



You will find our police officers helping

"When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.'"
~ Fred Rogers, host of Mister Rogers' Neighborhood



You can see Ferguson Township police officers filling in as crossing guards at Ferguson Township Elementary School; talking with students, teachers and parents, and teaching people of all ages how to **Run, Hide, Fight** should they encounter an active shooter. Our police also teach parents how to properly install child car seats, offer home checks for vacationing residents, and host a bike safety obstacle course at their annual Bike Rodeo. ***This year's rodeo will take place on Saturday, June 1.***



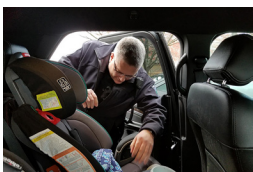
Ferguson Township Police are everywhere in our community. If you follow our monthly **Police Statistics and Calls for Service** at our website, you'll learn that our officers are helping by handling numerous calls for service each day.



In January, our officers responded to 348 calls for service—including two assaults, six thefts, one burglary, seven fraud cases, four criminal mischief complaints, 19 disorderly conduct calls, and a combined total of seven DUI, drug, liquor law and public intoxication violations. As first responders at accident scenes, they responded to 26 crashes. They also provided ambulance assistance to residents asking for help—from basic first aid to administering CPR.

Ferguson Township Police investigated a check-cashing scheme, an individual secretly recording his roommates, a young man threatening and assaulting his girlfriend, an employee theft at a veterinary clinic, and a church burglary.

The majority of calls were from residents asking for help with their concerns such as:



- **dogs missing, running at large or off leash, barking, or experiencing possible neglect;**
- **public arguments among family members and roommates**
- **snow removal complaints**
- **loud voices or loud music playing**
- **a stranger knocking at their door**



Residents even called police about fraudulent food orders and upsetting Facebook posts. Some expressed concern for their neighbors' well-being and for an elderly person seen walking in the extreme cold. Being good neighbors, they also reported items they found, such as a cell phone on the bike path.



Every day, our police are helping people who are suffering emotionally, injured, ill, addicted, or confused. The calls include domestic violence, family conflicts, suicides, suicide attempts, overdoses, heart attacks, injuries, illnesses, and missing persons. In January, for example, a caller did not recognize her husband; another could not locate her husband, and a mother reported her son had not come home from school.

Ferguson Township Police document how officers are helping—in a format prescribed by law.
View statistics from 2014 to 2019: <http://www.twp.ferguson.pa.us/Statistics-Information/>

Our community embodies the elements of greatness

by David Pribulka, Township Manager



Author Jim Collins famously opens his bestselling treatise on business management, ***Good to Great***, with a very simple premise: “Good is the enemy of great.” Even if you have not read the book, you can probably agree with that statement. Some of the most successful organizations in American history have all possessed key elements that have caused them to stand out from the crowd—to be great when surrounded by good. Communities, while not profit-driven, are very similar. But how can Ferguson Township be great? What makes our mid-sized community, so diverse in its interests and character, stand out from the crowd?

In ***Good to Great***, Collins develops the “Hedgehog Concept,” which he defines as the common answer to three questions: ***What are you deeply passionate about? What can you be the best in the world at? And what drives your economic engine?*** While you may each have your own Hedgehog Concept in mind for our community, I want to briefly touch on one I have been proud to observe take tremendous leaps this past year: namely, agriculture.

We all know the decades-old storylines: ***Ferguson Township has some of the most protective agricultural zoning in the state. Ferguson Township preserves more farmland than any other municipality in the county. Ferguson Township enforces a growth boundary to prevent sprawl and protect farming.*** These statements are each imbued with value and the products of many years of hard work from dedicated farmers, local businesses, residents, and public officials. But they represent what makes our community good. Let’s talk about what we are doing to become great. In recent years, I have been proud to witness and be part of an outpouring of community involvement in sustaining agriculture as a business in the Township. A Farmer’s Market at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Pine Grove Mills is entering its second year of operation, featuring local and regional vendors selling a wide variety of craft foods and wares. A group of dedicated farmers and individuals volunteered their free time to make a positive impact on agriculture by commenting on the Township’s land use regulations. An Agritourism Committee of the Chamber of Business & Industry of Centre County (CBICC) and Central Pennsylvania Convention and Visitors Bureau has been convened to look at sharing our county’s rich heritage with the world. A Small Area Plan is being prepared for Pine Grove Mills with a focus on highlighting the unique character of western Ferguson Township. And finally, the farming community has made their voices heard in a meaningful way in initiatives related to sourcewater protection and stormwater management.

Participation from the Township’s agricultural community has been far-reaching and thoughtful. Instead of viewing government as a regulatory burden and an obstacle to the viability of sustainable agriculture as a business, partnerships are being formed to benefit everyone, while building on our defining values and character. What is most encouraging is that this is not a government-led initiative or attributable to any one individual or group. Rather, this is a consortium of many individuals and interests coming together in a meaningful way to effect lasting change in an industry that has defined our community for centuries. I am excited to be even a small part of this movement and look forward to continuing our journey from good to great with you all.

2019 Capital Improvement Projects

Road projects in 2019 are expected to total \$3,250,900. Capital expenditures are budgeted at \$6,911,738. Construction of a new Public Works Maintenance Facility starting this year represents a significant portion of the planned capital expenditures.

Paving and improvement projects will take place this year on the following streets:

Appletree Circle, Avebury Circle, Dogwood Circle, Park Lane, and Princeton Drive;

West Blade (turn around), Brooklawn Drive, Goddard Circle, and Timothy Lane;

contract milling and paving to repair a section of Tadpole Road from Marengo Road to Gatesburg Road.

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

Find helpful links: <http://www.twp.ferguson.pa.us/Quick-Links/>

National Citizen Survey is an opportunity to rate quality of life in the Township

Ferguson Township invited 1,700 residents selected at random to complete the National Citizen Survey™.

On behalf of Ferguson Township, National Research Center, Inc., in partnership with the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), asked these residents to participate in this community survey about their quality of life.

Participants were asked how they rate Ferguson Township on these qualities:

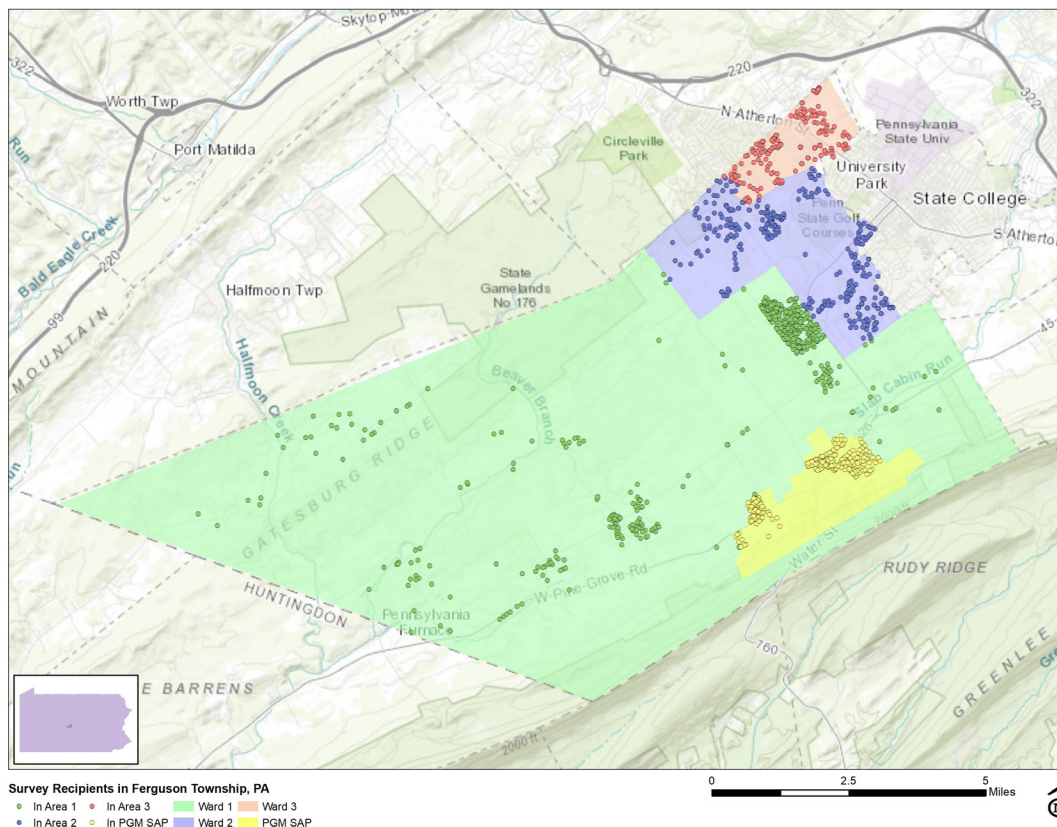
- As a place to live, work, visit, retire, raise children
- As a safe community
- Ease of travel and commuting; traffic flow
- As a natural environment
- Housing options, including affordability
- Recreational and fitness opportunities
- Opportunities to get involved in Township matters
- Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds

In addition, the Township was interested to know whether participating residents have made efforts to conserve water, talked to their immediate neighbors, observed and reported a code violation, or attended a public meeting—all indicators of how concerned, active and engaged residents are in this community.

The last time Ferguson Township asked residents to participate in a community survey was in 2011. The 2019 survey will evaluate how policies and programs implemented since 2011 have improved or worsened resident satisfaction across a number of service areas.

The Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors authorized the National Citizen Survey from ICMA and National Research Center as the survey administrator, given their 20 years of experience measuring needs and organizational performance in local government.

Ferguson Township Assistant to the Manager Centrice Martin worked with the Township's Department Directors and the National Research Center to facilitate the process of surveying Township residents. "I am excited that the Township is offering this survey to our residents," she said, "and I encourage all residents who receive the survey in the mail to participate and respond. Residents who do not receive the survey by mail will have the opportunity to complete the survey at the Township's website."



This map shows the distribution of surveys to 1,700 residents within the Township.

Residents are helping to plan Suburban Park's future

Suburban Park is getting a master plan update, and the Township is excited about the community's participation. Residents continue to express strong interest in helping to plan the park's future.

The Township held the third public meeting on March 27. The consultant, YSM Landscape Architects, gave a presentation on the final Master Plan as well as a discussion on project costs, phasing, prioritization, and possible grants for consideration.

Prior to the March meeting, the consultant presented the pre-final design of the park's master plan at a second meeting on January 17. The pre-final design reflected suggestions from residents who attended the first public engagement meeting on November 5, 2018, comments from the Steering Committee, and responses to an online community survey. Eighty people who use the park responded to the survey.

Thank you to all the community residents who completed the survey, attended the public meetings, and emailed the Township or the consultant directly to help establish a vision for Suburban Park.



Think safety first: Stop for stopped school buses

Pennsylvania law makes it illegal to pass a stopped school bus. Yet local school bus drivers continue to report motorists driving through flashing red lights and the extended stop arm—even as students have started crossing the street to board them.

All buses now are equipped with cameras to monitor whether drivers are obeying the law.

Local school bus violations doubled between the 2015-16 and 2016-17 school years (from 49 in 2015-16 to 97 in 2016-2017). According to Ferguson Township Chief of Police Chris Albright, those numbers have held steady since they doubled.

Our children's safety is at risk when drivers meet or pass stopped school buses, and the penalties are severe: a \$250 fine and a 60-day suspension of the motorist's license. In 2016, 730 motorists were convicted of violating Pennsylvania's School Bus Stopping Law.

[Learn more about the law and watch video on our website.](#)



School Bus Safety in the State College Area School District

Ferguson Township Police offering online crash reports

Ferguson Township Police crash reports are now available online, thanks to an agreement with CARFAX for police.

The cost is \$15 per report, payable at the crashdocs.org website. The new service is a convenience for those who previously had to pick up a report in person at the Ferguson Township Police Department. **Connect with crashdocs.org, then select Pennsylvania as your state and Ferguson Township Police Department as your agency. Click Find a Report to continue.**



Sign up for CodeRED

Recently, members of the public expressed concern about being notified when high level situations or incidents may affect their safety. Centre County 9-1-1 subscribes to an emergency communications network known as OnSolve.

OnSolve CodeRED is an address-based mass notification system that enables large numbers of people to receive targeted emergency notifications in their vicinity as quickly as possible.

Centre County 9-1-1 has used CodeRED to make the public aware of missing persons, escaped inmates, the location of emergency shelters, and a bank robbery.

Ferguson Township Police encourage residents who are interested in this system to download a free phone app. Or call the Centre County 9-1-1 administrative office at (814) 355-6800 for assistance with registering.

[Read more about any story in this issue: http://www.twp.ferguson.pa.us/News-Archive/](http://www.twp.ferguson.pa.us/News-Archive/)

People are coming forward to assist detectives with solving cold cases

If you knew Jean Tuggy, or live in the village where she lived and died at the hands of a killer three years ago on January 20, you may be able to help Ferguson Township Police solve her murder.

For the first time in the Ferguson Township Police Department's history, police have dedicated a cold case team to investigate three unsolved cases, including the homicide of Tuggy, a 60-year-old resident of Pine Grove Mills, and the disappearances of Jennifer Cahill Shadle and Cindy Song.

In the Tuggy case, Detectives Caleb Clouse and Joshua Martin have read more than 700 pages of reports, not including photos, attachments, and cell phone records. "We're getting up to speed on the case, looking at it with fresh eyes, and asking questions," said Clouse. He and Martin are conducting interviews with anyone that knew Tuggy or may have information about her.

"Any knowledge about the victim in this case and any information could be helpful," Clouse said. "We're asking the public not to assume that we have all of the information we need."

Since the FTPD announced its cold case team, people have come forward to provide any information they can that might be helpful.

"If these were easy cases, they would be solved," Clouse added. "We're working hard to investigate and we are taking our responsibility seriously. We are investing all of our time and effort into solving these cases. That's how much we care about this."

"Our goal is to do everything in our power to bring justice for Tuggy, her family and friends," Clouse said. "We're eager and we're ready for the challenge."



Call police at 1.800.479.0050, email the department at police@twp.ferguson.pa.us, or submit an Anonymous Tip. If you have an emergency, please call 9-1-1.

Ferguson Township has a new Ordinance Officer

Ordinance Officer Stacey Mayes' experience includes nearly six years as an intelligence specialist in the U.S. Navy and 23 years as a corrections officer at the State Correctional Institution at Rockview.

His new job calls for him to work 20 - 25 hours a week and be on the road 95 percent of the time— responding to calls, monitoring places throughout the Township, and addressing situations before they become a problem.

"This is a new chapter in my life," he said.

Mayes reports jointly to the Township's Departments of Planning & Zoning and Police. He expects his skills and experience to be a good fit with the responsibility of enforcing ordinances—a position that requires him to be "firm but fair."

"There's a lot more to being a corrections officer besides being physically tough," Mayes said. "You have to know how to listen and to help people who are in distress calm down. I've handled myself well in tough situations, and I'm a good listener."



Mayes' advice to residents who may be wondering how best to avoid an ordinance violation:

- **Be aware of the proper procedures to follow.**
- **Learn the Ferguson Township Code of Ordinances' regulations on controlling your pets; minimizing noise; properly disposing of brush, leaves and grass clippings, as well as trash; keeping grass mowed; shoveling snow when required, and placing signs only where allowed.**

Mayes wants to remind residents about some of the ordinance issues that will come up during the warmer months: pets running at large, overgrown grass, abandoned vehicles, placement of political signs, and more.

Learn more at our website. Residents are encouraged to contact Mayes with any ordinance question. Email him at ordinance@twp.ferguson.pa.us

Phase 2 of the Stormwater Fee Study begins

Ferguson Township has entered into a contract with its consultant, Wood, for phase 2 of the Stormwater Fee Study it completed over nine months in 2018.

During phase 1, a Stormwater Advisory Committee represented by many stakeholders—residents; neighborhood associations; Penn State University; the State College Area School District; Centre Region Parks and Recreation; the Chamber of Business & Industry of Centre County (CBICC), and the Ferguson Township Garden Club—helped to set priorities for stormwater services. The members who served also included a farmer, agricultural engineer, contractor, master gardener, geologist, and water resource activist.

The Township and consultant presented their findings to the Board of Supervisors on May 21, 2018, including program recommendations and costs, service levels, funding methods, the fee calculation process, and estimated rates. The study concluded that a stormwater fee is feasible to implement.

A Stormwater Advisory Committee for phase 2 of the study has been created. In addition to the stakeholders represented during phase 1, a member of the Ferguson Township Tree Commission will serve. Township staff reached out to past committee members and potential new members to confirm their interest in serving. The committee met on April 10.

During this phase, the committee will firm up the scope of the program, implement the program and level of service, determine the fee to pay for the program, hold public hearings, and update ordinances.

Thank you for participating in the Northland Area Mobility Study

Thank you to the 26 individuals who attended an open house on March 11 to discuss how to improve safety and relieve traffic congestion in the areas of North Atherton Street, Martin Street, Blue Course Drive, Cherry Lane, and Aaron Drive. The Northland Area Mobility Study is identifying potential improvements for walking, biking, driving and using transit in the Northland area.

Ferguson Township Engineer Ron Seybert said the Township collected accident data, conducted its own bike and pedestrian safety audits, and took light level readings at intersections to identify safety needs in the area. The study is focused on improving transit stops, shared use paths and pedestrian crosswalks, and refuse islands to help pedestrians, bus patrons, and motorists who are trying to maneuver around buses. The Township and its consultant, McCormick Taylor, collected comments from those who attended the first public meeting on October 3 and also completed an online survey.

The Township will deliver a presentation on the study at a Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors in April.



Public Works Facility to begin construction this year

A state-of-the-art efficient Public Works Building that will meet the Township's needs for decades to come is expected to begin construction this year. The facility will be located in the field above the Township parking lot.

The project will incorporate best management practices for stormwater management, fuel storage, and reforestation. For example, some of the grassy areas will now be natural areas.

The building's design aims to meet important standards for LEED Gold certification. LEED stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design.

The project's primary purpose is to support a department that has outgrown its current facilities. The building will feature vehicle work bays and lifts, a truck washing bay, fuel island, training room, second floor offices, restrooms and locker rooms for both male and female staff.

It is critical to note that the construction of the new facility will be financed through debt service and paid back over a period of years. The Township can avoid absorbing the full cost of the building with its reserves.



Your Public Works crew is helping to make your yard clean-up tasks easier by offering curbside collection of brush and leaves. Following these guidelines will help ensure the safety of our crew.



FERGUSON TOWNSHIP 2019 BRUSH AND LEAF COLLECTION

Brush Collection Guidelines

- Trees and limbs up to six inches in diameter and 15 feet in length will be collected.
- Brush should be visible. Place along the edge of the roadway or pile behind the curb.
- Brush must have all ends facing in one direction. Mixed or twisted piles will not be collected.
- Brush should not be bagged or canned.
- Roots, stumps, garden material, and ornamental grasses will not be collected.
- Crews should not enter private property to collect brush.
- Brush will not be collected from lots being cleared for construction purposes.
- Be aware of nearby utility equipment. 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.
- Time limit for each property collection is 15 minutes.

Leaf Collection Guidelines

- Leaves should be raked to the curb but not onto the street.
- Leaves should be kept in a separate pile from the brush. Different equipment is used to collect the leaves.
- Fence posts, boards and bricks that can damage the collection equipment should not be in the leaf pile.
- Do not bag the leaves.
- Be aware of nearby utility equipment and structures. Please place all leaf piles a minimum of 10 feet away from utility boxes and mailboxes.

Brush and Leaf Collection Schedule

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

APRIL 1

APRIL 15
Special Brush Collection

MAY 6

JUNE 3

JULY 1

AUGUST 5

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

OCTOBER 7

NOVEMBER 4

DECEMBER 2

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

Public Works welcomes new road worker

Lane Brown is Ferguson Township's newest road worker, and this is his first public works job.

"I've always liked working with my hands and being outside," he said, "so this opportunity caught my eye."

Brown grew up in rural Stormstown, where his family runs Brown's Transportation Services for the State College Area School District, and on his "Pap's" farm down the road from the family business. So he brings a lot of hands-on experience as a laborer to his new job. As a student, he participated in 4-H and Future Farmers of America. "I like to have something to work on. That's why I went to diesel school," he added. The State High graduate earned a Class A Commercial Driver's License in the Diesel Technology program at the Central Pennsylvania Institute of Science and Technology (CPI).



Clean stormwater upstream leads to healthy environment downstream

Approximately 75 miles of storm sewer pipes and swales are located throughout Ferguson Township. Much of this storm water infrastructure is located below the ground surface. As a result, we may not consider it in the same light as a surface stream that is clearly visible.

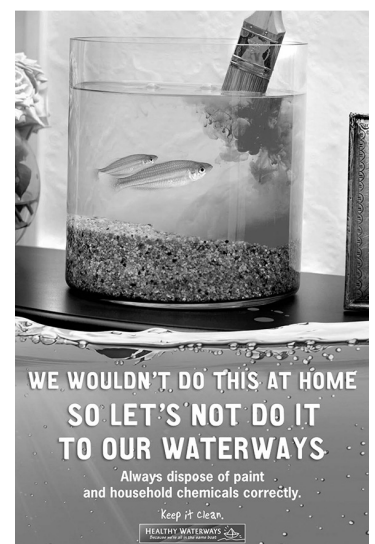
If you think about a water bowl for your pet, or the aquarium that holds your fish, you couldn't imagine cleaning a paint brush in the water they drink. Like your pet's water bowl, the water your storm sewer system conveys needs to remain pure and clean. Storm runoff that enters the storm sewer eventually will be conveyed to a surface stream or to the ground water system. The quality of this storm runoff needs to be protected, as we may use it for recreation such as swimming in a downstream location, or for consumption in our homes when it is withdrawn using ground water wells.

You can do your part to keep the storm sewer system clean by implementing the following practices:

- **Collect used engine fluids and recycle.**
- **Repair drip leaks from vehicles as soon as you discover them. These leaks typically leave their mark on paved areas; water runoff will carry them to storm systems.**
- **Never dump used cleaning and household products or engine fluids into a storm drain or a drain that flows to a basement sump pump.**
- **Never dump used cleaning and household products or engine fluids on the ground surface.**
- **Follow the manufacturer's instructions for disposal of cleaning and household products.**
- **Use garden and lawn care products like fertilizers and pesticides in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Note that the impact of a large dose may be lowered by a significant storm runoff event that occurs after the application.**
- **Clean up and dispose of pet waste properly, ensuring it doesn't make its way into the storm sewer collection system.**

The Ferguson Township MS4 permit from DEP does authorize certain types of discharges to the Township storm sewer system that will not result in pollution to the downstream environment. In addition to clean storm water runoff, some examples of discharges that are allowed include:

- **firefighting activities,**
- **potable water sources,**
- **non-contaminated irrigation water,**
- **diverted stream flows and springs,**
- **non-contaminated pumped groundwater,**
- **water from foundation and footing drains, and**
- **water from crawl space pumps.**



Tree planting scheduled for spring

Tree planting will resume this spring in neighborhoods throughout the Township. The Public Works Department has awarded a contract to Greene's Landscaping to plant 52 trees, including nine different species. In addition, a Public Works crew will plant bare root trees in Stonebridge.

In addition, the Arborist is consulting with the Ferguson Township Park and Recreation Committee about tree plantings in Songbird Sanctuary and Haymarket Park.

Tree Commission aims to influence and preserve the greening of the Township

Since established by ordinance on August 18, 2014, the five-member Ferguson Township Tree Commission (FTTC) has been helping Township staff care for more than 4,500 public street trees, which include a variety of species, ages and sizes.

Working in consultation with the Township Arborist, Lance King, its members developed a five-year Ferguson Township Tree Plan (2017-2022), have facilitated tree plantings, and have celebrated Arbor Day each year. Because Ferguson Township has met four standards—naming a tree board or department; adopting a tree ordinance; managing a community forestry program with an annual budget of at least \$2 per capita, and observed Arbor Day in the Township—the Arbor Day Foundation has named Ferguson Township a “Tree City USA” for two consecutive years.

The Commission's responsibilities also include reviewing private and public land development plans; submitting recommendations to Township staff and the Board of Supervisors for tree species; managing disease control issues; conducting appeals and hearings where appropriate; responding to residents' concerns about their private trees, and leading public education efforts.

“The Tree Commission has been talking about the various ways its members can influence the greening of the Township,” said FTTC Chair Howard Fescemyer, “by encouraging trees and associated vegetation, as well as smaller trees when appropriate.”

When a developer submits a landscaping plan, the FTTC reviews and makes recommendations. The commission also reviewed and commented on updates to the Zoning and Subdivision and Land Development (SALDO) ordinances.

Last fall, the Tree Commission met with the Board of Supervisors to discuss a tree preservation plan. Fescemyer said the commission hopes to play a direct role in advising developers how to diversify the species of trees they select for a subdivision.

Tree Commission members also hope to continue educating residents about the importance of caring for and preserving their private trees.

The commission's newest member, Scott Pflumm, said it's helpful for homeowners to know how a tree supports their habitat, “to see the value of it rather than viewing it as a chore or inconvenience.”

See Tree Fact Sheets on our website to learn more about trees' benefits. Ferguson Township reminds you that if you are uncertain about a tree in your front yard that appears to need attention, or have any concerns about your trees, please contact the Arborist.





Join us for a Saturday morning chat before you shop.
Coffee's on Ferguson Township!



Coffee & Conversation
with Ferguson Township
8 - 9:30 am Saturday, April 20
Giant at Northland Center



Ferguson Township Arbor Day Celebration and Pollinator Garden Planting

10 am - 2 pm Sunday, May 5
Songbird Sanctuary, Owens Drive

Join youth from the Ferguson Township Elementary Environmental Club, Ferguson Township, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Central PA Pheasants Forever, and PSU Master Gardeners in a planting of the pollinator garden at Songbird Sanctuary. The site is a passive park owned by Ferguson Township.

Light refreshments will be served.
For more information, email lkking@twf.ferguson.pa.us

SAVE THE DATE

2019 Ferguson Township Police Bike Rodeo

11 am - 1 pm, Saturday, June 1
Weis Market parking lot, 1471 Martin Street

BIKE SAFETY COURSE
Ages 4-12
encouraged to attend
Helmets required

BIKE REGISTRATION
All Ages

SAFETY CHECKS
Bikes, Helmets
plus:
Child Car Seats

SHARE THE PATH
Information Booth

REFRESHMENTS



For more information about this free community service event,
call Ferguson Township Police at (814) 237-1172

Board of Supervisors adopts new Source Water Protection Ordinance

The Ferguson Township Board of Supervisors amended the Zoning Ordinance by adopting a new section—the Source Water Protection Ordinance and Overlay District—at its Regular Meeting on January 21, 2019. The Township’s Zoning Administrator will enforce the new ordinance, which took effect February 20.

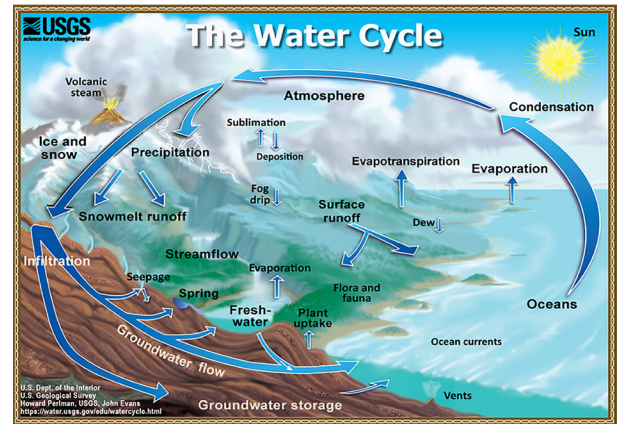
Its purpose is to protect residents’ health, safety, and welfare and the Township’s ecosystems, provide protections for sources of public drinking water supplies, and safeguard the future supply of safe and sustaining drinking water.

The designation of a Source Water Protection Overlay District and regulation of activities within the district is intended to reduce the potential for ground water and surface water contamination and minimize adverse environmental impacts.

Ferguson Township’s Source Water Protection Overlay District is defined as wellhead protection areas surrounding public water supply wells, including Zone I and the Township-Wide Source Water Protection Zone II. Land development plans must comply not only with existing requirements but with the overlay, which is an extra set of ground rules.

In **Section 8** of the new ordinance, residents, businesses and potential land developers will find a table of 45 regulated land uses and activities.

Section 10 outlines the ordinance’s requirement that all land development plans shall contain a note acknowledging the proposed project location in relation to Appendix A “Source Water Protection Overlay Map” zones that the ordinance is designed to protect. In addition, all land development plans shall note the applicant’s compliance with all state and federal laws regarding chemical storage and use.



How will updates to the zoning ordinance affect you?

Ferguson Township is completing a major update to both its Zoning and Subdivision and Land Development (SALDO) ordinances.

Fifty people joined us for our February 21st open house on the ordinances. We’re thankful for an engaged community of residents who have questions about how the proposed updates may affect them.

Planning and Zoning Director Raymond Stolinas, Zoning Administrator Jeff Ressler, Community Planner Lindsay Schoch, and Township Manager David Pribulka answered individual questions about how the updates may affect residents. They were joined by Carolyn Yagle, Planning Consultant from Environmental Planning and Design (EPD) in Pittsburgh. The staff has been working with EPD for nearly two years to coordinate the updates.



Questions residents asked at the open house:

- Is the zoning changing on my property?
- What is the current zoning designation on my property?
- If I want to place a shed or other accessory building on my property, what are the requirements?
- I live in the _____ Zoning District and I want to subdivide my land. Where should I start?
- This ordinance is a large document that contains a lot of details. Where can I go for a quick guide telling me what to do?
- How has the Zoning Ordinance changed with this update?
- How has the Township taken into consideration potential requests for different uses, keeping with the changing times, such as microbreweries and wineries?

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

How much do you know about Finance at Ferguson Township? Such as the amount of our operating budget, the Township's debt load, how often we raise taxes, how many the Township employs, and who collects real estate versus income taxes?

Answers to these and other questions:

Employer

Ferguson Township employs 65 - 70 full- and part-time staff. Of these, the Finance Department employs 3.5 full-time employees, including the Finance Director, an accountant, and two finance assistants.

Budget

The Township's annual operating budget is approximately \$15 million, depending on the amount of capital projects for any one year. The Township has sufficient fund balances to operate efficiently and take advantage of opportunities as they arise.

Debt

The Township currently has no direct debt. The last debt payment was made in 2017. The Township does have a share of debt through the Centre Region Council of Governments (COG) and through Centre Region Parks and Recreation (CRPR) for the cost of regional pools and parks.

Taxes

- The Finance Office collects Township residents' real estate taxes for the school district and for Ferguson Township.
- Centre County collects its own real estate taxes.
- Centre Tax Agency at the Borough of State College collects income taxes.
- 2005 was the last year that Ferguson Township raised taxes.

Payroll and Pensions

- Ferguson Township has one defined benefit pension plan for its police officers. As of the most recent actuarial study, January 1, 2017, the plan is 84 percent funded.
- The Township's payroll and human resources are managed through the Keystone Payroll Company, a local payroll services provider.

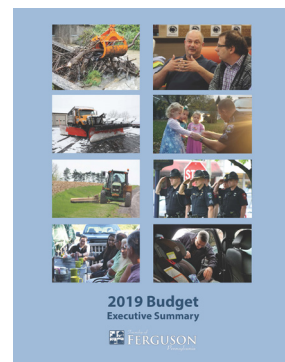
Software and Document Management

- The Finance Department uses the Springbrook financial software, a robust modular package with sound audit trail and security features, and hosts it at the Township.
- A project in progress is the Laserfiche document management system, which would give our residents the ability to complete permits and other applications through our website directly, rather than submitting PDFs by email. The Township aims to implement this Laserfiche feature this year. Feel free to contact the Finance Department with any questions you have. **Call us at (814) 238-4651.**

2019 Budget Executive Summary

If you're wondering what it costs to provide public services to you on a daily basis, Ferguson Township's 2019 Budget Executive Summary is a good place to look. This 34-page document serves to supplement the Ferguson Township Strategic Plan, Annual Operating Budget, Five-Year Capital Improvement Program, and Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (Audit) by providing some useful information to help you better understand how Ferguson Township uses your tax dollars.

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



TOWNSHIP OF FERGUSON

**3147 Research Drive
State College, PA 16801**

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

**2019 SPRING & SUMMER
TRASH & RECYCLING SCHEDULE**

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

**May 27 MEMORIAL DAY
July 4 INDEPENDENCE DAY
September 2 LABOR DAY**

**Household Hazardous Waste Collection: April 26 - 27, 2019
Spring Bulk Waste Collection Week: May 13 - 17, 2019**

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

CONTACT FERGUSON TOWNSHIP

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

**REFUSE AND RECYCLING
Advanced Disposal**

*Contact with questions
about your service or billing*
814.237.3713

**Centre County Recycling
& Refuse Authority
814.238.7005**

Recycling Hotline

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

COG Administration

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

<http://crcog.net/refuse>