



Township of FERGUSON Pennsylvania

www.twp.ferguson.pa.us

SPRING 2015

What's ahead

ADMINISTRATION

New Voting Wards
Employment Opportunities

FINANCE

Budget Executive Summary
2015 Real Estate Taxes

POLICE

Traffic Laws
Phone and Internet Scams
Police Statistics

PUBLIC WORKS

Street Tree Commission
Arborist
Road Projects
Park Projects and
Naming Opportunities

PLANNING

Development Proposals
Introducing our New
Website App

COMMUNITY

CATA
Schlow Library
Centre Parks and Recreation

CALENDARS

Township
Community
Trash, Recycling
and Bulk Waste

CONTACT US

3147 Research Drive
814.238.4651
www.twp.ferguson.pa.us

After a cold and snowy winter—Welcome, spring!



The winter of 2013-14 wore a lot of people out, and this past winter also took a toll. February was the coldest on record, with an average temperature of 17.1 degrees. Residents were shoveling out from one snowfall after another.

As we welcome spring and look forward to easier weather, we say farewell to a winter that tested our patience, despite many beautiful, sunny days. Happy Valley still managed to shine under its blanket of snow, and as a community we met many challenges that are now behind us. Here is a fond look back at the winter behind us:



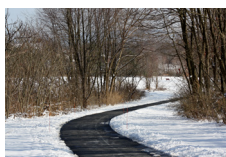
Our Public Works crews persevered in all kinds of winter weather

Our Public Works snow removal crews maintained more than 90 miles of Township roads. Over 32 days, our two teams of crew members responded to more than 27 winter weather events that required 51 salt applications. It was a long winter for our plow operators, who put in 12-hour shifts in all kinds of weather, but they hung in there.



Our residents stayed active in the snow

We made it easier for bicyclists, runners and walkers to continue using our shared use paths even after a snowfall. Our crews maintained winter operations on seven shared use paths, clearing snow on Tudek/Circleville, McKee Street and Vairo/Suburban paths, Bristol, Blue Course, Science Park and Havershire. Resident Larry Maso posted his praise on Facebook along with a photo he shot at the halfway mark of a 16-mile ride: "My Township has been doing a great job of clearing the bike trails in recent years!"



We were your winter weather reminder

At our new website—which we redesigned in the fall—we posted almost daily about hazardous winter weather conditions coming your way and brought you the best safety advice available about winter driving, shoveling, and staying warm. We also sent reminders to those of you who signed up to receive e-mails about required "No Parking" and "Sidewalk Snow and Ice Clearing" during snow events.



Our Public Works crews met the coldest challenges of Winter 2014-15

You shoveled it, drove in it, and bundled up in it. Snowfall after snowfall, icy roads, whiteouts and bitterly cold temperatures may have frustrated you, but they didn't wear you down. Nor did they stop our Public Works crew from working day and night to clear your roads of snow and keep them safe for driving.

Our crew members are highly trained in snow removal operations, and they have 12 pieces of equipment that can plow. Each crew drove for 11 hours maximum—working 12-hour shifts that overlapped in the morning to prepare the roads for your commute. Occasionally, an additional two-worker crew helped clear the main roads and snowdrifts. The crew also cleared shoulder areas.

In compliance with all laws covering commercial drivers, the Township gave the plow operators 10 hours of rest after each shift.

"It's hard work and gets tiring," said David Modricker, Ferguson Township Director of Public Works. "Every year at this time, it gets to feeling like a long winter for the guys doing the plowing. They were working long days, nights, weekends and holidays."

But they met the challenges they encountered from the extreme cold, ice and snowstorms—managing to stay warm and always looking out for each other. "They're all trained to recognize the signs of hypothermia and frostbite," Modricker said. "When plowing, they were mostly in the cab of a truck, but they wore insulated winter work wear."

And when they weren't plowing? They were clearing trees, taking care of building and vehicle maintenance, painting, and improving the Township building.



Our Public Works crew with a new vehicle that will make Brush and Leaf Collection easier. With winter operations over, Brush and Leaf Collection services will resume April 6.

They are indispensable to Ferguson Township services and operations, and for that reason, the team is growing. Public Works recently welcomed five new members to the full-time crew; two are new positions:

Glace Rider had been a part-time mechanic and road worker with the Township. He is a graduate of the State High auto body program.

Chad Kauffmann, also a former part-time road worker with the Township, has landscaping experience. He previously worked for Centre Region Parks and Recreation.

Stephen Donley is a new recruit with a construction background in concrete and experience as a plow operator.

Aaron Zellers is also new; he has more than 15 years of experience in heavy equipment operations.

Gideon Ammerman is new to the Township as well; he had previously served as a heavy equipment operator on the Beaver Stadium project.

The Public Works Department also promoted **Charles (Chuck) Welker** to foreman.

We look forward to seeing the results of their work this spring and summer, too.

How much salt did we use?

November - December 2014 :
260 tons

March 2 - 3 2015:
approximately 194 tons during
five rounds of the Township

November 2014 - March 2015:
total of approximately 1,631 tons

How much salt did we budget for?

January 1 - December 31, 2015:
1,300 tons

How much salt remains in storage?

206 tons in the shed for
November and December 2015

Planning the Township's street and park trees

1989: Ferguson Township adopts its first tree ordinance, which requires street trees to be planted in new developments—creating an urban forest that grows to include approximately 5,000 trees.

2014: The Township Board of Supervisors adopts a new tree ordinance and creates a Tree Commission—inviting residents to become involved in the street tree planting process.

2015: Five Township residents are serving on the Tree Commission to advise the Director of Public Works and Supervisors about managing street and park trees in the Township. Their goals are protecting our remaining natural resources and making the Township more livable by planting trees in a deliberate and thoughtful manner.

Marc McDill, who chairs the new commission, served from 2002 to 2010 on the Borough of State College Tree Commission, which he also chaired. At press time, the Ferguson Township Tree Commission had met three times. “Our members are getting up to speed on what the issues are in the Township,” he said. The Township is different from the Borough in that newer residential areas are being developed here and the trees are also younger.

“We’re looking forward to making long-term strategic plans,” he said, “while starting with the most pressing issues.” The Commission’s current priorities include the treatment and replacement of trees affected by a pest called the Emerald Ash Borer (*see related story*), as well as planting plans in area parks.

Commission members are recommending the planting of native tall grasses in Township parks—particularly the Westfield/Hillside Farm Estates Park in progress—to create natural habits for insects, birds and butterflies.

In addition, the Commission plans to keep homeowners informed about the trees being planted in front of their homes. “We want to be a sounding board for their comments, resolve their concerns, and educate them about what we’re doing,” McDill said.

“People care a lot about trees,” he added. “They think of trees in front of their home as ‘their trees.’”

“The trees in a community can make a big difference in creating a pleasant place to live and dramatically increase property values,” he said. “A tree-lined street is a beautiful street, and the street trees are a community asset.”

Commission members are committed to creating a consistent approach to street tree management. Public Works will complete an inventory this year that will precisely identify the number of street trees in the Township and obtain data to help manage them.



Treating and replacing ash trees affected by the Emerald Ash Borer, like this one in Sylvan View Estates, is a priority for the Tree Commission.

Township to hire first arborist

The Board of Supervisors has approved the hiring of a Ferguson Township Arborist, who will report to the Public Works Director and work in collaboration with the Tree Commission.

The new arborist will serve as a resource for the Township in a number of ways:

- preparing planting plans for the Township and reviewing tree planting plans for land developments and subdivisions
- diagnosing tree diseases and recommending treatment options
- responding to resident inquiries regarding tree issues
- helping to manage street tree pruning and planting contracts
- training and supervising seasonal landscape laborers in pruning trees

For more information or to apply, please visit our website: <http://www.twp.ferguson.pa.us/Township-Employment-Opportunities>

Members of the Tree Commission

Marc McDill, Chair, is a four-year Township resident and associate professor of Forest Management at Penn State.

Troy Bayletts, who has lived in the Township for 29 years, holds a bachelor of science degree in Urban Forestry. He works as assistant manager of the detail shop at Joel Confer Toyota.

Jackie Esposito, a Township resident for 29 years, serves as archivist and head of Records Management Services at the Penn State University Libraries.

Michael Jacobson has been a Township resident for more than 14 years and is professor of Forest Resources at Penn State.

Darlene Weener, a sign language interpreter, has lived in the Township for 3-1/2 years and is a Penn State Master Gardener.

Visit our website [Events Calendar](#) for the Tree Commission's meeting dates.



The Ferguson Township Public Works crew safely removes Emerald Ash Borer-infested trees from the Sylvan View Estates neighborhood. This is one of approximately 60 infected ash trees our crews will remove throughout the Township.

An update on the Township's approach to Emerald Ash Borer

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is an insect that attacks any age and variety of ash tree and ultimately kills the infected tree. Trees can take 2 - 3 years to show visible signs of infestation.

Ferguson Township is responsible for approximately 600 ash trees (about 10 percent of the Township's approximately 5,000 street trees) located in right-of-way areas, generally in the spaces between roadways and sidewalks.

An infected ash tree will show cracks in the bark that look like entrance and exit wounds caused by bullets; exit wounds mean the borer has already been in and out of the tree, making it a later-stage infestation. While there is no cure for EAB, and trees that are infested will need to be replaced, trees that may be in the early stages of EAB disease can be treated, though there are no guarantees treatment will be effective. In the past, Ferguson Township found it more cost-effective to replace infected

trees with disease-free species.

Recently, the Township entered into agreements with three homeowner's associations to share in the high cost of treating trees. By opting to treat the trees, they hope to keep their neighborhoods from losing all of their ash trees at once.

"Many residential developments make a practice of planting all the same species of trees, which looks pretty," said Marc McDill, who chairs the Township's new Tree Commission. "But if the trees become diseased and need to be replaced, the whole street loses its street trees all at once. If a development has as many as 50 or 60 ash trees, there is no way we can treat that many. So we look to see if any can be saved."

Sadly, each species overwhelmed by a disease makes for a shorter and shorter list of street trees approved for planting. "Back in the 1960s and '70s we lost a lot of elm trees, and then sugar maples," McDill says. "Now, we won't be planting any new ash trees."

Ash trees that are removed will

be replaced with a new species.

The affected neighborhoods have included Chestnut Ridge Manor, Shellers Bend, Sylvan View, Hunter's Chase Foxpointe, Saratoga Drive, sections of Saybrook and Greenleaf Manor.

One of the Tree Commission's primary goals is to educate the community about tree planting plans, tree diseases and treatment.

Follow the Commission's projects at our website: <http://www.twp.ferguson.pa.us>, in our newsletters, and in the local news media.

A place for you and your best friend

Living in Ferguson Township means you have many beautiful streets and parks where you and your dog can enjoy walks together.

Tudek Dog Park offers your dog the freedom to run unleashed once you are inside. This park also keeps your little dogs safe from big dogs by providing separate run areas. For their own safety, please do not allow small dogs in the big dog section, and vice versa.

Protecting our stormwater from illicit discharges

Protecting our storm sewer system protects our community's health. When you think of our storm sewer system as your dog or cat's bowl of water, or the aquarium that holds your fish, you couldn't imagine cleaning a paint brush into the water they drink.

Because much of the storm water that flows in our storm sewer system ends up in the groundwater that we drink, the same moral responsibility applies to our public storm sewer system.

Anything that's not clean water can't go into our storm system—no paint from cans or brushes, paint thinner, gasoline, carpet cleaning chemicals, or chlorinated water.

To help protect our groundwater, the Township Stormwater Management Ordinance states: "No person in the Township shall allow, or cause to allow, stormwater discharges into the Township's storm sewer system which are not composed entirely of stormwater, except as provided in Subsection B below and discharges allowed under a state or federal permit.

Subsection B lists all the permissible discharges, including air conditioning condensate, water from crawl space pumps, lawn watering, individual residential car washing, dechlorinated

swimming pool discharges, and uncontaminated groundwater, among others.

Residents and commercial businesses also need to be aware of prohibited connections, including any drain or conveyance that allows any non-storm water discharge such as sewage, process wastewater or wash water to enter the storm sewer system. These include connections to the storm drain system from indoor drains and sinks, such as floor drains or basement bathroom drains that connect directly to the sanitary sewer system.

The Township performs field inspections to look for prohibited discharges. Residents can report illicit discharges or connections to the Township Engineer at rseybert@twp.ferguson.pa.us.

For more information about the Township's Stormwater Management Program and participation in the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Program, please visit our website: <http://www.twp.ferguson.pa.us/Stormwater-Management/>

Volunteers to clean up on Watershed Clean-Up Day, April 25 Public Works to help with follow-up collection

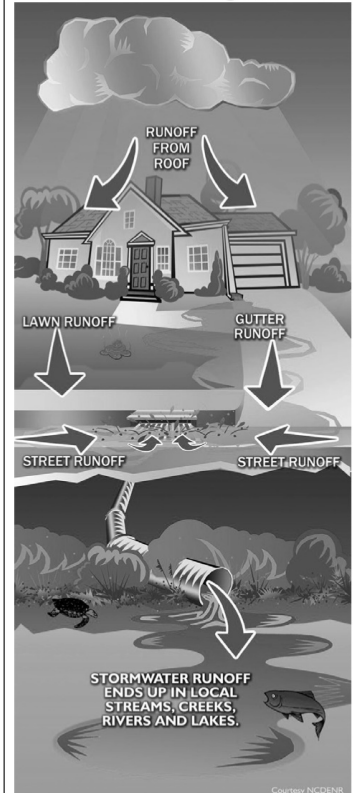
Hundreds of volunteers will clean up streams and roadsides on the 19th Annual Watershed Clean-Up Day, April 25. Organized by ClearWater Conservancy, the clean-up effort will take place from 8 am to noon.

On Monday, April 27, Ferguson Township's Public Works crew will help pick up bags of roadside trash that volunteers will collect as part of Clean-Up Day and take them to the Centre County Recycling and Refuse Authority.

To learn more, please visit the ClearWater Conservancy website: <http://www.clearwaterconservancy.org>

To volunteer, please contact Lori at 237-0400 or lori@clearwaterconservancy.org

Do you know where your stormwater goes?



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

Public invited to Stormwater Management Program review April 6

The Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors will host a review of the Township's Stormwater Management Program during its Regular Meeting at 7 pm, Monday April 6.

The Township Engineer will present the current MS4 Stormwater Management Program for review and discussion of Best Management Practices. The public is welcome to attend and provide comments for the Board of Supervisors' consideration.

To review the current MS4 Stormwater Management Program, please visit our website: <http://www.twp.ferguson.pa.us>

Public Works: *Park Projects*

Westfield/Hillside Farm Estates Park, Lois Lane

Now in its first phase, this project includes walking paths, sidewalks, play equipment, benches, pergolas, and a sled riding hill. The \$451,000 project is supported by a \$200,000 Community Conservation Partnerships Program grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) and matching local funds.

S & A Field Lighting Project at the Louis E. Silvi Baseball Complex, Airport Road

Organizations throughout the State College community donated money and services to support this \$252,000 project, which will add lighting and bring the field into compliance with recommended standards of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA).

This project's supporters:

- Louis E. Silvi Foundation - \$120,000
- Ferguson Township - \$75,000
- State College Area Teener League - \$25,000
- Patton Township - \$10,000
- State College Borough - \$10,000
- Central Pennsylvania Convention and Visitors Bureau - \$10,000
- West Penn Power - \$2,000
- Other in-kind contributions have been made by HRI, Inc., S & A Homes, NTM Engineering, and Ferguson Township

Haymarket Park

Consistent with an agreement between the Township and developers of Stonebridge and the Landings (Johnson Farm Associates), a stormwater management basin will be constructed in Haymarket Park this summer. In preparation for construction of the basin by the developer, the Township has removed some trees. After construction of the basin, the Township will fine grade and seed the area. Please direct any questions to Director of Public Works David Modricker or Township Engineer Ron Seybert.

Public Works: *Services and Guidelines*

Brush and Leaf Collection

Brush and Leaf Collection services resume on the first Monday of the month, except on a holiday, or unless brush and leaves are frozen to the ground.

This spring, collection will begin Monday, April 6. Brush and leaves for collection need to be curbside at 7 am that day. Keep in mind that it will take 1 - 2 weeks to complete collection services throughout the Township.

Crews begin collecting leaves on a daily basis in mid-October of each year and continue to do so as long as necessary, or until winter operations begin and after they end.

A special brush collection takes place in the spring and the fall. This spring it begins on Monday, April 20.

Please visit <http://www.twp.ferguson.pa.us/Brush-and-Leaf-Collection/> for Township Guidelines, or call (814) 238-4651 and select Option 4.

Grass Clippings Drop-Off

Drop off your grass clippings at the Ferguson Township Municipal Building, 3147 Research Drive. Public Works will take them to the State College Borough recycling and composting facility.

Feel free to drop them off from dawn to dusk, seven days a week. Follow the "Grass Drop-Off" signs from the parking lot.



Suggest a name for Westfield/Hillside Farm Estates Park

The authority to designate the name of a public park or open space is vested in the Board of Supervisors, which approved a Park Naming Policy at its Regular Meeting on February 17, 2015. Traditionally, the Township has named public parks and open space based on the name of the subdivision from where the land was dedicated.

Approved names may also be derived from:

- ~ an outstanding feature of the facility; an adjoining subdivision, street, school, or natural feature;
- ~ a commonly recognized historical event, group, organization or individual (living or deceased);
- ~ an individual or organization that has contributed significantly to the development of the facility;
- ~ outstanding accomplishments by an individual for the good of the community; or any individual who provided an exceptional service in the interest of the park system.

To review the entire Township of Ferguson Park Naming Policy, please visit our website: <http://ow.ly/Ksrsvs>

If you have a park naming suggestion that adheres to these guidelines, please contact us at <http://ow.ly/Kss75>

How did your mailbox hold up this past winter?

Proper placement of your mailbox will help protect it from potential damage during snow plowing operations. If your mailbox adhered to Township standards, but a plow hit it, the Township typically will replace it with a standard 4-inch by 4-inch wooden post and standard mailbox.

Residents are encouraged to relocate or modify mailboxes to accommodate snow plowing operations. Please adhere to these mailbox placement guidelines:

- The front face of the mailbox should be located one foot from the edge of the roadway pavement.
- The bottom of the box should be 42 - 48 inches above the road surface.
- Maintain three feet of clear zone below the mailbox, measured from the road surface. This allows room for the Township plow truck to clear snow from the street without damaging your mailbox.

For more information, visit <http://www.twp.ferguson.pa.us/Mailboxes>

Public Works: Road Projects

Rosemont/Selders Circle Drainage Improvement Project

This stormwater improvement/repaving project aims to help reduce the frequency of flooding. To accomplish this, the Public Works crew will install larger diameter storm water pipes after utilities are moved out of the way.

Piney Ridge Paving Project and Kansa Avenue Drainage Improvements

Prior to the Township's contractor repaving Wyoming Avenue, Wyandotte Lane, Delaware Road, and Kansa Avenue, residents will notice the Public Works crew making repairs to the road base. Once the base repairs are complete, the process should not take long and residents will be notified when access to their driveways is affected.

Suburban Avenue Paving and Drainage Improvements

This area experiences some flooding near the park. The project involves an engineering study to determine drainage improvements. Public Works will repair the road base. The road will be paved after drainage and road repairs are complete.

Circleville Road Paving Project (Park Hills East to Blue Course Drive)

Public Works will make repairs to the road base and rebuild the intersection at Park Hills East, after which this section of road will be paved.

Park Lane Paving and ADA ramps (Aaron Drive to the Patton Township line)

Public Works will repair the pavement base prior to the road being paved. Upgrades to curb ramps will allow access for the disabled at sidewalks, as part of the American Disabilities Act—required by federal law.

Valley Vista/Bachman Intersection and Science Park Road/Sandy Drive Intersection

Based on results of a Township-wide traffic study and consistent with observations of the Township and motorists, two intersections that experience delays in peak hours will be further studied. Once traffic engineering studies are completed for these intersections, the Township will consider them for possible improvements.

Science Park Road and Sandy Drive Intersection

The Township is studying what can be done to improve traffic flow during rush hour.

Fire Training Trailer Shelter

To assist the Centre Region Council of Governments (COG) with housing its fire training trailers, the Township will construct a shelter on the Ferguson Township Municipal Building property and lease it to COG. COG routinely takes fire training trailers to schools for educational purposes.

Contracted Winter Maintenance in the Traditional Town Developments

For the second winter, the Township has contracted with Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc. to provide winter maintenance in the Traditional Town Developments of Old Gatesburg Road, Havershire Boulevard, Rushcliffe Street, Northwick Boulevard, and Prestwick Boulevard. By design, these neighborhoods have narrower roads and on-street parking. The Township will continue to evaluate the costs and benefits of contract plowing services after winter storms. As more Township resources become available, the on-street parking stalls will be cleared of snow piles on the days the streets are posted for No Parking.

**Be considerate of your fellow residents:
Clean up after your dog wherever you go**

Township Events Calendar

April 6

Regular Brush and Leaf Collection resumes

Stormwater Management Program review during the Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors

April 17

Applications due for Ferguson Township Police Test

April 18

Coffee & Conversation, Giant

April 20

Special Brush Collection

April 25

Ferguson Township Police Test

April 30

Early payment due date for 2015 Township Real Estate Tax

May 14

Ferguson Township Open House

June 13

2015 Ferguson Township Police Bike Rodeo

June 30

Face amount payment due for 2015 Township Real Estate Tax

July 1

Penalty payment period begins for 2015 Township Real Estate Tax, ending **December 31**

July 17

Coffee & Conversation, Naked Egg

*Please visit our website
Events Calendar and Township
News for details*

Police: *Traffic laws, crime statistics*

Drivers, be aware of new “No Turn on Red” sign

Please be aware of a new “No Turn on Red” sign at the intersection of West College Avenue and Blue Course Drive. Some drivers are still turning right onto Blue Course when the light for westbound traffic is red; this is no longer permissible.

Drivers may not enter an intersection center turn lane until there is a break in the painted lines indicating where the turn lane begins. Traveling in the center turn lane, where turns are permitted by drivers approaching from opposite directions, is a violation. This has become an issue during the morning rush hour on West College Avenue at Blue Course Drive.

Drivers must come to a complete stop at flashing red traffic control signals and anytime the traffic signal is not lit. This includes those traveling on the through roadway. If the traffic signal is not functioning, the intersection essentially turns into a four-way stop.

In addition to the safety hazard transgressions from these traffic laws cause, the traffic citation for these offenses comes with a \$128.50 fine. Please drive safely.

“Slow Down, Move Over” law requires drivers to move one lane over when passing an emergency incident

Reminder: Drivers are required to move at least one lane away from any incident along the roadway where an emergency responder (police, ambulance, tow truck) with emergency lights, flares or other warning device activated is alongside the road. If you cannot move over because of traffic or other conditions, you must reduce your speed. This law applies on all roadways, not just those with limited access. The “Slow Down, Move Over” law should not be confused with an older law—still in existence—that requires drivers to pull over and stop upon the approach of a moving police, fire or ambulance vehicle with activated red and/or blue lights and siren.



Ferguson Police report monthly on crime statistics

Crime in Ferguson Township is very low and tends to follow state and national trends. In 2013, the last year for which statistics are compiled, Pennsylvania realized a decrease of 4.2 percent from the previous year. Ferguson Township realized a 6.3 percent decrease. Nationally the rate decreased by 4.8 percent for violent crime and 5.1 percent for property crime.



Every month, the Ferguson Township Police Department publishes statistical information about crime in the Township in a format prescribed by law. The reporting program is known as the Uniform Crime Report (UCR) and is designed to provide information about crime trends and volume based on the reporting of statistics by law enforcement agencies throughout the country. The program is administered by the Pennsylvania State Police for Pennsylvania and by the FBI for the nation.

You'll find our monthly reports at our website, including our statistics for 2014 and 2015 to date: <http://www.twp.ferguson.pa.us/Statistics-Information/>

Phone Scam Alert: *IRS agent impersonators*

Ferguson Township Police advise residents to be aware of a phone scam claiming that local residents owe the government money and will face immediate action if they do not pay. Since December 2014, the Ferguson Township Police Department has fielded 11 complaints from residents targeted by telephone scammers claiming to represent the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury Department or another government agency.

The callers claimed their phone targets owed a thousand dollars or more in back taxes and were threatened with arrest, deportation and lawsuits if they did not pay.

The IRS website reports a surge of such IRS phone scams during this tax filing season and advises taxpayers that calls from criminals impersonating IRS agents are a serious threat.

Effective ways to handle suspicious calls and e-mails

- Don't agree to anything over the phone
- Never follow instructions to purchase a money card
- Never click on a link in a questionable e-mail
- Remember that you cannot trust everyone who calls or e-mails you
- Be wary of anyone who claims that you have won or owe money, or who gives you a hardship story and asks you to cash a check

Visit our website for more information about handling scam attempts: <http://ow.ly/Ks02h>

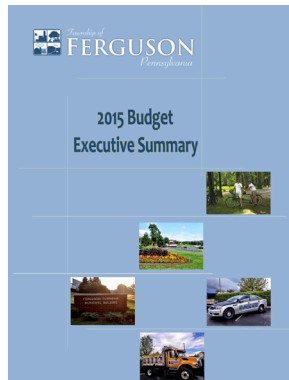
Finance: Presenting the 2015 Budget Executive Summary

Did you know?

- *There are 15 different funds that make up the Township budget?*
- *It costs approximately \$136.16 per resident to provide police services to the Township?*

The Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors and staff are pleased to present the 2015 Budget Executive Summary for your review. Inside, you'll find many more interesting facts about the Township and its operations, revenues, and expenditures, including how your tax dollars are allocated and how expenditures have changed over the years.

View the entire 2015 Budget Executive Summary at our website:
<http://www.twp.ferguson.pa.us/Budget-Information>



Voting in the Township: New precinct, two new locations

Centre County has changed two polling places in Ferguson Township:

Ferguson North 2
New voting location:
Elmcroft of State College
at 150 Farmstead Dr.

Ferguson North Central
is a new precinct (91)
Its voting location:
Stepping Stones Community Church
at 848 Science Park Rd.

Township hosts first Business Leaders Luncheon



Township Manager Mark Kunkle and Assistant Manager Dave Pribulka welcomed representatives from seven local businesses to Ferguson Township's first quarterly Business Leaders Luncheon on Thursday, February 19.

Kunkle thanked each of them for being an employer, contributing to growth, and providing economic opportunities in the Township. He invited those attending to introduce themselves and their respective companies, and to share their observations about how the Township is serving their business needs.

The luncheon was an opportunity to discuss how to attract employees to the area and keep them.

See story at our website: <http://ow.ly/Kt6y2>

Attending were:

- Dorsey Houtz, President/CEO of Avail Technologies, Inc.
- Mike Szczesny, President of HFL Corporation
- Bill Long, HFL's Commercial Real Estate Manager
- Dennis Devlin, owner of Advanced Color Graphics
- Rick Lies, CEO of Chemcut Corporation
- Barry Myers, CEO of AccuWeather, Inc.
- Sheila Reese, Branch Manager of Clearfield Bank and Trust Company
- Jennifer Lulis, CBT's Financial Consultant for Business Services, and
- Louwana Oliva, General Manager of the Centre Area Transportation Authority (CATA).

We thank them for joining us at our first Business Leaders Luncheon and look forward to working with them.

Ferguson Township plans to host a Business Leaders Luncheon quarterly and will invite the next group of local leaders within the next two months.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Ferguson Township

Ferguson Township is accepting applications for the positions of Police Officer, Road Worker, Part-Time Summer Help Road Worker, and Part-Time Summer Help Landscape Laborer. Applications for Police Officer are due by April 17; the Police Test is scheduled for April 25. The summer opportunities with the Township Public Works Department are open until filled.

For job descriptions and position requirements, please visit Employment Opportunities and Current Job Postings at our website: <http://www.twp.ferguson.pa.us>

Centre Region Parks & Recreation

If working in our natural areas, parks or sports complexes appeals to you, Centre Region Parks & Recreation Authority (CRPR) offers paid as well as volunteer job opportunities and internships.

For details about available positions, please visit our website story at: <http://ow.ly/Kt6fA>

Planning: Active Subdivision and Land Development Plans

Ferguson Township continues to be an attractive location for development. Please contact the Department of Planning and Zoning for details. Or visit our website: <http://www.twp.ferguson.pa.us>. Using Google Interactive Maps™, you can view active development proposals and relevant details about the following:

Joel Confer BMW Showroom
120 East Clinton Avenue State College

The Cottages at State College Tentative Planned Residential Development
1850 Blue Course Drive, State College

This proposal includes a 268 unit cottage-style development, with an average household occupancy of 4.08 persons per dwelling unit. The proposed 43.7-acre development includes community amenities such as a pool and a clubhouse for students much like The Retreat in College Township.

The Cottages at State College by Toll Brothers
Subdivision and Lot Consolidation Plan
1850 Blue Course Drive, State College

Grey Subdivision Plan
790 East Chestnut Street, Pine Grove Mills

Sunday Subdivision Plan
717 South Nixon Road, Pine Grove Mills

Whitehall Road Regional Park
Whitehall Road via proposed Blue Course Drive Extension

Chestnut Street Subdivision
135 West Chestnut Street Pine Grove Mills

1000 West College Avenue
1000 West College Avenue, State College

This land development plan is the first in the Terraced Streetscape District—designed to be more pedestrian-oriented with buildings at the sidewalk line, wide sidewalks, and a number of street amenities.

Bowman Subdivision
2486 Circleville Road, State College

Watkins Subdivision
550 Bloomsdorf Drive, State College

Tressler Subdivision
910 North Nixon Road, State College

Finance: Our mission, your 2015 real estate taxes

Our mission

The Ferguson Township Finance Department employs 3.5 full-time staff and manages more than \$10 million in Township funds and \$20 million in school district taxes. The staff is responsible for a multitude of activities that many larger organizations perform—budgets, grants, pensions, banking, debt management, payroll, risk management, IT, fixed assets, books and records, financial reporting (including a CAFR—Comprehensive Annual Financial Report), meeting minutes, and agency audits.

Our mission is to provide professional, customer-oriented financial and tax collection services for our residents.

2015 Township Real Estate Tax

Ferguson Township continues to collect real estate tax from resident homeowners. 2015 Township real estate tax bills have been mailed.

At this link to our website, you'll find a brief guide to the taxes residents will owe and who collects them:

<http://ow.ly/Kt4qr>

Please consult our Township Events Calendar, page 7, for payment due dates.

Township updates fee schedule

By resolution of the Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors, the 2015 Township Fee Schedule has been updated to reflect new fees. Township staff conducted an analysis of the fee schedule in 2014 to determine whether fees assessed reflect the actual cost of providing services.

Some fees have increased or decreased as a result of the analysis. Visit our website to review the complete 2015 Schedule of Fees.: <http://www.twp.ferguson.pa.us/Schedule-of-Fees/>

Community: CATA, Schlow Library, Parks & Recreation

CATACOMMUTE Program recognized with Safety Award

The CATACOMMUTE program, managed by Commuter Services Manager Terri Quici, has earned a Lancer Insurance 2013 Safety Excellence Award. The honor is given to policyholders whose safety record reflects safety excellence over the calendar year.

As of July 1, 2014, the RideShare program had 2,532 members with 85 registered carpools and 44 vanpools. Its 73 percent growth rate over the last three years demonstrates a much needed service for the 14,000 commuting to Centre County jobs and educational facilities. The longest vanpool trip recorded currently is 142 miles per day. The longest carpool trip is 176 miles per day.

During 2013-2014, 416 new registrations resulted in three (3) new vanpool groups being added to the Vanpool Program and 13 new carpool starts. Members of the vanpool program experienced fuel savings of approximately \$922,000 and drove 7.4 million miles less. Our roadways were less congested with 185,718 fewer vehicle trips and our environment noted 2,672 fewer metric tons of air pollutant.

To learn more about the CATACOMMUTE program and the easy and economical benefits CATA provides to long-distance commuters in the area, please visit www.catabus.com/ServiceSchedules/CATACOMMUTE or call 814.238.CATA(2282).

Township to rejoin Schlow Library agreement

The Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors has voted to rejoin the Centre Region Council of Government's Articles of Agreement with Schlow Centre Region Library. The other five Centre Region municipalities are considering ordinances to allow the Township to rejoin the Agreement, which the Township had withdrawn from in 2003.

The Township had continued to support Schlow's operation financially each year and provided one representative to serve on the library's Board of Trustees. The Township's annual contribution—\$365,325 in 2014—was determined by Township residents' usage of the library from the prior year, the amount of revenue the library receives from other sources, and other variables that impacted the availability of Township funds. It also took into account usage by Penn State students. The Township's contributions nearly matched what they would have been if Ferguson had been part of the agreement. When the Township rejoins the library's funding formula, which does not include Penn State students, its annual contribution will increase by about \$4,000. By participating along with the other five municipalities, the Township will gain a second representative on the Library's Board of Trustees in 2017.

In response to the Township's renewed commitment, Schlow is looking into establishing a remote book drop-off that will serve Pine Grove Mills and Pennsylvania Furnace.

Participating in the Schlow Centre Region Library Articles of Agreement is a commitment to supporting library services.

Community Events Calendar

April 12

Earth Day Birthday Event
Millbrook Marsh
Sponsored by CRPR*

April 26

CRPR Summer Guide available*

April 28

Backyard Compost Workshop*
Millbrook Marsh

May 1 - 2

Household Hazardous
Waste Collection Event
Centre County Recycling
& Refuse Authority

May 2

CRPR officially opens the Oak Hall
Regional Park with a
Community Day of Play*

May 18 - 22

Spring Bulk Waste Week

May 27

Backyard Compost Workshop*
Millbrook Marsh

June 4 (tentative date)

Special Olympics Torch Run
Ferguson Township Police
participate each year

July 26 - August 1

Camp Cadet Girls' Week

August 2 - August 8

Camp Cadet Boys' Week
Ferguson Township Police
participate each year

*Please visit the Centre Region Parks & Recreation website: www.crpr.org for additional schedule details

www.centrecountycampcadet.com

<http://www.specialolympicspa.org/special-programs/initiatives/law-enforcement-torch-run>

TOWNSHIP OF FERGUSON
3147 Research Drive
State College, PA 16801

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

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
237.3713

**Centre County Recycling
& Refuse Authority**
238.7005

Recycling Hotline
For information about what you should
and shouldn't put in your red recycling bin
238.6649

COG Administration
Contact with questions about program
requirements
and problem resolution
234.7198

<http://crocog.net/refuse>



2015 HOLIDAY TRASH AND RECYCLING DATES

If your weekly pick-up day falls on or after these
holidays, your trash and recycling service will be
delayed by one (1) day during the holiday week:



MAY 25 Memorial Day
SEPTEMBER 7 Labor Day
NOVEMBER 26 Thanksgiving
NOVEMBER 30 First Day of Buck Season
DECEMBER 25 Christmas

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION
May 1 - 2, 2015

SPRING BULK WASTE WEEK
May 18 - 22, 2015

*Advanced Disposal will collect old furniture, bedding, carpeting, appliances, and tires
(some restrictions apply). Place all items curbside by 7 am on your regular collection day.
You'll find more information in the 2nd quarter billing insert in your April invoice,
or go online to:*

<http://crocog.net/refuse>
(Residential Program)
FALL BULK WASTE WEEK
October 12 - 16, 2015