



fall
'14



THE FERGUSON TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

WWW.TWP.FERGUSON.PA.US

IN THIS ISSUE

FALL SCHEDULES
Game Day Shuttles
Parks and Recreation
Bulk Waste Collection

LEARNING RESOURCES
Schlow Library

MINDING THE KIDS
Back-to-School Safety

FOR OUR COMMUNITY
Adopt a Median

S&A Field Master Plan

**Citizen's Police
Academy**

POLICE
Crisis Intervention
Training

FINANCE
Capital Improvement
Plan

PUBLIC WORKS
Bike-Friendly
Achievements

Ferguson Township's services and resources



Our Parks. Learn how the township's largest-- Tom Tudek Memorial Park--came to be the gem it is today. Find park details by location or activity at the Centre Region Parks and Recreation site: <http://goo.gl/rdsAe3>
page 2



Our Bike-Friendly Community. Concerned about safety on our shared paths, one Ferguson Township resident asked for help and got it. **page 4**



Our Police. Our officers are committed to working with the community to solve problems. Their first instinct is to help. Learn how they're getting people in crisis the care they need and showing children and youth they can be a friend. **pages 6 - 8**



Our Public Works. Our crews are hard at work making our township roads, public areas, and shared walking and bicycle paths look and function at their best. Learn about the improvements they've made for the good of the township communities. **page 11**

A place of extraordinary beauty, Tudek inspires generous gifts of love, time and more

Tom Tudek Memorial Park has inspired generous gifts of love, time and more to ensure its preservation.

If you enjoy Tudek Park, supporting the Tudek Park Trust endowment will continue to enhance the park's uniqueness. You can help keep the park thriving with a tax-deductible donation to the Tom Tudek Memorial Park Trust (**see details, page 3**).

This place of extraordinary beauty nearly fell into the lap of a developer intent on building a shopping mall. Not only did residents in the area fight it, but Bob and Elsie Tudek, whose house borders the property, had a special interest in preserving that land. To protect it from development, they bought 62 acres of what had been the Dreibelbis Farm.

When Ferguson Township received a \$265,000 fee-in-lieu of parkland and a \$100,000 Commonwealth of PA grant to acquire land and develop a park, Ferguson Township Manager Mark Kunkle asked Bob and Elsie Tudek if they would be willing to sell some of their land to the township for the purpose of developing a 10-acre park.

The Tudeks welcomed this request with a generous offer: If Ferguson Township bought 20 acres of the Dreibelbis farmland, they would donate the remaining 42 acres.

And so Tom Tudek Memorial Park, named in memory of the Tudeks' late son, came to be the township's largest --and most exceptional--park.

Its covenants stipulated that only 20 of the original acres are to be used for active recreation, no pesticides or herbicides are permitted, and the park would remain sustainable. If the park were ever to revert to another use, ownership would be transferred from the Township to the Clearwater



The horse pasture is one of Tudek Park's many exceptional assets, which include its dog park, community gardens, and the Snetsinger Butterfly Garden.

Conservancy and the Commonwealth of PA would be entitled to a refund of its grant money.

To ensure Tudek Park remains sustainable, the Tudek family donated \$10,000 each year for 10 years to endow the Tom Tudek Memorial Park Trust, a dedicated 501(c)(3) charitable trust fund established in June 1993 and managed by trustees of Tudek Park.

This \$100,000 endowment would cover the cost of reversion should that ever happen. But through generous donations by the Tudek family and others the trust has also paid for an additional 16 acres of wooded area, 23 acres that include the Dreibelbis farm homestead, renovations to the farmhouse (which has a tenant) and barn, community gardens, horse pastures, and a dog park--all of which make Tudek Park a park unlike any other in the area.

"We think of Tudek Park as a gem in our community," Kunkle said. "It's the second highest used park in the region's park system."

There are now 30 acres of active recreation area and the remaining 61.5 acres are woodland, bringing the park to 91.5 acres in all.

The Tudek Park Trust also paid for the park's perimeter plan, the Tom Tudek memorial location, the Tudek Arboretum, and the Kunkle Overlook. "Many of the park's projects have been done through the generosity of the Tudek family," Kunkle said.

"Bob Tudek once told me he had two dreams," he added. "One was to lead the Penn State Blue Band out of the tunnel on Game Day. The other was to see horses in a pasture behind his house. I told him I could help him with the latter."

"He had a set of binoculars in his dining room where he watched the horses," he said, "and he spent a lot of time walking the park."

Maintaining the horse pasture and boarding horses is one of the lease requirements for the farmhouse.

continued on page 3

continued from page 2

So whether you're walking, running, biking, hosting a family picnic or taking the children to the park to play, you'll find the three horses and donkey currently boarding there to be a delightful view at the park.

Another family whose passion for preservation has made Tudek Park beautiful are the Snetsingers. Close friends of the Tudeks, Wendy and Bob Snetsinger lost their daughter Clare to cancer. Like Tom Tudek, who died in an accident, Clare was only 17 and loved butterflies. Tom had collected them as a boy. Clare's father, Dr. Robert Snetsinger, Penn State professor emeritus of entomology, is also known as "Butterfly Bob." He approached the trustees many years ago about establishing a butterfly garden at the park in Clare's memory.

The trustees set aside three acres and paid for a variety of plant stock to get the garden started. For many years, Bob Snetsinger was the only person who worked the butterfly garden. But eventually he developed a partnership with the Penn State Master Gardeners, and today the garden is blooming all over.

Each year the Snetsinger Butterfly Garden hosts a Wings in the Park event to teach children about the critical importance of pollinators.

"My role as Township Manager has been to be a good steward of this park's resources," Kunkle says. "The sustainability of the trust is going to depend on the community's support."

Please make your check payable to the Tom Tudek Memorial Park Trust and mail to:

**Ferguson Township Municipal Building
Attn: Tom Tudek Memorial Trust
3147 Research Drive
State College, PA 16801**

Thank You



Dr. Robert Snetsinger, aka "Butterfly Bob," greets a young visitor at Wings in the Park.

S&A Field improvement project welcomes your support

S&A Field at 485 Airport Road is one of the assets our township aims to grow as funding for improvements becomes available. This prized youth baseball park is home to the State College Area Teener League.

The master plan for enhancing the park includes field lighting; modified field dimensions; an indoor practice facility; accessibility for those with disabilities (adhering to ADA guidelines); a children's play area; an improved parking lot, and more.

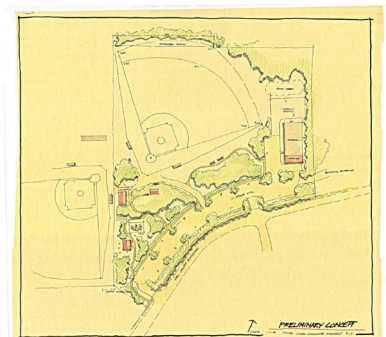
The first phase of the project will be lighting the field and extending the outfield fence to comply with PIAA standards. These priorities carry a price tag of approximately \$225,000. Ferguson Township has raised \$157,000 and is working in partnership with other Centre Region municipalities and local organizations to help make this project possible.

Ferguson Township would like to thank the State College Area Teener League, Patton Township, the Borough of State College, the Louis E. Silvi Foundation, the Central Pennsylvania Convention and Visitors

Bureau, and West Penn Power for their valuable contributions to the project.

If you would like to contribute in-kind or cash donations to this project, or have questions, please call Dave Pribulka, Assistant Township Manager, at (814) 238-4651.

For a larger view of the improvement plan concepts, visit <http://goo.gl/TN7VMD>



Share the Path signs reinforce rules of courtesy for bicyclists and pedestrians

Ferguson Township resident Jack Williams truly enjoys the benefits of living in this bike-friendly community. He and his wife Nan Horton have been riding bicycles for 15 years, and they devote at least one day a week to it. They live just two houses down from one of the township's shared paths, so it's easy to walk and ride their bikes regularly. "We love living so close to the path," he said.

But as much as they enjoy sharing these paths, Williams is concerned about bicyclists not sounding an audible warning when passing pedestrians.

Two years ago he decided to do something about his concerns by writing a letter to the Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors. He was impressed by their response. "They got on it right away," he said. Because of his initiative, the township and other Centre Region municipalities have posted Share the Path signs at 46 selected spots on the regional shared use path network.

Pennsylvania requires bicyclists to warn walkers of their approach.

As Williams wrote to the township: "The best warning upon overtaking a pedestrian, in my experience, is a loud 'Passing on your left!' My wife and I have found it helpful, when we are biking ourselves, to also announce that two of us are coming. This reduces the risk that the pedestrian will unknowingly move into an overtaking bicycle's path."

To keep pedestrian and bicycle traffic moving smoothly and prevent collisions, walkers also need to stay to the right of the path. Bicyclists need to slow down when passing pedestrians, and all users need to



Ferguson Township resident Jack Williams asked the Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors to help address a safety issue on Centre Region's shared paths.

remember that wearing headphones is dangerous. Bicycles are considered motor vehicles, so the same laws that drivers must obey also apply to bicyclists.

Williams said he has been nearly hit a number of times and believes the situation has become worse over the years, primarily because of distractions such as wearing headphones and using cell phones.

He hopes that posting the Share the Path Centre Region signs will prevent serious accidents on the paths in the future.



Nan Horton and Jack Williams love biking and walking together on the shared path near their home.

Share the Path signs remind users to:

Keep right except to pass

Be respectful of all users

Keep their pets on a leash, as required

Pennsylvania law requires bicyclists to:

Wear a helmet if under age 12

Use lights after dark

Use audible warnings when passing

Coming this Fall

Our new Ferguson Township website at www.twp.ferguson.pa.us
Easier and friendlier to use.
Stay informed.

Keep our roads beautiful

Some parts of town are begging for curb appeal, and that's how it is with some of the medians in our township. They need conscientious, nature-minded individuals and organizations in our community to help the township maintain them.

We invite neighborhood associations, garden clubs, businesses, church groups and others to help keep these medians mowed and trash-free as well as beautify them with landscaping and plantings.

Check out the many benefits to your organization and to the community:

Promote your organization or business.

When you adopt a median and commit to a maintenance plan, the township will install a sign at the site that prominently displays your name.

Help improve the air and water quality of our local environment.

Adding trees, shrubs and green spaces in our township helps:

- absorb carbon dioxide and pollutants from the air
- provide shade
- reduce heat and glare from the paved streets
- reduce erosion and stormwater runoff
- provide economic value to our neighborhoods

Help reduce township spending by volunteering your labor and sharing your passion for nature's beauty.

Create powerful symbols of pride and promote a sense of security with a well maintained landscape.

Help make a sustainable impact on our residents in the neighborhoods where they live.

Encourage people to help your group beautify our roads.



How to adopt a median

Call Faye Drawl at (814) 238-4651 or email at: fdrawl@twp.ferguson.pa.us

Create a maintenance and/or landscape maintenance plan

Select a name for a sign that recognizes your group or business

Complete and sign an annual agreement to maintain the median
E-mail, mail or fax your agreement for the approval process

Adhere to safety and planting guidelines
from the township Department of Public Works



UNIVERSITY AREA JOINT AUTHORITY's

composT facility is open year round

Monday - Friday (except holidays)

6:30 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.

ComposT is \$5.00 per cubic yard or \$2.00/car with container

Call 814-238-5361 for more information

ALL LOADS MUST BE TARPED / COVERED

Crisis Intervention Training teaches officers how to get those in crisis the help they need

When our residents praise Ferguson Township as a safe place to live, work and do business, they're praising our police department in a big way. They're also recognizing the power of "community." Ferguson Township Chief of Police Diane Conrad will tell you our police department is effective because our officers work with the community to solve problems.



Officer Shawn Slater (with Chief of Police Diane Conrad) completed CIT training in June.

Ferguson police and other first responders throughout the Centre Region are working in partnership with local mental health professionals through a program called Crisis Intervention Training (CIT).

More than half of our Ferguson Township officers have completed this 40-hour weeklong training, developed by the University of Memphis in partnership with the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI).

CIT is a joint effort among Centre County police departments.

Responding appropriately to someone in emotional crisis

"CIT helps first responders respond appropriately to any incident where someone is having a psychological or emotional crisis, is frustrated, acting out in an overt way, or suicidal, often hand in hand with alcohol and drugs," says Chief of Police Diane Conrad.

"Police deal with this all the time," she adds. "The situations first responders often encounter involve someone who is not behaving as he or she normally would.

We frequently see people in a domestic situation -- family conflicts, children having issues with parents about boundaries. We also see students feeling the pressures of exams and relationship issues, people deal-

ing with a traumatic death, returning veterans experiencing post-traumatic stress. CIT devotes a whole day of training just to veterans' issues."

Local police are seeing more and more students, veterans and youth under 18 in crisis. The numbers go up every year.

De-escalation techniques help the person regain control

"During the training, first responders learn that, rather than rushing to bring a person in crisis under control, ideally you want the person to control himself by showing appropriate empathy and engaging him verbally," Chief Conrad says.

"We really do want to help, so we look at the underlying reason for the behavior. The sooner this person can get help, the better."

Tracy Small, who has served as the program's coordinator since it was funded by a grant in March 2011, says the best step a first responder can take is to address the person by his or her first name.

"The officer's goal becomes developing a rapport with that person," says Small, who has a background in psychology.

As coordinator, Small's job is to bring law enforcement together with mental health providers in a way that decriminalizes mental health. "Coming together works," she says.

Police who learn crisis de-escalation techniques very often go on to teach them to their fellow officers.

"The training is interactive," she adds. "They hear people with mental issues talk to them and role play real-life scenarios taken from the data sheets I collect. Nothing is made up.

"They don't get this comprehensive training at the police academy," she adds. When her husband, a Borough of State College police officer, became one of the first in Centre County to take CIT training, she told him, "This is what I've been saying for years that you guys need!" little knowing that she would soon be asked to lead the program.

To date, she has coordinated eight trainings for 166 first responders. Centre County's program has become renowned, attracting participants from other states.

Each first responder learns how to create a positive outcome

CIT changes people at their core, in unexpected ways, she says.

"Some of our participants have said, 'I was dreading being here because I was told I had to come, but this has been the best experience.' Something positive has happened when one person feels he or she can make a difference."

Camp Cadet encourages youth ages 12 - 15 who have interest in law enforcement

Ferguson Township Police Sgt. Ryan Hendrick describes Camp Cadet as a “toughing it out,” strengthening, and bonding experience. Hendrick served as squad leader for 12 boys, ages 12 - 15, at this summer’s Camp Cadet, a weeklong experience at Camp Blue Diamond.

Sponsored by every law enforcement agency in Centre County, it serves boys who are interested in law enforcement.

The boys are required to rise at 7 am and go to bed at 10 pm, while the squad leaders rise at 6 am and are in bed by midnight.

From sunup to well after sundown, the campers swim, fish, canoe, play softball and volleyball, mountain bike, zipline, rock climb, and learn to safely ride a motorcycle. They also learn

how to shoot a rifle and arrow, as well as participate in self-defense.

“Anything we can do safely, we do,” says Hendrick, who says much of the focus at Camp Cadet is overcoming fears. “We take the words ‘I can’t’ out of their vocabulary. There’s no other place like that where kids can learn so much. In fact, we all learn from the experience.”

The boys also develop detective skills, learning how to process crime scenes and investigate a bank robbery.

Although homesickness is a challenge for some of the campers, the bigger challenge may be doing without Internet, cell phones, video games and TV while they’re



Camp Cadet provides strength training that can help youth overcome their fears.

at camp. That also affects the officers who serve as squad leaders. “It’s total withdrawal.”

Many of the campers go on to become law enforcement officers, including Ferguson Township Police Officer Caleb Clouse.

“We never forget these kids and they never forget their squad leaders,” Hendrick says. Our local Magisterial District Judge, Leslie Dutchcot, serves as a squad leader for Camp Cadet girls.

For information about next summer’s camps for boys and girls, visit <http://www.centrecountycampcadet.com/home>

Ask legislators to vote yes on allowing local police to enforce speed limits using radar

Feeling safe in your own neighborhood is as much about obeying the speed limit as it is about protecting you and your neighbors from crime.

“I get more complaints about speeding in our neighborhoods than any other complaint calls,” says Ferguson Township Chief of Police Diane Conrad.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports that most crashes occur within two miles of people’s homes, and most of Pennsylvania’s speed-related fatalities occur on roads patrolled by municipal officers.

What may be even more surprising -- Pennsylvania is the only state that prohibits municipal police from enforcing local speed

limits by using radar.

“Currently, our officers can follow a car using a speedometer to 3/10ths of a mile, or an electronic stopwatch type system,” Chief Conrad says. “But they can’t use radar, even though it’s now recognized as the safest, most economical, and most accurate speed-timing device.”

Radar enforcement allows for citations to be issued when the driver is in excess of 6 miles per hour above the posted speed limit. In less than 55 mile-per-hour zones when other speed timing devices are used, a driver may only be cited if traveling 10 or more miles per hour over the limit, with the exception of school or active work zones.

“The use of radar guns make police much more efficient and effective,

first because they can use it where they can’t use other devices,” Chief Conrad adds.

“There’s no set-up time and it requires only one officer, while our current methods typically require two. Radar guns also make speed enforcement details less dangerous for the officer.”

Senate Bill 1340 and House Bill 1272 introduced in the Pennsylvania General Assembly aim to make it possible for local police to use radar.

Your legislators will vote on these bills this fall. Tell them you support helping our officers better enforce speed limits to keep drivers, passengers and pedestrians safe.

To learn how to contact your legislators, visit <http://www.legis.state.pa.us>

Ferguson Township Police also support our youth by joining their fellow Centre County officers in the Special Olympics Torch Run and by hosting their annual Bike Rodeo.



TRIAD Citizen's Police Academy: Get to know law enforcement and how to prevent crime

At a time of life when people may feel most vulnerable to crime, the Centre County TRIAD's 17th Annual Citizen's Police Academy offers seniors a chance to learn more about crime awareness, prevention, and the role of police in our communities.

Adults of any age are invited to apply and participate in this weeklong academy September 29 through October 3, which is held from 8:30 am to noon at five different locations in Centre County.

Centre County TRIAD is a partnership among the sheriff's, senior citizens and law enforcement agencies. During the Citizens Police Academy, speakers from local law enforcement, Centre County Courts and other county agencies will each host a day of activities that include an overview of the criminal justice system, patrol strategies, crime

prevention, personal safety, traffic safety, fraud and scams, DNA and fingerprinting, and the role of the FBI.

Academy lectures are short -- no more than 30 minutes -- with time for questions, comments and hands-on demonstrations.

Ferguson Township will host the Wednesday, October 1, session at the Ferguson Township Municipal Building.

To apply, please contact the Centre County Sheriff's Office at (814) 355-6803. All applicants are required to pass a criminal history background check.

For more information, visit the website at <http://goo.gl/42Xbuv>

Let's go back to school with safety in mind

Your parents may have taught you to look both ways before you cross the street, to always walk with other kids, and behave for the bus driver.

There are even more ways to ensure children's safety this school year, according to the National Safety Council's back-to-school site.

On behalf of children in Ferguson Township, we'd like to highlight some of the newest safety recommendations on distracted walking, backpack comfort, and bullying.

Cell phones and headphones

Remind children not to use cell phones or wear headphones while walking and teens not to use them while driving to school.

Backpacks

Prevent back and shoulder strain by choosing a backpack that moves with your child. Lighten the load: A backpack should weigh no more than 10 - 20 percent of a child's body weight, so a child weighing 60 pounds should carry a backpack no heavier than 12 pounds. Advise kids to use both straps.

Bullying

Trust your child's instincts and offer praise for letting you know when he or she is being mistreated. Follow up with the school's authorities. The council offers tips to help school authorities (principals, teachers, bus drivers) create a positive, bully-free environment for children.

2014 TRICK-OR-TREAT NIGHT IN THE CENTRE REGION

**6 - 8 pm
Thursday, October 30**

**Your Ferguson Township
Police Department
will schedule extra patrols
on Trick-Or-Treat Night
to help keep participating
families safe**

**For more back-to-school safety
tips, visit <http://www.nsc.org/>**

AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

Penn State's Ag Progress Days

If you're a producer and want to learn about the newest equipment, technology and services that will make you more profitable and improve your production, this is the show for you.

If you're a consumer who wants to know what goes into the plant foods you eat and how you can produce better gardens and fruit trees at home, this show is for you, too.

Penn State's Ag Progress Days--Pennsylvania's largest outdoor agricultural expo--is the show for everyone who cares about Pennsylvania agriculture: the farmers, the consumers and taxpayers who benefit, and the children whose future depends on it.



While rain dampened day one of this year's Ag Progress Days, August 12 - 14, thousands from all four corners of the state and beyond turned out to see what Pennsylvania agriculture is all about.

Sponsored by Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences, it's held annually on 150 acres at the Russell E. Larson Agricultural Research Center in Rock Springs. This year's Ag Progress Days featured exhibitors from all over the United States as well as parts of Canada, and also showcased the college's pioneering research.

There was plenty for children to see and do as well--friendly bugs and farm animals, a corn maze, and a kid-safe tree climb using safety ropes and harnesses, assisted by certified arborists.

And if the food lines were any indication, the food served by mostly non-profit groups such as churches and Lion's Clubs was well worth the wait. Local dairies also served ice cream and milkshakes.

Now in his 23rd year as Ag Progress Show Manager, Bob Oberheim said the number of exhibitors has grown from 285 to 500 since he started. This is the show with something for everyone, he added. "We want to give everyone who attends something to take home that will benefit them."

Bulk Waste Collection

October 13 - 17, 2014

- Advanced Disposal (formerly Veolia Environmental Services) will collect old furniture, bedding, carpeting, appliances, and tires (some restrictions apply).
- Your collection items need to be curbside by 7 am on your regular collection day. Bag or bundle piles of debris; no loose piles will be collected.
- No metal or wood items in excess of five feet long can be accepted.
- Please consider donating usable items to local charities.
- During regular weekly collection, up to three smaller bulky items (under 40 pounds each) may be placed curbside. Look for additional information in your 4th quarter billing insert in the October invoice, or go online to <http://crcog.net/refuse> (Residential Program).

New contract for refuse and recycling services begins January 1, 2015

The Centre Region COG, acting as the agent for the Centre Region townships, will award the sixth Refuse and Recycling contract to Advanced Disposal on September 22, 2014. This five-year contract will begin January 1, 2015.

Through a competitive bidding process, the COG continues to keep the monthly rate for the contracted Refuse and Recycling Program low.

To keep costs down, unlimited trash service will be redefined at these two levels:

- Regular Service: No more than 8 bags or containers of refuse per household per week. These bags/containers can be no more than 35 gallons in volume or the equivalent of 280 gallons. No one bag can weigh more than 40 pounds.
- Low Usage Service: No more than a 1 - 30 gallon bag/container under 40 pounds per week.

No other major changes in billing, routes, or collection dates are anticipated. Contact the Centre Region COG at (814) 234-7198 with any questions or concerns.

Apply soon to be named "Recycling Works for My Business" recognition

This November, the Centre County Recycling and Refuse Authority, in partnership with Centre Region COG and the Borough of State College, will recognize county businesses that demonstrate a higher level of commitment to sustainable waste management practices with a Green Business Partner Award. A luncheon in their honor will coincide with "America Recycles" Day.

For more information about applying for this honor, send an e-mail to ccra@centrecountyrecycles.org or call (814) 238-7005.

Ferguson and Centre Region: Where to find the fun this fall



<http://www.catabus.com/>

CATA Game Day Shuttles

CATA has your ride to Penn State home football games this fall.

CATA GAME DAY SHUTTLE ROUTES

Downtown
South Atherton Street

GAME DAY SCHEDULES

Shuttles begin operating three hours before kick-off. (For games that begin at 5 pm or later, shuttle service will begin operating five hours before kick-off)

Game Day Shuttles run continuously until one hour after each game is over:

- Every 10 minutes before the game
- Every 20 minutes during the game
- Every 10 minutes one-way from the stadium after the game

FARES

\$1.75 per one-way trip (exact fare only). Persons 65 and over presenting a Transit Identification Card and children under 40" ride free. Those presenting a valid U.S. Medicare Card or a CATA Reduced Fare Identification Card may ride for half the fare (\$0.85).

CATA RIDERSHIP UP

Did you know? State College has the eighth most used public transit system per capita in the country. Annual ridership on CATA fixed bus routes has climbed to a record high of 7,352,133.

CATACOMMUTE

CATA offers lots of ways to roll. CATACOMMUTE--RideShare (ride matching), Vanpool, Emergency Ride Home, and Park & Ride --helps long distance Pennsylvania commuters find a shared ride with someone who has similar travel plans. Visit the CATA website for details.



www.schlowlibrary.org

Cozy up with an e-book

Cooler fall days can be the perfect time to curl up with a good book. Access thousands of great titles without ever setting foot in the library.

Using our redesigned website, you can download e-books and audio e-books, magazines, and music.

Visit the Beyond Books section of Schlow's website to:

- Load a book or magazine to your e-reader
- Download free music using Freegal
- Access resources on research topics as varied as auto repair and ancient history
- Take online language courses (including English as a Second Language)
- Reserve books and DVDs
- Explore our multitude of children's fiction and non-fiction titles using the popular TumbleBooks and BookFlix.

Borrowing an e-book from Schlow's website is convenient, easy, and free, so the demand for the library's digital resources has grown.

Schlow Library has budgeted \$14,000 for new e-books this year, and helps keep costs down by sharing the purchase of books with the other public libraries in Centre, Mifflin, Juniata, and Clearfield counties.

Friends of Schlow Library, AAUW, and University Women's Club have donated additional money designated for e-book purchases. We are grateful for the many ways that community support helps Schlow keep current titles and technology in stock.

Residents who prefer the traditional hard copy book, children's activities, or the help of an in-person reference librarian can always visit Schlow's brick and mortar site at 211 S. Allen Street.

Free parking is available to library users, and librarians are ready to help community members. So pull out your reading lists, and Ready, Set...Schlow!



www.crpr.org

PARKS AND RECREATION

Stay active this fall

Visit the CRPR website for the 2014 Fall Active Guide, which features all the information you need about parks and recreational activities in the Centre Region.

Please Note: Centre Region Parks and Recreation maintains all of our beautiful parks in Ferguson Township, the other municipalities, and in the Borough of State College.

THIS FALL

SEPTEMBER 28

Punt, Pass & Kick at Hess Field. Sponsored by the NFL and hosted by CRPR for youth ages 6 - 15

OCTOBER 11

"The Big Sit" 2014 International Birding Event at Millbrook Marsh

OCTOBER 15

"Dark in the Park" Stories Around the Campfire at Sunset Park

FRIDAYS THROUGH OCTOBER 24

Community Sky/Star Watches at Tudek Park

OCTOBER 26

Annual Halloween Costume Parade through downtown State College -- a true community tradition.

OCTOBER 30

2014 Trick-or-Treat Night in the Centre Region

NOVEMBER 2

Historic Harvest Festival and "Scarecrow Stuff-It" contest at Millbrook Marsh Nature Center

To learn more about special events this fall, visit <http://www.crpr.org/sp-events/specials.html>

Board of Supervisors approves Capital Improvement Plan

At its Regular Meeting August 18, the Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors approved the township's Capital Improvement Plan, an ambitious, five-year "look-see" into the future.

The CIP, as it's called, outlines plans for capital expenses of \$2,500 or more, with a life span of more than one year, including such projects as buildings, roads, and the purchase of major equipment and vehicles.

The CIP attempts to determine how much money the township needs to fund its services, recommends allocating funds where they can be most useful, and educates the township staff about spending guidelines.

Based on projected township revenue of more than \$75 million, the CIP anticipates that Ferguson Township will continue to remain financially strong.

It is important to remember that the CIP is a plan. The Annual Budget legally binds the township to the budget approved by the Board of Supervisors.

Ferguson Township appreciates the residents who took the time to review and comment on the plan at the Board of Supervisors meeting.

To review the plan, visit <http://goo.gl/lzCi2M>

How financially strong is Ferguson Township? *Review our 2013 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report*

The CAFR is an annual report prepared to inform the Board of Supervisors, Township staff, citizens, financial institutions, insurance companies, bondholders, and other interested parties of detailed information concerning the financial condition of the Township government. Inside, readers can expect to find statements of revenue and expenditure; debt information; asset and liability data; information on fund balances; and other useful measures of financial stability.

In 2013, Ferguson Township received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada for its CAFR for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2012. This was the fourth consecutive year the Township has achieved this prestigious award. It is trusted that the 2013 CAFR continues to satisfy both generally accepted accounting principles and applicable legal requirements necessary to attain this distinction for a fifth consecutive year.

To view the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2013, visit <http://goo.gl/Ctcq1z>

Please contact the Ferguson Township Finance Department with any questions you may have concerning this document.

Questions about how the township is funded and how we spend the money? Visit <http://goo.gl/tKoDQF> To review our Executive Budget Summary, visit <http://goo.gl/xr1vzy>

Public Works Department earns praise for McKee bike path repairs

Our crews are hard at work making our township roads, public areas, and shared walking and bicycle paths look and function at their best.

Its achievements this summer included the installation of Share the Path Centre Region signs at selected spots on our shared paths, and repairs to the McKee Street bike path from Clinton Avenue in Ferguson Township to McKee Street in the Borough of State College.

The work required moving a section of the path under the large tree near Clinton Avenue, where the path was heaved as the result of the tree roots. The Public Works crew also repaired the base where the path was alligatored, sealed cracks, repaved the length of the path with new asphalt, backed up the topsoil and seed, and cleared brush to improve visibility.

Ferguson Township appreciates the patience of bicyclists, who were asked to dismount and walk around the work zone during repairs, as well as pedestrians, to whom the path was closed during repaving.

Brian Dempsey, who chairs the Centre Region Bicycle Advisory Committee, commended Public Works on its improvements.

"Thanks for keeping the biking community informed," he wrote, "and especially thanks for the marvelous widening and resurfacing of the McKee Street bike path. I can vouch that it's a great improvement on what was formerly a very good path but with some spots that needed attention. We certainly appreciate Ferguson Township's efforts to improve alternative transportation opportunities."

Learn about Public Works' improvements by following our updates at www.twp.ferguson.pa.us

IMPORTANT TRASH & RECYCLING DATES

HOLIDAYS: If your weekly pickup day falls on or after the following Holidays, your trash and recycling service will be delayed by one (1) day during the week of the holiday:

September 1 – Labor Day

November 27 – Thanksgiving Day

December 1 – First Day of Buck Season


December 25 – Christmas Day

FALL BULK WASTE WEEK
October 13 – 17, 2014

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING *free*

Monday – Saturday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
Centre County Recycling and Refuse Authority

Refuse and Recycling website: [http://
crcog.net/refuse](http://crcog.net/refuse)



**WE WOULDN'T DO THIS AT HOME
SO LET'S NOT DO IT
TO OUR WATERWAYS**

Always dispose of paint
and household chemicals correctly.

Keep it Clean.

HEALTHY WATERWAYS
Because we're all in the same boat.

Sponsored by the MS4 Partners: Penn State, State College Borough,
College, Harris, Ferguson, and Patton Townships

TOWNSHIP OF FERGUSON

3147 Research Drive

State College, PA 16801

PRSRT STD

US Postage

PAID

State College, PA
Permit No. 213