



Your guide to Public Works services this fall and winter

Collecting leaves and brush, planting trees, plowing our streets of snow and ice to keep them safe for driving—these are the essential services our Public Works crew provides to our residents. Public Works are first responders before, during and after major storms and snowfalls. When winter weather rolls around this coming season, our crew will be working hard to keep roads clear. Brush and leaf collection will continue until winter operations begin, and the Department has added a special leaf collection in mid-April in response to residents who expressed the need for one.



All of these services help sustain the Township as a beautiful and safe place to live. And with residents depending on them to keep brush, leaves, snow and ice under control, our crew takes their responsibilities seriously. They want to do their best to meet residents' expectations.



Likewise, the department does its best to communicate the Township's expectations of residents and respond to residents' questions and complaints. Our goal each day is to work in cooperation with each other.



The following are answers to your frequently asked questions about the services Public Works provides. We hope they serve as a helpful reference guide this fall and winter. Use our Contact Us form to send us any additional questions you may have. We follow up promptly to address your concerns.



Timing of Brush and Leaf Collection

The Township collects brush and leaves every month from April through December, or until snow plowing and winter maintenance operations begin. Each monthly round begins the first Monday of the month. No collection takes place on holidays.



Collection Guidelines

Residents are asked to place brush and leaves in piles at the curb by 7 am the first Monday of the month, except when it falls on a holiday. The Township does not accept roots, stumps, garden material, and ornamental grasses. While brush and leaves need to be kept separate, they should not be bagged or tarped. See the complete guidelines on our website, where you'll also find an instructional video from C-NET on preparing your brush and leaves for collection.



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“But is it sustainable?”

by David Pribulka, Township Manager

ADMINISTRATION



Municipal managers in Pennsylvania are a pretty close-knit group. Frankly, we have to be.

There are far too many local governments in the Commonwealth for us to live on our own islands. Being in this community of tenured, professional managers puts me in a unique position to benefit from decades of experience and wisdom. Some pearls stick harder than others. I recall one colleague telling me recently, “Dave, if you ever find yourself daydreaming during a presentation but want to make it sound like you paid attention, just raise your hand and ask in your most serious voice, ‘but is it sustainable?’” It’s true. For many of us, sustainability is more of a buzzword than anything meaningful, and certainly not a mantra that permeates our everyday lives. As you unpack it, though, you may be surprised to learn that its true application is almost endless. Agriculture, environment, infrastructure, finances, housing, health—all these and more can be framed

by the question, “but is it sustainable?”

As we pursue our mission of sustainable governance in Ferguson Township, we must look to the future and build resiliency while still providing high-quality public services and maintaining healthy financial reserves.

This is a tall order, but one we are tackling head-on. The new Public Works Maintenance Facility will provide needed storage and office space; an improved fueling station to replace the outdated and failing pumps; a wash bay and new mechanic’s bays to lengthen the life of our plow trucks, road equipment, and police and fleet vehicles; and, perhaps most importantly, protection from the elements. As we know all too well in central Pennsylvania, winter is the enemy of our vehicles. Bitter cold temperatures, punishing weather, and road salt can all cause equipment to malfunction and require costly maintenance or early replacement. The Township invests millions of our tax dollars in equipment to maintain the 90-plus miles of road it’s responsible for. Providing cover from the punishing winter weather is essential to extending the life of this equipment, adding to the long-term sustainability of public infrastructure and our financial reserves.

As you may know, cost containment for the new facility has been a concern of staff, the public, and the Board of Supervisors. Preliminary estimates have suggested the cost to construct the facility as designed may range from \$4 to \$7 million. This is a broad range. The Township is in an envious position of having no debt except regional park debt. This, coupled with healthy reserves, will allow us to build a modern facility that meets our needs without sacrificing the bottom line. To help ensure our financial sustainability, we have employed “value engineering” methods that have modified the design to reduce cost while meeting our critical needs. Additionally, we have reviewed and amended our construction timetable for more favorable pricing and will complete much of the site work in-house as opposed to contracting it out. I am confident that these modifications will deliver a state-of-the-art facility that will meet our current and long-term needs at a cost we can afford.

As always, I close my blog by thanking you for being a part of our community’s rich history—a history that is almost as old as our nation, itself. Ferguson Township has been incorporated for 218 years, and I know we have a long and prosperous journey ahead, provided we continue to ask ourselves at every turn, “but is it sustainable?”

Ferguson Township will introduce a redesign of our website

Ferguson Township expects a redesign of our website to go live in September. The redesign will make the most wanted information available on our home page, with buttons that link to agendas, staying informed, our staff directory and hours, our Code of Ordinances, getting involved in the Township, and regional services. In addition, the home page will link directly to our calendar, Township news stories, our social media, Ferguson Township Police news, Public Works, and the Tax Office. Our “How Do I…” button will link to answers to questions residents ask most often.

“I am excited to be able to offer a new and improved website for our residents, businesses, and visitors,” said Ferguson Township Manager Dave Pribulka. “The new website will feature exciting new ways to engage with your community, improved ease-of-use, and greater access to resources that the Township has to offer.”

Assistant to the Township Manager Centrice Martin said the new provider offers a high level of customer service that will help staff to effectively manage and maintain the website. She also expects the site to be easier to search for information that may not be on the home page.

The Township hosted two sessions for interested Board of Supervisors members, staff, and residents to test the new site. Let us know how the new site is working for you at contact@twp.ferguson.pa.us

Supervisors approve revised master plan for Suburban Park

At its Regular Meeting on May 20, the Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 2019-15 to approve a revised master plan for the 13.75 acre Suburban Park in the Overlook Heights neighborhood.

The Township engaged a consultant, YSM Landscape Architects; a steering committee of Township and Centre Region Parks and Recreation staff; representatives from the Township's Parks and Recreation Committee, and three Township residents, to develop a plan for park improvements and a stormwater drainage solution. The improvements will "enhance the park's natural features and beauty, while providing an opportunity for people of all ages to enjoy active and passive recreation."

In addition, the Township hosted three public meetings and offered an online survey taken by 80 participants.

Thank you to all the community residents who helped establish a vision for Suburban Park.



Those who participated in the Suburban Park Master Plan Update developed the following guiding principles:

- **Maintain existing recreation facilities enjoyed by residents and enhance facilities to meet current safety and accessibility standards.**
- **Enhance the convenience of using the park.**
- **Improve the setting to accommodate the stormwater runoff that flows through the park.**
- **Maintain and enhance the natural resources of the site.**
- **Explore opportunities to expand the natural aspects of the site and incorporate nature into play areas and along trails.**
- **Develop loop trails to encourage walking and healthy activity.**

Residents participating in the master planning process for Songbird Sanctuary Park

An ad hoc committee that is creating a master plan for Songbird Sanctuary Park organized and led two public meetings for discussion. The committee welcomed a combined total of 20 or more residents July 10 and 20 at the cul-de-sac on Owens Drive. This passive recreation area and pollinator garden is located behind The Waffle Shop on West College Avenue.

Ferguson Township also invited residents to complete an online survey to identify and prioritize their hopes for the park.

The committee of residents and individuals represents The State College Bird Club, Nittany Bike Association, the Centre County Master Gardeners, and the Ferguson Township Parks and Recreation Committee. The Parks and Recreation Committee will review residents' recommendations as the master planning process continues.

The committee's guiding principle during the master planning process is keeping the Park in its natural state to preserve its environmental benefits, providing a few passive park features for recreation, and preserving the privacy of the surrounding neighborhoods.

To date, residents express the most support for these passive park features: walking dirt paths, invasive plant management, and benches.

Residents with questions or comments about the Songbird Sanctuary Park Master Plan are encouraged to contact Centrice Martin, Assistant to the Township Manager, at cmartin@twp.ferguson.pa.us

Township receives PADEP grant to add electric vehicle to fleet

Ferguson Township was awarded a \$7,500 Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) grant to acquire a clean, all-electric vehicle. The DEP Alternative Fuels Incentive Grants (AFIG) program supports the replacement of natural gas vehicles as well as the installation of a charging station. The Township purchased a 2019 Chevrolet Bolt. Township Manager David Pribulka said he will pursue DEP funding for a dual-port charging station to be installed at the Ferguson Township Municipal Building at 3147 Research Drive. "I hope this will be the first of many electric vehicles we add to the Township's fleet," he said.



National Citizen Survey: Residents rank the Township as a desirable place to live

Nearly all residents who participated in The National Citizen Survey for Ferguson Township rated our quality of life as excellent or good. This was the finding of the Community Livable Report prepared by the National Research Center (NRC), based on National Citizen Survey data. NRC Senior Research Analyst Jade Arocha presented the survey findings to the Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors at its Regular Meeting on August 5.

The Community Livability Report provided the opinions of a representative sample of 432 residents from a scientific sample of 1,600 households in Ferguson Township. The report summarized the qualities, assets and services that residents perceive as being exceptionally strong performance and where the Township's performance offers the greatest opportunity for improvement.

The phrase "livable community" is used to evoke a place that is not simply habitable, but that is desirable. It is not only where people do live, but where they want to live.

The survey captures residents' opinions within the three pillars of a community—Community Characteristics, Governance, and Participation—across eight central facets of community: 1) safety 2) mobility 3) natural environment 4) built environment 5) economy 6) recreation and wellness 7) education and enrichment, and 8) community engagement.

Key Findings

Nine out of 10 of residents marked the overall quality of life, place to live and overall image as being excellent or good. Assistant to the Manager Centrice Martin, who facilitated the survey, said, "Most rewarding to learn, the Township was ranked higher than the national benchmark for overall appearance and as a place to raise children."

The Township's "natural environment" is important to citizens who responded to the survey; nearly all of them said the Township should give medium or high priority to expanding or improving environmentally sensitive areas, including Township parks. Eight in 10 residents rated parks as a top priority. The Township's natural environment ranked higher than national benchmark standards for air quality and cleanliness.

Township residents also said they feel safe in the community. Virtually all of the residents gave favorable marks to the overall feeling of safety in the Township and to feeling safe in their neighborhood and in the Township's commercial areas. Their responses were higher than the national benchmarks.

The Ferguson Township partnered with the National Research Center to conduct the National Citizens Survey because of its 20 years of experience measuring needs and organizational performance in local government. The survey generated a 28 percent response rate with a five percent margin of error.

Bike repair stations installed at Tudek Park and on Science Park Road

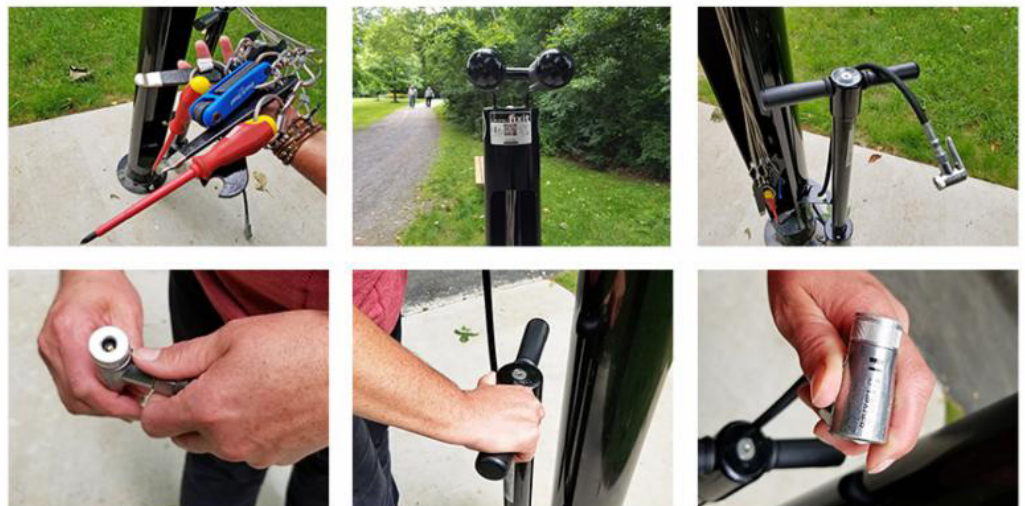
In our bike-friendly community, our shared use paths are much appreciated by bicyclists who want a safe place to ride. Two of our paths are now enhanced by bike repair stations, recently installed by our Public Works crew at the suggestion of Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors Chair Steve Miller, and approved by the Board.

They are located at the Tudek Park and Science Park Road bike paths.

Each "fix it" station offers a concrete pad for working, a rack for hanging the bike, a basic bike repair tool kit, and tire pump.

About The NCS

- Community Livability
 - Community Characteristics
 - Governance
 - Participation



Read more about any story in this issue: <http://www.twp.ferguson.pa.us/News-Archive/>

Meet your new 2019 Board of Supervisors

The Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors appointed these residents to complete the terms of three departing supervisors: Sara Carlson, Tony Ricciardi, and Peter Buckland.

Richard Killian (Ward III), Vice Chair

Richard has lived in the Township's Overlook Heights Neighborhood for more than 20 years with his wife Joy Vincent-Killian and son Elliott. He has previously served local government as Centre County Deputy Controller, Ferguson Township Supervisor (2003 – 2011) and Ferguson Township Planning Commissioner (2012 – 2015). Currently, he serves as Penn State's Director of Research Accounting. He enjoys gardening and other outdoor activities within the excellent Centre Region parks and walking trails.



Lisa Strickland (Supervisor-At-Large)

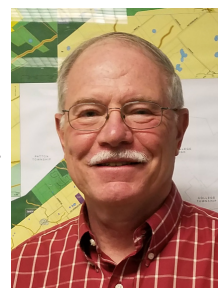
Lisa Strickland is a native of State College and a graduate of Penn State University. She has lived in the Township for the past 15 years with her husband Sam and three children. She most recently chaired the Ferguson Township Planning Commission and previously served as chair of the Centre Region Planning Commission. Lisa currently serves on the Steering Committee of the Pine Grove Mills Farmers Market and is participating in the development of the Pine Grove Mills Small Area Plan.



Ford Stryker (Ward II)

Ford came to the Centre Region in 1997 after serving 25 years in the Navy to join Penn State. He worked in Penn State's Office of Physical Plant and served as Penn State's Chief Facility Officer from 2004 to 2017 when he retired. He and his wife Hazel have been Ferguson Township residents for 22 years.

Ford has a strong interest in preserving the environmental resources that make this area a great place to live. He is a former member of ClearWater Conservancy's Board and a current member of the Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited Board. He also serves on the Board of Mt. Nittany Health System.



Township welcomes staff to these positions



Kristina Aneckstein, Community Planner

Promoted to succeed Lindsay Schoch, Kristina has been a GIS technician at Ferguson Township for nearly three years. She created the updated MS4, Township and zoning maps, among many other projects for Administration, Planning, and Public Works.

Responsible for providing support to the Planning & Zoning Department, she will perform such tasks as review, tracking, distribution, communication, and organization as part of the subdivision and land development plan review process.



Logan Struble, Engineering Technician/Designer

Logan's work is driven by the season. During the spring and summer months, he is inspecting construction projects being completed in the Township, from paving to curbs and sidewalks. During the fall, he is engaged in surveying, and during the winter months, he is designing upcoming projects.

A woodworker and "outdoorsy" person, he enjoys using his head to design and his hands to build. "I enjoy getting to see a project go full circle, from blank field to design to completion."



Derek Hoover, Ordinance Enforcement Officer

Derek strives to explain the ordinances he is enforcing, as well as act with fairness toward the residents he serves. "I like being out in the community helping people," he said. "If I don't have an answer at the time, I do my best to get an answer to the resident as soon as possible."

A former 9-1-1 dispatcher, he continues to work as an EMT for Centre Life Link and for the City of Lock Haven Fire Department, and is working toward a career in law enforcement.

Your guide to Public Works services this fall and winter

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PUBLIC WORKS

Snow Removal Operations

When the Ferguson Township Police Department notifies Public Works in advance of a winter storm, our crews prepare the roads for your morning or evening commute.

Priority is given to the main roads, such as Whitehall Road, Science Park Road, and Blue Course Drive. Once the main roads are cleared, the road crew begins clearing the residential and connecting streets.

To allow snow plows access, parking will be prohibited on all streets, roads and highways in the Township at all times within 48 hours after a snowfall of two or more inches has fallen. Vehicles that have not been removed will be ticketed or towed. As a courtesy to our plow drivers, we do ask residents to park off-street when any amount of snow is anticipated.

Citations will be issued:

Ferguson Township's Ordinance Officer will cite motorists who have left vehicles parked on the street when two or more inches of snow have fallen, as well as cite residents who have not cleared their sidewalks within 24 hours after any amount of snow or ice has accumulated.

Residents also ask what to do if you miss the monthly brush or leaf collection. The Township maintains a schedule of monthly brush collection and an extra round in October of each year. Each round begins on the first Monday of the month (except for holidays) and takes approximately a week to complete.

Residents are asked to plan accordingly. Should you miss a round, the Township suggests you store the brush in your backyard until the day before the next round begins. To maintain our schedule cost effectively for residents, the Township cannot honor individual requests for brush collection.

Ferguson Township is a beautiful community in every season, and we are dedicated to keeping it that way. Thank you for helping us to take care of it.

PUBLIC WORKS NEWS

Brush collection now features Hydradig

Our Public Works crew has a new tool to assist with brush collection, as well as other operations: the JCB Hydradig 110W. JCB calls this excavator a wheeled tool carrier. The engine, transmission and tanks are in the chassis rather than the upper structure—a safety feature that allows the driver to see all four wheels from inside the cab. Its design also makes the machine more stable because it has a lower center of gravity.

Like the Department's Petersen Rear Steer Grapppler, the equipment was largely funded by a Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) Recycling Grant, Act 101, Section 902.

Township receives PennDOT grants to improve safety at intersections

PennDOT's automated Red Light Enforcement (ARLE) program awarded Ferguson Township an \$80,000 grant to improve detection of bicycles and motorcycles at two signalized intersections: Blue Course Drive at Circleville Road/Teaberry Lane, and Blue Course Drive at Havershire Boulevard. The project was expected to be completed this summer.



Ferguson Township 2019 BRUSH AND LEAF COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Collection starts the first Monday of the month except when otherwise noted. Please place piles curbside by 7 am that day.

SEPTEMBER 3 (Tuesday)
No collection on Labor Day, September 2.

OCTOBER 7

OCTOBER 14

NOVEMBER 4

DECEMBER 2
This will be the final brush collection before winter operations begin.



In addition to providing essential daily services to residents—including maintenance of roads, grounds and street trees—the Ferguson Township Public Works Department manages a multitude of improvement projects each year. You'll find detailed updates about our active Public Works Projects in our news archive on the website.

Public Works Maintenance Facility

The Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors approved the land development plan for a new facility that will meet the Township's needs for decades to come. The new building will be located in the field above the Township parking lot. ***Learn more about the project's benefits in the Township Manager's blog, page 2.***

Bids for the project will be opened October 1. Subject to satisfactory bids, a recommendation for award will be made this year. Construction is planned to start in March 2020.



Stormwater Fee

The Stormwater Advisory Committee for Phase 2 of the Stormwater Fee Study will meet through September to discuss a policy for the level of stormwater service provided to areas of the Township and how to handle private systems that serve a public purpose.

The complicated dynamics under discussion include who maintains pipes and parts of the network that are on private property but convey public stormwater, as well as who in the future will be responsible for those kinds of systems.

The key question for residents is why Ferguson Township is evaluating a user fee.

"No one wants to hear about fees or tax increases," said David Modricker, FT Director of Public Works.

"The Stormwater Advisory Committee is gaining appreciation for some of the issues staff are working with."

The issues include:

- **Regulatory requirements that continue to drive much of the future mandatory and unfunded program requirements;**
- **The growing complexity of stormwater management;**
- **Systems that are aging and under-served;**
- **The higher cost of reacting to issues versus preventing them, and**
- **The costs and benefits of collaboration between public and private interests.**

Strategies for a stormwater user fee program will evolve and be adapted over a five-year period.

Ferguson Township Municipal Building Renovation Project

Bids were opened July 23 for the Ferguson Township Municipal Building renovation project, which aims to accommodate a growing staff by better utilizing the building's interior space. Rather than adding on, a "space analysis" determined the office space can be reorganized to improve its efficiency, said Public Works Director David Modricker. Renovations will begin this fall with completion anticipated in or before the spring of 2020. The work is scheduled to start in the Ferguson Township Police Department. The municipal offices will remain open for business during the renovation, but we apologize in advance for any inconvenience the remodeling may cause.

Board of Supervisors approved Northland Area Mobility Study

In coordination with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT), the Centre Area Transportation Authority (CATA), and the Centre Regional Planning Agency, Ferguson Township conducted a transportation mobility study to identify potential improvements in the Northland area: portions of North Atherton Street, Martin Street, Blue Course Drive, Clinton Avenue, Cherry Lane, and Aaron Drive.

The study addressed how to improve mobility and safety for motorists, bus riders, bicyclists and pedestrians.

The Township and its consultant, McCormick Taylor, presented the final study to the Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors at its Regular Meeting on May 6. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendations. Subject to approval by the Board of Supervisors and the Township's approved 2020 – 2024 Capital Improvement Plan, the Board and staff will determine the highest priorities, seek PennDOT grant funding opportunities, and set aside local match money for state and federal grants. ***Learn more in our news archive at our website.***

Stormwater management: How can you get involved in community service?

When it comes to seasonal storms, we are at the mercy of nature. While we cannot control when, where and how severe the next storm will be, we can make our friends and neighbors aware that storm runoff mixed with daily household products can result in pollution to surface and ground water in our local environment.

Cleaning agents, oil, antifreeze, fertilizer and pesticides are products we use to our benefit that can cause pollution when not properly handled. Substances such as litter, animal waste, and fine sediment from soil erosion may also be easily flushed into the storm sewer system during a heavy shower. When these materials enter the storm sewer system, they are mobilized by the storm runoff and eventually flow into and pollute our streams or groundwater aquifers.

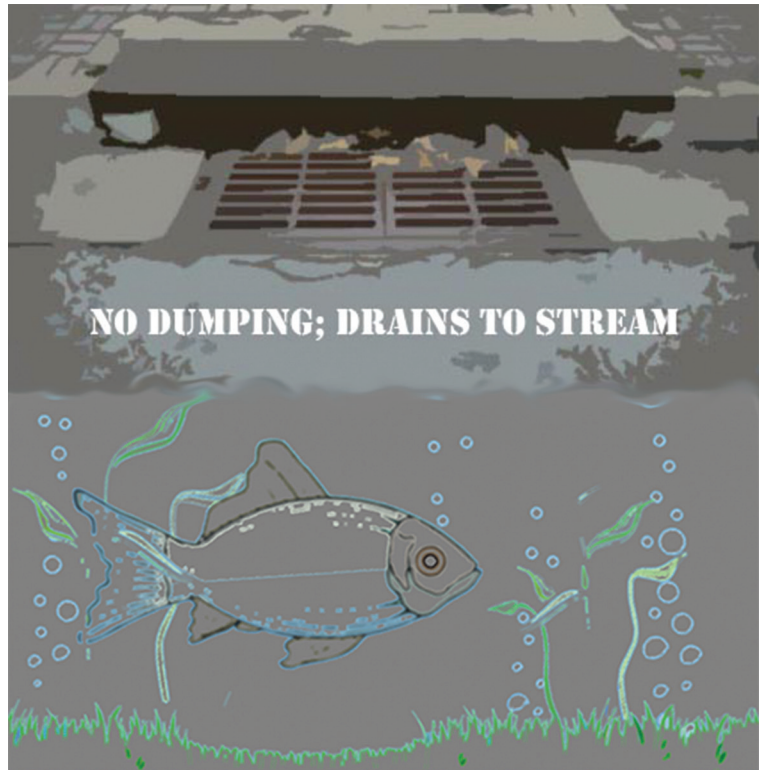
Ferguson Township has an opportunity for volunteers of all ages—including social groups, clubs, organizations or individuals—to start a Ferguson Township storm drain stenciling program. The program's goal is to help raise awareness that materials dumped in storm drains may eventually flow to streams or our groundwater.

Implementing this strategy is dependent upon volunteer groups offering to perform the service.

Under this program, storm drain stencils that read “No Dumping; Drains to Stream” would be made available to volunteer groups within the Township. These stencils would be used to paint the message on each storm inlet. Volunteers would be provided with door hangers to distribute during the labeling process to educate property owners in each neighborhood about the program's purpose and the benefit of community action to protect water quality. The Township would cover the cost of materials to participate in the program.

The program aims to get the public involved in a volunteer activity that promotes water quality and change the public's behavior to prevent undesirable discharges to storm drains. Achievement of these goals will help reduce levels of pollutants entering storm drains and, eventually, local streams.

To volunteer, contact Ron Seybert, Township Engineer, at rseybert@twp.ferguson.pa.us



Township Arborist confirms first case of oak wilt for 2019

A case of oak wilt was confirmed on Deepwood Drive. This is the first case of oak wilt confirmed by the Ferguson Township Arborist for 2019.

Oak wilt is a fungus that attacks all species of oak trees, but Red Oak and Pin Oak are the most susceptible. Once infected, an otherwise healthy tree rapidly drops its leaves during the summer months and dies while other nearby trees still have green leaves.

Township Ordinance 1023 declares that it is unlawful to prune oak trees from **April 1 and October 31** each year, as this is the time beetles that spread the fungus are most active. It also declares that it is unlawful to climb oak trees using spurs or spikes for any reason except tree removal. Please be aware of the signs of oak wilt and report any trees showing symptoms to the Township Arborist at lking@twp.ferguson.pa.us

Haymarket Park stormwater basin seeded

Ferguson Township is partnering with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Central PA Pheasants Forever, Habitat Forever, and the Foundation for Cal U to convert the stormwater facility at Haymarket Park to a pollinator friendly habitat.

In the first phase of work, the current vegetation mix of traditional turf grass, thistle, and other unwanted species has been removed. The basin has been planted with two different pollinator seed mixes.

Trees and shrubs will be planted this fall to create additional resources for pollinators, as well as habitat for other wildlife, such as songbirds.

Residents with questions about this project may contact Lance King, Ferguson Township Arborist, at lking@twp.ferguson.pa.us or at (814) 238-4651. Learn more in our news archive at our website.

Pennsylvania law makes it illegal to pass a stopped school bus. Now that students have started back to school, please make their safety a priority by staying focused and patient. Police encourage commuters to avoid distractions such as using cell phones, allow extra time for delays, or to consider routes that avoid school bus stops altogether. In any case, when you are mindful of students' safety, you won't mind a little longer commute.

During the 2018-19 school year, local school bus drivers reported many motorists driving through flashing red lights and the extended stop arm—even as students started crossing the street to board them. All buses now are equipped with cameras to monitor whether drivers are obeying the law.

As of the last day of school, 150 school bus violations had been documented throughout the district that year. Forty to fifty school bus violations were cited in Ferguson Township.

When drivers meet or pass stopped school buses, the penalties are severe: a \$250 fine and a 60-day suspension of the motorist's license. Our students' safety, health and well-being should be everyone's priority.

Ferguson Township Police have compiled a safety checklist for students, parents, and anyone who is responsible for keeping kids safe on their way to and from school. Learn more at our news archive on the website.

Driving too fast? Take it easy

If you're runnin' down the road trying to loosen your load, with seven things to do on your mind, Ferguson Township Police remind you to take it easy.

"You may be in a hurry to get somewhere," says Chief of Police Chris Albright, "but whether you're driving on a country road or in town, think of the potential hazards and distractions, and be mindful of your speed."

If you're driving a newer, smoother ride, you may not even be aware your speed exceeds the limit.

Drive through many residential neighborhoods and you may see signs that read: "Drive like your kids live here." The reason for those signs? Residents are calling police to complain about their own neighbors speeding down their streets. Chief Albright says his department has identified a number of speeding "problem areas" in the Township.

Be mindful of your speed:

Obey stop signs. The department has issued a significant number of stop sign violations.

Slow down through road work zones and accident scenes. When you see orange rubber cones and flashing lights, pay attention to your surroundings. Do keep traffic moving by obeying flaggers and not stopping to watch.

Drivers with questions or concerns are encouraged to contact the FTPD at police@twp.ferguson.pa.us, or call the Centre County non-emergency dispatch number at 1.800.479.0050. If you have an emergency, please call 9-1-1.

Police remind residents of rules governing dogs in Township parks

Centre Region Parks and Recreation (CRPR) made the Ferguson Township Police Department (FTPD) aware that residents were reporting unleashed dogs and confrontational encounters with non-compliant dog owners at Tom Tudek Memorial Park.

At CRPR's request, the FTPD posted additional signage around park entrances reminding park visitors that dogs must be leashed.

The General Park Rules page on CRPR's website makes it clear that:

In the Townships of College, Ferguson, Patton, and Harris, pets are permitted only on a leash (maximum 6 foot), and pet owners are required to immediately clean up after their pets. No pets are permitted in the areas of the playground equipment or picnic pavilions in the Township parks or nature center. Pets on a leash are permitted on the grounds and boardwalk at Millbrook Marsh Nature Center.

Except for inside the Tudek Dog Park, at ALL park areas, pets must always be "ON LEASH."

Ferguson Township Police have updated our fact sheet on the Township's pet ordinance. Learn more at our website.



Pet Ordinance

This fact sheet is designed to answer frequently asked questions about ownership of dogs, cats, and other pets in Ferguson Township.



OWNER
An owner is any person having a right of property in any dog, cat or other pet, having custody of that animal, or any person who harbors or permits any animal or pet to remain on or around his or her property.

RUNNING AT LARGE
Any dog, cat or other pet being upon any public highway, street, park, or any other public land, or upon property of another person other than the owner, and not being accompanied by or under control of the owner or any other person having custody of said animal is defined as running at large.

CURBING OF ANIMALS AND REMOVAL OF FECES
No person owning, harboring, or in charge of any pet, will allow this pet to soil, defile, or defecate on any common thoroughfare, sidewalk, park, or any place where people congregate or walk. The owner of any pet may curb the animal in the area between the street and the sidewalk, however, all feces must be removed immediately by a suitable method and disposed of properly. On private property, the owner must also remove and dispose of feces in a sanitary manner.

Failure to remove and dispose of feces in a sanitary manner may result in a fine of \$100.00 for the first offense. The fine amount increases with each subsequent offense. Any default of payment of any fees and costs could result in non-compliance to the County jail for a period of thirty days.

RABIES LAW
Rabies vaccinations are required under the Pennsylvania Rabies Vaccination Law. This law was enacted in February 1987 and requires dogs and cats to be vaccinated against rabies when the animal reaches three months of age.

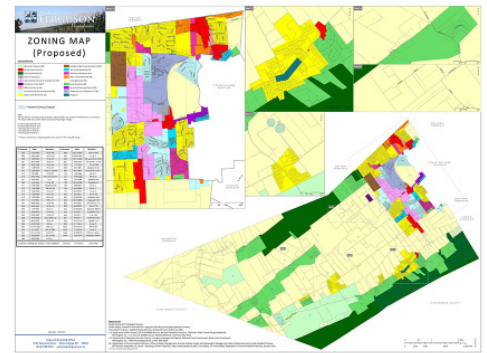
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Public hearings scheduled on Zoning and SALDO Ordinance Updates

Ferguson Township is completing a major update to its Zoning Ordinance, Zoning Map, and Subdivision and Land Development (SALDO) Ordinance. The Township has been working with Environmental Planning and Design (EPD) in Pittsburgh to coordinate the updates. **The 45-day public review period will end on September 16. The Board of Supervisors will host a public hearing on the updates at its Regular Meeting scheduled for 7 pm Monday, September 16.**

You'll find the latest drafts for these updates in our news archive on our website.



Pine Grove Mills Small Area Plan

Residents who are participating in the Pine Grove Mills Small Area Plan process continue to meet monthly with Ferguson Township Planning staff and Centre Regional Planning Agency staff to review their goals, objectives and action items.

The newest report identifies the following goals:

- Strengthen Pine Grove Mills as a place that values community events.
- Improve safety and provide for multiple modes of transport on State Route 45 in Pine Grove Mills.
- Strengthen Pine Grove Mills as a vibrant community.
- Establish Pine Grove Mills as a place that embraces a diversity of neighborhoods.

The proposed action items include improving:

- The availability of parking and safe crosswalks;
- Promotion and communication of special events;
- The sign ordinance to permit better signage, and
- Traffic calming and speed reductions.

Our Department of Planning & Zoning maintains a list of active development proposals on our website.

Currently active are the following:

Whitehall Road Regional Park, 1954 Blue Course Drive

The proposed 100-acre Whitehall Road Regional Park project has been in existence for more than 10 years, but began to move forward in 2018 with the approval of The Cottages Planned Residential Development. Co-owned by Ferguson Township and COG (Council of Governments) and leased to the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority for 50 years for development and operation, its proposed land development project includes the development of Phase I, which is approximately 55 acres of the property. The remaining land will remain undeveloped until future funding opportunities are available.

Harner Farm Subdivision, corner of Whitehall Road and College Avenue

The purpose of this plan is to subdivide Tax Parcel 24-4-67 into four (4) lots, replot Tax Parcel 24-4-67C, and dedicate land from Tax Parcel 24-4-67 to Ferguson Township Right of Way. In conjunction with this Subdivision/Replot Plan is a Land Development Plan for the Whitehall Road Sheetz.

Whitehall Road Sheetz

Construction is scheduled to begin this fall and expected to continue for a year to 18 months on the proposed Sheetz store to be developed on 5.7 acres at the southwest corner of Whitehall Road and West College Avenue. The building will be 6,077 square feet. The site will also have a car wash, stormwater management basins and required access points. Prior to the proposed development, the land was actively farmed for 50 years.

Ferguson Township New Public Works Facility, 3147 Research Drive

The proposed building is approximately 13,000 square feet with an attached fuel island covered with a canopy. The building will be used for public works offices, vehicle repair and fueling. The Township is attempting LEED Gold Certification with this project and is committed to a low-impact style of development.

Pine Hall Traditional Town Development (TTD) General Master Plan, Blue Course Drive

The Master Plan includes more than 1,000 new dwelling units, a commercial/retail space, and a town center. The Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors hosted a public hearing on the Pine Hall TTD Master Plan during its Regular Meeting on August 5. The Board voted on the General Master Plan at its Regular Meeting on August 19.

2019 - 20 Tax Rates and Information

Call the Finance Department with any questions you have at (814) 238-4651

LOCAL TAX RATES

Due dates may be extended because of weekends. Please refer to the tax bill for exact due dates.

TOWNSHIP REAL ESTATE

Collector: Ferguson Township. **Rate:** 2.422 mils, effective January 2020. **Due Dates:** December 31 is the last to pay on time for the year; discount period ends **April 30**; face amount ends **June 30**

County Real Estate

Collector: Centre County. **Rate:** 7.84 mils, effective January 2020. **Due Dates:** December 31 is the last to pay on time for the year; discount period ends **August 31**; face amount ends **October 31**

School Real Estate

Collector: Ferguson Township. **Rate:** 46.0875 mils, effective July 2020 (2019-2020 school year). **Due Dates:** December 31 is the last to pay on time for the year; discount period ends **August 31**; face amount ends **October 31**

School Earned Income Tax

Collector: Centre Tax Agency at Borough of State College.
Rate: .95 percent, effective July 2020.

Township Earned Income Tax

Collector: Centre Tax Agency at Borough of State College.
Rate: 1.4 percent, effective January 2020.

Local Services Tax

Collector: Centre Tax Agency at Borough of State College. **Rate:** \$52 per year, effective January 2020, includes \$47.00 for the Township and \$5.00 for the School District.

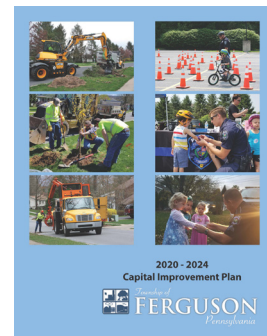
Transfer Tax

Collector: Centre County. **Rate:** 1.25 percent, effective January 2020.

Please be aware that most homeowners will need to pay supplemental real estate tax bills not covered by escrow.

2020 - 2024 Capital Improvement Plan

Ferguson Township's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) helps guide the development of the Annual Operating Budget and enables the Board to prioritize expenditures based on need and financial stability. Updated annually, the CIP focuses on capital items, which are defined as having a cost greater than \$2,500 and an expected life of longer than one year. In addition to identifying expenditures, the CIP also depicts the Township's financial outlook over the next five years. The Board of Supervisors held two special meetings and a public hearing on the plan, and adopted it at its Regular Meeting on August 19. **View the plan on the website or during regular business hours at the Township administrative offices.**



Read more about any story in this issue: <http://www.twp.ferguson.pa.us/News-Archive/>

TOWNSHIP OF FERGUSON
3147 Research Drive
State College, PA 16801

PRSRT STD
US Postage P A I D
State College, PA
Permit No. 213

**2019 FALL & WINTER
TRASH & RECYCLING SCHEDULE**

PLEASE PLACE TRASH AND RECYCLING AT THE CURB BY 7 AM.

***NOTE: If your weekly pick-up falls on or after a holiday,
your trash and recycling schedule will be delayed
by one (1) day during the holiday week. THANK YOU.***

November 28 THANKSGIVING DAY
December 25 CHRISTMAS DAY
January 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY

Fall Bulk Waste Collection Week: October 21 - 25, 2019

***University Area Joint Authority Compost Facility
is open year-round, 6:30 am - 3:30 pm Monday through Friday
Call 814-238-5361 for more information***

CONTACT FERGUSON TOWNSHIP

**<http://www.twp.ferguson.pa.us>
3147 Research Drive
Township /814.238.4651
Police /814.237.1172**

REFUSE AND RECYCLING

Advanced Disposal

*Contact with questions
about your service or billing*
814.237.3713

**Centre County Recycling
& Refuse Authority**

814.238.7005

Recycling Hotline

*For information about what you should
and shouldn't put in your red recycling bin*
814.238.6649

COG Administration

*Contact with questions about program
requirements and problem resolution*
814.234.7198

<http://crocog.net/refuse>