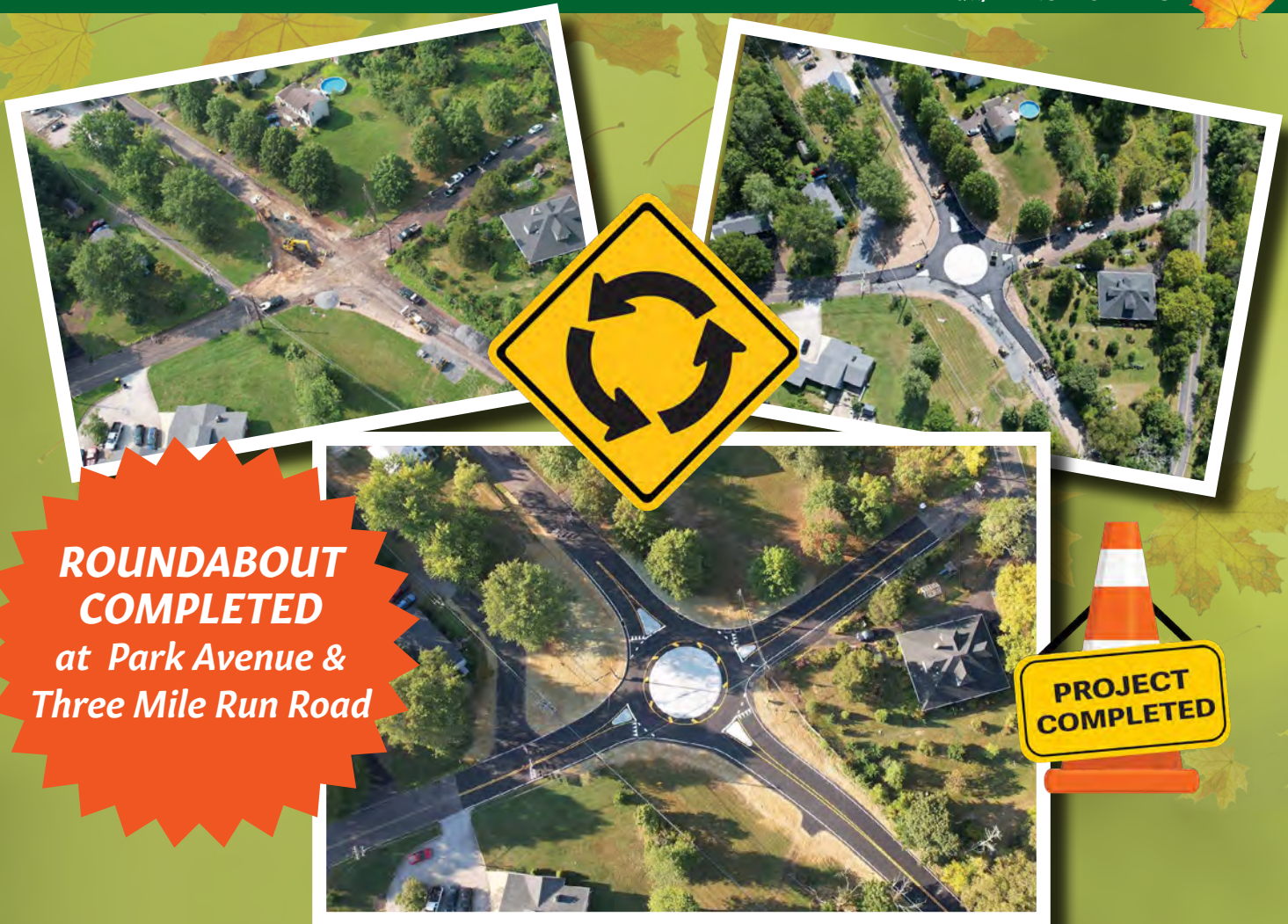


# EAST ROCKHILL TOWNSHIP

## Report

Fall/Winter 2024-25



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Three Mile Run Road



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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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Jeffrey F. Gahman, Supervisor

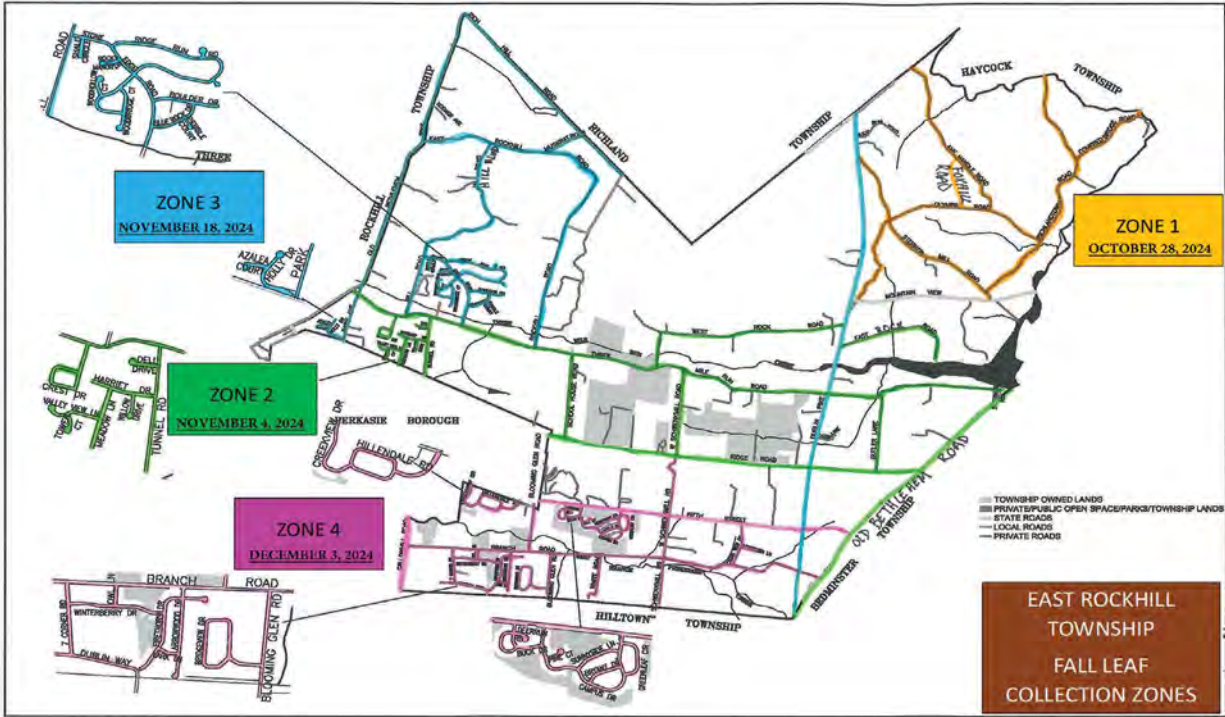
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# 2024 Fall Leaf Collection

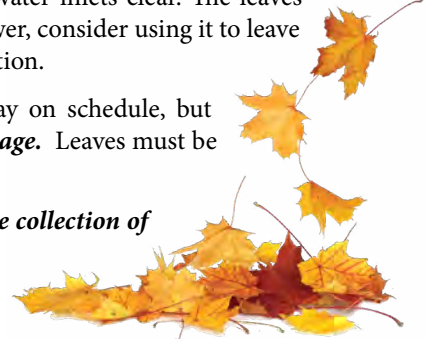


East Rockhill Township began its leaf collection program because of the need to keep stormwater inlets clear. The leaves collected are taken to facilities that recycle them into compost. If you have a composting lawn mower, consider using it to leave the composting leaves in place to benefit your lawn instead of piling them up at the road for collection.

Leaf collection is weather- and time-dependent, among other factors. We do our best to stay on schedule, but unfortunately there may be times we get behind. **An updated schedule is available on our homepage.** Leaves must be placed by 7am on the first day of collection for your section.

**Because of the large amount of collection that needs to take place, we are limited to a one-time collection of each street.** Once the machine has collected your street it will not return.

Pile leaves as close to the roadway as possible. **The machine cannot reach farther than the shoulder, so leaves beyond that point will not be collected.**



## VOTE!!

**WHEN:** The General Election is scheduled for **Tuesday, November 5, 2024**  
**TIMES:** Polls are open from 7am to 8pm  
**WHERE:** East Rockhill Township is divided into two districts, but there is only one polling place:  
**Bucks County Community College**  
**One Hillendale Road, Perkasia, PA**

**530 Arch Street**  
**Perkasia, PA**  
**215.257.7033**

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## IT'S EASY BEING GREEN

### *Install dimmers on lights to save energy by adjusting the lighting to the level that you need.*

Installing new lighting? Consider including a dimmer switch in that new installation. Instead of the standard light switch which offers just one option for brightness, dimmer switches allow you to use less light, and thus less energy, according to your needs at the moment. Keeping lights on at a lower level also extends the life of your light bulbs.

### *Toss dryer balls in with your clothes rather than dryer sheets*

If you're concerned about the health and safety of your family, you might want to stay away from both conventional dryer sheets and fabric softeners, say the editors of Scientific American. Wool dryer balls are a superb alternative.

Both dryer sheets and fabric softeners contain chemicals known to be toxic to people after sustained exposure. Dryer balls usually come as a set of three or six felted wool balls that you put in the dryer with your laundry. By bouncing around with the drying items, they work to separate layers and create air pockets to help fluff, soften, and reduce drying time.



### *Make sweaters last longer*

To prevent your sweaters from shedding and to keep them at their best, wash and store them inside out. Pills are usually found on the areas of clothing or linens that receive the most abrasion in day-to-day use, such as center of bed sheets, under the arms of clothes, around the collar and cuffs of a shirt, and between the thighs and on the rear of pants. Washing and storing items inside out will avoid abrasion.

### *Waxed cotton food wraps are a reusable alternative to plastic cling film wrap*

Waxed cotton food wraps are made from fabric that is infused with a mixture of beeswax, tree resin, and jojoba oil. Using the warmth of your hand, it can be molded around food or a container, and its tackiness creates a seal comparable to plastic cling wrap. It can be used to cover containers or to wrap foods such as sandwiches or breads directly. Unlike cling wrap, waxed wraps are reusable: just rinse in cold water with a mild soap and air dry.

Source: [afewsteps.org](http://afewsteps.org)



**LATEST  
NEWS**

## Township Offers Options to Stay Informed

Stay up-to-date on all the important things going on around the Township. Here are the primary ways we communicate:

- **Email Alert:** Visit our website homepage and sign up to receive real-time email announcements and customize notifications you would like to receive including meeting agendas and calendar postings.
- **Social Media:** Our X (formerly Twitter) account is @EastRockhillTwp.
- **Print Newsletter:** This publication is sent via regular mail twice a year. Current and prior issues are available on the Recourses/Newsletter webpage.

## 2025 Budget Process Begins

The Township Administration has started the process of drafting a 2025 budget for review by the Board of Supervisors. As always, our priority will be to provide high-quality services to residents within a reasonable budget.

Budget review meetings will be held at 6:15 p.m., just prior to the regular Board of Supervisors meetings in September and October, and are advertised on our website. Your comments are welcomed and encouraged, so your voice is heard.

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### Thank You to the Businesses

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## STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION TIPS

### MANAGING STORMWATER ON YOUR PROPERTY THIS FALL

Fall is here! And with this change in season comes cooler temperatures, shorter days, and lots of yard work to tackle. When crossing off your to-do-list this fall, it's important to remember that yard debris is a significant source of stormwater pollution.

Organic plant material like grass clippings, leaves, and shrubbery trimmings can carry pesticides and fertilizers from your yard and deposit them in local waterways. Piles of leaves and grass clippings will overload a stream's ability to process leaf litter, causing nutrient pollution and oxygen depletion. Yard debris can also clog culverts, storm drains and pipes causing flooding.

**Luckily, there are some easy steps that you can take on your property to reduce pollution and improve water quality!**



**Do not pile leaves or other yard waste near streams or drainage areas** where they can blow or wash into creeks. Use designated leaf collection bags for curbside leaf recycling.



**Do not blow leaves or grass clippings off of your property** into streets, streams, ponds or drainage swales.



**Recycle grass clippings and their nutrients** by mulching them and leaves into your lawn or piling them in your garden beds. They will add nutrients back into your lawn and provide shelter for wildlife during the winter.



**Plant a native tree!** Trees provide vital habitat for wildlife and absorb more stormwater than your lawn does.

### MELTING SNOW IS STORMWATER TOO!

Stormwater runoff can come in many forms, including snow melt! When the ground is frozen, melting snow can't infiltrate into the soil the way that rain water is able to. This means that even a small amount of snow can cause flooding on your property.

When snow melts, it picks debris and pollutants that make their way into nearby streams and creeks. In the winter, de-icing salts are a main contributor to stormwater pollution, causing detrimental impacts to local wildlife and water quality.

**Check out these simple steps that you can take to reduce stormwater runoff on your property this winter!**



**Start shoveling early!** The more snow you remove, the less salt you'll need to use.



**Pile snow in locations with the most opportunity for it to infiltrate into the ground.**



**Use de-icing salt sparingly.** Follow the product instructions and give it time to work. Sweep up any remaining material.



**Clear away any snow that may have been thrown onto storm drains.**

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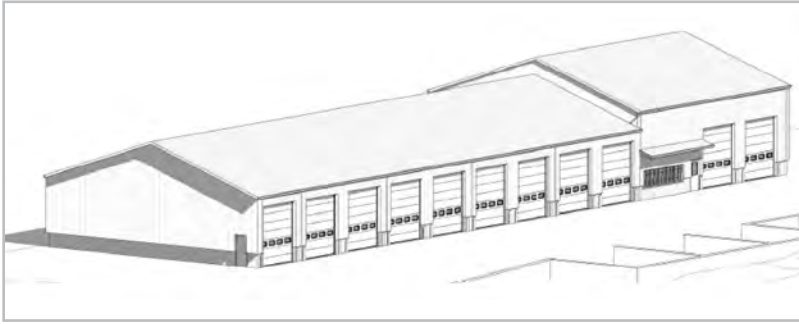
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## Public Works Maintenance Building Project



In 2018 the Board of Supervisors began discussion to replace the existing 1983 Public Works pole barn building that is at the end of its life span with a facility that will allow for a maintenance bay, the entire fleet to be stored in an enclosed building, the entire fleet to be in one location and emergency back-up. The location will be to the rear of the municipal complex on Ridge Road with a second driveway access onto Schwenkmill Road next to Deibler Elementary. Design has been finalized and at the time of print, bids are underway.

## Driving Range Schedule

The Driving Range at Markey Park will remain open through Tuesday, November 26, weather permitting. Until then, the range is open daily from dawn until dusk.

Tokens are available at the range from a dispenser for \$5 each. Tokens can also be purchased Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the Township Office. You can buy them there for \$5 each or seven (7) for \$33. Senior citizens can purchase tokens for \$4.50 apiece. One token gives a bucket of 55 balls.



## Pines Parking Stickers



If you haven't already, residents living in the Pines at Pennridge development are encouraged to stop by the Township office to pick up your parking permit stickers to avoid no parking enforcement.

As a reminder, parking is prohibited Monday through Friday from 7:30am to 3:00pm on the following streets without a permit: Buck Drive, Campus Drive, Deer Run Road, a section of Fifth Street and Pine Court.



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## Snow Emergency Route

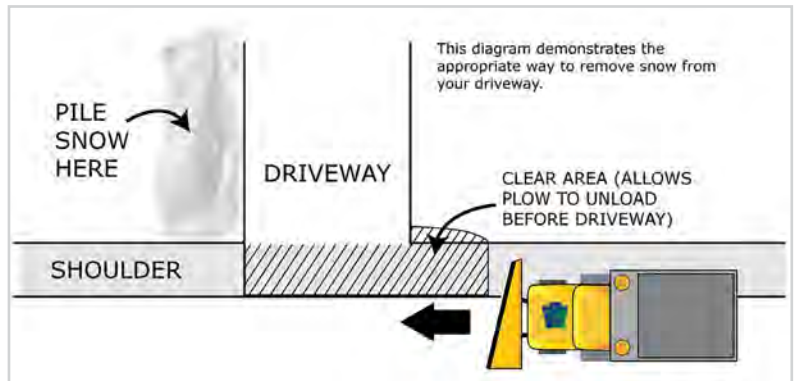
With winter coming, now is a good time to remind you that the Township's Snow Emergency Route is Buck Drive, Bryant Drive, Campus Drive, Deer Run Road, Fifth Street (Perkasie Borough line to Schwenkmill Road), Greenleaf Circle, Pine Court and Sunnyside Lane.

During a snow emergency, cars cannot be parked on the street along the Snow Emergency Route to **allow for efficient snow removal.**

Snow emergency situations are announced on Twitter and via real-time email notification when posted to our homepage.

## Winter Snow Reminders from the Code Enforcement Department

- Please do not pile, shovel, or snow blow your snow in the street.
- Remove snow from fire hydrants to keep them visible in case of a fire.
- The snow has stopped and now it is time to clear your sidewalk and driveway. East Rockhill Township Ordinance §21-202 states every person in charge or control of any land fronting or abutting a paved sidewalk shall remove and clear away snow and/or ice of at least 30 inches in width within 12 hours after the cessation of any fall of snow, sleet or freezing rain. For your safety and your neighbors safety, be sure you make plans to comply.



## Final HHHW Collection of 2024

- **WHEN:** October 26, 2024 8:30AM to 2:00PM
- **WHERE:** Strayer Middle School, 1200 Ronald Reagan Drive, Quakertown

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Which of the following plastic items **CANNOT** be recycled in your curbside cart?

- Water bottles
- Detergent/soap containers
- Plastic grocery bags
- Shampoo bottles

#### C. Plastic Grocery Bags

Plastic grocery bags often contaminate other recyclables. Grocery bags belong in the trash or they can be returned to the grocery store.

True or False: Yard waste can be placed in your recycling cart.

#### False

Yard waste belongs in the trash cart.

What is the proper way to prepare your recyclables before recycling them?

- Empty. Clean. Dry.
- Recycle them as is
- Empty them only before recycling

#### A. Empty. Clean. Dry.

Empty the contents, clean with a quick rinse, and shake out any remaining liquid to ensure other recyclables like paper are not ruined by residual liquids.

What is the most common contaminant in the recycling stream?

- Diapers
- Yard waste
- Food waste
- Plastic grocery bags

#### D. Plastic Grocery Bags

While all of these are contaminants, plastic grocery bags are the most common items that contaminate the recycling stream.

If you find yourself questioning if something is recyclable or not, you should follow the motto "When in doubt..."

- Throw it out
- Recycle it anyway
- Do the Harlem Shake

#### A. When in doubt, throw it out.

The wrong items in the recycle cart can actually hinder the recycling process.

Which of the following items should **NEVER** be placed in your recycling cart?

- Diapers
- Yard waste
- Food waste
- All of the above

#### D. All of the above

Believe it or not, these items are commonly found in the recycling stream and ruin other recyclables.

Learn more at  
[RecyclingSimplified.com](https://www.RecyclingSimplified.com)

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Sustainability in Action



## Land Development Updates

The following are updates at the time of newsletter printing. Receive real-time updates delivered directly to your inbox by selecting agenda posting notifications in your website account settings.



### APPLICATIONS UNDER REVIEW

#### *Green Ridge Estates West, 414 S. Ridge Road.*

**PLAN:** 8-lot subdivision with 2 lots in East Rockhill and 6 lots in Perkasio Borough.  
**STATUS:** Received recommendation for preliminary / final approval from the Planning Commission. Scheduled for the Supervisors August 27 meeting.

#### *809 - 901 Three Mile Run Road.*

**PLAN:** Conditional Use Plan for 46 townhouses.  
**STATUS:** A court stipulated settlement Agreement reduced the proposed development to 24 single family village style dwellings with the Township purchasing development rights.

#### *Weidner Tract, 1622 Seven Corner Road.*

**PLAN:** 21-lot subdivision with 4 lots in East Rockhill and 17 lots in Hilltown.  
**STATUS:** Planning Commission last review was August 12, 2021.

#### *Shane Dam, 400 Branch Road.*

**PLAN:** Indoor Athletic Club  
**STATUS:** Supervisors granted conditional preliminary approval April 23, 2024.

#### *Renew Bible Church, 1600 N. 5th Street.*

**PLAN:** Building additions and parking area expansion  
**STATUS:** Planning Commission last review was March 14, 2024

## From the Desk of the Pennridge Regional Police Chief

### BUSPATROL

Pennridge Regional Police Department along with the other Pennridge School District police departments have partnered with Buspatrol. Buspatrol is a camera system that is installed on all Pennridge School District buses and is activated when the Stop arm device on a bus is extended. If a vehicle passes the school bus while the stop arm is activated, the video is saved and sent to the responsible police agency for review. Officers are trained to access the BusPatrol program and review video before a citation is issued to the registered owner of the vehicle. Every video is reviewed before a citation is issued. The goal of the program is to increase student safety as they enter and exit the school bus.



## From the Desk of Kathleen Percetti, Tax Collector



There have been some enhancements at the tax office since last year. I have changed credit card companies and am now using Gov Pay. The fee that they charge is 2.5% which is .5% lower than the previous company. You can also now pay by e-check. The fee for that is \$1.50 but saves you from sending the check and postage fees. Please also visit my new website at <https://eastrockhilltax.wixsite.com/taxoffice>. You will find a lot of good information including updated office hours, the link to pay with credit cards, homestead exclusion application and instructions, PA Rent and Property Tax Rebate and the Pennridge School District Rebate information.

All 2024 real estate taxes have been mailed. Please contact me if you have not received your bills and I would be happy to email your or send you a copy in the mail.

If you elected to pay the school real estate taxes by installment, the remaining two installment coupons were mailed in mid-September. The second installment is due on October 31 and the final installment is due 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 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 [eastrockhill@gmail.com](mailto:eastrockhill@gmail.com). I would be happy to assist you with any questions that you have.

## Halloween Safety Tips



As Halloween quickly approaches it is important to remember the holiday brings serious safety risks. Please share the safety tips below to ensure everyone has a fun and safe Halloween.

1. Cross the street at corners, look both ways before crossing.
2. Always use a sidewalk when possible and walk against traffic
3. Don't approach houses with their lights off.
4. Trick or Treat as a group, and not alone.
5. Use a glow stick or flashlight so you can be seen by others, especially vehicles.
6. Inspect your treats before enjoying, throw away all treats that aren't sealed or appear to be tampered with.

## Drug Take Back Program

*Did you know that over 50% of people who misuse prescription pain relievers get them from friends or relatives?*

The Pennridge Regional Police Department will be participating in the 27th annual Drug Take Back Event on October 26, 2024 from 10 am to 2 pm. The National Prescription Drug Take Back event aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposal, while also educating the public about the potential abuse of these medications.

If you miss the Drug Take Back Event on October 26, 2024, there is a drug take back box located in our department lobby, for safe drop off during business hours, Monday through Friday.

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## SUPPORT OUR LOCAL FIRE COMPANIES

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## Rock Hill Quarry, 2055 N. Rockhill Road

A PA DEP cessation order issued in December 2018 after naturally occurring asbestos was found at the site remains in effect. No quarrying operations have occurred since then.

Hanson Aggregates has requested future site activities be limited to removing the minimum 500 tons of aggregate annually from existing stockpiles, collecting monthly NPDES water discharge samples, and routine site inspection and security detail. The request is currently under DEP review.

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## ***Around The Township***



**Photo at left:**  
*Ultra Thin Bonded Wearing Course on Branch Road and Blooming Glen Road*

**Photo at right:**  
*Play Area Updated with new play structure and swings at Willard H. Markey Centennial Park, 1418 N. Ridge Road*



**Photo at right:**  
*Walking trail in-house overlay at Iron Bridge Park, 1450 Branch Road*







# The Science of Winter Road Treatments



pennsylvania  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Winter road treatment tactics depend on **temperature, precipitation type** and **traffic volume**.  
Salt isn't a silver bullet and may not be effective on every roadway.

## The Basics

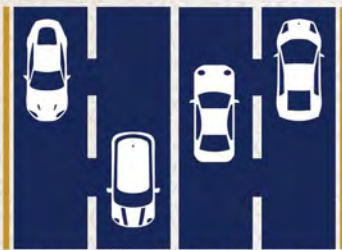


Less effective below 23-25 degrees

Most effective when crushed/spread by traffic



## Salt Use and Road Types



Most effective with more traffic

Mixed with anti-skid or only anti-skid used on lower-traffic roads



When traffic is too low for salt to be effective, salt or salt/anti-skid mix is focused on hills, intersections sharp curves or freezing-prone areas

## Salt and Temperature



Pre-wetting salt with salt brine can jump start melting, but is still most effective when pavement is 25 degrees or higher



On high-traffic roads, salt/anti-skid mix can be used when the road temperature is below 15 degrees



On low-traffic roads when the road temperature is below 15 degrees, falling snow is generally dryer and blows over the roadway, so salt is generally not used



## Sewer & Street Light Customer Helpful Information

East Rockhill Township provides public sewer by being a member of the Pennridge Wastewater Treatment Authority and by a system owned and maintained by East Rockhill Township which includes a treatment plant, pump station and sewer lines which services more than 1,300 customers.

All sewer billing inquiries, payments, and related information are handled by East Rockhill.

Bills are sent four times a year in January, April, July and October for the prior quarter as a fixed dollar amount based on residential or non-residential use, number of equivalent dwelling units (EDUs) and current fee schedule.

Payments can be made through the Citizen Action Center Portal, at the drive-up sewer payment box located in front of the Township Municipal Office or in-person at the Township Municipal Office during business hours.



For your convenience a Citizen Action Center Customer Portal is available. Create an account to take advantage of the following:

- Bill due reminders delivered to your primary contact method.
- Set up your bill delivery preference.
- View, download and print bill copies & payment history.
- Save payment information for future use, stored under bank-grade security.
- Setup recurring payment autopay, convenience fees will be assessed. To avoid any processing convenience fees the Township will continue to accept the Automatic ACH Recurring Payment form available on the public sewer webpage.
- Unlimited billing accounts with one payment transaction.
- Pay by debit or credit card. A \$3.00 or 3% convenience fee, whichever is greater, will be assessed.
- Pay by E-check. A \$1.50 convenience fee will be assessed.
- Pay by Phone 833-505-8155. A \$3.00 or 3% convenience fee, whichever is greater, will be assessed. No registration is required.

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# EAST ROCKHILL TOWNSHIP

## General Information and Directory

www.EastRockhillTownship.org  
Manager@EastRockhillTownship.org

### ADMINISTRATION

1622 N. Ridge Road, Perkasie, PA 18944  
Monday to Friday 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
215-257-9156

### PUBLIC WORKS

1622 N. Ridge Road, Perkasie, PA 18944  
Monday to Friday 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM

### PENNRIDGE REGIONAL POLICE DEPARTMENT

200 Ridge Road, Sellersville, PA 18960  
Emergency: 911  
Non-Emergency: 215-328-8502

### ELECTED TAX COLLECTOR

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

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

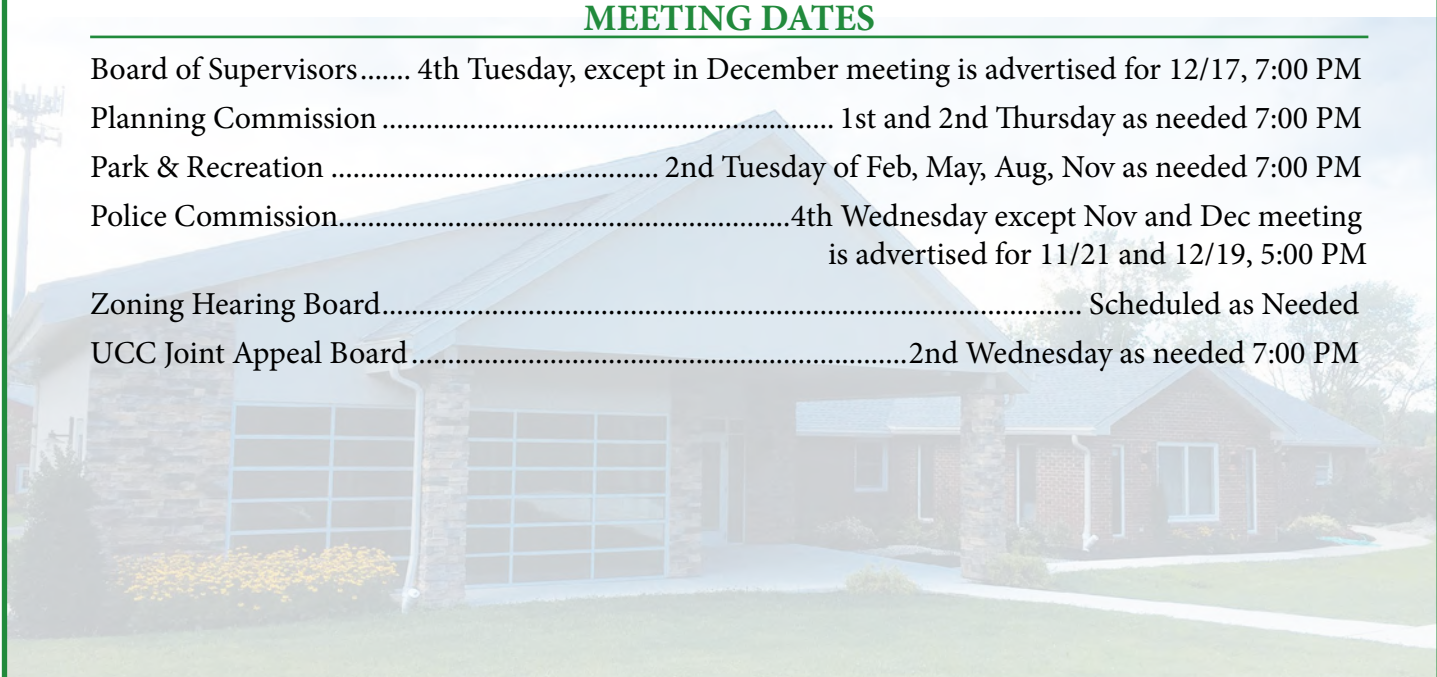
Dave Nyman, *Chairperson*  
Gary Volovnik, *Vice-Chairperson*  
Jim Nietupski, *Member*

### TOWNSHIP STAFF

Marianne Hart Morano, *Township Manager*  
Jeff Scholl, *Public Works Director*  
Samantha Salemmo, *Administrative Assistant*  
Bonnie Schorr, *Accountant*  
Paul Behr, *Foreman*  
Kirby Richards, *Laborer*  
Latrell Belfield, *Laborer*

### MEETING DATES

Board of Supervisors..... 4th Tuesday, except in December meeting is advertised for 12/17, 7:00 PM  
Planning Commission ..... 1st and 2nd Thursday as needed 7:00 PM  
Park & Recreation ..... 2nd Tuesday of Feb, May, Aug, Nov as needed 7:00 PM  
Police Commission.....4th Wednesday except Nov and Dec meeting  
is advertised for 11/21 and 12/19, 5:00 PM  
Zoning Hearing Board..... Scheduled as Needed  
UCC Joint Appeal Board.....2nd Wednesday as needed 7:00 PM







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