

Wernersville 2022 Spring Newsletter

Borough Council Meetings-1st Wednesday of every Month @ 7PM

Mayor: Melissa Dean ~ President: David Latino ~ Vice President: James Swartz

Council Members: Robert Gordon, James Pierce, Linda Dapcic-Angst, Linda Palm, Elizabeth Merin

Secretary and Tax Collector: Debra Pierce

Assistant Secretary: Jennifer Velez

Borough of Wernersville ~ 100 North Reber Street ~ PO Box 167 ~ Wernersville, PA 19565

Phone 610-678-1486 ~ Fax 610-678-5983

Office Hours are Daily 9:00 to 2:00 Monday through Friday

KEEP RECYCLING SUCCESSFUL - SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING

YES: White envelopes, computer paper, brown grocery bags, magazines & catalogs, chipboard/box board, white & colored ledger paper, newspaper, notebook paper, paper egg cartons, construction paper, soft covered workbooks, telephone & paperback books, junk mail, Juice boxes, milk cartons, aluminum cans, tin & bi Metallic containers: (including aerosol cans) aseptic milk/juice containers, aluminum foil (pie plates, etc.), plastic containers 1-7, frozen food cartons.

NO: GLASS, Trash, diapers, clothing, Styrofoam, bags, caps, lids, food, compost, yard waste, paper towels, mirrors, window glass, light bulbs, propane tanks, medical waste, Styrofoam peanuts. Reminder: NO PLASTIC BAGS.

Any questions please call the Borough Hall at 610-678-1486.

WHO MUST COMPLY? All Businesses and residents in the Borough must comply. Each calendar year, Businesses and residential properties not included in the Borough's collection program, are required to report how much you recycle and where the materials were marketed.

ELECTRONIC WASTE COLLECTION: The Solid Waste Authority has an electronic-waste collection center located at 1316 Hilltop Rd., Leesport. The center is open Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday from 8AM to 12 noon. They accept all electronic items, TV (limit 2), VCR, microwave, air conditioners, and fluorescent light bulbs, etc. This is free for all residents. There is a fee for businesses and an appointment is needed. Call 610-478-6362 if you need more information.

TRASH COLLECTION: Pick-up is every Wednesday. If a Holiday is on a weekday and falls on a weekday (M-F) on or before Trash and/or recycling pick up, pick-up will be the following day. The holidays that may affect trash pick-up are Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day. Four Bags/Containers per home. If you have a large bulk item, you must CALL Advanced Disposal/Waste Management at 610-440-3700 and give the account # 603-9052 to schedule a bulk item pick up, at an additional charge.

YARD WASTE can be taken to South Heidelberg drop off.

The gates are open 7AM-8PM (April 1 through October 31) and 7AM-6PM (November 1 through March 31).

Directions: go past the Moyer Nissan building, take the first left onto Point Road. Drop-off is to the right.

****Please Note: will need an access card to use the Yard Waste Drop off Site****

News from the Mayor

Melissa Dean

Dear Community

While I may look different compared to previous mayors, and I may perform the role differently; I do share the love of Wernersville and the community we call home.

I speak direct, even if enthused. I believe manners cost nothing. I am prepared to do the heavy lifting. I have donated my salary back to the Borough, for the benefit of Wernersville Park. Fun Fact: I do not have social media.

I am out and about in the Borough. If you should have a problem or concern, I offer my assistance.

There is something to be said for small town living. We live Here. Work Here. Escape Here. Make memories here. We choose to live here. And that's an amazing thing.

I encourage you to Shop Local. Eat Local. Spend Local.

As we head into Spring and Summer, I kindly ask:

Maintain your property. PLANT FLOWERS. Let's Bring Spring IN.

If you see litter, please pick it up and dispose of in the nearest receptacle.

Smile at each other. Wave hello.

Mayor Dean



Gary Heydt

THANK YOU...

The Wernersville Borough would like to thank Gary Heydt and Mike Palm for their years of service in the Public Works Department.

We appreciate everything that they did for the Borough.

WELCOME...

The Wernersville Borough would like to Welcome our new Public Works Employees, Dan Griffie (Roadmaster) and Tim Levan.

Please give them a warm welcome when you see them around the Borough.



Dan Griffie

Tim Levan

South Heidelberg Township Police Department News



One of the best things about living in southeastern Pennsylvania is that we get to experience all four seasons. And without a doubt, Spring is one of our favorite times of the year. As the temperatures increase, and the days get longer, we start to spend more time outside.

And while most residents take advantage of those nice days to work in the garden, take a walk with the family dog, or blow the dust on your bicycle for a spin around the neighborhood, there are also some unwanted consequences to these same nicer days.

We at the Police Department start to see an increase in crime as the weather improves, and the criminals start to venture out into the neighborhoods.

One of the most common crime spikes we see when the weather gets nicer are thefts from unlocked cars. Vehicles of all types, left unlocked on the streets, are an easy target for someone to take advantage of. Loose change, designer sunglasses, electronics, and even firearms have been taken from unlocked vehicles.

What can you do to help prevent someone from rummaging through your car and taking off with your stuff?

The most effective prevention method is: Lock your car. Simple... Right? Yet it is the common denominator that we find after someone reports their car was ransacked. Before you head to bed, give your key fob one more click to ensure it is locked.



The second easiest theft prevention tactic is to remove any valuables from your car, or do the next best thing, and cover up the items so nobody can see what you have inside the car. Thieves will not spend time on your car if they do not see anything that they want to steal.

The third thing that you can do is to install outside security cameras which monitor the area where you park your car. Cameras act as a great deterrent for thieves to avoid your property, and for those that are not deterred, the video footage allows the Police a description of those involved, and the times that the thefts occurred. This helps the Police to develop suspects and allows us to know when thefts are more likely to occur.

Finally, when you see something suspicious in your neighborhood, call the Police. Trust your instinct and if you feel something does not look right, whether it is someone looking in your car, or people acting strangely, call the Police Department. You may be helping your neighbors from the annoyance of having to repair damage or replacing stolen belongings the next morning.

CHIEF LEON J. GRIM

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT



Learn More about Stormwater and MS4

Various public educational events take place throughout Berks County that are available to the public to learn more about stormwater and its associated stream pollution.

Check out the following website for more information:

<http://berkscd.com/berks-ms4-program/overview>

What is Stormwater?

Stormwater comes from precipitation like rain and melted snow; it then flows across the ground and pavement. This is referred to as stormwater runoff. The water seeps into the ground, drains into a stream or river, or drains into what we call a storm sewer. A storm sewer consists of the drains you see at street corners or along the sides of streets. Why is Stormwater "Good Rain Gone Wrong"? Stormwater is a problem when it picks up trash, chemicals like oil and gas, soil, and other pollutants as it flows, or when it causes flooding and stream bank erosion. When stormwater enters the drain, it travels through a system of pipes that eventually flow into a stream like Cocalico Creek. Any pollution in the stormwater then ends up polluting our creeks and rivers.

What Can You Do To Help?

As stormwater flows over driveways, lawns, and sidewalks, it picks up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants. Stormwater can flow into a storm sewer system or directly to a lake, stream, river, wetland, or coastal water. Anything that enters a storm sewer system is discharged untreated into the water bodies we use for swimming, fishing, and providing drinking water. Polluted runoff is the nation's greatest threat to clean water.

By practicing healthy household habits, homeowners can keep common pollutants like pesticides, pet waste, grass clippings, and automotive fluids off the ground and out of stormwater. Adopt these healthy household habits and help protect lakes, streams, rivers, wetlands, and coastal waters. Remember to share the habits with your neighbors!

*****Please be kind to Workers and Pedestrians*** Keep tree limbs, trash cans and cars off of the sidewalk and curb**

DO NOT blow cut grass out into the street. It is a safety hazard and harmful to the environment.

KEEP TREES TRIMMED

Please keep trees in your front yard and in the shade tree space (between the sidewalk and street) trimmed so that they are not hanging down over the sidewalk and street. Trees must be trimmed to no less than 7 feet about sidewalk and no less than 15 feet above the street.

Friendly Reminder: Please make sure that you are keeping your sidewalks clear of any tree limbs, bushes, brush, debris etc., so that they are safe for pedestrians. If you have any bushes or trees close to the sidewalk, please make sure they are trimmed. Trees along the street and sidewalk must be maintained so as not to interfere with road and sidewalk use. Clearance above the sidewalk should be no less than 7 feet and no less than 15 feet above the street. Also, while mowing grass please be careful that you are not blowing grass onto the street or sidewalk as this creates a safety hazard.

Weeds: Please make sure you keep your sidewalks and curbs weed free. It is the responsibility of the resident/homeowner to maintain the sidewalk and pull or spray weeds along the curb.

Home Addresses: all home addresses should be easily visible from the street in case of emergency.

Selling your home? The Wernersville Borough requires an inspection prior to making settlement on the sale of a home in the Borough, under Ordinance 545. Please contact us for the form and fee for this inspection. All homes must also have Sidewalk and Curbing, under Ordinance 530. If they do not have sidewalk and curb prior to the sale, it would need to be installed by the new buyer within 120 days after settlement.

The Wernersville Memorial Day Parade is Back!



**Monday, May 30th
at 10am.**



Parade will start and end at the Western Berks Fire Department.

ORDINANCES TO KNOW:

DOG ORDINANCE - An ordinance is enforced in the Borough that dogs must be on a leash, muzzle, and/or similar restraining device; or in an enclosure from which they cannot escape. Also, dogs are NOT allowed in any of the Borough Parks.

BOROUGH PARKS - The parks are closed when they are being mowed because of safety reasons. They are also closed from dusk to dawn.

DOG LICENSES - All dogs in Berks County must have a license. To obtain a license contact the County of Berks.

WEED REMOVAL ORDINANCE - Requires all grass, weeds, and other vegetation, in excess of 6 inches to be cut. The owner of any rental or vacant property shall carry out the same requirements.

PORTABLE BASKETBALL NET ORDINANCE- These are not allowed to be placed on the planting strip overhanging into the street or placed in the street.

FIRE PITS/OPEN BURNING - Fire pits are permissible if they are being used for cooking food. No Open burning of items such as furniture, recyclables, or yard waste, etc. is permitted.

TRAILERS - No Trailer, whether attached to or not attached to a vehicle, shall be parked, or stored on any Borough Street for a continuous period exceeding 24 hours.

Don't forget to vote Tuesday, May 17th.

There is a Flag box for your old/damaged American Flags at the Borough Hall. The Borough Hall is open Mon-Fri 9am-2pm.

Gun Permits can be obtained every 3rd Wednesday of the month at the Borough Hall from 9am to 3pm. ****Please note, you must register online with the Sheriff's office for an appointment****

The Borough no longer has a medication drop box, however there is a medication drop box at the South Heidelberg Police Department on Mountain Home Road.

Reminder from the Tax Collector: Please make sure your Tax Bill Number is on your check! If you are using Bill Pay make sure you give your Bill #.

RECYCLING EVENTS

Paper Shredding

Sat, Apr 16, 2022, 8 AM - 12 PM (Registration is required)

Governor Mifflin Intermediate School
600 Governor Dr
Shillington, PA 19607

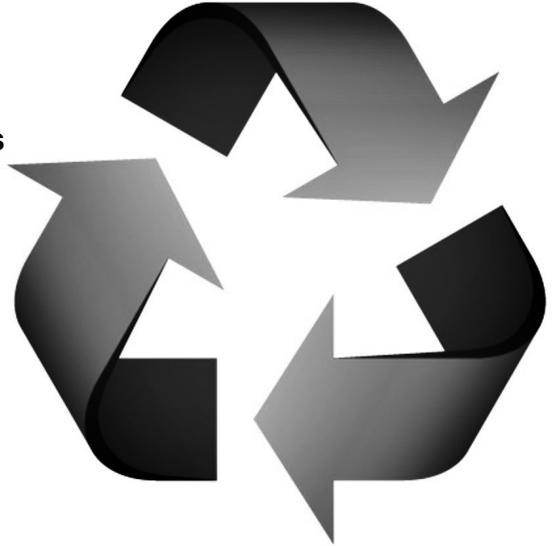
Household Hazardous Waste - Free to Berks County Residents

April 22, 2022 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM (Registration is required)

Governor Mifflin Intermediate School
600 Governor Dr
Shillington, PA 19607

You can register for these events through the County of Berks

<http://www.co.berks.pa.us/dept/swa/pages/default.aspx>



Paper Shredding

WHERE: Lower Heidelberg Township Building
720 BROWNSVILLE RD SINKING SPRING, PA

WHEN: JUNE 4TH 10 AM - 2PM

Limit 4 Boxes per vehicle

Curbside Yard Waste Collection will be on Monday, June 20th. YOU MUST call the Borough office at 610-678-1486 to SCHEDULE your pick-up by June 17th. Place items out the night before, we will be picking up early. Yard waste (limbs, branches, shrub trimmings, etc.) should be tied and properly bundled, maximum size 48"X18"X18" will be collected. Trimmings should be properly tied or placed in an open container. NO TRIMMINGS IN PLASTIC BAGS AND ABSOLUTELY NO GRASS WILL BE COLLECTED.

Wernersville Annual Yard Sale

Get your treasures and trinkets ready for the annual yard sale to be held Saturday May 14th and Sunday May 15th. Set up a table at your house and your items could be someone else's find. Make a day of it.

Come and Support the Women's Club of Wernersville

We meet the 2nd Wednesday of the month at the South Heidelberg Township Building Community Room.

Visitors are welcome and new memberships are available!

Call Helen with any questions, 610-678-1377 Website: WomensClubofWernersville.org

FROM THE CODES DEPARTMENT: *Just a friendly reminder...*

All fences, sheds, decks, patios and the like require, at a minimum, a zoning permit prior to construction or installation. Also, as the warmer weather approaches, you may think about relief from the heat in the form of a swimming pool. Please be aware, that all swimming pools, whether in-ground, temporary or permanent, that are designed to hold 24 inches or more of water must comply with zoning and building codes. All swimming pools that are designed to hold 24 inches or more of water have specific electrical and barrier (safety) requirements through the state building code. A zoning and building permit is required prior to the installation and use of those swimming pools holding 24 or more inches of water.

Additionally, the Borough enforces the 2006 International Property Maintenance Code as the regulation for the maintenance of properties and building within the Borough. This code includes but is not limited to, the maintenance of buildings such as peeling paint, structural members, roofing materials etc. The code also regulates the appearance of properties related to the outdoor storage of materials or debris that are not designed to be stored outside. This includes rubbish and garbage. Please be advised that the Borough may begin actively patrolling for property maintenance violations. If you see something that may be in violation of the property maintenance code, feel free to file a complaint with the Borough Office.

Any questions pertaining to codes please call Kraft Code Services at 610-775-7185.

What's happening at your library? Cook the Book will be returning! Watch the library's website and social media for the dates and times. Our Anime Club for teens is back in person, as are our monthly Adult Book Club. Other super awesome things you can look forward to include:

March 29, 2022, 5:30-6:30 P.M.

Berks Nature Presents: Native vs. Invasive

Come learn about different plants and animals that live in Berks County and whether or not they belong here. In keeping with the Longwood Gardens Community Read Program, Miss Tara will introduce Canopy Career Chronicles by Greg Mercer, a graphic novel illustrated by Pat Bradley about people in plant science careers. Afterwards, Berks Nature will lead a discussion about native and invasive plants. If there is time, attendees will be encouraged to take a quiz to get matched with a "green collar" career, or learn to make a nature journal. *For ages 8-adult. This is an IN PERSON event. Registration is not required. Perfect for Cub Scouts, Brownies, and Homeschoolers! Teens and adults are welcome and encouraged to attend.

April 28, 2022, 5:30-6:30 P.M.

Trees, Leaves & Seeds - Oh My!

Miss Tara will start the program with a reading of We Planted a Tree by Diane Muldrow. Afterwards, Berks Nature will lead a discussion about the different types of trees and the importance of leaves, and attendees will take part in a hands-on dissection of their very own bean seed to learn about the parts of a seed, and how they germinate and grow. *For ages 6-adult. This is an IN PERSON event. Registration is not required. Teens and adults are welcome and encouraged to attend.

May 31, 2022, 6:30-7:30 P.M.

Magical Stories of Mid-Atlantic Trees (live viewing available in person and over Zoom)

What are trees role in nature? What animals depend on them? How do WE depend on them? What threats do our neighbors, the trees, face? In keeping with the Longwood Gardens Community Read Program, Miss Tara will introduce The Songs of Trees by David George Haskell, a book that takes us into the worlds of a dozen different trees across the globe. Then we will join a Delaware Nature Society Naturalist as he tells the stories of the trees near us and how they all fit into nature's grand scheme, and be inspired to go find them all in a park or forest near you. Registration is not required. To receive the link if attending over Zoom, please stop in the library, call (610) 678-8771, or email: wernersvillepl@berks.lib.pa.us. Teens and adults are welcome and encouraged to attend.

*All participants (yes, we mean all, including teens and adults who just want to come out for a fun learning experience!) attending any of the Longwood Garden Community Read workshops will be entered into Longwood Gardens raffles. 4 winners at each event will receive a coupon good for up to four people to Longwood Gardens through September 2022.

SUMMERQUEST 2022: Oceans of Possibilities arrives in June!

The Library will continue to hold STEM Fridays with Miss Tara, as well as once-a-month Snapology and our popular weekly Special Storytimes with local Firefighters, Police, and Road Crew. Videos of past and present activities can be found on our YouTube channel (please subscribe!) In person events are planned for the lawn, but can be moved indoors if the weather does not cooperate. Masks are no longer required, but will be available for anyone who would like one.

Other fun things of interest include:

- Summer Quest Kickoff Party (all ages, in person) Wednesday, 6/8, time to be determined
- Yocum Institute of the Arts' Art-Ventions: Sea Creature Creations (all ages, in person) Monday, 6/13, 5:00-6:00 pm
- TaleWise: Pirates Lost at Sea (all ages, in person) Wednesday, 6/29, 4:30-5:30pm
- Elmwood Park Zoo (ages 6+ - via Zoom) Tuesdays, 7/12, 7/19 & 7/26, 10:30-11:30am
- American Swedish Museum: Saving the Seas with Swedes (ages 6+, in person), July, time and date to be determined
- Yocum Institute of the Arts: Rainbow Fish Teen Ensemble performance (all ages, in person) Wednesday, 7/20, 10:30-11:30am
- Yocum Institute of the Arts: Dive into (Water) Color (all ages, in person) Wednesday, 7/27, 5:00-6:00pm
- Ancient Undersea Reptile Show and Dig Workshop (ages 6+, in person) Monday, 8/1, 2:30-3:30 pm
- Magician Eddy Ray (all ages, in person) Wednesday, 8/11, 10:30-11:15am
- Summer Quest Closing Party (all ages, on the Lawn) Thursday, 8/11, time to be determined

Borough of Wernersville
P.O. Box 167
100 N. Reber Street
Wernersville, PA 19565

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Important Things to Remember:

- **Trash Day** is on **EVERY WEDNESDAY Morning!** If a holiday falls on or before a trash day, pick-up will be the following day. The affected Holidays will be Memorial Day (5/30), 4th of July, and Labor Day (9/5). Due to these holidays, Trash will be picked up on Thursdays during those weeks.
- **Recycling Day** is on **EVERY THURSDAY Morning!** Recycling will be collected on Friday if a Holiday falls in that week. Due to Memorial Day, 4th of July and Labor Day, Recycling will be picked up on Fridays during those weeks.
- **Street Sweeping** will occur in May or June, Weather Permitting. Please watch for signs.
- **Wernersville Annual Yard Sale:** will be Saturday May 14th and Sunday May 15th.
- **Memorial Day Parade:** Monday, May 30th at 10am (starting and ending at the Western Berks Fire Department).
- **Flag Day Ceremony:** at the Heidelberg Heritage Society, Tuesday, June 14th at 7pm. Bring your old flags and lawn chairs if needed.



Wernersville Borough Website
Don't forget to check out our website at wernersvilleborough.org for any news and information regarding the Borough.

Wernersville Borough is on Facebook!
Like us on Facebook and help stay informed and connected to all the news that is happening in Wernersville! Search for: Wernersville Borough.