

Douglass Township Newsletter

Berks County

FALL 2016 • Volume 12, Issue 2

Township Office 610-367-8500 Fax 610-367-0360 Office Hours Monday – Friday 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM
www.co.berks.pa.us/muni/douglass email: dougberks@comcast.net



Douglass Township 7th Annual Community Day

Saturday October 1, 2016

10:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Mark your calendar to join in on the fun

8:30 AM - 5K Trestle Run / 2 mile walk starting and ending at the Township building. The 5K loops through the beautiful Ironstone Park.

Proceeds from the 5K will benefit the "Challenger Program" of the Pine Forge Athletic Association, a co-ed baseball program for children with physical / mental disabilities.

A registration form can be found in this newsletter. They are also available on the township website. Pre-registration is preferred.

Activities Begin at 10:30 AM

Games * Hayrides * Music * Moon Bounce * Yard Sales * Crafts

Face Painting * Pumpkin Decorating * Pony Rides * Raffles

Local Businesses, Churches and Fire Companies

Food provided by "Relay for Life" Pottstown - Proceeds to benefit the American Cancer Society

To sign up as a yard sale / craft vendor: contact the Township office at 610-367-8500, or dougberks@comcast.net to reserve a table. There is no vending fee.

Volunteers are needed to work the day of the event. If you are interested, please contact the township office.

Boyertown Area Multi Service Food Pantry provides food to those who do not currently have the financial means to meet their nutritional needs. Anyone in need of food assistance who resides in the multi-service area (Boyertown Area School District and townships of Hereford, District, Pike, Oley, and Amity) is eligible for help from this program.

Douglass Township is holding a food drive September 1 through October 1 to assist the Multi-Service Food Pantry. The drive will end on Community Day. Items can be dropped off at the Township Building Monday-Friday 8:30 - 4:30, or brought with you on Community Day. Needed items are: Spaghetti Sauce, Crackers, Canned Peas and Corn, Jelly, Peanut Butter, Hamburger Helper, Juice, Coffee, Pancake Mix & Syrup, Laundry Detergent, Dish Soap, Canned Fruit, (Peaches, Fruit Cocktail, & Pears) and Personal Care Items, (Shampoo & Deodorant).



Berks County Recycling Collection 2016



Household Hazardous Waste - October 22 at the First Energy Stadium , Reading, 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM rain or shine.

Pharmaceutical Collection - Amity Township Police Department, anytime

Paper Shredding Event - October 15 at the First Energy Stadium Route 61 Reading, 8AM - 2PM, rain or shine

Electronic Recycling Center - Every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday 8:00 AM - Noon, 1316 Hilltop Road, Leesport (near the Reading Fairgrounds). All electronics are accepted.

Plastic, aluminum, tin, glass food containers

The landfill in Earl Township accepts these recyclables. They are located at 583 Longview Road.

Directions: Route 73 west, left on Longview Road (fruitstand across from Earl Elementary), up the hill bearing right onto Shenkel Road, the recycling center is located at the top of the hill on the right. The center is open to the public Monday - Friday 8am - 4pm.

The Berks County Solid Waste Authority at www.countyofberks.com/swa has more details on all recycling opportunities offered to the residents of Berks County. Information is also available at the Township office.



A Paper Retriever bin is located at the Township building, at the park driveway entrance for your use. Welcome are: newspapers, magazines, catalogs, office and school papers, mail. NOT accepted: cardboard, food boxes, phone books or hard cover books.

P A R K & R E C R E A T I O N



The newest addition to Ironstone Park is a new playground designed for children from 2 - 12 years old which was installed by "Families" in Parkesburg, PA in Spring of 2016.

The Township road crew did all the site preparation work, installation of the benches, and 107 cubic yards of certified playground mulch which provides a 12" cushion.



This fall, trees will be planted providing shade around the playground as well as the new pavilion. This addition will provide many years of enjoyment to our children.

Other plans include the resurfacing of the tennis courts at the "Municipal Park" at the Township building along with some general sprucing up of the area.

Pine Forge Historical Society

Along with their many activities, the Society has begun a new Youth Program for children ages 5-12. For more information on becoming a member, or their other activities, contact Phyllis Mitchell at tutorphyl@gmail.com or 610-367-7881.

Congressman Patrick Meehan's

office has a representative at the Amity Township Offices every Monday from 9am - 2pm to assist residents.

Thank You to Douglass Village Residents for your assistance with folding and preparing 1500 newsletters for mailing.

Tenant Registration

Douglass Township Ordinance states that all landlords shall notify the Township of their tenants within 30 days of the date of occupancy, and on an annual basis, by January 13. Forms are available at the Township office, or can be found on the website.

General Election - November 8, 2016

Road Work 2016

Through the ongoing effort to maintain Township roads, contracts have been awarded to conduct the following work this year: North Sunrise Lane from Poplar Road to Fern Drive overlay; Rattlesnake Hill Road overlay of approximately 1,975 feet starting at Manatawny Drive. This work is funded by the approximately \$160,000 the Township receives yearly through the PA Liquid Fuels Program, which is dedicated to improving the condition of the Township roads.

Zoning - Code Enforcement

Every Tuesday from 1-4:00, the Township Zoning Officer has hours at the Township office for any residents who need assistance with building or zoning permits. Permit applications can be obtained in the office, or on the Township's website.

Act 537 Plan

All municipalities are required to comply with The Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act (Act 537). This Act requires that all municipalities develop, revise and implement Official Sewage Facility Plans. A fundamental element of the Act 537 Plan is to identify and document the sewage disposal needs in a municipality. It provides methods that clearly identify and document existing wastewater disposal needs. When preparing an Act 537 Plan, a community's wastewater disposal "needs" must be documented.

In the next few weeks residents who do NOT have public sewer will be receiving a survey. We ask that you fill it out and return to the Township office. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Hunting Permits

Hunting Permits will be issued to Township residents, and a guest (if desired), to hunt on land owned by Douglass Township, at the township office beginning September 1st. Hunting will be permitted from September 17, 2016 through January 28, 2017 and in accordance with all State Game Commission Rules and Regulations.

Goose Run Park - Hunting will be allowed on the 82 acres of Goose Run Park, which can be accessed from Goose Run Road or Levensgood Road. The hiking trail remains open so extreme caution must be used.

Douglass Drive Property - Hunting will also be allowed on the 74 acres owned by the Township located in the area of 900 Douglass Drive known.

Maps will be provided



Police Department

From the desk of Chief Dzurek:

I would like to take this time to remind the residents that school is back in full swing, which means the bus traffic is also affecting your travel routes. Please plan accordingly and allow yourself some extra time to get to where you need to go. And please never pass or overtake a school bus that is stopped with its red signal lights and side stop signal arms activated. Not only are you endangering the life of another but you are violating PA vehicle code section 3345- Meeting or overtaking school bus. If found guilty you will face a fine \$250 and loss of license for 60 days and 5 points assessed by PennDot.

The department has also been out enforcing the speed violations throughout the township. Please slow down and be aware of the speed limits on the roadways you are traveling

If you would like to report speed issues on your roadway or have concerns or suspicious activity that you would like to address with an officer, please feel free to contact the department at (610) 367-9474.

If you have access to social media, please check out our Facebook page, Douglass Township Police Department, and stay on top of the latest information or scams going on in the township.

It is my pleasure to serve this wonderful community as your Police Chief. We can work together in keeping this a safe community for all.



If you would like to show your support for Douglass Township Police, please stop by the Township Building and purchase a yard sign for \$20. The net proceeds will go to charity.

Congratulations to Pine Forge Academy on the celebration of their 70th year of providing quality education.

Congratulations to Pine Forge Athletic Associations Babe Ruth team for finishing their baseball season as 3rd in the nation!

Douglass Township

Berks County
1068 Douglass Drive
Boyertown, PA 19512

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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NO. 10029
BOYERTOWN, PA
19512

DOUGLASS TOWNSHIP

NEWSLETTER

FALL 2016

Elected and Appointed Officials

Township Supervisors

Chairman Douglass Rhoads
Vice Chairman Grant Yervey
Supervisor Rosemarie Bauman

Township Solicitor - The Law Firm of Hamburg, Rubin,
Mullin, Maxwell & Lupin - Joseph McGrory, Esq.

Township Engineer/Zoning Officer/Sewage Enforcement
Systems Design Engineering, Inc. - Thomas Unger, P.E.

Tax Collector - Mary K. Heimbach

Township Manager - Toni L. Hemerka

Treasurer / Clerk - Roseann Garman

Public Works Department - Harold Wagner Jr., Roadmaster;
Kevin Albiser; Robert Alberts; Patrick McDevitt

Police Department - Chief John W. Dzurek, Patrolman Bryan
Sockel, Duane Duncan, Brandon Breitenstein
Part Time Patrolman James Yost and Christopher Sacks

Elected Auditors: Cheryl Baro, Shirley Birmingham, Linwood
Dunning

Planning Commission - Chairman Kenneth Kirch, Vice Chair
Patricia Follweiler, Peter Dannecker, Jerry Silberman and Grant
Yervey

Zoning Hearing Board - Joseph Cioa, Chairman, Eugene
Rinehimer, Vice Chairman, Dr. David Szymanski, Alan Golden,
David Babb, Solicitor Eugene Orlando Esq.

Park & Recreation Board -Richard Zuber, Chairman
Pete Dannecker, Vice Chairman, Lawrence Martin, Eileen
Gilbert and Sally Stetler

Agricultural Security Committee - Donald Grim, David
Howerter, Warren Lloyd, Gunnar Scott and Douglass Rhoads

2016 Township Meetings:

Board of Supervisors: 7:00 PM -January 4, February 8, March
14, April 11, May 9, June 13, July 11, August 8, September 12,
October 10, November 14, and December 12

Planning Commission: 7:00 PM -January 19, February 16,
March 15, April 19, May 17, June 21, July 19, August 16,
September 20, October 18, November 15, and December 20

Park and Recreation Committee: March 7, April 4, May 2,
June 6, July 5, August 1, September 6, October 3, November 7,
and December 5

Zoning Hearing Board: 7:00 PM the 4th Monday of the month
as needed