

Crossroads

The Newsletter of Benner Township

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Spring 2017

Flood of October 2016 Update

The unprecedented rain storm that occurred on October 20-21 created significant damage in Benner Township. While we wish we could say that this storm is becoming a distant memory, it is still very fresh in many of our Purdue Mountain residents' minds as well as Township personnel and will continue to be for sometime. The Township was at least fortunate that this event was declared a Federal disaster allowing for Federal and State funding to assist in repairs. We are now faced with the process of following the applicable federal procurement standards that apply to this type of funding. These standards and policies require a much different and longer process than we are accustomed to. The Township is proceeding with repairs as fast as possible, however, the federal/state process has a number of internal steps that do not allow for any sort of "fast track" construction and if not done correctly could result in non-reimbursement of expenses. FEMA's damage estimates for the Township total over **1.2 million dollars.**



Purdue Mt. Road



Rock Road



Buffalo Run Community Park



Purdue Mt. Road

New Municipal Building

After years of saving and planning, construction of the new township building has begun. Work officially started the week of March 20th. It is anticipated that we should be all moved into our new facility by Fall. The five contracts involved in the building construction totaled \$1,590,000. Of this amount, the Township has \$1,100,000 earmarked in capital savings for the project. The balance of \$490,000 will be covered from a combination of operational savings and loan proceeds. Debt service will be covered by parking taxes that the Township receives at the University Park Airport and should take about 5 years to repay. An experienced construction manager has been placed on retainer to ensure the job runs smoothly.

Spring Brush Collection - Call for an appointment by April 21

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 21st** 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, April 28th
10:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 29th
8:00 a.m.—2:00 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.

This collection is **NOT** for: latex paint, used motor oil, antifreeze, medications and alkaline batteries. Please call with any questions—238-7005.

Spring Creek Watershed Clean Up Saturday - April 22nd



The annual Spring Creek Watershed Clean-Up will be held on Saturday, April 22nd. 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 from 11 to 2 at the Tussey Mountain Pavilion after the clean up.

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.bennertownship.org

Proud of our past, focusing on our future.

Spring Bulk Pick Up May 15—19 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

2017/2018 State Budget Notes

We want to bring it to our Township resident's attention that the State's 2017/2018 draft budget includes a proposal of billing townships that only utilize the Pennsylvania State Police a \$25 per capita fee for every man, woman, child and *MATE* that resides in the Township. While \$25 doesn't sound like much and isn't compared to what some Townships with local police forces pay; it would require the Township to double its real estate tax millage rate to raise the needed funds. According to the proposal that we have received, the state would be billing us based upon the population of 8,908 which totals \$222,700. In the 2016 calendar year, the Township collected \$223,346.00 at its current taxing rate of 1.89 mills. Of the 8,908 individuals that we would be billed for, 4,441 of these individuals are residents of the State Correctional Institute at Rockview and Benner. We encourage residents to stress the unfairness of including inmates in such a proposal to our state legislators and Governor Wolf's Office.

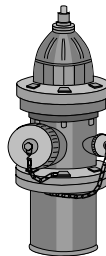
Governor Tom Wolf
 508 Main Capitol Building
 Harrisburg, PA 17120
 email: governor@pa.gov



Logan Fire Co - Chicken Barbeque

Come out and support the Logan Fire Company and get some delicious Chicken Barbeque

May 13, June 10th and August 5th
10 a.m. till sold out
120 E. Howard Street
\$6 chicken halves \$8 meals



Construction Zones. Slow Down! Give Them a "BRAKE".



Spring Creek Canyon Trail

Construction of Phase I (1.1 miles) of the Spring Creek Canyon Trail is planned for later this Spring/Summer. The trees have been cut where an additional parking lot will be built along Rock Road. The township anticipates awarding this contract at it's April meeting. This trail project will continue the opening of the Canyon for all to enjoy. Funding for the project is being accomplished with a DCNR grant, ClearWater Conservancy and Township funds at a total cost of approximately \$200,000. The trail surface aggregate path will extend from the Rock Road parking lot down to the Shiloh Road area of the Spring Creek Canyon. The majority of the trail will be ADA accessible. It is hoped that a ribbon cutting celebration for the project will be held by mid-summer.

Meyers Cemetery Association Notice

Attention: Graves at the Meyers Cemetery must be cleaned off no later than the last week of April. To allow for proper cemetery lawn maintenance, when planting flowers, please only plant them no more than one foot in front of the grave markers. Thank you for your cooperation!

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 26th through August 4th** 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 and when possible, we are asking that registrations be returned to the township by June 9th. Please note that we will be asking for extra cooperation and patience this year due to the construction of the new municipal building going on.



Got Dogs? Please remember. . .

*The State of Pennsylvania has a leash law that requires dog owners to keep their dogs confined within the premises of the owner or firmly secured by means of a collar and chain, leash, rope or other device so that it cannot stray beyond the premises on which it is secured or under the reasonable control of some person when engaged in lawful hunting or field training.

*It is unlawful for any owner to keep or harbor any dog which barks repetitively during any given one hour period which creates an annoyance or disturbance on any adjacent property.

*For the good of your neighborhood and environment, please clean up after your dog when they do "their business" while out on walks.

*Try to talk to your neighbors about your concerns before filing a complaint against them.

