



Wernersville 2024 Spring Newsletter

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

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

Council Members: Robert Gordon, Linda Dapcic-Angst, Keegan Worley, Carl Reidler, Josh Fidler

Secretary: Debra Pierce and Tax Collector

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

IMPORTANT EVENTS AND DATES

- **Wernersville Annual Yard Sale** Get your treasures and trinkets ready for the annual yard sale to be held Saturday May 11th and Sunday May 12th. Set up a table at your house and your items could be someone else's find. Make a day of it.
- **Wernersville Library BOOK SALE** The Library will be having their annual Spring Book Sale on May 6th-May 11th. For more information, check out the Wernersville Public Library on social media or give them a call.
- **Election Day is on Tuesday, April 23rd** don't forget to vote at the Wernersville Borough Building.
- **Memorial Day Parade** Monday, May 27th at 10am (starting and ending at the Western Berks Fire Department).

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: WomensclubofWernersville.org

[Wernersville Borough Website and Facebook](#)

Check us out at "www.wernersvilleborough.org"

We also have Facebook! Like our page to get updates.

News from the Mayor

Melissa Dean

It's that time of year, after being cooped up in the cold, wet and blustery winds of the winter months; you have warmth, fragrance and the sounds of life coming to the surface. I plan to spend more time in the garden this year than last. It is the grass cutting I will tire of early.

Keeping your sidewalks clear of obstacles and weed free these warm months is as important as in the cold weather months to keep clear walkways for pedestrians. I hope you can get out and enjoy some of the upgrades at the parks. Resurfaced Pickleball and Basketball Courts will be ready for action. Let's keep the parks clean.

Public Safety Notes:

As the weather gets warm, please remember to maintain safe vigilance. Close up and Lock Up when leaving your Residence. Lock any outbuildings or sheds when not in use.

The Borough will be installing crosswalks at several corner-to-corner crossings across Penn Avenue (SR422). The safest place to cross a road remains at a lighted intersection, but the installation of several additional crosswalks provides "safe, Pedestrian passage" routes throughout our community.

Don't forget to Vote: Election Day is April 23, 2024. Polls are at the Borough Hall, 100 N. Reber Street.

Mayor Dean



Don't forget to vote Tuesday, April 23rd!

Flag Drop Box: 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: 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****

Medication Drop Box: 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 #.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT/MS4



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>

Why Do We Regulate Stormwater?

The MS4 program requires the MS4 owner/operator to implement a series of programs to reduce the discharge of pollutants from the storm sewer system to the maximum extent practicable in a manner that protects water quality. The Pennsylvania Code Chapter 93 sets the water quality standards for surface waters of the Commonwealth and these standards seek to protect the waters for aquatic life, water supply, recreation and fish consumption, and areas that need special protection. The MS4 program focuses on managing discharges into the waters of the Commonwealth by educating and implementing proper control measures and best management practices (BMPs).

One of the control Measures for MS4 is Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination

Why are illicit (illegal) discharges important?

Illicit discharges make their way to our waterways untreated. Illicit discharges such as paint or oil dumped into storm drains, septic effluent, car wash wastewater, and illegally connected wastewater piping into sewers can cause serious pollution issues. These illicit discharges can carry a variety of pollutants, such as heavy metals, bacteria, viruses, nutrients, oil and grease, and solvents.

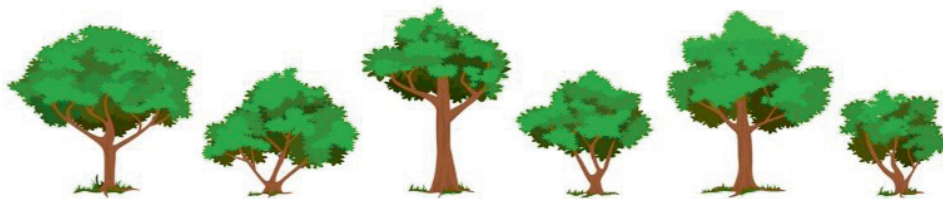
Illicit discharges are dangerous to public and environmental health, it's unsightly, may affect drinking water, and will diminish recreational value.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR HOME OWNERS:

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.





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. Please make sure that you are keeping your sidewalks clear of any tree limbs, bushes, brush, debris and weeds 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.

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.

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****

Contact South Heidelberg Township at 610-678-9652 or go on their Webpage to complete and print the application for an access card.

*****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.

Curbside Yard Waste Collection will be on Monday, June 17th. **YOU MUST** call the Borough office at 610-678-1486 to **SCHEDULE** your pick-up by June 14th. 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.**

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.

ANIMAL WASTE ORDINANCE- Animal owners must clean up animal waste and dispose of properly in a sealed bag or container and deposit in trash receptacle.

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.

COMMERCIAL VEHICLES- No commercial vehicle with a Gross weight of 10,000 pounds or more shall be parked on a Borough street for more than one (1) hour. This includes Tow Trucks, car carriers and low boy trailers.

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 (5/27), 4th of July, and Labor Day (9/2). 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.
- **Election Day** is April 23rd at the Borough Hall
- **Street Sweeping** will occur the week of April 29th to May 3rd , Weather Permitting. Please watch for signs.
- **Wernersville Annual Yard Sale:** will be Saturday May 11th and Sunday May 12th.
- **Memorial Day Parade:** Monday, May 27th at 10am (starting and ending at the Western Berks Fire Department).
- **Flag Day Ceremony:** @ the Heidelberg Heritage Society Lerch Tavern, Wednesday, June 14th at 7pm. Bring your old flags and lawn chairs if needed.

**Please make sure that you are placing your trash and recycling bins in the planting strip, not in the street or gutter. Thank you. **

Recycling bins (black with yellow lids) are to be used for Recycling ONLY. Do not place trash in these bins

REMINDER: please put trash and recycling bins out the night before they are to be collected.

The Wernersville Borough would like to thank *The Standard Group* for the complimentary set up and printing of this Newsletter.



KEEP RECYCLING SUCCESSFUL-SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING

Acceptable items:

- White envelopes, junk mail
- Computer, fax, notebook and copy paper
- Kraft paper/brown grocery bags
- Magazines, catalogs, phone books and paperback books
- Chipboard/boxboard
- White and colored ledger paper, construction paper
- Newspaper
- Paper egg cartons
- Juice boxes, milk cartons and frozen food cartons
- Aluminum cans
- Tin and Bi-metal containers (including aerosol cans)
- Aluminum foil (pie plates, etc)
- Plastic containers 1-7

Unacceptable items:

- Trash
- Clothing
- Diapers
- **Styrofoam/styrofoam peanuts**
- Bags
- Caps/Lids
- Food
- Yard Waste
- Mirrors, window glass, light bulbs
- Paper towels
- Propane tanks
- Medical waste

REMINDER: NO PLASTIC BAGS.

****Please Note:** If any of these items are put out with your recycling, the hauler will not take your recycling.

LIQUIDS must be emptied from bottles and cans before they are placed into the recycling bin.

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.



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 (4) Bags/Containers per home.

If you have a large bulk item, you must CALL Waste Management at 610-440-3700 and give the account # 603-6589 to schedule a bulk item pick up, at an additional charge.

Please be sure to BAG cat litter and dog/animal waste before placing it in your container.

Recycling Collection pick-up is every Thursday. 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.

Please remember there is NO glass in recycling and NO plastic bags. Recyclable materials should be rinsed out before being placed in bins.

The recycling bin provided by Waste Management is ONLY for recycling. If trash is placed in the recycling bin, it will not be picked up.

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.

Recycling Events

Household Hazardous Waste - Free to Berks County Residents

Sat, Apr 13, 2023, 8 AM – 2 PM (Registration is required)

Governor Mifflin Intermediate School
600 Governor Road
Shillington, PA 19607

Paper Shredding

Sat, Apr 20, 2024, 8 AM – 12 PM (Registration is required)

Governor Mifflin Intermediate School
600 Governor Road
Shillington, PA 19607

You can register for these events through the County of Berks
<https://www.countyofberks.com/departments/solid-waste-authority>



Spring Forward with Wernersville Department of Public Works

As we finally come out of Old Man Winters grasp, I want to take this time to personally thank our borough residents for their valued support this winter season. With the snowiest winter in 8 years (21 inches total snowfall) our crew is ready for warm weather!

Wernersville Department of Public Works (DPW) is an American Public Works Association accredited workforce. We employ a full time Roadmaster (Matt), who is a Certified Public Works Supervisor, a full time Road Technician (Tim), as well as 2 part time workers (Mike & Stew). We are responsible for preserving, maintaining and advancing the borough's assets and infrastructure.

Our DPW workforce often goes unseen, responsible for many of the things our borough residents and visitors use and experience on a daily basis. Such as, but certainly not limited to, snow removal, paved streets, landscaping, building and vehicle maintenance, storm water management, and much more. Yet, working behind those scenes is our dedicated staff of trained personnel to ensure that those services are preformed diligently for a safe and well maintained borough for everyone to enjoy and be proud to call home.



I truly hope everyone has a safe and happy Spring/Summer season!

~ Matt Zerr, CPWS, DPW Roadmaster

Did you know, we maintain....

- 11.85 linear miles of paved roadways
- 500 street signs
- 133 catch basins
- 14 acres of parkland
- 10,000 square feet of buildings
- Thousands of citizens and visitors who live, work and travel our beautiful borough each and every day.

On May 16th 1960, the American Public Works Association established National Public Works Week to help illustrate how public works professionals contribute and enhance the quality of life in the communities they serve. Help us acknowledge them on May 19-25, 2024!



Spring Forward Safely: Tips from the South Heidelberg Police Department

Spring has sprung! As the weather warms and days lengthen, many of us head outdoors to enjoy the sunshine and fresh air. But with increased outdoor activity comes the need to be aware of potential safety hazards. SHPD offers some spring safety tips to keep you and your loved ones safe:

Home Security:

Spring Cleaning, Smart Securing: While you're decluttering your home, take inventory of your security measures. Ensure all doors and windows have functioning locks, and consider upgrading to deadbolts for added security.

Light Up the Night: Longer evenings are great, but they also provide more cover for criminal activity. Make sure your porch and exterior lights are in working order, and consider timers or smart bulbs to give the impression of a home even when you're away.

Beware of Open Season: With warmer weather comes increased opportunities for opportunistic crimes. Keep your garage doors closed and locked, and avoid leaving valuables in plain sight inside your car.

Outdoor Adventures:

Bike Safe: With more cyclists on the road, remember to follow traffic laws, wear a properly fitted helmet, and ensure your bike is in good working order with functioning brakes and lights.

Neighborhood Watch:

Block Party with a Purpose: Spring is a great time to get to know your neighbors. Organize a block party or potluck to foster a sense of community and keep an eye out for each other's property.

Report Suspicious Activity: If you see something strange in your neighborhood, don't hesitate to report it to the police. Even minor details can be helpful in preventing crime.

By following these tips and staying vigilant, you can help ensure a safe and enjoyable spring season. Remember, SHPD is always here to help. If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact us.

Stay safe, and have a happy spring!



J. Matthew Hook, Jr.

Chief of Police

South Heidelberg Township Police Department

555A Mountain Home Road

Sinking Spring, PA 19608

Office: 610.670.9885

Police Dispatch: 610.655.4911

Fax: 610.678.5056

Proudly Serving: South Heidelberg Township, Robesonia Borough, Heidelberg Township, and Wernersville Borough

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, garbage, and cars in disrepair on the property that are not registered, inspected or licensed.

Grass and weeds must be trimmed to less than 6 inches high.

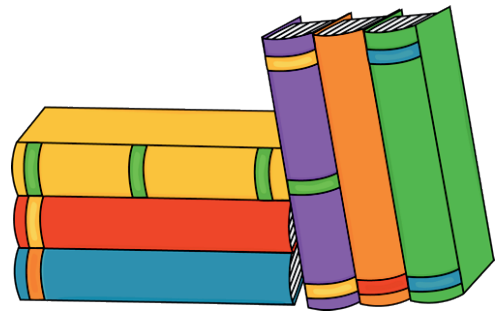
Also, it is the responsibility of the homeowner to fix their sidewalks or curbs if they are in disrepair.



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 by calling us at 610-678-1486.

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

Annual Spring Book Sale, May 6th-May 11th.
Check us out on the Wernersville Public Library
social media or give us a call.

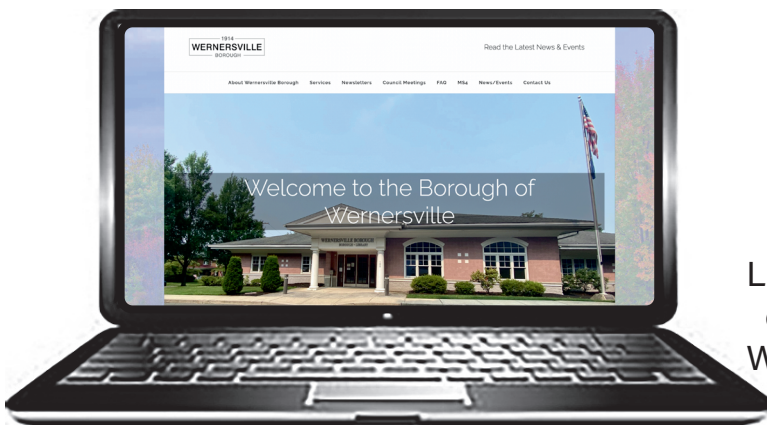


Borough of Wernersville
P.O. Box 167
100 N. Reber Street
Wernersville, PA 19565

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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.**