

FALLS TOWNSHIP

Spring / Summer 2024

Bucks County, Pa.

'Falls Cares' Brings Bright to Blight

We have all seen them. The abandoned homes, dilapidated properties and yards littered with junk and grass and weeds so high the house is virtually invisible.

In addition to simply writing citations for various levels of blighted properties, Falls Township earlier this year launched a new program to do more than put a band-aid on problem residences. Our team is lending a helping hand to residents of blighted properties. The goal is to support homeowners in getting the assistance they need to not only transform blighted properties, but to address the root causes.

Led by Township Manager Matthew Takita, with help from Code Enforcement Officer Melissa Haxel and the Township's police co-responder, Cara Gadzinski, the "Falls Cares Program: Action with Compassion" initiative creates a structure to help rectify blighted properties.

As a first step, Mr. Takita, who also serves as the Township's code enforcement director, will work with the department to ensure that inspectors properly enforce blighted conditions, including issuing a violation notice and proceeding through the court system. He also intends to work with the police department and the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in identifying types of crime in neighborhoods to determine if there's a trend in data related to property conditions.

The hope is that the crime rate will decline as blighted properties are remediated.

Blight runs the gamut from unkempt grounds to rundown properties to more extreme cases requiring demolition. Hoarding can also create eyesores in our community. In short, no two blighted properties are the same, nor can they be handled all in the same manner.

Displacing someone from a home only worsens the problem in that now the resident may be without a place to live. Instead, Cara will work with residents to determine the underlying cause of hoarding, for instance, and identify resources to get property owners help through a network that the Township is developing. She would also connect property owners with junk removal companies, landscapers and other businesses that could help remedy the situation. By offering resources, we hope to prevent repeat problems and provide property owners with needed assistance.

While Falls is not overrun with blighted properties, we view this effort as a positive foundation to help curb problems from arising and effectively mitigate existing issues.

By working together, we can continually improve the quality of life for our residents and business owners. Through our "Falls Cares Program: Action with Compassion," we hope to instill a greater pride of ownership and offer help to folks struggling with property maintenance and upkeep.

We expect to continue developing the program throughout the course of 2024, understanding that it will constantly evolve and require flexibility as every situation is not exactly the same.

Part of our success with Falls Cares is enlisting help from our residents to let us know of blighted property conditions in our Township. Should you come across a residence in need of attention, please email admin@fallstwp.com.

-Jeffrey Dence

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

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Falls Township Contact Information

450 Lincoln Highway • Fairless Hills, PA 19030
 Website: www.fallstwp.com • Email: admin@fallstwp.com
 Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

TEMPORARY ADDRESSES DURING CONSTRUCTION

Police: 430 Lincoln Highway, Suite 225, Fairless Hills, PA 19030;
Administration: 450 Lincoln Highway, Fairless Hills, PA 19030

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Jeffry Dence, Chairman
 Erin Mullen, Vice Chairperson

Brian Galloway, Secretary / Treasurer

John Palmer, Supervisor
 Jeff Boraski, Supervisor

Administrative Offices: (215) 949-9000
Police Information - Press 2
Township Information - Press 3
 After you press 3 for Township information, the following numbers indicate each department

Receptionist - 1

Code Enforcement/Permits - 2
 Matthew Takita, Zoning Officer

Township Tax Collector
 Kimberly Scarpiello
 450 Lincoln Highway
 Fairless Hills, PA 19030
(215) 949-9008

Township Engineer
 Joseph G. Jones
 Jones Engineering Associates
 10 Canal St., Suite 332
 Bristol, PA 19007
(215) 377-9244

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

District Court - 07-1-10
 John Galloway, District Judge
 9187 New Falls Road
 Fallsington, PA 19054
(215) 736-0231

**Director of Emergency Services/
 Fire Marshal/Asst. Mgr - 3**
 Richard Dippolito
Public Works Department - 4
 Jason Lawson, Public Works Director
Parks and Recreation - 5
 Brian Andrews, Director
Finance Department - 6
 Betsy Reukauf, Director

Tax Office - 7
 Kimberly Scarpiello
Township Manager - 8
 Matthew Takita, Township Manager
Human Resources - 9
Police Department: (215) 949-9100
Non Emergency: (215) 328-8519
 Nelson Whitney, Chief of Police
Animal Control: (215) 328-8519

Police Department

Add Your Name to the 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**.

(More Police Department News On Page 3)

Police Launch Adopt a Cop Program

In an effort to strengthen the relationship between police, the school district and Falls Township youth, the Falls Township Police Department implemented an “Adopt a Cop” program at Pennsbury schools recently.

Students at each of Pennsbury School District’s eight schools voted for their preferred police officers to “adopt.” Following a week of voting, 16 officers – two per school – were adopted and celebrated during a ceremony where police received a certificate of adoption from the school’s principal.

Adopted officers continue to visit schools throughout the day to greet students, conduct school walkthroughs, monitor school zones, and make themselves available to any teacher or student with a need, question or concern.

Wayne Demore, Academy of Pennsbury principal, said his school’s adopted officer, Cpl. Szamboti, is making a difference in the lives of the school’s ninth- through 12th-graders who attend the alternative high school.

“He comes with regularity,” Demore said. “He’s made really good connections.”

Szamboti joined students and staff for a Taco Tuesday celebration, which featured 18 pounds of ground beef. He also participated in the school’s Christmas brunch. During another visit, Szamboti noticed that the school ran out of canisters of water, so he went to the store and bought cases of bottled water.

When he heard that one of the students was interested in pursuing a law enforcement career, Szamboti returned with



Officers from the Township Police Department meet with students from Pennsbury School District as part of the “Adopt A Cop” program. Students voted on which officer they wanted to “adopt” and recently got a chance to meet them face to face.

information about a junior program that the student could enroll in.

At first, some of the students were apprehensive, but Szamboti broke down barriers.

“He has been genuine with the kids,” Demore said. “He has been transparent with the kids. I told the kids, ‘I want you to be honest and transparent with him too.’”

Students at Penn Valley Elementary School were quick to welcome officers McCreary and Collins as part of the school family, Principal Barbara Hidalgo said.

“They’re more excited than not,” she said of students. “They have a lot of questions. They’re very curious about what they’re wearing. They’re in full gear because they’re on duty.”

Officers attend specific events and drop by sporadically to greet students during recess and at the beginning of the day. Parents are not even concerned when police are onsite at drop-off, she said.

“Parents see them,” Hidalgo said. “Kids go home and talk about it.”

Officers also provided an “extra layer of comfort” following a school shooting in another state when they stopped by to double check the school’s doors.

“They’re developing relationships,” she said. “They’re entering classrooms. Students are seeing them being part of the team.”

Department Establishes Traffic Safety Unit

The Falls Township Police Traffic Safety Unit is responsible for targeted enforcement of traffic laws designed to increase the safety of the motoring public. The Traffic Safety Unit is supervised by Sgt. Ray Fanelli.

Officers will enforce speed zones on major roadways by using ROBIC and ENRADD technologies. In partnership with Sgt. Matt Killeen, the Traffic Safety

Unit will also conduct commercial vehicle inspections and enforce truck weight limits. The Traffic Safety Unit will coordinate with the Accident Investigation Division (Crash Reconstructionists that are dedicated to investigating motor vehicle crashes that result in death or serious bodily injury) to target areas of the Township where serious traffic crashes occur.

The Traffic Safety Unit also posts weekly educational information on the police department’s social media page to educate the public and increase everyone’s safety on our roads. The Traffic Safety Unit will coordinate with PENNDOT as needed to suggest engineering changes when called for – addressing all traffic related concerns through enforcement, education and engineering.

Seven Officers Promoted

During a recent Supervisors meeting, the board recognized seven police officers who were recently promoted.

David Gold was hired by Falls Township as a police officer in February 2008. He is a member of the SWAT Team, a firearms Instructor, a defensive tactics Instructor, an EMT, and an accident reconstructionist. He was promoted to Detective.



Matthew Killeen, who previously worked as a police officer for Prince George County, Maryland, was hired as a Falls Township police officer in May 2009. He is a Federal Motor Carrier Inspector, a member of the MIRT Team, and a firefighter with the Fairless Hills Fire Department for more than 15 years. He was promoted to Corporal in 2020, and more recently promoted to Sergeant.



Stephen Reeves, who previously worked for the Bristol Borough Police Department, was hired as a Falls Township police officer in December 2002. He is an EMT, a field training officer, assigned to the ICAC Task Force, and the President of the Bristol Borough Fire Association, as well as a volunteer firefighter for more than 20 years. He was promoted to Detective in 2009, and recently promoted to Sergeant.



Ryan Murphy, who previously worked as a police officer for the Villanova University Police Department, was hired as a Falls Township police officer in May 2017. He is a Field Training Officer and an EMT. He was promoted to Corporal.



Nicholas Phillippe was hired as a Falls Township police officer in September 2013. He is an accident reconstructionist, a Field Training Officer, and the police department's JNET / CLEAN Compliance Officer. He was promoted to Corporal.



Alexander Sansone was previously a police officer with North Wales Borough, Montgomery County. He was hired as a Falls Township police officer in August 2016. He is an EMT and an accident reconstructionist. He was promoted to Corporal.



James Szamboti joined the Falls Township Police Department in July 2014. He is a Field Training Officer, a bicycle officer, and a DARE officer. He was promoted to Corporal.



SafetyNet Technology Tracks Lost Persons

Caring for someone with a cognitive condition who wanders is a considerable responsibility. SafetyNet Tracking Systems helps public safety agencies quickly find and bring home loved ones who may be lost.

Falls Township Police can provide your loved one with a SafetyNet bracelet that they should always wear. Water-proof bracelets feature a radio frequency transmitter that emits a continuous signal. If a loved one is missing, caregivers would contact authorities immediately.



Trained search and rescue teams track the signal emitted from the bracelet, locate the missing person and return him or her home safely.

Radio frequency technology can work in densely wooded areas, buildings and shallow water, even when GPS and cellular technology can not.

If you know anyone who would benefit from this program, or would like additional information, please contact the Falls Township Police Department at (215) 949-9100.

Anonymous Tip Line Call (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.

Police Reports Available Online Through Crashdocs

Police reports are now available online through *Crashdocs.org*. Cost is \$10 for individuals and \$15 for attorneys and insurance companies. Online report availability is provided through Carfax, which also offers an investigative element for police.

Find Police Department News On Facebook

Falls Township Police department is now on social media outlets like Facebook. Follow us to get information on what's going on in your neighborhood. www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100067111302631



Falls Officers Graduate Academy

Falls Township Police officers Mark Stillman and Scott Hall made the collective leap to leave professions in the sales and social work industries, respectively, for a rewarding career in law enforcement.

Soon after joining the police force in summer, the officers completed a 22-week course at the Reading Police Academy.

“The majority of the instructors were active police officers working in Reading,” Stillman said. “It was really great to be able to hear their first-hand experiences and the job that they’re doing and incorporate into those scenarios.”

Instructors used actual calls to illustrate various situations, allowed students to work through them the way they thought most appropriate and then shared how calls were handled.

“Being able to hear how they did it and frame it in your sense and how you might approach it was interesting,” Stillman said. “At the end you grow and develop and get more successful.”

Hall, who previously worked with people with intellectual disabilities, said helping people is at the heart of what he has always strived to do in his career.

He had decided about five years ago that he wanted to work in law enforcement, but the married father of two struggled to quit a paying job to go to the academy. Hall said he’s grateful to Falls Township for sending him to the academy and for ridealongs he and Stillman are doing with fellow police officers.

“Falls Township gave me the opportunity and I took it. I’m glad that I did,” he said. “It’s such a great department. They really helped me spearhead work for my community.”

More departments should follow Falls Township’s lead. The experience helps police departments have “better rounded police officers because you get to teach them one-on-one.”

A Northampton Township native, Hall’s biggest aspiration is to be a K9 officer. In the meantime, he’s happy to continue learning the ropes as a patrolman.

“There’s so much information that you need to know, especially to be a good police officer,” he said.

Stillman, a Chicagoland native, relocated to Bucks County



Township Police officers Mark Stillman (standing) and Scott Hall recently graduated from the Reading Police Academy.

in 2018 for a previous sales job. While many of his job skills are transferable – including communication, building, and cultivating relationships – the most challenging aspect has been changing his focus from his previous 10-year career to law enforcement. He had always wanted to be a police officer but followed his family’s dream instead of his own.

“The desire to go into law enforcement and serve my community never went away,” Stillman said, adding that his wife encouraged him to pursue his dream. “I’ve enjoyed every bit of it so far. I’m looking forward to a long and good career.”

Falls Continues Co-Responder Program

With an eye on providing optimal social services for those dealing with a crisis or mental health issue, the Falls Township Supervisors joined Falls Township Police Chief Nelson Whitney in supporting the continuation of its human services co-responder program.

Bucks County funded the first two years of the program with a grant. Continuing through at least Dec. 31, 2025, Falls Township will cover the salary of the human services co-responder, a specially trained social worker paired with Falls police. The co-responder assists with a variety of calls, including de-escalating adolescent issues or runaway scenarios, domestic violence calls, assisting those dealing with mental strife, and intervening in instances where suicide or self-harm are a concern.

Supervisor Chairman Jeff Dence said the Township knew it would need to fund the program following the initial two-year stint. Dence said the co-responder program has been a “tremendous help” in addressing issues that would otherwise take a lot of police officer time.

Whitney told the board that in one month alone the co-responder received 35 referrals for residents in need of service.

“Each one of those referrals takes time that an officer would have been spending,” Whitney said. “It’s an invaluable program.”

Over a weekend the co-responder receives more than 100 text messages and emails, according to Whitney.

Additional grant funding to help cover the annual salary of the co-responder could be forthcoming with grants.

Fanelli Marks 25 Years on SWAT Team

Sgt. Raymond Fanelli remembers the night a barricaded man was firing a shotgun out the window, striking a vehicle with SWAT team members positioned on the opposite side.

The incident, which occurred on either Christmas eve or Christmas day, stands out as an example of a situation that could have had a tragic ending.

“People don’t understand the sacrifice that officers are willing to make for them,” Fanelli said, recalling that he worried at the time that he would have to tell a spouse or parent that their loved one had been killed in the incident. “It could have gone much worse than it did.”

To decelerate the incident, a police sniper shot the individual, who has since fully recovered from his injuries and helps at police negotiator conferences, sharing his view of how similar incidents unfold.

Fanelli, a Philadelphia native and 27-year veteran of the Falls Township Police Department, this year celebrates 25 years as a member of the South SWAT team, which is also comprised of police officers from Bristol Township, Bristol Borough and Bensalem.

Sandwiched between Trenton and Philadelphia, Fanelli notes that the lower portion of Bucks County accounts for 66 percent of crime countywide.

“People have tried to kill police officers,” he said. “We’ve seen our fair share.”

During his tenure on the SWAT team, Fanelli has served in various roles, including team leader, sniper, team member and breacher, the latter of which is charged with tossing a flashbang into a structure once the point person opens the door.

Unlike most people’s perceptions that SWAT teams mean a subject is going to get seriously injured or killed, Fanelli said the exact opposite is true.

“You’re bringing out guys and women that are so well-trained and so well-equipped that they’re able to calm a situation down and bring about more peaceful resolutions,” he said. “Their training inoculates them to high levels of stress.”

SWAT teams are put in action for hostage rescue situations, especially those



involving a weapon or a serious threat of harm, as well as riot situations. Another lesser-known occasion for SWAT teams to assemble includes large-scale events such as Pennsbury High School’s prom. Fanelli and his team were on standby upstairs in the event that their services were needed.

Fanelli and his team have also escorted President Joe Biden with snipers perched on top of buildings for “overwatch” and officers following behind the president’s

motorcade.

The son of a K9 officer with the Philadelphia Sheriff’s Department, Fanelli worked as a military police officer from 1992 until 1997. He transitioned to the Military Police Corps’ SWAT team in May 1994.

Fanelli described the military SWAT team and his current SWAT team as an evolution in which he has “seen the tactics change.”

“It went from running and gunning to more of a ‘hey, is it really worth it?’ Let’s wait this out. We’re willing to really be patient,” Fanelli said. “This is like adult chess. Let’s try and figure out what the best solution is going to be for everyone.”

While still in the military Fanelli applied for a position at the Falls Township Police Department. Several years after he joined the force, his brother, Anthony, was hired as a Falls police officer.

The real reward for his service is the “sense of pride” Fanelli gets from undertaking police work and conducting SWAT missions.

“I’m very proud and honored to work with the officers I work with,” he said. “Falls Township has taken care of me. I also hope I’ve taken care of Falls Township to the best of my ability.”



“We get up and get ready for work together. Most of our days off are up at the house. You’re bringing not just a job and a work partner, but you’re bringing a new family member home.”

- Edward Elmore

Tribute to Retiring K9 ‘Officer’

For the last decade, Falls Township Police Officer Edward Elmore and his partner Monty have been inseparable.

“We get up and get ready for work together,” Elmore said of his partner, a 12-year-old Belgian Malinois. “Most of our days off are up at the house. You’re bringing not just a job and a work partner but, you’re bringing a new family member home.”

Earlier this year, Monty retired from Falls Township Police after faithfully serving the department since April 2014. Cross-trained in apprehension and recovery, Monty specialized in explosive detection.

“Ten years is an ambitious target,” Elmore said. “Some dogs age out well before that.”

Throughout his career, Monty has assisted with a bomb threat at Montgomery County’s municipal complex, as well as with school bomb threats.

“There’s just no way to disprove a threat besides going through every inch of the place,” Elmore said. “It would take 100 years (for police) to go through every drawer and every box.”

But trained dogs, like Monty, can sniff out a potential school building threat within a few hours.

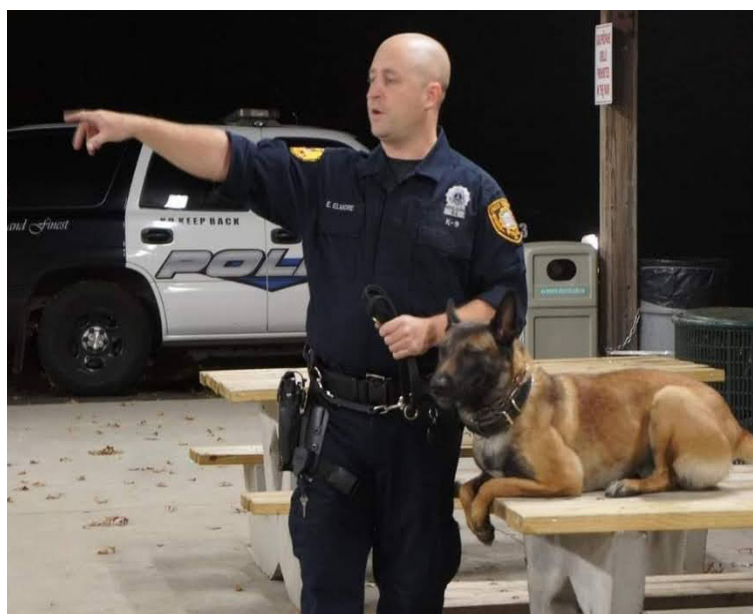
“There’s nothing in the world that can replace them,” Elmore said. “Nothing is as effective as a dog’s nose.”

During the first year of the partners’ time together, Monty helped apprehend someone involved in a rooftop burglary at Mike’s Gun Shop. The suspect had entered through a three-foot hole in the building’s roof. To make his getaway, the burglar crawled through the ceiling cavities in neighboring businesses. Monty noticed his scent “up high” and police ripped out ceiling tiles. The suspect’s arm came through tiles in the adjacent pizza shop and Monty jumped up and pulled him through.

At another time, Monty helped apprehend a suspect involved in an attempted carjacking. Police received a tip that the suspect had been dropped off at the bottom of the street where he lived. Elmore and Monty responded, but 30 or 45 minutes had gone by.

“He could’ve been anywhere,” Elmore said, noting that Monty followed the suspect’s scent underneath the highway and into a drainpipe. “Monty knew. Not a second guess. Had it not been for the dog, we would’ve never come up with this guy.”

Now retired, Monty has switched gears to notifying Elmore and his family when an Amazon driver is a few miles away or



sniffing out all of the ingredients used in making the pizza being delivered.

“He’s always alert,” Elmore said of Monty and his other dog. “You always feel comfortable knowing that they’re around. They’re the best security system.”

Elmore, who celebrated 24 years with Falls Township Police on Jan. 13, transitioned to K-9 work with Monty, his first four-legged partner.

“I’ve always had a love for dogs,” Elmore said, adding that he enjoys training dogs. “The time you put in is always equal to the return you get. I couldn’t imagine not having dogs in the family.”

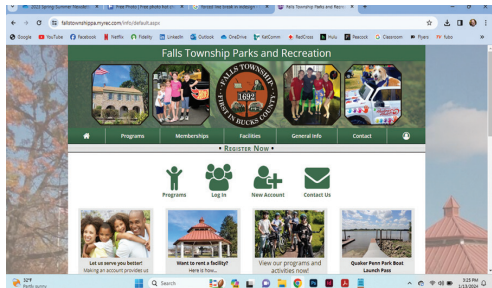
His love of working as a K-9 officer has led to sacrifices, including passing up tests for promotions. As a supervisor, Elmore would not have been able to work with dogs or respond to other municipalities with his canine partner.

“I’m looking forward to taking everything I’ve learned over the last 10 years and serving with my next canine partner,” Elmore said, noting that Monty enjoys the company of other dogs and will be fast friends with Elmore’s new partner. “They are social animals. They like the company. They never like to be alone. He truly enjoys being around other people and dogs.”

Parks and Recreation

Looking forward to the warmer weather? Look no further than the program offerings and amenities offered by Falls Township Parks and Recreation for the 2024 Spring/Summer season. It is our goal to offer diverse programming to Township residents. Please check out our offerings.

FallsTwpRec.com



The Falls Township Parks and Recreation Department has a new web page. This is a one-stop shop for all things Park and Rec! Visit our new site today and create an account to get all our email blasts

regarding upcoming events and programs. Visit the homepage for all announcements and up-to-date information. Curious what incredible activities we have in store for you? Head on over to the “programs” tab. For a full list of all Township parks and their addresses, or to rent a pavilion/gazebo for an event, click the “facilities” tab. Looking to get a membership to Pinewood Pool this summer? We have made it easier with the “memberships” tab. We are very excited to roll out this new website for you and can’t wait for you to see everything it has to offer.

Pinewood Pool

The Pinewood Pool is a great way for residents to cool off and spend quality time with family and friends. The pool is scheduled to open on Saturday, May 25. Take advantage of the early bird discount period which runs through April 1!

For full information and to register, please visit FallsTwpRec.com and find the tab that says “memberships.” If you need assistance with registration, please contact Barbara Loessy by email at b.loessy@fallstwp.com or by phone at (215) 949-9004.



Know Your Medicare Options

Getting close to retirement and not quite sure what Medicare will and will not cover? We are offering the opportunity to get answers to these and any other questions! A representative from DelVal Senior Advisers will be on hand to provide a FREE educational seminar on Thursday, April 4 from 6:30-8 p.m. at the Falls Township Senior Center (282 Trenton Road). To pre-register, please visit FallsTwpRec.com. Walk-ins are welcome. For further information or if anyone needs assistance with registration, please contact Barbara Loessy by email at b.loessy@fallstwp.com or by phone at (215) 949-9004.

All programs are subject to change

For the latest up-to-date information from Falls Township Parks and Recreation Department visit us at FallsTwpRec.com and be sure to follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

Lifeguards Needed

Parks and Recreation is looking to hire several lifeguards for the 2024 Pinewood Pool season. Candidates must be at least 15 years old and have a current Lifeguard/First Aid/CPR/AED certification. The starting pay rate is \$15 per hour. Falls Township covers all costs (physical, drug test, background checks). Additionally, the Township will reimburse for lifeguard certification and recertification costs (50 percent end of year 1, remaining 50 percent at end of year 2. Lifeguard certifications are valid for two years). For further information or if interested in applying, contact Brian Andrews by email at b.andrews@fallstwp.com or by phone at (215) 949-9006.



Bunny Bingo



Hop on over to our first-ever Bunny Bingo for children ages 6-12. This egg-stravaganza will be fun for all with bingo, eggs for all, and concessions available for purchase. Join us on Saturday, March 23 from 1-3 p.m. at the Falls Township Senior Center (282 Trenton

Road). Pre-registration is required by visiting FallsTwpRec.com. For further information or assistance with registration, please contact Barbara Loessy by email at b.loessy@fallstwp.com or by phone at (215) 949-9004.

Shooting Star Archery Academy

Register today for Shooting Star Archery Academy’s program held on Tuesdays from 5-5:45 p.m. at Quaker Penn Park. Try your hand at a new hobby! Shooting Star is the premier archery program of Bucks County. Participants will learn the fundamentals of archery: proper stance, form, range safety, archery terms, parts of the bow, core strength, how to shoot targets with precision and much more! Shooting Star is taught by USA Archery certified instructors with over 20 years of experience. For ages 6-17, we are offering 3 sessions that you can register for at FallsTwpRec.com (April 2-May 7; May 21-June 25; July 9-August 13). We need a minimum of 16 participants registered in order to run each session. For more details or for assistance with registration, please contact Barbara Loessy by email at b.loessy@fallstwp.com or by phone at (215) 949-9004.



Parks and Recreation

Yoga

Indoor Yoga continues at The Falls Township Senior Center (282 Trenton Road) in the Annex Building. This program is held on Monday evenings from 7-8 p.m. Six-week sessions cost: Resident \$48; Non-resident \$54. Drop-In rate is \$10 per class. We need a minimum of eight participants registered in order to run the class.

Interested participants can register online at [FallsTwpRec.com](https://www.fallstwp.com/FallsTwpRec.com). For further information or for assistance with registration, please contact Barbara Loessy by email at b.loessy@fallstwp.com or by phone at (215) 949-9004.



Community Yard Sale



Clear your home of unwanted items and make money in the process! Parks and Recreation is once again holding a Community Yard Sale on Saturday, April 20 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Falls Township Community Park (soccer field located next to the pavilion off the Mill

Creek Road entrance into the park). Event proceeds will be donated to the Fallsington Library. Cost for one table space is \$20. Additional table space is \$15. Participants must provide their own table(s). Registration is available at [FallsTwpRec.com](https://www.fallstwp.com/FallsTwpRec.com). For further information or registration assistance, please contact Barbara Loessy by email at b.loessy@fallstwp.com or by phone at (215) 949-9004.

Summer Camp

Falls Township Parks and Recreation is accepting registrations for its 2024 Summer Camp Program. We offer before and after care options, field trips (trip costs are included within the registration fee), in-camp entertainment, and weekly visits to Pinewood Pool! For full information and registration, visit [FallsTwpRec.com](https://www.fallstwp.com/FallsTwpRec.com). The camp is designed for children ages 5-13 (all participants must be a minimum of 5 years old and have completed kindergarten). Our camp employs several certified teachers, a well experienced support staff and offers an incredible 1:5 counselor-to-camper ratio. The camp runs from Monday, June 24 through Friday, Aug. 2. Camp is closed Thursday, July 4. If you have questions or need help registering, contact Erin Long at (215) 949-9018 or by email at e.long@fallstwp.com.

Fishing Derby

Our annual Fishing Derby is scheduled for Memorial Day, Monday, May 27. The Parks and Recreation Department is inviting all children between the ages of 5-17 to sign up and participate in the annual event. Pre-registration is required for this event at [FallsTwpRec.com](https://www.fallstwp.com/FallsTwpRec.com). The derby will run from 8-10 a.m. Each participant will receive a participation medal. Awards will be given for the most fish caught and the largest fish caught in multiple age categories. For further information or for registration assistance, please contact Barbara Loessy by email at b.loessy@fallstwp.com or by phone at (215) 949-9004.



Flag Memorial



Falls Township is proud to host The Delaware Valley Vietnam Flag Memorial at the Falls Township Community Park once again. This year's event is tentatively scheduled to take place Friday, June 7 through Sunday, June 9. Volunteers are needed to plant flags on the soccer

field (located on phase 1 of the park) on Friday morning, June 7 at 9 a.m. For further information, please contact Ed Sabol at edwardssabol@gmail.com.

Boat Ramp Passes

All seasonal and daily boat ramp passes must be purchased online (Visa and MasterCard only). Rates for seasonal passes will be: \$80 for a Falls resident; \$155 for a non-resident. Daily passes will be \$15. To purchase a seasonal or daily pass, visit [FallsTwpRec.com](https://www.fallstwp.com/FallsTwpRec.com), go to the "QPP Boat Ramp Pass" icon. You will then be redirected to the where you can register and pay for either a seasonal or daily pass. A daily pass is only good for a 24-hour period from time of purchase. For further information, contact Barbara Loessy at (215) 949-9004 or by email at b.loessy@fallstwp.com.



All programs are subject to change

For the latest up-to-date information from Falls Township Parks and Recreation Department visit us at [FallsTwpRec.com](https://www.fallstwp.com/FallsTwpRec.com) and be sure to follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

Parks and Recreation

Summer Concert Series

Falls Township Parks and Recreation will hold 13 concerts as part of its 2024 Summer Concert Series lineup. All concerts take place under the pavilion in Phase 1 at the Falls Township Community Park on Sundays from 6-8 p.m. The following is a tentative schedule and is subject to change:

June 16: Mark Margolies Band

June 23: Strictly 60's Band

June 30: ShoreSyde Duo

July 7: Rick Gazda Band

July 14: Chester County Concert Band

July 21: Uptown String Band

July 28: Gian Faraone

August 4: Barefoot Bobby and the Breakers

August 11: First Time Around Band

August 18: Mikey Junior

August 25: Barbone Street Jazz Band

September 1: Strictly 60's Band

September 8: A Wing and a Prayer



National Night Out

Join the Falls Township Police Department and Falls Township Parks and Recreation to celebrate National Night Out. This yearly event promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie. Come out to Falls Township Community Park on Tuesday, Aug. 6, from 6-9 p.m. Get ready for police demos, kids crafts, family activities, food, and vendors. For further information please contact Barbara Loessy by email at b.loessy@fallstwp.com or by phone at (215) 949-9004.

Touch a Truck/Family Festival



Are you ready for a weekend of incredible family fun? Falls Township will be holding a two-day event, which will prove to be a good time for everyone.

The first part of this event will take place Friday, Sept. 20, from 6-9 p.m. at the Falls Township Community Park. Join us for food trucks, live music, beer garden, and more family activities. The evening will culminate in an amazing fireworks display at dusk (approx. 9:30 p.m.). Come back the following morning, Saturday, Sept. 21 for our popular Touch A Truck event from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event features a “quiet/sensory friendly hour” from 9-10 a.m. Explore construction vehicles, fire engines, police vehicles, and much more. Levittown Fire Company #1 will be selling food and drink. There will be bounce houses, facepainting, balloon artistry, table vendors and much more. (Rain date for the Touch a Truck event will be Sunday, Sept. 22).

Pavilion and Gazebo Rentals

If you are looking for a place to hold a party, family reunion, nonprofit event or wedding ceremony, or if you are looking for a lovely picnic spot to reserve for a day at the lake, please consider renting one of our pavilions or gazebos. Falls Township Community Park and Quaker Penn Park have pavilions available for gatherings of 80-100 people. Our gazebo at the picturesque Fallsington Commemorative Park is available for weddings. New this year, we are offering the opportunity to reserve the four gazebos at Falls Township Community Park. With the introduction of our new website, FallsTwpRec.com, it has never been easier to reserve one of our facilities. Go to FallsTwpRec.com and log in to your account. If you do not have an account, you can create one by clicking on the “New Account” icon. Once you are logged in, you can click the “Reserve” icon in the middle of the screen, or under the Facilities tab, click “Reservation.” Follow the prompts from there. If you have any questions or need assistance, please feel free to contact Barbara Loessy at (215) 949-9004 or email b.loessy@fallstwp.com.



Pickleball Courts Coming Soon

Falls residents have been clamoring for pickleball courts for years. This summer, they will finally have their wish.

During a recent Falls Supervisors meeting, the board unanimously approved the installation of four pickleball courts at Quaker Penn Park. Parks and Recreation Director Brian Andrews said the work should be completed this summer.

The township had earmarked funds in its 2023 budget for the \$294,407.02 addition. However, the project could be partially subsidized by a state grant, Andrews said.

“Pickleball’s gotten very, very popular,” Supervisors Chairman Jeff Dence said.

Neighboring Middletown and Lower Makefield townships have been “begging” Andrews for years to add courts.

The four fenced-in courts will make for a “great addition” to Quaker Penn, which has seen other upgrades and additions in recent years, including new restrooms and a playground. With the courts, Andrews said the park will be “more of an attraction.”

Initially, courts will be available on a first come, first served basis. Eventually, Andrews, said he anticipates reservations, with the potential for organized programs and some leagues.

Courts will be situated in the area near the batting cage. If the township opted to add more in the future, Andrews said some field space could be used.

All programs are subject to change

For the latest up-to-date information from Falls Township Parks and Recreation Department visit us at FallsTwpRec.com and be sure to follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

Most Successful Year for Touch a Truck



(From left) Falls Supervisor Jeff Boraski, Fire Marshal Rich Dippolito, Public Works Director Jason Lawson, Parks and Recreation Director Brian Andrews and Supervisors Erin Mullen and John Palmer present Mike Barnes (center), executive director of nonprofit organization The Barkann Family Healing Hearts Foundation with a check for \$26,850 from fundraising efforts associated with the 2023 Touch a Truck event. The most successful fundraiser to date, proceeds resulted from the following event sponsors: Trash Daddy, Rudolph Clarke LLC, Jones Engineering Associates, Waste Management, Yard Truck Specialists, Crozier Contractors, SKD Tryon's Emergency Vehicle Upfitting, IBEW Local 269, Premium Excavating, KPK Development, B. Blair Corp, Shelmet Plumbing Contractors, Area Fence Enclosures, Armour & Sons, Riley Electric, Carr & Duff, Britton Industries, Fred Beans, Ray Litwin Heating and Air Conditioning, Remington and Vernick Engineers, Red Box Dumpsters, GPS Hauling, US Municipal, Just Stumps, T&M Fuel LLC, Marie's Kozy Korner, Refreshing Mid-Atlantic, Bayard Pump, and Tutor Doctor.

Despite Projects, Taxes Stay Flat

Falls Township will maintain its current municipal tax rate in 2024, while continuing the same high-quality services residents have come to appreciate.

As part of the spending plan, property owners will continue to pay \$269.10 for an assessment of \$30,000 under the Township's 2024 budget. The owner of a similarly assessed Bristol Township property, by comparison, paid \$1,069.40 in local taxes for 2023.

Unlike neighboring communities, Falls residents are not assessed for trash and leaf pickup.

Even with keeping taxes flat, the Township is planning several upgrades in 2024. Falls has earmarked \$500,000 to construct a new playground with wheelchair accessibility at Falls Township

Community Park Phase II. The equipment, which is geared for youth ages 2 to 12, will replace the existing playground and will allow for all children to play, particularly those with disabilities, as well as kids on the autism spectrum.

The 2024 budget also includes a new Falls Cares blight remediation program.

This year's budget allocates \$34.7 million for the design and construction of an expanded and renovated municipal campus, which is expected to be completed in December.

"It's been a long time coming," Supervisors Chairman Jeff Dence said of the municipal building project, of which construction began in fall 2023.

The budget also allocates \$2.4 million to cover several culvert replacement proj-

ects and drainage projects.

In addition, Falls plans to spend \$470,000 on four new police vehicles, computer equipment, firearms training and supplies; and \$469,700 to replace seven aging pieces of equipment in the Public Works department.

For decades, Falls officials have worked hard to do more with less. For every \$1 paid in taxes, Falls Township receives just 4 cents. Yet, year after year the Township sees spiraling pension contribution increases. Over the last decade, the Township has seen its pension obligation nearly triple. Pension contributions surged from \$1.3 million in 2012 to \$2.6 million in 2017, with more than \$3 million projected for next year, all while the state contributions have remained relatively flat.

Traffic Signal Projects Coming Soon

Eight Falls intersections will be upgraded with improved traffic signals, handicap accessibility and safer pedestrian, bicyclist access this year thanks to a pair of grants totaling more than \$1 million.

As part of a PennDOT Green Light Go grant, the Township will upgrade and modernize the existing traffic signal located at the intersection of Trenton Road and N. Olds Boulevard. The project involves optimizing the signal phasing, installing new traffic signal equipment, and associated pedestrian crosswalk and curb ramp improvements.

The total grant allocation for the Green Light Go funding is \$244,290 with

a minimum 20 percent Township match of \$61,073, for a total project budget of \$305,363. Remington & Vernick's not to exceed fee of \$50,500 would go toward the match.

The firm anticipates construction completion this fall.

The other project encompasses pedestrian safety improvements and signal modernization upgrades at various intersections within Falls Township, including Trenton Road and Andover Road; Trenton Road and North Olds Boulevard; South Olds Boulevard and Queen Anne Drive; Lincoln Highway and Lincoln Circle; West Trenton Avenue and

Woolston Drive; West Trenton Avenue and Alden Avenue and West Trenton Avenue and Big Oak Road.

Work includes providing pedestrian signal heads, ADA curb ramps and emergency vehicle preemption devices at several existing signalized intersections as part of the Automated Red Light Enforcement grant awarded to Falls.

The total grant allocation is \$756,881 with no required Township match. Remington & Vernick's fees – which are to not exceed \$102,563 – are eligible for reimbursement through the grant.

This project too is expected to be completed in the fall.

Fast Facts From Waste Management...

...on Waste Removal

When should trash be placed at the curb?

Place trash and recyclables out after 6 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 clearly marked 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.

Fireworks Have Negative Impact on Wildlife and the Environment

Experts suggest replacing fireworks with cleaner drone and laser light shows to prevent impacts on wildlife.

Studies have shown that fireworks negatively impact wildlife, domestic animals, and the environment. The timing of some large-scale firework displays coincides with the migratory or reproductive movements of wildlife and can cause detrimental long-term impacts to these populations.

Fireworks also produce pulses of pollutant materials that also contribute to the chemical pollution of soil, water, and air,

...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 (800) 869-5566.

...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, call (800) 869-5566.

which has implications for human and animal health.

To investigate the potential harm caused by fireworks, researchers reviewed the ecological impacts of Fourth of July festivities across the U.S.

Experts suggest that firework bans at sensitive periods for wildlife migration or mating periods could limit ecological impacts and instead suggest using safer and greener alternatives such as drones, eco-friendly fireworks or visible-wavelength lasers for light shows.

Fallsington: Excitement Awaits

Saturday, May 4

Spring Cleaning Sale from 8 a.m.-Noon

Some neighbors in the village will have items for sale and Historic Fallsington will have a few vendors set up behind the Tavern, too.

HFI Open House from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Enjoy a **FREE** tour of 3 historic buildings and grounds and try a few historic trades and crafts. Artist Ed Kane will be on-site showcasing some recent creations.

Thursday, May 9

Spring Lecture at 7 p.m.

Explore a topic related to the long and varied history of the historic village and region. More details to follow.

Program hosted in the Social Hall, Fallsington Friends Meeting. **Fee: donations welcome.**

Saturday, May 18

Twilight in Fallsington from 4-7 p.m.

Stop by the Stagecoach Tavern for some light fare and drinks in this historic setting, including fine wine and premium beers. Your ticket also includes a guided tour of the collection. Buy a chance to win some great items in the raffle too. Benefits preservation and education in the community. **Fee:\$35/ticket.**

Fallsington Library Spring Events

Join the Fallsington Library (139 Yardley Ave., Fallsington) at several fun events this spring.

Saturday, May 4

Spring Concert fundraiser with the Fiddlehead String Quartet starting at 6 p.m.

Saturday, May 18

Jewelry Sale Fundraiser from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Falls Welcomes New Businesses

Falls Township has had the pleasure of welcoming nearly three dozen new businesses to town in the last six months. A tenet of our Live Here, Spend Here campaign is that by shopping Falls first we continue to bolster our local economy, creating jobs and helping our local businesses to thrive.

We welcome the following new business additions:

Neuromechanical Pain Management,

201 Woolston Dr., Suite 2B, Morrisville;

Action Karate, 980 Trenton Road, Suite 3, Fairless Hills;

AMP Express, Inc., 900 Lincoln Highway, Morrisville;

One Zo Bubble Tea, 506 N. Oxford Valley Road, Langhorne;

Dots Studio LLC, 428 S. Oxford Valley Road, Fairless Hills;

Dorilyn Apartment Association,

190 Bristol-Oxford Valley Road, Suite 32, Langhorne;

J&R Electric, 35 Liberty Dr., Morrisville;

Heart Stead Stays, LLC, 429 Berkshire Road, Fairless Hills;

Iconic IT Systems, Inc., 81 Big Oak Road, Suite 107, Morrisville;

Centennial Lending, 333 N. Oxford Valley Road, Suite 503D, Fairless Hills;

Contempro Dance Theatre, 616 Lincoln Highway, Fairless Hills;

Britton Realty of West Bridge St., LLC, 835 W. Bridge St., Morrisville;

BGB Steel Fabricators, Inc., 52 Energy Dr., Fairless Hills;

Serenity Pet Care Professionals, 101 Makefield Road, Morrisville;

Infinity Healthcare Services, LLC,

300 W. Trenton Ave., Suite 201-202, Morrisville;

Delco Motors, 212 Lincoln Highway, Suite 201, Fairless Hills;

Speedway Towing & Repair, LLC, 965 Lincoln Highway Yard, Morrisville;

Alliance Geoffrey Venture, LLC, 1 Geoffrey Dr., Fairless Hills;

WJ Morrisville, Inc., DBA Dominos, 833 W. Trenton Ave., Suite 1, Morrisville;

Brian's House, 271 Collingswood Road, Fairless Hills;



The Fairless Beer Company,

198 Lincoln Highway, Suite 5 & 6, Fairless Hills;

Iconic Events, 492 Lincoln Highway A, Fairless Hills;

Exquisite Nails & Spa, 914 Trenton Road, Suite 6, Fairless Hills;

Wolf Kitchen & Bath, 173 Fallsington-Tullytown Road, Levittown;

Bensalem Podiatry, 333 N. Oxford Valley Road, Suite 104A, Fairless Hills;

Jamie's Barber Shop, 229 Plaza Blvd., Suite 29, Morrisville;

Marjen Cleaning Services, 134 Leshia Dr., Morrisville;

Latenite Barbershop, 900 W. Trenton Ave., Suite 4, Morrisville;

Singas Famous Pizza, 203 Lincoln Highway, Suite 200, Fairless Hills;

NorthPoint Development, 200 Solar Dr., Fairless Hills;

Griff & Associates, 111 Lower Morrisville Road, Fallsington;

Fit Formula Studio, 946 Trenton Road, Fairless Hills;

Waste Gas Fabricating Co., Inc., 6 Headley Place, Suite A3, Fallsington.

Mullen Leads as Board's Vice Chair

In his first official act as District Judge, John Galloway swore in his brother, Brian Galloway, as well as Erin Mullen for new six-year terms on the Falls Township Board of Supervisors during a brief reorganization meeting in January.

The board unanimously appointed Jeff Dence as chairman for the fifth consecutive year and Mullen as vice chairperson of the five-member board. Brian Galloway will continue to serve as secretary/treasurer and Township Manager Matthew Takita will continue as assistant secretary/treasurer.

In addition to swearing in Brian Galloway for his third term and Mullen for her first term as an elected Supervisor – she was appointed in October 2022 – John Galloway administered the oath of office for auditors Richard Spickler and Sean Murphy.

The Falls Supervisors will continue to meet on the fourth Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Middletown Township municipal building, 3 Municipal Way, Langhorne, while construction continues on the township's municipal building.



District Judge John Galloway administers the oath of office to Falls Supervisor Erin Mullen while Stephen Seufert holds the Bible.

Falls Continues “Live Here, Spend Here”

In an effort to promote existing Township businesses and encourage residents to spend more – or all – of their hard-earned money within Township borders, the Falls Supervisors are continuing with the popular “Live Here, Spend Here” initiative. Spending in one’s hometown not only supports the local business community, but creates jobs, strengthens the local economy and helps lessen the need for municipal taxes.

If each of the 13,000 Falls Township households spend as little as \$20 weekly on takeout dinner, or a gift from a local boutique, we could ensure that more than \$13 million is spent within our Township borders. The more spending our community does

within Falls Township, the greater support we provide to our local businesses.

- Our local businesses, in turn, give back to our community by:
 - Creating local jobs for our neighbors
 - Buying supplies and services from other local businesses
 - Investing in our community
 - Strengthening our local economy
 - Generating tax revenue to reduce the need for municipal taxes

•••••

To nominate a business to be featured as part of our Live Here, Spend Here effort, email admin@fallstwp.com.

Falls Township Polling Places

1-1	Fallsington Elementary School	134 Yardley Ave.	Fallsington
1-2	Pennsbury West High School	608 S. Olds Blvd.....	Fairless Hills
1-3	Eleanor Roosevelt Elementary School	185 Walton Dr.	Morrisville
1-4	Village Park Elementary School	75 Unity Dr.	Fairless Hills
1-5	Eleanor Roosevelt Elementary School	185 Walton Dr.	Morrisville
1-6	Eleanor Roosevelt Elementary School	185 Walton Dr.	Morrisville
1-7	Fallsington Elementary School	134 Yardley Ave.	Fallsington
2-1	Oxford Valley Elementary School	430 Trenton Rd.	Fairless Hills
2-2	Pennsbury West High School	608 S. Olds Blvd.....	Fairless Hills
3-1	Oxford Valley Elementary School	430 Trenton Rd.	Fairless Hills
3-2	Pennsbury West High School	608 S. Olds Blvd.....	Fairless Hills
4-1	St. Paul’s Episcopal Church.....	89 Pinewood Dr.....	Levittown
4-2	Penn Valley Elementary School.....	180 North Turn Ln.	Levittown
4-3	Manor Elementary School	401 Penn Valley Rd.....	Levittown
4-4	Penn Valley Elementary School.....	180 North Turn Ln.	Levittown
4-5	Penn Valley Elementary School.....	180 North Turn Ln.	Levittown
4-6	Manor Elementary School	401 Penn Valley Rd.....	Levittown
4-7	Manor Elementary School	401 Penn Valley Rd.....	Levittown

Bulk Disposal Day Set For April 20

Mark your calendars for the next FREE BULK DISPOSAL DAY, which will be held on Saturday, April 20 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.

WHERE: GROWS Landfill behind Waste Management's Turkey Hill Office, 1000 New Ford Mill Road, Falls Township

DROP OFF: Bulky waste items, yard waste and appliances. For additional information please call Waste Management at (800) 869-5566.

PLEASE NOTE: The following materials cannot be accepted: liquids, oil, paint, car batteries, propane tanks, gas cylinders, hazardous household wastes, tires, chemicals, pesticides and spray cans. No refrigerators, air conditioners or freezers. No electronics, including TVs, computer equipment, stereo equipment, or any other electrical item that plugs in or operates on batteries. Bucks County organizes household hazardous waste collections throughout the year. For further details on the household hazardous waste collections, please call (215) 345-3400.



Yard Waste Cleanup Day

The date of the 2024 yard waste cleanup will be posted on www.fallstwp.com and on social media. On that date, please have your yard waste out in the same location as your regular trash pickup by 6 a.m. Yard waste must be bagged in 30-gallon biodegradable paper bags or placed in 30-gallon trash containers without lids. Branches must be no larger than 4' in length, bundled, and not to exceed 50 pounds. **NO PLASTIC BAGS!**

BEING THERE WHEN YOU NEED US

We're neighbors, family members and friends working together toward a common goal: ensuring a more sustainable future for us all by serving the communities we call home.

For more information, visit <http://fairlesslandfill.com>
www.facebook.com/fairlesslandfill



Falls Township 2024 Street Sweeping Schedule

Listed below is the Spring 2024 street sweeping schedule. On the date(s) when your street is scheduled to be cleaned, please do not park your vehicle(s) on the street between the hours of 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. If the street sweeper does not arrive on the scheduled day(s), please keep your vehicle(s) off the street during the above mentioned hours until the sweeper cleans your street.

The schedule was prepared so the sweeper will not be on the same day as the recycling pickup day. However, it was unavoidable to miss every trash collection day conflict as we sweep all streets prior to Memorial Day weekend.

If your neighbor is parking his/her vehicle(s) on the street, please ask them to remove the vehicle until the street sweeper has cleaned your street.

<u>LOCATIONS</u>	<u>SWEEPING DATE</u>
Township main roads	March 18-22
Willowood	March 25
Makefield Road Village.....	March 26
Old Fallsington areas/Fallsington Woods	March 27
Lakeside.....	March 28
Birch Valley.....	April 1-2
Rue Court/Amelia Drive & Amelia Turn/ Orchard Drive and Mill Creek Estate.....	April 3
Penns Place & Decou Village.....	April 4-5
Fairless Hills-South of Trenton Road, including Fairbridge and Drexelwood	April 8-9
Elderberry.....	April 10-11
Bristol Road/Lacy Avenue, Reed Avenue, Penn Valley Ext., Wheatsheaf Road, East Tyburn Road, Corbin Lane, Cedar Lane, Lewis Avenue, Ferry Road, East Post Road, Biles Lane, Island Street, Third Street	April 12
Nottingham, Taylor Tract, Penn Village.....	April 15-16
Pennsbury Heights.....	April 17
Penns Grant.....	April 18-19
Thornridge.....	April 22-23
Pinewood	April 24-25
Yardley Farms.....	April 26
North Park – including Nasturtium Lane and New Pond Lane.....	April 30-May 1
Hedgerow Woods.....	May 2-3
Fairless Hills-North of Trenton Road, including Oak Lane, Pennsylvania Avenue, Arleans Avenue and Lebbie May	May 7-8
Vermillion Hills.....	May 9-10
Maintenance Day.....	April 29 or May 6
Township Parks/Industrial Parks	May 13-24

Tax Credit for Volunteer Firefighters

It pays to serve as a volunteer firefighter in Falls Township.

Volunteer firefighters may claim up to a \$500 Earned Income Tax (EIT) credit as part of the Township's newly enacted Volunteer Service Tax Credit ordinance, which took effect on Jan. 1.

Township attorney Lauren Gallagher worked with Fire Marshal Rich Dippolito in crafting the ordinance and determining eligibility.

In order to receive the tax credit, volunteers of Falls Fire Co. No. 1, Fairless Hills Fire Department and Levittown Fire Co. No. 1 must either respond to a minimum of 10 percent of the calls for emergency service to which the volunteer fire company responds; or accrue a minimum of 25 hours of service attained by participating in a combination of emergency response calls, formal training and drills, administrative and support services,

fundraising, or other sanctioned firehouse events.

For 2024 and all subsequent years, the eligibility period runs from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31. Volunteers who have met the minimum criteria of the Volunteer Service Credit Program can sign and apply for certification from their chief or supervisor. From there, the application is forwarded to the Falls Township manager's office for certification. All submissions are required to be sent to the manager's office on or prior to April 1 each year.

Each active volunteer who has been certified under the Volunteer Service Credit Program shall be eligible to receive a tax credit of up to \$500 for the Falls Township portion of the EIT. An active volunteer with a tax credit certificate may file a claim for the tax credit on their Township earned income tax liability when filing a final local return for the preceding calendar year.

Levittown Fire Company Looking for Help



There's more than one way to volunteer. In addition to needing firefighters, the Levittown Fire Company is looking for volunteers to help with fundraising, events, maintenance on equipment and facilities and other administrative tasks. We offer several incentives as a "thank you" for your service.

If you would like more information, stop by any Wednesday evening after 7 p.m. during our Drill or Duty Crew Night. Our address is 701 Falls Tullytown Road, Levittown. You can also email us at station32@levittownfire.com or you can complete an application online at www.levittownfire.com.

News From Fairless Hills FD

Last year was another busy year for the Fairless Hills Fire Department. Our emergency personnel responded to more than 600 calls and spent more than 4,000 hours on emergency incidents, training, community events and activities, and educating approximately 2,000 students, teachers, and community members on fire safety.



We strive to provide our highest level of service to you and we would be unable to provide these services without your help.

The Fairless Hills Fire Department is seeking volunteer firefighters. We also offer a Junior Firefighting program for ages

16-17. Member benefits include, free training, pay per call incentive program, life insurance and bunk-in opportunities. If interested, please stop by the fire station any Tuesday night at 7 p.m. to speak with one of our firefighters.

From March 28-31 we will be holding a Easter flower sale.

To rent Westaby Hall, please call (215) 493-0194 or visit www.westabyhall.com.

Please Volunteer

The Falls Township Fire Company is continually seeking volunteers for our organization. Volunteers are needed for firefighting and emergency responses. No previous training required. The Falls Township Fire company will provide the formal training needed. A junior firefighter program is also provided for anyone who is at least 16 years of age. Don't want to fight fire but still want to volunteer? We are looking for auxiliary members as well. These members may help by assisting with community events, fundraising or other functions that the fire company provides. If you are interested in applying, please visit The Falls Township Volunteer Fire Company #1 for an application. We are located at 310 Yardley Avenue, Fallsington PA, 19054. Our phone number is (215) 295-5966. The best time to stop for an application is any Tuesday night around 7 p.m., just ask for any officer.



Properly use and store flammable, combustible liquids

- Use gasoline only as motor fuel, never as a cleaner or to break down grease.
- Only store liquids in a container sold for that purpose and never bring it indoors.
- Never store gasoline containers in a basement or in the occupied space of a building. Keep them in a detached garage or an outdoor shed.
- Keep the container tightly capped when not in use.
- Never use flammable and combustible liquids near an open flame.
- Never smoke when working with these liquids.
- If you spill liquids on your clothing, remove your clothing and place it outside to dry. Once dry, launder clothing.

Carefully dispose of rags with paint and stain

The oils commonly used in oil-based paints and stains release heat as they dry. If the heat is not released in the air as the rags dry, the heat is trapped, builds up and can cause a fire.

- When you're finished using the rags, take them outside to dry, keeping them well away from the home and other structures.
- Spread rags on the ground and weigh them down so they don't blow away.
- Put dried rags in a metal container, making sure the container is tightly covered. Fill the container with a water and detergent solution to break down the oils.
- Keep containers of oily rags in a cool place out of direct sunlight and away from other heat sources.



SAFETY TIPS

- » Propane and charcoal BBQ grills should only be used outdoors.
- » The grill should be placed well away from the home, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
- » Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grill area.
- » Keep your grill clean by removing grease or fat buildup from the grills and in trays below the grill.
- » Never leave your grill unattended.
- » Always make sure your gas grill lid is open before lighting it.

CHARCOAL GRILLS

- » There are several ways to get the charcoal ready to use. Charcoal chimney starters allow you to start the charcoal using newspaper as a fuel.
- » If you use a starter fluid, use only charcoal starter fluid. Never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquids to the fire.
- » Keep charcoal fluid out of the reach of children and away from heat sources.
- » There are also electric charcoal starters, which do not use fire. Be sure to use an extension cord for outdoor use.
- » When you are finished grilling, let the coals completely cool before disposing in a metal container.

PROPANE Grills

Check the gas tank hose for leaks before using it for the first time each year. Apply a light soap and water solution to the hose. A propane leak will release bubbles. If your grill has a gas leak, by smell or the soapy bubble test, and there is no flame, turn off both the gas tank and the grill. If the leak stops, get the grill serviced by a professional before using it again. If the leak does not stop, call the fire department. If you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call the fire department. Do not move the grill.

If the flame goes out, turn the grill and gas off and wait at least 5 minutes before re-lighting it.

FACTS

- ! July is the peak month for grill fires.
- ! Roughly half of the injuries involving grills are thermal burns.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

Your Logo

nfa.nfpa.org NFPA 7010

Fire Marshal Contacts

Rich Dippolito, Fire Marshal
r.dippolito@fallstwp.com
215-949-9115

Anthony Montonario, Fire Inspector
a.montonario@fallstwp.com
215-949-9003

John Weiss, Fire Inspector,
j.weiss@fallstwp.com
215-949-9108

Pat Defrancisco, FM secretary
p.defrancisco@fallstwp.com
215-949-9114

Ensure your home is safe and free of fire hazards



- Ensure your address number is visible from the road. Remove debris that could obstruct the view of first responders.
- Clean out filters above your stove.

- Test your smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms, replacing batteries if they are dead. Replace smoke alarms that are more than 10 years old, or CO alarms more than 5 to 7 years old.
- Have an emergency preparedness kit in case of power outages or floods.
- Dust or vacuum the coils behind the refrigerator. Unplug the fridge while cleaning the coils.
- Practice your home escape plan so everyone knows what to do in case of fire. Windows should be checked to ensure they open and close properly in case they are needed as an exit. Clear out stairs and landings so they are accessible during an evacuation.
- Check outdoor electrical outlets and other electrical appliances for animal nests and to ensure proper wiring.
- Recycle old newspapers, magazines, and junk mail. Piled up items can greatly contribute to the severity and spread of fire.
- Clean up and properly store paints, pool, and yard chemicals.

Tips for battery usage and disposal

Lithium-ion batteries supply power to many kinds of devices, including smart phones, laptops, e-bikes, smoke alarms and more. These batteries store a large amount of energy in a small amount of space. Batteries not designed for a specific use can be dangerous. Like any product, a small number of batteries are defective and can overheat, catch fire, or explode.

- Purchase and use devices that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory.
 - Always follow the manufacturer's instructions.
 - Only use the battery designed for the device.
 - Put batteries in the device properly.
 - Only use the charging cord that came with the device.
 - Do not charge a device under your pillow, on your bed, or on a couch.
 - Stop charging the device after it is fully charged.
 - Keep batteries at room temperature. Do not charge them at temperatures below 32°F or above 105°F.
 - Store batteries away from anything that can catch fire.
- Stop using the battery if you notice odor, change in color, too much heat, change in shape, leaking, or odd noises. If it is safe to do so, move the device away from anything that can catch fire. Call 9-1-1.
- Do not put lithium-ion batteries in the trash.
 - Take them to a battery recycling location.
 - Do not put discarded batteries in piles.



Charging e-bicycles and electric vehicles

The safest place to charge e-bikes, e-scooters and electric vehicles is outdoors away from any structure or enclosure and not in direct sunlight. Do not charge a battery when either the charger or the battery is damaged. Do not store batteries in extremely hot or cold locations or in an area that blocks the only exit out of a room. And do not attempt to modify the battery or charger.

Keep debris well away from your home

Every year, wildfires burn across the U.S., with more and more people living in communities where wildfires are a real risk.

- Dispose of branches, weeds, leaves, pine needles, and grass clippings to reduce fuel for fire.
- Remove leaves, pine needles, and other flammable material from the roof, gutters,

and on and under the deck to help prevent embers from igniting your home.

- Remove dead vegetation and other flammable materials, especially within the first 5 feet of the home.
- Move construction material, trash, and woodpiles at least 30 feet away from the home and outbuildings.

Clean your clothes dryer

- Make sure the air exhaust vent pipe for your dryer is not restricted and that the outdoor vent flap will open when the dryer is operating.
- Move things that can burn, such as boxes, cleaning supplies and clothing, away from the dryer.



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Join Saturday Morning Bike Rides

Every Saturday, a group of bicyclists meet at the soccer field pavilion A at Falls Township Community Park for an 8:30 a.m. bike ride.

Organized by Charlie Bozzo, the group rides through the community park, Delaware Canal State Park, as well as various parts of Levittown during 90-minute weekly rides. Excursion rides to Bristol or Morrisville are always up for consideration as well.

The group is geared for adults ages 18 and up. Helmets and full shoes are required by all participants.

To get involved

For questions about Charlie Bozzo's bike riding group, text or call him at (215) 499-2145. New riders are welcome to show up on a Saturday morning to accompany the group.

