

# EAST ROCKHILL TOWNSHIP Report

SPRING/SUMMER 2016



## TRAFFIC SIGNAL IS NOW OPERATIONAL

The long-awaited traffic signal at Routes 313 and 563 (Mountain View Drive) became operational on March 2, providing an extra measure of safety for the thousands of drivers who regularly navigate that busy intersection.

Many thanks to everyone who worked so tirelessly on this important project.



## SPRING YARD WASTE COLLECTION STARTS WEEK OF MAY 23

Spring yard waste collection is scheduled by district with no registration required. The 2016 Spring Program is as follows:

- District I: Collection south of and including Ridge Road during the week of May 23
- District II: Collection north of Ridge Road during the week of May 31

*(Check the township website for an exact map of the collection areas.)*

**Here are a few important reminders about the program:**

- ✓ Have your yard waste out by the curb by 7 a.m. of the first day of your collection; once the truck passes it WILL NOT return.
- ✓ Leaves or grass clippings are NOT permitted; tree branches and brush only. No bags allowed.
- ✓ Place tree limbs and branches in neat piles at the edge of the road or driveway.

- ✓ Branches are limited to six (6) feet long and no greater than five (5) inches in diameter.
- ✓ Piles for pick-up are limited to four (4) feet wide, four (4) feet high, and six (6) feet long.
- ✓ Township employees and/or equipment are not permitted to enter private property to remove items.
- ✓ If you miss the curbside collection or have additional yard waste, the East Rockhill Township Drop-off Center is open Monday through Saturday, from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. and on Sunday, from 6 p.m. to noon for township residents and residential personal yard waste only; commercial landscapers are not permitted. The center is monitored electronically, and violators will be prosecuted.
- ✓ Please do not leave bags with the leaf and yard waste.

If you have any questions, check our website ([eastrockhilltownship.org](http://eastrockhilltownship.org)) or call 215-257-9156.

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East Rockhill Township • 1622 North Ridge Road • Perkasie, PA 18944

This Edition of The East Rockhill Township Report is published by the Board of Supervisors to keep you informed on timely information about the township and your local government.

Visit us on the web at: [www.EastRockhillTownship.org](http://www.EastRockhillTownship.org)

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## IT'S EASY BEING GREEN

### On the Road.....

- Slow down. Speeding and hard accelerations waste gasoline. Use cruise-control on highways to maintain a steady pace. When waiting for friends or family, shut off the engine. Consolidate daily errands.
- Lighten up. Remove unnecessary items from the vehicle to reduce weight.
- Don't pollute. Dispose of used motor oil, antifreeze/coolant, and old batteries properly.
- Keep the engine running at its peak - a misfiring spark plug can reduce fuel efficiency as much as 3 percent. Replace filters and fluids as recommended by the owner's manual.
- Get pumped. Keep the tires properly inflated and aligned. Under-inflated tires waste fuel by forcing the vehicle's engine to work harder. Moreover, properly maintained tires last longer, saving you money and lessening the burden at landfills.
- Know your limitations. If you are not a do-it-yourselfer, find a good technician. Ask friends for recommendations. Check the reputation of the repair shop with your local consumer group. Check out the technicians' credentials. ASE-certified professionals have passed one or more national exams in specialties such as engine performance and air conditioning.
- Don't try this at home. Your car's air conditioner should be serviced only by a technician certified to handle and recycle refrigerants. The air conditioners in older vehicles contain ozone-depleting chemicals, which can be released into the atmosphere through improper service.

Source: [www.ase.com](http://www.ase.com)

### On Your Property.....

Lawn and garden care contributes to the greenhouse gas emissions in our community. Garden equipment engines emit high levels of carbon monoxide, volatile organic compounds and nitrogen oxides. And it's estimated that 17 million gallons of gas are spilled each year refueling lawn and garden equipment - more oil than was spilled by the Exxon Valdez. In addition, the fertilizers and pesticides we use on our lawns pose a threat to the environment.

Here are nine ways you can save...

- Mow lawn to 3 ½ inches or higher.
- Mulch your garden; leaf mulch is ideal.
- Acidify soil with coffee grounds.
- Water once per week.
- Avoid using pesticides.
- Use organic fertilizer.
- Reuse kitchen water in the garden.
- Plant trees or shrubs.
- Use rain barrels.

Source: [www.afewsteps.org/lawn-and-garden](http://www.afewsteps.org/lawn-and-garden)



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## 2016 COUNTY OF BUCKS HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION PROGRAM

Many household products contain chemicals that cause contamination to the environment if disposed of improperly. The Bucks County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program provides the opportunity for residents to get rid of unwanted hazardous chemicals, such as oil-based paints, pesticides, herbicides, caustic cleaners, pool chemicals, mercury, and automotive and rechargeable batteries, by offering a safe and easy disposal solution.

Residents can drive to any of the collection sites listed, between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm, rain or shine, and their household hazardous waste will be removed from their vehicles and sorted for safe disposal.

**RID YOUR HOME AND GARAGE OF HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE:** Participate in the Bucks County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program.

### Collection events are scheduled for 2016 in Bucks County:

#### May 28, 2016

Harry S. Truman High School  
3001 Green Lane, Levittown  
Bristol Township

#### July 23, 2016

Central Bucks South High School  
1100 Folly Road  
Warrington Township

#### August 27, 2016

Bucks County Technical High School  
610 Wistar Road  
Bristol Township

#### June 25, 2016

Upper Bucks Area  
Vocational-Technical School  
3115 Ridge Road  
Bedminster Township

#### August 6, 2016

Quakertown Community High School  
600 Park Avenue (Rear Lot)  
Quakertown Borough

More information on the collections or on recycling in general is available by calling the Bucks County Planning Commission at 345-3400 or checking the County of Bucks website ([www.BucksCounty.org](http://www.BucksCounty.org)).

*The program is for residents only; no material will be accepted from businesses, industry or institutions.*



### NO ELECTRONICS:

No electronics (TVs, computers, or other electronic devices) will be collected this year, due to the effects of a Pennsylvania law, the Covered Devices Recycling Act.



### AT HAZARDOUS WASTE ONLY EVENTS - ITEMS COLLECTED INCLUDE:

- **Household Batteries** - All button types, lithium and rechargeables.
- **Lead-Acid Batteries** from car, marine, motorcycle, and truck.
- **Caustics** like ammonia-based cleaners, household lye, oven cleaner, drain cleaner, and metal cleaner.
- **Flammables** such as oil-based paint, spot removers, gasoline, kerosene, gas/oil mixture, and heating oil (in nothing larger than a 5-gallon container and not more than 220 lbs.)
- **Pesticides** such as chlordane, DDT, Malathion, Sevin, and rodent poison.
- **Common household toxics** like photographic chemicals, pool chemicals, weed killer, antifreeze, rust/paint remover, mercury, and CFLs (fluorescent lamps).

*Residents may bring a maximum of 25 gallons or 225 pounds of material to the appropriate collection event accepting that specific item.*

### THINGS TO KNOW...

- Bring materials in original containers, with labels.
- Place all materials securely in a box, to prevent spilling.
- Keep all products in their original containers with labels intact.
- Keep all caps and lids on tight.
- Wrap leaking containers in newspaper and place in a plastic container for transport.
- Do not mix materials.
- Do not leave loaded vehicle in a hot unventilated area for prolonged periods.
- Do not smoke near the chemicals.



## In Our Parks

### Driving Range Is Open

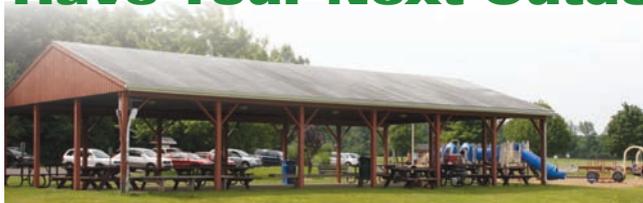
Tokens are available from a dispenser at Markey Park, 1418 Ridge Road, for \$5 each.

Tokens can also be purchased Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the Township Office, 1622 N. Ridge Road. You can buy them there for \$5 each or seven (7) for \$33. Golf driving stations, grass tees and sand trap are available dawn to dusk through a self-automated token system which gives a bucket of 75 golf balls.

Senior citizens can purchase tokens for \$4.50 apiece



## Have Your Next Outdoor Gathering at Markey Park



Located at 1418 N. Ridge Road

*The Markey Park Picnic Pavilion is available for reservation for family or company picnics.*

The Markey Park Picnic Pavilion is available for reservation for family or company picnics. Amenities at the park include; playground, sand volleyball, basketball hoop, softball, skate park, golf driving range and 1 mile path. The permit fee for parties less than 25 people is \$35; for more than 25 people it is \$75. A refundable deposit/security deposit of \$100 is required and is returned as long as the facility is left in the same condition as it is found.

The application to reserve the Markey Park Pavilion can be found on the township's website.

Please remember that all dogs must be on a secured leash and pet owners are expected to pick up after their pets.

### No Hunting on Township Owned Property

We remind everyone that no hunting is allowed on Township open space. The law states no person shall hunt for, capture, kill or attempt to capture or kill, or aid or assist in the capturing or killing of, in any manner, any wild bird or wild animal of any description. A conviction for violating this Ordinance is a fine of \$1,000, plus costs.

### Keep Yard Waste and Personal Items Out Of Open Space



The township has received complaints about yard waste, including grass clippings, being dumped in open space, detention basins and waterways.

In addition to being illegal and subject to prosecution, such activity is harmful to the environment. Yard waste will be carried downstream during rainfall events to clog culverts and other facilities in the stormwater system. The resulting reduction in capacity of the stormwater system could cause flooding for you and your neighbors.

In addition, yard waste, as it decomposes, will harm the quality of the storm water within your watershed. We provide twice-a-year curbside collection and have a collection bin available year-round for disposal of yard waste.

However, neither option can be used for grass clippings. We suggest composting grass clippings and using the compost to enrich and condition your soil.

If composting is not possible, sweep up grass clippings before they enter a storm drain and put them out for regular trash collection.

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## Supervisors Notebook

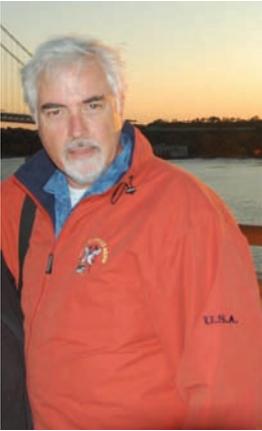
### A roundup of news and notes from around the township

**ROAD WORK PROJECTS:** We have included a number of important road improvement projects in our 2016 budget, including overlays of Dublin Way, Stone Edge Road, Branch Road (313 to Old Bethlehem Road), Hillendale Drive and East Rock Road. The plan is to oil and chip Schwenkmill Road (from Ridge Road to Township line) and White Road.



**TOHICKON EASEMENT:** In February, we approved purchase of a conservation easement for 32.9 acres on Covered Bridge Road. This continues our policy of preserving environmentally-sensitive property from ever being developed.

**SERVICE RECOGNITION:** In January, we were proud to approve a resolution recognizing and commending James F. Sears for “faithful and loyal service” as a member of the Zoning Hearing Board for 30 years. During that time of unprecedented growth and development in the township, Jim served his neighbors by “interpreting and maintaining the integrity of the principles of the East Rockhill Zoning Ordinance. If you see Jim, take a moment to extend your appreciation for his hard work and dedication.”



**BE IN THE KNOW:** Sign up today to receive the latest township news and pertinent information regarding what is happening in our community. To receive monthly Enews all you have to do is go to [eastrockhilltownship.org](http://eastrockhilltownship.org) or visit the Municipal Building and provide us with your email address. You can also find us on Facebook and Twitter.

**HELP WITH HOUSE MAINTENANCE:** Habitat for Humanity Bucks County has a program that can help families struggling to maintain the exterior of their houses due to disability or family circumstances.

“A Brush with Kindness” helps revitalize the appearance of neighborhoods and preserves affordable housing stock by completing projects such as:

- Grading/landscaping to improve drainage, accessibility, and/or aesthetics;
- Exterior repairs to roofs, doors, windows, and porches;
- Painting and/or siding repair;
- Installation of handicap-accessible ramps and railings.

For more details, visit the Habitat website ([habitatbucks.org](http://habitatbucks.org)) and click on “Home Repair.”



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## Supervisors Notebook

**DID YOU KNOW?:** As elected officials, supervisors are entitled to an annual salary of \$1,875 for carrying out their duties. However, sometimes we choose to donate our salaries back to the township for specific uses. In 2016, for example, Dave Nyman and Gary Volovnik both will donate their salaries to the Pennridge Community Center.

**STREET LIGHT DISTRICT:** The annual fee for residents who live in the district has been increased by \$4 to offset the cost of electricity. Instead of being invoiced in April with the sewer bill, a separate invoice will go out in May for properties located in the street light district.

**TOWNSHIP WEBSITE GETTING A MAKEOVER:** Look for a fresh, easier to navigate website coming soon. We're working with a web development company to streamline the look and functionality of the site.

**OPEN SPACE FUNDS:** House Bill 1523 allows 25 percent of accumulated open space earned income revenue can be used to develop, improve, design, engineer, and maintain open space with land acquired with the Open Space Lands Act for open space benefits. Supervisors have allocated \$50,000 into an Open Space Maintenance Account.

**NEW SEWER BILLS:** A recently-implemented software upgrade gives customers the ability to view their account online, make ACH payments, and sign-up for paperless billing. The system will also send customers a reminder when their bill is due within five days.

**SAFELY DISPOSE OF OLD MEDICATIONS:** The Pennridge Regional Police Department take part in a "drug take back" program coordinated by the Bucks County District Attorney's Office, the County Detectives, and the DEA.

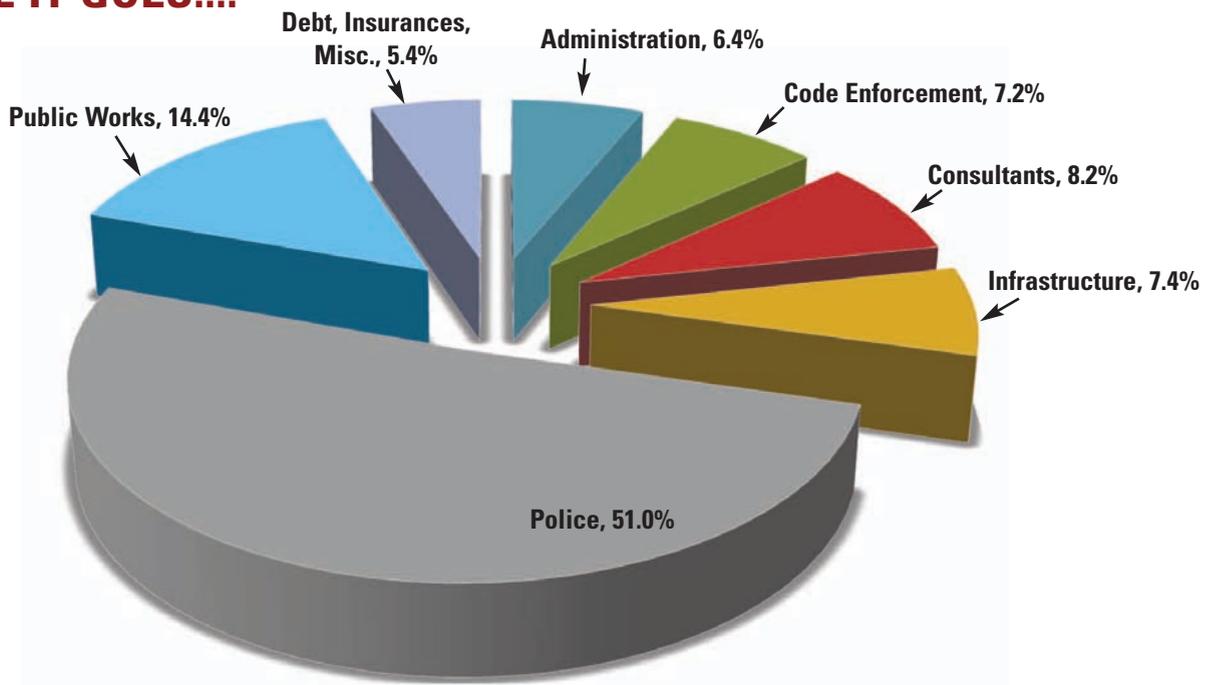
The Department purchased a Med Return drop box, which is located in the waiting room of the PRPD building at 200 Ridge Road. Citizens can drop unwanted medication into the box anonymously with no questions asked. The box is routinely emptied and medications promptly turned over to the District Attorney's office for proper disposal.

**NO OPEN BURNING ALLOWED IN THE TOWNSHIP:** The Township's Code Enforcement Department and Pennridge Regional Police would like to remind residents that the burning of trash and recyclable materials -- including leaf and tree waste -- is prohibited by Township Ordinance in compliance with Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection regulations.

### 2016 General Fund Budget

East Rockhill Township

### WHERE IT GOES....



### BUDGET APPROVED

We were pleased to adopt our 2016 budget with no real estate tax or sewer service increase. Our current property tax rate includes 6.725 mills for the general fund, 1 mill for the fire tax, 1.26 mills for the police building debt service, and 1.25 mills for Capital Improvements (formerly the Infrastructure Tax).

## DISTRICT COURT REPORTS DIP IN CRIMINAL CASELOAD



District Justice Charles H. Baum

For the second consecutive year, criminal cases filed in the area's District Court dipped slightly, Perkasia District Judge Charles W. Baum reported recently.

"Total criminal cases filed by local and state police were down a tiny bit," said Baum, who completed his 10th year as the local magistrate. The judge reported 379 criminal cases for the year, compared to 384 in 2014 and 454 in 2013. He noted that driving under the influence of drug cases are still rising in comparison to alcohol related DUI cases and that heroin abuse is continuing to be an increasing problem in the area.

Traffic cases were up 14 percent in 2015, 2699 versus 2363 in 2014, but still way down from recent years when motor vehicle citations were closer to 4,000 annually. Traffic citations were way down in 2014 due to a harsh winter and State Police hampered by the Eric Frein search in the Poconos that fall.

The court's total caseload was 3869, up from 3539 in 2014. Non-traffic cases for such matters of disorderly conduct, municipal violations and school truancies were steady, with 363 in 2015, up only five from the prior year.

Landlord-tenant filings were even at 111 and civil cases (under \$12,000) in value, were down 7 percent, at 224, lowest in years. Many of those are delinquent credit card cases.

The Perkasia court covers Perkasia and Sellersville Boroughs, East and West Rockhill Townships and the Bucks County side of Telford Borough. In addition, the court handles criminal cases from Milford Township and Trumbauersville Borough.

The court receives the majority of its citations and criminal complaints from four local police departments: Perkasia, Pennridge Regional, Telford and Pennsylvania State Police in Dublin. For most citizens, this "grass roots" level of the judicial system is the only court that they will ever encounter.

In criminal cases, district judges advise defendants of their rights and set their initial bail during preliminary arraignments and then hold preliminary hearings to determine if cases should be bound over for county court based on evidence and testimony presented in court. There are 20 district courts in Bucks County and each judge serves a week of on-call night duty every 10 weeks.

The court is open weekdays 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; the courts phone number is 215-257-5181.

### OATH OF OFFICE

Perkasia District Justice Charles Baum administered the Oath of Office to auditors Karen Chellew, left, and Tracy McGinty, as well as Supervisor Jim Nietupski, who was re-elected in November.

Dave Nyman will continue as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors while Gary Volovnik, will serve his 33rd year on the board as Vice Chairman.



### Did You Know?



The township's Public Works Department installs up to four driveway pipes each year? The driveway must be located on a Township-owned road; cost is materials, plus a \$300 installation fee.

If you are interested in using this service, send us an email requesting the installation. An agreement will be mailed to you with notification of the material cost, and an invoice sent after the work is completed.

If you choose to hire a contractor to install a driveway pipe, a Road Occupancy permit is required.

## Where To Turn For Help With Drug and Alcohol Issues In Bucks County

The first step in accessing treatment for drug or alcohol abuse is for the individual to get a professional assessment to determine the extent of the problem and the type of treatment and recovery plan needed. Adult and adolescent services are available throughout Bucks County. For more information, please call our Approval of Care Department at 215-773-9643.

- To access treatment for those who have private health insurance, call the number on the back of their insurance card listed under Mental Health/Substance Abuse.
- To access treatment for those with Medical Assistance, call Magellan Health Services at 877-769-9784 and they will give information as to the nearest treatment agency for an assessment.
- To access information regarding Veteran's Benefits, call 877-222-8387 to find out eligibility for services. Individuals who are Veterans are eligible for county funding.
- For individuals with no insurance, there may be county-funded treatment available as well as other supportive services.

The individual must go to one of the assessment sites listed below, either as a walk-in or by calling for an appointment and will need to bring certain documents to the assessment, including proof of Bucks County residency, and other documents to complete a Medical Assistance application.

Due to limited funding, county funding for residential treatment is budgeted on a monthly basis, which limits the number of individuals who can be admitted into that level of care each month. However, other treatment alternatives, such as outpatient treatment, are available. Pregnant and/or injection drug users and those being referred by an emergency room following an overdose are given preference for funding.



The following is a listing of Assessment sites as well as other resources:

### ASSESSMENT SITES

#### **Aldie Counseling Center**

11 Welden Drive  
Doylestown, PA 18901  
215-345-8530  
www.aldie.org  
Walk-in hours: Monday - Friday,  
7:30 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Evening assessments available on  
Mondays by appointment only.

#### **Aldie Counseling Center**

2291 Cabot Boulevard,  
West Langhorne, PA 19047  
215-642-3230  
www.aldie.org  
Walk-in hours: Monday - Friday,  
8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

#### **TODAY, a Pyramid Company**

1990 Woodbourne Road  
Langhorne, PA 19047  
215-968-4713  
todayinc.org  
Call for an appointment

#### **Penn Foundation**

**The Recovery Center**  
807 Lawn Avenue  
Sellersville, PA 18960  
215-257-9999 / 1-800-245-7366  
pennfoundation.org  
Walk-in hours: Monday - Friday,  
8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.  
Phone intake preferred prior to  
assessment

#### **TODAY, a Pyramid Company**

1230 Veteran's Highway, Suite F-1  
Bristol, PA 19007  
215-244-7607  
todayinc.org  
Walk-in hours: Monday - Friday,  
8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

#### **Gaudenzia Lower Bucks**

501 Bath Road, Bristol, PA 19007  
(on the grounds of Lower Bucks  
Hospital)  
267-405-6530  
gaudenzia.org  
Walk-in and appointments available

### DUI

For court ordered Driving Under the Influence (DUI) classes, assessment and treatment services:

*For Central and Upper Bucks*  
Council of Southeast Pennsylvania, Inc.  
<http://www.councilsepa.org>

*For Lower Bucks*  
Livengrin Foundation, Inc.  
<http://www.livengrin.org>

### RECOVERY CENTERS AND INTENSIVE CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES

For more information about Community Recovery Centers, Intensive Case Management and Recovery Coaches, go to [www.proact.org](http://www.proact.org) or call 1-800-221-6333 Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. They can also provide information about local mutual aid support groups, including AA and NA, Alanon, etc.

### RECOVERY HOUSES

Recovery Houses provide a safe living environment for individuals seeking recovery and support. For more information, go to [bucksrecoveryhouses.com](http://bucksrecoveryhouses.com)

### FAMILY SUPPORTS

Free family education programs are available to help family members of individuals with an active addiction - call 1-800-221-6333 Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m, for locations and times.

For more information about the full array of services available in Bucks County, go to [bucks.pa.networkofcare.org](http://bucks.pa.networkofcare.org). If you have a complaint about assessment or treatment services you receive, please call the Bucks County Drug and Alcohol Commission, Inc. at 215-773-9643 or send an email to [dnacomplaints@co.bucks.pa.us](mailto:dnacomplaints@co.bucks.pa.us).

## FROM THE PENNRIDGE REGIONAL POLICE DEPARTMENT

### Welcome to Chief Blake



The new chief of the Pennridge Regional Police Department is a familiar face in local law enforcement.

The Pennridge Regional Police Commission in December appointed Rodney Blake chief of the department to replace David Mettin. Blake has served as Officer in Charge since September 2014 when Mettin left to become chief of the new Slate Belt Regional Police Department.

Blake, who started with what was then the West Rockhill Township Police Department in 1988, became part of Pennridge Regional when it was formed in 1992 by the merging of three local departments. He was promoted to sergeant in 1996. Blake has a bachelor's degree from Temple University and a master's from DeSales University.

### Det. Daryl Lewis Named Officer of the Year



From left; Gary Volovnik, Det. Lewis, Jay Keyser, Jim Miller

Throughout the year, our police officers demonstrate exemplary performance, dedication, and bravery.

To recognize and reward those officers who continually strive to be the "best of the best," the Pennridge Regional Police Department honors an "Officer of the Year." This award is given to an officer who throughout the year demonstrates continued exemplary performance, dedication and community commitment.

Our Officer of the Year Award for 2015 is Detective Daryl Lewis, who began his career with the department in 1992 and is a founding officer in the department. He was promoted to Detective in 2005 and is a member of the Bucks County Crime Scene Unit.

Daryl has held many positions within the Department, including Field Training Officer, Bicycle Officer, Traffic Safety Officer, and Dare Officer.

This year, Detective Lewis was involved in several major cases. In July, he was directly involved in a fatal car crash investigation where the actor was charged with 3rd Degree Murder. In December, Detective Lewis investigated a case involving a Pennridge North Middle School teacher who was eventually charged with Indecent Contact with a Minor.

Detective Lewis continues to strive for success within his profession. He has been involved with the Drug Take Back program sponsored by the Bucks County District Attorney's Office/Bucks County Detectives and the Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office.

Detective Lewis is also involved in the community by presenting community education programs, safety talks for elementary school children and other community awareness programs.

### There's a New Officer in Town!



Nick Windfelder joined the Pennridge Regional Police Department in March 2016 as a part-time officer.

Off. Windfelder is a Quakertown High School graduate and a 2015 graduate of the Montgomery County Police Academy.

'Everyone we talked to in his background exam listed him as a good employee,' Chief Blake said.

Windfelder is completing his field training.

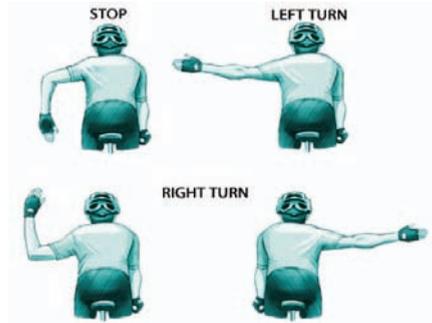
## FROM THE PENNRIDGE REGIONAL POLICE DEPARTMENT

### Are You Ready For Bike Season?

Can you believe it will be that time again, when we will be getting our bicycles out after their long hibernation in the corner of the garage? Here are some things to think about as you get yourself and your little ones ready for the season:

- Know The Law
  - Children under 12 must wear a helmet (it is also a pretty good idea if adults wear them, too)
  - If you ride at night, you must have a light.
  - Riding Right is Right
  - Stop means Stop
- Ride Bright
  - Wear a bright colored shirt or jacket when riding. Yellow, red, or even Day-Glo is great.
- Be Safe
  - Watch driveways for dangers
  - Look Before You Turn

*Here are some hand signals that bicyclist use:*



**Have fun and see you in the park!**

### Avoid These Common Paving and Home Repair Scams

Here's the scenario: a man knocks on your door and says he has extra asphalt, or extra roofing materials, and is willing to pave your driveway, patch a roof, or perform other household repairs at a deeply discounted price. His high pressure approach can sometimes cause confusion.

**Remember... if it is too good to be true... it is usually TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE!**

If you agree to the work, chances are you'll see work (or what appears to be work) being done. Now herein lies the scam... at some point, this job will either not be done correctly and cost a lot of money to fix it OR the job will now suddenly cost you more than the original agreed price. This kind man will now not seem so kind. He will use bullying tactics to get you to pay more.

The scenario ends with you realizing you were scammed and that the offensive gentleman has cashed your check or left the area with your money. The perpetrators of these scams tend to target senior citizens.

Here are a few ways to avoid from becoming a victim;

- Beware of unsolicited offers to do paving or other repair work. A permit issued by the Pennridge Regional Police Department is required to solicit in East Rockhill.
- Do not let the solicitors inside your home. Do not let them use your phone.
- Calmly but firmly tell the solicitors you are not interested
- If they refuse your instructions call the police at 215-257-2444
- Be a good neighbor. These types of scams target senior citizens.



## CONGRATULATIONS TO SUPERVISOR DAVID NYMAN ELECTED TO PA. STATE ASSOCIATION OF TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Members of the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors have elected David R. Nyman, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors for East Rockhill Township in Bucks County, to a three-year term on the association's Executive Committee.

The seven-member Executive Committee, the association's five officers, and the immediate past president make up the Executive Board, which is responsible for managing the affairs of the state association. The board meets frequently throughout the year to oversee association business and plan new projects that will benefit member townships.

The Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors represents Pennsylvania's 1,454 townships of the second class and is committed to preserving and strengthening township government and securing greater visibility and involvement for townships in the state and federal political arenas. Townships of the second class cover 95 percent of Pennsylvania's land mass and represent more residents — 5.5 million — than any other type of political subdivision in the commonwealth.

Nyman serves on the association's Finance Committee and previously was a member of the Resolutions Committee, the Conference Planning Committee, and the Townships Between 5,000 and 10,000 Population Committee. *Source: PSATS*

# Carbon Monoxide Safety



Often called the silent killer, carbon monoxide is an invisible, odorless, colorless gas created when fuels (such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil, and methane) burn incompletely. In the home, heating and cooking equipment that burn fuel can be sources of carbon monoxide.

- » CO alarms should be installed in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home and in other locations where required by applicable laws, codes or standards. For the best protection, interconnect all CO alarms throughout the home. When one sounds, they all sound.
- » Follow the manufacturer's instructions for placement and mounting height.
- » Choose a CO alarm that has the label of a recognized testing laboratory.
- » Call your local fire department's non-emergency number to find out what number to call if the CO alarm sounds.
- » Test CO alarms at least once a month; replace them according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- » If the audible trouble signal sounds, check for low batteries. If the battery is low, replace it. If it still sounds, call the fire department.
- » If the CO alarm sounds, immediately move to a fresh air location outdoors or by an open window or door. Make sure everyone inside the home is accounted for. Call for help from a fresh air location and stay there until emergency personnel.
- » If you need to warm a vehicle, remove it from the garage immediately after starting it. Do not run a vehicle or other fueled engine or motor indoors, even if garage doors are open. Make sure the exhaust pipe of a running vehicle is not covered with snow.
- » During and after a snowstorm, make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove, and fireplace are clear of snow build-up.
- » A generator should be used in a well-ventilated location outdoors away from windows, doors and vent openings.
- » Gas or charcoal grills can produce CO — only use outside.

## HOME HEATING EQUIPMENT



Have fuel-burning heating equipment and chimneys inspected by a professional every year before cold weather sets in. When using a fireplace, open the flue for adequate ventilation. Never use your oven to heat your home.

## FACTS

- ! A person can be poisoned by a small amount of CO over a longer period of time or by a large amount of CO over a shorter amount of time.
- ! In 2005, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated 61,100 non-fire CO incidents in which carbon monoxide was found, or an average of seven calls per hour.



Your Source for SAFETY Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

[www.nfpa.org/education](http://www.nfpa.org/education)

## WHAT EXACTLY IS A RAIN BARREL?

A rain barrel is a system that collects and stores rain water from your roof that would otherwise be lost to runoff and diverted to storm drains, streams, and eventually the Delaware River watershed.

A rain barrel is constructed using a reused 55 gallon food grade barrel, a bottom drain, a spigot, an overflow a screen to keep debris and insects out, and a downspout diverter to carry the water into the rain barrel.

A rain barrel is a relatively simple and inexpensive way to capture and store rain water for use at later times. It conveniently sits under residential gutter downspouts from you home, garage, and/or shed.

## BENEFITS OF USING A RAIN BARREL

Lawn and garden watering can take up a large percentage or total percentage of total household water use during the summer months. A rain barrel collects water and stores it for when you need it most, during periods of drought! A rain barrel provides an ample supply of FREE water for flowers, gardens, lawns, and even car washing!

A rain barrel can conserve water and save YOU money during peak summer months. Conserving water helps protect the environment, saves energy (decreased demand for treated tap water and well water) and decreases the impact of runoff to streams and the Delaware River. Therefore by installing a rain barrel YOU can help protect the water quality, aquatic species, drinking water quality, and recreation in the Delaware River watershed.

## RAIN BARRELS A Storymaker Solution to Non-Point Source Pollution



*A rain barrel is a rainwater collection system that stores rooftop runoff that can be used for irrigating flowers, gardens, and lawns, while conserving water, and saving YOU money!*

A formula to remember: 1 inch of rain on a 1,000 sq. ft. roof yields 623 gallons of water. Calculate the yield of your roof by multiplying the square footage of your roof by 623 and divide by 1,000.

## Stormwater

Typically, rain water runoff is collected in storm sewer systems and released directly into streams. This direct runoff can contribute to flooding in developed areas that can contain a lot of impervious surfaces including roofs, sidewalks, and parking lots.

This runoff carries with it pollutants that contribute to poor water quality that can affect the health of local waterways and even your drinking water. These issues are of particular importance in highly developed areas as more impervious surfaces cause more runoff during a rain or snow event.

When you collect rain water that would otherwise enter the storm sewer system, you are helping to minimize the amount of storm water that will directly run off into streams!



A rain barrel is a good start to get homeowners thinking about water conservation. Rain barrels conserve water runoff and control runoff, and can give you a good idea about the large amounts of stormwater that is shed from impervious surfaces.

Because plants thrive on natural rain water (no chlorine, ammonia, fluoride, or other chemicals), the rainwater collected and stored in rain barrels is ideal for watering lawns and gardens.

## From the Desk of Kathleen Percetti, Tax Collector



Kathleen Percetti  
Tax Collector

County and township real estate tax bills were mailed February 27 and are now due in the discount amount by April 30 or face amount by June 30. After that date, they are due in the penalty amount.

School real estate tax bills will be mailed July 1 and are due in discount amount by August 31 or the face amount until October 31. After that date, school taxes will be due in penalty until the end of the year.

If you would like to pay your school tax bill in installments, the first installment must be postmarked by August 31. The remaining two installment coupons will be included with your original bill. The second installment is due on October 31 and the final installment is due on December 15. Please note that if you elect to opt in to pay by installments, you cannot opt out after the first payment is made.

If you are paying your taxes after December 15, no personal checks will be accepted. From December 16 to December 31, only certified checks will be accepted. All taxes will be lien to the Bucks County Tax Claim Office if not received by December 31.

If the property you own is your primary residence, you may be eligible to receive a reduction in your school tax bill as part of the Pennsylvania Taxpayer Relief Act. You can download the Homestead/Farmstead Exclusion Form and Instructions from a link that is available on our township's website. Click on Living Here, then Tax Collection, which will bring you to my page where the form can be printed out and mailed to Bucks County Board of Assessment at 55 East State Street Doylestown, PA 18901. If you do not have access to a computer or have any questions, please contact me or the Bucks County Board of Assessment at 215-348-6219.

If you have not received your bill, please contact me for a copy as soon as possible. Under state law, failure to receive the tax bill does not relieve taxpayers from their responsibility to pay the taxes due.

If you would like to verify that your tax payments were received or have any other concerns, please contact me at 215-453-8866 or by email at eastrockhilltax@comcast.net. I would be happy to assist you with any questions that you have.

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR



Perkasie Farmers Market Every Saturday  
beginning in June, 9 am to noon at  
7th and Market (ends October 15)



Perkasie Summer Concert  
Every Wednesday  
Evening in July

Sellersville FD Bingo  
Every Thursday  
Night at 6 pm



## May 2016

- 4 BC Covered Bridge Society meeting 7:30pm
- 5 Planning Commission, 7 pm as needed
- 10 Board of Supervisors, 7 pm unless posted
- 12 Planning Commission, 7 pm as needed
- 15 Sellersville Fire Dept. Breakfast
- 15 Perkasie FD Breakfast, 7:30 am-12:30 pm
- 17 Board of Supervisors, 7 pm unless posted
- 20 Pennridge Comm Center May Flower Dinner Dance w/ the Gary Dee Orchestra
- 21 Perkasie FD Scrap Metal Dr, 8 am-11 pm
- 21 West Rockhill Yard Sale, 8 am-2 pm at James Memorial Park
- 22 Sellersville Fire Department Sunday Bingo
- 25 Pennridge Regional Police Commission meeting, 7 pm
- 26 Pennridge Area Coordinating Committee meeting, 7 pm
- 30 Memorial Day, Township Office Closed; Memorial Day Parade

## June 2016

- 1 BC Covered Bridge Society meeting 6:30pm
- 2 Planning Commission, 7 pm as needed
- 5 Sellersville FD Painting on Canvas
- 9 Planning Commission, 7 pm as needed
- 14 Board of Supervisors, 7 pm unless posted
- 14 Pennridge High School Graduation at Stabler Arena, 6:30 pm
- 17 Pennridge Comm Center Picnic Dinner Dance with the Good Times Orchestra

- 19 Perkasie FD Breakfast, 7:30 am-12:30 pm
- 21 Board of Supervisors, 7 pm unless posted
- 28-7/2 Perkasie FD Carnival

## July 2016

- 4 Independence Day, Twp Office Closed
- 6 BC Covered Bridge Society meeting 6:30pm
- 7 Planning Commission, 7 pm as needed
- 10 Pennridge Community Day
- 12-16 Sellersville FD Carnival
- 12 Planning Commission, 7 pm as needed
- 14 Planning Commission, 7 pm as needed
- 19 Board of Supervisors, 7 pm unless posted
- 15 Pennridge Community Center Beach Dinner Dance with the Kevin Kelton Orchestra

## August 2016

- 3 BC Covered Bridge Society meeting 6:30pm
- 4 Planning Commission, 7 pm as needed
- 7 Sellersville FD Sunday Bingo
- 12 Board of Supervisors, 7 pm unless posted
- 11 Planning Commission, 7 pm as needed
- 13 Perkasie Borough and Good-Time Motorvators present the "Under the Stars" Car Show, 5 pm-9pm
- 16 Board of Supervisors, 7 pm unless posted
- 19 Pennridge Comm Center Luau Dinner Dance
- 23 Park & Recreation Commission meeting, 7pm as needed

## September 2016

- 1 Planning Commission, 7 pm as needed
- 5 Labor Day, Township Office Closed
- 7 BC Covered Bridge Society meeting 7:30pm
- 8 Planning Commission, 7 pm as needed
- 13 Board of Supervisors, 7 pm unless posted
- 18 Perkasie FD Breakfast, 7:30 am-12:30 pm
- 20 Board of Supervisors, 7 pm unless posted
- 24 Pennridge Community Center Autumn Daze Dinner Dance with the Gary Dee Orchestra
- 24 Perkasie FD Scrap Metal Dr, 8 am-11 pm
- 29 Pennridge Area Coordinating Committee meeting, 7 pm

## October 2016

- 5 BC Covered Bridge Society meeting 7:30pm
- 6 Planning Commission, 7 pm as needed
- 9 Sellersville FD Ham Dinner
- 11 Board of Supervisors, 7 pm unless posted
- 13 Planning Commission, 7 pm as needed
- 14 Night at The Sellersville Theatre Sponsored by Pennridge Chamber of Commerce
- 16 Perkasie FD Breakfast, 7:30 am-12:30 pm
- 18 Board of Supervisors, 7 pm unless posted
- 21 Pennridge Community Center Fall Ball Dinner Dance w/ the Good Times Orchestra
- 27 Pennridge Area Coordinating Committee meeting, 7 pm

## East Rockhill Township Contact Information

1622 N. Ridge Road, Perkasie, PA 18944

Telephone: 215-257-9156 • Fax: 215-257-1299 • [www.eastrockhilltownship.org](http://www.eastrockhilltownship.org)

### OFFICE HOURS & PHONE NUMBERS (Unless Otherwise Noted)

**Administrative Office:** Monday through Friday  
from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, unless posted otherwise,  
215-257-9156

**Road and Public Services:** Monday through  
Friday from 7:00 am to 3:00 pm, 215-257-9156

**Police Emergency:** 24 Hours – 911

**Police Non-Emergency:** 215-257-5104

**Fire Emergency:** 911

**Tax Collector:** 215-453-8866

### Board of Supervisors:

David R. Nyman, Chair  
Gary W. Volovnik, Vice-Chair  
Jim C. Nietupski, Member

### Administrative Staff:

**Township Manager**  
Marianne K. Morano  
[manager@eastrockhilltownship.org](mailto:manager@eastrockhilltownship.org)

**Zoning Officer and BCO**  
Michael Gardner  
[inspector@eastrockhilltownship.org](mailto:inspector@eastrockhilltownship.org)

### Administrative Assistant

Gina Wooler  
[staff@eastrockhilltownship.org](mailto:staff@eastrockhilltownship.org)

### Public Works

Jeff Scholl, Director  
[works@eastrockhilltownship.org](mailto:works@eastrockhilltownship.org)

Paul Behr, Mechanic  
Kirby Richards, Laborer

### Pennridge Regional Police Department:

200 Ridge Road  
Sellersville, PA 18960  
Non Emergency Telephone: 215-257-5104  
Emergency Telephone: 911

### Tax Collector: Kathleen Percetti;

Mailing address:  
P.O. Box 68, Perkasie, PA 18944  
Telephone: 215-453-8866  
Office Address: 2037 Hill Road,  
Sellersville, PA 18960

### Meetings:

**The Board of Supervisors:** Work Sessions  
are the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.  
and Regular Meetings are the 3rd Tuesday of

each month at 7 p.m., unless posted  
otherwise

**Planning Commission:** Work Sessions are  
the 1st Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.  
and Regular Meetings are the 2nd Thursday  
of each month at 7:00 p.m., as needed.

**Zoning Hearing Board:**  
meetings are scheduled as needed

**UCC Joint Appeal Board:**  
Second Wednesday of month as needed at 7 p.m.

**Recreation Committee:**  
4th Thursday of Feb, May, Aug, Nov  
7 p.m., as needed

**Police Commission:**  
4th Wednesday of every month at  
7 p.m., at 200 Ridge Road

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