

Upper Allen Township



Summer Newsletter 2022

July/August/September

100 Gettysburg Pike, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Phone: 717-766-0756

BRUSH RECYCLING DAY TO BE HELD AT THE TOWNSHIP BUILDING



The Township will be holding a brush recycling day on Saturday, September 24th, from 7:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.

The drop off site will be located on the Township Campus at 100 Gettysburg Pike in the rear of the building. Please enter the campus off English Drive and follow the signs. The site will close at 11:00 a.m. sharp. Please check the website at uatwp.org for updates.

Brush is defined as tree limbs, shrubbery, and the like (no grass/leaves off of trees), no limbs larger than 4 inches in

diameter and 6 feet in length. Upper Allen Township accepts brush from Upper Allen Township residents only as part of our recycling efforts.

Brush recycling is intended to clean up small amounts of debris from residential properties. The program is not intended to accept large tree removal projects. Large projects such as removing entire trees should employ the services of a commercial contractor. If you have large amounts of material to dispose of, please contact a commercial removal service.

We ask that you participate in this program responsibly by not dropping off prohibited items at the site. Examples of prohibited items are: garbage, metals, concrete, lumber, stumps, logs over 4", stones, anything with thorns, grass clippings etc. Upper Allen Township has the right to reject anything deemed unacceptable. Identification will be required. Public Works will then process the brush into wood chips which will be made available to Township residents. At the present time, wood chips are free on a first come first serve basis.

We are excited to offer this service and hope that the residents find it useful while doing their fall property clean up. A second Brush Recycling Day will be held next Spring on April 15, 2023, from 7:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.

IN THIS ISSUE:

Brush Recycling Day	1
Tips from Your Tax Collector	2
2022 Rain Garden Workshop	3

Volunteer Campaign.....	3
Police Website Updates	4
Ambulance Services.....	4
Movies in the Park.....	5

Mill Road Bridge.....	6
Hawthorne Stormwater Pipes	6
Township Meetings/Dates.....	7
Paying Your Sewer Bill - Last Page	

TIPS FROM YOUR TAX COLLECTOR



After several months as your new Tax Collector, I would like to thank you for your patience and to pass along some tips that will make the tax paying experience easier for you and for me!

- Tax payments may be mailed to:
Sharon Shipman, Tax Collector
275 Cumberland Parkway, #325
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055; or
- Dropped off at the box outside the main entrance to the Township building after hours; or
- Dropped in the box inside the main entrance during business hours; or
- Paid in person at the Tax Office window Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Please update your online bill pay account and/or mortgage escrow account to reflect the correct payment information if you haven't already.

If your taxes are in escrow, the bill is still sent to you, the property owner, and not the mortgage company. While many mortgage companies contact the tax office for an electronic file of taxes owed, it is still up to you as taxpayer to contact your mortgage company to make sure they have the current tax amount and due date(s), and then follow up with them to make sure they have paid your taxes in the correct amount and in a timely manner.

If you have not received your County/Township and/or School Real Estate Tax bills, or for any other Real Estate Tax need, you may contact me at (717) 766-4238 or by email at uataxoffice@gmail.com. Email is the most efficient way to contact me, allowing me to quickly send copies of bills or respond to questions.

Remember that failure to receive a bill does not excuse you from the obligation to pay your taxes.

We also encounter problems with personal checks that are not written correctly. The bank will not accept

checks that are not legible or are written incorrectly. For example, \$120.25 as the numerical dollar amount must be written out as "One hundred twenty dollars and 25/100," and the words must be written so they are legible. This written (legal) amount is the line the bank uses to accept or reject a check. *Please include your phone number on your personal check so we can contact you quickly in the event of a problem.*

The discount and face periods for payment of your County/Municipal Real Estate tax bill have ended, and the penalty period goes from July 1 thru December 26 (10% penalty).

Residents will receive their School Real Estate Tax bill around July 1, and payment periods for this tax are as follows.*

- Discount period – July 1-August 31 (2% discount)
- Face period – September 1-October 31
- Penalty period – November 1-December 26 (10% penalty). After December 26, unpaid taxes are turned over to the Cumberland County Tax Claim Bureau for collection. Please note that interest and additional fees are added when it reaches this point.

**Note that the normal payment periods do not apply to "Interim" bills, which do not come out at the normal issue dates for County/Township or School Real Estate tax bills. Interim bills are triggered by new home construction, a reduction or increase in property assessment, or change from taxable to non-taxable status, and have their own due dates.*

Thank
you 

UPPER ALLEN TOWNSHIP'S 2022 RAIN GARDEN WORKSHOP

The Township held its annual stormwater workshop on May 19th, 2022. Residents that attended had the opportunity to learn about stormwater management in our township, how they can make a positive impact through the construction of rain gardens and other best management practices, and how to design, install, and maintain a rain garden.

The workshop included presentations by Lori Glace of the Cumberland County Conservation District and Andy Yenchu of Penn State Extension. Both worked in tandem to provide detailed information and resources to help homeowners hit the ground running with their own rain garden projects. The workshop concluded with a hands-on demonstration of planting a rain garden with native plants provided by Lori Glace at our municipal building.

Financial and other support for this project was provided by the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts, inc. through a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act, Administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.



CAMPAIGN TO RECRUIT FIRE VOLUNTEERS FOR NUMEROUS DUTIES



The Upper Allen Fire Department has joined an effort to recruit volunteer firefighters across the midstate through a \$2.2 million federal grant, secured by the Capital Area Council of Governments.

The Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response grant eliminates the need to use local taxpayer money to promote the initiative. The SAFER grant is aimed at helping departments such as Upper Allen's increase or maintain their number of trained firefighters.

"We need volunteers across the capital region," Scott Ryno, coordinator of the four-year venture, said in announcing the midstate program. "Our message of 'Step Up, Gear Up, Volunteer' is one we hope to push out to our communities." On the campaign's website, which is www.capitalregionfirefighter.org, residents can locate their fire department, indicate their areas of interest, read testimonials from volunteers and explore opportunities

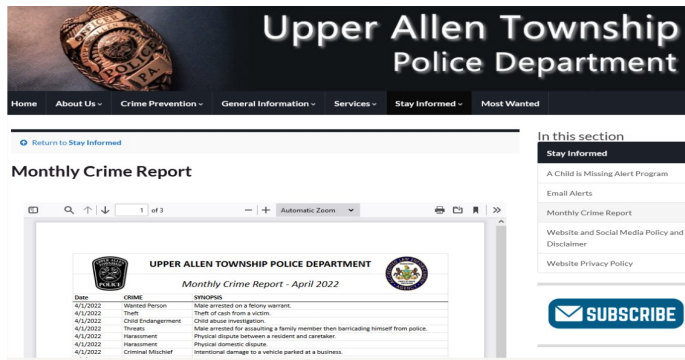
including firefighting, training to serve as an emergency medical technician and providing administrative services. Skills that volunteers gain through the 21 participating fire departments can lead to careers as a first responder or in the medical field.

"We also want them to know the sense of pride and camaraderie that many of our volunteers have found through volunteering."

In addition to the website, Capital Region Firefighter maintains a Facebook page and can be followed on Instagram at [capitalregionfirefighter](https://www.instagram.com/capitalregionfirefighter).

For information on joining the Upper Allen Fire Company, please see the "Become a Member" page at www.upperallenfire.com. Qualifying volunteers may be eligible for the Act 172 Volunteer Fire Fighter Tax credit.

RESIDENTS CAN ACCESS SERVICES AND CRIME DATA ON POLICE WEBSITE



Did you know that residents can pay parking tickets on the website, request a vacation check of their property, or submit an anonymous tip? They can also peruse crime charts and view mug shots of wanted individuals.

At www.upperallenpolice.com, the public can sign up for alerts that also go to the news media and are posted on Facebook and Twitter, then read the corresponding news releases on the website.

The Upper Allen Police Department has maintained a website since 2000, but recent updates and expanded offerings have transformed it into a 21st century tool for informing the public, serving residents' needs and fighting crime.

But the website's new offerings provide an even wider array of information and services. "Our goal is to provide residents with the information they need to make decisions in their community and to get feedback from the public," said Lt. Brian Barnes.

Among the website's additions:

Camera registry: Residents can join the registry and indicate where they have exterior cameras. The images they capture might reveal a crime or help police establish a crime timeline. "It is hugely helpful, especially with the proliferation of doorbell cameras," Barnes said.

Sex assault information: "There is a fear of the unknown if someone files a police report," Barnes said. "The site has information to let people know what the process is and how they will be treated when we contact them." The page also lists resources for those who don't want to contact police.

Child abuse information: The department has seen a 500 percent increase in reporting in the last six years, Barnes said. The page offers guidance on what is and is not child abuse and tells how to file a report.

Crash reports: The annual listing results from the number of traffic complaints the department receives.

Commendation forms: "This is a way for people to shine a light on the good work officers are doing every day," Barnes explained.

The website had nearly 30,000 page views in a recent 30-day period. In addition to being an information source for residents, the site has been a useful tool for police. "We get a lot of anonymous tips. We rely on people to tell us what is out of place in their neighborhood," Barnes said.

AMBULANCE SERVICE FOR UPPER ALLEN TOWNSHIP



The Township receives many calls about how residents can sign up for ambulance service. You may call the Penn State Life Lion at Holy Spirit Hospital for ambulance membership at **717-761-1038**. You can also sign up online by going to their website at www.ambulancebillingoffice.com/memberships/pennstatehealth.php.

Please note that you may go to the hospital of your choice.



ALBA ORTHODONTICS

Presents

movies in the **PARK**



Thanks to Alba Orthodontics, there will be two movies held this summer at Fisher Park! Bring your lawn chairs and blankets and join fellow residents to watch **SING 2** on July 22nd. Events start at 7:00 pm and the movie starts at 8:00 pm. A second movie will be held on August 19th with the movie to be determined. Food trucks will be on site.

PRECAST CONCRETE STRUCTURE TO REPLACE MILL ROAD BRIDGE



The Mill Road Bridge, an 11-foot span that crosses Trout Run near Messiah University, is scheduled for replacement with an innovative structure in 2023. The current span, constructed of steel-reinforced concrete, is on a convenient, primary route for motorists traveling between the Grantham area and Lisburn Road to the north.

The Township's former traffic engineer deemed the short span deficient and the travel surface was narrowed from one lane each way to one lane total within the last year. Inspections of spans shorter than 20 feet in length fall to municipal officials. "The existing concrete structure has deteriorated, exposing the steel reinforcement," said Jason Reichard, Township Engineer. "There is some

level of undermining of the bridge abutments."

Posted signs alert motorists to the bridge's reduced weight limit of 5 tons, and temporary guide rails narrow travel to one lane. The new bridge will employ a more modern technology. "We will put in a precast concrete box culvert, a box structure manufactured off-site," Reichard explained. "It will be installed with a crane." The new bridge will stretch 17 feet and add 1 foot in total width, with two 10-foot lanes of travel. "For this size crossing it's pretty much the most economical option," Reichard said of the box structure, which has an open middle section for the stream. "Precast offers quality control at the manufacturing site. The amount of time the road is taken out of service is less."

While the total construction time will be about three months, Reichard said the crossing will be out of service for roughly one month. Work likely will begin in March or April of next year. Mill Road traffic will be detoured primarily to East Grantham Road during the project. The delay in performing the work results from what consumers are experiencing in many areas of the supply chain. Reichard said there is a backlog in precast manufacturing, pushing the project into 2023.

HAWTHORNE STORMWATER PIPES TO BE REPLACED



As part of its effort to effectively handle stormwater, Upper Allen Township will replace the two corrugated metal pipes that channel water under Hawthorne Avenue.

Garrett Vandebrake, Stormwater Program Manager for the Township, said the pipes and the concrete walls at both ends of the pipes are failing.

"The flow line in the pipes has deteriorated," he said. "It's more difficult for water to flow through."

Stormwater that gathers in a swale, or grass ditch, on one side of the road flows into the pipes, nestled in a culvert beneath the roadbed, and exits into a swale on the other side.

The work, likely to begin in mid-August, will involve installing two larger pipes and new concrete walls. Shiloh Paving and Excavating of York is contracted to make the repairs.

About 50 feet of roadway will be excavated to perform the work. That section of Hawthorne Avenue will be impassable for the duration of the job, which should take about two weeks.

Detour signs will be posted before work begins. Residents can check the status of the project on the township website, uatwp.org, by clicking on the Community tab.

UPPER ALLEN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Ken Martin, President
(seated center)
Rick Castranio, Vice President
(seated left)
Ginnie Anderson
(seated right)
Jeff Walter
(standing left)
Jim Cochran
(standing right)

The Township offices will be closed
Monday, July 4th for Independence
Day and Monday, September 5th,
for Labor Day

TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

July

- 6 Board of Commissioners - 6:30 p.m.
- 12 Administration - 7:30 a.m.
- 14 Zoning Hearing Board - 6:00 p.m.
- 19 Stormwater Improvements & Public Improvements - 8:00 a.m.
- 19 HARB - 7:00 p.m.
- 20 Stormwater Authority - 6:00 p.m.
- 20 Board of Commissioners - 6:30 p.m.
- 25 Planning Commission - 7:00 p.m.
- 27 Park & Recreation - 6:30 p.m.
- 28 Sewer Authority Board - 6:30 p.m.

August

- 3 Board of Commissioners - 6:30 p.m.
- 8 Pension Board - 7:30 a.m.
- 8 Administration - 8:00 a.m.
- 10 Public Safety - 6:30 p.m.
- 11 Zoning Hearing Board - 6:00 p.m.
- 16 Stormwater Improvements and Public Improvements - 8:00 a.m.
- 16 HARB - 7:00 p.m.
- 17 Stormwater Authority - 6:00 p.m.
- 17 Board of Commissioners - 6:30 p.m.
- 24 Park and Recreation - 6:30 p.m.
- 25 Sewer Advisory Board - 6:30 p.m.
- 29 Planning Commission - 7:00 p.m.

September

- 7 Board of Commissioners - 6:30 p.m.
- 8 Zoning Hearing Board - 6:00 p.m.
- 13 Administration - 7:30 a.m.
- 20 Stormwater Improvements and Public Improvements - 8:00 a.m.
- 20 HARB - 7:00 p.m.
- 21 Budget Kick Off - 5:30 p.m.
- 21 Stormwater Authority - 6:00 p.m.
- 21 Board of Commissioners - 6:30 p.m.
- 22 Sewer Advisory Board - 6:30 p.m.
- 26 Planning Commission - 7:00 p.m.
- 27 Park & Recreation - 6:30 p.m.



**UPPER ALLEN
TOWNSHIP**

100 Gettysburg Pike
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Phone: 717-766-0756
Fax: 717-796-9833
Website: www.uatwp.org



xpress
BILL PAY

PAY YOUR SEWER BILL ON LINE!

It's that easy, and it only takes you just a few minutes every quarter.

Sign up today and see why so many people consider this to be the best way to pay your sewer bill. Just go to <https://www.xpressbillpay.com/#/> and sign up today! Be sure to have your account number available.