

The Upper Pottsgrove Township HERALD

Volume VIII, Issue 2

October 2013

Office Hours Monday—Friday, 8AM—4:30PM

administration@uptownship.org

www.upperpottsgrovetownship.org Phone 610.323.8675

FOX HILL TRAIL



The Fox Hill Trail is a recently developed walking path that now serves as an enjoyable and peaceful pedestrian avenue. It can be accessed from either of the trailheads located on Mauger's Mill Road across from Patricia Lane, or on North Hanover Street across from Macharniuk Meadows. There are convenient parking facilities available at the trailhead on Mauger's Mill Road if you are coming from a distance. The Fox Hill Trail complements other trails Upper Pottsgrove Township has blazed, including Sprogels Run Trail which traverses Sunset Park and leads to Sure-Catch Pond, and Goose Run Trail that meanders between the Summer Grove and Chestnut Grove developments. Our newest trail encounters the spring-fed headwaters of Fox Run and will serve as a scenic connecting walkway for the residents of Maugers Mill Estates and Gary Heights to Township Open Space at Hollenbach Field and numerous other adjacent homes. Should you decide to traverse the entire trail from the trailhead on Mauger's Mill Road to North Hanover Street and back, you will have hiked about 1.5 miles. These pedestrian walkways serve as a key component of Upper Pottsgrove Township's effort to provide an open space mosaic that displays nature's beauty and promotes a healthy lifestyle.

Fox Hill Trail has been made possible through the encouragement and contributions of all our residents. However, special acknowledgement is due to the members of the Township's Open Space and Recreation Board for their vision and planning, and to the Public Works Department for their trailblazing labors. We would also like to acknowledge Andrew Bayless - Volunteer, Township resident, and Pottsgrove High School student - who created and installed the red and yellow marker signs that denote the trailhead area and bench that is located along the tranquil Fox Hill Trail.

MEETING DATES & TIMES

Board of Commissioners-3rd Mon., 7 PM
Planning Commission-2nd Mon., 7 PM
Open Space & Recreation Board-2nd Wed., Odd Mos.,
7 PM
Sewer & Water Committee-4th Mon., Odd Mos., 5 PM
Fire Committee-3rd Thurs., 7:00 PM
Zoning & Hearing Board-Meets on Demand
Web Link to Calendar:
<http://upperpottsgrovetownship.org/index.html#>



ELECTION DAY

November 5, 2013 is the date to vote. Please mark your calendar so that you remember to come out and vote at the Township Administration Office, 1409 Farmington Avenue, from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM.

UPPER POTTSGROVE FIRE COMPANY OFFERS HIGH VISIBILITY ADDRESS SIGNS

If there's one constant that we all can rely on in the modern age, it's that when we pick up the phone to dial 911 in an emergency, emergency responders will be there quickly and reliably. New technologies such as GPS and vehicle-mounted data terminals have made huge improvements in the way that Police, Emergency Medical Services, and Fire Services respond to emergencies. But there is one major thing that a homeowner can do to help first responders locate their property in the

Continued on Page 2



Board of Commissioners

- Elwood Taylor, President -
etaylor@upperpottsgrovetownship.org
- Renee Spaide, Vice President
- Peter Dolan - peter@610law.com
- Herbert C. Miller, Jr.
- Russell Noll

Please support our Newsletter sponsors and all businesses in the Township, both new and existing.

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT @ SUNSET PARK



Proud new Eagle Scout, Jay Young, is flanked by Commissioner Herbert C. Miller, Jr. and Township Manager Jack Layne. Jay's Eagle Project consisted of his construction of a picnic table, pull-up and sit-up bars and a horseshoe pit at the Township's Sunset Park.

SANCTUARY IDENTIFIED



Barb Shontz has a extraordinary trail on Detweiler Road that enables people who are fighting a terrible disease or experiencing a personal hardship in their lives to reflect in the silence of the woods and be close to nature. Bob Rheel, former Industrial Arts teacher at Pottsgrove High School and Maugers Mill resident volunteered to design and build the sign at the trail head of Beaufort's Run which represents this sanctuary well.

Heather Place Park Pavilion

Need a place for a party or a special get-together? Please consider making a reservation for the pavilion @ Heather Place Park, 1420 Heather Place. The fees are \$30.00 for residents and \$50.00 for non-residents. Contact the township office @ 610-323-8675 to reserve.

UPPER POTTS GROVE FIRE COMPANY OFFERS HIGH VISIBILITY ADDRESS SIGNS (Continued from Page 1)

event of an emergency, and that is to have address numbers that are clearly visible day or night.

At the end of the day, GPS and vehicle data terminals can break or malfunction. In an event such as this, the emergency responder needs to rely on their eyes to find the right address in order to get on scene, whether they are in a Police cruiser, Ambulance or Fire Truck. This can be difficult at night, or in heavily wooded areas where overgrowth can obscure address numbering on mailboxes and houses.

The Upper Pottsgrove Fire Company, as part of a fundraiser, is offering high-visibility address signs for all interested homeowners for \$20.00. These signs are made of the same reflective materials as most street signs, and ensure a clearly visible address day or night. The standard sign offered is 6"x 18", with custom sizes available by request. Interested homeowners can order a sign directly from the Upper Pottsgrove Fire Company's website at www.upperpottsgrovetownship.org, or by mail-order form picked up at the township offices or printed from the website.

Jeremy P. Wozniak, President, Upper Pottsgrove Fire Co.



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9 THINGS YOU CAN DO TO PREVENT STORMWATER RUNOFF POLLUTION & SAVE TAX DOLLARS

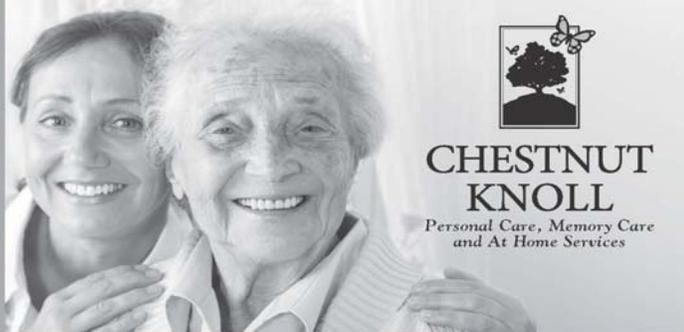
Residents are urged to do these things to offset negative stormwater impacts and to save tax dollars that would otherwise be spent on remediation.

- Use fertilizers sparingly and sweep up driveways, sidewalks, and gutters
- Never dump anything down storm drains or in streams
- Vegetate bare spots in your yard
- Compost your yard waste
- Use least toxic pesticides, follow labels, and learn how to prevent pest problems
- Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces; consider a rain garden to capture runoff
- Take your car to the car wash or wash it on your lawn instead of washing it in the driveway
 Check your car for leaks and recycle your motor oil
- Pick up after your pet
- Have your septic tank pumped and system inspected regularly

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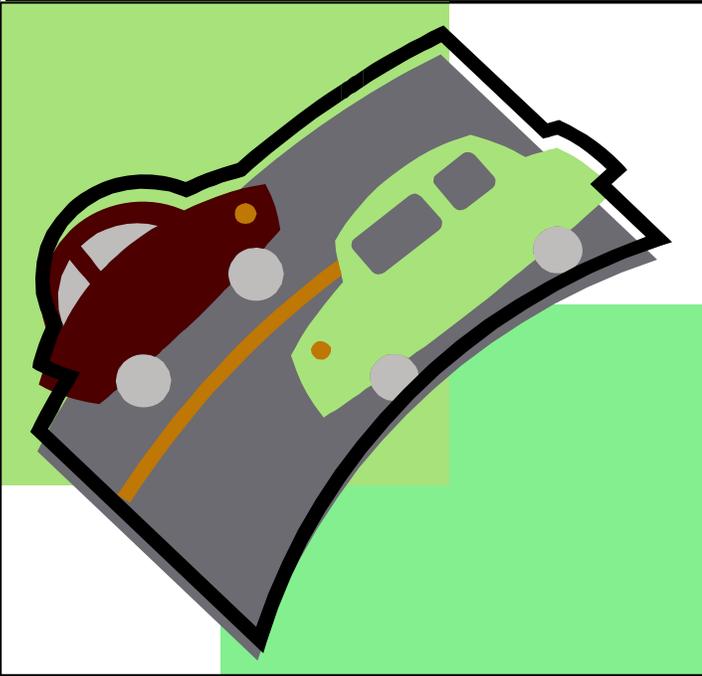
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PROPOSED ROAD IMPROVEMENTS



During the years of our nation's recent economic hard times, Township Commissioners have successfully avoided raising local taxes by economizing Township operations and conserving financial resources. Some of our belt-tightening involved putting off expensive repaving of roads. Instead, limited Public Works resources were directed to patching up the worst conditions, waiting until the arrival of better economic times. The roadwork that was done was paid for with "liquid fuels" subsidies from the State, but this subsidy is not nearly enough to do any major road repair or repaving.

In order to catch up with the road maintenance that has been delayed, the Township Commissioners are planning to take advantage of the improved economy and historically low interest rates to borrow enough money to complete several road renewal projects throughout the Township next year. Together with State subsidies and special low interest rate loan programs, we will be able to do so without impacting local tax funding.

Specific projects being considered have been recommended by the Public Works Director based not only on the severity of the need, but also on several other factors. In general, through-roads serving the entire community take precedence over streets that only serve local neighborhoods. Also, where significant underground water and sewer utilities need to be installed or repaired, paving cannot be contemplated until those expensive improvements are first constructed. Since the construction of these underground utilities are paid for directly by the residents that they serve, the Township continues to seek out available State subsidies and private developer funding to mitigate the expense to our residents.

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THANKS TO RESIDENTS

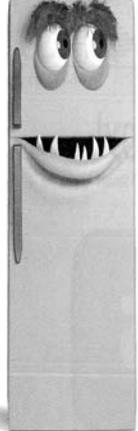


Thanks to all our residents who place their recyclables in a tie bag and place that bag in the container supplied by your trash contractor. We all have cut down on the recyclables being circulated about our roadways and properties during heavy winds.

PARK SAFETY AND FIREARMS

PA State law governs the discharge of firearms and bows. It prohibits shooting (except in self defense) within a safety zone of 450 feet from any building or anywhere within a PUBLIC PARK or OPEN SPACE.

Also, for the further safety of our residents, please note that motorized vehicles, including all types of ATV's and snowmobiles, are prohibited in township parks. Trapping is also prohibited..



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NEW ELECTRONICS RECYCLING LAW

Due to recently enacted State regulations, curbside pickup of electronics refuse (E-waste) will no longer be available for our residents. Items that cannot be picked up are as follows: unbroken computers (desktop and notebook) monitors, computer peripherals (such as keyboards, scanners, printers) and televisions. These items (as well as other electronic items) may be taken to Pioneer Crossing Landfill in Birdsboro, PA, for recycling. This is a free service to all residents and is not available to businesses. The drop-off center is open 8:00-11:00 on Saturdays. Please park and check in with the scale-house prior to dropping off any items. Please visit www.jpмасcaro.com_e-waste_drop_off.php, for more details. Also, household computers and televisions can be freely disposed of at the BEST BUY STORE in the Upland Square Shopping Center.

ELECTED OFFICIALS		
146th Legislative District REPRESENTATIVE MARK PAINTER 600 Heritage Drive Suite 102 Sanatoga, PA 19464 (610) 362-9563 Fax: (610) 718-5787 reppainter@pahouse.net	44th District STATE SENATOR JOHN C. RAFFERTY JR. 3770 Ridge Pike Collegeville, PA 19426 610-831-8830 Fax: 610-831-8837 jrafferty@pasenate.com	6th District CONGRESSMAN JAMES GERLACH 580 W. Main Street, Suite 4 Trappe, PA 19426 610-409-2780 Fax: 610-409-7988 http://gerlach.house.gov/

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Montgomery County Dispatch 610.327.1441
Fire Dept. (Non-emergency) 610.323.2424
administration@uptownship.org
www.upperpottsgrovetownship.org

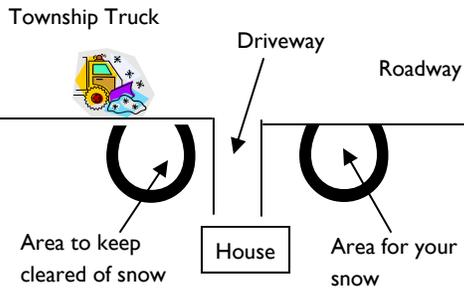
Trash pick-up is every Wednesday. If you see litter in the vicinity of your property, please pick it up and dispose of it properly. April 1 through December 15, Township Trash Hauler, J. P. MAS-CARO, will include weekly curbside collection of yard waste, grass and leaves in an unlimited amount. Yard waste may be placed in compostable bags, open containers or bundled, but in no event larger than 3 feet by 3 feet. Christmas trees will be collected on each Wednesday in January.



CLEARING SNOW FROM DRIVEWAYS

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Call the Township at 610.323.8675 with any snow removal questions.



INSTRUCTIONS FOR HELPING TO KEEP YOUR DRIVEWAY CLEAR OF SNOW AFTER THE TOWNSHIP PLOWS HAVE PASSED

- 1) Facing the street, clear an area to the left of your driveway.
- 2) As a result, all of the snow that you clear should be placed to the right of your driveway.
- 3) This cleared area will help "catch" displaced snow that would otherwise land in your driveway.
- 4) Please, note that clearing the snow to the left of your driveway will not keep all of the snow out of your driveway, but it will greatly reduce the amount that you will have to "re-shovel."