

FALLS TOWNSHIP

Spring / Summer 2020

Bucks County, Pa.

Support Our Small Business Community

How do you decide to try a new restaurant, shop at a new store, or switch to a new service provider? If you're like most people, positive reviews, recommendations from friends and family, and word of mouth buzz gets you in the door.

If the food, products or service live up to the hype, you're likely to become a repeat customer.

However, getting folks through the door can be one of the most challenging aspects of running a small business. Let's face it, even the best restaurant in the world (or Falls) won't last if no one knows about it.

That's where our Live Here, Spend Here campaign comes in. The Falls Supervisors, in conjunction with the Community and Economic Development Committee launched this business-friendly initiative in the spring of 2015. The goal from the beginning has been to support and promote our local businesses and, in doing so, help to create jobs and strengthen the local economy.

We have seen tremendous success over the last five years. In that time, we have featured more than 75 Falls Township businesses (and counting) in profiles on our Website. These small business stories are also shared on our social media channels to help get the word out to our residents, fellow business owners and community members about the many businesses and their offerings located right here in our Township.

Our residents have responded positively to this effort by nominating businesses to be featured. We have also seen the impact this effort has made with businesses. Business owners have told us that after their stories were shared on Facebook, they saw an increase in business and met new customers who read their profile and wanted to support them.

When we all do our part to support local commerce – dining and shopping in Falls instead of another community – our business owners have no choice but to succeed. If each of our 13,000 households spends just \$20 a week supporting our local businesses, more than \$13 million would be spent in Falls, ensuring that our local businesses thrive, all while lessening the need for municipal taxes.

In 2020 and beyond we intend to continue this positive momentum. This spring, the Community and Economic Development Committee plans to launch a new offshoot of Live Here, Spend Here.

Details are still being finalized, but the focus will be on Falls Township pizza shops. This business promotion effort will be launched on the Falls Township Facebook page. More information will be shared there. We are also planning some fun incentives for our pizza-loving residents, so please stay tuned for more.

Maybe by trying all of the various pizzas in Falls we can finally answer the age-old question: Who makes the best pizza? Either way, taking a tasting tour of Falls' pizza shops isn't a bad way to spend your time. Because, after all, who doesn't love a good slice of pizza?

Would you like to nominate a Falls Township business to be featured as part of our Live Here, Spend Here effort? Email the business name and contact information to cedc@fallstwp.com.



- Jeffrey Dence

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

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Falls Township Contact Information

188 Lincoln Highway, Suite 100 • Fairless Hills, PA 19030
 Website: www.fallstwp.com • Email: admin@fallstwp.org
 Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Jeffrey Dence, Chairman
 Jeff Boraski, Vice Chairman

Jeffrey Rocco, Secretary / Treasurer

Brian Galloway, Supervisor
 John Palmer, Supervisor

Administrative Offices: (215) 949-9000

Police Information - Press 5

Township Information - Press 6

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

Township Manager - 7

Code Enforcement/Permit Information - 1
 Matt Takita, Zoning Officer/Asst. Twp. Mgr.

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

Public Works Department - 3
 Jason Lawson, Public Works Director

Parks and Recreation - 4
 Brian Andrews, Director

Finance Department - 5
 Betsy Reukauf, Director

Tax Office - 6
 Kimberly Scarpiello

Police Department: (215) 949-9100
 William J. Wilcox, Chief of Police

Animal Control: (215) 328-8519

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

Township Engineer
 Joseph G. Jones
 Jones Engineering Associates
 188 Lincoln Highway,
 Suite 206
 Fairless Hills, PA 19030
(215) 377-9244

Township Solicitor
 Michael P. Clarke
 Rudolph Clarke, LLC
 Seven Neshaminy Interplex
 Suite 200
 Trevoose, 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

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) 328-8519**, or you may use the link on the Township website <http://fallstwp.com/tools-resources/no-solicitation-registry.aspx>.

(More Police Department News Can Be Found On Page 3)



No Parking On or Blocking Sidewalks

Pennsylvania Vehicle Code (Title 75) section 3353 (a) (2) (ii) prohibits parking a motor vehicle on a sidewalk. The fine is \$50. Residents cannot park their cars in any way that blocks a sidewalk or they are subject to being issued a state parking citation.

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 **Officer John Yeager**, (215) 949-9100 ext. 434 j.yeager@fallstwp.com.



Rapid Recovery Program



When an autistic child or an adult with Dementia wanders off and gets lost, finding them quickly can sometimes make a difference between life and death. The Rapid Recovery Program is a tracking system that consists of a small 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 the Falls Township Police Department at **(215) 949-9100**.

Youth Police Academy

The Falls Township Police Department's Youth Police Academy will be held in the summer. The program is ideal for students entering 9th through 12th-grade, including 2020 graduates, interested in a career in law enforcement.

This 10-day police academy-style training program exposes students to various aspects of the law enforcement community. Students will participate in activities that actual police recruits undertake as part of their training. Topics include crime scene investigation, patrol scenarios, K9, SWAT, and more.

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.



Police Department

Falls Welcomes Five New Officers

Falls Township may have broken a record last set in 1979 for the most police officers hired at one time as five new officers were hired during Tuesday night's meeting.

Falls Supervisors unanimously approved the hiring of Daniel Matkowski, Michael Collins, Matthew Shannon, Robert Goodwin and Michael Mraw. Supervisor Jeff Rocco was absent.

"The search has been on for a couple years now," Supervisors Chairman Jeff Dence said prior to the swearing in of three of the five officers. With the new officers, the Falls Township Police Department has 55 sworn police officers.

Matkowski, a Philadelphia County native, graduated from Central High School in Brooksville, Fla. in 2009. He joined the U.S. Marine Corps in 2010 and graduated from Temple University with a business degree in 2019. A cadet at Temple University Police Academy, he will graduate on March 13 and will begin a two-week processing with the police department for firearms and tactical training. From there, he will begin a 14-week field training officer program, according to Lt. Nelson Whitney.

Collins graduated from Abington High School in 2012. He graduated from Penn State Abington with a degree in Administration of Justice. He holds the rank of First Lieutenant in the U.S. Army and is the executive officer at the Army recruiting station in Pittsburgh. He will attend Temple University Police Academy this spring and will begin his two-week processing and subsequent 14-week field training following his November graduation.

Shannon graduated from Upper Merion Area High School. He attended West Chester University and graduated from Montgomery County Community College Police Academy in 2015. He has worked as a police officer at the East Norriton Township Police Department since 2016. His work with the Falls Township Police Department will begin on Feb. 19 with the two-week processing and 14-week field training.

Goodwin graduated from Bensalem High School in 2014. He graduated from Penn State Abington with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice. He graduated from the Philadelphia Police Academy in 2019 and has been employed as a Philadelphia po-



From left: Officer Matthew Shannon, Supervisors Vice Chairman Jeff Boraski, Officer Robert Goodwin, Supervisor Brian Galloway, Officer Daniel Matkowski, Lt. Nelson Whitney, Supervisors Chairman Jeff Dence, Supervisor John Palmer and Police Chief William Wilcox congratulate the three newly sworn in police officers.

lice officer since 2019. He will begin work with the Falls Township Police Department on Feb. 19 with the two-week processing and 14-week field training.

Mraw, a native of Hamilton, N.J., graduated from James Madison University with a bachelor's degree and is enrolled in a master's program. He served in the Army National Guard and rose to the rank of First Lieutenant. Mraw has worked for the last four and a half years as a police officer in Hollywood, Fla.

"This is the most officers we've had sworn in since 1979," Police Chief William Wilcox said, thanking the Supervisors for their diligence. "This certainly helps us, and it looks like we have a fine crop of candidates."

Supervisors Vice Chairman Jeff Boraski said the board and police are "looking forward and looking ahead" to have replacements as long-time officers plan retirement in the coming years.

Additional officers could be hired this year if current active duty police officers retire, Lt. Whitney said.

Parks and Recreation

Falls Approves New Playground at Kirby Park

Children in the Vermilion Hills section of Falls Township will have new playground equipment by year's end.

The Falls Supervisors approved the purchase of a new play unit with handicapped accessible ramp at Kirby Park. Cost of the new play equipment is \$99,921.18. The company, MRC Inc., agreed to donate the playground installation. If Falls had to pay for the installa-

tion, Parks and Recreation Director Brian Andrews estimated that the total cost would be roughly double the price of the equipment purchase alone. Even though the labor will be undertaken at no cost, it would still be under full warranty, according to Andrews.

The park's current playground is 21 years old, Andrews said. He's undertaken a recent evaluation of the park systems

and determined that many of the playgrounds are approaching the 15 to 20-year range.

By upgrading and replacing old equipment Andrews said the township will be making the playgrounds safer. Andrews said he hopes to upgrade one or two playgrounds per year.

"It's going to be a constant upkeep," Andrews said.

Parks and Recreation

Looking forward to warmer weather? Look no further than the program offerings and amenities offered by Falls Township Parks and Recreation for the 2020 Spring/Summer season. It is our goal to offer diverse programming to residents. Please check out our offerings:

Pinewood Pool Lists Activities



The Pinewood Pool is a great way for our residents to cool off and spend quality time with family. We have many activities planned for 2020 such as: five (5) youth splash nights, two (2) movie nights, theme days, dollar dog days, the senior breakfast, family appreciation day, national ice cream day, a wonderful swim lesson program and much more! The pool is scheduled to open Saturday, May 23 and the season runs until Monday, September 7. Take advantage of the early bird discount period which continues through April 1! To register or for further information about the pool, please visit www.fallstwp.com, go to the Parks and Recreation Page, and click on the link to "Pinewood Pool." Registration must be completed online by using your existing Community Pass Account. If you need assistance with registration, please contact Barbara Loessy at (215) 949-9000 ext. 221 or by email at b.loessy@fallstwp.com.

Summer Lifeguards Sought

Parks and Recreation is looking to hire several lifeguards for the 2020 pool season. Candidates must be at least 15 years old and have a current Lifeguard/First Aid/AED certification. The starting pay rate for a lifeguard is \$9/hour. Hourly starting pay rate for lifeguards with prior experience is negotiable. For further information or if interested in applying, contact Brian Andrews at (215) 949-9000 ext. 220 or by email b.andrews@fallstwp.com.



Summer Camp Registration Begins

Parks and Recreation is taking registrations for our 2020 Summer Camp Program. Registration is completed online through the Community Pass Registration System (Capturepoint link). Visit www.fallstwp.com to access the online registration system. The 2020 Summer Camp will once again be held at Walt Disney Elementary School. The camp is designed for children ages 5-13 (all registered participants must be a minimum of 5 years of age 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. Have your children join us for fantastic trip opportunities, theme weeks, in-house entertainment, arts and crafts, sports, and much more!! The camp runs from Monday, June 22 through Friday, July 31. To register or for more information, visit www.fallstwp.com or contact Brian Andrews at (215) 949-9000 ext. 220 or by email at b.andrews@fallstwp.com.

Breakfast With a Bunny on April 4



Once again, Parks and Recreation will be holding its annual Breakfast with the Bunny/Egg Hunt on Saturday April 4 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Falls Township Senior Center (282 Trenton Road). There is a \$1 fee per

person for the breakfast. Both events are for all children ages 2-12. There will be a craft and a balloon artist on hand as well! Space is limited. Pre-registration for the breakfast only (9-10:30 a.m.) will be required through the Community Pass Registration System found on the Township website www.fallstwp.com. For further information, contact Brian Andrews at (215) 949-9000 ext. 220 or by email at b.andrews@fallstwp.com. The Egg Hunt will also take place at the Senior Center and is **FREE**. Times for the various age groups are as follows:

Ages 2-4 • 10:30 a.m. to 10:35 a.m.

Ages 5-8 • 10:40 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

Ages 9-12 • 10:50 a.m. to 10:55 a.m.

Medicare Workshop April 9, October 1

Getting close to or thinking about retirement and not quite sure what Medicare will and will not cover? Get answers to your questions during our **FREE** educational seminar on Thursday, April 9. A representative from DelVal Senior Advisers will be on hand from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the Public Meeting Room at the Falls Township Municipal Complex (188 Lincoln Highway). Pre-registration is suggested but not required. To pre-register, please contact Brian Andrews at (215) 949-9000 ext. 220 or by email at b.andrews@fallstwp.com. There will be a workshop on October 1 as well. Same time and location as the spring workshop.

Tennis, Anyone?

Learn, Practice & Play implements the games-based approach to teaching tennis using age and skill appropriate equipment and methods. It's the fast and fun way to learn tennis and/or improve your game.



Emphasis is on fun, fitness and play. Free loaner racquets are available. Group size is limited. Held at Penn's Grant Park Tennis Courts, Penns Grant Drive and Rose Avenue, Morrisville. Sessions are available for all age and skill levels beginning at age 4. Registration Deadlines are as follows: April 4 for Season 1; May 23 for Season 2; July 4 for Season 3; and September 5 for Season 4. You may register at www.buckscountytennis.usta.com. Additional \$3 administrative fee per participant for mail-in registration.

Parks and Recreation

Annual Fishing Derby May 25



Our annual Fishing Derby will be held on Monday, May 25. Parks and Recreation is inviting all children between the ages of 5-17 to sign up and participate in the annual event. Walk up signups will take place at 7:30 a.m. The derby will run from 8 to 10 a.m. It is followed by a casting contest. Each participant will receive a participation medal. Awards will be given for most fish caught and largest fish caught in various age categories. Additionally, awards

will be given for winners from the casting contest. To register or for further information, contact Brian Andrews at **(215) 949-9000 ext. 220** or by email at b.andrews@fallstwp.com. Registration forms will be available in the Parks and Recreation Office at the Falls Township Municipal Complex (Room 100) starting April 1. Our office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Forms will also be available in the beginning of April at Bart's Bait and Tackle Shop (a long-time proud sponsor of this event) located at 460 Lovett Avenue in Tullytown. Please call **(215) 943-0174** for their hours of operation.

Vietnam Flag Memorial June 12

Falls Township is proud to once again host the The Delaware Valley Vietnam Flag Memorial at the Falls Township Community Park from Friday, June 12 through Sunday, June 14. Volunteers are needed to plant flags on the soccer field (located on phase 1 of the park) on June 12 at 9 a.m. For further information, please contact Ed Sabol at edwardsabol@gmail.com.

Rent Three Arches for Your Next Event



Looking for a space to hold a small meeting or event such as a bridal or baby shower? Please consider the Historic Three Arches for your event. To reserve or for more information, please contact

Barbara Loessy at **(215) 949-9000 ext. 221** or by email b.loessy@fallstwp.com.

Boat Ramp Passes Available

Seasonal passes are only available for purchase at the Township Building. Rates for seasonal passes are: \$80 for a Falls resident; \$155 for a non-resident. Daily passes cost \$15 and can only be purchased online by debit/credit card (Visa and Mastercard only). To purchase a daily pass, visit www.fallstwp.com, go to the Parks and Recreation page, and click on the link "Quaker Penn Boat Ramp Daily Pass." You will then be able to pay for that daily pass. A daily pass is good for a 24-hour period from time of purchase. For further information, please contact Barbara Loessy at **(215) 949-9000 ext. 221** or by email b.loessy@fallstwp.com.

Summer Concert Series Begins June 21

Falls Township Parks and Recreation will hold 12 concerts as part of its 2020 Summer Concert Series lineup. All concerts take place under the pavilion in Phase 1 at the Falls Township Community Park on Sundays from 6 to 8 p.m. The following is a tentative schedule and is subject to change:



- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 6/21 Galena Brass | 8/2 Eric Mintel Jazz Quartet |
| 6/28 Jump Start Band | 8/9 Strictly 60's Band |
| 7/5 Big Band from the Valley | 8/16 The Rick Gazda Band |
| 7/12 The Christopher Dean Band | 8/23 Uptown String Band |
| 7/19 Daisy Jug Band | 8/30 First Time Around Band |
| 7/26 Barbone Street Jazz Band | 9/6 The Rick Gazda Band |

Six-week Yoga Programs Ongoing



Yoga takes place each Monday night 7-8 p.m. in the Annex Building at the Falls Township Senior Center (282 Trenton Road). Program runs in six-week intervals. Cost for a resident is \$48. Cost for a non-resident is \$54. We also have reinstated the drop in option for \$10 per class. Questions and inquiries can be directed to Brian Andrews at **(215) 949-9000**

ext. 220 or by email at b.andrews@fallstwp.com.

National Night Out August 4

Parks and Recreation will once again be teaming up with the Falls Township Police Department to hold a National Night Out event this summer! Mark the date for Tuesday, August 4 from 6-8:30 p.m. at the Falls Township Community Park. Rain date is Wednesday, August 5. Come out and meet our first responders and bond with fellow members of the community. We will have bounce houses, a balloon artist, face-painting, and much more! Food and drink will be sold by Levittown Fire Company #1. This is a **FREE** event.

Pavilion Rentals at the Parks

If you're looking for a place to hold a party, reunion, non-profit event, or wedding ceremony, consider reserving our pavilions at the Falls Township Community Park, Quaker Penn Park or the Fallsington Gazebo at Fallsington Commemorative Park. To reserve a pavilion or gazebo, contact Barbara Loessy at **(215) 949-9000 ext. 221** or by email b.loessy@fallstwp.com.



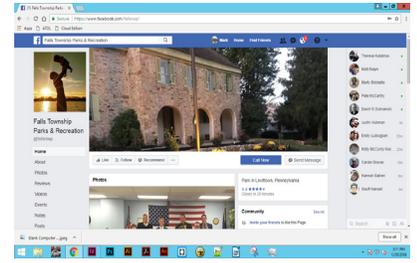
Parks and Recreation

Family Festival September 12

The annual Family Festival will take place on Saturday, September 12, from 3-7 p.m. at the Falls Township Community Park. Rain date is Saturday, September 19. We will have bounce houses, food and table vendors, mini golf, face-painting, a balloon artist, a game truck, a caricaturist, a car show, a DJ and much more! Please follow the Falls Township Parks and Recreation Facebook Page to get further updated info as we get closer to the event! The event culminates with an awesome fireworks display at dusk (approximately 8 p.m.) This is a **FREE** event (except for food and drink).

Parks and Recreation on Facebook

For the latest up-to-date information from the Falls Township Parks and Recreation Department, be sure to follow us on Facebook. Our Facebook page can be accessed by visiting www.fallstwp.com, clicking on the "Parks and Recreation" page, and looking for the link to the feed.



We are excited to announce that the 4th Annual Touch A Truck event will be held on Saturday, April 25 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Falls Township Community Park (rain date is Saturday, May 2). The 9-10 a.m. hour will be sensory friendly (no horns, sirens, etc.) Please come explore and learn about fire engines, the police mobile command center, various construction vehicles, see a scheduled U.S. Coast Guard helicopter landing and much more! We will have giveaways, bounce houses, face-painting, and a meet and greet with costumed characters from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Levittown Fire Company #1 and Gigi's Water Ice will be selling food and drinks. This is a **FREE**, family friendly event that benefits the Barkann Family Healing Hearts Foundation and the Center for Autism. To sponsor this event or for more information, contact Brian Andrews at (215) 949-9000 ext. 220 or b.andrews@fallstwp.com.



**Special thanks to our Big Rig Presenting Sponsors,
KPK Development and Defense Disposal.**

Supervisors Restructure Board

The Falls Township Board of Supervisors swore in two officials for new terms and chose a new chairman and vice chairman during the January reorganization meeting.

The board appointed Jeff Dence as Chairman and Jeff Boraski as Vice Chairman.

Following the resignation of former Board Chairman Bob Harvie, the Supervisors voted unanimously to appoint Fallsington resident John Palmer to finish Harvie's remaining two years on the board.

District Judge Jan Vislosky swore in Palmer, as well as Boraski for a second term.

"I'm looking forward to serving the township for another six years," Boraski said.

Palmer, who served 11 years on the Pennsbury School Board, resigned from that post to join the Falls Board of Supervisors. He works as an operator for the Township of Falls Authority. In addition to his service to the school board, Palmer's community involvement is evident through various head coaching positions in basketball, baseball and football. He has also served as a volunteer firefighter at Levittown Fire Co. No. 1.

"It's an honor to be up here," Palmer said. "I'm going to do my best and hopefully fill Bob's shoes to the best of my ability."



Falls Township Board of Supervisors (from left) Vice Chairman Jeff Boraski, John Palmer, Chairman Jeff Dence, Jeff Rocco and Brian Galloway.

In terms of filling the board vacancy, Dence said Palmer's previous school board roles as municipal liaison for Falls Township and board finance committee made him the ideal candidate for the position.

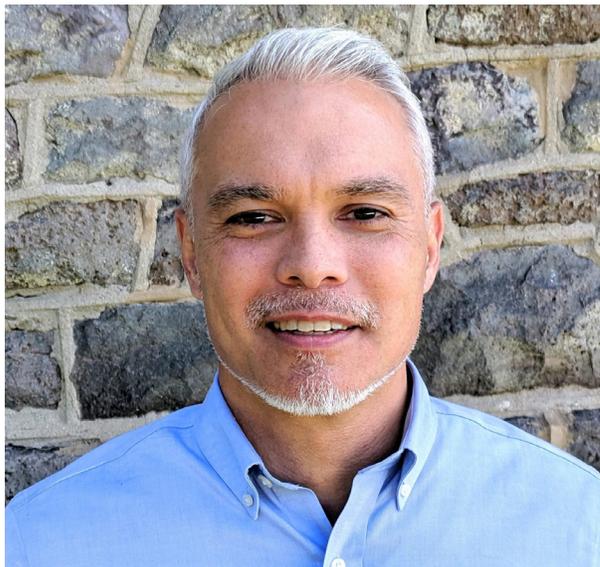
Other appointments included Supervisor Jeff Rocco as secretary/treasurer; and Assistant Township Manager Matt Takita as assistant secretary/treasurer.

The law firm of Rudolph Clarke was reappointed as township solicitor; and Jones Engineering Associates was reappointed as township engineer.



District Judge Jan Vislosky swears in new board member, John Palmer.

Takita new Code Enforcement Officer, Asst. Twp. Manager



Matthew Takita will serve as zoning officer, director of building, planning and code enforcement and assistant township manager.

The Falls Township Board of Supervisors hired Matthew Takita to serve as zoning officer, director of building, planning and code enforcement and assistant township manager.

Before founding MTA, LLC Architecture & Urban Design Firm in 2018, Takita served for 24 years as Bensalem Township's Director of Building and Planning Department. While at Bensalem Township, Takita authored zoning regulations for a 675-acre revitalization district on the Delaware River.

A 1991 Bachelor of Science in Architecture graduate of Spring Garden College, Takita has worked in public service since 1992.

He holds two dozen certifications from the International Code Council, including Building Code Special-

ist, Mechanical Code Official, Fire Plans Examiner, Residential Building Inspector, Master Code Professional and Certified Building Official, among others. Takita has more than a dozen Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code licenses, including Residential Building Inspector, Residential Mechanical Inspector, Electrical Inspector, Fire Inspector and Building Code Official.

Takita is a member and former chair of the International Code Council - Building Code Exam Advisory Committee, which assisted the country in transitioning from three separate building codes to one standard code. In addition, he prepared the national certification exam for building inspectors across the country from 1999 through 2006.

Supervisors Honor Bob Harvie

Bob Harvie closed the chapter on 16 years of service to the Board of Supervisors during his final meeting in December.

Harvie, who was elected as a Bucks County Commissioner and was sworn in on Jan. 6, resigned as Falls Township Supervisor effective Jan. 1 at 12:01 a.m.

His fellow Supervisors recognized his tireless work and presented him with a plaque bearing a gavel.

Supervisors Vice Chairman Jeff Dence said that Harvie kept his cool during contentious meetings in a way that few could do.

“For my 10 years on this board you held us to a higher standard and a level of professionalism that’s unmatched,” Dence said. “It’s been a pleasure serving with you.”

Harvie fought back tears as he spoke about his time on the board.

Previous Supervisors Jim Prokopiak and Jonathan Snipes and their “new level of professionalism and decorum” inspired Harvie to run in 2003. It was a race Harvie said he didn’t think he would win. At the outset, Harvie said he was going for name recognition for the following election cycle. Instead, he won.

The only promise Harvie has made through all four of his successful campaigns is to “work as hard as I can.”

“I think we should be aware of politicians who make too many promises,” Harvie said. “I’ll make the same promises as County Commissioner. I’ll do the best I can.”

Snipes, who had served as Supervisors Chairman before Harvie, attended the outgoing chairman’s final meeting, as did Harvie’s wife, Christine.

Harvie thanked Christine for her support throughout the years and reflected on his first swearing in, when his daughter,



Former Township Board of Supervisors Chairman, Bob Harvie (center), accepts a plaque recognizing his 16 years of service.

Emma, was 2 and his son, Brendan, was 5. Emma will be graduating high school and Brendan will be graduating college.

“It’s been my honor to be up here, to be elected by the people of this community,” he said. “Thank you for trusting me.”

Supervisor Jeff Rocco thanked Harvie for his service.

“We know what it takes to govern this township,” Rocco said. “There’s no one more deserving to be up in Doylestown.”

Supervisor Brian Galloway said Harvie held the gavel with “grace” and added that he admired his dignity and was inspired to serve as a Supervisor.

“It’s been a nice six years,” said Supervisor Jeff Boraski, who began his second term in January. “I appreciate all the things you’ve done to help me.”

No Budget Hike, But Many Projects Planned

While the costs of everything have risen over the last 28 years, the fiscally responsible Falls Township Supervisors have, once again, maintained the municipal tax rate, which last increased in 1992.

The last time Falls raised its municipal tax Bill Clinton was President, a gallon of gas cost \$1.05 and the average cost of a new home was \$122,500.

Even with a continually shrinking state contribution for pensions, increased expenses and cost of living hikes, the Supervisors’ spending plan holds the line on taxes, with \$32.7 million projected to be spent in 2020, a decrease of more than \$1 million as compared to the 2019 budget.

Since 2014, Falls Township’s millage rate has been 7.22. The 7.22 mill tax rate represents the lowest tax millage rate the township has had since the 1992 budget was passed, according to Finance Director Betsy Reukauf.

Property owners will continue paying \$216.60 for an average assessment of

\$30,000 under the township’s 2020 budget.

Fallsington Library will receive an additional \$30,000 in 2020 – \$75,000 instead of \$45,000 – as a result of savings Falls realized after switching from traditional streetlights to LED lights. Excess funds from the streetlight fund were reallocated to the library.

Of the local taxes collected from Falls Township property owners, the township receives 3.6 percent - less than 4 cents per every dollar - while Pennsbury School District collects 84 percent and Bucks County receives more than 12 percent.

Despite receiving only a small fraction of taxes collected throughout the township, Falls elected officials have worked hard to do more with less, each year. Since 2012, the township has seen its pension obligation double from \$1.3 million in 2012 to \$2.6 million in 2017 all while the state contributions have remained relatively flat. Falls is projecting \$2.8 million in 2020 pension costs, with \$2.1 million being cov-

ered by the township.

Falls Supervisors are planning several projects for 2020, including the continuation of the Falls Township annual road program. Road improvements budgeted at \$3.9 million are planned for Simons Drive, Gilbert Drive and Elbow Lane. In addition, in-house milling and overlay work is planned for Centre Street and Von Hoffman Park.

Falls has also applied for a PennDOT Green Light Go grant, which, if approved, would provide 80 percent of the roughly \$300,000 cost of signalization, signage and crosswalk improvements for North Olds Boulevard and Trenton Road.

The budget also earmarks approximately \$100,000 for a new playground and wheelchair accessible ramp to replace the 21-year-old play apparatus at Kirby Park.

In terms of beautification, the budget includes \$85,000 for tree trimming and removal of trees infested by the highly destructive and invasive Emerald Ash Borer.

Board OKs Facility for Meal Prep Company

Thanks to the growing popularity of meal preparation companies like Hello Fresh, a meat processing company is expanding its operations into Falls.

Home Food Services, also known as Agostino Foods, plans to operate a warehousing storage distribution facility for its fresh and frozen meats at 12 Headley Place in Fallsington. The fourth-generation meat processor operates a facility in Bristol Borough where meats are seasoned, seared in a flame grill and vacuum packaged. Meats, once cooked and sealed at the existing facility, would be stored at the Falls Township warehouse.

In the company's more than 100 years of business, it has evolved from a door-to-door food delivery service to a solely business to business operation, according to John Passanante, a self-described butcher by trade and fourth-generation arm of the business. Passanante counts Hello Fresh as a business partner in that Home Food Services provides the meats for the meal preparation company.

"Everybody falls in love with the convenience," he said. "Having a fully cooked protein ready to go is a piece to that."

The Supervisors unanimously granted conditional use approval for the storage

facility following a public hearing, which is a requirement for conditional use consideration.

The warehouse would employ 10 total employees – five office and five production staff - according to Passanante, who said he anticipates having the offices up and running within six to 12 months.

The facility would operate from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and would have truck deliveries. No combustible items would be onsite. The warehouse, like the meat processing facility, would be USDA inspected and would maintain a high standard of cleanliness.

Falls Welcomes New Businesses

Falls Township has had the pleasure of welcoming more than 25 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:

Young Nail & Facial, Inc., 93 Makefield Rd., Morrisville;
Genesa Home Health Care, 164 Lincoln Hwy., Ste. 202, Fairless Hills;
Artistic Nails Plus, 493 Oxford Valley Rd, Fairless Hills;
Zimora's Beauty Boutique, 312 W. Trenton Ave., Ste. 3, Morrisville;
Tire Disposal Services, Inc., 300 W. Trenton Ave., Ste. 204, Morrisville;
New Belmont LLC & New Ausonia, LLC, 254 W. Trenton Ave., Morrisville;
DFH Woodcrest, LLC, 380 W. Lincoln Hwy., Fairless Hills;
Blue Rose Home Care, 229 Suffolk Rd., Fairless Hills;
Bridge Street Golf at Snipes Farm, 860 W. Bridge St., Morrisville;
Paramount ABA, LLC, 515 S. Olds Blvd., Ste. B, Fairless Hills;
Chi Balance Center, 636 Lincoln Hwy., Ste. 17, Fairless Hills;
H&R Auto Repair, 909 Trenton Rd., Fairless Hills;
Red Roof Inn, 3100 Cabot Blvd., Langhorne;
Spirit Halloween, 330 Commerce Blvd., Fairless Hills;
Carney Contracting Services, 164 Lincoln Hwy., Ste. 201, Fairless Hills;
Music Together, 85 Makefield Rd., Ste. 14, Morrisville;
Fairless Hills Psychic, 323 Lincoln Hwy., Ste. 1, Fairless Hills;
Shaping Tomorrow Childcare Services, 515 S. Olds Blvd., Ste. 200,



Fairless Hills;
Endeavor Consulting Group, 333 N. Oxford Valley Rd., Ste. 400, Fairless Hills;
Titan Technology, 8 Headley Place, Ste. B, Fallsington;
Bucks County Juvenile Probation, 333 N. Oxford Valley Rd., Fairless Hills;
Good Vibes Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, 375 W. Trenton Ave., Morrisville;
Comcast Xfinity, 502 Oxford Valley Rd., Ste. 100, Langhorne;
Rodriguez Engraving, Inc., 85 Makefield Rd., Ste. 4, Morrisville;
Acupuncture by George, 201 Woolston Dr., Ste 2A, Morrisville;
CMR Audio, 428 S. Oxford Valley Rd., Fairless Hills;
First Call Towing & Recovery, 1444 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Morrisville.

Geese Management Efforts at Park Ongoing

In an effort to continue ridding Falls Township Community Park of Canada geese and their droppings, the Board of Supervisors approved a multi-faceted plan.

Stepped up geese management efforts began in 2015 and have significantly reduced the number of geese at the park, Parks and Recreation Director Brian Andrews said. When the program began, the park had 100 or more resident geese. Now the park's

resident geese population is 20 or 30.

"If we let it go, the problem's going to come back worse," Andrews said.

Supervisors Chairman Jeff Dence said the program has been successful.

S&S Wildlife Control Services President Rick Shadel told the board previously that there will always be a need for management at the park, particularly at the lake.

Similar to previous years, for 2020

S&S will undertake a 10-month hazing effort, which involves aggressive action on foot, noise, lasers and lights. It will be carried out along with a 10-week service involving Border Collies training geese to stay off specified areas. Most of the efforts would be undertaken during day-time hours. The board voted unanimously to approve S&S Wildlife's proposal in an amount not to exceed \$22,000.

Grant Will Improve Falls Intersections

With an eye on improving public safety at intersections, the Board of Supervisors set the wheels in motion for the submission of a PennDOT grant to cover the bulk of upgrades at North Olds Boulevard and Trenton Road.

The board approved a proposal from Remington & Vernick Engineers for grant writing services related to the projects. The firm will complete a Green Light Go Program application and submit it to PennDOT, along with supporting documentation, as well as a scope of work for the projects and cost estimates. The firm will carry out grant-writing and submission duties at a cost not to exceed \$2,750.

If the grant is approved, Falls would be required to pro-



vide a 20 percent match, or roughly \$50,000 of the projected cost.

In terms of improvements, the intersection of North Olds Boulevard and Trenton Road would have handicap accessible ramps installed and the signalized intersection would be completely rebuilt with new signage, striping and signal improvements.

Supervisor Jeff Boraski said the road is in desperate need of upgrades.

“The road’s in bad shape,” Boraski said. “There’s a turn lane, but it’s not really marked.”

Falls has been successful in obtaining Green Light Go grants previously, including funds to improve the traffic signalization at Mill Creek and Levittown parkways.

New Jobs Planned for Falls Composting Facility

The Falls Township Board of Supervisors set the wheels in motion for the creation of 15 to 20 new jobs with the planned opening of an indoor composting facility.

The Falls Supervisors unanimously granted preliminary and final land development approval. The plan calls for construction of a 127,000-square-foot facility built on a 15.5-acre parcel located on Tyburn Road. Attorney Tom Jennings said the McGill Fairless Hills composting facility is expected to be up and running within a year.

The site is in the township’s farming and mining district. The current property owner is involved with outdoor composting, he said, adding that the state-of-the-art facility would be a “natural expansion of that use.”

Noel Lyons, who emigrated from Ireland 29 years ago, co-founded McGill Environmental soon after. Since then, the company has grown to be “one of the most respected compa-

nies” in the industry, he said. Its origin was developed at Rutgers University to deal with two widespread problems: organic waste of all types and greatly degraded soil.

The company has composted more than 5 million tons of material, according to Lyons. Its customers include municipalities and landscapers. McGill Environmental’s compost is used on sports turf, 200 golf courses and to help with erosion control.

Of the 5,000 composting facilities in the U.S., Lyons said more than 99 percent are outdoor-only businesses. At the indoor facility Lyons said he plans to compost 400 tons per day.

“Whatever comes in his front door leaves the back door as a product,” Jennings said.

In addition to the compost not having by-products, Lyons said the indoor facility helps to keep odors controlled.

Compost would be created from non-hazardous materials, including wood, food waste and yard waste.

After 20 Years, Township Manager Resigns

Falls Township Manager Peter Gray resigned effective Feb. 4. Gray, who has served as the township manager for more than 12 years, had worked previously as the township’s Finance Director for eight years.

Gray has expressed an interest in seeking other opportunities.

“It’s been a wonderful opportunity to serve the township,” Gray said. “I have nothing but great memories ... It’s been



Peter Gray

a great ride and I appreciate every minute.”

The Supervisors unanimously approved a resolution during Gray’s final Supervisors meeting in January, acknowledging and thanking him for his years of service. Following the

vote, the board and the audience stood and gave Gray a standing ovation.

Supervisors Chairman Jeff Dence acknowledged Gray’s two decades of time with the Township and said he won’t easily be replaced.

“The Supervisors appreciate all that Pete has done for our township,” Dence said. “We are sorry to see Pete go and wish him nothing but the best in his future endeavors.”

Falls Site of Research Facility

The Falls Supervisors set the wheels in motion for the township to become a hub for medical research.

Phase two of MLH Exploration's medical marijuana facility calls for the construction of a 49,898-square-foot addition to be used as a medical marijuana growing and processing facility. In its previous phase, MLH constructed an addition to connect two existing buildings on the 32-acre parcel at the former US Steel property.

MLH intends to partner with Jefferson University Health System to explore what causes the general conditions for people to respond positively to medical marijuana treatment. MLH received state approval for the project, including the ability to open six dispensaries. None of the dispensaries would be in Falls. The state does not permit growing facilities and dispensaries to be housed at the same location.

The MLH operation, at full build out, would mean 50 new jobs in Falls Township.

MLH Exploration's state-of-the-art marijuana processing facility would be used to grow, process and study the medicinal benefits of state-licensed medical marijuana. Medical marijuana would be processed into oils, gel caps and pills as

permitted under the state's Medical Marijuana Act. The site will not be open to the retail public.

Following Falls Township's local ordinance, which governs medical marijuana grower and dispensary operations, the facility would be secured with a fenced-in area and steel sides up to 12 feet tall. Cameras would be in place and running continuously. Access would be permitted only through electronic devices and access codes would be required.

The US Steel site was viewed as a great location because of its excess space for future expansion and existing power and utilities. The facilities would increase the green space and reduce the amount of impervious surface, which could help to lessen flooding for neighboring flood-prone areas.

Falls Supervisors have previously set regulations for the production and distribution of medical marijuana and outlined where operations could be located, namely in the highway commercial; materials processing and manufacturing; and farming and mining districts. Operations are not allowed within 1,000 feet of a school, park, daycare center, community center or worship site.



Rent Kayaks & Paddleboards

Looking to get outdoors? Interested in water sports? Looking to try something new and inexpensive? Driftwood Adventures is the answer! Driftwood Adventures offers Paddleboard and Kayak Rentals (weekends only) at the Falls Township Community Park starting May 30 and continuing through August 30. Hours of operation are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. Rates are as follows:

	People	½ hr.	1 hr.	2 hr.
Paddleboard	1	\$15	\$20	\$35
Single Kayak	1	\$15	\$20	\$35
Double Kayak	2	\$20	\$25	\$45

Come on out and give it a try. You will not be disappointed! For further information visit www.driftwoodadventures.com or call (267) 994-1319.

Bulk Disposal Day

Mark your calendars for the next FREE BULK DISPOSAL DAY, which will be held on Saturday, April 18 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

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.



Spring Yard Waste Cleanup Day is Set

The 2020 Spring yard waste cleanup will take place on Saturday, April 18. Please have it 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.

PLEASE NO PLASTIC BAGS

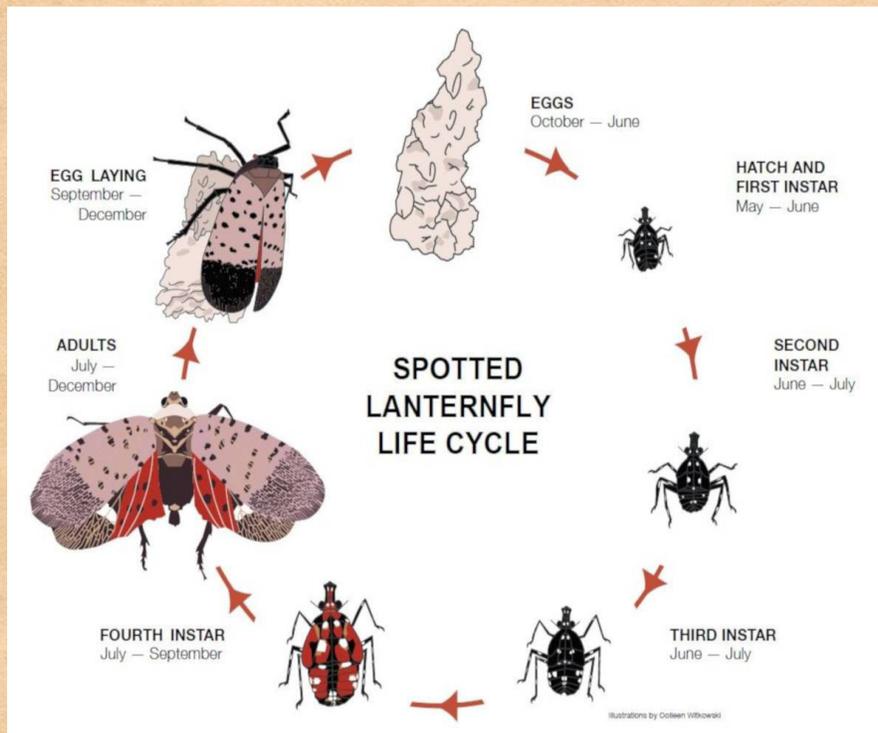
WANTED

THE SPOTTED LANTERNFLY

Spotted lanternfly is an invasive planthopper native to Asia, that was first detected in 2014 in southeastern Pennsylvania. It feeds voraciously on many plants, including economically important crops like fruit trees, grapevines, hops, hardwoods, and ornamentals.

Spotted lanternfly eggs are laid in the fall and hatch in the spring. Egg masses are laid on hard surfaces (trees, decks, houses, outdoor equipment, rocks, etc.) and protected with

a mud-like covering. Each egg mass contains 30–50 eggs. After hatching and before reaching adulthood, Spotted lanternfly goes through four nymph stages. Nymphs are



small ($\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch) and can be hard to find. The first three stages (instars) are all black with white spots, and the last instar is red with white dots and black stripes. Spotted lanternfly adults emerge in July and are active until winter. This is the most obvious and easily detectable stage because they are large and highly mobile. Adults have black bodies with brightly colored wings. Only adults can fly. Because Spotted lanternfly adults

jump more than fly, their wings often remain closed. Spotted lanternfly wings are gray with black spots, and the tips of the wings are black with gray veins.

Quick Facts on the Spotted Lanternfly

- Spotted lanternfly is a destructive invasive pest, threatening agricultural, timber, and ornamental industries, and the plants in your backyard.
- Spotted lanternfly is under quarantine in 14 counties in Pennsylvania.
- Spotted lanternfly does not bite or sting.
- Stop the spread of Spotted lanternfly by checking your car and any outdoor equipment (grills, mowers, firewood, etc.) when going in and out of the quarantine zone.
- Manage Spotted lanternfly on your property by scraping eggs, banding trees, removing the favored host (tree-of-heaven), and using chemical control when appropriate.

To learn more, visit: <https://extension.psu.edu/spotted-lanternfly>.

NO SOLICITING

Permits Needed for Door-to-Door Sales

In order to lawfully engage in door-to-door solicitation in Falls Township, companies need to have a permit issued by the Township. An individual engaged in door-to-door solicitation must carry and display their Township-issued permit at all times and may only do so Monday-Saturday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Solicitors are not permitted to knock on the doors of homes displaying a “no solicitation” sign or any address which is registered on the “No Solicitation Registry.” If a solicitor knocks on your door, ask them to see their Falls Township-issued permit.

If they do not have a permit, or if you have a sign displayed or are on the “No Solicitation Registry,” call the Falls Township Police Department at **215-328-8519** and report it. Please obtain as much information as possible (name/description of solicitor, company name, etc.) to help the police identify and issue citations to individuals in violation of this ordinance.

Please note that this ordinance does not apply to religious and political activity.

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pennsylvania DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

OUR FAMILY OF COMPANIES OFFERS ONE ON ONE DRIVING LESSONS, AUTO TAG AND DRIVERS LICENSING SERVICES. ADDITIONALLY, AS A PENNDOT CERTIFIED 3RD PARTY TESTING CENTER, WE CAN ADMINISTER YOUR TEST IN AS QUICK AS THREE DAYS!
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- Medication Reminders
- Meal Prep
- Light Housekeeping
- Light Laundry
- Recreational Activities
- Companionships
- Emotional Support
- During and After Hospital Care
- During and After Rehab Care
- One to One Care
- Respite Care
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Safety Tips From the Fire Marshal

How Close to Park to a Fire Hydrant

According to the Statutes of Pennsylvania, Title 75, Section 3353 (a-2-ii), you need to be parked at least 15 feet away from a fire hydrant.

This ensures that emergency personnel have enough room to obtain water from the hydrant in the event of a nearby fire.

If you are unsure if you are parked too close to a fire hydrant, it is best to err on the side of caution and find a different parking spot.

Office Contacts

Rich Dippolito, Fire Marshal
r.dippolito@fallstwp.com
215-949-9000, ext. 250

Ed Pullen, Inspector
e.pullen@fallstwp.com
215-949-9000, ext. 264

Anthony Montonario, Inspector
a.montonario@fallstwp.com
215-949-9000, ext. 293

John Weiss, Inspector
j.weiss@fallstwp.com
215-949-9000, ext. 261

Pat DeFrancisco, Secretary
p.defrancisco@fallstwp.com
215-949-9000, ext. 255

Barbecuing Dos and Don'ts

Do:

1. Keep your grill at least 10 feet away from your house. Farther is even better. This includes portions attached to your house like carports, garages and porches. Grills should not be used underneath wooden overhangs either, as the fire could flare up into the structure above. This applies to both charcoal and gas grills.

2. Clean your grill regularly. If you allow grease and fat to build up on your grill, they provide more fuel for a fire. Grease is a major source of flare ups.

3. Check for gas leaks.

You can make sure no gas is leaking from your gas grill by making a solution of half liquid dish soap and half water and rubbing it on the hoses and connections. Then, turn the gas on (with the grill lid open.) If the soap forms large bubbles, that's a sign that the hoses have tiny holes or that the connections are not tight enough.

4. Keep decorations away from your grill. Decorations like hanging baskets, pillows and umbrellas provide fuel for a fire. To make matters worse, today's decor is mostly made of artificial fibers that burn fast and hot, making this tip even more important.

5. Keep a fire extinguisher within a couple steps of your grill. And know how to use it. If you are unsure how to use the extinguisher, don't waste time fiddling with it before calling 911. Many fire deaths occur when people try to fight a fire themselves instead of calling for expert help.



Don't:

1. Don't turn on the gas while your grill lid is closed. It causes gas to build up inside your grill, and when you do light it and open it, a fireball can explode in your face.

2. Don't leave a grill unattended. Fires double in size every minute. Plan ahead so that all of your other food prep chores are done and you can focus on grilling.

3. Don't overload your grill with food. This applies especially to fatty meats. Too much fat dripping on the flames at once can cause a large flare-up that could light nearby things on fire.

4. Don't use a grill indoors. People often think it will be safe to use a grill, especially a small one, indoors. Not true. In addition to the fire hazard, grills release carbon monoxide, a deadly colorless, odorless gas. That gas needs to vent in fresh air or it can harm you, your family and pets.

How to Handle Approaching Emergency Vehicles

Pennsylvania state law requires drivers to yield to emergency vehicles displaying visual and/or audible warning devices. These laws exist for your safety and the safety of those in the emergency vehicle. Please obey Pennsylvania traffic laws. Unless the movement of the emergency vehicle is obviously into the right shoulder or traffic lane, please move to the right and stop or significantly slow your vehicle. Emergency vehicles may make unexpected turns or stops to access an emergency scene or a fire hydrant. The operators of emergency vehicles

are often being bombarded with instructions that may change their original route of travel. Please help us protect each other by obeying the law.

If you are stuck in traffic, your best course of action may be to simply stay put until the emergency vehicle passes. Fire apparatus are equipped to override traffic signals. This provides drivers with the means to safely move across an intersection and out of the path of the apparatus. Please give other drivers space to move out of the travel lane being used by the emergency vehicle.

Brush up on Boating Basics

Warm weather means it's time to get the boat out for another fun season on the water. Here are some important safety tips to consider when getting your vessel ready for the season and while out on the water:

Have your boat inspected each year. The best way to prevent being stranded is to make sure your boat is properly maintained.

Brush up on boating safety basics. Operator error causes more than two-thirds of boating accidents. Ensure you understand all the navigational rules: Go to <https://www.boat-ed.com/pennsylvania/> to find an online boating course.

Only use cords intended for marine use. Never use household cords near water. If your vessel has the need for electricity while being docked, use the appropriate cords.

Always wear a right-sized, U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket. The USCG estimates that life jackets could've saved lives of more than 80 percent of boating fatalities. Wear it, don't stow it. Tucked-away life jackets are useless in an accident.

Protect against propeller strikes. Make sure all passengers are accounted for before starting the engine and wear your emergency cut-off switch at all times. When people are in the water, ask one person to propeller-watch. Consider additional propeller safety devices, such as guards or sensors.

Carry safety equipment on board. On top of life jackets for all, stock a complete first-aid kit, a tool kit, a horn or whistle,



flares, a fire extinguisher, a marine VHF radio, an extra dock line or two and a throwable flotation device, at minimum.

Don't boat under the influence. According to the USCG, alcohol plays a role in about one-third of all boating fatalities. A boater operator with a BAC of .10 or higher is estimated to be 10 times more likely to die in a boating accident than a sober one. Keep in mind that the sun, wind and boat vibration can accelerate impairment. Be responsible and carry food and non-alcoholic drinks.

Personal Safety Begins With Awareness

Practice these tips to increase your situational awareness.

Electronic distractions: Only use electronic devices after you've determined you are in an area where it is safe to do so. Look up occasionally to re-scan your surroundings and make note of changes. If you're using headphones, consider using only one, or keeping the volume low to be able to hear what is going on around you.

Peripheral vision: Attempt to focus on something while also observing what's happening at the edges of your vision. This widens your monitoring range for detecting anything out of the ordinary.

Scan: Most people automatically scan new situations or environments, but don't always focus on the most useful information. Practice looking for exits, barriers, suspicious objects and people, and any other unique elements that could be important to your personal safety.

Exits: Always be aware of your exits and have an exit strategy. Practice devising alternate methods of escape if your primary exit becomes compromised. This can

also be practiced in cars, public transportation, elevators, and outdoor environments.

Protect Your Back: Use walls and barriers to protect your back and sides and maximize your field of vision, taking care not to get backed into a corner. Practice this in public places, like seating in restaurants, waiting rooms, or shopping centers.

Stop and Pretend: If you feel like you are being followed, stop and turn around, pretending as if you went the wrong way. The reaction of the person following you will help determine if they are indeed a threat: If they stop or reroute to mirror your actions, then you can confirm that they are following you.

Personal Space: If someone is crowding you, seems suspicious, or is displaying threatening body language, scan them for subtle signs of violent intent. Increase the distance between yourself and this person. Five or six feet can allow you some reaction time if they become an active threat.

Visualize: If you spot a situation in your vicinity that could pose a threat, such as a blind corner on a sidewalk, ask your-

self, "If there was a threat behind that corner, how would I react?" Premeditating such responses can help them become second-nature in the event of an emergency.

Intuition: Trust your gut. If you get the sense that something is wrong, don't ignore it. It's always better to be overcautious than to ignore warning signs.

Senses: Practice engaging all your senses (sight, sound, smell, touch, and taste) to their fullest extent. Exercising your senses can make them keener, which can help you avoid unsafe situations, determine threats faster, and pick up on critical information quicker during emergencies.

Speak Up: Report all the following situations to your supervisor (during work) or to the person in charge (when in public places): accidents, injuries, close calls, safety hazards or concerns, and any suspicious persons, activity, or behavior. Even if there is not a dangerous situation or nobody has been injured, if there are elements that could lead to these things, the person in charge should be made aware so they can take appropriate action.

FREE YOUR RECYCLABLES.



Due to global changes in the recycling industry and commodity markets, collecting quality recyclable materials is more important than ever. Waste Management needs your help to reduce recycling contamination.

It's Simple – Keep These Items Out of Your Curbside Bin



Let's all get back to the basics of good recycling and remember these three rules each time you toss something into your recycling container:



1 Recycle empty bottles, cans, paper and cardboard.



2 Keep food and liquid out of the recycling.



3 Empty recyclables directly into your recycling container - NO bagged recyclables.

For more information, tools and resources to recycling right, visit:

www.wm.com/recyclerright

www.fairlesslandfill.com

www.facebook.com/fairlesslandfill

Our Winged Friends Need a Champion

Beekeepers report alarming declines in bee populations due to pesticides, parasites and habitat loss.

Falling numbers of several species of pollinators, including monarch butterflies, is so significant that they are under review for listing as federal threatened and endangered species.

An award-winning intergenerational partnership project in Falls Township is celebrating seven years of commitment to protecting pollinators and supporting monarch butterflies. Waste Management employees and their community partners Falls Township Senior Center, Pennsbury School District, Pennsbury Manor, The Pen Ryn School and the Bucks County Audubon Society have volunteered more than 150 hours to provide new habitat and food sources for bees and butterflies, including the monarch butterfly.

In 2013, Waste Management turned a grass field, located on Pennsbury Road in Falls Township, into a Laboratory for Learning garden with 44 different native plants and an adjacent meadow that was seeded with a native wildflowers and grass mix. Over the past six years, 520 employees and community partners have attended 52 inquiry-based learning opportunities at



the garden. Citizen scientists, trained by the PA Department of Agriculture, have spent 45 hours monitoring bees and pollinators. Community presentations have reached an additional 1,500 students, teachers and community members.

Host plants are critical to pollinators' life cycles. For example, Monarch caterpillars only eat milkweed. Fennel and parsley are hosts to black swallowtail caterpillars and, in August, one of those plants hosted 72 black swallowtail caterpillars.

Since 2015, in support of a citizen science project that helps to understand the

monarch's fall migration, 520 monarch butterflies have been tagged.

In 2019, as the Laboratory for Learning Garden continued to flourish, 56 different species of pollinators were identified and, in support of the North America Butterfly Association Butterfly Count, 19 different species of butterflies were reported.

Bug hotels were introduced as a solution to declining populations of beneficial insects.

The partnership received National Wildlife Federation and NABA Butterfly Garden Certifications and qualified as a Penn State Pollinator Friendly Garden. It is a Monarch Waystation, and the project earned Wildlife Habitat Council Gold Certification, as well as Landscape Project of the Year and Pollinator Project of the Year.

How you can help:

- Provide food for pollinators. Use native plants to provide habitat. Research shows that native plants are 4 times more attractive to pollinators than non-natives. Include milkweed for monarch butterflies.
- Include a water source such as a bird bath or a puddling area for butterflies.
- Remove invasive plants.
- Eliminate use of pesticides.

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 marker 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, 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 (800) 869-5566.

Falls Township 2020 Street Sweeping Schedule

Listed below is the Spring 2020 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 23-27
Willowood	March 30
Makefield Road Village	March 31
Elderberry	April 1-2
Old Fallsington areas/Fallsington Woods	April 3
Lakeside	April 6
Rue Court/Amelia Drive & Amelia Turn/ Orchard Drive and Mill Creek Estate	April 7
Penns Place & Decou Village	April 8-9
Fairless Hills-South of Trenton Road, including Fairbridge and Drexelwood	April 13-14
Penns Grant	April 15-16
Birch Valley	April 17, 20
Yardley Farms	April 21-22
Hedgerow Woods	April 23-24
North Park – including Nasturtium Lane and New Pond Lane	April 27-28
Pinewood	April 29-30
Pennsbury Heights	May 1
Thornridge	May 5-6
Vermillion Hills	May 7-8
Nottingham, Taylor Tract, Penn Village	May 11-12
Fairless Hills-North of Trenton Road, including Oak Lane, Pennsylvania Avenue, Arleans Avenue and Lebbie Lane	May 13-14
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	May 15
Township Parks/Industrial Parks	May 18-22
Maintenance Day	May 4



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

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Spring / Summer Newsletter 2020



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Falls Supervisors Seek Recycling Grant

If you could spend \$4,800, but know that you would recoup another \$50,000 to \$100,000 why wouldn't you do it?

The Falls Township Supervisors approved a grant writing proposal that's expected to substantially pay the Township much more than its initial investment. The fiscally responsible board approved a \$4,800 proposal from F.X. Browne, Inc. for completion of the Township's annual Act 101 recycling grant application.

Last year, the company's grant application resulted in a \$68,503 state grant, according to interim Township Manager Matt Takita. Previous years netted \$53,000 and \$49,000, respectively, he said.

"It's a pretty good investment," Supervisors Chairman Jeff Dence said.

Grant amounts are based on total tonnage for residential and commercial proper-



ties. F.X. Browne, Inc., as part of its proposal, will obtain valid documentation needed for the application.

The company has submitted the township's grant applications for nearly 20 years.

Residents and businesses are encouraged to recycle as much material as possible. Every little bit helps increase the amount of potential grant funds.

Haulers make it even easier to recycle with single-stream recycling, which allows for paper,

plastic and cans to be co-mingled in the same container. Recycling materials can be placed in any receptacle, provided it's marked as being recycling and not mistaken for trash. More information about recycling can be found here. Falls has 22-gallon recycling containers available for purchase at the municipal building.

Recycling Tips

Baby Steps: Once you make the decision to recycle, don't feel like you have to jump in 100 percent.

Reduce and Reuse: Re-using items can assist in your recycling endeavors.

Curbside Recycling: Check with your service provider for specifics.

A Bin in Every Room: Neglecting rooms allows some items to wind up in the trash.

Recycle Water: Water can be reused to support your lawn and garden, and keep your landscape fresh and green.

Recycle Food: Recycling food is more commonly referred to as composting.

Rinse and Repeat: Always rinse out any items and containers prior to placing them into your recycling bin.

<https://learn.compactappliance.com/recycling-tips>