

Abington Township

Newsletter

Fall 2016 Volume 20, Issue 3

Recent Board Actions

- Approved the demolition of 1004 Irvin Road.
- PennDOT's Snow and Ice agreement was approved for the winter season 2016-2017.
- Approved the Design/Construction agreement with the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers for the Abington Environmental Improvement Project to provide for riparian buffer and stream corridor improvements along Sandy Run Creek.
- Accepted a Grant of Sanitary Sewer Easement from AQUA Pennsylvania, Inc.
- Subdivision and Land Development application approved for the properties located at 1511 Susquehanna Road and 1112 Rydal Road.
- Authorized Staff to proceed with implementation of the 2017 Lieutenants' Promotional Examination.
- Approved the Architectural and Engineering Contract for the preparation of the Crestmont Park Community Facility.
- Accepted the Grant Award from the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission for the Transportation and Community Development Initiative to support the 'Walk Park Train Abington.

Holiday Closings

November 11th Veterans Day

No Trash, Yard, or Recycling Collection

November 24th- Thanksgiving Day

No Trash, Yard, or Recycling Collection

December 25th- Christmas Day

No Trash, Yard, or Recycling Collection

January 1st- New Year's Day

No Trash, Yard, or Recycling Collection

January 16th- Martin Luther King Day

No Trash, Yard, or Recycling Collection

February 20th- President's Day

No Trash, Yard, or Recycling Collection

Contact Your Township

7:30 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.

Telephone: 267-536-1000

Fax: 215-884-8271

www.abington.org

Address: 1176 Old York Road Abington, PA 19001

Public Works/Trash 7:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

Tax Office

Monday- Thursday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

267-536-1025,1026,1027,1028

Abington Community Taskforce (ACT)

Announces Award Opportunity for Graduating Seniors

ACT is looking for two high school seniors who are making a difference in the community! The Julia Greenbaum Memorial ACT Student Service Award of \$500 will be given to two graduating seniors who volunteer their time for community service. The award must be used to further education or assist in a job training opportunity following graduation. Eligible students must be residents of Abington Township or Rockledge Borough, be in good standing regarding citizenship, behavior academics, and demonstrate high moral character.

To be considered, send the following:

- Your name, address, email, and phone number
- A paragraph about yourself and how you are making a difference in our community
- Two letters of recommendation: one from school and one from the community.

Submit by February 20, 2017 to momweiss@aol.com. Direct questions to Mrs. Weiss as well.

Awards will be presented at ACT's annual Citizens That Care Reception on Thursday, April 27, 2017 at North Hills Country Club.

Electronics Recycling

Residents of Abington Township only can bring "Anything with a plug" to the Abington Township Public Works Facility, 2201 Florey Lane, Roslyn, PA 19001 on Saturday, November 19, 2016 and on February 25, 2017 from 9am-1pm. No batteries, light bulbs, smoke detectors, or large appliances. There will be a fee for TV's and computer monitors.

Yard Waste (March through January) which consists of grass clipping, leaves, etc. is accepted in 30 gallon brown biodegradable paper bags. Brush and tree limbs, which must be bundled and tied (maximum 3 foot lengths and 3 inches in diameter and weigh no more than 30lbs.) are picked up on the same day as your regular trash day.

Vaccum Leaves Rake leaves curbside for vaccuming no earlier than one week prior to scheduled collection. If you are not sure which week your leaves are scheduled for collection you can use your browser and type in <http://www.abington.org/home/showdocument?id=4832> and find your street. Holiday Trees- Discard holiday trees on your trash days in January. Please do not put trees in plastic bags.

Briar Bush

- Join Briar Bush for an evening with ornithologist and author Scott Weidensaul Wednesday, October 26 from 7-8:30pm at the Township Building. Weidensaul will discuss his new book, "Peterson Reference Guide to Owls of North America." Briar Bush's screech owl, Scarlett, will make an appearance. Free-sponsored by Jenkintown Lyceum.
- The Friends of Briar Bush gala, Feather Our Nest, is Saturday, November 5 from 6-10pm at Keneseth Israel Synagogue. Tickets \$100 or \$175 for two. Dinner, drinks, silent and live auction, Fund the Need and unique entertainment. This year's theme is Briar Bush Summer Glamp! Call 215-887-6603 for tickets.
- Briar Bush will honor volunteers at a holiday party Friday, December 9 from 6-8pm at Briar Bush.
- WinterFest, Briar Bush's celebration of winter for the whole family, is Sunday, February 5 from 1-4pm, Hikes, animal shows and other fun winter activities. Free for all!

Electronics Recycling Collection

- Saturday, November 19th, 9am-1pm. Abington Public Works Facility, 2201 Florey Lane, Abington, PA 19001. Most items are FREE however there is a nominal cost for CRT TVs and Computer Monitors. More details at <http://www.abington.org/departments/refuse-recycling/electronics-events>.
- Donate a Food Item at the Electronics Recycling Event and earn Go Green Rewards Card credit!

TAKE A BITE OUT OF CRIME

ASK US ABOUT OUR DOG WALK & WATCH PROGRAM

CONTACT:

drondinelli@abington.org



IACP and Cisco Systems Recognize APD for Outstanding Community Policing

On behalf of the Abington Police Department (APD), Chief Bill Kelly (center), Ofc. Roger Gillispie (left) and Director of Youth Programs Melissa Gargan were presented with the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) Cisco Systems Community Policing Award at the IACP October conference in San Diego. The Department has been recognized, in part, for its newest program, the HUB, introduced to Abington by Chief Kelly in 2014. The HUB is a community policing model that brings together a diverse group of social service providers from across the county to address and provide intervention and support services for those who have been identified as being at risk.

This Community Policing Award may be conferred on no more than five law enforcement agencies in the world each year. This year, the APD was one of only four to receive this honor. Receiving this award once in a lifetime is a great distinction, but Abington has now won the Community Police Award twice and remains the only police department in Pennsylvania to have ever received such a distinction in the awards 18th year history. In 2013, the APD was recognized by the IACP for its Youth Deterrence Development Project that took a multi-faceted approach to youth delinquency deterrence and partnered with four community organizations.

The Community Police Award is intended to hold up the best practices in community policing by recognizing police organizations that use the power of collaboration and partnerships to make local, national, and global communities safer from crime and terrorism. Winners provide a model for improved police services on issues that are specific to individual communities but are also valuable for all communities around the world.



Bird Town Walks at Lorimer Park

Search for migrants passing through and those birds that call this area home. New and experienced birders are welcome. Wear comfortable footwear, clothing and bring binoculars if you have them! For ages 12 and up. FREE! Pre-register by contacting: Leigh Altadonna, laltadonna@audubon.org or Jennifer Sherwood, eac.abington@gmail.com. Earn Go Green Rewards Card credit!

Dates:

Sun. Oct. 23rd 8:30 am- Welsh Road Lot

Tues. Nov. 15th 8:30am- Moredon Rd. Lot

Tues. Dec. 20th 8:30am- Moredon Rd. Lot

Tues. Jan. 17th 8:00am - Welsh Road Lot

Welsh Road Directions: Meet at the Parking Lot at Welsh and Terwood Roads.

Moredon Rd. Directions: Meet at the Parking Lot at 183 Moredon Rd, Huntingdon Valley, PA

Blackthorn Concert to Benefit Abington PAL

Just in time for pre-St. Patrick's Day celebrating! Mark your 2017 calendar for Saturday evening, March 11, at the Keswick Theatre. The Celtic band Blackthorn will present a concert to set your toes a tappin' and your hearts a singin' while benefiting Abington PAL programs for boys and girls.

Blackthorn is renowned for its mixture of contemporary and traditional Irish music. Enjoy the strains of instruments like the mandolin, fiddle, tin whistle, wooden flute, and accordion. This group gets people involved and singing along.

Abington PAL receives no tax dollars and offers all programs free so that all children will have every opportunity to participate in enriching and educational experiences. Tickets are \$25 general admission. They are on sale now at the Keswick Theatre: 215.572.7650 or www.keswicktheatre.com Also information and tickets through Abington PAL: 267.536.1100x1509 or pal@abington.org.

Help Abington Be Green

Be part of the International Coastal Cleanup (ICC), the Ocean Conservancy's international effort to help keep pollution out of our oceans by helping clean up litter in our parks. We'll provide gloves, trash bags, vest, snacks & drinking water. Please wear sturdy shoes and long sleeves and pants. Bring a water bottle. Volunteers will earn Go Green Rewards Card points (one point for each hour). Additionally, student volunteers will earn service learning hours.

October 30: 9am-11am - Hallowell Park, Kenmore Avenue, Glenside, PA

Sat. November 5: 9am-12pm - Crosswicks Audubon Bird Sanctuary- Crosswicks & Delene Rds. Jenkintown, PA

To sign up please email EAC.Abington@gmail.com. Info at EAC-Abington.org

Responsible and Safe Use of Sewers

Article 1-2

We have been experiencing increased frequency of sanitary sewer pipe blockages caused by foreign objects such as handy wipes, rags, paper towels and plastic items that are flushed down the toilet. These items **MUST** be disposed in the trash. The resulting sewer backups caused by these foreign objects result in backflow into basements. **PLEASE NEVER** flush any of these objects. Remember, the water may flow away from your property, but there are always properties upstream from you which could cause a blockage and backflow into your basement. Please respect your neighbors by not flushing these objects and never draining oils into the sink to prevent blockages.



Wastewater Department's new Vector Flush Truck featuring an 80 gpm, 2,000 psi piston pump with pulsator to quickly break up blockages, 1,500 gallon stainless steel tank, lateral pipe jet cleaning hose, handgun power washer, 800 feet of 1" diameter high pressure hose and cold weather recirculation. This truck is our workhorse to maintain all 230 miles of sewer mains and 17 pump stations throughout the Township.

Attention Dog & Cat Owners

- The animal population in Abington Township is quickly growing. With the increase of animal ownership we've seen the increase of animal conflicts. We ask owners to be courteous to your fellow neighbors. If you are a dog owner please abide by all of the local ordinances and state laws. Do not permit your dog to remain outside and bark during late and early hours (9:00pm-7:00am). Remember to keep your dog leashed and under control when off of your property.
- If you are a cat owner please have your cat vaccinated for rabies, sprayed or neutered and ear clipped if you permit your animal to leave your home. It is in the opinion of the Animal Control Officer that your cat will live a healthier and safer life if it is kept in the home. The number of animal bites related to cats and dogs are increasing, please be responsible owners to help avoid future bites. The ordinances and laws are available online or contact the Animal Control Officer for a copy.
- When observing a dog running at large, please do not handle the animal, place it in your vehicle or take the animal home. This may cause challenges to the owner recovering the dog and expose you and your family to unnecessary disease or injury.

Abington Township Fire Department- Insurance Services Office

The ISO Public Protection Classification (PPC) program recognizes the efforts of communities to provide fire protection services for citizens and property owners. A community's investment in fire mitigation is a proven and reliable predictor of future fire losses. Insurance companies use PPC information to help establish fair premiums for fire insurance — generally offering lower premiums in communities with better protection. By offering economic benefits for communities that invest in their firefighting services, the program provides an additional incentive for improving and maintaining public fire protection.

The most significant benefit of the PPC program is its effect on losses. Statistical data on insurance losses bears out the relationship between excellent fire protection — as measured by the PPC program — and low fire losses. PPC helps communities prepare to fight fires effectively.

The ISO evaluates the fire department, water supply, emergency communications systems, and community risk reduction programs such as fire prevention code adoption and enforcement. By classifying a community's ability to suppress fires, ISO helps evaluate public fire protection services. The program provides an objective countrywide standard that lets fire departments benchmark their performance and helps insurers assess risk. Generally, the reward for providing better fire protection is lower fire insurance premiums.

After completing a field survey, the ISO analyzed the structural fire suppression delivery system provided by the Abington Township Fire Department (ATFD) and calculated a PPC grade from 1 to 10 (1 being the highest, 10 being the lowest class). We are proud to announce that Abington Township has improved their ISO rating to a Class 3. It is important to note that of the 2568 municipalities in Pennsylvania who participate in the ISO Public Protection Classification program, only 5% have a rating of Class 3 or better. Our new ISO classification is a major achievement for the Abington Township Fire Department. It should be considered a badge of honor to be used by the ATFD to promote itself and our accomplishments to the community.

SAVE THE DATE

Abington Community Taskforce (ACT) Citizens that Care Recognition Reception
Thursday, April 27, 2017, 5:30-8:00 PM, North Hills Country Club.

Look for information to be posted on ACT's 2017 Honorees and Community Builder at www.abingtonact.org- Special Events.

Help Us Plant Trees

Saturday, November 5, 9am to noon, Grove Park, 1383 Easton Road. The focus will be to enhance and improve the south entryway and walking path between the Roslyn Business District and the Dog Park. The TD Charitable Foundation funded this project.

Saturday, November 19, 9am to noon, Two locations: Penbryn Park (meet at the Edge Hill Road entrance) and the Ardsley Community Center. The focus will be to provide shade for athletes and their fans, and to complete the streetscape along Cricket Avenue. Private donations from STC volunteers funded this project.

For more information email abingtontrees@gmail.com

Abington Police Traffic Safety Reminders

1. The Fall season brings leaves on the roadways and darkness earlier in the evening. Motorists should exercise caution both for slippery driving conditions and awareness of pedestrians as daylight ebbs.
2. Motorists, please be extra alert in rain, snow, and ice. Remember, if the wipers are on, headlights must also be turned on. Be sure to clear the windshield and the vehicle of snow, ice and frost before driving. Don't forget to remove snow from the vehicle's roof.



Library

Abington Library Adult Programs

- PopUp Tech Time- Nov. 2 & Nov.16th
- Socrates Cafe- Every second Wednesday 10:30-noon
- Military Memories-Every third Tuesday 3 and 7pm

Abington Library Child Programs

- Russian 3D Snowflake Workshop Thursday, December 8 6:30-7:30PM
- Build-A-Mania Thursdays, Nov. 3, Dec. 1, Jan. 5- 6-7:30PM
- Drop-In Story Times Thursdays 11-11:30AM through May 18th

Abington Library Teen Programs

- Chess for Beginners- Thursdays @ 7-8pm
- Coding Games with Scratch & Makey Makey Saturday, Nov. 1, 10am-1pm.

Roslyn Branch Library Programs

- Stem Learning Lab-Monday January 16th 7-8pm
- Music Albums Nov. 7th at 7PM
- Pajama Parties for Ages 3-6- Nov. 14, Dec. 5 from, 6:30-7pm
- Baby Days (Ages 5mths-2)- Tuesdays- Nov. 1, Nov. 15, Nov. 29, and Dec. 13 at 11am



Go Green Rewards Card!

Participate in the Go Green Rewards Card program by taking green actions to earn discounts from participating local businesses. Hear more about the program, what is a “green action” and get your own Go Green Rewards card by attending any or all of the meeting/workshops mentioned in this newsletter.

Board of Commissioners

Ward 1
Ward 2
Ward 3
Ward 4
Ward 5
Ward 6
Ward 7
Ward 8
Ward 9
Ward 10
Ward 11
Ward 12
Ward 13
Ward 14
Ward 15

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Drew Rothman
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