# **Spring Rebirth is Underway**

As the saying goes, spring is a time of rebirth.

In Falls, this can not be a truer statement. Numerous projects are underway – and many will see significant progress or completion this spring – promising a renewal, expansion, or complete redevelopment to pave the way for more jobs, additional tax revenues and a better local economy.

By far the largest of the Township's rebirth will happen at the Keystone Trade Center, the former U.S. Steel site, where NorthPoint Development is transforming 1,800 acres of mostly vacant land into state-of-the-art warehouses for Fortune 500 companies. Construction has been ongoing at the first building, with completion expected by year's end. Also, the developer hopes to have its first tenant occupy space this year. The company anticipates breaking ground on the second phase of buildings 4, 5, and 6 in 2022, with completion in 2023. Some full-time jobs could be available this year, with hiring ramping up more next year. In all, this massive redevelopment will continue for another five or six years and create 5,000 to 10,000 new jobs.

I look forward to seeing NorthPoint move to fruition in my third term as Supervisor.

Another top priority for my next six years in office is to see the long overdue renovations to our municipal building finally reach completion. Our municipal building is in dire need of repairs as well as a larger footprint. Some of the additional space – an estimated 9,000 square feet – will be available for lease by entrepreneurs, startup companies, solopreneurs and small business owners. Through the Falls Township Jumpstart Program, business owners could rent a desk, a full office, or an office suite.

Before our building upgrades and space leasing arrangements can move forward, the Supervisors first have a few steps to undertake. This spring we anticipate selecting a construction management firm. Once that happens, we can complete a building design and put the municipal building project out to bid tentatively by the third quarter of this year. With that timeline, construction should be able to begin in 2023.

In the more immediate future, residents will see new restaurants opening this spring and summer and long-shuttered businesses seeing rebirth.

Longer term plans involve the possibility of nearly 1 million square feet of warehouse space and 60,000 square feet of office space bringing the former Solvay tract back to life. Stalwart Equities, the developer planning the largescale warehouse project, will create 500 or more local jobs. The project is expected to generate nearly \$1 million in real estate taxes to Pennsbury School District, as well as \$41,000 in municipal taxes and \$33,000 in local services taxes.

I am excited about the endless possibilities ahead and look forward to seeing all these projects move forward.

- Jeffry Dence

Spring / Summer 2022

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.com Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

## **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Brian Galloway, Secretary / Treasurer

Jeffry Dence, Chairman Jeff Boraski, Vice Chairman

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** Matthew Takita, Township Manager

**Township Tax Collector** Kimberly Scarpiello 188 Lincoln Highway, Suite 108 Fairless Hills, PA 19030 (**215**) 949-9008 **Code Enforcement/Permits - 1** Matthew Takita, Zoning Officer

Director of Emergency Services/ Fire Marshal/Asst. Mgr - 2 Richard Dippolito

Public Works Department - 3 Jason Lawson, Public Works Director

**Parks and Recreation - 4** Brian Andrews, Director

**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 Trevose, PA 19053 (215) 633-1890 John Palmer, Supervisor Erin Mullen, Supervisor

**Finance Department - 5** Betsy Reukauf, Director

**Tax Office - 6** Kimberly Scarpiello

**Police Department:** (215) 949-9100 **Non Emergency:** (215) 328-8519 Nelson Whitney, Chief of Police

Animal Control: (215) 328-8519

**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) 949-9100.

(More Police Department News On Page 3)

www.fallstwp.com

Spring/Summer 2022

## **Police Department**



## **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 Cpl. Mike Wolverton, (215) 949-9100 ext. 326 or by email at *m.wolverton@fallstwppd.com*.

## **SafetyNet Tracking Systems**



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.

## Find Us On Social Media



Falls Township Police department is now on social media outlets like Facebook and Twitter. Follow us to get information on what's going on in your neighborhood.



## Police Reports Available Online

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.

### "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. This program will be returning shortly, please check our website, Facebook or Twitter for coming dates.

## **Parks and Recreation**

\*\*\* All programs/events are subject to change due to any COVID-19 guidelines/restrictions that may be put in place by local department of health officials. For the most up-to-date information, follow us on Facebook.\*\*\*

#### **Pinewood Pool**

The Pinewood Pool is a great way for residents to cool off and spend quality time with family. The pool is scheduled to open on Saturday, May 28. The season runs through Monday, September 5. Take advantage of the early bird discount period which runs



through April 22. 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 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*.

### Lifeguard Openings



### Summer Camp

Falls Township Parks and Recreation is accepting registrations for its 2022 Summer Camp Program. We are excited to bring back our camp to full capacity in 2022! This means before and after care options, field trips, in-camp entertainment,



Parks and Recreation is looking

to hire several lifeguards for the 2022 pool season. Candidate must

be at least 15 years old and have a

current Lifeguard/First Aid/AED certification. The starting pay rate is

\$11 an 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*(*a)fallstwp.com*.

and weekly visits to Pinewood Pool! Registration is completed online through the Community Pass Registration System (Capturepoint link). Visit *www.fallstwp.com* to access the online registration system. The camp is designed for children ages 5-13 (all registered participants must be at minimum 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. The camp runs from Monday, June 20 through Friday, July 29. If you need help registering for the program, please contact Barbara Loessy at (215) 949-9000 ext. 221 or by email at *b.loessy@fallstwp.com*.

### Medicare Workshop

Getting close to or thinking about retirement and not sure what Medicare will and will not cover? Get answers to these questions and other questions during our free educational workshop on Thursday, April 7 from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. A representative from DelVal Senior Advisers will offer the session in the public meeting room at the Falls Township Municipal Complex. Preregistration is 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 an additional workshop that will take place on Thursday, October 6 at the same time and in the same location.

## **Easter Egg Hunt**

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt for children (ages 2-12) will take place on Saturday, April 9 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Quaker Penn Park, 300 Pennsbury Road - located next to Pennsbury Manor. Lots of eggs, prizes, and additional activities will be offered as well! This is a FREE event!



#### **Fishing Derby**



Our annual Fishing Derby is scheduled for Memorial Day Monday, May 30. Parks and Recreation is inviting all children between the ages of 5 and 17 to sign up and participate in the annual event. Preregistration for this event is required. The derby will run from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Each participant will receive a participation medal and awards will be given for most fish caught and largest fish caught in various age categories. To register or for further information, please 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.

### **Archery at Quaker Penn Park**

Archery program for ages 6+ offered by Shooting Star Archery Academy at Quaker Penn Park. Classes will be held Tuesday from 5-6 p.m. from April 19 through May 24 (with a makeup date on May 31 if necessary). A second session will be offered June 7 through July 12 (with a makeup date on July 19 if necessary). Cost for each six-week session is \$140 for residents; or \$150 for non-residents. Registrations must be completed using Capturepoint. Call Barbara Loessy at **(215) 949-9000 ext. 221**.

## **Parks and Recreation**

### Vietnam Flag Memorial



Falls Township is proud to once again host The Delaware Valley Vietnam Flag Memorial at the Falls Township Community Park. This year's event is tentatively scheduled to take place Friday June, 10 through Sunday, June 12. Volunteers are needed to plant flags on the soccer field (located on phase 1 of the park) on

Friday at 9 a.m. For further information, please contact Ed Sabol at *edwardsabol@gmail.com*.

#### **Pavilion Rentals**

If you are looking for a place to hold a party, family reunion, nonprofit event, or wedding ceremony, please consider reserving pavilions at the Falls Township Community Park, Quaker Penn Park or the Fallsington



Gazebo at Fallsington Commemorative Park. To reserve a pavilion or gazebo, please contact Barbara Loessy at (215) 949-9000 ext. 221 or by email *b.loessy@fallstwp.com*.

#### Summer Concert Series



Falls Township Parks and Recreation will hold 12 concerts as part of its 2022 Summer Concert Series lineup. All concerts take place under the pavilion in Phase 1 at the Falls Township Community Park on Sundays from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The following is a tentative schedule and is subject to change:

Sunday, June 19 Strictly 60's Band
Sunday, June 26 Christopher Dean Band
Sunday, July 3 Men of Harmony
Sunday, July 10 Daisy Jug Band
Sunday, July 17 Tri County Band
Sunday, July 24 Rick Gazda Band
Sunday, July 31 Big Band from The Valley
Sunday, August 7 First Time Around Band
Sunday, August 14 Dukes of Destiny
Sunday, August 21 Uptown String Band
Sunday, August 28 Barbone Street Jazz Band
Sunday, September 4 Strictly 60's Band

### **National Night Out**

National Night Out is scheduled for Tuesday, August 2. Parks and Recreation is partnering with the Falls Township Police Department and other local first responders to host a fun community event for residents. The event is scheduled from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Falls Township Community Park. Rain date is Wednesday, August 3. The event features children's entertainment, table vendors, police K9 demo and much more! The event is free. Food and drinks will be available for purchase.

#### **Touch a Truck/Festivals Combined**

Falls Township has decided to combine two of its favorite events and add an additional event. \*New for 2022\* is a Food Truck Festival on Friday, September



16 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Falls Township Community Park. The event will feature a beer garden and live music from the SEVEN Band!! The Food Truck Festival will be held rain or shine. The 2022 Touch a Truck Event/Family Festival will be a combined event that will take place on Saturday, September 17 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event features a quiet hour from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. for community members with special needs. Come out and explore construction vehicles, fire engines, tow trucks, electrical trucks, along with food and table vendors, bounce houses, games, balloon artistry, face painting and much more. The annual fireworks display will take place at approximately 8:30 p.m. The rain date for the Touch a Truck/Family Festival/ fireworks display is Saturday, September 24.

### **Boat Ramp Passes**

All seasonal and daily passes must be purchased online (Visa and MasterCard only). Rates for seasonal passes cost: \$80 for a Falls resident; \$155.00 for non-residents.



Daily passes cost \$15. To purchase a seasonal or daily pass, go to *www.fallstwp.com*, go to the Parks and Recreation page, and click on the link "Quaker Penn Park Boat Launch Pass." You will then be able to 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) 949-9000 ext. 221 or by email *b.loessy@fallstwp.com*.

### 6-week Sessions of Yoga

Indoor yoga (must be 18+) continues with six-week sessions year-round Mondays from 7-8 p.m. at the Falls Township Senior Center (Annex building). Cost is \$48 for a resident; \$54 for a non-resident. Drop-in cost is \$10 per class. Participants must register online using Capturepoint. Contact Barbara Loessy at (215) 949-9000 ext. 221 or by email *b.loessy@fallstwp.com* for assistance or more information.

## **State & National Elected Officials**

#### **Pa. State Representative**

Hon. John T. Galloway 8610 New Falls Rd. Levittown, PA 19054 (215) 943-7206 www.pahouse.com/Galloway

#### Governor

Pa. Gov Tom Wolf 225 Main Capitol Building Harrisburg, PA 17120 (717) 787-2500 www.governor.pa.gov

#### **Pa. State Senator**

Sen. Steven Santarsiero 3 Terry Dr., Ste. 201 Newtown, PA 18940 (215) 497-9490 www.senatorstevesantarsiero.com

#### **U.S. Senate**

Sen. Bob Casey 840 W. Hamilton St., Ste. 301 Allentown, PA 18101 (610) 782-9470 www.casey.senate.gov

#### **U.S. House of Representatives**

Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick 1717 Langhorne Newtown Rd., Ste. 225 Langhorne, PA 19047 (215) 579-8102 https://fitzpatrick.house.gov

#### **U.S. Senate**

**Sen. Pat Toomey** 1150 S. Cedar Crest Blvd., Ste. 101 Allentown, PA 18103 (**610**) **434-1444** *www.toomey.senate.gov* 

## **Falls Township Polling Places**

1-1		Fallsington
1-2 Pennsbury West High School	608 Olds Blvd S	Fairless Hills
1-3 Eleanor Roosevelt Elementary School		
1-4 Village Park Elementary School		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		
2-2 Pennsbury West High School	608 Olds Blvd S	Fairless Hills
3-1 Oxford Valley Elementary School		
3-2 Oxford Valley Public Golf Course	141 N. Oxford Valley Rd	Fairless Hills
4-1 St. Paul's Episcopal Church		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



## **Limited Number of Compost Bins For Sale**

Falls Township currently has 80-gallon Earth Machine Compost Bins available for purchase at the Township Municipal Building. We will no longer sell this item once the current stock is depleted. Compost bins cost \$45.

The Township also has 22-gallon green recycle bins available.

For information, or to see if either is still in stock, please contact the Finance Department at (215) 949-9000, ext. 233 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

# Tax Rate Same For 30<sup>th</sup> Year

Amid a national inflation rate that continues to climb, the fiscally responsible Falls Township Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted a 2022 spending plan that continues holding the line on municipal taxes, which last increased in 1992.

The 2022 budget maintains the 7.22 millage rate enacted when a gallon of gas cost \$1.05 and the average home cost \$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 \$38.5 million projected to be spent in 2022.

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 2022 budget. The owner of the average Bristol Township property, by comparison, pays nearly five times more in local taxes.

Unlike many other municipalities, Falls maintains its services and offers trash and leaf pickup free of charge without instituting an Earned Income Tax.

Of the local taxes collected from Falls Township property owners, the Township receives 3.5 percent - less than 4 cents per every dollar - while Pennsbury School District collects 84.2 percent and Bucks County receives 12.3 percent.

Despite receiving a small fraction of taxes collected throughout the Township, Falls elected officials have worked hard to do more with less, year after year. 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 \$3.5 million projected for next year, all while the state contributions have remained relatively flat. Falls is projecting \$3.5 million in 2022 pension costs, with \$2.8 million being covered by the Township.

Even with a flat municipal tax rate, Falls Supervisors are planning several projects for 2022, including \$2 million earmarked for the continuation of the Falls Township annual road program.

In addition, intersection improvements are planned for North Olds Boulevard and Trenton Road. Falls had budgeted \$61,000 for the project. PennDOT will fund 80 percent of the project cost through a grant.

Falls will also finish construction of adaptive traffic signal upgrades at Lincoln Highway, Tyburn Road and West Trenton Road with an anticipated cost of \$160,000. Federal funding will cover 80 percent of the total project expense.

The spending plan also earmarks \$50,000 for tree trimming and removal of trees damaged by the Emerald Ash Borer and Spotted Lanternfly.

The budget also allocates \$1.1 million in funds for five new police vehicles, firearms, training, and supplies, as well as four new dump trucks for the public works department.

As part of the 2022 budget, the 20-year-old playground at Elderberry Park will be replaced with one featuring wheelchair access and various amenities for children on the autism spectrum.

# **Dence Unanimous Choice For Chair**

The Board of Supervisors swore in two Supervisors for new terms during the January reorganization meeting.

Jeffry Dence, who was unanimously selected Monday to serve as chairman of the board for the third consecutive year, was sworn in for his third six-year term as Supervisor.

"Thank you to my fellow board members for your confidence again," Dence said, acknowledging the challenges the board has faced in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. "We do the best we can. It was a rough first year when COVID first hit."

John Palmer, who was appointed in January 2020, was sworn in for his first six-year Supervisors term. Palmer thanked his family for supporting him throughout the election.

"A lot of people helped us get to where we are today," Palmer said.

The board unanimously chose Jeff Boraski to continue as vice chairman, a role he has filled since 2020.

District Judge Jan Vislosky swore in Dence, Palmer, as well as auditor John Ryba and tax collector Kimberly Scarpiello.

The board selected Supervisor Brian Galloway to serve as secretary/ treasurer and Township Manager Matthew 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.

In other business, the Supervisors set its 2022 board meetings for the first and third Monday of the month (as needed) at 7 p.m.



District Judge Jan Vislosky (right) swears in Jeffry Dence for a six-year Supervisors term.



Judge Vislosky congratulates John Palmer after his swearing-in ceremony as Falls Supervisor.

# **Mullen Appointed New Supervisor**

The Board of Supervisors welcomed a new face to the board recently.

Erin Mullen, who has lived in Falls since 2008, was appointed to fill the vacancy left from Jeff Rocco's resignation. District Judge Jan Vislosky swore Mullen in at the beginning of the board's October monthly meeting.

Mullen will finish Rocco's term, which continues through Dec. 31, 2023. After thanking her fellow Supervisors and family, including husband Erik Kepcsynski for their support, Mullen acknowledged that her service as appointee is a bit different than someone who runs for elected office.

"I'll give my very best effort to fulfill the duties as if you picked me," Mullen said in addressing residents in attendance and those watching at home during the meeting.

Mullen, who has worked as a paralegal for the last 20 years, grew

up in Philadelphia in a union family.

"I thought I'd be a city girl for life," she said before sharing what drew her to Falls. "But I was smitten by the local charm of things like Fallsington Day, Falls Township Community Park and a simple fondness for my neighbors." Mullen said her appreciation deepened after seeing her children – 12-year-old Nate Kepcsynski and 10-year-old Lucy Kepcsynski – thrive in community sports and public education.

Mullen said her desire to serve led her to seek out a seat on the Board.

"If I have a goal here, it is to uphold the community that has gifted me so much while increasing its availability to others," Mullen said.

Supervisors Chairman Jeff Dence, who made the motion to appoint Mullen, spoke favorably about her abilities.

"I'm sure she's going to be a great Supervisor," Dence said.



# **Mission BBQ Coming to Falls**

Mission BBQ, a quick-service chain restaurant, plans to open a new location in Falls Township in July 2022.

Mission BBQ will reuse roughly half of the former 8,885-square-foot former Pier 1 store, which is situated between Commerce Boulevard and Oxford Valley Road as a fast-food restaurant.

Mission BBQ will also have 510-square-foot covered outdoor eating area added to the northeast side of the building.

An "unidentified retailer" will use the remaining space in the Pier 1 store, according to Mission BBQ attorney Roger Sullivan.

The 10-year-old restaurant chain offers walk-in, takeout and dine-in food service, Sullivan said. Curbside pickup is available for social distancing and customer convenience.

"We should probably make a road trip down to a Mission BBQ and check it out before this one opens," Supervisor Chairman Jeff Dence said.



# **Police Initiate Co-Responder Program**

A new collaborative effort between police departments in Falls and Middletown townships, in conjunction with Bucks County, brings a specially trained social worker to police calls involving mental health issues and domestic disputes.

The two-year program is fully funded through a grant from Bucks County.

Each of the police departments has a human services co-responder in-house who will follow up on calls for service involving mental health components or domestic violence.

"We'll have our officers available to respond with them when it's appropriate," Falls Police Chief Nelson Whitney said. "I read a shift summary at the end of every shift that we have. Almost every day we have one, if not multiple contacts involving mental health. It really has spiked since COVID. This is an issue nationwide that needs resources."

According to Falls Police records, police received 239 mental health calls for service in 2019; 245 in 2020; and 249 in 2021. Domestic dispute calls rose from 627 in 2019 to 683 in 2020. In 2021, Falls police responded to nearly 600 domestic violence calls.

The Falls Township Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a memorandum of understanding with Bucks County to allow the program to move forward.

"This should be a good program," Su-

pervisors Chairman Jeff Dence said. "This will take a lot of stress off your police force as well."

A similar effort began in Bensalem about a year ago.

The only cost for the program is to provide co-responders with a vehicle they use while working.

Initially, Whitney envisions the co-responder program functioning like a referral service with the social worker receiving a list of individuals and families that the police regularly have contact with. From there, he said the social worker would maintain contact and ensure the individuals are receiving the assistance needed long term.

# **Raising Cane's to Create 50+ Jobs**

By spring 2022, a new drive-thru restaurant is expected to open on Commerce Boulevard at the former Macaroni Grill.

Once open, the 3,329-square-foot Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers will employ "in excess" of 50 workers.

The Falls Township Board of Supervisors granted preliminary and final land development approval for the demolition of the 7,582-square-foot Macaroni Grill and construction of the brand-new chicken tender restaurant, which will feature indoor seating, as well as a 541-squarefoot patio canopy and two drive-thru lanes. The Falls Township location will be one of the newest for the Louisiana-based chain, which operates more than 500 locations throughout the country.

Raising Cane's created a COVID Relief Fund to assist employees struggling during the pandemic and have not laid off any workers.

The Supervisors voiced support for the new eatery, which will be situated at the intersection of Oxford Valley Road and Commerce Boulevard and adjacent to Outback Steakhouse.

"I'm happy to get another restaurant in there," Supervisor John Palmer said. "The site is perfectly suitable for this type of establishment."

The site has been vacant since March 2020.

"All of us are happy to see that building get filled," Supervisors Vice Chair-



man Jeff Boraski said. "It's a really nice location."

The drive-thru at the Falls Township location would be able to handle more than 30 vehicles at a time in its two drive-thru lanes. Since Raising Cane's only offers chicken tenders (with sides and drinks), the food preparation is even faster than other fast-food restaurants. On average, it takes a customer two-and-a-half minutes to place an order and pick up their food.

# Supervisors Seek Recycling Grant

If you could spend \$5,200, but know that you would recoup another \$50,000 or more 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 \$5,200 proposal from F.X. Browne, Inc. for completion of the Township's annual Act 101 recycling grant application for 2021.

Falls received more than \$50,000 for each of the two previous years.

"It's well worth it," Supervisors Chairman Jeff Dence said.

Grant amounts are based on total tonnage for residential and commercial properties. 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 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. Falls has 22-gallon recycling containers available for purchase at the municipal building.



## Yard Waste Cleanup Day Will Be Held On April 30

The 2022 yard waste cleanup will take place on Saturday, April 30. 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

# Touch A Truck raises \$15K for Charity

Thanks to the generous contributions of more than two dozen local businesses, Falls Township's fourth annual Touch a Truck in September raised a combined total of \$15,700 for The Barkann Fami-



KPK Development, a proud co-sponsor.

ly Healing Hearts Foundation and Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

The two top sponsors for 2021 included Big Rig Presenting Level sponsors **KPK Development** and **Trash Daddy**.

Other sponsors who exhibited at the family friendly event included B. Blair Corp, Waste Management, Carr & Duff, Britton Industries, Armour and Sons, Marrazzo's Manor Lane, CDU Stormwater & Management Systems, Local 542, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 269, CLC Contractors, Meenan Oil & Propane, Riley Electric, GPS Hauling, T&M Fuel LLC, and Premium Excavating. Additional sponsors included, Rudolph Clarke, LLC, Jones Engineering Associates, M Entertainment, John Alexanian Photography Productions, Vizi, Bayard Pump and Tank Company, Inspire Federal Credit Union, Fields Printwear and Marie's Kozy Korner.

The fifth annual Touch a Truck event returns to Falls Township Community

Interested in sponsoring Falls Township's 2022 Touch a Truck event? Email Parks and Recreation Director Brian Andrews at <u>b.andrews@fallstwp.</u> <u>com</u> or call (215) 949-9000 Ext. 220.

Park on Sept. 17 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (with a Sept. 24 rain date). Several dozen trucks – from fire and emergency service, to mowers, heavy machinery, tow trucks, excavators and more – will be on display for guests to explore.



Trash Daddy, an event co-sponsor.

# **Rule Thwarts Stolen Goods Sale**

Falls Police continue to see an uptick in catalytic converter thefts. In 2021, 96 catalytic converter thefts were reported.

Under a newly revised ordinance that the Falls Township Supervisors adopted it will be more difficult for scrap yards and pawn shops to fence stolen goods, including the popular vehicle part.

Meant to plug a hole in the Township's existing ordinance related to pawn shops and secondhand shops, the updated version requires Falls Township businesses – including scrap yards – to have the same requirements as pawn shops for reporting items that customers bring in for reselling purposes. The idea is that by notifying the police when goods come in, potential victims of theft have time to recover their stolen property.

"This is already in place for pawn

shops," Supervisors Chairman Jeff Dence said. "They have to notify police and wait a certain number of days before they list it for sale to cut down on thievery."

The catalyst for updating the ordinance came when Dence heard a radio advertisement for a New Jersey scrap yard that accepted catalytic converters.

"There's no reason a business would be advertising that," Dence said. "Unless they're stolen catalytic converters."

Catalytic converters have become popular among thieves given the precious metals that can be harvested from the automobile part and cashed in for big returns.

Rhodium, platinum, and palladium are the three metals in catalytic converters. Rhodium, which was worth about \$650 per ounce in 2016, surged to about \$3,000 per ounce by the end of 2019 and is now worth more than \$10,000 per ounce, according to *Moneymetals.com*. Palladium jumped from \$500 per ounce in 2016 to more than \$2,000 currently, while platinum stayed consistent in value at just over \$1,000 per ounce.

Falls Township's ordinance amendment is aimed at reducing the number of stolen goods – metals in particular – being resold at salvage yards and pawn shops.

"This started a few years ago," Dence said of regulations in force in Burlington, N.J., which requires "every pawn shop to hold items for several days."

The ordinance updates the definition of a precious metal dealer. In addition, it expands the definition of precious metal to include various types, including rhodium, ruthenium, as well as alloys.

concentrate its efforts

on Falls Township

lake, lake perimeter,

marshes, creek, canal

area, fields, and com-

mon ground. Beginning this spring, Geese

Chasers will employ border collies on a

twice-daily basis over

a 10-week period to

also make multiple

daily visits to the park

for at least 12 weeks

during nesting season

to help maintain a vir-

tually geese-free envi-

ronment year-round.

Geese Chasers will

chase geese away.

Park's

Community

# Board Cuts Cost of Geese Removal

In an effort to be fiscally responsible while ridding Falls Township Community Park of Canada geese, the Falls Township Supervisors approved a multi-faceted, yearlong geese mitigation plan at a 1 percent savings over 2021.

Stepped up geese management efforts began in 2015 and have significantly reduced the number of geese at the park, Falls Township Parks and Recreation Director Brian Andrews said. The current 20 to 30 resident geese is a



considerable reduction from the 100 to 120 that had frequented the park previously, he said.

For 2022, the Supervisors unanimously approved awarding a year-long contract to Yardley-based Geese Chasers of Southeastern PA at a rate of \$1,386 per month for a total of \$16,632 for the year. Last year, the Township contracted with Geese Police of Philadelphia at an annual cost of \$16,800. In 2020, Falls worked with another wildlife control company for a 10-month geese management effort, which cost \$22,000.

The "all-encompassing program" will emphasize nest clearing, according to Andrews. The "frequent harassment" will eventually clear any resident geese from the park, according to Geese Chasers. In addition, the company will make daily visits as part of an ongoing maintenance program.

"The Canada goose population in your area is out of control and our maintenance program assures that the geese in the area know that your property is not a safe place for them," the company wrote in its proposal. "Our program triggers the predatory response inherent in geese. Also, any migrating geese looking for a place to feed, roost or nest will move on when exposed to our methods."

# **Residents Sought for Volunteer Boards**

Would you like to help guide future business initiatives, share insight on historic preservation, and have a say in your local community.

Falls is seeking volunteers for eight advisory boards.

Serving in this way is a great way for residents to stay updated about the topics of greatest interest. Volunteers can take pride in helping to shape their community.

Here's an overview of openings:

#### **Planning Commission**

- Comprised of five members and three alternates.
- Meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.

• Openings for two alternate positions. Alternates serve fouryear terms.

#### **Board of Appeals**

• The three-member board meets as necessary on matters concerning Uniform Commercial Code appeals.

• One vacancy for a three-year term.

#### **Disabled Persons Advisory Board**

• The five-member board meets on an as-needed basis on the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m.

#### • One vacancy for a four-year term.

#### Historic Architectural Review Board

• The five-member board ensures historic integrity throughout the Township.

• One five-year vacancy – to be filled by a registered qualified building contractor or architect.

Neuromechanical Pain Management, 201 Woolston Drive, Suite 2F,

Coin-Op Laundromat, 169 Fallsington-Tullytown Road, Levittown;

Grand Affair Party Rentals, 651 West Trenton Avenue, Morrisville;

Mulligan Physical Therapy, 3000 Cabot Boulevard, Suite 200, Langhorne;

Amazon.com Services, LLC, 1 Kresge Road, Suite 100, Fairless Hills;

Clean Earth Environmental Services, 269 Canal Road, Fairless Hills;

Lawson & Lauren's, 830 West Trenton Avenue, Suite 7, Morrisville;

Social Light Event Space, 375 West Trenton Avenue, Morrisville;

Eileen's Academy of Dance, 980 Trenton Road, Fairless Hills;

Legacy Roofing, 81 Big Oak Road #204. Morrisville:

Pillar to Post, 81 Big Oak Road, Suite 116, Morrisville;

Red Rhino Car Wash, 48 Trenton Road, Fairless Hills;

Anolis, LLC, 39 Noblewood Lane, Levittown;

A&J, 435 Tyburn Road, Building 1, Morrisville;

Uncle Charlie's Pizza, 203 Lincoln Highway, Fairless Hills;

Evan Leslie Images, 1016 Trenton Road, Fairless Hills;

Studio 23 ... A Salon, 980 Trenton Road, Suite 2, Fairless Hills;

#### **Zoning Hearing Board**

• Five-member board with members serving five-year terms.

• Also comprised of three alternate members who serve three-year terms.

• Meets every second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.

• Advises the Board of Supervisors in matters such as appropriate land usage, parking facilities and signs, as well as adherence to lot dimensional regulations and minimum structural standards.

• Three openings for three-year terms for alternates.

#### **Cable Advisory Board**

• Five-member board with members serving three-year terms.

- Meets quarterly at 8 p.m.
- The board has four openings.

#### **Historical Preservation Commission**

- Five-member board with five-year terms.
- Meets on a special schedule at 7 p.m.
- Two vacancies for full terms.

#### Shade Tree Commission

• The three-member commission meets the second Thursday of the month at 5 p.m.

• One opening for a one-year term.

. . .

If interested in volunteering, email a letter of interest to the attention of the Township Supervisors at *admin@fallstwp.com*.



**One Stop Smoke & Vape Shop**, 203 Lincoln Highway, Suite 100, Fairless Hills:

**Crown Hookah Lounge**, 8728 New Falls Road, Suite 100, Levittown; New Century Property Group, 951 Trenton Road, Fairless Hills; Slicks Graphics, Inc., 1307 S. Pennsylvania Avenue, Morrisville; Creative Little Hands Pre-School, 50 Trenton Road, Second Floor, Fairless Hills;

**Capstone Physical Therapy & Fitness**, 201 Woolston Drive, Suite 1A, Morrisville;

**Charger Nation Sports**, 375 West Trenton Avenue, Suite A, Morrisville; **Squeaky Clean & Green, LLC**, 81 Big Oak Road, Suite 101, Morrisville; **Next Step Foot & Ankle, LLC**, 81 Big Oak Road, Suite 120, Morrisville; **The Hair Dr.**, 81 Big Oak Road, Suite 132, Morrisville; **Open Door Valet, LLC**, 81 Big Oak Road, Suite 201, Morrisville.

Morrisville:

## **Fire Marshal**

## **Smoke Detectors Save Lives**

There have been far too many unnecessary tragedies due to non-working or missing smoke detectors. Smoke detectors save lives!!! If you need them, please contact the Falls Township Fire Marshal's office. We will provide and install them free of charge.

### Safety tips

• Install smoke alarms in every bedroom. They should also be outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home. Install alarms in the basement.

• Large homes may need extra smoke alarms.

• It is best to use interconnected smoke alarms. When one smoke alarm sounds, they all sound.

• Test all smoke alarms at least once a month. Press the test button to be sure the alarm is working.

• Current alarms on the market employ different types of technology including multi-sensing, which could include smoke and carbon monoxide combined.

• Today's smoke alarms will be more technologically advanced to respond to a multitude of fire conditions yet mitigate false alarms.

A smoke alarm should be on the ceiling or high on a wall. Keep smoke alarms away from the kitchen to reduce false alarms. They should be at least 10 feet from the stove.
People who are hard-of-hearing or deaf can use special alarms with strobe lights and bed shakers.

• Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.

• Roughly three out of five fire deaths happen in homes with no smoke alarms or non-working alarms.

## Tips for Safely Using and Storing Gasoline

Use gasoline only as motor fuel, never as a cleaner or to break down grease.
Only store gasoline in a container that is sold for that purpose.

• Never bring gasoline indoors.

• Never store gasoline containers in a basement or in the occupied space of a building.

• Keep gasoline containers in a detached garage or an outdoor shed.

• Make sure the container is tightly capped when not in use.

## Keep debris away from your home

• Dispose of branches, weeds, leaves, pine needles, and grass clippings that you have cut 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 five feet of the home. • Move construction material, trash, and woodpiles at least 30 feet away from the home and other outbuildings.



## Properly Dispose of Your Cleaning Rags

The oils commonly used in oilbased 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. • Never leave cleaning rags in a pile.

• When you're finished using rags, take them outside to dry, keeping them away from the home and other structures.

• Hang rags outside or spread them 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 oils.

• Keep containers of oily rags in a cool place out of direct sunlight and away from other heat sources.

## Prepare Your Home For a Fire Emergency

• Draw a map of your home. Show all doors and windows.

• Visit each room. Find two ways out.

• All windows and doors should open easily. You should be able to use them to get outside. • Make sure your home has smoke alarms and test them regularly.

• Pick a meeting place outside. It should be in front of your home.

• Make sure your house or building number can be seen from the street.

• Talk about your plan with everyone in your home.

• Learn the emergency phone number for your fire department.

- Practice your home fire drill!
- Make a fire escape plan.

## **Fire Marshal**

# **Stay Safe While on Your Vacation**

## Hotel/Motel Safety Tips

• Choose a hotel/motel that is protected by both smoke alarms and a fire sprinkler system.

• When you check in, ask the front desk what the fire alarm sounds like.

• When you enter your room, review the escape plan posted in your room.

Find the exits and count the number of doors between your room and the exit. Make sure exits are unlocked. If they are locked, report it to management right away.
Keep your room key by your bed and

take it with you if there is a fire. • If the alarm sounds, leave right away,

If the atalm sounds, leave light away, closing all doors behind you. Use the stairs — never use elevators during a fire.
If you must escape through smoke, get low and go under the smoke to your exit.

## **Camper, RV Safety Tips**

• Install smoke alarms. Make sure they work.

• Stay in the kitchen while you cook. Keep anything that can catch fire away from the stovetop.

• Only use one heat-producing appliance plugged into a receptacle outlet at a time. Major appliances should be plugged di-



rectly into a wall receptacle outlet.

• Refrigerators, furnaces, ovens, and stovetops use propane. Check them for leaks. Keep an updated gas leak detector on board.

• Have your propane system inspected to ensure it works properly.

• Know two ways out. Make sure windows open easily.

• Have everyone practice the home fire escape plan.

• Do not keep camping heaters and lanterns on while sleeping. • Before setting up a campfire, make sure it is allowed.

• If campfires are allowed, they need to be at least 25 feet away from anything that can burn.

• Have your vehicle serviced by a qualified mechanic.

• Keep a portable fire extinguisher on board. Only adults who know how to operate it should use it. Only use an extinguisher if the fire is small and can be contained. Make sure everyone else leaves and someone calls the fire department.



## Inspect Grills For Safe Outdoor Fun

• Make sure your grill is free of grease or fat buildup.

• Clean out any nests, spider webs, or other debris.

• For propane grills, check the gas tank hose for leaks before using it for the first time each year.

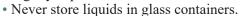
## Handle Flammable/Combustible Liquids With Care

• Flammable and combustible liquids should not be used 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, clothing can be laundered.

- Keep liquids in their original containers.
- Tightly cap or seal containers.





### **Make Sure Your Clothes Dryer Vents Are Clean**



• 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. This includes making sure the outdoor vent flap is not covered by snow.

• Move things that can burn, such as boxes, cleaning supplies and clothing, away from the dryer.



# Food Collections Successful in '21

Non-perishable food collections are often plentiful around the holidays. But, what about the other months of the year?

That was the question on Falls Township Director of Emergency Services/Assistant Manager Rich Dippolito's mind

when he proposed to the Falls Supervisors his idea of offering a year-round food drive to benefit local food pantries.

"A kid should never be hungry," said Dippolito, noting that children in need line up early at school for breakfast because there is nothing to eat at home.

The easiest fix is to launch an ongoing

### To get involved

To arrange a food pickup, email Rich Dippolito at *fallsfoodbank@fallstwp. com* or send a message through the Falls Fire Marshal Facebook page. Donations will be picked up the first Wednesday of the month. Food should be left in bags at the curb for pickup. If you know a local food pantry that would benefit from food donations, please share with Rich.

food drive and invite the community to contribute non-perishable food items and toiletries as they are able. Pickup of donations can be arranged.

Donations would benefit a different Falls-area food pantry each month.

A representative of Mary's Cupboard Food Bank, which is located at St. Frances Cabrini Church on Oxford Valley Road, said the pantry is always in need of peanut butter, jelly, cereal as well as various household and personal care items including toothpaste, shampoo, dish soap, laundry detergent, toilet paper and paper towels.

Food pantries collect other non-perishable food items, including canned fruits and vegetables, as well as soup, canned pastas, crackers, cookies, bagged pasta, spaghetti sauce and more that is distributed to people in need.

Dippolito said that in 2021, 12,500 pounds of food was collected and distributed to four area food banks.

# In-Home Batteries: Handle With Care

9-volt batteries power smoke alarms, household items and toys. Lithium ion batteries power smartphones, laptops, scooters, smoke alarms, toys, and even cars. Both types of batteries can be a fire hazard if not stored safely or disposed of properly.

### The problem

9-volt batteries have positive and negative posts that are close together. If a metal object touches the posts, it can cause a short circuit and generate enough heat to start a fire.

It is unsafe to store 9-volt batteries in a drawer near paper clips, coins, pens, or other batteries. Do not store common household items such as steel wool, aluminum foil, and keys near 9-volt batteries. If these items touch the posts, there is a greater risk of a fire starting.

Weak batteries may have enough charge to cause a fire. Some fires have started in trash when 9-volt batteries were thrown away with other metal items.

Defective lithium ion batteries can overheat, catch fire, or explode.

### Safely storing batteries

Keep batteries in original packaging until ready for use. If loose, keep the posts of 9-volt batteries covered with masking, duct, or electrical tape. Prevent posts from touching metal objects. Store 9-volt batteries standing up.

Keep lithium ion batteries at room temperature and away from anything that can catch fire.

### Disposal

9-volt batteries can be taken to a collection site for household hazardous waste. Lithium ion batteries should be taken to a battery recycling site.

### Lithium ion battery safety tips

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 proper way. 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. Do not place batteries in direct sunlight or keep them in hot vehicles.

### **Signs of a Problem**

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.



## Falls Township 2022 Street Sweeping Schedule

Listed below is the Spring 2022 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.

LOCATIONS	SWEEPING DATE
Township main roads	March 21-25
Willowwood	March 28
Makefield Road Village	March 29
Old Fallsington areas/Fallsington Woods	March 30
Lakeside	March 31
Rue Court/Amelia Drive & Amelia Turn/ Orchard Drive and Mill Creek Estate	April 1
Birch Valley	April 5-6
Penns Place & Decou Village	April 7-8
Fairless Hills-South of Trenton Road, including Fairbridge and Drexelwood	April 11-12
Elderberry	April 13-14
Nottingham, Taylor Tract, Penn Village	April 18-19
Penns Grant	April 20-21
Pennsbury Heights	April 22
Thornridge	April 25-26
Pinewood	April 27-28
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 29
North Park – including Nasturtium Lane and New Pond Lane	
Hedgerow Woods	May 4-5
Yardley Farms	May 6
Maintenance Day	May 9
Fairless Hills-North of Trenton Road, including Oak Lane, Pennsylvania Avenue, Arleans Avenue and Lebbie Lane	May 10-11
Vermillion Hills	
Township Parks/Industrial Parks	
	the second s

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Spring/Summer 2022

# 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.

#### ...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.

# 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



Spring/Summer 2022

## Be Storm Water Smart



#### What Happens When It Rains?

Rain is an important part of nature's water cycle, but there are times it can do more damage than good. Problems related to storm water runoff can include:



Flooding caused by too much storm water flowing over hardened surfaces such as roads and parking lots, instead of soaking into the ground.

Increases in spending on maintaining storm drains and the storm sewer system that become clogged with excessive amounts of dirt and debris.



Decreases in sportfish populations because storm water carries sediment and pollutants that degrade important fish habitat.

More expensive treatment technologies to remove harmful pollutants carried by storm water into our drinking water supplies.



Closed beaches due to high levels of bacteria carried by storm water that make swimming unsafe.

We can help rain restore its good reputation while protecting our health and environment while saving money for ourselves and our community. Keep reading to find out how...

#### What is Storm Water?

Storm water is water from precipitation that flows across the ground and pavement when it rains or when snow and ice melt. The water seeps into the ground or drains into what we call storm sewers. These are the drains you see at street corners or at low points on the sides of streets. Collectively, the draining water is called storm water runoff.

#### **Good Rain Gone Wrong**

Storm water becomes a problem when it picks up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants as it flows or when it causes flooding and erosion of stream banks. Storm water travels through a system of pipes and roadside ditches that make up storm sewer systems. It eventually flows directly to a lake, river, stream, wetland, or coastal water. All of the pollutants storm water carries along the way empty into our waters, too, because storm water does not get treated!



Pet wastes left on the ground get carried away by storm water, contributing harmful bacteria, parasites and viruses to our water.

Vehicles drip fluids (oil, grease, gasoline, antifreeze, brake fluids, etc.) onto paved areas where storm water runoff carries them through our storm drains and into our water.



Chemicals used to grow and maintain beautiful lawns and gardens, if not used properly, can run off into the storm drains when it rains or when we water

Waste from chemicals and materials used in construction can wash into the storm sewer system when it rains. Soil that erodes from construction sites causes environmental degradation, including harming fish and shellfish populations that are important for recreation and our economy.

#### Test Your Storm Sewer System Savvy!

What does the storm sewer system look like in your community? See if you can identify which pictures are part of the storm sewer system (Answers are on the back.)













8

(Answers to quiz are on Page 19)



#### Where to Go to Continue the Information Flow

Your community is preventing storm water pollution through a storm water management program. This program addresses storm water pollution from construction, new development, illegal dumping to the storm sewer system, and pollution prevention and good housekeeping practices in municipal operations. It will also continue to educate the community and get everyone involved in making sure the only thing that storm water contributes to our water is ... water! Contact your community's storm water management program coordinator or the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection for more information about storm water management.



3850-BO-DEP5278 4/2020 G2421-APR20

#### Restoring Rain's Reputation: What Everyone Can Do To Help

Rain by nature is important for replenishing drinking water supplies, recreation, and healthy wildlife habitats. It only becomes a problem when pollutants from our activities like car maintenance, lawn care, and dog walking are left on the ground for rain to wash away. Here are some of the most important ways to prevent storm water pollution:

- Properly dispose of hazardous substances such as used oil, cleaning supplies and paint—never pour them down any part of the storm sewer system and report anyone who does.
- Use pesticides, fertilizers, and herbicides properly and efficiently to prevent excess runoff.
- Look for signs of soil and other pollutants, such as debris and chemicals, leaving construction sites in storm water runoff or tracked into roads by construction vehicles. Report poorly managed construction sites that could impact storm water runoff to your community. (See the back of this brochure for contact information.)
- Install innovative storm water practices on residential property, such as rain barrels or rain gardens, that capture storm water and keep it on site instead of letting it drain away into the storm sewer system.
- Report any discharges from storm water outfalls during times of dry weather—a sign that there could be a problem with the storm sewer system.
- Pick up after pets and dispose of their waste properly. No matter where pets make a mess—in a backyard or at the park—storm water runoff can carry pet waste from the land to the storm sewer system to a stream.
- Store materials that could pollute storm water indoors and use containers for outdoor storage that do not rust or leak to eliminate exposure of materials to storm water.

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#### Spring/Summer 2022

# **Best Practices for Recycling Material**

Municipal and state regulations require that residents, commercial establishments, and non-residential establishments recycle all recyclable materials. Commonly recycled materials include:

• Paper – newspaper, office/copy paper, glossy paper, color paper, cardboard, junk mail, phone books, cereal/cracker boxes

- Plastic bottles and jugs No. 1-7
- Glass clear, green and brown containers

• Metal – aluminum, steel, tin, and bimetal cans and containers

Please check with your hauler for a complete list of acceptable recyclable materials.

### Avoid contamination of recycling materials with food or liquids

Materials contaminated with food or liquid cannot be recycled. Here is what you should do:

• Check that the material is recyclable. Look for the recycle symbol on items.

• Rinse jars, bottles, and cans that have visible residue in them. A quick rinse is usually adequate.

• Throw away heavily soiled items.



Dr. Michael Gaffin 81 Crabtree Drive, Levittown, PA 19055 Fax: 215-949-1831 www.fairlesshillshealthcenter.com

#### Answers to Stormwater Quiz From Page 18.

 Ditch – Part of the storm sewer system. Most people think that the system is just a series of underground pipes. It can also include ditches used to convey storm water from the land to a receiving lake, river, or stream.

2. Fire Hydrant – Not part of the storm sewer system. Water sprayed on fires is not regulated as storm water, but if water systems open hydrants to flush their water lines the chlorinated water should not be allowed to enter a stream.

3. Storm Drain Inlet – Part of the storm sewer system. Anything that enters this drain will go directly to streams, rivers or lakes without being treated first. It is important to recognize this as a storm drain to prevent it from being used as a trash can.

4. Storm Sewer Outfall – Part of the storm sewer system. An outfall is where storm water drains from the storm sewer system into a receiving lake, stream, or river. If there is a flow from an outfall when it isn't raining, there could be a problem with the system or someone has used a storm drain for illegally disposing of materials.

5. Toilet – Not part of the storm sewer system. Wastewater from sinks and toilets in houses and businesses travels through a sewer system designed to carry wastewater.

6. Septic System – Not part of the storm sever system. Homeowners use septic tanks to manage sanitary wastes on-site. Improperly maintained septic systems can leak and contribute pollutants to the storm sewer system, as well as directly to lakes, rivers, and streams.

7. Roads and Other Paved Areas – Source of much of the flow to storm sewer systems. Roads and other hardened surfaces such as parking lots and sidewalks can accumulate pollutants (e.g. oil, grease, dirt, leaves, trash, pet wastes) that storm water eventually washes into the storm sewer system.

8. Protected Storm Drain Inlet – Where construction or other activities cause sediment or other pollutants to flow to an inlet, sandbags or filters can be used to mitigate.



### Acceptable waste is recycled

This question often comes up. People are concerned that not all the materials they put in their recycle bin are recycled. Their concern is that some end up in landfills. This leads some to minimize their recycling efforts. According to several major waste management firms in Montgomery County, all the acceptable recycled materials listed above are being recycled.

You should continue to recycle all the items listed to the left in the first bulleted list.

## Things you should not put in your recycle bin

• Foam containers and cups, even if they have a recycle symbol on them

• Cups coated with wax or plastic such as soda cups

• Plastic bags such as grocery store bags (You can often take these bags back to the grocery store.)

- Flexible packaging such as chip bags or juice pouches
- Plastic wrap
- Container caps
- Diapers

## **Bulk Disposal Day April 23**

Mark your calendars for the next FREE BULK DISPOSAL DAY, which will be held on Saturday, April 23 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.



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## Spring / Summer Newsletter 2022



# 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 *cedc@fallstwp.com*.