June 2014

Ferguson Township eNewsletter



#### Dear Tonya,

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

#### Brush Collection advisory: Be aware of utility boxes



The Public Works Department uses mechanical equipment to assist with our curbside brush collection. With that in mind, please place brush greater than 10 feet away from cable or electric utility boxes that may be located in your front yard near the roadway. Placing brush on or within 10 feet

of these boxes increases the risk that they will be damaged by our equipment. To ensure our workers' safety and prevent damage to equipment, Public Works employees are unable to pick up brush piles that are placed too close to utility boxes. Thank you for your cooperation.

## Drop off your grass clippings here

Ferguson Township Public Works will take your grass clippings to the State College Borough recycling and composting facility if you bring them to us. Feel free to drop them off from dawn to dusk, seven days a week, at the municipal building, 3147 Research Drive. Look for the "Grass Drop-Off" signs.



## Streetlights not working? Let us know so we can help ensure your safety

You can help ensure safe streets for our pedestrians and vehicles by letting us know when streetlights are not working properly. Please notify township staff at 814.238.4651 or by e-mail at contact@twp.ferguson.pa.us. You can also use the Contact Us form on our website.

In addition, First Energy-West Penn Power maintains any streetlight that isn't working and will repair it within 3 - 5 days. If lightbulbs are working but lights don't turn off during the day, its maintenance team will replace or repair the sensor. Simply phone, fax or report the problem online at www.FirstEnergyCorp.com. To make it easy to locate, please identify the pole number when making your report. In This Issue

Brush collection advisory: Be aware of utility boxes

Drop off your grass clippings for recycling

Streetlights not working? Let us know

HOAs: Begin budgeting for retroreflective signs

JULY 4: Closed for Independence Day



The Ferguson Township offices will be closed Friday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day. Enjoy and be safe during the long holiday weekend.

## LIVING IN FERGUSON

## HOAs: Begin budgeting for retroreflective signs

The Federal Highway Administration's <u>new requirements for</u> <u>retroreflective signs</u> are designed to make streets safer by making them highly visible to drivers. The deadline to replace existing signs with those in compliance -- originally scheduled for January 2015 -- has been lifted, but homeowners associations may want to consider budgeting for replacement signs when they are able. HOAs are asked to advise the Ferguson Township Public Works Department when they are ready to incur the cost of purchasing the new signs and an additional fee if Public Works will be installing those signs. For more information, please contact Public Works Director David Modricker at 814.238.4651.



# Being a good neighbor calls for picking up after your dog

Living in Ferguson Township means you have many beautiful streets and parks where you can walk your dog. If you and your dog are enjoying walks together, be considerate of your fellow residents by cleaning up after

him or her. No one should have to walk in or around your dog's business. As an environmental pollutant, dog waste also poses health risks for children who may be playing in the area and for the public water supply.

## Turn to Ferguson Township police for peace of mind when you're away



As much as you look forward to going on vacation, keeping your home safe while you're away can be a concern. You'll want to stop delivery of your mail and newspaper, or ask a neighbor to collect them for you. Set your lights on timers and leave a vehicle in your driveway. In every way possible, give the appearance that your daily routine hasn't changed.

As an added precaution, the Ferguson Township Police Department can help by checking on your house while you're away. <u>It's easy to arrange</u>.

Before you leave town, fill out the department's online form with your address, emergency contact information, your departure and return date, and the make and model of any vehicles you'll be leaving in your driveway. You can also note whether you'll be leaving your lights on a timer and a spare key with a friend or neighbor in case of emergency. Provide that person's contact information on the form.

## Bike fun and safety Ferguson Township police show kids they care



What you enjoy the most?



What's best about living in Ferguson Township?

a) Municipal parks
b) Safe
neighborhoods
c) Farmland and open
space
d) Culture and
diversity
e) All of the above
f) Other:

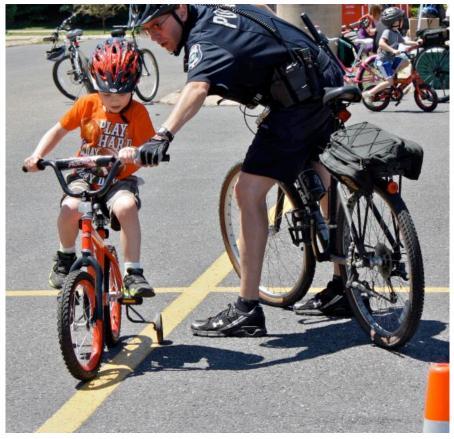
## Take the survey to tell us.

#### LEGISLATION OF INTEREST

Legislation of Interest is a new page on our website to keep you informed about bills in the Pennsylvania General Assembly that may affect you.

#### Senate Bill 1340 and House Bill 1272 permit local police use of radar

Why a pension reform



Our thanks to all of you who came out for the Ferguson Township Bike Rodeo June 7 at the Weis Market parking lot on Martin Street.

Kids ages 4 - 12 rode alongside police officers to learn safe bicycle handling skills.

Ferguson Township's bike team officers were on hand to guide them through an obstacle course, help them steer, and coach them as they rode.

Sgt. Ryan Hendrick, who coordinates the department's community events, said it's so important for children to see police in uniform as their helpers, encouraging them to learn to ride safely.

#### Bikes registered and Child ID kits distributed

Bicyclists of all ages took the opportunity to register their bikes for free with the Penn State bike registry, assisted by employees of Best Buy. Registering bikes makes them easier to recover should they be lost or stolen. The officers also distributed child ID kits that allow parents to fingerprint and collect a DNA swab from their kids for their protection.

#### Thanks to our sponsors

Everyone who attended enjoyed free food, from grilled hamburgers and hotdogs by Weis Markets and pizza by Domino's, to mango and cotton candy Italian Ices by Rita's. Ferguson Township would like to thank Weis Markets, Domino's, Rita's, Best Buy, and these additional sponsors: The Bicycle Shop, Safe Kids Pennsylvania, ProCopy, Hoag's, Wal-Mart, Subway, NDC Real Estate Management, Nittany Living.net, and 3WZ FM. bill to protect police and firefighters also protects all Pennsylvanians Quick Links Township Website

**Township News** 

**Police Department** 

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