

Crossroads

The Newsletter of Benner Township

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Spring 2014

On Lot Septic Management Program to begin Spring 2014

As previously reported, the Township's Septic Management Program is scheduled to begin this Spring. The PA Department of Environmental Protection is requiring the township to adopt regulations that will require regular maintenance and inspections of all on lot septic systems in the Township. There are approximately 410 homeowners with on-lot systems in the Township. This program will NOT effect on those homeowners on public sewer.

The township has been divided into six sections. Each year, 1/3 of the Township will be required to have their septic tanks pumped and half of those being pumped will also need to be inspected.

The township will hold a public education workshop on **Thursday, April 24th at 7:00 p.m. at the Benner Elementary School (490 Buffalo Run Road)**. Those residents that have an on lot septic system are encouraged to attend.

Benner Township Zoning Ordinance Update

The Benner Township Planning Commission is currently in the process of amending the Zoning Ordinance and welcomes the Public to join the Planning Commission in the discussions at our two monthly meetings, held the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building. Please check the township website www.bennertownship.org or call the office at 355-1419 for meeting cancellations.

Our Objectives: To simplify the Ordinance while still protecting the Township, to eliminate repetition between Ordinances, for example the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, Floodplain Ordinance, Street Standards, etc. and to clear up sections of the Ordinance that cause confusion.

The Process: Each Article of the Zoning Ordinance is being reviewed in detail and proposed changes are being made. These proposed changes are then sent to the Planning Commission members for their review prior to the Planning Commission meetings, the Planning Commission reviews the proposed changes at the meeting and a detailed discussion is held.

The proposed changes will also be uploaded to the Zoning Page on the Township website for residents to review. www.bennertownship.org

The Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code requires a review process for Zoning Amendments prior to enactment. That process includes a Review by the County Planning Commission, the Nittany Valley Joint Planning Commission, the Ordinance will also be reviewed by our Township Solicitor and will be available for public view as well.

Spring Brush Collection - Call for an appointment by April 25

Benner 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** April 25th for an appointment. 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 pile 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.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event

Centre County Solid Waste Authority

238-7005

253 Transfer Road

Bellefonte, PA 16823

Friday, May 2nd

10:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 3rd

8:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.



Spring Creek Watershed Clean Up—Saturday - April 26th

The annual Spring Creek Watershed Clean-Up will be held on Saturday, April 26th. Anyone wishing to help out should come to the Township Building (1224 Buffalo Run Road) Saturday morning (8 a.m.) for glove 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.

Attention High School Students—If you are in need of community service hours, here is an opportunity to get some.

All volunteers are invited to a "Thank You!" picnic lunch sponsored by ClearWater at the Spring Creek Park after the CleanUp. Hot dogs and snacks will be provided.



Crossroads

The purpose of *Crossroads* is to keep you informed about the issues facing Benner Township during this critical *Crossroads* in our development. We hope to inspire you to get involved in the Township that surrounds you.

Benner Township Municipal Building

1224 Buffalo Run Road

Bellefonte, PA 16823

(814) 355-1419

(814) 355-1448 (Zoning)

(814) 355-0719 (FAX)

www.centreconnect.org

Proud of our past, focusing on our future.

Spring Bulk Pick Up May 19—23 On Your Regular Trash Day

Please follow the guidelines provided in your trash bill or a copy of the guidelines can be viewed at:

www.crcog.net/refuse



The Undine Fire Company #2 has proudly placed into service a new fire apparatus. The unit was manufactured by Kovatch Mobile Equipment (KME) based in Nesquehoning PA, and replaces a pre-owned 1997 truck. The new multi-function vehicle features a 79' aerial ladder, 2000 gallon per minute fire pump, 500 gallon water tank, a full complement of ground ladders, increased hose storage capacity, and increased equipment storage space. The apparatus includes all the latest mandated safety features, and is extremely maneuverable with an overall length of just 37'. The Undine Fire Company #2 has solely financed the vehicle at no additional burden to local municipal budgets, or the taxpayers. The vehicle officially entered service on January 28th, 2014 and answered its' first alarm on the same date. The Undine Fire Company #2 anticipates the apparatus will serve the Bellefonte Fire District, and surrounding Mutual Aid Districts admirably for a long time!

Please, when given the opportunity, thank and support our local volunteer fire companies. Without their dedication and hard work, the region would be forced to go to paid fire services which would cause taxes to increase substantially.

Help us. Help you. Make sure your address is visible.

When was the last time you could not find a house or business even though you were provided the physical address or house number? During the daylight hours you may have little difficulty but it still may be a challenge because the building numbers are too small to see from the street. Combine the dark of the night during an "emergency" situation when you need Police, Fire or EMS and ask yourself how difficult would this be for the responding emergency personnel to find.

The best way to determine if your house or building numbers can be seen from the street is for you to view your numbered residence or place of business the same way Emergency Responders do and that is from the street. To get a true picture, you will need to view the area during the daylight and night time hours. This is especially important for buildings or residences that are set back away from the street. If you are satisfied that you can see, that's great. If not, please correct the problem as soon as possible.

Prescription Drug Drop Off

In order to keep unused, unwanted and expired medication out of the hands of children, other individuals who should not have them and out of the environment, Bellefonte Borough Police Department will accept these medications for proper disposal. There is no need to removed the labels or take the time to take the items out of its packaging, as the entire item will be destroyed. Liquids and over-the-counter medications are also accepted. If you bring in liquids, please see the Office Assistant, as these are placed in a separate container to avoid spills. There is no fee for this service.

Drop off hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Bellefonte Police Department, 236 W. Lamb Street, Bellefonte. Phone (814)353-2320.



Crossroads

Benner Township
1224 Buffalo Run Road
Bellefonte, PA 16823

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PRESORTED STANDARD

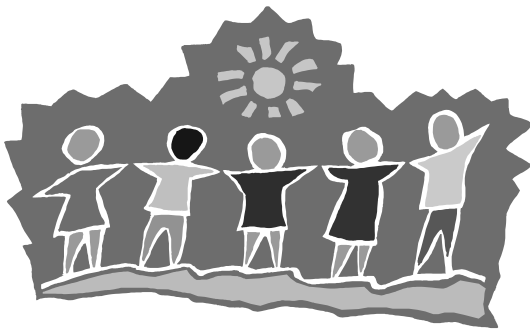
U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

STATE COLLEGE, PA
PERMIT NO. 213

Summer Park & Rec.

Summer Park and Recreation is scheduled for **June 23rd through August 1st** for children ages 5 through 12. Children need to be **5 by June 1 and no older than 12 by June 1**. Camp entrance fees this year are—\$35 per child for Benner Township residents and \$125 per child for non-residents. Camp registration forms will be available to download on the Township's website www.bennertownship.org in May. If you don't have the ability to download documents, please call the Township Building at 355-1419 and we will see that one is sent to you. To assist in planning, we are asking that registrations be returned to the township by June 10th.



Community Easter Egg Hunt

&

Skating Party

When: Saturday, April 12, 2014

10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Where: Penn Skates Roller Rink

(High Tech Road Across from the University Park Airport)

Bring the entire family . . . tell your friends. . . everyone is invited.

Younger children can bring their own riding toy (must have at least 3 wheels) to use on the skating floor.

Have a child who is too young to ride or skate . . . Bring a stroller and wheel them around. No one is excluded!!

Free admission, skate rental and snacks.

The only money you'll need is if you want to purchase something at the snack bar.

