



Building a better community for you!

Township News CUMRU

FALL / WINTER 2010

PLAYGROUND



1775 Welsh Road
Mohnton, PA 19540

Township Offices
Monday-Friday
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Except Holidays
Phone: 610-777-1343
Fax: 610-796-0850

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.

WORKSHOP MEETING
Fifth Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.

President
Barry E. Rohrbach

Vice President
Edward L. Gottschall

Members
Ruth O'Leary
Tony J. Sacco
David E. Kalin

Solicitor
Michael A. Setley, Esq.

Engineer
Great Valley
Consultants, Inc.

2010



UPCOMING EVENTS

Cumru Upcoming Events

September 28 thru November 17, 2010 – Fall Dance Classes

- See Page 8
- Adult and Children's Classes



October 2, 2010 – Punt, Pass, Kick Competition

- See Page 7
- Come test your skills and have a great time!
- Ages 6-15 boys and girls welcome!



October 23, 2010 – Autumn Leaf Festival

- See Page 6
- Food, Games, Crafts, Prizes, Hay Rides, Moon Bounce and lots more!



December 4, 2010 – Breakfast (or Lunch) with Santa

- Breakfast - 9:00 am
- Lunch - 1:00 pm
- More information to come!



These are tentative dates and times for these events. They may change due to circumstances beyond our control.

* For more information contact Samson gausch, parks and recreation director at **(610) 587-7031**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Cumru Closings

September 6, 2010 – Labor Day, Township Building closed

October 11, 2010 – Columbus Day, Township Building closed

November 25, 2010 – Thanksgiving, Township Building closed

November 26, 2010 – Thanksgiving, Township Building closed

December 23, 2010 – Christmas (starting at noon), Township Building closed

December 24, 2010 – Christmas, Township Building closed

December 30, 2010 – New Year's Eve (starting at noon), Township Building closed

December 31, 2010 – New Year's Eve, Township Building closed



Cumru Township has undergone many changes in the past year. The Cumru Township Fire Department was created as a result of the merger of the Grill, Gouglersville and Cedar Top Volunteer Fire Companies. The consolidation allows the Fire Department to centralize services, which will result in cost savings to the Township. The Township, through a grant from the PA DEP, has constructed and opened a new yard waste facility on Poplar Neck Road. The Police Department is currently implementing new software designed to improve quality of responses.

Several changes have occurred in staff, as well. In July, Jim Beane was hired as the new Assistant Public Works Superintendent. Jim came to Cumru from West Reading Borough where he was the Public Works Department Foreman. Also in July, the Township hired Samson Gausch as the new Park and Recreation Director. Sam has served as a Head Playground Leader at the Cumru Township Summer Playground program for the past five years. Finally, the Township has accepted, with

regret, the retirement of Chief of Police Brian Hiester. Chief Hiester will be succeeded by Detective Sergeant Jed Habecker, who will take the reins when Chief Hiester retires on September 30th. The Township welcomes our newest staff members and wishes Chief Hiester well in his future endeavors!

With the many changes in personnel, the Township is focusing on improving services to the residents. We will be focusing on new ideas for the newsletter for the next issue. We will also be looking at how to better communicate to the residents. The members of the Parks and Recreation Board are working on expanding the variety and frequency of programs and events. To that end, the Township is looking for ideas for programs that you, the resident, would like to participate in. Please contact the Township offices at 610-777-1343 with any ideas or stop by our offices to meet and talk with any of our staff members. We are here to serve you!

PARK & RECREATION BOARD

Park & Recreation Board

By Richard A. Kratz, Chairperson

There is a great deal of change taking place in Parks and Recreation. Carol Sigworth, who had been the Director for several years, left to take another position. Carol's dedication and conscientious attitude will be missed. The Parks and Recreation Board reviewed and edited the job description for the Park and Recreation Director. Resumes were solicited and candidates interviewed and evaluated. After a thorough process, Samson Gausch was selected as the new Director. There will be many qualities that the new Director will need to possess, but primary among these qualities will be the ability to deliver on our mission statement: "To enhance the quality of life for the residents of Cumru Township by offering recreational opportunities and developing and preserving recreational areas and facilities."

Board members participate actively on the newly-formed Governor Mifflin Coordinating Council and the Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC). The EAC will offer the 2nd annual Earth Day, at the Warren Center, on Saturday, April 23rd, 2011.

Our annual Breakfast/Lunch with Santa was held on Saturday, December 5, 2009. A total of 100 people attended the breakfast, and another 82 individuals attended the lunch. A good time was had by all who attended, and the children were pleased to be able to talk with Santa.

The Bunny Breakfast was held on Saturday, March 27, 2010. Slightly more than 100 attended the breakfast, and had a chance to speak with the Easter Bunny. Another 200 children were in attendance for the Easter Egg Hunt (ages 2-4; 5-7; and 8-10). Everyone who participated in the Easter Egg Hunt received, at least, one prize.

The Summer Playground program was once again held for children ages 4 to 13. This year's program ran from June 28th through August 6th and was located at four facilities, including an evening program at Gouglersville Fire Company. This year over 150 children participated in the program. Many thanks go out to the Gouglersville Fire Company for funding a fantastic program for the second year!

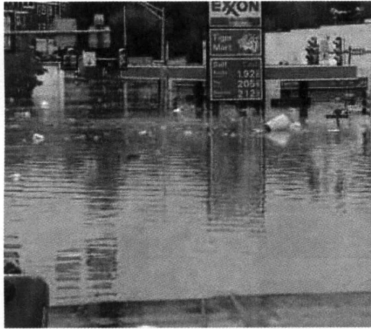
The Park and Recreation Board is looking for a new member. Anyone interested should submit a letter of interest to the Township Secretary, Jeanne Johnston. The Board meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 5pm. All meetings are open to the public.

Cumru Township Parks & Recreation Board Members:

Richard A. Kratz, Chair
Barbara Hackenberg, Vice Chairperson
Mary Ann Chelius-Smith
Lisa Nellius
Betty Seltzer
Darla Wagner
Susan Brown, Secretary

Hold the Stormwater, Please!

tips for stormwater management on your property



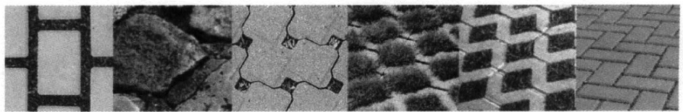
DID YOU KNOW:

- We depend on rainfall soaking into the ground to recharge our groundwater levels.
- Increased number of impervious (non-porous) surfaces, such as asphalt and rooftops, result in fewer opportunities for rainfall to soak into the ground causing flooding and increased pollution of our streams.
- Low groundwater levels result in critically low or even dry creek beds and diminished drinking water supply during periods of reduced rainfall.

Here are some ways you can help in your own backyard:

1 Substitute porous surfaces for impervious ones.

Patios, walkways, driveways, and parking areas can be constructed with porous materials that reduce stormwater runoff. One option is special blocks or pavers with voids that can be filled with gravel or planted with grass that allow stormwater to soak into the soil.



2 Direct stormwater to areas where it can seep into the ground.

Do any of your downspouts direct rooftop runoff down the driveway into the street or directly into a stream? Redirect those downspouts away from the foundation of your home to a grassy area, seepage pit, mulched bed, or rain garden. Use a PVC extension or pipe.



3 Hold stormwater for use or release later.

Use a rain barrel to retain stormwater coming off rooftops for reuse in gardens or to release at a later time. For best results, direct overflow from your rain barrel to a more porous area such as a mulched bed or a rain garden.



4 Plant more trees, shrubs, and mulched beds.

Trees, shrubs, and mulched beds with flowers will intercept and infiltrate rainwater better than mowed lawns. Consider planting one or more large canopy trees, such as maples and oaks. Each large tree will intercept over 1,000 gallons of rainwater each year.

*This message is brought to you by your municipality and Chester-Ridley-Crum Watersheds Association, www.crcwatersheds.org.
Acknowledgement to Philadelphia Water Department and Wissahickon Watershed Association.*

Installing a Pool

By Ken Remp, Building Inspector

Are you planning on installing a pool that holds more than 24 inches of water? If so, you need a Building Permit.

Pennsylvania state codes are uniform when dealing with requirements for in-ground, above-ground and on-ground swimming pools, hot tubs and spas. If any one of the previously mentioned hold more than 24 inches of water, a building permit is required. In almost every case, you will also need an electrical permit. In many situations you may also need a fence which will also require a building permit. The codes are intended to provide protection against potential drowning, near-drowning, and electrocution due to faulty electrical work. The Township also has zoning restrictions regulating where any of the above can be located on your lot. So if you are thinking of installing any of the above, please call the Township for information.

A great number of permit violations seem to occur in the summer months. The violation is usually because the building inspector or zoning officer notices an inflatable swimming pool with no building permit on file. Although the initial cost of an inflatable pool may be low, keep in mind that additional expenses will be incurred to meet all codes.

Don't Top Off at the Pump!

Did you know that "topping off" gas tank after the nozzle clicks can cost money and cause pollution to our streams?



❁ **Overfilling can cause fumes to escape and cause spills of gasoline onto the pavement which washes into storm drains and then streams.**

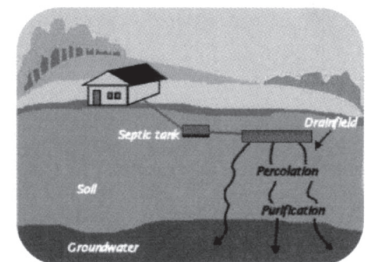
❁ **Forcing extra gasoline into the tank can lead to poor efficiency and affect the vehicle's emission system.**

❁ **Your car's vapor recovery system may actually feed this extra gas back into the pump.**

TIPS FOR SEPTIC SYSTEM OWNERS

One source of bacterial pollution to our local creeks appears to be pollutants leaking from septic fields. Here is an important checklist for septic system owners to review:

- Do not connect foundation sump pumps or other "clean water" discharges to your septic systems.
- Inspect your septic tanks and any distribution pumps every year. Measure the level of sludge build-up and inspect the baffles for scum. Pump your septic tank at least every 3 years (or sooner as indicated by your annual inspection of the tank).
- Avoid using a garbage disposal.
- Do not pour old medicines or strong cleaning agents down the drain. They will kill beneficial bacteria that break down the waste in your system.
- Keep trees and shrubs at least 35 feet away from your field to prevent roots from plugging or breaking pipes.
- Route surface water drainage and snowmelt away from your absorption field to avoid inundation of your field.
- Locate your absorption field as far away as possible from surface water to reduce its potential of becoming a source of contamination.



Source: Lake Notes, PA Association of Conservation Districts

CUMRU TOWNSHIP 5TH ANNUAL AUTUMN LEAF FESTIVAL

Saturday, October 23rd, 2010

9:00 am - 1:00 pm

The following activities will run all day:

Carnival Games and Moon Bounces

Cider, Cotton Candy, Popcorn, Sno-Cones, and more

Hay rides will run 10am-12 noon

Costume Judging will begin at 12 noon

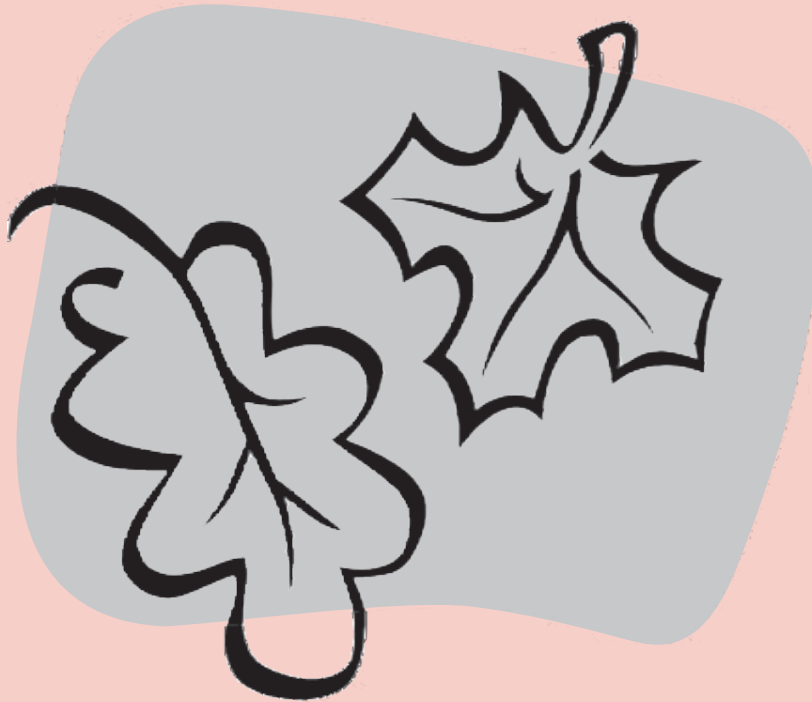
Adults and children can enter

Prizes for top three costumes

Activities for all ages!

Games, Hay Rides, Prizes, Food, Drinks, Moon Bounce, Giant inflatable slide,
Crafts, Music, Costume Judging, Door Prizes, and more!!!

For more information call (610) 587-7031.



cumru Township Warren Recreation Facility

Located at the intersection of Church and Welsh Roads Mohnton, PA 19540

PUNT, PASS, & KICK COMPETITION

October 2nd, 2010

- Ages 6-15
- Boys and Girls
- Three age groups
6-9 | 10-12 | 13-15
- Prizes for top three in each age group
- Drinks and snacks provided
- Friendly game of flag football once competition is over
- Space limited, please call to register
- Crafts and games for while you wait
- Volunteers welcome (contact P&R director if interested)
- Feel free to wear your favorite sports team apparel



DANCE!

Attention Parents and Guardians:

Dance programs will be starting up again at the Cumru Township Warren Recreation Center. Programs are for children ages 2-10 and no prior experience is necessary. There will be 4 total classes running, two for each age group. Classes will be held on Mondays for ages 2-5 and Wednesdays for ages 6-10.

Classes will run 1 hour

Monday (ages 2-5):

- Classes at 5pm and 6pm
- Classes will be a combination of Ballet, Jazz, and Tumbling
- Classes start Monday September 13th, 2010

Wednesday (ages 6-10):

- Classes at 5pm and 6pm
- 5pm class will be Ballet and Jazz
- 6pm class will be Tumbling
- Classes start Wednesday September 15th, 2010



For more information please contact the Cumru Township Park and Recreation Director at (610) 777-1314 or the instructor, Laura Adams, by phone (610) 568-6335 or email DivaChic72291@aol.com.

Cumru Township Warren Recreation Facility

Located at the intersection of Church and Welsh Roads Mohnton, PA 19540

FALL 2010 "A TOUCH OF CLASS" DANCE CLASSES

TUESDAYS, SEPT. 28 THRU NOV. 16 | WEDNESDAYS, SEPT. 29 THRU NOV. 17
8 WEEKS OF FUN FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS AT THE CUMRU TOWNSHIP RECREATION FACILITY!
(Class size is limited . . . please register early)

HIP HOP

Popular hip hop dance moves and music. With this program, you're going to have fun and sweat while doing it! Wear sneakers, comfortable clothes and bring a water bottle and floor mat or towel.
Tuesdays, 6:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. (Sept. 28 - Nov. 16 ,2010) | Cost: \$45 per child

BEGINNING BELLY DANCING

No experience with belly dancing is needed to have fun in this class. Looking for a new and fun way to tone and trim? Then this class is for you.

Adults age 16 & up – children age 10-15 accompanied by an adult

Tuesdays, 6:45 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. (Sept. 28 - Nov. 16 ,2010) | Cost: \$45 per person

DANCE AEROBICS

You are guaranteed to Dance, Exercise and Have Fun!! Wear your sneakers and bring a water bottle.

Adults age 16 & up – children age 10-15 accompanied by an adult

Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. (Sept. 29 - Nov. 17, 2010) | Cost: \$45 per person

INTERMEDIATE BELLY DANCING

(Must have at least one year's experience)

Wednesdays, 6:45 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. (Sept. 29 - Nov. 17, 2010)

Cost: \$45 per person

CALL TOWNSHIP OF CUMRU TO REGISTER

610-777-1343



*Thursday,
November 18, 2010 • 7 p.m.
at the Rec. Center*

The *Touch of Class* students will present a dance program at the Warren Recreational Facility, located at the intersection of Church and Welsh Roads in Mohnton, PA. We would love to see you there. Refreshments will be served.



NO CLASSES- CENTER CLOSED 2010

September 6 – Labor Day

October 11 – Columbus Day

November 25, 26 –
Thanksgiving

December 23 (starting at noon),
24 – Christmas

December 30 (starting at noon),
31 – New Year's Eve

The Cumru Township Fire Department has received 84 smoke detectors from a program coordinated by the Pennsylvania Fire Commissioner and WFMZ-TV

Channel 69. These smoke detectors were made available as part of a grant program intended to help low income residents, the elderly, and families with children that reside in the Township of Cumru.

WFMZ-TV has dubbed this program, Operation Save A Life. The terms of this grant require that the Cumru Township Fire Department physically install the detectors in residents' homes. There is also paperwork that must be completed by the Fire Department and residents to fulfill the grant requirements by the PA Fire Commissioner.

Because there are a limited number of smoke detectors available, an application is available on the WFMZ website at: www.wfmz.com and click on the Operation Save A Life icon, or at www.grillfire.org and also click on the Operation Save A Life icon. The application is also available directly at www.wfmz.com/sponsors/23003153/detail.html or for a Spanish version at www.wfmz.com/sponsors/23199039/detail.html. Once the application is completed and you have been selected to participate in the program, you will be contacted by a representative of the Cumru Township Fire Department.

Any questions regarding this program please feel free to stop by any of the three fire stations- Grill, Gouglersville, Cedar Top, or at the Cumru Township Building Monday through Friday between 8am and 4pm.

COMMISSIONER'S AWARD

Cumru Township Commissioner's Award

On April 20, 2010 District Attorney John T. Adams and Senator Michael A. O'Pake were awarded the Cumru Township Award.

District Attorney John T. Adams

John is a native of Berks County, he graduated from Conrad Weiser High School in 1979, and graduated from Shippensburg University in 1983 with a Bachelor of Arts in Government.

John worked as an Adult Probation Officer in Berks County from 1985 through 1987.

In 1990 John graduated from New England School of Law, Boston, MA.

From 1990 to 1992 John was an associate at Rhoda, Stoudt & Bradley.

From 1992 through 1994 John served as an Assistant District Attorney in the Berks County District Attorney's Office, Reading, PA.

From 1994 through 2007 John was an associate and then a partner at the Law Firm of Linton, Distasio, Adams & Edwards, P.C. where he primarily practiced in the area of criminal defense & litigation.

In November 2007, he was elected as District Attorney of Berks County and was sworn in as District Attorney in January 2008. John is a member of the Advisory Board of Crime Alert Berks County, a Member of the Fraternal

Order of Police, Lodge #71, a Member of the Board of the Berks Connections/Pretrial Services formerly known as Berks County Prison Society, a Member and Executive Committee Member for the Criminal Justice Advisory Board, a Member of the Berks County Chiefs of Police Association, and Chairman and Member of the Berks County Bar Association Criminal Law Committee.

In 2009, John was elected to the Executive Committee of the Pennsylvania District Attorney's Institute and was subsequently elected to the Executive Committee of the Pennsylvania District Attorney's Association in 2010.

He is married to Elizabeth Adams and has two daughters, Julia and Paige Adams, and two step-daughters, Adrienne and Corie Lutz. He has been a resident of Cumru Township for 19 years.

Senator Michael A. O'Pake

Senator O'Pake has worked to ensure that communities in Berks County receive the State resources they need.

Cumru Township and the Governor Mifflin School District have directly benefitted from the Senator's efforts.

In Cumru Township, Sen. O'Pake has assisted the Township in the receipt of various grants, including a recent \$25,000 police technology grant and the grant that constructed a portion of the Warren Recreation Area.

Continued on Page 10

Continued from Page 9

The Senator has assisted with many other grants for Berks County and the Governor Mifflin Area, including for law enforcement, the Mifflin Area Community Library, and youth athletics.

Senator O’Pake has also advocated economic growth in the area through funding for area highway improvements and assisting the Township with respect to highway regulations.



Cumru Township felt the effects of the recession in 2009

The overall real estate assessment for the Township, from which real estate revenue is obtained, remained virtually unchanged for 2008, 2009, and 2010. In fact, it has decreased since 2007.

With respect to planning and building, the Township had a steep decrease in the number of new subdivision and land development plans and building permits.

The estimate of the Township’s Minimum Municipal Obligation for Pensions for 2011 is over \$650,000.00. This estimate may increase further during 2010.

The Township’s general fund in 2010 has a decrease in revenue by at least \$400,000.00 because of Kenhorst Borough’s decision to not renew the police services agreement.

Because of these items and other mandated cost increases, the Board of Commissioners adopted an ordinance in December 2009 that increased the general real estate millage by one mil. This increase was necessary to cover a projected general fund deficit for 2010 of over \$1million.

CLEANUP PROGRAMS

Fall Cleanup Programs

(PLEASE PLACE ITEMS OUT THE NIGHT BEFORE YOUR SCHEDULED DAY)

Fall Cleanup

- If your trash pickup is Monday (*purple*) Fall Cleanup is Monday, October 4, 2010
- If your trash pickup is Tuesday (*blue*) Fall Cleanup is Tuesday, October 12, 2010
- If your trash pickup is Wednesday (*yellow*) Fall Cleanup is Wednesday, October 20, 2010
- If your trash pickup is Thursday (*green*) Fall Cleanup is Thursday, October 28, 2010
- If your trash pickup is Friday (*red*) Fall Cleanup is Friday, October 22, 2010

Spring Cleanup 2011 *Dates to be determined*

Items picked up include furniture, household goods, toys, etc.

The following items **WILL NOT** be taken:

- No automobile parts
- No tires, metal rims, concrete, bricks, dirt, sod, stones, etc.
- No televisions, electronics or appliances
- No sleep sofas or large sectionals
- No chemicals, paints, liquids, salt, etc.
- No stumps, 4 x 4’s, railroad ties, large lumber, etc.

All bundles (shrubs, twigs and small wood, etc.) must be tied & bundled securely (36 inches long and 18 inches in diameter) no larger.

The weight limit must not exceed 35 lbs. per item.

No more than a small pick up load per household.



PLEASE VISIT THE BERKS COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY WEBSITE FOR INFORMATION ON SPECIAL RECYCLING EVENTS at: WWW.CO.BERKS.PA.US/SWA

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED A RAIN BARREL?

By collecting rain water and storing it in a rain barrel, you'll have water for watering flowers and gardens. Many home improvement stores, as well as websites, sell rain barrels for this purpose.

and institutional establishments to recycle high grade office paper, aluminum, corrugated paper, glass, etc. Businesses must forward a report of tonnages recycled to the Township at the beginning of each year. This report must be prepared by the businesses' contracted recycling collector.

BUSINESS RECYCLING

Do you own, manage, or operate a business within Cumru Township? If so, you are required to recycle. Township Ordinance No. 458 requires commercial,

Remember...
each item recycled saves landfill space.
REDUCE... REUSE... RECYCLE

CUMRU TOWNSHIP COMPOSTING FACILITY and LAWN GRASS CLIPPINGS

The new Cumru Township yard waste recycling center at Poplar Neck is open to Cumru Township residents to drop off their yard waste for recycling. For the dates and rules, please see the accompanying charts.

Grass clippings will NOT be accepted at the Cumru facility. Municipal composting is governed by the standards set forth by the Pa. Department of Environmental Protection (Pa.DEF) and lawn grass clippings are not be used in municipal recycling. Lawn grass clippings are high in nitrogen and high in water content and when composted by themselves in large quantities give off foul odors as they decompose. Also, many homeowners use or have lawn services that use chemical fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides on their lawns. Grass clippings from such lawns can carry residues of these chemical fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides which is another good reason to prohibit lawn grass clippings from being dumped at municipal recycling centers, including Cumru Township's facility.

Homeowners can recycle their lawn clippings at their respective properties. The easiest way is to simply let the clippings on the lawn where they will decompose and feed and mulch your lawn- this is called grasscycling. There is no necessity for a composting mower, however they do a better job. Contrary to some popular misconceptions, grass clippings do not contribute to thatch as the clippings decompose readily. And remember to reduce or eliminate chemical fertilizers, pesticides , and herbicides on your lawn as you and your family will be spending time in contact with your lawns ; plus, the residues from these chemicals can be washed off the lawn and into the storm sewers by heavy rain and then into our local streams and water supplies. Alternatively, the nitrogen rich lawn grass clippings can be bagged or raked and composted with other materials like dried leaves or shredded newspaper which are high in carbon and mixed in a compost pile on the property. For more in depth information on lawn grass composting, please Google: Lawn Grass Compost

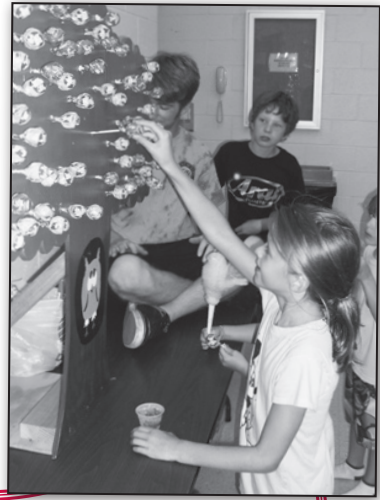
Please utilize your Cumru Township Yard Waste Recycling Center as well as the township curbside recycling for glass, plastic, etc. and also the Western Berks Recycling Center for recycling of other difficult items. The use of these services helps to keep your Cumru Township Trash collection fees down – it saves you money now and in the future, saves landfill storage space, and contributes to less trash in our environment, in the place we live.

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE, RESTORE IN CUMRU TOWNSHIP

PLAYGROUND

The Cumru Township Summer Playground program was once again held this summer. The program ran a six-week schedule from June 28th through August 6th. More than 150 children, ages 4 to 13, participated at the various locations, which included the Warren Recreation Center and Junior playgrounds, the Montrose Manor Playground, and the Gouglersville Fire Company playground. Playground was held daily, Monday through Friday, from 9am to 1pm. An evening playground was held from 6:30pm to 8:30pm at Gouglersville. On Fridays, the children attended field trips which included bowling, playground Olympics, swimming at French Creek State Park, the Reading Museum and Planetarium, and Ozzys. The playground program culminated in a Carnival held on August 6th at the Warren Recreation Center. It was a fantastic summer and we look forward to an even better program next year!





Sewer Vents

Sewer vents and clean-outs are a critical parts of every building's sanitary sewer lateral. They provide access for repair, maintenance and inspection of the sewer pipes that convey sewage from a building to the Township's sewer collection system. The sewer vents and clean-outs are owned by and are the responsibility of the property owner. The area around the sewer vents and clean-outs must be kept clear of vegetation, landscaping and other permanent structures.

Leaf Collection

Leaf collection on all dedicated roads is scheduled from the second Tuesday in October and continues for nine weeks or until the first significant snow fall. Leaves should be placed along the gutter line for collection. Leaves should not be placed out in bags or containers. Leaves in bags or containers will not be picked up during this time. The leaf collection crew will work through the Township on a continuing basis. Due to weather conditions and varying amounts of leaves the leaf collection crew cannot follow a published schedule. Leaves mixed with branches and other yard debris will not be collected. Leaves may be placed in regular refuse containers January through September. Township residents are encouraged to mulch or compost at their residences if possible.

Potholes

The Highway Department fills potholes all year round. Please call 610-777-1343 to report potholes and a crew will be dispatched.

2010 Street Improvement

In 2010 Cumru Township has repaved 4,300 lineal feet Lakewood Drive from Flying Hills Drive to Canterbury Circle. Lakewood Drive was selected for repaving because of its poor condition and the volume of traffic that uses the road. The cost of the project is \$232,544.75.

Tree Trimming

Trees and vegetation must be trimmed to provide at least seven and one half feet (7'-6") of clearance above sidewalks and at least fourteen (14') of clearance above streets. Low branches can damage vehicles and block sidewalks. Ordinance No. 137.



Refuse Rates*

Residents are reminded that there exists a "two-tiered" refuse collection rate in Cumru Township. Resolution #578, adopted on December 20, 2005, established those rates as follows:

- \$142.00 annually for a dwelling with 2 or more occupants
- \$127.00 annually for a dwelling with a single occupant.



The services provided under this fee structure include:

- Weekly refuse collection
- Biweekly recycling
- Biannual "bulky item" collections

*These rates may change as a new contract was awarded in September, 2009

Residents who believe that they are being charged incorrectly, should phone the Township staff, Mondays - Fridays, 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

Cumru Township Park System

Park Name	Acres	Picnic Area	Pavilion Rental	Playground Equipment	Walking Trail	Educational Center	Electrical Outlets	Lighted Athletic Field	Unlighted Athletic Field	Summer Playground	Volleyball Court(s)	Basketball Court(s)	Restrooms	Running Water	Parking	Location
Warren Rec. Fac.	10.81	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	436 Church Road, Mohnton
Montrose Manor	3	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		515 Old Fritztown Road
Pennwyn Playground	1.35		X	X				X	X		X					100 Pennwyn Place
Pennwyn Walking Trail	9				X										X	Wyomissing Ave. & Mohnton Blvd.
Ashley Run	10															Under Development
Nolde Forest EEC	665				X	X							X		X	Route 625

SEWER BACK UP? FIRST CALL TOWNSHIP

Those residents of Cumru Township, whose dwellings are connected to the Township sanitary sewer system, who suspect that their sanitary sewer might be blocked, should first call Cumru Township Utilities Dept. at 610-777-1343 (24/7). Upon receipt of such call, Township crews will be dispatched and will determine if the problem exists in the Township-owned portion of the sewer system. If the problem is in the Township lines, the crew will take corrective measures. There is no charge for this service. If it can be determined that the back-up is not in the Township portion of the system the property owner then will be advised to contact a plumber. If the problem does exist in the main line, by first looking at it, the property owner will be able to avoid incurring the cost of a plumber. Persons whose homes are served by on-lot septic systems should NOT follow this procedure, as their dwellings are not connected to the public system.

POLICE REPORT

Spring Safety Tips from the Cumru Township Police Department

By Chief Brian D. Hiester

Bicycle Riders - Stay Alert

Ride defensively and expect the unexpected. Keep both hands ready to brake, and be aware of traffic around you. Many accidents occur at driveways or other intersections, check for traffic and always look left-right-left before beginning your ride and entering roadways.

Make eye contact with drivers, assume that other drivers don't see you until you are sure that they do. Eye contact is important with any driver which might pose a threat to your safety.

Scan the road behind, learn to look back over your shoulder without losing your balance or swerving. Some riders use rear-view mirrors or mirrors attached to the frames of glasses.

Keep a look-out for obstacles in your path. Watch out for potholes, sewer grates, cracks, railroad tracks, loose gravel, rocks, broken glass, and other debris can cause a bicyclist to lose control. Before going around any object, look ahead and behind you for a free gap in traffic. Plan your move, and then signal your intentions. If you are unsure, or lack the skill to handle an especially rough area, pull off to the right side of the road and walk your bicycle around the rough area.

Be especially careful in wet weather, riding on wet roadways is hazardous. Water can cause you to slip and make your brakes work improperly. Wet weather also poses visibility problems, for cars and bicycles.

See and be seen, day or night

Wear proper clothing, clothes that make you more visible. Wear neon, fluorescent, or other bright colors and keep clothes close fitting to avoid being caught in the bicycle's moving parts.

A day-glo flag (as tall as possible) should be attached to the back of a child's bike, so the child can be seen easily by other drivers.

Children should ride only during daylight hours. After dusk, children should walk their bike home or have someone pick them up instead.

Be cautious when biking at night. If you have to ride at night, equip your bicycle with a white headlight and a red tail light, and front and rear reflectors. Wear reflective clothing or materials, especially on your ankles, wrists, back, and helmet. A reflective vest or reflective tape sewn on clothing makes you far more visible at

night. Ride in areas that are familiar and on streets that are brightly lit.

Clothing

Long pants and long-sleeved shirts cut down on scraped elbows and knees. Clothes should fit snugly; use ankle clips or rubber bands to keep pant legs from catching in the gears, chain or on the bike. Experienced bikers prefer shorts. Gloves reduce hand fatigue caused by continually gripping the handlebars and also offer some protection for your palms in case of a fall. Use of shatter-resistant protective eye wear is also recommended.

Headphones should never be worn, as they hinder the rider's ability to hear traffic.

In-Line Skating or Skateboarding

In-line skating and skateboarding are popular activities. Be careful! These activities can lead to serious injuries to the head, arms and legs. Be smart, wear the protective gear.

- Always supervise young children.
- Make sure all equipment is in good condition and fits properly.
- Always wear a helmet, and replace it every 2-3 years or after a major impact.
- Wrist guards will help to prevent wrist fractures in case of falls.
- Cuts and scrapes can be reduced by wearing elbow and knee pads.
- Teach children to choose a safe location, away from traffic, that has a smooth surface.

Teach and follow the rules:

- Learn and teach how to stop and control speed.
- Do not wear headphones.
- Do not skate or skateboard at night or in wet conditions.
- Stay alert! Keep your eyes on the surface ahead; watch for other people, cars and hazards such as cracks and rocks.
- Respect others on the path.

- The Township of Cumru's, **Ordinance #467** states, "it shall be unlawful for any person to engage in rollerskating, skateboarding, or to ride upon or propel any coaster or toy vehicle upon:
 - A. any street except in order to cross the roadway; or
 - B. any sidewalk located in a business district except that nothing ... shall prevent a pedestrian from pulling a coaster or other toy vehicle, with or without a rider, upon a sidewalk."

Vehicle & Vehicle Contents: Anti-Theft Tips

Lock your vehicle and pocket the keys

The majority of stolen vehicles are left unlocked, often with the keys in the ignition. Whether you leave it for a moment or for several hours, always lock it and take the keys with you. NEVER leave your vehicle with the engine running. This is an open invitation to the "joyrider".

Secure Valuables and Parcels

Never leave unattended in your vehicle, check books, credit cards, laptop computers, money, brief cases, purses or other personal items. Lock valuables in the trunk.

Park in Well-Lit and Busy Areas

This is important for both your personal safety and the protection of your automobile and its contents.

Secure Your Registration

Carry your vehicle registration and insurance cards with you.

Identification

Criminals have also found it profitable to steal equipment and accessories. Engraving tools are available to mark equipment and accessories such as batteries, stereos, GPS Devices, and Satellite Radios.

Texting While Driving

According to a recent study by the American Automobile Association, the risk of a car accident increases by 50% for people who text message while driving. A few states have banned texting while driving and Pennsylvania is currently reviewing legislation to follow suit.

A growing body of research suggests that texting while driving is a rapidly increasing problem. What's clear from this research is that the more finger involvement you have, the more dangerous you are. Talking on a

cell phone affects driving, but when you start to do things like dialing, texting, or searching your MP3 player, you're more likely to have speed variability and lane variation.

Driving habits are severely impacted when texting, probably because texting forces people to look down in addition to moving their fingers. Two of the effects were slowing down dramatically and weaving outside their lane.

When your attention to the road is distracted you're a hazardous driver to yourself and everyone else. If it's absolutely necessary that you need to use a cellphone or other electronic device while driving, drive to a safe place and stop your vehicle before doing so.

BE AWARE

Know what is going on in your neighborhood, don't be afraid to report suspicious persons and to write down license plate numbers. The general rule is to use your intuition. Go with your gut feeling – if it doesn't "feel right" it probably isn't.

If you witness a crime or suspicious activity, notify the Cumru Township Police Department immediately. If it's an emergency, telephone 911. If you would like to speak to an officer or the incident is a non-emergency, telephone 610-655-4911.

Because even though our police are doing an excellent job, they need the help of an involved citizenry. Our police need people who can be their "eyes and ears", watching out for and reporting suspicious activity in their neighborhoods. Do not investigate suspicious activity yourself – let the police do it. They have the training and the skills. Do not try to detain any criminals or suspicious individuals and do not disturb any evidence.

Please know that if you choose, you can remain anonymous when you make the call. Your call could save a life, prevent an injury, or stop a criminal act – please get involved, we need your information to make your home and workplace, a safer community!

THE DEPARTMENT STAFF

Meet the new Police Chief, Jed G. Habecker

In January of 1976, immediately after graduating from West Chester University with a B.S. Degree in Criminal Justice, I went to work as a Patrolman for the Borough of Shillington Police Department. Three years later, in January of 1979, I began my career with the Cumru Township Police Department. I worked as a Patrolman, a Detective and, most recently, as the Detective Sergeant.

Currently, as the Detective Sergeant, I am responsible for the Criminal Investigations Unit (three detectives), the Evidence Technicians (two patrol officers and six patrol sergeants), Evidence Storage/Handling and the Range/Firearms Training. Other duties involve the daily operations of the police department as a whole and frequent consultations with the Chief, Administrative Personnel, Detectives and Patrol Personnel on many issues confronting the Police Department on a daily basis.

I am looking forward to continuing a very rewarding career in Law Enforcement. I am extremely grateful to the Cumru Township Board of Commissioners for giving me the opportunity to serve the community in the role of Chief of Police. Chief Brian Hiester has been an excellent role model and an inspiration to me. Every effort will be made to continue the high level of service and protection that is currently provided to the residents by the Cumru Township Police Department.



Police Chief Brian Hiester retires

I would only like to say that it was an honor to have served the residents of Cumru Township for the past 29 years and to have worked with one of the finest and most professional group of law enforcement officers in Berks County.

I started with the Township on September 17, 1981 as a patrolman and held the rank of Corporal, Sergeant and Lieutenant until being named Chief in February of 2000.



Swearing In



Back Row (left to right): Bob Snyder, Brad Silcox, Chief Scott Brady, Jonathan Fritz, Bill Dziamba, Kyle Moyer, George Turner, Jason Lutz. Front Row (left to right): Matt Carl, Jim Sieger



(left to right): Bob Snyder, Brad Silcox, Bill Dziamba, Jim Sieger, Jonathan Fritz, Matt Carl, George Turner, Jason Lutz, Kyle Moyer, Chief Scott Brady

DEPARTMENT CHANGES

Many Changes for the Cumru Fire Department

By Jeremy Brubaker, CTFD

This year has been very busy to say the least for the Fire Department. Several projects that have been in the works are moving forward and some other projects that were not anticipated are being dealt with.

The first item on the agenda has been the completion of the consolidation of the three existing fire companies- Cedar Top, Gouglerstown and Grill. This has been done, as of July 1, 2010. With this consolidation, all three stations will remain in operation, but the guidance will be from the Township Fire Department. This consolidation will reduce the operating expense and allow for the entire township to benefit from the knowledge and experience of all our firefighters.

Along with the consolidation, an organizational structure was developed to provide leadership to the new organization. An interview board was formed with individuals from outside Berks County to sit down and interview all the potential new fire officers. And from this process, nine individuals were appointed to create the first officers of the Cumru Township Fire Department.

The second item on the agenda has been replacement of aging fire apparatus. The 1972 Mack 75' Tower Ladder Truck located at the Grill Station. This unit has served the Township and neighboring residents very well, but as the age of the unit increases, so does the cost to keep it in service. The parts are becoming scarce for the age of truck and are not readily available. This unit has been deemed "Out of Service" by the Township due to a mechanical problem that would be very costly to repair. Specifications were developed by the apparatus committee and several manufacturers offered their bids for a used/demo/new Tower Ladder. After a lengthy review of all bids and manufacturer demonstrators, the Sutphen Corporation from Ohio has been awarded the contract to construct a 100' Tower Ladder that the CTFD will take delivery of in January 2011. The \$900,000.00 for the cost of this unit will be offset by a \$380,000.00 grant received from the Assistance to Firefighters Grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

The other unit that wasn't expected to be replaced was the 1990 Pierce pumper, located at the Cedar Top Station. This unit serves several different functions, including the day to day use by the three full time firefighters. This engine was placed out of service on March 15 due to a blown motor. At that time, the Board of Commissioners voted not to repair this unit and the apparatus committee was tasked with creating specifications for an engine. Bids were received and



reviewed for a demo/stock unit. Toyne Inc. from Iowa provided a 2008 unit that closely matched the apparatus committee specification. This unit arrived at the Cedar Top Station in May 2010 and is currently having all the equipment mounted by the Cumru Township Mechanic. The cost for this unit was approximately \$355,000.00, a considerable savings of over \$150,000.00 for a custom built pumper.

Next, to help guide the future of the department a strategic planning committee was created that was comprised of representatives of the Board of Commissioners, Township Manager, Fire Chief, Firefighters and residents of the township. The objective of this committee was to create goals and objectives for the CTFD to meet, accomplish or exceed for the next five years. The final version of this plan was presented to and accepted by the entire Board of Commissioners on May 18, 2010.

Last, the vacant offices in the lower level of the Cumru Township Building were turned over to the CTFD for utilization by the Fire Chief, Volunteer Fire Officers and Career Firefighters. This in essence has created a fire headquarters for the foreseeable future.

As one has read, many different things are on the agenda and everything will take extensive work to accomplish and keep intact once in place. And along with all this, the three stations are still training to become skilled and proficient in all areas of firefighting. The Cumru Township Fire Department is based on the dedication of the 60+ men and women that volunteer their time and have a sense of dedication and pride for the service that they provide. Anyone interested in becoming a member of the department are encouraged to stop by one of the stations, or during the day at the Township Building. Even if you're not interested in becoming a member, you are more than welcome to visit any or all of the fire stations in Cumru Township.

FIRE OFFICERS

Fire Officers

Fire Chief- Scott Brady

Assistant Fire Chief- Bob Snyder

Deputy Chief, Operations- Brad Silcox

Deputy Chief, Outreach- Jonathan Fritz

Deputy Chief, Health & Safety- Bill Dziamba

Deputy Chief, Training- Jim Sieger

Captain, Engine Company- George Turner

Captain, Truck Company- Matthew Carl

Captain, Rescue Company- Jason Lutz

Captain, Brush & Rural- Kyle Moyer

TROUT DERBY

2010 Kids, Kops and Friends Trout Derby

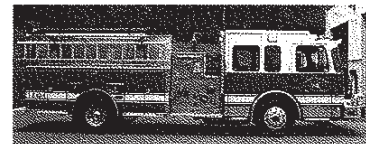
On Sunday, April 25, 2010 members of the Cumru Township Police Department hosted the 4th Annual Kids, Kops and Friends Trout Derby. This year's derby took place at the Brady family pond. Despite the rainy weather about forty children and their parents participated in the event. Lucky for them the fish did not mind the rain and well over two hundred of the stocked rainbow trout were caught by the kids making this derby the most successful derby yet as far as number of fish caught! Trophies were awarded to the children who caught the six largest fish.

All the kids who participated left with at least a prize, commemorative t-shirt and some great memories. Lunch and refreshments were provided during the event. We wish to thank the following persons and organizations for their cooperation and sponsorship in making this annual event a success:

- Board of Commissioners, Township of Cumru
- Scott Brady and Family
- Pennsylvania State Constables Association, Berks Chapter
- Fulton Bank
- RSR Graphics
- Terre Trophies
- Giant Foods
- Schweitzer & Son's Mowing
- Mayflower Beverage
- Berks Packing
- Maniaci's Italian Bistro
- Joey's Bait & Tackle
- Burton Island Brant Hunters
- Detective Ron Linderman, Berks County Detectives
- Detective Mike Fick, Shillington Police
- Chief Lenny Hoffert, Grill Fire Company
- Kim Brown, Larry Gausch, Keith Fritz, Scott Bechtel
Jill Bechtel (ret.) of the Cumru Township Police Department
- Karen Gausch, Richard Schweitzer and Tim Brown of the
Tredyffrin Twp. Police Department



HOUSING CEREMONY



The Cumru Township Fire Department will host a Housing Ceremony for the new 2009 Toyne Fire Engine recently purchased

Where: Cedar Top Fire Station, corner of Church and Welsh Roads

When: Saturday, September 25, 2010
11:00 AM to 2:00 PM



Come view the new engine! Free food!
Fire Truck rides for the children!

Pennsylvania License to Carry Firearms



The Berks County Sheriff's Department will be issuing Pennsylvania Licenses to Carry Firearms at remote locations in Berks County.

Listed below are the days of the month, locations and times of operation.

Applicants for the licenses are to bring a Pennsylvania Drivers License or Pennsylvania Photo Identification Card and payment of \$25.00 cash or check. After filling out the application, a computer back ground check will immediately be performed.

Upon successful completion of the back ground check, the license will be issued.

Cumru Township Building

1775 Welsh Road

Wednesday, October 13, 2010

10 a.m. to 6 p.m.



Sheriff Eric J. Weaknecht
Berks County Sheriff's Department

633 Court Street • Reading, PA 19601 • 610-478-6240

www.CountyofBerks.com/Sheriff

WARREN RECREATION FACILITY

NEW MANAGEMENT

ATTENTION:

The Warren Recreation Facility located at the intersection of Welsh and Church Roads is now being managed by Hibs of Kenhorst in an attempt to better promote and utilize our facilities within the community.

**For more information or to book the facility please contact Hamid Chaudhry.*

CONTACT INFORMATION

Primary

- Phone: (484) 663-4699
- Email: manager@warrencommunityhall.com
- Web: warrencommunityhall.com

Secondary

- Kenhorst Dairy Queen
Phone: (610) 775-4047
Mail: 820 Kenhorst Plaza Shillington, PA 19607
- Exeter Dairy Queen
Phone: (610) 582-6816
Mail: 5710 Perkiomen Ave Reading, Pa 19606

RULES & REGULATIONS

MUST BE 21 YEARS OF AGE TO RENT

**DRUGS AND ALCOHOL BEVERAGE
USE IS PROHIBITED**

**PLEASE LEAVE FACILITY AND
PARK AREAS CLEAN**

NO ANIMALS PERMITTED

**ALL TRASH MUST BE PUT IN
TRASH RECEPTACLES**

**TURN OFF LIGHTS AND STOVE
BEFORE LEAVING**

***PLEASE call office for additional
rules and regulations.***

BABY SHOWERS
BIRTHDAY PARTIES
REUNIONS
Wedding Parties

SECURITY DEPOSIT - A separate check in the amount of \$300.00 is required as a facility equipment security deposit and made payable to the Township of Cumru. Your damage deposit will be returned within 10 working days if the facility is in satisfactory condition. Damages incurred over \$300.00 will be charged to the individual securing the use permit.
PHONE: 610-777-1343 FAX: 610-796-0850

PROGRAM REGISTRATION

Program Registrations



Pre-Registration is Required for All Classes/Programs!

PROGRAM REGISTRATION - MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO "TOWNSHIP OF CUMRU"

NAME OF PARTICIPANT _____ Male / Female (circle one)
(and parent if under 18)

ADDRESS _____ Date of Birth _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ DAY PHONE _____ NIGHT PHONE _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME & PHONE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS (HOME) _____ (WORK) _____

PROGRAM TITLE _____

ADDITIONAL PARTICIPANT(S) _____

TOTAL PAYMENT DUE _____

Registration in a program constitutes an agreement between the participants and the Department to allow photographs or video of the Participant(s) to be published for promotional use. The undersigned, understand that the listed activity (ies) may involve certain risks, and in consideration of admittance to this activity, does hereby for myself, my minor child, successors, and assigns agree to release, waive, and forever discharge from all liabilities and further agree to indemnify, save, and hold harmless the Township of Cumru, its Commissioners, servants, agents, and employees from any loss, liability, damage, or costs which may be incurred due to participation of this activity.

SIGNATURE OF PARTICIPANT* _____ DATE _____

*Signature of Parent or Guardian if Participant is a Minor

Ways to Register

- Come in during office hours. 8:00am to 4:30pm
- Mail your form to 1775 Welsh Road, Mohnton, PA 19540 at least one week prior to class date.
- Sorry, no phone registrations accepted for activities requiring fee.

Program Policies

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be granted:

1. When a class is cancelled by the Parks & Recreation Department due to low enrollment or other circumstances beyond department control, a full refund will be granted; or
2. When a participant submits a refund request to the Department at least one week before the start date of the program; or
3. When a participant becomes ill. The participant must submit a doctors statement and notify the Department before the program starts.

CANCELLATIONS/CHANGES

The Parks & Recreations Department reserves the right to cancel, postpone, change time, date, cost, or location of programs, or make any revisions which may be necessary.

PROGRAM FEES

Program fees are determined by the cost of instructions, supplies and expenses for the minimum enrollment. All fees collected support and finance the program. Note: Some classes may require additional fees or supplies.



Township of CUMRU

Berks County, Pennsylvania
1775 Welsh Road
Mohnton, PA 19540
www.cumrutownship.com

Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage Paid
Lancaster, PA
Permit #23

The Cumru Township Yard Waste Facility is scheduled to open on Saturday, August 14, 2010. Hours of operation will be from 9:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M., ONLY on the second Saturday of the month. Yard waste will not be accepted on any other day. Fines of up to \$300 will be issued for illegal dumping, ordinance 676. The facility is only open to residents of Cumru Township, identification will be required. No commercial vehicles are allowed. The site will be patrolled by police and is under video surveillance.

The following items will be accepted:

- Leaves
- Garden debris
- Brush and bushes
- Tree trimmings
- Weeds
- Flowers and garden plants
- Kraft paper bags

The following items will NOT be accepted:

- Identification required
- No commercial vehicles
- No stumps
- No grass
- No plastic bags
- No treated or painted wood
- No railroad ties
- No tree branches larger than 5 feet long & 6 inches in diameter
- No root balls

This project was partially funded by a Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Act 101, Section 902 recycling grant.