



The Upper Pottsgrove Township HERALD

Volume XII, Issue I

February 2017

Office Hrs Monday—Friday, 8AM—4:30PM

1409 Farmington Ave., Pottstown, PA 19464

www.uptownship.org

Phone 610.323.8675

MEETING DATES & TIMES

Board of Commissioners-3rd Mon., 7 PM;
1st Mon. as needed

Planning Commission-2nd Mon., 7 PM

Open Space & Recreation Board-2nd Tues., 7 PM

Sewer & Water Committee-1st Tues., Odd Mos., 5 PM

Fire Committee-2nd Thurs., 7 PM

Zoning & Hearing Board-Meets on Demand

Web Link to Calendar: www.uptownship.org

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

- Elwood Taylor, President - etaylor@uptownship.org
- Herbert C. Miller, Jr., Vice President
- John Bealer
- France Krazalkovich - fkrazalkovich@uptownship.org
- Martin Schreiber - mschreiber@uptownship.org



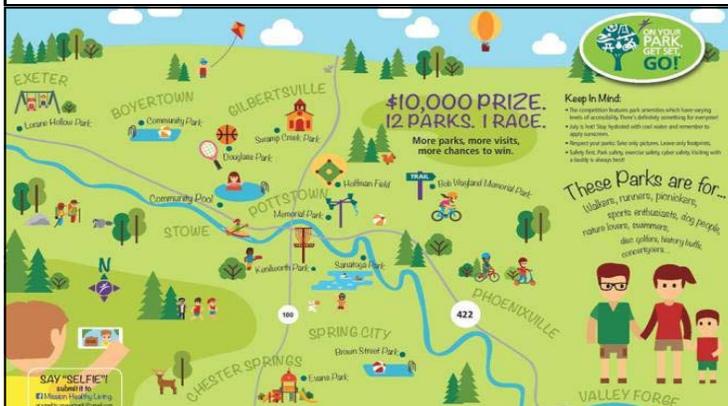
ELECTION DAY

Tuesday, May 16th, 2017 from 7AM to 8 PM is the date and time to vote.

Upper Pottsgrove's only polling place is at the Pottsgrove Middle School, 1351 North

Hanover Street, Pottstown, PA 19464.

PARKS CONTEST SPONSORED BY THE POTTSTOWN AREA HEALTH & WELLNESS FOUNDATION



2016 On Your Park, Get Set, Go!

The Pottstown Area Health & Wellness Foundation's mission is to enhance healthy living opportunities for area residents. To find out more about the foundation, its other programs and the 2017 Parks Contest, which will take place during the whole month of July, visit the website: www.pottstownfoundation.org or [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com) ~MissionHealthyU. For photos and videos of all 12 parks that participated in last year's campaign, visit the "On Your Park 2016" menu tab on the Fit for Life website at pottsmcfit4life.wordpress.com/category/on-your-park-2016.

PARK RULES & REGULATIONS

The following rules and regulations are set forth for the use of the parks and open space in the Township of Upper Pottsgrove:

- **Firearms**
 - 1) Using firearms or other weapons, including, but not limited to, handguns, rifles, air rifles, spring guns, bow and arrows, slingshots, paintball guns, BB guns or rifles, darts or any other missiles or projectiles, unless a special permit has been acquired for Township-initiated animal control activities, is prohibited. Hunting, shooting, paintball and trapping are also prohibited.
- **Animals**
 - 1) Releasing or abandoning wild and/or domestic animals in a park or open space is prohibited.
 - 2) All animals are prohibited on sports fields whether or not on a leash or other means of control.

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ALTHOUSE ARBORETUM UPDATE

On January 7th, students and community volunteers spent a cold and snowy day at the arboretum collecting nearly 200 Christmas Trees from local residents. The township chipped them up and they will be used to help protect the trails. Thank you to all residents who recycled their trees with us! Our next Recycling Day will take place on February 25th when we will be collecting Old Appliance and Scrap Metal along with old cell phones and computer ink cartridges. (No TV's or electronics)



We, at the Althouse Arboretum, are using the winter season to prepare for a full schedule of new and exciting programs for the community. We have a full schedule of great low cost community and children's programs for the upcoming warm weather. Our Forest Easter Egg Hunt is on April 8th. Stop

by anytime from 10 - 2pm to search for eggs along our trails. You're also invited on May 13th to an open house at the Arboretum. Stop by to check out our new community center, extension to the children's forest trail, and pick up a couple plants from our student led Native Plant Sale!

The nonprofit GreenAllies has been working hard to bring new features to the Arboretum. Our newest addition is a Low Ropes Course that allows us to be able to offer teambuilding programs for schools, scout groups, company retreats, or Birthday parties. We also started offering our pavilion and meadow for private party rentals. Have your birthday party, meeting, or wedding at a beautiful local park. Better yet, let us plan your special event for you and make it unique and stress-free!



This summer we will be expanding our summer nature camp program to include full day camp for 7 weeks starting at the end of June. Don't keep your kids indoors this summer, registration is open. Check us out at althousearboretum.org or follow us on Facebook to stay up to date on the many opportunities at the Althouse Arboretum!

STORMWATER ~ WINTER

Seasonal Tips for Protecting Our Waterways in Winter By Emma Danz, Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy

Winter is certainly here, and with it comes road salts, piles of snow and uninvited house guests (the furry kind). Why not do your part this winter season to protect our streams from unnecessary stormwater pollution? Following these tips can help keep our water clean and protect the environment:

- Dispose of shoveled snow in vegetated areas; never dump it into streets or streams.
- Use safe and effective alternatives to salt for ice, and follow the application rate on the label. For more information, click here or type in <http://goo.gl/B3MkAy>.
- Use natural and non-toxic alternatives to chemical pesticides, and reduce indoor and outdoor chemical use. For more information, visit the Natural Resources Defense Council at <http://goo.gl/dvmB94>.
- Salt piles should always be stored under a roof. Report uncovered salt piles to the Department of Environmental Protection at 484-250-5900.
- Have a safe and happy winter, and thank you for keeping the health of the watershed in mind. Your efforts can make a difference! If you have any questions or concerns about stormwater management this winter, the Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy is available as a resource. Visit our website at PerkiomenWatershed.org.



PARK RULES & REGULATIONS

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- 3) No animal shall be brought into a park or open space unless it is accompanied by and under reasonable control of a handler and firmly secured by means of a collar and leash or other device so it cannot stray beyond the control of the handler.
- 4) The handler of any animal shall immediately remove and dispose of any feces deposited by the animal in a sanitary manner.
- 5) Feeding, annoying, striking, injuring, maiming or killing any animals or birds, including the destruction of or interference with their nests, resting or breeding places are prohibited.



To learn all the Open Space & Recreation Regulations, visit [http://ecode360.com/30328591?highlight=open space and recreation regulations#30328591](http://ecode360.com/30328591?highlight=open+space+and+recreation+regulations#30328591)

NEWS FROM STATE SENATOR

BOB MENSCH

Tax Amnesty Program: April 21, 2017 – June 19, 2017

Under Act 84 of 2016, signed into law July 13, 2016, Pennsylvania authorized a tax amnesty period from April 21, 2017 through June 19, 2017.

During this limited 60-day period, the Department of Revenue will waive all penalties and half of the interest on eligible tax delinquencies for anyone who participates in the 2017 Tax Amnesty Program.

Please view the Tax Amnesty Webinar at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fhs51KsTabc>

Tax Amnesty Program Guidelines were published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.

Please check back closer to April 21, 2017 for more details on how to apply.

Locating Lost Insurance Policies for Loved Ones

Uncollected payouts from lost life insurance policies are not rare according to the Pennsylvania Department of Insurance (PID).

Beneficiaries, and those who have reason to believe they may have been designated a beneficiary, can begin by filing a free request with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC), triggering the NAIC, PID, and life insurance companies to search their databases.

Within 90 days, the requester should be notified if a policy exists and whether he or she is a beneficiary or entitled to information about the life insurance policy. You may contact the Pennsylvania Insurance Department's Consumer Services Bureau for further assistance at 1-877-881-6388 or go online at

<http://www.insurance.pa.gov/Pages/ContactUs.aspx> to send an email for additional insurance-related questions or issues to be resolved.

FISHING RODEO

The Open Space and Recreation Board will hold a fishing rodeo on Saturday, June 17, 2017 from 8 a.m. to noon at Sure Catch Pond located in Sunset Park, 1401 N. Charlotte St., Pottstown, PA. It is free and open to township residents 13 years of age and under. Participants must pre-register at the township building at 1409 Farmington Ave. Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. A prize will be awarded for the largest fish and there will be giveaways for all participants. BYOB (Bring Your Own Bait) and fishing equipment! No previous fishing experience necessary. Sixteen year-olds and over must have a valid fishing license.

PREVENTING TICK BITES

Pennsylvania will once again lead the nation this year in Lyme disease cases, according to the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention. To prevent tick bites:

- Avoid wooded and brushy areas with high grass and leaf litter.
- Walk in the center of trails.
- Use insect repellents that contain 20 percent to 30 percent DEET on exposed skin and clothing for protection that lasts up to several hours. Always follow product instructions. Parents should apply this product to their children, avoiding the hands, eyes and mouth.
- Treat clothing and gear such as boots, pants, socks and tents with products containing 0.5 percent permethrin. Its protection lasts through several washings. Pre-treated clothing is available and may be protective for longer periods.
- Check your body for ticks after spending time outdoors.

LOST PET SIGNS

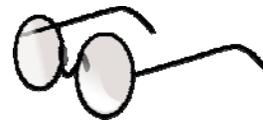
If you post signs because you have lost a pet, please take them down after 7 to 10 days' time has elapsed.

THE TOWNSHIP REQUESTS YOUR HELP IN KEEPING OUR ROADWAYS FREE FROM LITTER

Heavy winds will displace trash not properly secured. Residents can help by either tying or placing recyclables in a tie-bag and then placing in a recyclable container.

POTTSTOWN-STOWE LIONS CLUB

Donate Usable Eyeglasses for the Pottstown-Stowe Lions Club at the Township Administrative Office, 1409 Farmington Avenue, 19464. Website: Pottstown-StoweLions.org



KEEP YOUR DRAINAGE DITCHES OPEN

Regulation 301-11.F.(3)

No person, company, or entity shall fail to adequately maintain in good operating order any drainage facility on his premises. All watercourses, **drainage ditches**, culverts, drainpipes and drainage structures shall be kept open and free flowing at all times.

ROAD BRIGADE CLEANUP



We thank you volunteers. The Keep PA Beautiful Cleanup will take place this year on **April 15** from 9 a.m. to noon. We meet at the township building. Please call the township office to sign up to volunteer.

Pavilion Reservations

Need a place for a party or a special get-together? Please consider making a reservation for the pavilions ~ two locations: Heather Place Park, 1420 Heather Place and Sunset Park, 1401 N. Charlotte Street. The fees are \$30.00 for residents and \$50.00 for non-residents. There is a deposit of \$100.00 required which will be refunded upon a good-standing inspection. Horseshoe pit and kickball supplies are also available for a deposit. Contact the township office @ 610-323-8675 to reserve.

