Ferguson Township eNewsletter

July 2014



#### Dear Tonya,

Welcome to the Ferguson Township eNewsletter! Thank you for welcoming us into your inbox.

#### You're invited for Coffee and Conversation



What's on your mind about your community? Join us for Coffee and Conversation from 8 to 9:30 a.m. Saturday, July 19 at the Waffle Shop West located at 1610 West College Avenue. The coffee's on us! You're invited to join Mark Kunkle, Township Manager, and Dave Pribulka, Assistant Township

Manager, to discuss any questions or concerns that impact your neighborhood. There is no need to register to attend. We hope to see you there! Our thanks to Waffle Shop West for hosting our July Coffee and Conversation.

# Seeing a few gypsy moths? Residents can treat isolated pockets



Are gypsy moths back? A recent visual inspection found gypsy moth caterpillars on oak trees in Park Forest Village. "We're aware there may be a minor outbreak in an isolated area of the township," said Ferguson Township Manager Mark Kunkle. Some

residents have banded trees with tape, which is one way to stop them in their travels before they get to the moth stage. The female gypsy moths start laying eggs in July and then die. If their egg masses are not found and destroyed, they will hatch next spring. There are effective ways to treat isolated pockets of gypsy moth caterpillars on your own. Visit our link for details.



# Your new Ferguson Township website is coming soon!

Served by EvoGov.com, our new website's beautiful design will be easier to navigate. Our new site also features a self-service citizen request tracker, which allows you to post non-emergency situations,

suggestions or complaints. Now, if you have a streetlight outage to report, a pothole, or any other concern in your neighborhood, you can

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## LIVING IN FERGUSON



Thanks to those of you who answered our June e-newsletter survey question:

What do you enjoy most about living in Ferguson Township?

submit a request, be assigned a job number, and check the status of your request online. For more details, watch for a special e-newsletter dedicated to showing you the new website's features.

See the results.



# SO LET'S NOT DO IT To our waterways

#### Why stormwater runoff matters

Stormwater runoff starts from your roof, your lawn, your gutters and your streets. It ends up in our local streams and creeks, and therefore our water supply. That's why it's so important to minimize pollutants and contaminants in stormwater runoff. How can you help protect the water supply? Dispose of household paints, chemicals, prescription drugs, and pet waste correctly. Ferguson Township and other Centre County Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) partners are working with the Clearwater Conservancy to promote public

education, outreach and involvement in stormwater matters. Learn more about their initiatives at this link.



## How to help keep Ferguson Township beautiful? Adopt a median

Some parts of town are begging for curb appeal, and that's how it is with some of the medians in our township. They are begging for 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 come forward and help not only keep these medians mowed but beautify them with landscaping and plantings from the township's approved list. Why adopt a median? Check out the many benefits -- to your organization and to the community.



#### Sinkholes growing to be a common nuisance

Four sinkholes have opened up in Ferguson Township--more than David Modricker, our Director of Public Works, has seen in years. "Our sinkholes

typically aren't the ones you see in the news, that take buildings, cars and the Corvette Museum with them," he says. "The usual depth around here is the depth of the bedrock--from 6 to 12 feet, maybe 20 feet at most. We dig down as far as our equipment will allow, find the throat and flush it out, then seal the top off." Sinkholes can be a nuisance, particularly for the crews who are currently microsurfacing and repaving township roads. They're more likely to occur on properties located under stormwater basins. "They don't form without water," Modricker says, "so we look to see where the water is coming from." How do you know when a sinkhole has formed? Typically you'll see depressions where the ground has started to collapse. If you have a sinkhole on private property, the township will advise you to contact a geotechnical consultant or your homeowner's or condo association.

## **West College Avenue and Blue Course Drive** traffic signals to change

This summer, Ferguson Township will be revising the operation of the

### **SUMMER** SAFETY TIPS

Reduce your risk for **West Nile Virus** 

**Turn to Ferguson** Township police for peace of mind while you're on vacation

Don't feed the bears. even by accident

traffic signal at the intersection of West College Avenue and Blue Course Drive. A recent study identified that the left turns from Southbound Blue Course Drive onto West College Avenue (heading towards town) are unsafe. To address this finding, the left turn arrow will be changed so a left turn can only be made when the arrow is displayed. At all other times, this lane will have a red signal. This is also known as a protected only left turn. As part of the recent study, lane adjustments on Blue Course Drive were also investigated and recommended to stay as they currently are. Signal timings will be adjusted to try to improve efficiency.

# 12 Homeowner and Condo Associations attend Open Forum



"Thank you for your openness, receptivity and candor." Those were the closing words of Hank Bailey, representing one of 12 homeowner and condo associations in the township that attended the Homeowner and Condo Association Open Forum on June 25. The forum brought them together with

Township Manager Mark Kunkle, Assistant Manager Dave Pribulka, Chief of Police Diane Conrad and Director of Public Works David Modricker for a discussion of proposed amendments to the township noise ordinance, a new street tree ordinance, and whether it's time to start regulating and permitting for weekend rentals of homes for occasions such as sporting events.

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Township News

Police Department

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