrical approval if introducing any electric
- **Paver Patio** - Zoning Permit Applications, and Impervious Calculations are required
- **Porch/Patio With A Roof** - Building and Zoning Permit Applications, 2 sets of plans and 3rd party electrical plans required if using any electric.



Right to Know Officer

Andrea Susten has been appointed the Right to Know (RTK) Officer for the Township. All requests/forms should be directed to her attention at: asusten@plumstead.gov 215-766-8914 x205.

<http://plumstead.org/geninfo/righttoknow.pdf>

2021 Water Billing

2021 Billing Date:

January 4

April 1

July 1

October 1

2021 Due Date:

February 1

May 3

August 2

November 1

Departments

Plumstead Township Police Department

The STAR Program

Beginning January 4, 2021, the Plumstead Township Police Department, Central Bucks Regional Police Department, Buckingham Township Police Department and Doylestown Township Police Department will be joining forces with the Aldie Counseling Center in Doylestown to implement the "Supporting Treatment and Recovery Program" (S.T.A.R.). With support from the Bucks County Drug and Alcohol Commission, Inc. and the Bucks County District Attorney's Office, this program will help those with substance use disorders and their families by providing a pathway to outreach, information and treatment.



Officers will begin providing contact information for the Aldie Counseling Center to those who they come in contact and may benefit from outreach. This includes those cases of opioid or other controlled substance overdoses, those arrested for possession of controlled substances and DUI, and for concerned family members and friends. A consent form will be completed on scene, giving officers the ability to forward the person's contact information to the Aldie Counseling Center. Within 24 hours, a trained outreach worker will make contact with the person and offer treatment information and/or a level of care assessment. Along with the person's preferences, these assessments will help to determine the right path for each individual person. Evaluations help determine the level of treatment that would be most appropriate. The trained assessor will talk with the person about their use of alcohol and other drugs, past substance abuse or mental health treatment, living situation and family relationships, employment, medical history, legal issues, and more. This information is kept confidential.

The Plumstead Township Police Department thanks the staff of the Aldie Counseling Center and the Bucks County Drug and Alcohol Commission, Inc. for all that they do to help those with substance use concerns obtain treatment and guidance for their road to recovery. We believe that this program, combined with our part in the Bucks Police Assisting in Recovery (BPAIR) initiative, will provide greater access to treatment, information and support for those seeking recovery. Our officers look forward to continuing our proactive service to help our community.

"BCDAC, Inc. recognizes that, especially during COVID-19, residents are in need of support for a variety of concerns. We are committed to reducing barriers to accessing treatment for substance use disorders. The STAR Program is a terrific example of law enforcement and social service partnership, to ensure rapid access to services. The STAR Program is a welcome addition to the Bucks Police Assisting In Recovery (BPAIR) initiative."

Diane Rosati, Executive Director, Bucks County Drug and Alcohol Commission, Inc.

"This STAR program is further proactive proof of our police commitment to the health and well-being of the people they serve," said Bucks County DA Matt Weintraub. "I commend Plumstead Township Police Department, Central Bucks Regional Police Department, Buckingham Township Police Department and Doylestown Township Police Department for their commitment to this progressive addition to the countywide BPAIR Program. They certainly will save lives."

Barking Dogs



Just a gentle reminder, the township has an ordinance regarding noisy and barking dogs. Ordinance 98-11-17-1 states that it is illegal in the township for any person/persons to own, possess, harbor or control any dog which makes noise continuously and/or incessantly for a period of **10 minutes or more**.

Please refer to the Code of Ordinance for the complete ordinance details. <https://ecode360.com/14140502?highlight=noisy%20dogs&searchId=14721713297505278#14140502>

Please be considerate of your neighbors and correct your dog if he/she is barking more than 10 minutes.



Departments

Plumsteadville Volunteer Fire Company

The Fire Company! But who?

When your worst nightmare has come true and you need the fire company. One of the last things the 911 Dispatcher will say is “ the fire company is being dispatched.” Simultaneously, dozens of volunteer firefighters are hearing their pagers activate, announcing the need for them to respond to the fire station and answer the call of one of our residents. But who? The mother who lives next door is serving dinner to her family, she stops what she is doing and heads to the fire station. A man who is in the middle of fixing a plumbing problem at his house, stops what he is doing and heads to the station. A student who is home doing homework, stops what he/she is doing and heads to the station. They are all VOLUNTEERS of the Plumsteadville Fire Company.

We are ordinary residents, living ordinary lives but doing some extraordinary services for our residents and guests of our community. YOU can do the same thing. YOU have what it takes. YOU have the ability to help others. WE, the men and women of the Plumsteadville Volunteer Fire Company, need YOU. The volunteer fire service in America is in crisis mode. The amount of volunteer firefighters in the country is a small percentage of what it was in the 1980's, when several of our members first became volunteers. We are getting smaller in numbers and certainly older in age.

We are asking for residents to come to our aid and consider joining our all volunteer but very professional organization. There are opportunities to give back as a firefighter, fire police officer, or as a contributing member who can do anything from helping us maintain our equipment to helping us raise funds to support our operations and everything else in between.

If you have any questions about membership, we encourage you to come down to our station any Monday evening after 7:00 pm and speak to any one of us and learn more about what you can do to help. You can also visit our website at www.pvfc2420.org or send us an email with your questions at membership@pvfc2420.org . YOU can make a difference.

Marc Longo, Battalion Chief

Spring Cleanup for Fire Safety

The snow has melted, the rain and wind is beginning to subside, the plants are budding and the trees are blooming. Spring is arriving and your thoughts may be turning to that dreaded ritual of spring cleaning. With it comes a timely reminder to keep your home safe from the threat of fire. In an effort to make this “Spring Cleanup” a fire safe one, Plumsteadville Volunteer Fire Company provides the following safety tips:

- Clean your garage of stored newspapers or other rubbish that can fuel a fire.
- Test your smoke alarms monthly.
- Change batteries in smoke alarms, flashlights, and carbon monoxide detectors.
- Never borrow smoke alarm batteries to use for toys or other equipment.
- Replace all smoke alarms every 10 years or as recommended by the manufacturer.
- Keep outdoor debris or dead vegetation away from the house.
- Properly dispose of oily or greasy rags. If these items must be stored, they should be kept in labeled, sealed, metal containers.
- If you store gasoline, keep it outside your home in a shed or detached garage. Keep only small quantities in tightly sealed containers. Use gasoline only as a motor fuel - never as a cleaning agent.
- Use outdoor barbecue grills with caution. Place in a safe area away from building, windows, heating, ventilation and air conditioning units or places with high/dead vegetation.
- Never use gasoline to start the fire, and don't add charcoal lighter fluid once the fire has started.
- Use barbecue grills outside only - not under overhangs or balconies, and away from combustibles.
- Check your propane barbecue grill hose for leaks and cracks; never store propane indoors.



Departments

“Call Before You Dig”

Residents are reminded of their responsibility to notify the Pennsylvania One Call System prior to any type of excavation work around your home. No matter how big or small, shallow or deep, PA state law requires that you call **8-1-1**, at least three working days prior to the digging taking place. The call is toll free, there is no charge to you for the service and the call center is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, all year. When you call, you will be given a serial number for reference, keep it on file until the job is complete.

It is helpful to have the proposed dig area marked in white. When notified, each utility company knows where to mark if their lines if you proposed excavation are is nearby.

Once the utility is marked, you (or your contractor) are responsible for exercising caution in the area that is marked. Just because the painted line (or flag) is in a specific spot does not mean the utility is directly below that mark. By law, there is an 18” tolerance zone to each side of the mark.

The color code markings used are as follows:

- ⌘ white - proposed excavation area
- ⌘ pink - temporary survey markings
- ⌘ red - electric power lines, cables, conduits and lighting
- ⌘ yellow - gas, oil, steam, petroleum or gaseous materials
- ⌘ orange - communication, alarm or signal lines, cables or conduits
- ⌘ blue - potable water
- ⌘ purple - reclaimed water, irrigation or slurry lines
- ⌘ green - sewer and drain lines



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For more information visit: www.pa1call.org or call Public Works at 215-766-0189.



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Events and Other Information

Park & Rec Events

Please keep an eye on the Township Social Media sites for upcoming 2021 events. Once the COVID restrictions are lifted we will be posting events on the Township Website & Facebook pages.

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Events and Other Information

Blaze of Glory 5k Race

For the 14th year running, The Plumsteadville Volunteer Fire Company is proud to host a community 5k road race and fun run which is known as one of the biggest community events in the area. As the first race in the Bucks 5k Series (www.Bucks5kseries.com) the proceeds from the Plumsteadville Blaze of Glory 5k and will go to support the volunteer efforts of the Plumsteadville Volunteer Fire Company.

This year's race is Saturday March 27th. We will be following the format of several other area races to comply with Covid-19 restrictions. You MUST preregister for the race, there will be no day of race registration. Runners will be assigned time slots to start to limit the number of people congregating at the start. Unfortunately, spectators will not be allowed. There will be no pre- or post-race events. We hope to have a virtual race as well for those who would rather avoid any crowds. Please see our race website for more information blazeofglory5K.com

The budget of the Plumsteadville Volunteer Fire Company is 52% funded by Plumstead and Bedminster Townships. The remaining 48% is raised by our members through fundraising events and donations. Money raised goes towards much needed safety equipment. For example, to outfit a single firefighter with basic safety gear will cost over \$3,500.00. This cost does not include the cost of an air pack which is an additional expense of \$6,500.00. To replace a fire truck, it costs between \$500,000 and \$750,000.

2020 Shop with a Cop

Plumstead Township Police hosted it's Fourth Annual "Shop with a Cop" on December 11, 2020. Due to Covid-19 protocols, this year's event was a drive-by event held at Joseph Hanusey Park. There were 85 children invited and a total of 105 children participated. We provided stockings with candy and presents. Santa was present to see all the children. Gift cards were provided to the families for purchases of items and food.

Thanks to the generous donations by several businesses and individuals, we were able to make the holidays brighter for these families that are experiencing economic and personal hardships.

We are looking forward to 2021 Shop with a Cop which will be our Fifth Annual event.

Again, thank you to all that donated time and money to help make this a great success.



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Events and Other Information

Gardenville Fields Free Library

I created a free library for my Girl Scout Silver Award project and because I thought it would be great to add to the new park. I also thought the free library would be great for anyone during the sporting season who is there at the park could read a book while they're waiting for a family member to finish with what they're doing at the park. The free library is located by the end of the parking lot at Gardenville Fields (4650 Strouse Lane). The location of the library is viewable on the Little Free Library website map (<https://littlefreelibrary.org/ourmap/>). The library is filled with books for children to adults. You can go to the library to exchange a book or take one or just leave one.

To make this library I repurposed a cabinet and added a roof to the bottom of the cabinet to make it the top of the library. I then got help from my friends and they painted on fairytale scenes from Jack and the Bean Stalk and Rapunzel. I then registered at the Little Free Library website and became a steward. As a Little Free Library steward, I will frequently add books and keep the library in good shape. My name is Setareh Yahaghi, I'm in ninth grade at Tohickon Middle School. I'm apart of Girl Scout Troop 21714, lead by Mrs. Russ. And I hope everyone enjoys the free library!



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Events and Other Information

Stormwater Management

Stormwater Management is crucial in reducing runoff and improving water quality. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) manages a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) overseeing Municipalities development and implementation of programs to minimize the discharge of pollutants from the sewer system.

Plumstead Township strives to provide public education in efforts to reduce stormwater pollution throughout the community. The Township's website encourages residents to help make a difference in managing stormwater. Visit www.plumstead.org for quick links relating to best management practices, stormwater pollutants, water quality, wetlands, and information for homeowners on managing stormwater from your garden and pool.

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 <http://www.plumstead.org/stormwater.html>



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Events and Other Information

Smoke Alarms at Home

SMOKE ALARMS ARE A KEY PART of a home fire escape plan. When there is a fire, smoke spreads fast. Working smoke alarms give you early warning so you can get outside quickly.

SAFETY TIPS

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom. They should also be outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home. Install alarms in the basement.
- Large homes may need extra smoke alarms.
- It is best to use interconnected smoke alarms. When one smoke alarm sounds, they all sound.
- Test all smoke alarms at least once a month. Press the test button to be sure the alarm is working.
- Current alarms on the market employ different types of technology including multi-sensing, which could include smoke and carbon monoxide combined.
- Today's smoke alarms will be more technologically advanced to respond to a multitude of fire conditions, yet mitigate false alarms.
- A smoke alarm should be on the ceiling or high on a wall. Keep smoke alarms away from the kitchen to reduce false alarms. They should be at least 10 feet (3 meters) from the stove.
- People who are hard-of-hearing or deaf can use special alarms. These alarms have strobe lights and bed shakers.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.



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