

LOWER SALFORD TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER



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Chairman's Message

Dear Residents:

This letter is being written as November 2022 dawns, hurtling toward another winter.

Welcome to life in the post-Covid quarantine world. For good or ill, the restrictions are gone and the masks can be hung by the chimney with care for Santa's use. Of course, we still have the variants to discuss and how they interact with the flu and RSV. Remember the good old days when we thought a cold was a big deal?

That's not to say that the effects of the pandemic are not still being felt. With the Covid outbreak raging, we saw the loss of almost all volunteer ambulance members. Of course, there was a growing need for more ambulance service during this period. This resulted in a hastening of the inevitable and led to totally paid positions for EMTs, whose service was, and continues to be, vital to the community.

In this issue of the Township newsletter, you will be reading about a new regional ambulance service, Freedom Valley Medical Rescue, that will be providing ambulance service to our Township. The three primary municipalities involved in the formation were Lower Salford and Limerick townships, and Phoenixville Borough. All parties agreed to a funding formula and you will see a higher dollar amount on your next tax bill representing payment toward our fair share of that service. This is essential to keep providing the quality care we have enjoyed for years from Harleysville Area EMS.

All participating municipalities will be paying their fair share toward the operating costs. Of course, we will continue to monitor the funding and we will have a member on the Board of Directors of the new entity.

I was privileged to speak at the 100-year dedication ceremony of the Harleysville Fire Department on October 1. The fire department is still an all-volunteer force and it is truly special to contemplate the sacrifices of all its members in serving the community. The skill and dedication of its members always impresses me. Next time you see a firefighter, don't forget to say thank you.

I was lucky enough to have addressed the 75th anniversary celebration, and it helped me appreciate the growth in how the services are provided, but to recognize all the more the dedication of the members of the Fire Company.

As the holiday approaches, please enjoy time with friends and family while celebrating safely. See you in 2023!

Douglas Gifford
Chairman, Lower Salford Board of Supervisors

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in Lower Salford*

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Lower Salford Township Contact Information

379 Main Street • Harleysville, PA 19438 — www.lowersalfordtownship.org

Township Office: 215-256-8087 • **Fax:** 215-256-4869 • **Office hours:** Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
General Township Email: township@lowersalfordtownship.org • **General Zoning Email:** buildingandzoning@lowersalfordtownship.org

Supervisors Meetings

The Board of Supervisors meets the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Informal work sessions are held at 7:30 a.m. on the day before the regular meeting and the third Wednesday of each month.

At the work sessions, staff updates the Board on Township activities.
No formal action takes place at these meetings.

Township Supervisors

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Keith A. Bergman – *Vice Chairman*
Christopher R. Canavan
Kevin Shelly
David Scheuren

Montgomery County Commissioners

Dr. Valerie Arkoosh, Chair
Kenneth E. Lawrence Jr., Vice Chair
Joseph C. Gale, Commissioner

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Our Senator in the Pennsylvania General Assembly

Senator Bob Mensch (24th District)
www.senatormensch.com • bmensch@pasen.gov

Montgomery/Bucks County Office:
56 West Fourth St., Floor 2
Red Hill, PA 18076
215-541-2388 • fax: 215-541-2387

Harrisburg Office:
Senate Box 203024
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3024
717-787-3110 • fax: 717-787-8004

Our Representative in the PA General Assembly

Representative Tracy Pennycuik (147th District)
www.reprtracypennycuik.com • email through website

District Office:
410 Main St., Suite 200
Harleysville, PA 19438
215-256-6030 • Fax: 215-256-6069

Harrisburg Office:
116 Main Capitol, PO Box 202147
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2147
717-787-9501 • fax: 717-787-8215

Pennsylvania Governor

Governor Tom Wolf

www.governor.pa.gov • governor@pa.gov
508 Main Capital Building • Harrisburg, PA 17120
717-787-2500 • fax: 717-772-8284

*Please Note: Elected officials do not reflect the outcome of the November 2022 Election. For an updated listing, please visit the Township Website.

Lower Salford Police Department

Emergencies: 911

379 Main Street • Harleysville, PA 19438

Office: 215-256-9500 • **Fax:** 215-256-1212

Police Dispatch: police@lowersalfordtownship.org
215-256-9595

Chief of Police: tmedwid@lowersalfordtownship.org
Thomas A. Medwid

Investigations: cmoyer@lowersalfordtownship.org
Sgt. Cory Moyer

Patrol and Traffic: vmmedveckus@lowersalfordtownship.org
Sgt. Vince Medveckus

IT Administrator: mantonucci@lowersalfordtownship.org
Michael Antonucci

Police Clerk: pobrien@lowersalfordtownship.org
Patrick O'Brien

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President Joseph R. Biden

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Pennsylvania Senators in the United States Congress

Senator Robert Casey
casey.senate.gov • email: linked through website

Philadelphia Office:
2000 Market St., Suite 610
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-405-9660 • fax: 215-405-9669

Washington, D.C. Office:
393 Russell Senate Office Building,
Washington DC, 20510
202-224-6324 • fax: 202-228-0604

Senator Pat Toomey
toomey.senate.gov • email: linked through website

Philadelphia Office:
US Custom House
200 Chestnut Street, Suite 600
Philadelphia, PA 19106
215-241-1090 • fax: 215-241-1095

Washington, D.C. Office:
248 Russell Senate Office Building,
Washington DC, 20510
202-224-4254 • fax: 202-228-0284

PA Representative in the United States Congress

Congresswoman Madeleine Dean (4th District)
dean.house.gov • email: linked through website

Norristown Office:
101 E. Main Street, Suite A
Norristown, PA 19401
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Lower Salford Township Mailbox Policy

For convenience and practicality, mailbox installations have been allowed within the right-of-way of Lower Salford Township's public roads; however, it is important to recognize that such installations have two very important conditions:

- The mailbox must be installed in accordance with applicable standards to ensure that mail can be delivered and that the mailbox does not create an obstacle or safety hazard to those that use or maintain the highway.
- **The mailbox is installed entirely at the owner's risk.** In other words, if the mailbox incurs damage during any sort of highway operations or maintenance, the property owner is not entitled to replacement or compensation. In fact, if the mailbox was not installed in accordance with the applicable standards as stated above, the owner may even be held liable for injuries or damages that may have been incurred as a result.

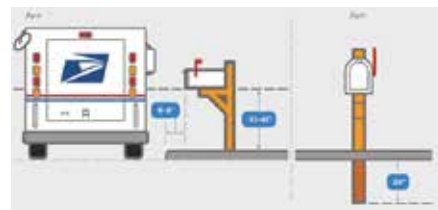
It is the job of the Public Works Department to remove snow from the road surfaces. There is little that can be done to prevent snow from being discharged from the plow blade. Mailboxes must be securely fastened to a sturdy post anchored in the ground to resist the impact

of thrown snow. The Township will reimburse the homeowner only when the Township snow plow or truck is found to have made direct contact with the mailbox, not when the box is knocked over by snow or slush that is thrown by the plow.

If a mailbox has been physically struck by a Township snow plow it must be reported to the Department of Public Works within 48 hours.

If it is determined that the mailbox has been struck by a Township truck or snowplow and the mailbox was installed in accordance with the United States Postal Service Specifications (41 inches to 45 inches off the ground and back 6 inches to 8 inches from behind the curb), the Township will offer a reimbursement not to exceed \$50 for damage to the mailbox.

It shall be the responsibility of the homeowner to make the necessary repairs and provide a receipt for reimbursement. Please refer to the US Postal Service Guidelines as noted on their website <https://www.usps.com/manage/mailboxes.htm>.



Reminder: Leaves and Yard Waste Disposal

The Township provides a leaf/yard waste (no grass clippings) drop-off location in the back parking lot at the Township Building, 379 Main Street. Leaves and yard waste in biodegradable bags may be deposited in the container at the Township Building Parking Lot at no cost throughout the year.

Biodegradable bags may be purchased at the Township Municipal Building (\$0.50 per bag, 2 bags for \$1 or 50 bags for \$22).

Christmas Tree Recycling

Trees free of decorations can be dropped off during daylight hours at Reiff Park at the parking lot off Upper Mainland Road through February 28. The trees will be chipped and used for mulch throughout the Township's park system.





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From the Lower Salford Police Department

Emergencies and disasters strike quickly and often without warning. They can disrupt our lives, force us to leave our homes, or even confine us for days without essential services such as electricity, phones, and water.

How ready are you and your family?

The Township reminds residents that one of the first things you can do is sign up for our ReadyMontco notification system. The program delivers alerts about severe weather and other important events in Montgomery County to the electronic devices of your choice. Whether you prefer texts, email messages, or even a good ol' fashioned phone call – you decide the option that works best for you!

There is no direct cost to sign up for ReadyMontco. However, there may be charges for certain features (like receiving text messages), so it's best to double check with your service providers.

ReadyMontco replaced the ReadyNotifyPA system in June 2015 as the Montgomery County Department of Public Safety along with its emergency management partners in the Southeast Pennsylvania region switched providers of our notification system.



To create an account, go to readymontco.org and click on the “Sign Up” tab on the top right of the page.



Park Updates for 2023

In November, Alderfer Park saw a new entrance point take shape on Oak Drive. This new entrance branches off from the new Huckleberry Lane that is being created within the new subdivision. Why is this needed, you may ask? Safety is the number-one priority and two entrance/exits that are close to one another could be a safety concern to pedestrians and/or traffic. Along with the new entrance to the park, the Township Public Works Department is scheduled to resurface the parking lot in Alderfer Park before the end of the 2023.

More improvements are coming to our parks: both the hockey rink and the basketball courts at Bucher Park will be resurfaced; a dedicated Pickle Ball court at Charles Reed Memorial Park; and a fountain in the pond along with a new fishing pier at Briarwyck Park.

Last, but certainly not least, Jacob Reiff Park will be seeing the addition of two new structures on the property. Both will be greenhouse-type structures, which are being installed by the Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy. These structures will house the Conservancy's Native Plant Project, growing various native species to be used in efforts to restore stream beds, riparian buffers, and other environmental improvement projects in the area.



Briarwyck Pond & fishing pier

Keep an eye on the Township website for updates as these projects begin to take shape!

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Harleysville EMS Merges with Trappe Ambulance



On October 18, 2022, Harleysville Area EMS merged with Trappe Fire Company Ambulance to form Freedom Valley Medical Rescue. This merger was a result of three years of discussion, study, and review.

Emergency medical services in Pennsylvania are in crisis. Over the last two decades, EMS has transformed from a largely volunteer service to now a paid professional service. Unfortunately, the operations of these organizations have remained dependent on volunteer management, insurance reimbursements, and donations to fund them. Additionally, with the onset of the COVID 19 pandemic and its negative impact on recruiting and retaining emergency medical responders, it has become apparent that the old model is unsustainable. It is anticipated that the merger will rectify many of the issues with management, personnel, and revenue generation. This merger will help reduce costs and establish a long-term sustainable EMS organization.

Under the new organization, Freedom Valley Medical Rescue will serve 12 municipalities:

- Lower Salford Township
- Limerick Township
- Trappe Borough
- Collegeville Borough
- Perkiomen Township
- Upper Providence Township
- Green Lane Borough
- Marlborough Township
- Upper Salford Township
- Salford Township
- Franconia Township
- New Hanover Township

Freedom Valley will have four stations throughout its service area: Harleysville (Main Station); Limerick; Trappe; and Green Lane.

With this new model, municipalities will contribute a larger share of the operating costs of the organization. Municipal funding is based on the number of annual calls in each municipality. Based on the formula, Lower Salford Township will contribute approximately \$350,000 per year. The Township will be raising the ambulance millage to cover this cost. The average cost per residential property will be approximately \$48 per year.

Because of the change in funding formula, Freedom Valley will no longer solicit memberships/donations from Township residents. Those residents who, in the past, have donated or paid for a membership through HAEMS will see a savings based on the 2022 subscription rates. 2022 rates were \$90 per family and \$65 per individual.

All Township residents will now receive membership level services without worry that they will be individually billed for them. Currently, the average cost for ambulance services is between \$1,200 and \$1,800 per trip, and, depending on a resident's health insurance carrier, the insurer may not cover 100% of the cost in the event that a resident needs emergency transport to a hospital. Under this new program, residents will now be covered for the remainder of the balance not covered by insurance.

This merger will also give greater oversight to Lower Salford Township as the Township will have a seat on the Board of Directors of the organization as well as membership on the municipal oversight board comprised of all municipalities served by Freedom Valley.

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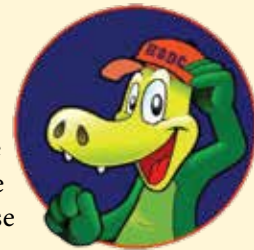
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Harleysville Summer Day Camp Prepares for 2023 Season



It's not too early to start thinking about 2023 summer plans for the kids! The Harleysville Summer Day Camp is excited to announce we will enter our second summer at the Harleysville Community Center in 2023. The HCC is located at 477 Park Avenue, between Kulp Road and Maple Avenue. After a very successful first year, the day camp is excited for another summer of fun-filled activities for area children.

Camp dates for the 2023 regular session will be June 19 to August 11. This year, the day camp will offer an additional week called Mini Camp held the week of August 14-18. Families can register anywhere from as little as two weeks to as many as eight weeks for our regular session. Mini Camp is a separate registration and is offered to all families whether you are registered for our regular 8-week session or not. Check our website (www.harleysvilledaycamp.com) for details. The camp day will run from 9am to 4pm Monday through Friday, with extended hours in the morning from 7-9 and in the afternoon from 4-6.



The Harleysville Summer Day Camp is a traditional summer day camp with educational leadership. The camp is designed to provide a healthy and safe atmosphere where each camper can enjoy a wide variety of activities. Our goal is to instill the values of respect for others, honesty, and good sportsmanship. The instructors/teachers will direct the activities to promote fun and learning in a non-competitive atmosphere.

The camp's staff will include local professional/certified educators, coaches (collegiate, high school, and youth) and nurses, certified swim instructors and lifeguards, senior/junior counselors, specialty staff, and office personnel. It is our belief that a mature and experienced staff will not only give your child the optimum summer day camp experience but it will also provide for you as a parent that your child is under constant supervision and in a

safe environment. College undergraduate education majors and professionals are highly sought as staff members for those reasons.

The daily program is structured and scheduled, but not highly competitive. Activities and field trips are geared appropriately to age and grade levels. Children are grouped according to age (grade level completed this school year) and gender; the 4-year old age group is coed. There is also a half-day program offered for the 4-year old group as well (morning option only). Our main objective is to provide each and every child with a safe and enjoyable experience while at the Harleysville Summer Day Camp!

Activities include daily swim lessons, recreational swimming, archery, basketball, arts & crafts, music and dance, bones ball (a form of baseball), field hockey, lacrosse, soccer, street hockey, gaga, playground, sustainable gardening, nature hikes, on-campus performances, themed weeks, Gator Day Fridays, field trips, and much more! Some of our field trips include Earl Bowl Lanes, Freddy Hill Farms, LEGOLAND, the Lehigh Valley IronPigs, and Dorney Park. Special events held at the camp include Zoo on Wheels, Science Explorers, The Magic of Sam Sandler, Phillies Home Run Derby, and the Philadelphia Union Mobile Tour!

Lunch will be available for campers to purchase daily through the snack bar at the Harleysville Community Pool. More information and details will be made available online as the summer approaches.

The camp also sponsors a CIT Program for current 8th graders who wish to experience counselor responsibilities in hope of working in a camp environment in the future. Check the website for details and registration.

Tutoring services will again be available (for an additional fee) onsite during the camp day for K-6 students to use for enrichment or prepare for that next grade level in reading, writing, or math. Our PA Elementary Certified teacher will hold 40-minute sessions that both parent and tutor can schedule.



Mark Your Calendar

Saturday, December 17, 2022 – OPEN HOUSE!

The Open House will be held from 10am to 2pm at the scout cabin at 477 Park Ave. Bring the whole family, meet some of our staff and tour the facility.

Monday, December 19, 2022 - 2023 Online Registration Opens!

REGISTER QUICKLY at www.harleysvilledaycamp.com as there are a limited number of spots available due to day camp families pre-registering during the 2022 summer.

Additional Open House dates will be added in the spring. Check the website for updates.

For more information check us out at www.harleysvilledaycamp.com or email Day Camp Director, Joe Kilpatrick at jkilpatrick@harleysvilledaycamp.com

Harleysville Summer Day Camp is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization



HARLEYSVILLE FIRE COMPANY STATION 89

Dear Residents of Lower Salford Township,

We welcomed the return of the fall and winter seasons here at the fire company.

Our 2022 annual fund drive mailer went out in late September to all area residents. This fund drive serves as a major portion of our annual funding for the fire company. We graciously thank all our residents for their dedicated support. This money goes toward capital expenses such as new fire apparatus, structural fire gear, or building upkeep.

As 2022 comes to an end, we thank everyone who has helped us celebrate our 100 years of service to the community. It has been an exciting and busy year for the company with this milestone. All summer long, our members continued to stay busy training and responding to calls in the area. In early 2023, we expect the arrival of our new Pierce PUC Rescue Pumper to replace our current 2006 Squad.

As a reminder, when we clean our yards of leaves, branches, and twigs this fall, open burning of yard waste is strictly prohibited by Township ordinance.

During winter storms, please shovel out your local fire hydrant. The valuable time you spend shoveling out fire hydrants makes a large difference on a call. Also remove built-up snow from your street address. We can't help you if we can't find you.

While our numbers remain strong, volunteers are desperately needed in many capacities. Please consider donating your time in a rewarding way right here in our community. There are many ways you can help us and the community you live in. Please stop by on a Tuesday after 7pm and speak with a member to learn more, or contact the station.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram (Harleysville Community Fire Co.) to see what we are up to and ways you can be involved. You can also visit our new and improved website at: www.harleysvillefire.org.

We wish you all a wonderful fall and winter season.

Ryan Nase

Ryan Nase, Fire Chief



The Township, along with the Board of Supervisors, sincerely appreciate the Lower Salford Fire Company volunteers and their service to the Township since 1922. From left: Supervisor Kevin Shelly; Chairman of the Board of Supervisors Doug Gifford; Fire Company President Jean Pfister; Supervisor Dave Scheuren; Supervisor Chris Canavan; Vice Chairman of the Board of Supervisors Keith Bergman; and Fire Chief Ryan Nase.



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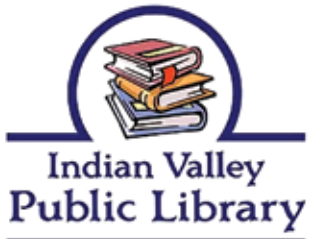
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Story Walk Installed at Alderfer Park

Alderfer Park became the new home of a “Story Walk” in October. A Story Walk is a series of 20 free-standing frames that each have a single page of a story. As one page is read, you move to the next until you get to the final frame and ending of the story.

This new interactive feature in Alderfer Park will start at the corner of the playground equipment area and progress along the trail. Stories are usually kept for approximately 3-4 months when a new story is provided.

Featured stories are geared toward elementary aged children. This wonderful new addition to the park is brought to us by the Indian Valley Public Library, which used grant funds to supply the Story Walk. Many, many thanks to the Indian Valley Public Library for choosing Lower Salford’s Alderfer Park for this new feature!



Communications Committee Activities: Township-wide Survey

Since our spring newsletter, the Communications Committee has been hard at work brainstorming ways to get residents more involved in not only Township meetings, but also provide feedback. These brainstorming sessions have led to a short survey (should take no more than 10 minutes) for those who are interested in participating. “How Do You Get Your Information About the Township”?



The quick, 3-question survey can be accessed using your smartphone or the QR Code to the left or using the web address to access on another device (tablet, laptop, etc.). Or, if you prefer, please give the Township a call and we will be happy to email you a link to the survey or, you can pick one up at the Township office.

No matter which way you participate, we want to hear from you!

The Lower Salford Communications Committee meets the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 7:30pm in the Township Building at 379 Main Street, Harleysville. All meetings are open to the public. Contact committee members via email at: communications@lowersalfordtownship.org.

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Thank You To The Businesses.



This publication is made available through the generous advertising sponsorship of the businesses listed throughout our newsletter. We wish to encourage your patronage of these establishments; they play a substantial role in the economic vitality of our community.

From the Public Works Department

The Lower Salford Township Public Works Department has begun preparing for winter operations. Our main objective is to keep you safe as you travel through our Township.

In an effort to do so, we need your help: when you hear of a pending winter event, please follow these few tips to aid us and everyone in our snow removal efforts:

All vehicles must be parked off streets to allow for a safer, more efficient snow removal operation.

Please remove your trash cans, recycling containers, and sports equipment from the street.

Please ensure your walks are cleared and treated within 10 hours of snowfall ending. If snow falls after 6 p.m., you have until 11 a.m. the next day to complete clearing and treating your walks.

Be certain that your sump pump discharges on your property or into a storm drain directly, not onto sidewalks or streets where it can freeze and cause a dangerous situation.

Please help our fire department volunteers by clearing any fire hydrants on your property during and after a storm, and after the plows pass through. This is critical should there be a need to reach a hydrant.

Lastly, our crews will be out working hard for the benefit of you and others. They will be spending long hours on duty and will, at times, need to rest and take meal breaks. Please know that these rest periods are imperative to everyone's safety and are of great benefit to the overall operation.

We make every attempt to be efficient and professional. If damage is caused to your personal property during snow removal operations, please wait until after the storm has ended to contact the Township. Someone will get back to you promptly.

Clearing the roads is our main goal. We will push snow toward the edge of the road and, yes, it will inevitably wind up at the end of your driveway (see

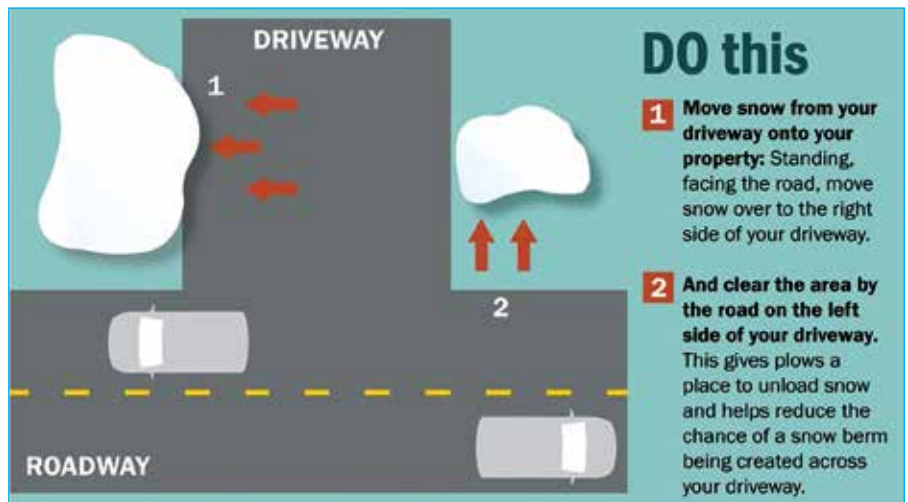
the diagram that might help alleviate some of that).

One again, we will use our Liquid Brine System on our roads 24-to-48 hours ahead of a predicted snow/ice event. Please understand that not every storm is conducive to the use of brine. We will evaluate each event individually and continue to watch temperatures and conditions closely. Our ultimate goal is to use this tool efficiently to ensure all who live here, travel through here, or visit our beautiful Township are kept safe. Once again, our overall goal is making the roads safe for everyone.

If a snow emergency is needed, this information will be put on the Township website and an email will go out to those who subscribe to the Township E-News (subscribe here: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/qaYCGUU>). The snow emergency will also be communicated through the County-wide "ReadyMontco" system. To subscribe to Ready Montco, please use this link: <https://www.readymontco.org>.

Thank you for your help, patience, and understanding.

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Tax Collector's Office Hours



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 Phone: 215-256-9858

Important Note: Township Staff are not bonded to accept your tax payment. Please make arrangements to mail your payment to P.O. Box 129, Harleysville, PA 19438 or bring it to the Township during the Tax Collector's pre-scheduled in-office hours that are listed here.

2023 Office Hours

(These hours are also listed at the top of your tax bill)

- Saturday, March 11, 10am to noon
- Thursday, March 16, 5pm to 7pm.
- Saturday, March 18, 10am to noon
- Thursday, March 23, 5pm to 7pm
- Saturday, March 25, 10am to noon
- Friday, March 31, 5pm to 7pm

- Wednesday, May 31, 5pm to 7pm
- Saturday, August 12, 10am to noon
- Thursday, August 17, 5pm to 7pm
- Saturday, August 19, 10am to noon
- Thursday, August 24, 5pm to 7pm
- Saturday, August 26, 10am to noon
- Thursday, August 31, 5pm to 7pm
- Tuesday, October 31, 5pm to 7pm

From the Fire Marshal's Office

Burning Regulations Reminder:

As summer turns to fall, a friendly reminder that burning leaves, rubbish, trash, and yard waste is prohibited here in Lower Salford Township. However, a small fire for recreational and ceremonial purposes, which are identified as fires for the purpose of roasting marshmallows, hotdogs, worship, etc. are allowed.

All recreational and ceremonial type fires must be contained in an outdoor fireplace, barbeque grill, burn pit, chiminea, or fire ring. They must be located at least 15 feet from any residence or combustible material and an extinguishing agent (fire extinguisher, bucket of water, garden hose) must be easily accessible and nearby.



Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detectors:

Get in the habit of changing the batteries in your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors every fall and spring. It's a good idea when changing the clocks for Daylight Saving Time to change the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. It's also a good idea to replace any detectors that are over 10 years old.

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Lederach Golf Course Recognized for Continued Environmental Excellence

The Emphasis on Environment continues at the Lederach Golf Course having retained its designation as a “Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary.” To receive this designation, staff of the golf course plan, organize, implement, and document a comprehensive environmental management program. And to reach certification, a course must demonstrate that they are maintaining a high degree of environmental quality in a number of areas, including Environmental Planning, Wildlife and Habitat Management, Outreach and Education, Chemical Use Reduction and Safety, Water Conservation, and Water Quality Management.

In 2015, Lederach Golf Course was designated as a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary and has continued to show a strong commitment to the environment ever since.

“They are to be commended for their efforts to provide a sanctuary for wildlife on the golf course property,” said Christine Kane, CEO at Audubon International.

Lederach Golf Course is one of approximately 900 golf courses in the world to hold this certification from Audubon International. Congratulations to Course Superintendent Stuart Hartman for leading this initiative and to everyone who continues to work toward a more sustainable course.



Online Resident Request Portal

Lower Salford Township has launched a new layer of communication for residents. With the idea from the Communications Committee and the technical knowledge of McMahon Associates, citizens can now submit an online request and/or a concern to the Township.



This new feature has been linked to the Township website (www.lowersalfordtownship.org) and is called “The Lower Salford Resident Request Portal.” Residents have the option of several topic areas to report concerns and/or make requests.

To view this new feature, visit the Township home page and look for the Resident Request link, or use the phone on your camera to access the QR Code to the right.

If you prefer to speak with us directly instead, we are always here to help; give us a call at 215-256-8087.





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Anthony Riccardi: In Memory of a Life Steeped in Service

November 29, 1929 - September 23, 2022

Longtime Township resident and lifetime member of the Harleysville Fire Company Anthony “Tony” F. Riccardi, 92, passed away on Friday, September 23 at home, surrounded by his family. Tony was the devoted husband of Helen Riccardi, who preceded him in death in 2017.



Tony devoted a large portion of his time to serving not only Lower Salford Township as its Fire Marshal, but was also a dedicated volunteer firefighter, who joined the ranks of fire service when he was just 16 years old. This led to a life of serving on eight (8) different fire companies over his remarkable career.

Up until only a few years ago, Tony was still teaching fire safety courses all over the country. His knowledge was endless, and the Township is grateful for the service he provided as not only the Fire Marshal, but also as a positive ambassador for fire safety as he did the fire inspections for the various businesses throughout the Township.

Tony leaves behind ten children, 34 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren who loved him dearly. The Board of Supervisors, its staff and all of us, will miss you, Tony. Your smile touched so many hearts and helped countless people over your 70 years of service. There will never be another like you.

Traffic Updates

Red, Yellow, and Green Light-Go – Main Street and Harleysville Pike

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) recently awarded Lower Salford Township a competitive state grant through the Green Light-Go (GLG) funding program. The program is Pennsylvania’s Municipal Signal Partnership Program that is in place to improve the efficiency and operation of existing traffic signals located in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The \$382,640 grant will be used toward the equipment modernization of the traffic signal at the Main Street (SR 0063) and Harleysville Pike (SR 0113) intersection. The traffic signal upgrades will include new traffic signal equipment including mast arms (3), controller cabinet, illuminated overhead street name signs, emergency preemption, stop bar and advance dilemma zone detection, countdown pedestrian signal heads, and ADA pedestrian push buttons. This upgrade will bring one of the oldest signalized intersections in the township into compliance with the state and township traffic signal specifications.

The grant agreement is in place, and the design of the updated signal permit and system permit plans is underway with the Township’s Traffic Engineer, McMahan Associates, Inc. The engineering and permitting/ approval phase of the project is expected to last approximately six months, followed by the advertisement/bidding process, and then construction.

While the actual construction is not expected to take very long, procurement of the signal equipment does take time and is very often the reason for implementation taking longer than expected. As a result of the overall schedule, construction is anticipated in the first half of 2024.



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Eye on Development

SKETCH PLANS: (Sketch Plans are concepts submitted to the Township that appear before the Planning Commission):

488 Harleysville Pike (D.R. Horton) – 38 residential dwellings proposed as 3-, 4-, 5-, and 6-unit buildings, with associated parking and stormwater management facilities, located at the intersection of Harleysville Pike and Meetinghouse Road.

841 Main Street (SCK2 Group LLC) – six residential dwellings proposed, one existing residential dwelling, and a two-story, 4,800 square-foot proposed office building, with associated parking and stormwater management facilities, located in the Village of Vernfield.

PLANS BEING REVIEWED BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION:

130 Christopher Lane (Hagey Road LLC) – Preliminary/Final Plan for a proposed 22,000- square-foot light industrial building, with associated parking and stormwater management facilities, located near the cul-de-sac on Christopher Lane.

25 Fretz Road (Almac) – Preliminary/Final Plan for a two-story building expansion, with a total of 109,600-square feet and associated parking and stormwater management facilities, at the corner of Fretz and Wambold roads.

285 Wambold Road (DEH Holdings LLC) – Preliminary/Final Plan for two two-story industrial buildings: one 25,436-square feet and a future building at 24,200-square feet, with a gravel area and associated parking and stormwater management facilities, located on Wambold Road near the turnpike overpass.

PLANS APPROVED FOR, OR CURRENTLY IN, CONSTRUCTION:

Alexandrea Circle (Store Road Estates) – a six-lot single-family residential subdivision, with associated stormwater management facilities, located on Alexandrea Circle at Store Road.

59 Fretz Road (PDC Machines) – a 187,285-square-foot manufacturing, warehouse, and office building, with associated parking and stormwater management facilities.

167 Harleysville Pike (Rittenhouse Property) – a residential development for 30 single-family houses with associated stormwater management facilities, located along Harleysville Pike with access off of Westbourne Road.

712 Harleysville Pike (Lederach Village Homes) – proposed two apartment buildings containing a total of eight dwelling units, the conversion of a building into one dwelling unit, with associated parking and stormwater management facilities, located on Harleysville Pike in the Village of Lederach.

931 Harleysville Pike (Zafar and Bushra, Inc.) – a four-lot single-family residential subdivision, including stormwater management facilities, located along Harleysville Pike north of Cressman Road.

991 Lucon Road (Chinmaya Mission Harleysville) – approximately 18,000-square-foot religious use building, with associated parking and stormwater management facilities, located at the corner of Lucon and Tyson Roads.

Main Street – Mainland Pointe (SHR Harleysville, LP) – a mixed-use land development plan on Main Street that includes single-family dwellings, apartment buildings, and commercial pad lots, including Wawa and Taco Bell, and a future Arby's and Popeyes restaurants.

17 Mainland Road (Creekside at Mainland) – 45 residential dwellings (apartments), an existing restaurant (Mainland Inn), and existing office space, with associated parking and stormwater management facilities, located in the Village of Mainland.

448 Maple Avenue (Park Crossing at Salford - Metropolitan Development Group) – Land Development Plan for 48-single-family houses on Maple Avenue between Oak Drive and Route 113

Morris Road (Lederach Village Homes) – four apartment buildings containing a total of 20 dwelling units and 10 accessory garages, with associated parking and stormwater management facilities, located on Morris Road in the Village of Lederach.

Oak Drive Extension (Highpointe at Salford - Metropolitan Development Group) – 19 two-family dwellings (38 units) and eight three-family dwellings (24 units) for a total of 62 units, with associated parking and stormwater management, located along the future Oak Drive Extension near the post office.

Oak Drive Extension (Jacob's Crossing) – 42 attached residential units and one single-family house on Oak Drive, with associated parking and stormwater management, located along the future Oak Drive Extension near the post office.

Changes to this list happen often. For a more up-to-date listing, please visit the Township Website, or call the office at: 215-256-8087



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Stay in Touch

Want to keep abreast of what is happening in the Township? Sign up to receive monthly emails and other email blasts regarding important topics. Signing up is free and you can unsubscribe at any time.



Main Street Sidewalk and Shared Use Path Project



PennDOT awarded Lower Salford \$985,000 of construction funding through the regional project selections of its 2021 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) program for the Main Street (Route 63) Sidewalk and Shared-Use Path project.

This program is funded through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and requires PennDOT oversight throughout the design and construction process. The program targets various types of projects such as bicycle or pedestrian facilities, conversion of rails to trails, and historic preservation and rehabilitation of historic transportation facilities.

The proposed project will ultimately provide a sidewalk connection from the Ruth Road intersection to the American Way intersection along the westbound side of Main Street. Additionally, a segment of shared-use path will be provided along the Pheasant Run Apartment property to complete access from the apartments to Main Street.

As a result of the federal funding and PennDOT oversight, the engineering and approval process must follow stringent requirements. The Township Traffic Engineer, McMahon Associates, Inc., is working through the design process with the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) Project Manager and PennDOT with approvals anticipated by August 2023. Please be on the lookout for a plans display and presentation at a regularly scheduled Board of Supervisors meeting in early 2023. Following the project advertisement and bidding period in late 2023, construction is anticipated to occur in 2024.

Walkable Lederach Study

The Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, through its Transportation and Community Development Initiative, awarded Lower Salford Township a grant to study making the Village of Lederach more walkable.

As described on the DVRPC website (<https://www.dvrpc.org/tcdi>) “the Transportation and Community Development Initiative (TCDI) is a grant opportunity that supports smart growth initiatives that implement the Connections 2050 Plan for Greater Philadelphia (<https://www.dvrpc.org/plan>).

The grant will provide the Township with \$100,000 to complete the Walkable Lederach Feasibility Study over the next 18 months. The Township and surrounding community understand the challenges that this area faces with regard to roadways, traffic,

lack of pedestrian facilities, and more. This feasibility study will include, but not be limited to, extensive public involvement with the village community, stakeholders, and township boards and staff; traffic evaluations both in the existing conditions with Harleysville Pike (Route 113) running through the village, as well as the future planned relocation scenario; village core concept plans, village gateways mapping/typical sections, and village edge mapping of pedestrian/bicycle connections; and implementation plan recommendations that will include funding strategies.

As the project team begins this effort, please look for invitations and opportunities to be involved in the feasibility study process and development. Input from the local community will be of utmost importance for this project to be a successful, community building effort.

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Dumping of yard clippings, leaves and other debris along streams or drainage channels or in storm drains can cause flooding, impede the flow in the stream or storm sewer, or create stagnant areas in the stream could lead to mosquito problems.

How yard waste can impair streams:

- Yard waste such as leaves, grass, and brush piled along stream edges suffocates and kills the trees and shrubs that are critical for avoiding stream bank erosion.
- Yard waste piled along streams can easily be washed into streams during large rain events.
- Once in the water, yard, garden and pet waste release nutrients, which promote overgrowth of algae and other nuisance aquatic plants.
- Chemicals previously applied to yards, gardens, and trees can be released into the water.

How can you help?

- Sweep yard waste (grass clippings, leaves, etc.) and fertilizers off driveways, sidewalks and roads.
- Do not put yard waste next to a drainage ditch or stream channel.
- Take yard waste to a neighborhood compost collection site or compost the waste at a site away from the waterway.
- Apply fertilizer and lawn chemicals sparingly and according to directions.
- Never put grass clippings or yard waste down storm drains, in gutters, streets, ditches, or other areas that drain into a storm sewer or water body.
- Use a mulching lawn mower for grass and leaves.



For any questions or concerns regarding stormwater or if you observe pollutants entering the storm sewer or stream, please call the Township office at 215-256-8087.

Did You Know?

There is a drop-off box for retired U.S. flags outside the Township Building entrance.

Flags left there will be disposed of according to proper guidelines.



Surviving a POWER OUTAGE

A power outage is when the electrical power goes out unexpectedly. Extended power outages may impact the whole community and the economy.

A power outage may:

- Disrupt communications, water and transportation.
- Close retail businesses, grocery stores, gas stations, ATMs, banks and other services.
- Cause food spoilage and water contamination.
- Prevent use of medical devices.

How to Protect Yourself During A Power Outage

Go to a community location with power if heat or cold is extreme.

Preparing for a Power Outage

Take an inventory of the items you need that rely on electricity. Plan for batteries and other alternative power sources to meet your needs when the power goes out, such as a portable charger or power bank. Have flashlights for every household member. Determine whether your home phone will work in a power outage and how long battery backup will last.

Know Your Medical Needs

Talk to your medical provider about a power outage plan for medical devices powered by electricity and refrigerated medicines. Find out how long medication can be stored at higher temperatures and get specific guidance for any medications that are critical for life.

Food Storage

Have enough nonperishable food and water. Keep freezers and refrigerators closed. The refrigerator will keep food cold for about four hours. A full freezer will keep the temperature for about 48 hours. Use coolers with ice if necessary. Monitor temperatures with a thermometer. Throw out food if the temperature is 40 degrees or higher.



Using Appliances During Power Outages

Install carbon monoxide detectors with battery backup in central locations on every level of your home. Avoid carbon monoxide poisoning. Generators, camp stoves or charcoal grills should always be used outdoors and at least 20 feet away from windows. Never use a gas stove top or oven to heat your home. Turn off or disconnect appliances, equipment, or electronics. Power may return with momentary surges or spikes that can cause damage.

Returning After A Power Outage

- **When in doubt, throw it out!** Throw away any food that has been exposed to temperatures 40 degrees or higher for two hours or more, or that has an unusual odor, color or texture.
- **If the power is out for more than a day, discard any medication that should be refrigerated, unless the drug's label says otherwise.** Consult your doctor or pharmacist immediately for a new supply.



SOURCE: <https://www.ready.gov/power-outages>





Put a

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Home fires occur more in winter than in any other season. As you stay cozy and warm this winter, be fire smart!



Half of all home heating fires occur in December, January and February.



Heating equipment is involved in **1 in every 7** home fires and **1 in every 5** home fire deaths.



Keep anything that can burn **at least 3 feet** from any heat source like fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators or space heaters.



Keep portable generators **outside, away from windows, and as far away** from your home as possible.



Install and test carbon monoxide alarms **at least once a month**.



Plug only **1 heat-producing appliance** (like a space heater) into an electrical outlet at a time.



Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney and vents **every year**.



Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container, and keep it **outside at least 10 feet** from your home and any nearby buildings.



For more information on how to prevent winter fires, visit www.usfa.fema.gov/winter and www.nfpa.org/winter.

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Fall/Winter 2022



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