



TOWNSHIP

Township News
CUMRU

Building a better community for you!

Township of Cumru
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
CumruTownship.org

Board of Commissioners
Meet Third & Fifth Tuesday
of each month at 7 p.m.

President:
Ruth O’Leary

Vice President:
Edward L. Gottschall

Commissioner/
Deputy Treasurer:
Sheri Hoover

Commissioners:
Tony J. Sacco
Lorri Swan

Solicitor:
Michael A. Setley, Esq.

Engineer:
Great Valley
Consultants, Inc.

CHIEF OF POLICE **MADISON WINCHESTER**

I would like to take this opportunity to say hello to everyone who I have not had the chance to meet in person yet. Since being hired in May as your Police Chief I have been enjoying listening and learning about Cumru Township and its history from residents. One of my goals as your Chief is to be visible and available to you. In order for the police department to be successful, community involvement is necessary. You and the community you live in have a say in the police department’s priorities. What’s important to you and the community you live in is important to the police department.



I plan on continuing to hold Community Outreach Programs throughout the year. At these programs we will discuss current trends in your community, current trends in the overall region, as well as provide me the opportunity to listen to your concerns and answer any questions you may have.

I am very proud to have been given the opportunity to be a member of the Cumru Township Police Department and look forward to serving you for many years.

Respectfully,

Madison L. Winchester
Police Chief

FALL 2016

TOWNSHIP OF CUMRU

MEETING SCHEDULES

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Meetings held 3rd Tuesday of each month and the 5th Tuesday, when applicable, at 7:00 pm.

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Township Planning Commission meets the first Monday of each month at 6:00 pm. Except: September (2nd Monday). The Township Secretary is available to answer questions about the application for plan review and plan review fees; call (610) 777-1343.

PARK AND RECREATION BOARD

The Board meets the 2nd Monday of the month at 6:30 pm, except in October. The Park and Recreation Board is always looking for volunteers to help with our events and programs. Contact the Rec. Director for details.

ZONING HEARING BOARD

The Zoning Hearing Board meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. A staff assistant is available to answer any questions regarding a Zoning Variance Application during normal business hours. Call (610) 777-1343.

PENSION BOARD

The Pension Board meets whenever the committee deems necessary to perform its functions and responsibilities. A staff assistant is available to answer any questions regarding this Board during normal business hours; call (610) 777-1343.

MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

The Municipal Authority is scheduled to meet on 4/14/16, 7/14/16, and 10/13/16 at 8:00am to discuss the sanitary sewer system.

*A full listing of boards & commissions, along with a meeting schedule can be found at www.cumrutownship.org.

**If you would like to volunteer to serve on one of our Boards with a vacancy, please contact the township at (610) 777-1343 for details on how to declare your interest.

TOWNSHIP CLOSINGS

The Township Administrative Offices will be closed for the following Holidays in 2016: New Year's Day(1/1/16), President's Day(2/15/16), the Friday before Easter(3/25/16), Memorial Day(5/30/16), Independence Day(7/4/16), Labor Day(9/5/16), Columbus Day(10/10/16), Thanksgiving Day(11/24/16), the Day after Thanksgiving(11/25/16), half the day before Christmas Eve(12/23/16), The day after Christmas Day(12/26/16), half of the day before New Year's Eve(12/30/16).

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS

Please visit our website, CumruTownship.org, and scroll to the bottom of the page to sign up for email notifications. You will receive road closures, winter weather advisories, public safety advisories, program and events reminders, and more. It only takes a few moments, and you will stay up to date with important Cumru Township information.

TAX COLLECTOR INFORMATION

Sitting Dates and Times

March, April, July, and August hours:

- Tuesday & Thursday, 10 am to 2 pm
- Wednesday, 11 am to 4:30 pm

All other months:

- Tuesday, 10 am to 2 pm (no Thurs hours)
- Wednesday, 11 am to 4:30 pm

CLOSED ON THESE DATES:

- 7/25/2016 - 8/1/2016
- 9/26/2016 - 10/3/2016
- 12/19/2016 - 1/2/2017

Important Notes

- ONLY FULL PAYMENT ACCEPTED. ONLY EXACT PAYMENT ACCEPTED.
- DO NOT STAPLE YOUR BILL AND PAYMENT TOGETHER.
- A \$15.00 fee will be charged for all returned checks.
- All payments payable to Kathleen Sonnen, Tax Collector.
- If remitting payment without bill, please note type of tax, current year & tax bill number.
- Refuse fee: After 12/31/2016, unpaid refuse charges are sent to collections.
- Real estate taxes: After 12/31/2016, unpaid real estate tax bills are collected by Berks County Tax Claim, (610)478-6625. A fee of \$15.00 per bill is added when filed with Berks County Tax Claim. As of 2/1/2017, $\frac{3}{4}\%$ interest is added per month.
- Per capita taxes: Per capita tax is assessed for any person 18 years of age or older, working or not working. Bills dated July, if not paid by 12/31/2016, will be submitted to GH Harris collection agency, (570)639-5005. Bills dated November, if not paid by April 30, 2017, will be submitted to GH Harris collection agency.
- A drop box is available inside the Cumru Township Office Building at 1775 Welsh Rd., Mohnton, PA. DO NOT LEAVE CASH IN THE DROP BOX.
- Regular office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., excluding holidays.
- Township holidays are as follows: New Year's Day, Presidents' Day, Friday before Easter, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Columbus Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Friday after Thanksgiving, after 12:00 p.m. December 23, 2016, December 26, 2016, after 12:00 p.m. December 30, 2016, and January 2, 2017. The office closes for 2016 on December 30, 2016, at 12:00 p.m.

TIPS FOR MAKING SEWER PAYMENTS

Cumru Township accepts cash, personal checks, money orders, and physical checks generated by on-line bill pay services.

Cumru does not accept electronic funds transfers via ACH, debit cards, or credit cards.

- The consumer is responsible for monitoring the disbursement of funds from her/his account.
- The consumer is responsible for being aware of her/his bank's internal policies.
- The Township is not responsible for errors by on-line bill pay services.
- The Township assesses a fee of \$32.00 for deposited checks that are returned for insufficient funds. The consumer is then required to pay the fee and original bill in cash.

Please include your full name, address, and account information when mailing or placing payments in our drop box. This insures that we can credit the appropriate account.

BUILDING A BETTER COMMUNITY FOR YOU!

ANGELICA CREEK CLEANUP

Submitted by the Angelica Creek Watershed Association

On April 30, 2016 at 7:30 a.m., Volunteers were out on the side of Mountain View Road picking up cans and other litter from an area where an adjacent steep cliff bottoms out to the flood plain of Angelica Creek. The City of Reading, which owns the property within Cumru Township, brought over two huge dumpsters, and Cumru Township Public Works blocked the road.

For years, even before there was public trash pick-up, people have used this roadside as an easy location to dump trash, tires and yard waste. Even now, when municipal trash pickup is required and convenient at most residences, some people still feel the need to throw yard waste, construction materials, and trash out of their vehicles and down the slope.

Members of the Angelica Creek Watershed Association, along with concerned neighbors and Scouts from Troop 241, pulled every old tire and many bags of trash up the thirty foot slope and into the dumpsters. At the end of the day, over 120 tires and every manner of debris had been found and removed. A City of Reading truck came and collected the huge dumpsters and disposed of the refuse, then Cumru Township re-opened the road.



The slope, floodplain, and streambank that were so clogged with years of trash and tires are now greening up beautifully and providing a healthy habitat for the local wildlife. It's important to remember that people also depend on the services provided by healthy ecosystems. For example, Angelica Creek is upstream of Schuylkill River drinking water uptakes and the Delaware Estuary. The crabs, oysters, and striped bass we like to eat from those areas all benefit from healthy connected upstream watersheds.

It was a job well done, and Angelica Creek is the better for it. An effort will be made to keep the area clean and free of future pollution, but we can't do it alone. Everyone needs to play their part, and if you see illegal dumping, please report it to your Township as soon as possible. If you are interested in future activities related to Angelica Creek, the Angelica Creek Watershed Association usually meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 4:30 p.m. at Berks Nature's Nature Place in Angelica Park. Email AngelicaCreekWA@gmail.com for more information.

STREAM NAMING CONTEST

During the months of March through May, the Park and Recreation Department solicited names from the public utilizing our township newsletter, website, and social media to name the tributary of the Angelica Creek flowing predominately north east from Hemlock Road to Route 625.

At the June 13, 2016 Park and Recreation Board Meeting, the PRB ranked the names that were submitted. The PRB recommended "Stillwater Run" submitted by resident John Warren, as the top ranked name. "Stillwater Run" is a nod to the stills that were operated in the area through Cumru's early history.

A resolution was passed at the August 16, 2016 Board of Commissioners meeting, to forward that name to the US Board on Geographic Names. Approval is pending.

TOWNSHIP OF CUMRU

GOVERNOR MIFFLIN SURVEY

Economic development is the top priority for community members within the Governor Mifflin School District. A recent survey by the Governor Mifflin Area Coordinating Council (GMACC), which polled residents of Kenhorst, Shillington, and Mohnton Boroughs as well as Cumru and Brecknock Townships, found that the majority of residents want to see more businesses move into the region.

More than 1,100 people responded to the survey, which was sent out in May. The GMACC, made up of representatives from the five area municipalities and the Governor Mifflin School District, will use the results to formulate a comprehensive plan for the region. That plan is slated for completion in early 2017.

More than half of respondents said that the Governor Mifflin region needs to attract new businesses to help reduce the tax burden on residents. Likewise, nearly a quarter of survey participants felt that the number of vacant commercial buildings in the area ranked as the biggest issue facing the region.

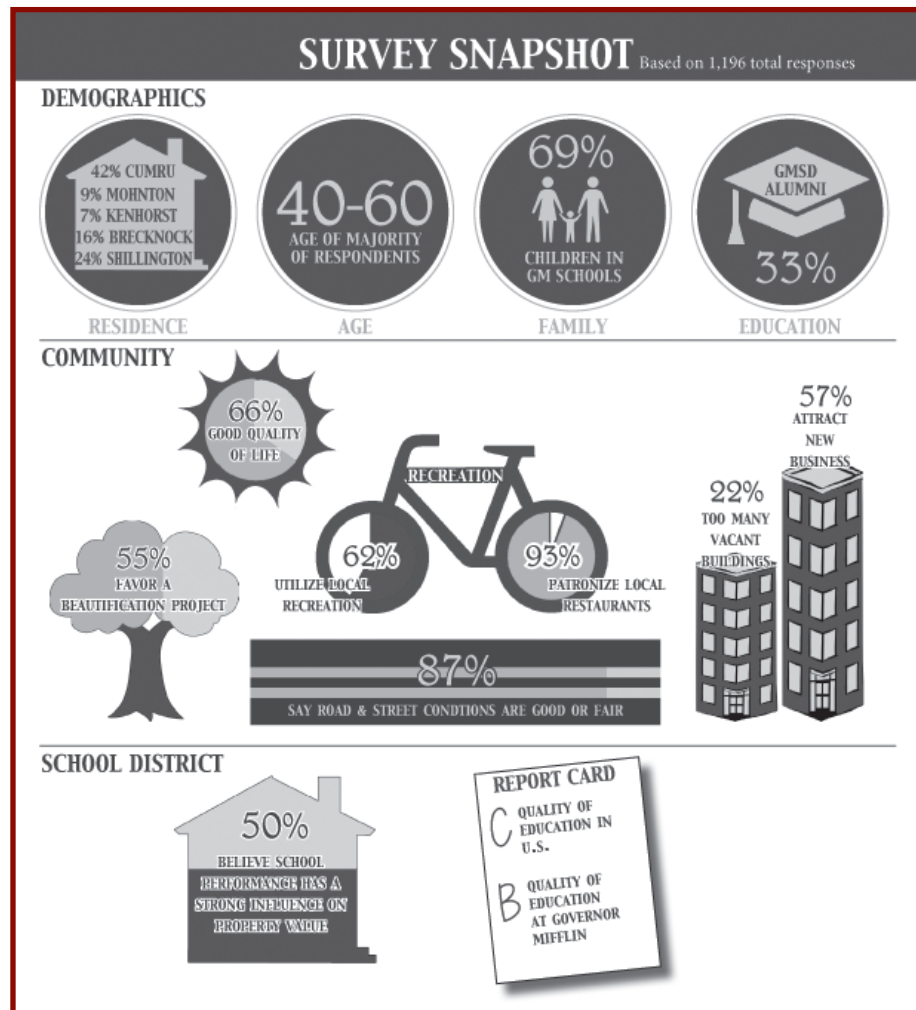
The survey asked residents to compare their perception of the quality of education at Governor Mifflin School District versus that of the quality of education in the United States. The vast majority gave Governor Mifflin a “B” grade, while grading the education across the country as a “C”.

Results also showed that residents believe there is a strong correlation between Governor Mifflin’s overall academic performance and property values throughout the district.

“It’s on all of us, as an entire community, to be invested in the success of our school district because there is a connection between school district performance and real estate value,” said Dr. Steve Gerhard, Governor Mifflin Superintendent.

Gerhard and School Board member Jennifer Murray represent Governor Mifflin on the GMACC.

Dr. Gerhard believes the joint effort of the group is key to the overall prosperity of the region: “By being together at the table and planning our futures in a comprehensive and collaborative way, we stand to see much more success because we can support each other.”



TOWNSHIP OF CUMRU

ATTENTION LANDLORDS

Property owners who are also landlords are responsible for contacting the Township to register an apartment or other tenancy. The form below is provided for your convenience.

REVISED 02/06/2015

REPORT BY LANDLORD
As required by Ordinance No. 573 adopted 4/20/99.

Part 1 – Unit Information
ADDRESS OF LEASED UNIT: _____

Is this unit a Business Unit? Yes _____ No _____
a Dwelling Unit? Yes _____ No _____

Is this unit occupied? Yes _____ No _____
Not occupied? Yes _____ No _____

Brief description of unit (for example, 3 bedrooms, 2 story, etc.):

Part 2 – Landlord Information
LANDLORD(S) NAME(S): print _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/ TOWNSHP/BOROUGH _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

PHONE, INCLUDING AREA CODE: (H) _____ (C) _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

Part 3 – Tenant Information
NAME(S) OF TENANT(S):

_____	AGE _____	MALE _____	FEMALE _____
_____	AGE _____	MALE _____	FEMALE _____
_____	AGE _____	MALE _____	FEMALE _____
_____	AGE _____	MALE _____	FEMALE _____
_____	AGE _____	MALE _____	FEMALE _____
_____	AGE _____	MALE _____	FEMALE _____

Reports by Persons Upon Becoming Landlords – report the data set forth above within 30 days.
Reports of Changes in Use or Occupancy – report the data set forth above within 10 days after having knowledge of vacancy or a change in occupancy. A landlord of a hotel, inn, or boarding house shall not be required to report a person as a “tenant” until that person has resided in such landlord’s establishment for a period exceeding thirty (30) days.

Both residential and commercial property owners are responsible to report their Landlord Information (Ordinance No. 573) and any changes during the year. **Rental money does not have to be exchanged in order to require a response to the Landlord report.**

BUSINESS REGISTRATION

Anyone who desires to own and operate a business of any kind in Cumru Township, Pennsylvania, must have a valid business registration. Whether your business will be temporary, or already exists, a business registration is required.

Business Registration forms are available on the Township website, www.CumruTownship.org. Please note that door to door sales requires a separate transient merchant license.

The Business Registration Fees, per Ordinance No. 663, are:

- Residential Home occupation, include Group Home \$25.00
- Commercial Building up to 1000 sq. ft. \$50.00
- Commercial Building 1,001 to 10,000 sq. ft. \$75.00
- Commercial Building 10,001 to 30,00 sq. ft. \$100.00
- Commercial Building over 30,000 sq. ft. \$200.00 +\$2.50/1000sq.ft.
(Rounded to the nearest 1,000)

The business registration fee is due annually.

NOTE: Business registration fee(s) do not include any additional inspections, reviews or any other necessary permits pertaining to a property.

CODES DEPARTMENT

Do I Need a Permit?

Permits are required to protect all people from the effects of the repairs, additions, or new construction which are in violation of codes and which could cause harm to life and property. Permits are also required to ensure that federally mandated building related requirements, such as energy conservation and accessibility, are complied with.

Many people may be contemplating the purchase and installation of a shed, pole barn, garage, or home addition. Depending upon the type and size of project, permits may be needed. Any pool, spa, hot tub, or other similar structure that can hold more than 24 inches of water needs a building permit and a zoning permit.

Sometimes, it can be confusing as to whether or not a permit is needed. If you have a question about permits, or if you need one for your next project, please call a Building Inspector at (610) 777- 1343, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

RESIDENT INFORMATION

STORM WATER FACTS:

What many people don't realize is how storm water collects debris, like yard waste and litter. Solid materials bundle together at storm drains and block the flow of rain into storm water pipes. This can result in localized flooding that could have been prevented. Solid materials that get through the storm water system flow directly into local creeks and rivers, often containing pollutants that are harmful to aquatic ecosystems. Like many other municipalities, Cumru Township is responsible for enforcing regulations to minimize yard waste, litter, and other debris in storm water. Accordingly, by Ordinance No. 658, as amended, Cumru Township prohibits the disposal of grass clippings and other material in streets, unless clippings are removed from streets by one hour after sunset on the day on which such clippings are deposited in the street. **When it rains, everyone is downstream of someone.**

Storm drains clogged by trash and debris cause excess stress on other drainage systems which contribute to sinkholes and premature deterioration of roadways by undermining their foundations over time as water seeks alternative routes to drain away under the surface.

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 (Ordinance No. 137). Low branches can damage vehicles, impede sidewalk travel, and block signs. Property owners are responsible for having their trees trimmed. New trees shall be planted a minimum of 10 feet outside of the legal right of way of streets (Ordinance No. 690).

LEAF COLLECTION:

Leaf collection season has arrived! The Township will begin picking leaves on all dedicated roads on the second Tuesday of October (October 11th) and will continue for nine weeks (December 9th) or until the first significant snowfall. Leaves should be placed in the gutter for collection. Leaves should not be placed in bags or containers. Leaves that are mixed with sticks, branches and other yard debris will not be collected. Leaves in bags or containers will not be picked up during this time of year. Leaf collection crews will work through the Township on a continuing basis without a published day or area schedule. Due to the nature of leaf collection work it is not possible to have a set schedule. Special arrangements will not be made to pick up leaves. The Township has six trucks and five leaf vacuum machines dedicated to leaf collection. With the exception of emergencies, the Highway Department's entire staff (eight men) is assigned to leaf collection duty on a daily basis. During the heaviest times of the leaf collection season the Township will also assign the Sewer Department and Mechanics to assist with the work. Leaf mulch is available to residents on a first come, first served basis. The Township will deliver leaf mulch, when possible, to addresses in the Township. The Township reserves the right to decline delivery based on accessibility problems or concerns such as potentially washing into streams or storm water facilities. Please call the Township to discuss delivery.



WINTER WEATHER MAINTENANCE:

Less than three (3") inches of snow, the roads will be treated as conditions warrant. Depending on the storm, plowing may not begin until there is at least three (3") of accumulation. Over three (3") inches of accumulation, the road will be plowed if parked cars permit. The number and frequency of passes that the plow will make depends on the intensity, duration and type of frozen precipitation. HOWEVER, no two storm events are the same and temperature, duration, intensity, type of precipitation, time of day, time of year, manpower levels, equipment availability and many other factors will vary from storm to storm. The number and position of vehicles parked along the road will seriously impact the Township's ability to push snow off of the road.

*It is unlawful to cast or deposit snow and/or ice in streets of the Township (Ordinance No. 332). Cumru Township maintains the traveled cart way of dedicated roads, defined as traveled lanes, as its first priority, so as to minimize snow accumulation becoming a hazard on the roadway. After cart ways are plowed (traveled width), a cleanup and widening operation follows. Roads are plowed in a priority order, beginning with the highest traffic volume routes and working toward the lower traffic routes.

SNOW EMERGENCY ROUTES:

Parking is prohibited along Snow Emergency Routes during a declared Snow Emergency. Check the Township website, www.cumrutownship.org, the Township's Facebook page for Snow Emergency updates, or sign up for email alerts (pg. 3).

POTHOLES:

The Highway Department fills potholes all year round. Please call (610) 777-1343 to report potholes and a crew will be dispatched, as soon as possible.

NO SEWER DEDUCTIONS:

For those sanitary sewer customers on public water, Cumru Township discontinued the practice of deductions for pool fill-ups or other water that does not go through the sanitary sewer system. Sewer consumption is based solely on water consumption, as required by ordinance.

SEWER VENTS:

Sewer vents and clean-outs are a critical part 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 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.

SEWER BACK-UPS:

Residents are encouraged to call the Township before they contact a plumber in the event of a clogged sewer. At no charge, the Township will investigate the problem and advise the property owner on the results.

If you experience a sewer backup, do not flush your toilet or use water until the cause of the problem has been determined. The Township recommends contacting the Sewer Department at (610) 777-1343 Monday through Friday 8a.m.-4:30p.m. or after hours at (610) 607-1815. The Township will check the sewer main and sewer lateral. If the clog is in the main or in the Township's Section of the lateral the Sewer Department will clear the blockage. If the clog is on the property owner's section of the lateral or the building trap, the Township will advise the property owner to contact a plumber. There is no charge for this service.

HOLIDAY TRASH/RECYCLING COLLECTION

Trash and recycling collections shall not be made on the following holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. When a holiday falls on a Monday or a Tuesday, collection shall be made on the prior Saturday. When a holiday falls on a Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, collection shall be made on the following Saturday. These changes are reflected in the trash and recycling schedules. Residents are encouraged to place their items curbside on Friday evening for Saturday Collection.*Please dispose of hazardous waste appropriately.

Please see back cover for Fall Cleanup collection information.

CURBSIDE BRUSH/YARDWASTE COLLECTION

There will be one more curbside "brush and yard waste" pickup during 2016. The collection schedule is as follows:

If your trash day is Mon: pickup will be Sat., Oct. 1, 2016

If your trash day is Tues: pickup will be Sat., Oct. 8, 2016

If your trash day is Wed: pickup will be Sat., Oct. 15, 2016

If your trash day is Thurs or Fri: pickup will be Sat., Oct. 22, 2016

Please Note:

1. All brush/yard waste must be set out the night prior to collection. There will be no re-run routes.
2. All brush/yard waste is to be in kraft bags (biodegradable bags) or tied securely with rope or twine not to exceed two (2) feet in diameter, and three (3) feet in length. No wood over four (4) inches in diameter will be taken because of possible damage to trucks. No bundles or bags weighing over forty (40) pounds.
3. The limit per household is 12 bags or bundles.
4. No firewood, stumps, dirt, or rocks will be taken as part of this collection.

INTERESTED IN RENTING OUR FACILITY? CALL (610) 777-1343 FOR DETAILS

Looking to host a birthday or graduation party? How about a bridal or baby shower? Don't have enough room at home for that family get together? Our Warren Recreation Center is the perfect solution! With ample space, affordable rates, and all the necessary facilities, make sure you give us a call before you make arrangements anywhere else. We may have exactly what you are looking for. We book quickly, so do not hesitate to call!



TOWNSHIP OF CUMRU

YARD WASTE FACILITY

The Yard Waste Facility located off of Poplar Neck Rd. is open ONLY on the Second Saturday of the Month. Yard waste will not be accepted on any other day. Normal

Hours of Operation are 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Winter Hours (Dec-March) are: 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.



The following items will be accepted:

- Leaves
- Garden Debris
- Brush and Bushes
- Tree Trimmings
- Weeds
- Flowers and Garden Plants

The following items will **NOT** be accepted:

- Stumps and/or stump grindings
- Grass
- Plastic Bags or Paper Bags
- Root Balls
- Treated or Painted Wood
- Railroad Ties
- Tree Branches (larger than 5ft long & 6in wide)
- Glass
- Trash
- Dirt or Sod
- Concrete or Brick
- Rocks**

***PAPER BAGS MUST BE EMPTIED.**

Fines up to \$300 will be issued for illegal dumping (Ordinance No. 676). Open ONLY to residents of Cumru. Identification will be required! No commercial vehicles are allowed. The site is patrolled by police.

*In order to comply with PaDEP regulations, items proposed to be dropped off at the yard waste facility may be declined at the Township's discretion.

BARRY ROHRBACH RETIRES FROM CRIME ALERT

Submitted by Crime Alert Berks County

Barry E. Rohrbach, the founder and long-time president of Crime Alert Berks County – and a former long-term Cumru Township commissioner – will begin his well-deserved retirement when he relinquishes leadership of the crimestoppers group on December 31.

Rohrbach announced his intentions to step down at the Crime Alert executive board meeting in early June, providing plenty of time for the directors to begin a search for a new president.

Rohrbach stated in his formal letter that the decision to step aside was tough to make and that being at the helm of Crime Alert for so long was an important part of his life's work.

"In all fairness, I feel it is time to allow new ideas, new goals, and new ambitions to drive Crime Alert into the future decades," Rohrbach wrote.

Rohrbach, a Flying Hills resident, has shepherded Crime Alert into a noteworthy organization since its beginning some 18 years ago.

Crime Alert Berks County is now considered the top crimestoppers group in the Commonwealth. The organization is considered unique in that it is served by an all-volunteer board of directors and advisory board. The diverse boards consist of civic and business leaders, government and law-enforcement officials.

As of late this summer, Crime Alert has paid out more than \$438,000 in rewards for tips that have resulted in 635 arrests.

The organization also does a lot of community outreach designed to increase awareness of Crime Alert. There is an annual awards dinner, holiday concert, poster contest for elementary-school children in the county, as well as the "Shop with a Cop" holiday outing.

This fall's annual banquet is set for Wednesday, Oct. 5, at Victor Emmanuel's in Reading and the holiday concert will be held Thursday, Dec. 8, at the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel in Reading.

Rohrbach, a native of Muhlenberg Township, has worn a lot of hats in his life – police officer, banker, real estate agent, and public relations man. In addition to retiring from his Crime Alert volunteer leadership role, he is also retiring from his most recent position at Security Guards Inc., Wyomissing.

Guido Pichini, president of Security Guards and a Crime Alert director, and his wife Susan, are co-chairing a special retirement breakfast for Rohrbach on Wednesday, Nov. 9, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Wyomissing. The breakfast starts at 7:15 a.m.

The breakfast is open to the public with a ticket cost of \$40. Pichini is also looking for sponsors for the event in levels ranging from \$5,000 to \$50. (Deadline for sponsorships and program book ads is Oct. 15.) All proceeds will go to Crime Alert Berks County, so that it may enhance its work in the community.

More information is available by contacting Linda Shuker at Security Guards; call 610-375-4747 or email Linda at lshuker@securityguardsinc.com.



CTPD - COMMUNITY OUTREACH



We would like to thank everyone who attended Chief Winchester's first Community meeting on August 3, 2016! It was an informative night with some great questions. We hope to see more residents at our future meetings:

Chat with your Police Chief!

Stop out to the Deluxe Restaurant on Lancaster Pike to meet and chat with Cumru Township Police Chief Madison Winchester on Thursday October 6th @ 9:00 AM. This

is an informal community gathering and everyone is welcome. There will be complimentary coffee and breakfast treats.

An additional community forum is scheduled for November 2nd in Flying Hills. It will be at the Barn from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

MEDICATION DROP BOX

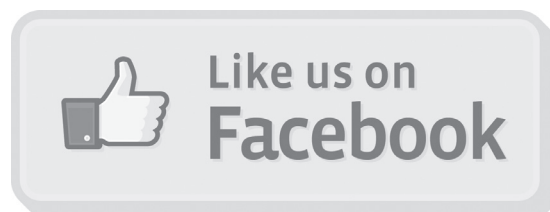
NOTICE TO ALL OUR RESIDENTS:

There is now a Medication Drop Off Box located in the upper lobby of the Cumru Township Municipal building. Feel free to bring your unwanted, unused, expired medications to be safely disposed of.

The drop box is available during normal business hours, from 8:00am-4:30pm.



The Cumru Township Police Department has a Facebook page! Visit www.facebook.com and search for "Cumru Township Police Department."



BUILDING A BETTER COMMUNITY FOR YOU!

FIRE DEPT - HOW TO GET INVOLVED

ABOUT US

The Cumru Township Fire Department is a public safety organization which employs both Volunteer and Career Firefighters. The department is led by a full-time Fire Chief, and two career firefighters staff a pumper from Station 2(Cedar Top) from Monday through Friday. Additional part-time career staff supplements the staff and provides training for all firefighters. Our staff is rounded out with 36 volunteer firefighters who serve as drivers, interior firefighters & chief officers.

The department provides fire suppression, vehicle rescue, hazardous materials mitigation, emergency medical assistance, fire safety inspections & fire prevention lectures. To keep all firefighters at the ready training is provided several times a month during the day, nights & the occasional Saturday. The department has responded to 429 requests for service from January through August of this year.



WHY VOLUNTEER?

Becoming a volunteer firefighter gives you a unique opportunity to serve your community while joining a select group of people few ever get to be a part of. Whether you choose to help out in a support role, become a fully qualified firefighter, rescue technician or apparatus operator, or pursue a path to becoming a fire officer, it requires hard work and commitment, but it can also be one of the most rewarding experiences you'll ever have. If you want to be part of a close-knit team, have a desire to learn and keep on learning, and want to help people when they need it the most, then the volunteer fire service just might be for you.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I VOLUNTEER?

If you're new to the fire service, you'll start off with an orientation period in which you'll be taught basic skills needed to safely help out during emergency responses. Over the first year or two, you'll participate in department activities and emergency responses, filling roles suited to your level of training and ability, and complete the State Fire Academy training that helps you become fully qualified as a firefighter or function in your chosen support role. If you've already spent some time in the fire service, your initial duties will be matched to your level of training and experience. Either way, where you go from there is largely up to you.

HOW TO JOIN

First, you must complete one combined application to the Cumru Township Fire Department, Cumru Township Volunteer Firefighters' Association, and Cumru Township Volunteer Firefighters' Relief Association. You must then pass a criminal background check, complete an interview with the Membership Committee, and be accepted into probationary membership by a vote of the Firefighters' Association. Successful completion of the six month probationary period completes the full membership process. We take applications year-round at the Fire Chief's office in the Cumru Township Municipal Building at 1775 Welsh Road, or you can speak directly with a department officer. There is no cost to apply or to be a member of the department.

Submitted by the Animal Rescue League of Berks County

The Animal Rescue League of Berks County (ARL) presented pet oxygen masks sets to five different Fire and EMS Stations in Berks County.

The Animal Rescue League was given Herbein + Company's "Community Hero Award" for March 2016, which included a monetary award. The ARL used the funds to purchase five pet oxygen mask sets and then gave them to Western Berks EMS, Keystone Fire Company #1 in Shillington, Southern Berks EMS/Cumru Fire Department, Exeter Township Fire Department (West), and Goodwill Fire Company in Muhlenburg.

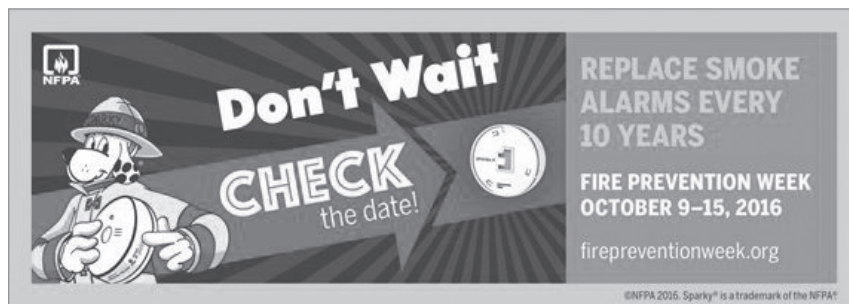


The Herbein + Company Community Heroes Award nomination was made by Jessica Prutzman of JPrutzman Enterprises, LLC. Prutzman is also the President of the Animal Rescue League of Berks County's Board of Directors. Prutzman submitted the nomination after witnessing firsthand how vital it is for fire companies to be properly equipped with pet oxygen mask sets at a Muhlenberg fire in January 2016. A dog named Rocky was rescued from the fire and a firefighter used his own oxygen mask to revive the dog.

Executive Director of the Animal Rescue League, Liz McCauley stated, "We are happy to be able to use the award from Herbein + Company to purchase the pet oxygen mask sets. Having the right equipment can make the difference between life and death for an animal. As much as we hope the Fire and EMS companies do not need to use this equipment, they are now prepared."

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK - OCTOBER 2016

This year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Don't Wait – Check the Date! Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years," represents the final year of our three-year effort to educate the public about basic but essential elements of smoke alarm safety.



Why focus on smoke alarms three years in a row? Because NFPA's survey data shows that the public has many misconceptions about smoke alarms, which may put them at increased risk in the event of a home fire. For example, only a small percentage of people know how old their smoke alarms are, or how often they need to be replaced.

We're addressing smoke alarm replacement this year with a focus on these key messages:

- Smoke alarms should be replaced every 10 years.
- Make sure you know how old all the smoke alarms are in your home.
- To find out how old a smoke alarm is, look at the date of manufacture on the back of the alarm; the alarm should be replaced 10 years from that date.

Join the Governor Mifflin Fire Departments during our Fire Prevention Day on October 1st at the Governor Mifflin High School from 12-3pm.

BUILDING A BETTER COMMUNITY FOR YOU!

MIFFLIN COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Hours:
Monday 9 am-8 pm
Tuesday 9 am-8 pm
Wednesday 9 am-5 pm
Thursday 9 am-8 pm
Friday 9 am-1 pm
Saturday 9 am-4 pm

The Mifflin community library is hosting numerous programs and activities throughout the week, including a stitching circle, storytime programs, a lego club, and more. Of course they also have a fantastic selection of books, magazines, music, and more available every day. Stop in or check out their website for more information (<http://www.berks.lib.pa.us>).



Upcoming Events:

Book & Bake Sale (Craft items too)

•October 20, 2016 3-7pm •October 21, 2016 10-1pm •October 22, 2016 10-2pm
Book collections is only October 1-14, 2016. Friends of the MCL

MIFFLIN AREA YMCA

<http://www.ymca-berkscounty.org>

The Mifflin Area YMCA offers a state-of-the-art fitness center, interactive youth center, gymnasium, and child-watch area. Youth and adult programs are running year round and the gymnasium is available for rentals. Financial aid is available, call for more information.

BERKS NATURE

Plant Trees with Berks Nature and Angelica Creek Watershed Association!

October 15 from 10:30 am - 12:30 pm Cost: FREE

Roll up your sleeves, meet new conservation-minded friends, have a good time and help out the environment- all at the same time! Meet at Angelica Park parking lot. Register in advance so you are notified of any changes to the schedule. Volunteers are asked to bring work gloves and wear long-sleeved shirts, long pants and closed-toed shoes that are appropriate for digging. Keep in mind, you will get dirty and the day may be chilly and wet. Please bring a shovel, if possible.

Little Ones Nature Walk

October 23 from 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Children explore nature with their favorite adult during our Little Ones Nature Walk series. Nature-based stories, nature walks and art projects are all part of the fun! Sign up with your little one to discover the wonders of wildlife together! Designed for children ages 2-5 and their parents/caregivers. Adult participation and pre-registration required. Please be sure to dress for outdoor play.

Cost: \$5 per family (Berks Nature members) \$10 per family non-members

Sign up for all 5! (September 15th: 10-11:30am, September 25th: 1-2:30pm, October 3rd: 10-11:30am, October 23rd: 1-2:30pm, November 15th: 10-11:30am)

ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE EVENTS

Savage 61 Rockin Country Gala

Throw on your jeans and join us for the Savage 61 Animal Rescue League Rockin' Country Gala on October 22! Tickets for an evening of fun for the animals is \$65 per person.

The Savage 61 ARL Rockin' Country Gala will keep you on your feet all night long! This over 21 event starts off with a cocktail hour and three hors d'oeuvres stations at 5 pm. Kick up your boots with free line dancing lessons with Dixie, test your courage on the mechanical bull and check out our Texas-sized raffle. We'll sit down for dinner at 6pm and then present the successes of 2016, and our goals of 2017. Tickets for the Savage 61 ARL Rockin' Country Gala will only be sold on-line. This event is sure to sell out, as there are limited seats, so purchase your tickets today at <http://www.berksarl.org/event/gala-2016/>.

Outdoor Holiday Decoration National TV Show Light Up Night

The most wonderful time of the year is here! Kick off the Holiday Season with the Animal Rescue League and our good friend Matt Simpson earlier than ever before! We would like to invite all of our family and friends to be part of a Nationally Televised Show (sorry, we can't give away the name of the TV Show just yet) on Monday, October 24 from 5pm-10pm the home of Matt Simpson, 218 N. Sandy Lane, Sinking Spring, PA 19608. Filming begins at dusk and will highlight Matt's extraordinary outdoor decorations!

Please dress in your best holiday gear—the more extreme the better! We want to show the nation that we have the greatest Christmas Spirit—even in October! Anyone dressed in holiday gear will get one free specialty drink from Sheetz. Please no holiday wear with the "Grinch" or anything from Rankin & Bass Holiday shows, such as the Heat-Miser or Herbie the Elf. Also not permitted during the filming is holiday sportswear from any professional sports team. Only 3 holiday songs from Matt Simpson's song and dancing light show will be featured on October 24. You will have to come back after Thanksgiving night to hear the complete holiday play list with dancing lights. Have your cellphone camera handy to have your picture taken with Santa, Elsa, Ana and Olaf during the evening. Bake sale items will be for sale during the event with a portion of the proceeds benefiting the ARL's Patriotic Paws Program. Patriotic Paws is program for qualifying veterans who wish to adopt a dog or cat from the ARL. Patriotic Paws covers the adoption fee, spay/neuter surgery, microchip, license, vaccinations, leash, collar for the adopted pet and a free Patriotic Paws T-shirt for the veteran. Start the Holiday season this year on October 24 and be part of the fun while filming a Nationally Televised Show, all while benefiting the Animal Rescue League of Berks County!

NOLDE FOREST EEC

Nolde Forest encompasses more than 665 acres of deciduous woodlands and coniferous plantations. A network of trails makes the center's streams, ponds and diverse habitats accessible to both students and visitors. Teaching stations offer places for students to work and benches for those who wish to sit and enjoy the sights and sounds associated with the natural world. ADA accessible trails are located by the mansion and sawmill.

The Nolde mansion houses offices for the center staff. A garden featuring native wildflowers is adjacent to the mansion. The C.H. McConnell Environmental Education Hall near the mansion is the indoor site for year-round programming.

Please visit <http://dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/findapark/noldeforest/index.htm> for a full listing of upcoming programs and events.

BUILDING A BETTER COMMUNITY FOR YOU!

ZUMBA FITNESS CLASSES



Classes are scheduled for Thursday evenings from 6:15 pm - 7:15 pm at the Warren Recreation Center. The cost is \$5.00 per class at the door or you may purchase a five class punch card for only \$20.00. Weekly schedule updates available on facebook.

FALL FESTIVAL - OCT 15, 2016

The Cumru Township Fall Festival will run from 11am-3pm, and all the activities will run continually throughout the entire event. We will have plenty of food including: hot-dogs, sno-kones, popcorn, pretzels, caramel apples, apple cider, and candy. We will also have a number of games and activities such as childrens crafts, a pumpkin patch, hayrides, two moon bounces, and more. The best part is that it is free to attend!



OPEN PLAY BADMINTON / PICKLEBALL

Will will be hosting open play badminton and pickleball inside the Warren Rec. Center on Tuesday evenings beginning in late October. No experience is required and equipment will be provided. The program will be free to attend. Please check facebook for updates.

ADULT RECREATIONAL VOLLEYBALL - OPEN GYM

Will will be hosting coed recreational volleyball at the Governor Mifflin Middle School on Wednesday evenings beginning sometime in October. No experience is required and equipment will be provided. The program will cost a nominal fee to attend. Please check facebook or our website in early October for full details.

ORNAMENT DECORATING PROGRAM

Join us for a FREE ornament decorating program on Nov. 18, 2016. We will provide all of the supplies, as well as snacks and refreshments. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Program begins at 6:00 p.m.

To register, call (610)777-1343 x.121 or stop by our offices. Registration is limited.

SANTAS MAILBOX

A special mailbox delivering mail directly to Santa at the North Pole will be setup in the township building lobby (1775 Welsh Rd. Mohnton PA 19540) beginning in November until the 2nd week of December (Dec. 9). Please make sure you include your full name and address so that Santa can write back. We will have form letters available, but feel free to bring a personalized letter from home.

BREAKFAST(OR LUNCH)WITH SANTA

Bring the family out for breakfast or lunch with Santa on Saturday December 10, 2016.

Breakfast will begin at 9:00AM, Lunch at 12:15PM. Both will be served buffet style. Full menus will be available when registration opens.

Along with a great meal, we will have plenty of crafts for the children, a coloring contest, door prizes, horse drawn carriage rides, and of course jolly ole Santa Claus himself (who will have a special little treat for every child)!

Registration limited to 85 (each seating) and opens Monday, October 24, 2016. All registrations must be made in person.

The cost is \$9.00 for adults and \$7.00 for children (all children three years of age or younger are free). Please contact the Park and Recreation Dept. at (610)777-1343 with any questions.



DEC 10, 2016 - COUNTRY CARRIAGE RIDES

Join us for some hot chocolate (or coffee if you prefer) and a horse drawn carriage ride. We will be running carriage rides every few minutes from 10:00am-2:00pm. Country Carriage Rides out of Womelsdorf provides a wonderful carriage for us, and a wonderful experience. Bring the family out to create a few great new memories. Carriage rides will be departing and returning from the Warren Rec. Center (1775 Welsh Road Mohnton PA 19540).

HOLIDAY DECORATION CONTEST

Decorating your home for the holiday season? Then we are looking for you. Submit a before and after photo of your home by email to sgausch@cumrutownship.org or by mail to 1775 Welsh Road Mohnton Pa 19540 to enter. Our top three homes will be featured in our next newsletter and the home owners will receive a gift certificate to one of the excellent family dining establishments in Cumru Township.



Township of Cumru

Berks County, Pennsylvania
1775 Welsh Road
Mohnton, Pa 19540
www.cumrutownship.org



Trash/Refuse Collection

Collection shall be once a week for everyday household refuse.

Fall Cleanup

If your trash pickup is Mon Fall Cleanup is Mon, Oct. 3, 2016
If your trash pickup is Tues Fall Cleanup is Tues, Oct. 11, 2016
If your trash pickup is Wed Fall Cleanup is Wed, Oct. 19, 2016
If your trash pickup is Thurs Fall Cleanup is Thurs, Oct. 27, 2016
If your trash pickup is Fri Fall Cleanup is Fri, Oct. 28, 2016

Recycling Collection

Recycling collection shall be every other week.

*Our recycling program is a single-stream program. This means all recycling materials can be mixed in the recycling container.

**Please see the Refuse/Recycling Calendars for exact dates of collection, available online at CumruTownship.org.

If you experience any problems with your trash or recycling collection, call the Township Office during the next business day at (610) 777-1343.

VISIT US AT
CUMRUTOWNSHIP.ORG

