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 EVERY Wednesday Morning! If a holiday falls on or before a trash day, pick- up will be the following day. The affected Holiday will be Labor Day (9/6). Due to Labor day, Trash will be picked up on Thursday September 9th, instead of Wednesday that week.

Recycling Day is EVERY Thursday Morning! Recycling will be collected on Friday if a Holiday falls in that week. Due to Labor Day, Recycling will be Friday, September 10th, instead of Thursday during that week.

Street Sweeping will occur the week of May 10th, Weather Permitting.

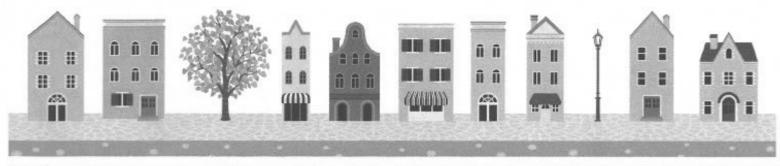
Wernersville Annual Yard Sale will be Saturday May 15th and Sunday May 16th.

Flag Day Ceremony at the Heidelberg Heritage Society, Monday, June 14th. Bring your old flags and lawn chairs if needed.



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.





# Wernersville 2021 Spring Newsletter

Borough Council Meetings-1st Wednesday of every Month @ 7PM
Mayor: Keegan Worley ~ President: Stephen Price ~ Vice President: James Swartz
Council Members: Robert Gordon, David Latino, James Pierce, Linda Dapcic-Angst, Linda Palm
Secretary and Tax Collector: Debra Pierce

Assistant Secretary: Jennifer Velez
Public Works Department: Gary Heydt, Supervisor, Michael Palm
Emergency Management Coordinator: Michael Palm
Fire Marshall: Michael Palm

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 or Email us at Wernersville@aol.com

#### 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, eg), 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 (limit2), 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 at 610-440-3715, and select the residential option, to schedule bulk item pick up, at an additional charge.

# News from the Mayor

- Keegan Worley

#### Neighbors:

Entering what I hope are the final stages of the COVID-19 pandemic, I am very appreciative of you all for being great community members. From our great Borough office staff to our dedicated road crew, we are all appreciative. We had a very different year in 2020 and a wild winter start to 2021, so I hope this Spring and Summer serves you well. See you around town.

#### Keegan

#### Due to COVID-19 concerns

The Borough Hall is currently closed to the public. We are here to take your phone calls during our normal hours (M - F, 9am-2pm). You can contact us at 610-678-1486 or email us at wernersville@aol.com with questions or concerns.

Trash bills, permits and any other correspondence can be mailed or placed in our Borough Drop Box outside the Borough Hall.



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 11:00-5:00. Closes between 2-3 for lunch.

(Please check with the Borough as this is currently not taking place due to COVID-19)

#### 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.

YARD WASTE DROP OFF - You can bring your yard waste to the South Heidelberg drop off facility. The gates are open 8-8 Monday through Saturday, 1-5 Sunday. Location: Off of S. Point Road in South Heidelberg Township.

#### \*\*\*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.

# South Heidelberg Township Police Department



Let's talk about fraud. Specifically about phone scams. We have done other articles about the subject in previous newsletters, and I have given speeches at a local retirement community about the problem, but we continue to see new and devious ways that members of our community are being tricked into sending criminals money.

The most recent, and perhaps one of the more insidious cases involves members of a local Church. A person is contacting members of the congregation via text message, pretending to be the Church Pastor, asking the member to send them funds for a program being supported by the Church. In our most recent case, the scammer told the church member that he needed \$300 in gift cards to support a cancer center. Once the Church member bought the gift cards, and provided the scammer with the gift card numbers, the scammer again asked for an additional \$400. The Church member was

suspicious as the "Pastor" was texting her from an unfamiliar number. When she called the number, she was informed the Pastor was in a meeting. She provided the second set of gift card numbers to the scammer.

The scammer contacted the victim a third time, again asking for \$400 in gift cards, which the victim again purchased. But prior to the victim giving the card numbers to the scammer, she was able to contact her real Pastor who informed her it was a scam and that numerous members of the congregation are getting similar calls.



The number one way to tell that the call you are receiving is a scam, is the request for payment via gift cards.

No legitimate organization: Police Departments, Sheriff's office, Court system, IRS, etc., will ever ask for payment in gift cards. Not one....

While most of you reading this already know this, there are members of our community that are still falling for these scams.

# So, what can you do?

1st Never pay via gift cards. You are being scammed. Period.

2nd If there is ever any doubt whether the caller is legitimate, or a scammer, simply hang-up and call the South Heidelberg Township Police Department at our non-emergency number (610) 670-9885, and we will help you with any questions you may have.

3rd If there are members of your family that you believe are susceptible to possible fraud, have this conversation with them, and have them call you if and when they get suspicious phone calls, texts, or emails.

One thing is certain, that phone scams will continue, and they will change the story to be a believable as possible. But if we spread this message, hopefully we can help you, or a family member keep your money safe.

Thanks, and stay safe!

-Chief Leon J. Grim

#### 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

Every time someone uses the storm drain or a ditch as a disposal system, they're causing an impact downstream. That's because storm sewers and ditches don't go to wastewater treatment plants. Storm drains are separated in most instances from the sanitary system. That's by design. Our wastewater treatment facilities simply couldn't handle the volume of stormwater that is created in every storm. Stormwater is released unfiltered and untreated into streams, lakes and wetlands. Municipalities are required to ensure that the water leaving their systems is as clean as possible. Part of that is knowing all of the sources that are flowing into the system and it's not always just water. Septic systems, used oil, carpet cleaning fluid, wastewater, etc. These are called illicit discharges to the stormwater system. Municipalities are required under the MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) regulations to identify and eliminate those illicit discharges.

Here are 12 actions that homes and businesses can take to prevent illicit discharges into the storm sewer system:

- Eliminate connections to storm sewers. Make sure that wastewater, spills or soapy water can't flow into a storm sewer by any drain or stormwater flow. Check with your city/ town to determine if clean water discharges to a storm sewer are allowed.
- 2. Store hazardous materials properly, inside or under cover.
- 3. Make a current spill response plan and clean up kit accessible.
- 4. Train employees on spill response and good housekeeping practices. Repeat training regularly.
- Use "dry" methods for clean-up and spills. Keep a broom, mop and kitty litter or other absorbent materials handy. Do not use water to rinse off a spill.
- 6. Use a mop sink for cleaning floor mats and equipment. Pour wash water in the sink, not outside.
- 7. Ensure dumpsters remain covered and leak-proof. Locate dumpsters away from storm drains.
- Wash vehicles at a commercial car wash. If you must wash vehicles or equipment outdoors, use water only, or wash on grassy areas and divert soapy water from stormdrains.
- Keep parking lots and service areas clean. Provide trash bins and empty them regularly. Divert water from loading docks.
- 10. Keep wetlands and riparian buffer areas clean and in natural condition. Keep these areas free of trash, yard waste, and debris that can pollute or obstruct water flow. If possible, allow vegetation to grow into a natural buffer instead of mowing to wetland edges.
- 11. Water wisely and limit fertilizer use. Keep water and fertilizer on the grass, not pavement. Consider replacing some lawn area with low-care plantings.
- 12. Design your yard to infiltrate, filter or detain runoff. Divert roof leaders, foundation drains, air conditioning condensate and other clean water to grassy areas, away from pavement and stormdrains.

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. Please contact us for the form and fee for this inspection. All homes must also have Sidewalk and Curbing. 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.

## RECYCLING EVENTS

Household Hazardous Waste - Free to Berks County Residents
April 17, 2021 • 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM (Registration is required)
Governor Mifflin Intermediate School • 600 Governor Drive • Shillington, PA 19607

Curbside Yard Waste Collection will be on Monday, June 21st. YOU MUST call the Borough office at 610-678-1486 to SCHEDULE your pick-up by June 18th. 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" x 18" x 18" 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 15th and Sunday May 16th. Set up a table at your house and your items could be someone elses 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 Web Site: www.WomensClubofWernersville.org

# DON'T FORGET TO VOTE! TUESDAY, MAY 18TH







100 N. Reber Street, Wernersville, PA 19565 wernersvillepl@berks.lib.pa.us | 610-678-8771 berkslibraries.org/wernersville

What's happening at your library? Cook the Book and Adult Yoga will be returning! Watch the library's website and social media for the dates and times. Our Anime Club for teens will continue twice a month on discord for now, but our Adult Book Club begins in-person meeting with April's discussion. Other super awesome things you can look forward to include:

# April 27, 2020, 5:30-6:30 P.M. on the Lawn Feather Flashback!

Take a look at history through the "eyes" of a feather! As part of the Longwood Gardens Community Read Program, Miss Tara will introduce Ruby's Birds by Mya Thompson, a book about a seven-year-old girl who learns how to slow down and be quiet enough to see and hear the amazing birds that are all around her. Afterwards, attendees will participate in a mix-and-match activity that incorporates 300 years of our past with the use of primary sources, hands on learning, and feathers. End the activity by trying your hand at writing a letter with a quill and ink. This event is a nature and history program with a focus on the book. \*For children ages 6+. Perfect for Cub Scouts, Brownies, and Homeschoolers! Teens and adults are welcome and encouraged to attend.

# May 6, 2020, 5:30-6:30 P.M. Berks Nature Presents: Owls & Bird of Prey

What do owls eat for breakfast? How about dinner? Investigate their diet by dissecting an owl pellet! In keeping with the Longwood Gardens Community Read Program, Miss Tara will introduce Ruby's Birds by Mya Thompson, a book about a seven-year-old girl who learns how to slow down and be quiet enough to see and hear the amazing birds that are all around her. Berks Nature will then lead a discussion about owls and other birds of prey. Afterwards, attendees will dissect the owl pellets, and they will be able to take the bones home if they want. \*For children ages 6+. 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!) at the Longwood Garden Community Read workshops will be entered into Longwood Gardens raffles. 6 winners at each event will receive a coupon good for up to four people to Longwood Gardens through September 2021.

#### SUMMERQUEST 2021: Tails & Tales arrives in June!

The Library will continue to hold via Zoom STEM Fridays with Miss Tara, as well as once-a -month Snapology and our popular weekly Special Storytimes with local Firefighters, Police, and Road Crews. Videos of past and present activities can be found on our YouTube channel (please subscribe!) Other fun things of interest include:

- Summer Quest Kickoff Q&A (all ages, on the Lawn)
   Wednesday, 6/14, 2:00-3:00pm and 5:30-6:30pm
- Kitchen Wizards (ages 6+, via Zoom) Tuesdays, 6/15, 6/22, & 6/29, 10:30-11:30am
- Yocum's ART-VENTIONS: Garden Pet (all ages, via Zoom) Monday, 6/21
- Elmwood Park Zoo (ages 6+ via Zoom) Tuesdays, 7/6, 7/13, 7/20 & 7/27, 10:30-11:30am
- American Swedish Museum: Stories of Sweden's Wild Animals (ages 6+, via Zoom)
   Thursday, 7/8, 3:30-4:30pm
- Kit's Interactive Theater: Mother Nature (all ages, on the Lawn) Wednesday, 7/21, 10:30-11:15am
- Yocum Institute of the Arts: Furry Tails & Tales (all ages, on the Lawn) evening performance TBD
- Magician Eddie Ray (all ages, on the Lawn) Wednesday, 8/4, 1:00-1:45pm



# 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.