



FALLS TOWNSHIP

Bucks County

Fall 2015 Newsletter

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Falls Township is one of the largest townships in Bucks County in terms of population and physical size. We are a community of 35,000 people and almost 27 square miles. We are all proud to live in Falls Township, and the members of the Board of Supervisors are especially proud to be the elected leaders of such a wonderful community. But with any community this large, it is easy to lose sight of how important a role we all play in making Falls Township great and helping it become even better. In the past, the Township government has worked to spread the word on how important a role we all play in making Falls Township a real *community*. The government of Falls Township needs the input of the residents to help identify areas that need our attention – whether the issue is a Police matter, Code Enforcement violation or fire hazard, or working with our Parks and Recreation Department to improve our programming. Input and ideas from residents and property owners can be invaluable.

This year, the Township began a new program to improve our community that some of you may be aware of, it's called "Live Here, Spend Here." We are fortunate in Falls to have great residents, in addition to great businesses and business owners. Most businesses in America, and most job creators, are small businesses, and that is true in Falls Township as well. The job creators in Falls today are the neighborhood stores, restaurants and local contractors, small businesses owned mostly by our neighbors and friends who also live in Falls Township. The Board of Supervisors, working with one of our volunteer boards – the Community and Economic Development Commission – developed the "Live Here, Spend Here" campaign to try to persuade Falls residents to spend more of their money in Falls Township. By supporting our neighborhood businesses we are helping ourselves. Money spent in Falls stays in Falls. It helps keep businesses open, limits the number of vacant buildings, and keeps job opportunities growing.

To help make this program successful the Township has been doing short informational videos about different Falls Township businesses. These videos began in May and will continue to be shown on the Township's cable channel and on the Township website. These videos focus on the history of the businesses and the services and products they provide. If you would like to nominate a business for one of these videos, please contact the Township Manager's office. In addition, the Township held a logo contest in the Spring and received almost two dozen entries. The winning design will be made into a placard which will be provided to local businesses at no cost for them to display in their windows. The Board of Supervisors is excited about this new initiative and hopes you are as well. Working together we will continue to make Falls Township "First in Bucks County."

Bob Harvie

188 Lincoln Highway, Suite 100 • Fairless Hills, PA 19030
215-949-9000 • www.fallstwp.com

Inside This Edition

Police Department News	2, 3	Que For The Troops Donates \$65,000	9
Fire Prevention Week	4	Leaf Collection, Bulk Disposal Day.....	10
Police Department Honors Retirees	5	Waste Management News	11
Citizens Fire Academy Planned	5	Safe Kids Provides AEDs to Parks	11
Parks and Recreation News	6	Falls Township Milestones	12
Pedestrian Crossing Grants Sought	7	Safety Central in Snow Emergencies	13
Sidewalk Project Set For 2016.....	7	Speeding Focus of Neighborhood Panel	14
Falls Township's Free Tree Program	8	PennDot to Repair Alden Ave. Bridge	15

Falls Township Contact Information

188 Lincoln Highway, Suite 100 • Fairless Hills, PA 19030
 Website: www.fallstwp.com • Email: admin@fallstwp.org
 Hours: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Robert J. Harvie, Jr., Chairman
 Jeffrey Dence, Vice Chairman

Jeffrey Rocco, Secretary/Treasurer

Brian Galloway, Supervisor
 Jeff Boraski, Supervisor

Administrative Offices: 215-949-9000

Code Enforcement/Permit Information– 1
 Thomas Bennett, Zoning Officer/CCEO

Finance Department– 5
 Betsy Reukauf, Director

Police Information – Press 5

Fire Marshal Emergency Management, Environmental – 2
 Richard Dippolito, Fire Marshal

Tax Office – 6
 Kimberly Scarpiello

Township Information – Press 6
 After you press 6 for Township Information, the following numbers indicate each department:

Public Works Department – 3
 Joseph Arnao, Foreman

Police Dept: 215-949-9100
 William J. Wilcox, Chief of Police

Township Manager – 7
 Peter Gray, Township Manager

Parks & Recreation – 4
 Brian Andrews, Director

Animal Control: 215-945-3100

Falls Township Tax Collector
 Kimberly Scarpiello
 188 Lincoln Highway, Suite 108
 Fairless Hills, PA 19030
 215-949-9008

Township Engineer
 James C. Sullivan
 T and M Associates
 188 Lincoln Highway, Suite 206
 Fairless Hills, PA 19030
 215-486-5770

Township Solicitor
 Michael P. Clarke
 Rudolph Clarke, LLC
 Seven Neshaminy Interplex
 Suite 200
 Trevoze, PA 19053
 215-633-1890

District Court 07-1-10
 Jan Vislosky, District Judge
 9187 New Falls Road
 Fallsington, PA 19054
 215-736-0231

Police Department

No Solicitation Registry

In 2014, the Board of Supervisors passed an ordinance that allows residents to add their name to a No Solicitation Registry. This list is distributed to anyone that applies for a Solicitation permit with instructions not to solicit at any of the addresses on the list. To be placed on this list, please contact the Police Records department at **215-949-9100** or you may use the link on the Township website <http://fallstwp.com/tools-resources/no-solicitation-registry.aspx>.



Facebook & Twitter

Falls Township Police department is now on Facebook and Twitter. Follow us to get information on what's going on in your neighborhood.
(Police News Continued on Page 3)

Police Department

New Hires

We would like to welcome Nicole Diviny and Francisco Olmeda to the department. Officer Olmeda graduated from the Virginia Police Academy and transferred to our department. Officer Diviny is attending the Philadelphia Police Academy and is expected to graduate later this year.

Falls Township Anonymous Tip Line 215-949-9120



Falls Township Police has created a tip line allowing the public to contact the Police department anonymously.

Members of the public are encouraged to report suspicious individuals or activity. Tips are then analyzed and passed on to the appropriate division for follow-up. Because the tip line is

anonymous, the sender will not receive a response.

The tip line is not an emergency number. If you witness a crime in progress or have an emergency that requires the police, please call 911.

Neighborhood Watch Program

Neighborhood Watch is a crime prevention program that enlists the active participation of residents in cooperation with law enforcement to reduce crime, solve problems, and improve the quality of life in your area.



Neighborhood Watch is a group of concerned citizens, joining together to assist local law enforcement in identifying and reporting suspicious or criminal activities in their neighborhoods.

By taking an active role in the protection of their homes and families, residents are better able to discourage criminal activity and keep their neighborhoods safe.

For more information please contact: **Corporal Michael Wolverson, 215-949-9100 x 326** wolversonpd@fallstwp.com or **Officer John Yeager, 215-949-9100 Ext. 434** yeagerpd@fallstwp.com.

Rapid Recovery Program



When an autistic child or an adult with dementia wanders off and gets lost, finding them quickly sometimes can make a difference between life and death. The Rapid Recovery Program is a tracking system that consists of a small wrist

bracelet worn by someone that is at risk of wandering. It is designed to locate missing special needs children as well as Alzheimer and Dementia patients.

This bracelet transmits a signal for up to a one-mile radius, allowing search and rescue efforts to be quicker, finding the individual in minutes instead of hours.

This program is available to all Falls Township residents and surrounding communities.

If you know anyone who would benefit from this program or would like additional information regarding Rapid Recovery, please contact Faith at the Falls Township Police department **215-949-9100 Ext. 303**.

Citizens Police Academy

The Falls Township Police department is wrapping up its 13-week Citizens Police Academy for Township residents. Anyone interested in attending can apply to the Spring Academy in 2016.

This program is designed to educate township residents about department procedures, responsibilities and demands on Police officers. Some of the topics that will be covered include: An overview of the department's structure; recruitment and training; interview techniques; a visit to the (911) county radio room; traffic enforcement; as well as observation of court hearings at the local District Justice. In addition, participants will be given an opportunity to "ride along" with a Patrol officer.

Check our website, Facebook or Twitter for dates.

"Coffee with a Cop"

Coffee with a Cop allows Police and residents to come together in an informal, neutral space to sit down with a mix of officers, detectives, sergeants, lieutenants and the Chief to ask questions, discuss happenings in the area, voice concerns, and get to know the officers who patrol their areas. This is a great way to strengthen police-community partnership and build friendships throughout the community.

Coffee with a Cop is just another way to allow our residents to make Falls Township a better place to live.

Check our website, Facebook or Twitter for coming dates.



Practice Fire Safety during Fire Prevention Week



When it comes to smoke alarms, it's about "location, location, location."

Fire Prevention Week is October 4 through October 10. This year's theme is "Hear The Beep Where You Sleep. Every Bedroom Needs A Working Smoke Alarm!"

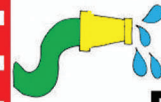
Keep your family safe with a working smoke alarm in every bedroom.

Did you know that roughly half of home fire deaths result from fires reported between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. when most people are asleep?

Smoke alarms save lives. If there is a fire in your home, smoke spreads fast and you need smoke alarms to give you time to get out. In fact, having a working smoke alarm cuts the chances of dying in a reported fire in half!

When it comes to smoke alarms, it's about "location, location, location."

The key message of this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign is to install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of your home, including the basement. Larger homes may need more alarms.



Top Ten Fire Safety Tips



10. Stay away from hot stove in the kitchen
9. Never hide from a firefighter
8. Have an escape plan if house on fire
7. Practice your escape plan
6. Have a meeting place outside
5. Have smoke detectors in each bedroom
4. Have carbon dioxide detector in home
3. Call 911 in case of a fire in your house
2. Don't play with matches.
1. STOP, DROP & ROLL



teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Promoting-Success

Hear the **BEEP** where you **SLEEP**

EVERY BEDROOM NEEDS A WORKING SMOKE ALARM.

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK
OCTOBER 4-10, 2015

firepreventionweek.org

Sparky® is a trademark of NFPA.

Retired Police Officers Honored for Combined 66 Years of Service

Falls Township Police officers Yale Gottenberg and John Trindle both served decades on the police force. During their years of service, both highly decorated officers each received two medals of valor. At a recent Falls Township Board of Supervisors meeting, the retired Police officers shared another commonality: Both were recognized for their unwavering service to the Township.

Falls Township Police Chief Bill Wilcox, before presenting Gottenberg and Trindle with plaques, said that, despite retiring, their service would continue.

"They will always be policemen," Wilcox said. "There's nothing like this profession."

Officer Gottenberg, who started his career on Jan. 9, 1984, graduated from the Police Academy in April 1984. Before year's end, he was involved in a shootout and received his first medal of valor.

He is the most decorated officer in the history of the Falls Township Police department, according to Chief Wilcox. During his service, Officer Gottenberg was on the SWAT team, worked as a range instructor, a range master, worked in community policing and as a DARE instructor.

The Chief described Officer Trindle as one of the best truck inspectors ever and said he inspected some of the most horrendous vehicle accidents in the area.



Falls Township Police Chief Bill Wilcox speaks at a recent Supervisors meeting about retiring Township Police officers Yale Gottenberg and John Trindle.

"John is the best," Chief Wilcox said. "There's no one in John's class."

Falls Supervisors Chairman Bob Harvie said he's had the privilege of getting to know both of the officers throughout their years of service.

"It's a great example of real true professional Police officers," Harvie said.

Citizens Fire Academy Planned for Spring

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be a firefighter? Most of us have, especially as kids. That is why I offered the first Citizens Fire Academy, which ran from April 9 until May 21. This academy ran every other Thursday for a total of five sessions. Different topics were discussed each night, including:

- The training involved and length of time to become a certified firefighter in Pennsylvania (188 hours)
- A hands-on demonstration of how to use a fire extinguisher, what is in an extinguisher and

how it reacts

- Fire equipment displays and discussion from each of the Township's three volunteer fire departments on how it works

- Basic first aid, CPR and the use of an AED

- Home safety, including safe cooking, electrical hazards, emergency generators and carbon monoxide and smoke detectors

- Things people should be aware of when traveling or in buildings other than their home. The discussion included a visit to a local hotel and restaurant and

capped with a fire inspection similar to those done annually at all Falls businesses

- A visit to a recent fire scene and an overview of how to perform a cause and origin investigation

The academy was well-received and Fire Marshal Rich Dippolito plans on holding another one in the spring of 2016. If you are interested and would like to get on a list please email him at rdippolito@fallstwp.org and leave your name and number so he can contact you when the time gets closer.

Parks & Recreation

Youth Kickball

Falls Township Parks and Recreation is once again holding a youth kickball program (ages 7-11) on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Falls Township Community Park (softball field). The program will begin on September 12 and conclude on October 17. Cost is \$10 for a resident. Cost for a non-resident is \$15. For further information or to register, please contact Brian Andrews at **(215) 949-9000 Ext. 220**.

Yoga

Yoga will continue on Monday nights from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Parks and Recreation office (room 105) at the Township building. Six-week session cost is \$52 for a resident and \$58 for a non-resident. Drop in rate is \$10 per class. For further information or to register, please contact Jessica Fox at **(215) 949-9000 Ext. 222**.



Fall Festival



Parks and Recreation will be holding its second annual Fall Festival on Saturday, October 3 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Falls Township Community Park (Phase 1 area). Bring the entire family and enjoy arts and crafts activities, food vendors, punt, pass, and kick competition, children's bounce house, face painting, balloon art and much more! For further information, please contact Brian Andrews at **(215) 949-9000 Ext. 220**.

Halloween Party

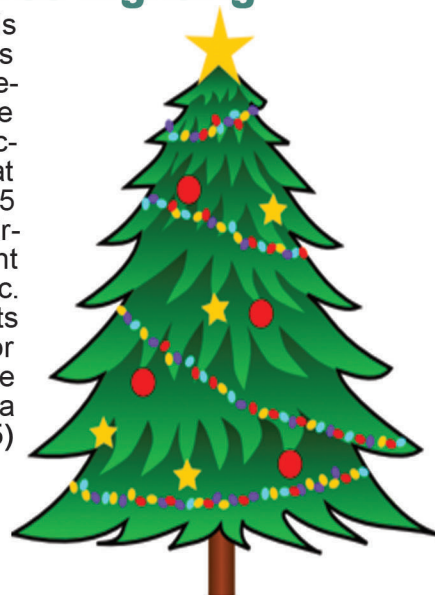
Parks and Recreation is excited to announce it will be holding its annual Halloween Party for children (all ages) on Saturday, Oct 31 from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. at the Falls Township Senior Center, 282 Trenton Road in Fairless Hills.

Snacks and drinks will be provided and kids can enjoy games and arts and crafts activities. Prizes will be awarded for the best costumes. This is a free program. Pre-registration is required for this event through your Capturepoint account. Any questions, please contact Barbara Loessy at **(215) 949-9000 Ext. 221**.



Christmas Tree Lighting

The annual Falls Township Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony will take place on Saturday, December 5 at 6 p.m. at Three Arches, 335 Trenton Road in Fairless Hills. This event is open to the public. Light refreshments will be provided. For information, please contact Barbara Loessy at **(215) 949-9000 Ext. 221**.



Breakfast With Santa



Our annual Breakfast with Santa event will take place on Saturday, December 12 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Falls Township Senior Center, 282 Trenton Road in Fairless Hills. This is a free event for children of all ages. Pre-registration will be required through your Capturepoint account.

A delicious breakfast will be served, and children will have the opportunity to complete a craft project and get their picture taken with Santa. For information or to register, please contact Jessica Fox at **(215) 949-9000 Ext. 222**.

Parents Night Out

Please call the Parks and Recreation office **(215) 949-9000 Ext. 221** for an update on this program.

Teen Advisory Board / Parks & Recreation Board Meetings

Both the Teen Advisory Board and the Park and Recreation Board meet the first Monday of the month at Three Arches. The Teen Advisory Board meets at 5:30 p.m. and the Park and Recreation Board meets at 7 p.m. Both meetings are open to the public. For questions or further information, please contact Barbara Loessy at **(215) 949-9000 Ext. 221**.

Township Seeks Grants for Pedestrian Crossings

With an eye on public safety and easier walkability, the Falls Township Board of Supervisors has applied for a pair of grants to cover the costs of pedestrian crosswalks in the area of the Oxford Valley Golf Course, as well as at New Falls Road and Vermillion Drive.

The projects include installing two flashing warning devices and signs for a pedestrian crossing. In all, roughly \$160,000 is being requested to cover the costs of both crosswalk crossing projects.

If funds are received, construction could begin by December at New Falls Road and Vermillion Drive and in February at S. Olds Boulevard between Trenton Road and Blough Court.

At the golf course, the crossing would

provide for safer movement between two sections of the golf course. The proposal also includes adding crossing striping and ADA ramp upgrades.

Golfers had requested a mid-block crosswalk to cross S. Olds Boulevard allowing safer travel between the two sections of the golf course. A feasibility study also recommended a crosswalk for safer crossing and better driver visibility.

The Township is seeking funding through the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's Automated Red Light Enforcement grant program, which provides monies from automated red light enforcement violations to cover the cost of projects. Falls would not be required to contribute any of the expenses.

New Falls Road Sidewalk Project Set for 2016

Concerned with the added cost of receiving only one bid for the New Falls Road sidewalk, the Falls Supervisors rejected the lone proposal and opted to save money by rebidding the project.

The \$306,746 bid was nearly twice the amount budgeted. The Township engineer said the project could be done for under \$200,000. The market is flooded with similar work, which caused many area contractors to be too busy to bid on the sidewalk project.



The governing body intends to rebid the work in November with construction tentatively set to begin in March.

Plans include adding concrete curbs,

concrete sidewalks, handicapped ramps and detectable warning surfaces, asphalt sidewalks, as well as crosswalks and crosswalk signs along New Falls Road.

2015 Falls Township Road Program

The following roadways located in the Makefield Road Village section of Falls Township have been scheduled for mill and overlay for this year:

- Annamarie Drive (Bernard Dr. to Rice Dr.)
- Angela Avenue (Rice Dr. to Lasha Dr.)
- Christina Court (Rice Dr. to the cul-de-sac end)
- Rice Drive (Floral Dr. to Lasha Dr.)
- Mark Anthony Court (Makefield Rd to the cul-de-sac).

Falls Township is on Facebook

Did you know that Falls Township is on Facebook?

Be sure to "Like" our page to stay up to date on the latest municipal news, traffic alerts, breaking news and other important announcements.

If you know about important news of use to your neighbors, please be sure to tag us and we'll help spread the word.

You can find the Falls Township Facebook page at this link: <https://www.facebook.com/fallstwp1>.



Trees Available to Falls Township Residents

The Township, along with the Shade Tree Commission, will be introducing a new Residential Tree Program for Falls residents. Every Spring and Fall season, the Township purchases trees through the Pennsbury Horticultural Society's Bare Root Tree Program.

This year, the Township and the Shade Tree Commission decided to offer this program to residents. Cost is \$25 a tree, which includes the Bare Root trees requirement of two stakes and ties. Prices are subject to change and residents will be notified should prices increase.

The details are still being worked out for this program. Some of the requirements so far are that the Bare Root trees must be visible from the street and that they need to be 10 feet from the sidewalk. A Tree Tender class will be required for the purchase of trees. Trees will be available for pickup in November at the Township building and residents will be responsible for pickup and planting of trees.

Tips for Planting a Bare Root Tree



1. Unpack your trees, carefully untangle the roots and soak the roots in water 3 to 6 hours.

2. Dig a hole, wider than seems necessary, so the roots can grow outward without crowding. Remove any grass within a 3-foot circular area. To aid root growth, turn soil in an area up to 3 feet in diameter.

3. Plant the tree at the same depth it stood in the nursery, with plenty of room for the roots. Partially fill the hole, firming the soil around the lower roots. Do not add soil amendments such as peat or bark. Do not use fertilizer, potting soil, or chemicals on your new trees.

4. Shovel in remaining soil. It should be firmly but not tightly packed. Construct a water-holding basin around the tree. Give it plenty of water.

5. Spread your mulch two inches deep in a 3-foot diameter area around the base of the tree, but not touching the trunk.

6. Keep Roots Moist. The soil and mulch around your trees should be kept moist but not soggy. During dry weather, water the tree every 7 to 10 days during the first year. Water slowly at the dripline.

Once the application and the requirements are complete, we will post them on the Township's

website at www.fallstwp.com and also on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/fallstwp1

Trash & Recycling Program

Single Stream Recycling Program

With the Single Stream Recycling program you can now place all recyclable materials into one container. In the past, it was necessary to separate your recyclables. (Recycling container should be 25-35 gallon in size.) This process makes recycling easier and more efficient.

The recyclable materials include: aluminum food and beverage containers, glass food and beverage containers (brown, clear or green), ferrous (iron) cans, PET plastic containers with the symbol #1 (with or without caps), HDPE natural plastic containers with the symbol #2 (detergent, shampoo bottles, etc.), plastics with symbols #3, #4, #5, #6, and #7, steel cans, newsprint, old corrugated cardboard (no larger than 2'x2'), magazines, catalogs, cereal boxes, telephone books, printer paper, copier paper, mail, all other office paper without wax liners.

Materials not accepted include, but are not limited to: microwave trays, mirrors, window or auto glass, light bulbs, ceramics, porcelain, plastics unnumbered, plastic bags, coat hangers, glass cookware/bakeware, household items such as cooking pots, toasters, etc.

Falls Township participates in the recycling program not only to save money but also for our economy, reducing waste, creating jobs, saves energy, preserves landfill space, prevents global warming, reduces water pollution, protects wildlife, and creates new demand. Further, we are participating in this Single Stream Recycling Program because we are creating an environmentally responsible and sustainable world for future generations of Falls Township residents.

To see how the single-stream process works, visit: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_GP3JuiX5BY



Que for the Troops Nets \$65K for Liberty USO

Falls Township Supervisor Vice Chairman Jeffry Dence promised that the fifth annual Que for the Troops BBQ competition and family festival would be the biggest and best ever. He delivered on that promise.

The annual event, which was held the first weekend in June at Falls Township Community Park, raised more than \$15,000 for Liberty USO this year alone. Since its inception, Falls Township has raised \$59,790.65 for the non-profit organization, which services active duty, National Guard and reserve military personnel and their families in Pennsylvania and South Jersey. With funds streaming in this year from Bucks County, the Falls Soccer Club, A. Brooks Construction, as well as many other generous sponsors, the total amount raised year to date has grown to \$65,108.90.

During a recent Falls Township Board of Supervisors meeting, Liberty USO volunteer John Kerner was presented with a \$10,000 check from Falls Township, \$300 from Falls Soccer Club, \$2,000 from the Bucks County Commissioners and \$3,048.25 from A. Brooks Construction.

"Everybody in this Township should be very, very proud," Liberty USO volunteer John Kerner told the Board of Supervisors.

Thousands of people took to Falls Township Community Park during the two-day competition, which boasted 50 BBQ teams from all over the East Coast.



John Kerner of Liberty USO (left) accepts a \$3,048.25 check from Sal Caimans, representing A. Brooks Construction.



Falls Township Supervisor Brian Galloway (left) presents Mr. Kerner a \$2,000 check on behalf of the Bucks County Commissioners.

LIBERTY

Serving Pennsylvania
and Southern New Jersey
www.libertyuso.org



Falls Township Supervisor Vice Chairman Jeff Dence gives Mr. Kerner a \$10,000 check on behalf of Falls Township.



Tim Watkins of the Falls Soccer Club (right) presents Mr. Kerner with a check for \$300, from money raised through concession stand sales.

When the event began in 2011, 12 teams competed, according to Dence, who helped to organize the event, along with the Parks and Recreation department and Township staff from various departments. Organizers are already looking

forward to the 2016 Que for the Troops event, which will be bigger, better and host even more BBQ contenders.

Stay tuned for more details or visit www.queforthetroops.com for more information.



2015 Leaf Collection Schedule

Leaf collections will be made by Waste Management on the following dates:

November 14, 2015
November 28, 2015
December 12, 2015

Leaves **MUST** be bagged in 30-gallon biodegradable PAPER BAGS or placed in 30-gallon trash containers **WITHOUT LIDS**. They are to be placed curbside by 6 a.m. on collection day in the same location as your regular trash pickup. **LEAVES IN ANY OTHER CONTAINER WILL NOT BE COLLECTED.**

Compost Bins Available for Purchase

Falls Township has 80-gallon Earth Machine™ Compost Bins available for purchase for \$45 at the municipal building.

The Earth Machine™ is a durable backyard compost bin designed to compost food and yard waste, effectively diverting it from landfills. The resulting compost can be used in lawns and gardens to provide much-needed nutrients, while helping to retain moisture in the soil. Using compost on your gardens returns organic material back into the natural cycle and promotes a healthy soil ecosystem. The result is significantly higher yields, with a substantial reduction in soil erosion.

The Earth Machine™ is designed for easy, passive composting. Just start filling the bin, water, and occasionally stir or poke. The finished compost is ready in four to six months.

According to the EPA, one person generates an average of approximately 1.35 pounds of organic waste per day. That equals almost 500 pounds per person every year! Backyard composting is an effective way of recycling organic wastes such as leaves, grass and food scraps that are generated at home and usually put out to the curb for disposal.

For additional information, please contact the Falls Township Finance department at **(215) 949-9000 Ext. 233**.



Bulk Disposal Day Set for October 17

Mark your calendars for the next **FREE** Bulk Disposal Day which will be held on Saturday, October 17 at GROWS Landfill behind Waste Management's Turkey Hill Office, 1000 New Ford Mill Road from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. This bulk disposal program is for resident homeowners of Falls Township and Tullytown Borough. Proof of residency is required. It is not intended for commercial customers or contractors.

Residents can drop off bulky waste items, yard waste and appliances.

The following materials can not be accepted: liquids, oil, paint, car batteries, propane tanks, gas cylinders, hazardous household waste, tires, chemicals, pesticides and spray cans. No refrigerators, air conditioners or freezers.

Bucks County organizes Household Hazardous Waste collections throughout the year. Call **215-345-3400** or **800-869-5566** for details.

Rain Barrels Reduce Water Bills

Falls Township has 55-gallon Rain Barrels available for purchase at the Falls Township Municipal Building.

A rain barrel is a great way to keep stormwater out of the system and cut down on your water bill! Only a quarter inch of rainfall runoff from the average roof will completely fill a typical barrel providing an ample supply of free "soft water" containing no chlorine, lime or calcium. Rainwater is ideal for watering plantings, vegetable gardens and lawns as well as washing your car or windows. In the event of a water shortage, drought or water supply contamination, a rain barrel provides you with an emergency water supply.



Collecting rainwater is easy using a rain barrel! Simply position the barrel below the water downspout of your roof. The barrels are neutral in color to easily blend in anywhere around your house. Full installation instructions as well as an overflow hose, clamp and faucet are included with the rain barrel at a price of \$57. For additional information, please contact the Falls Township Finance department at **(215) 949-9000 Ext. 233**.

Fast Facts from Waste Management

...on Waste Removal

When should trash be placed at the curb?

Place trash and recyclables out after 6:00 p.m. the evening before your pickup day. Place containers so they are not blocked by parked vehicles.

What size containers should I use?

Household waste containers should be between 20 and 35 gallons and may not exceed 50 pounds in weight. Use up to 10 sturdy plastic or metal containers with handles and detachable lids. Recyclables should be placed in a recycle bin or can be clearly labeled as "Recyclables."

How do I dispose of leftover paint?

Evaporate latex paint by air-drying or mixing with kitty litter, shredded newspaper or other absorbent. Bag and put out with your regular trash.

Which wastes are not acceptable?

We do not accept liquid waste of any type, tree stumps or tires. We do not accept HHW of any type, including insecticides, pesticides, gasoline, waste oil, non-latex paints, varnish, thinners, drain cleaner, pool chemicals, car parts or similar materials as part of your regular waste removal services. Hold all Household Hazardous Waste materials for special HHW collection events.

...on Bulk Items

When are bulk items collected?

Larger items are collected on the second pickup day of the week, sometimes by a second crew.

What type of bulk items are collected?

Examples of regular bulk items include furniture, cabinets, washers and dryers.

How much can I discard at once?

The limit is one bulk item per week.

What about refrigerators?

Some items require an appointment, such as refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners and dehumidifiers containing CFCs. To make an appointment, please call 800.869.5566.

...on Holiday Pickups

What if my pickup day falls on a holiday?

If a scheduled holiday (Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day) falls on your regular pickup day, trash and recyclables will be collected on your next regular service day.

For more information, call **215-788-5555**.

Safe Kids Bucks County Presents AEDs for Falls Parks



Falls Supervisor Jeff Boraski, Jessica Fox (center) and Debby Lamanna (right).

The community will have immediate access to life-saving Automated External Defibrillators (AED) thanks to a recent donation from Safe Kids Bucks County.

Falls Supervisor Jeff Boraski worked with the local branch of the national nonprofit organization to receive two new AED units for use at Falls Township Community Park and Quaker Penn Park. St. Mary Medical Center's Trauma Department leads and sponsors the local effort.

AEDs are an easy-to-use device for restoring a regular heart rhythm during sudden cardiac arrest.

"Having one at both of those parks make a tremendous amount of sense," Supervisors Chairman Bob Harvie said.

Debby Lamanna of Safe Kids Bucks County presented the AEDs to Parks and Recreation Assistant Director Jessica Fox during a recent Board of Supervisors meeting.

Follow Tips for Safe Travels This Winter

The Public Works department wants Falls residents to travel safely this winter season.

How can you help our Public Works department this winter?

By following a few simple guidelines during a winter storm, you can help us as well as yourself:

- Be patient.
- Remove your vehicles from the street when it snows.
- Shovel your driveway and sidewalk, but wait until the Township plows your street to shovel your apron.
- Do not put snow shoveled from your driveway and sidewalk into the street.
- When using a snowblower, turn the discharge apparatus away from the street.

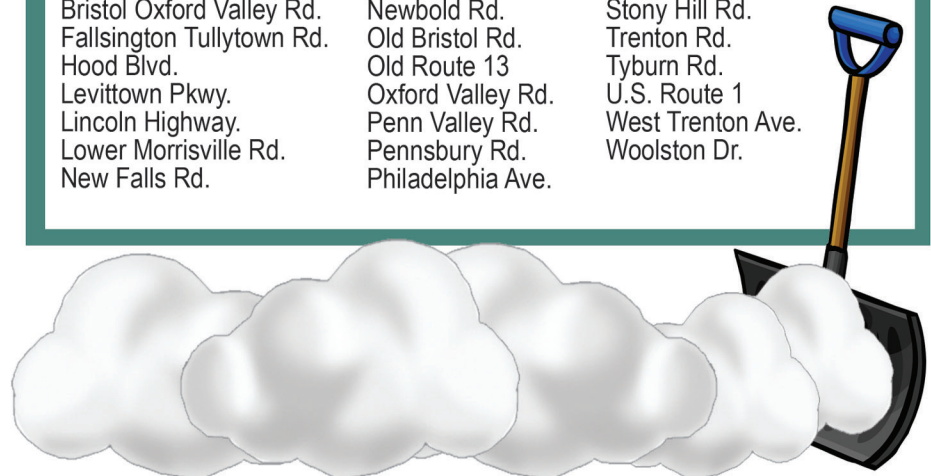
By following these guidelines, you will allow a more efficient clearing of the many miles of Township roads and allow better drainage when the snow starts to melt.

Please refer to the Online Code, Chapter 203 – Article IV – Temporary and Emergency Regulations.

Snow and Ice Control on State Roads

The following list of roads are maintained by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. For emergencies, complaints or information about state roads, please contact PENNDOT by calling **(215) 345-6060**:

- | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Big Oak Rd. | New Ford Mill Rd. | Pine Grove Rd. |
| Bordentown Rd. | New Route 13 | South Pennsylvania Ave. |
| Bristol Oxford Valley Rd. | Newbold Rd. | Stony Hill Rd. |
| Fallsington Tullytown Rd. | Old Bristol Rd. | Trenton Rd. |
| Hood Blvd. | Old Route 13 | Tyburn Rd. |
| Levittown Pkwy. | Oxford Valley Rd. | U.S. Route 1 |
| Lincoln Highway. | Penn Valley Rd. | West Trenton Ave. |
| Lower Morrisville Rd. | Pennsbury Rd. | Woolston Dr. |
| New Falls Rd. | Philadelphia Ave. | |



Falls Township Milestones

Falls Township would like to recognize our dedicated staff for reaching years of service milestones in their employment.

5-year milestone:

Michael Kirk
James Molimock
Stephen McCreary
Rose Molle
Christopher Morrell
James Bray

15-year milestone:

Gregory Small
Edward Elmore
Bryan Detrick
Anton Spiritosanto
Brian McShane
Sherry McGovern

10-year milestone:

Nicholas Noel

25-year milestone:

James Moratti

Congratulations

30-year milestone:

Don Airey
Renee Thompson
John Yeager
Gerard Piasecki



Volunteer Positions Let Residents Get Involved

Do you have extra time on your hands? Would you like to get more involved in your community?

Residents are welcome to volunteer to serve on one of the many boards and advisory bodies in Falls Township. If interested, please check the Township website for the most up-to-date openings.

Letters of interest, noting preference for any of the openings can be forwarded to: Falls Township, c/o Township Manager, 188 Lincoln Highway, Suite 100, Fairless Hills, PA 19030; (fax) **215-949-9013**; (e-mail) admin@fallstwp.org.



Safety Central to Snow Emergency Decisions

When weather forecasters start the barrage of anticipated snow accumulations, Falls Township employees – before the first snowflake falls – are already at work preparing to keep residents safe.

The Falls Township Board of Supervisors asked the township's fire marshal, public works director and police officers recently to discuss the multi-faceted approach to clearing snow, salting roads and looking out for the community's best interests. The discussion was aimed at keeping residents better informed of the behind-the-scenes aspects of safety precautions stemming from snow.

Ultimately, it's the collaboration between Township officials that determines if and when a snow emergency is declared, for instance. And why is a snow emergency necessary?

Public safety is the bottom line, Fire Marshal Rich Dippolito said. Under a snow emergency, the Township requires that vehicles are moved off any township-owned street, providing easier access for plow trucks or emergency services vehicles.

"We take the best information we have and if it looks like it's coming we ask you to get off the streets," Dippolito said. "Sometimes we're wrong. We're going by the same forecast that everybody else is."

Falls Township Supervisors Chairman Bob Harvie offered an easy solution regarding the parking of vehicles: "When in doubt just move it. It doesn't hurt."

State-owned roads such as Tyburn and New Falls are the responsibility of PennDOT and do not fall under the Township's jurisdiction for snow emergencies, maintenance or plowing and/or salting.

And when storms do hit, Public Works Director Joe Arnao said it's an all-hands-on-deck effort with crews clocking 16- and 20-hour days.

When snow begins overnight, Arnao said his crews set out at 5 a.m. to begin clearing the main roads – Makefield Road, Mill Creek Parkway and North and South Olds Boulevard. Then, once the snow stops crews spend another eight to 10 hours cleaning up.

Since January, the Falls Township Public Works Department has been out 15 times handling snow removal and salting.

The township is broken down into 13 routes, each containing a main road and attempts are made to switch around the order in which roads are cleared, but that is not always possible, according to Arnao.



How can residents help?

1. Watch Where You Park. Move all vehicles parked on Township-owned roads. A 26-foot-wide road with a car parked on each side of the road does not leave enough space for a plow truck to get through easily. Police can have vehicles towed, but they'd rather not.

2. Don't Block Roadways. Don't shovel or use a snow-blower to move snow back onto a plowed roadway. "It's something we made illegal a long time ago," Falls Township Supervisors Chairman Bob Harvie said. "You're creating a traffic hazard for everybody else and making more work for our guys."

3. Be patient. Police and other first responders will take a little longer to arrive.

4. Move over a lane. When approaching a vehicle crash or a disabled vehicle, state law requires that drivers move over a lane if possible. Falls Township Police also shared how doing so creates a safer situation for motorists and first responders.

5. Slow down. If you must drive during inclement weather, police recommend traveling at much slower speeds. Even four wheel drive vehicles are not "invincible" when it comes to sliding and potentially crashing.

6. Stay informed. Falls Township alerts residents of snow emergencies on its website, social media and the cable channel. Residents can also sign up for alerts through the Bucks County Community Alert System.

Speeding focus of Neighborhood Panel

The Neighborhood Traffic Advisory Committee (NTAC) in conjunction with police traffic officers and Township engineers, have been investigating speeding patterns on a large number of residential streets and intersections in Falls Township.

In many cases onsite observations by police resulted in summons issued for speeding and stop sign violations. Township police use passive, unmanned technologies to monitor traffic volume, analyze traffic data, alert motorists to their vehicle's speed and gently remind drivers that the residential streets on which they are traveling have speed limits.

The Supervisors approved 10 "slow down" banners and five are in use on South Olds Boulevard. The large banners, attached to existing light poles, are made of vinyl and printed on both sides. A pair of banners are positioned on each side of the road so motorists going in either direction will get a reinforced message to slow down.

The technologies that Falls Township uses to monitor, analyze and address possible speeding and stop sign violations include unobtrusive unmanned vehicle speed detectors, our large trailer with its "Your Speed" digital readout and patrol officers in marked cars.

A new pole-mounted digital speed display device, the "Shield 12B" has been put into operation, joining the speed trailer that is positioned on streets throughout the Township. The pole-mounted, solar-powered device displays an oncoming vehicle's speed to help deter speeding. It was first placed on Austin Drive, past North Queen Anne Drive and will be used at various locations as needed.

The NTAC has handled more than 100 complaints in recent months, including:

- **ALDEN AVENUE and OXFORD ROAD:** A series of special police assignments were conducted at the stop-signed intersection and 11 citations were issued.

- **AUSTIN DRIVE:** Technology was employed revealing the average speeds of vehicles on



NTAC Meetings

Meetings are held on the second Monday of the month, at 6:30 p.m. in the Township building.

Report an issue

Citizen procedure for proposing investigation of a potential residential traffic situation are found on the Township's Website at <http://fallstwp.com/tools-resources/complaint-form.aspx>.

Austin were for the most part within criteria. However, in one deployment eight citations were issued and the road continues to be a focus.

- **BIRCH DRIVE and BUTTERFLY LANE:** More than 1,100 vehicles were registered by monitoring technology over a two-day period.

- **ELDERBERRY DRIVE and ELVES LANE:** Nearly 600 vehicles were registered in a 23-hour period. It was decided to put the "Your Vehicle Speed" trailer in that location.

- **LOUISE DRIVE:** Police will install monitoring equipment to analyze the traffic and average speeds.

(Story Continues on Page 15)

PennDOT to Repair Alden Avenue Bridge

By early 2016 the township's Alden Avenue Bridge could be newly reconstructed.

As part of the state's Local Bridge Bundling Program, the bridge, located over Rock Run Creek in Falls Township, will be repaired. Project bids will be opened in late October and construction could begin, weather dependent, around

December or January 2016. Construction is expected to take 7-8 weeks to complete.

The bridge improvement program is designed to repair structurally deficient local bridges in Bucks, Montgomery, Chester, Delaware and Philadelphia counties. In all, 12 bridges will be repaired. The average cost per structure is

projected at \$300,000 and PennDOT anticipates spending \$4.7 million in all.

Falls Township has approved a resolution to enter into an agreement with PennDOT. The township has also provided traffic data, accident reports, right of way information and any plans as part of the bridge repair process.

Community Panel Hopes to Curb Speeding

(Continued From Page 14)

• **MAKEFIELD ROAD:** School crossing guards along Makefield Road intersections of Hedgerow Drive and Winding Way expressed concern for students crossing Makefield. Police presence was provided.

• **NEW SCHOOL LANE:** After a full day of monitoring vehicles, the traffic division determined that the threshold was not reached for additional action. An unattended device recorded speeds of nearly 500 vehicles during a 24-hour period. While one vehicle was recorded as traveling 44 miles-per-hour, the balance of traffic fell within normal ranges.

• **OXFORD VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:** The traffic division determined that a marked police car presence would help slow down vehicles. Three details were located at the school and on three separate occasions the speed trailer was placed to display motorists' speed.

• **OXFORD VALLEY GOLF COURSE:** South Olds Boulevard near the golf course was the subject of a traffic analysis that resulted in new striping at two locations.

• **OXFORD VALLEY ROAD and SOUTHWAY DRIVE:** A complaint of cars parking too close to the intersection when St. Frances Cabrini Church holds services was investigated. Vehicles may not park within 20 feet of an intersection if it has a crosswalk. The traffic division had curbs painted yellow along with installing "No Parking Here to Corner" signs.

• **PENNWOOD CROSSING:** A complaint of speeding within Penn-



wood Crossing was received but since the development's streets are private property the Township could only issue citations if the property met certain qualifications and they gave police permission.

• **ROUTE 13:** Stop sign violations are a continuing problem. Township police, in one month, detailed several assignments resulting in 19 drivers being cited for moving violations.

• **SOUTH OLDS BOULEVARD:** Over a 28-hour period, monitoring devices clocked nearly 2,300 vehicles. Traffic analysis showed that speeds along that section did, in fact, exceed the threshold. At one point, three special police assignments were detailed and the large speed trailer was used for eight straight days. On another occasion, traffic officers carried out six special assignments in the 600

block of South Olds Boulevard, writing five citations.

• **STANWOOD and YORKSHIRE ROADS:** Three citations resulted from police assignments at this intersection. In addition, the speed trailer showing the miles-per-hour to oncoming drivers was placed curbside for three days.

• **TAYLOR DRIVE:** Analysis of traffic data indicated that speeding was not a problem on Taylor Drive since most of the nearly 270 vehicles logged over a two-day period were traveling within acceptable speed criteria.

• **THORN RIDGE DRIVE:** The potential for speeding on Thornridge Drive was also reported and discussed. The roadway is wide and a discussion about line painting followed.

• **TIMBER and TWISTING LANES:** Traffic speed analysis also showed that vehicles traveling in this residential area were well within criteria and did not need additional scrutiny.

• **VERMILLION DRIVE and VITAL OAK LANE:** The NTAC received reports that vehicles were cutting through but not stopping completely at the stop sign. Speeds registered did not meet criteria for further action.

• **WILLOW DRIVE:** An unattended device was used to record traffic volume and speed after a complaint alleging speeding on Willow Drive off Levittown Parkway was received.

• **WILLOWOOD WAY:** An unattended device was used to record traffic flows and speeds. The data will help determine if action is needed on that street.



Falls Township
 188 Lincoln Highway, Suite 100
 Fairless Hills, PA 19030

Fall Newsletter 2015



This Community Newsletter was produced by
Katalinas Communications

katalinascommunications.com katalinascommunications@gmail.com

To Advertise in the Next Newsletter, Call Theresa at 215-519-8833

DINE IN • TAKE OUT • DELIVERY (up to 3 miles)

Home of the Steaks in a Pouch

Come Try Our One-Of-A-Kind Julio's Ginacotti
*Special mixture of cheese & sauce in a dough pocket
 and deep fried to mouthwatering perfection!*

Senior Citizens Discount
10% OFF



215-945-4355

515 S. Oxford Valley Rd • Fairless Hills
 (Queen Ann Plaza)

Mon - Thur 11am-10pm • Fri & Sat 11am-12am • Sun 12pm - 10pm

20% off
 your purchase

max. value \$10

With this coupon • **Coupon must be surrendered for discount.** Not valid on holidays or specials.
 Not to be combined with any other offers. One per table please. **Offer expires 1-31-16**

Julio's Pizzeria

515 S. Oxford Valley Rd
 Fairless Hills
 215-945-4355

20% off
 your purchase

max. value \$10

With this coupon • **Coupon must be surrendered for discount.** Not valid on holidays or specials.
 Not to be combined with any other offers. One per table please. **Offer expires 1-31-16**

Julio's Pizzeria

515 S. Oxford Valley Rd
 Fairless Hills
 215-945-4355

20% off
 your purchase

max. value \$10

With this coupon • **Coupon must be surrendered for discount.** Not valid on holidays or specials.
 Not to be combined with any other offers. One per table please. **Offer expires 1-31-16**

Julio's Pizzeria

515 S. Oxford Valley Rd
 Fairless Hills
 215-945-4355

WE DELIVER TO PARTS OF THE FOLLOWING ZIP CODES:

19030, 19054, 19055, 19056, 19057 CALL TO SEE IF YOU ARE IN OUR DELIVERY AREA!