

# Douglass Township Newsletter

Berks County

SEPTEMBER 2017 • Volume 14, Issue 2

1068 Douglass Drive, Boyertown, PA. 19512  
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](http://www.co.berks.pa.us/muni/douglass) email: [dougberks@comcast.net](mailto:dougberks@comcast.net)



Douglass Township Park & Recreation  
Committee Presents  
8th Annual Community Day  
Saturday October 7, 2017  
10:30 AM - 2:30 PM

## Free Activities Begin at 10:30 AM at the Township Building

Games / Prizes \* Hayrides \* DJ Music \* Moon Bounces \* Yard Sales

Crafts \* Face Painting \* Pumpkin Decorating \* Pony Rides \* Raffles

Food Drive for the Boyertown Multi Service (see page 2 for a list of needed items)

A Variety of Vendors

Local Businesses, Churches and Fire Companies

Refreshments provided by "Relay for Life" of Pottstown  
with all proceeds to benefit the American Cancer Society

To sign up for the yard sale / crafts / vendors - contact the Township Office at 610-367-8500  
or [dougberks@comcast.net](mailto:dougberks@comcast.net) (there is no fee)

Volunteers are needed to work the event - If interested, please call the township Office



Mark your calendar to join in on the fun



## Berks County Recycling Collection 2017

**Household Hazardous Waste** - October 21 at the First Energy Stadium , Reading, 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM rain or shine.

**Pharmaceutical Collection** - Amity Township and Boyertown Police Departments, currently have drop off boxes. We are attempting to obtain one at our Township building and will keep you informed.

**Paper Shredding Event** - October 14 at the First Energy Stadium Route 61 Reading, 8AM - 2PM

**Electronic Recycling Center** - Every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday 8:00 AM - Noon, 1316 Hilltop Road, Leesport  
**Plastic, aluminum, tin, glass food containers**

The landfill in Earl Township accepts these recyclables from all Berks County residents. They are located at 583 Longview Road. The center is open to the public Monday - Friday 8am - 4pm.

**The Berks County Solid Waste Authority** at [www.countyofberks.com/swa](http://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. Cardboard, food boxes, phone books or hard cover books are NOT accepted.

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



### Park Upgrade

Douglass Park, which is located behind the Township Building received some upgrades this summer. A sign was installed at the Douglass Drive entrance officially naming the park "Douglass Park". The project included the re-paving of the entire tennis and basketball courts surface, removal of overgrown shrubbery, new fencing and new lines. Douglass Park also has pavilions, a playground (tot lot), baseball fields and a macadam 3/10 mile looping walking trail.

**Boyertown Multi Service Food Pantry** - This list provides details of the most needed items for the Multi Service Food Pantry. They provide food to financially struggling families.

#### **Food Items:**

Cereal, Oatmeal , Soup, Canned vegetables, Canned tuna, Apple sauce, Canned pork and beans, Canned fruit, Crackers, Boxed baking mixes, Boxed breakfast mixes, Pancake syrup, Boxed side dishes, Pasta and rice, Macaroni and cheese, Instant mashed potatoes, Cookies, Jell-O and pudding mixes, Peanut butter, Jelly, Ketchup - condiments, Granola bars, Juice, Microwave popcorn, Snacks – pretzels, chips, etc.

#### **Personal / Household Items :**

Deodorant , Hand soap , Body soap , Dish soap , Detergent , Toilet paper , Paper towels , Kleenex

If you are able to donate, items can be brought to Community Day, or can be dropped off any day the week before at the Township Building.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT



Douglass Township (Berks and Montgomery), Amity and West Pottsgrove Police Departments are participating in:

### LASER TAG WITH A COP

Saturday, October 7, 2017 6:00pm - 9:00pm  
at  
Jay Lanes, 1428 Ben Franklin Highway

Come join us for a fun filled evening.  
You get to meet, greet and play laser tag with the police officers in your community

### Free Event For Our Friends in the Community

Call today to reserve your spot (610) 323-2434



**Road Work 2017** - Through the ongoing effort to maintain Township roads, contracts were again awarded this year and improvements were completed in August on North Sunrise, Edge Hill and Poplar Roads.

**Zoning - Code Enforcement** - Every Tuesday from 1-4:00 pm the Zoning Officer has hours at the Township office for any residents who need assistance with building and zoning permits or to answer any zoning questions.

**House Numbers** - It is essential for every home in the Township to be clearly marked with a house number to assist emergency responders in locating your house in case of an emergency. Please note that the "Help #" system is obsolete and no longer used by emergency services.

**Douglass Township Sewer System** - For those users of the public sewer system, we ask that you please be cautious of what you flush. We have been finding what appears to be some kind of cleaning rags, shop rags at the pump station. Items such as this could cause problems and damage to the pumps. Your cooperation is appreciated.

**Township Office Staff** - You will notice a new face in the Township office these days. Roseann Garman, who served the Township for 7 years had decided to retire. Kaleena Breitbarth is our new Treasurer / Clerk. Kaleena comes to us with the experience and education that has proven to be a great asset to the Township.

**Spotted Lanternfly** - The spotted lanternfly is an invasive species that has been found in Douglass Township. For more information on what to look for and how to remove, check the PA. Department of Agriculture website:

[www.pda.state.pa.us/spottedlanternfly](http://www.pda.state.pa.us/spottedlanternfly)

**Grass Clipping on Roads:** When cutting your grass, please do not blow the clippings onto the street. Our Police have seen the hazard this causes, especially for motorcycles and ask that you please be aware of this.

### MEETUP SPOT



Internet Purchase Exchange Location

Live Video Recording  
In case of emergency, call 911

Donated by  
OfferUp

### Internet Purchase Exchange Location -

With the increased popularity of online purchases through yard sale sites such as Facebook and Craigslist, Douglass Township is pleased to provide a safe location for your exchanges. Please feel free to use the parking lot at the Township Building for your exchanges. Our parking lot is under 24 hour camera surveillance.

Berks County Emergency Services has implemented the "BerksAlert" mass notification system. Individuals can register with this new system in order to receive alerts about local emergencies. Such as severe weather watches, amber alerts, road closures and general community news. To subscribe go to [berksdes.com](http://berksdes.com) and select Berks Alert.

## From the Tax Collector

Mary K. Heimbach

**Per Capita Tax** - You can be exonerated from this tax. If you are 18 years of age and are a full time student, you are in the military, or you are on PACE. If the PACE guidelines are not met, Section 679 of the School Code is considered. Section 679 sets forth an income of less than \$10,000. Consideration is also given to those with disabilities or medical care costs equal or exceed your income or who have a medical difficulty of a permanent nature. The exonerations are approved by the Boyertown School District not the Tax Collector. Exoneration forms can be obtained from the Tax Collector. Completed forms should be returned to her by October 1, 2017 so she can submit them to the School District. Unless you receive a letter stating you have a permanent exoneration, you must apply every year to be exonerated from this tax. The Boyertown School District has proposed to eliminate this tax for the 2018-19 school year.

# Douglass Township

Berks County

1068 Douglass Drive

Boyertown, PA 19512

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

STANDARD  
POSTAGE  
U.S. POSTAGE

PAID PERMIT  
NO. 10029  
BOYERTOWN, PA  
19512

DOUGLASS TOWNSHIP

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2017

## **Elected and Appointed Officials**

### **Township Supervisors**

Chairman Douglass Rhoads

Vice Chairman Rosemarie Bauman

Supervisor Grant Yergey

**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** - Kaleena Breitbarth

**Public Works Department** - Harold Wagner Jr., Roadmaster,  
Kevin Albiser and Robert Alberts

**Police Department** - Chief John W. Dzurek, Patrolman Bryan  
Sockel, Duane Duncan, James Yost and Micah Long

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

**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

### **2017 Township Meetings:**

**Board of Supervisors:** 7:00 PM -January 3, February 13,  
March 13, April 10, May 8, June 12, July 10, August 14,  
September 11, October 9, November 13, and December 11

**Planning Commission:** 7:00 PM -January 17, February 21,  
March 21, April 18, May 9, June 20, July 18, August 15,  
September 19, October 17, November 21, and December 19

**Park and Recreation Committee:** 7:00 PM - March 6, April 3,  
May 1, June 5, August 7, September 5 and October 10

**Zoning Hearing Board:** 7:00 PM the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month  
as needed