

# Crossroads

The Newsletter of Benner Township

Spring — 2020

## Zoning Ordinance Draft Ready for Review

For the past several years, Benner Township has been considering changes to its Zoning Ordinance. A prior version was circulated in early 2019 for review and comment. Based on comments and public input on the draft ordinance, the Supervisors considered additional revisions and provisions to be included in the Zoning Ordinance.

The major revisions in this draft from the previous one include:

- \*Updates to the Master Table of Uses.
- \*Inclusion of a Spring Creek Canyon Conservation Overlay District.
- \*Inclusion of Environmental Protection Regulations.
- \*Revisions to density tables and setback requirements in the R-2 and R-3 Zones.
- \*Revisions to the Airport Regulations.

The draft ordinance can be viewed on the Township’s website at: [www.bennertownship.org](http://www.bennertownship.org) and scrolling down the opening page to the proposed Zoning Ordinance section. The zoning map is part of this document. Anyone wishing to submit comments should mail them to: Benner Township, 1224 Buffalo Run Road, Bellefonte, PA 16823 no later than April 24th. Please consult the township’s webpage ([www.bennertownship.org](http://www.bennertownship.org)) or the CDT legal ads for the official ordinance hearing date.

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PA’s Primary Election day is Tuesday, April 28th

## 2020 Bulk Pick Up Dates

2020 bulk pick up dates will be held on the weeks of:

### May 18 & October 12

on your normal garbage day. Please follow the guidelines provided in your trash bill or a copy of the guidelines may be viewed at :

[www.crcog.net/refuse](http://www.crcog.net/refuse)

## Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event

*Centre County Solid Waste Authority*

238-7005

253 Transfer Road  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

Friday, April 24th

10 a.m.—6 p.m.

Saturday, April 25th

8 a.m.—2 p.m.

### What can you bring?

Insecticides, weed killers, pool chemicals, cleaners, poisons, corrosives, flammables, oil based paints, CFL bulbs, fluorescent tubes and most other hazardous chemicals from households only.



## Spring Creek Watershed Clean Up— Saturday, May 2nd

The annual Spring Creek Watershed Clean-up will be held on Saturday, May 2nd. Anyone wishing to help out should come to the Township Building (1224 Buffalo Run Road) Saturday morning at 8 a.m. for gloves and bag supplies. If you are aware of an area that needs cleaned up or want to volunteer please call Genie Robine at 355-2530. **We are always in need of additional volunteers.** The clean up will be followed by a free picnic at Circleville Park, 3225 Circleville Road in Patton Township at Noon.



## Please keep your grass off of the roadways.

As temperatures warm and the grass begins to grow . . . Please remember not to blow grass cuttings or any other materials onto any roadway or public sidewalk. Grass clippings on roadways pose a serious danger to motorcycle and bicycle traffic and can easily clog stormwater drains creating additional hazardous conditions to the traveling public and private property.



## Spring Brush Collection— Call 355-1419 by May 1st to get on the list.

The Township will be conducting its Spring “On Call” brush collection. To schedule a brush pick up, please call the office at 355-1419 no later than May 1st. **Brush will need to be at the street ready for pick up on May 4th.** Guidelines for brush collection are:

- \*Brush must be piled with cut ends of limbs in the same direction towards the street.
- \*Limbs must be cut to be able to be fed into the chipper. Limbs larger than 4 inches in diameter will not be collected.
- \*Do not tie brush in bundles.
- \*Stumps, old firewood, construction material, thorn bushes, grasses, vines and plant waste will not be picked up.
- \*Maintenance crews will not enter private property.
- \*Crews will spend no more than 20 minutes at one property. If your piles is too large to be chipped in 20 minutes, please make other arrangements.
- \*Do not pile brush in front of or block fire hydrants or storm drains.
- \*This collection is for trimming of bushes and trees, not for tree removal or site clearing.

## Septic Management Plan Update

The Township's on-lot septic systems have now completed their first six year cycle in the septic management program. Several problems were found during this cycle and repairs were made to prevent much more costly repairs in the future. With limited exceptions, homeowners having on lot systems will now receive a notice on their six year anniversary to have their systems pumped and inspected. Should you decide to have your system pumped before your scheduled inspection year, please send a copy of your pumping receipt to the township office and we will place it in your property tax parcel file.

## Act 537 Special Study

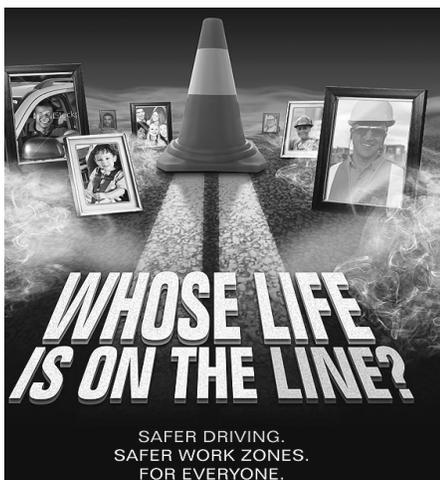
The Act 537 Special Study that is looking at the installation of public sewer service to the areas of Shiloh Road, Rock Road, Big Hollow Road and Walnut Grove is nearing its final review process. The public comment period has concluded and the plan is now being reviewed by the various Planning Commissions. Once the Planning Commissions complete their reviews, the Plan will be considered for adoption by the Board of Supervisors. If the plan is adopted by the Supervisors, it will be forwarded to DEP for its final review and approval process. The plan, comments and responses may be viewed at [www.sbwja.com](http://www.sbwja.com)

## Meyers Cemetery Association Notice

The Cemetery Committee is asking that the graves in the Meyers Cemetery be cleaned off no later than the last week of April and again the last week of September. All remaining items will be discarded. Holiday decorations should be removed no later than three weeks after a holiday. You may discard your cemetery trash in the dumpster.

To allow for proper cemetery lawn maintenance, please plant flowers no more than one foot in front of the grave markers.

Do you or someone you know no longer need or want a burial plot that you purchased from us? The Cemetery Association will entertain buying it back from you. Please contact Janice at (814)355-4124 for further information.



## Township Roadwork Planned for 2020

Paving is planned for the following township roads this construction season:

- \***Crestview Drive**—from SR550 to the beginning of the Opequon development.
- \***Hillside Drive**
- \***Seibert Road**— from the intersection of Raymond's Lane to the intersection of Spring Creek Road

## Did you know?

\*Benner Township was incorporated in 1853.

\*Our estimated 2018 census was 9,325. However, of that amount 4,415 of our residents are incarcerated inmates at SCI Benner and SCI Rockview. Benner Township is also home to the Centre County Jail and youth detention facility.

\*Benner Township maintains over 36 miles of roads.

\*Benner Township covers 28.5 square miles.

\*Benner Township is served by three fire companies. Bellefonte Fire Department, Pleasant Gap Fire Department and the Alphas.

\*The last time Benner Township increased its real estate tax rate was in 1999.

\*Benner Township has a section of the Township that is referred to as "Benner Independent". This area is served by the State College Area School District and they pay their school real estate taxes to SCASD.

\*50.61% of Benner Township is tax exempt. 7.66% of Benner Independent is tax exempt. These properties include PA Fish & Boat, PA Game Commission, SCI Facilities, PSU, and others.

\*It is estimated that Benner Township will collect a total of \$239,116.62 in real estate taxes for the 2020 tax year.

## Egg Hunt & Skating Event

Join us on Saturday, April 4th from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Penn Skates Roller Rink (High Tech Road—across from the University Park Airport) for an egg hunt, roller skating, crafts and snacks. **Admission and skate rental is free!** The only money needed is if you want to purchase something from the rink's snack bar. (Younger children can bring their own riding toy to use on the skating floor must have at least three wheels.) **Bring your family, bring your friends—all are welcome!**

This event is sponsored by the Greater Buffalo Run Valley UMC and Benner Township. **\*Due to recent events with the COVID-19 please check the township's website prior to the event in case we need to cancel. Thanks for your understanding!**



## Summer Park & Rec. 2020

Summer Park and Recreation is scheduled for June 22nd through July 31st for children ages 5 through 12. Children need to be 5 by June 1 and no older than 12 by June 1st. Camp entrance fees this year are \$50 per child for Benner Township residents and \$150 per child for non-residents. Camp registration forms will be available to download on the Township's website [www.bennertownship.org](http://www.bennertownship.org) in May. If you don't have the ability to download documents, please call the Township Office at 355-1419 and we will see that one is sent to you. To assist in planning and when possible, we are asking that registrations be returned to the Township by June 12. Camp will be held at the Township Municipal Building, 1224 Buffalo Run Road, Bellefonte.



### *Crossroads*

Benner Township  
1224 Buffalo Run Road  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

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