

MAIDENCREEK TOWNSHIP

Summer 2016

Maidencreek Township
P.O. Box 319
Blandon, PA 19510
610-926-4920

Website:

www.maidencreek.net

Hours:

Monday – Friday 8am to 4pm

Board of Supervisors:

Joseph Rudderow III

Claude Beaver

David Franke

Tax Collector:

Barbara Hassler
16 Adele Avenue
Blandon, PA 19510
610-916-1902

WHAT DO I DO WITH MY GRASS CLIPPINGS?

One of the things homeowners don't enjoy in mowing their lawns is the amount of grass clippings that come out of the process. Grass clippings, which are the shreds of grass blades left after mowing a lawn, often leave homeowners and landscapers with the task of disposing large piles of debris. Here are some ways to make use of grass clippings. **Leave them on the lawn.** You can leave grass clippings on the lawn to fertilize it, especially if you have a mulching mower. **Collect and compost.** Use a bagging mower or rake to collect clippings from the lawn and create a compost. **Make mulch.** Grass clippings can also be used as mulch, especially for vegetable gardens that have tomatoes and peppers. **Take them to the Maidencreek Township Drop off Site.** Maidencreek Township residents may dispose of their grass clippings and brush at the drop off site at 1246 Maidencreek Road. The drop off site is open seven days a week during daylight hours. Do not dump any type of trash. This site is for leaves, grass clippings, garden plants, brush and trees. Please report anyone dumping trash to the Northern Berks Regional Police Department 610-926-2999. Please provide them with the vehicle's license plate number and what type of material they dumped.



“Long stormy spring-time, wet contentious April, winter chilling the lap of May; but at length the season of summer does come”

– Thomas Carlyle



Pennsylvania Leads Nation in Lyme Disease Cases

Pennsylvania has led the nation in confirmed cases of Lyme disease for three straight years, and for the first time, deer ticks have been found in all of its 67 counties, the state Department of Health reports. Because diagnosing the disease can be difficult, many people who actually have it are misdiagnosed with other conditions like chronic fatigue, MS, depression or fibromyalgia. Less than 50 percent of those diagnosed with the illness recall being bitten, according to the International Lyme and Associated Diseases Society (ILADS). In the early stages, Lyme disease may feel like the flu, with the person experiencing fever, sore muscles, headache, and fatigue. Rashes occur in 60 to 80 percent of cases. Most of the time, the rash is an ordinary red area. However, if it is a “bull’s-eye” shape with a darker edge, this is a definite sign of Lyme disease and needs immediate treatment.

How to protect yourself

Experts say your best defense against tick-borne illness is to avoid contact with ticks in the first place. When that’s not possible, take the following steps: **Know where ticks live** — Ticks tend to be near the ground, in leaf litter, grasses, bushes, and fallen logs. High-risk activities include playing in leaves, gathering firewood, and leaning against tree trunks. **Dress defensively** — Wear shoes, socks, long pants, and long sleeves. Tie back long hair and wear a hat. Light-colored clothing can help you spot ticks. **Use repellent on exposed skin** — Studies show that repellents with DEET, picaridin, or lemon eucalyptus oil are the most effective. **Check for ticks** — When outdoors, periodically inspect your clothing and skin

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

Logan Carbaugh was asked to design, produce and install a professional signboard that delivers and creates awareness on the negative effects graffiti and vandalism have on the community, especially at the Maiden creek Community Park. As well, Logan led the 30+ team members in power washing, sanding and re-staining of the pavilion posts; which also had been vandalized and covered in graffiti. Maiden creek Township would like to thank Logan and all his helpers for a fantastic job.

FREE Concert in the Park

Saturday, July 30th * 6pm to 9pm

Maiden creek Community Park

753 Park Road, Blandon

Dave Mell Band



Food and drink available for purchase.

for ticks. **Take a shower** — Once home, take a shower right away. **Put your clothes in the dryer** — Running your clothes in a hot dryer for 10 minutes before you wash them will kill any ticks that may be there. **Protect your pets** — Ticks can infect dogs and cats, too. Also, their fur can act like a “tick magnet,” carrying ticks inside your home. Consult with your veterinarian about tick protection for your pets.

Information courtesy of www.LymeDisease.org.



The next few years will be challenging in Maiden Creek Township as travel on area roads will be slower due to multiple road and bridge projects being constructed at the same time.

- Main Street in Fleetwood will be closed in segments from 2016 to 2018 as the road and utilities are replaced.
- The roundabout project at Route 662/Route 222 is scheduled to begin late 2016.
- The roundabouts at Genesis Drive/Route 222 and Schaeffer Road/Route 222 are scheduled for construction in 2017 and 2018. This project includes replacement of the bridge over the Willow Creek near Shady Glen Picnic Grove, replacement and extension of utilities along Route 222 and widening of Route 222 to five lanes. It is unknown at this time if any of the construction on Route 222 will be done at night, but we have been told that there will be one lane of Route 222 open in each direction during the construction period. Residents along the roadway will be contacted this summer if Penn DOT needs to purchase right of way for the project from them.
- Replacement of the Schaeffer Road Bridge is scheduled for the summer and fall of 2017. During this project, the bridge will be closed.

None of the projects will be under the control of Maiden Creek Township but we will try to keep residents updated on Facebook and our website. In addition, the Maiden Creek Township Board of Supervisors has authorized the purchase of an electronic sign that will record and display a vehicle's speed. Drivers will get a visual cue from the sign as to the speed they are traveling. The speed is recorded and can be downloaded by the Northern Berks Regional Police Department to identify problem areas that need speed enforcement. The sign is portable, so it can be moved to streets that are having issues.

You, the resident, can help too. We will all find our own detours to avoid the construction zones instead of taking the official Penn DOT detour routes. PLEASE be respectful and CAUTIOUS of pedestrians, bicycles, children and pets as you travel through the Township. Plan ahead to give yourself enough time in case traffic is backed up. Talk to the young drivers in your household about safety, speed limits, stopping at stop signs, and texting and driving. With a little patience and planning, we will get through the next few years and hopefully in the end have better roads with fewer fatalities and less congestion.

Diane Hollenbach, Manager

Fleetwood Road Restoration Construction Schedule:

Season 1:

North Franklin Street schedule: Closed February 17 – August 10, 2016 (Stage 2) from Main St. to before the Grange.

Local detour – north: Schuler-School-Park Rd.' south: Pleasant Hill Rd.

Truck detour – Rt. 222-Rt.73-Park Rd.

West Main Street (from bridge at park to Franklin St) scheduled: August 11-November 2, 2016 (Stage 3)

Local Detour – Lenhart-Criscross/Walnuttown-N. Richmond-W. Vine-N. Franklin-Main

Truck Detour – Rt. 662-Rt. 12 (Pricetown Rd.)-Rt. 73

Season 2:

South Richmond Street scheduled: March 15 – September 8, 2017 (Stage 4)

Intersections & Main Street scheduled: September 11 – November 3, 2017 (Stage 5)

Season 3:

East Main Street scheduled: February 23 – October 11, 2018 (Stage 6)

Note: The final wearing course (top coat) is done after road reconstruction is completed – October 2018

All dates are tentative at this time. As work proceeds and the contractors present dates that are tangible, Fleetwood Borough will make them public.

Maidencreek Fall Cleanup, Saturday, September 17th 2016 from 7am to 11am at the Maidencreek Township Building. All residents may drop off large and small items to be disposed of.

Items accepted include: furniture, clothing, lumber scraps, carpet, metal, household items, mowers, tires without rims, automotive, SUV and truck batteries, latex paint (must be dried cans or filled with kitty litter to absorb paint and separated from other items) hot water heaters, and hot tubs. Appliances (Freon must be removed and tagged with technician's ID # and date)

Items that will not be accepted: computers, television sets, hazardous waste, appliances with Freon, tires with rims, daily household garbage, concrete, brick or block, any recyclables such as grass, leaves, or brush, motor oil or lubricants, paints, paint thinners, turpentine, pesticides, noxious, caustic, and acidic chemicals, asbestos, metal drums, propane tanks, items containing oil or gas, any type of explosives including gun loading materials will **NOT** be accepted

**Berks County Medication
Drop Box Program**

Free disposal of unused, unwanted or expired medications.

Items Accepted: Any unwanted or expired medications, both prescription and over-the-counter, including pet medications. Ointments, inhalers, powder or patch form medication.

Items NOT Accepted: Any loose pills not in standard container or bag, syringes, thermometers, bandages, sun block, lipstick, deodorant, skin cream.

Nearest Drop Box Location: **Fleetwood Police** - 110 West Arch Street, Fleetwood

Paper Shredding Event

No businesses

10 box per vehicle maximum

October 15th 8am – 2pm @ First Energy Stadium

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

ID Required – Will not accept latex paint.

October 22nd 8am – 2pm @ First Energy Stadium

**Blandon Lions Club
Kauffman's**



August 28th

10:30am to 3:30pm

Maier's Grove, Blandon

Eat In or Take Out

Rain or Shine!

\$8.50 for half a chicken, corn on the cob, baked potato, applesauce and roll. Dessert extra.

For advanced tickets contact:

Jason Valick @ 610-944-1830

**Berks County
Electronic Drop Off
1316 hilltop Rd, Leesport, PA**

OPEN EVERY TUESDAY, THURSDAY & SATURDAY
8:00 AM – NOON

ELECTRONIC ITEMS ACCEPTED:

- Computers, Monitors, Laptops, Keyboards, Modems, Printers, Copier, etc.
- Microwaves, Stereos, VCRs, Telephones, Answering Machines, etc.
- CD's, DVD's, VCR Tapes, etc.
- Television (**Maximum of two per resident/vehicle per day**)
- Fluorescent bulbs
- Rechargeable and Lead Acid Batteries (**ONLY**) – **NO ALKALINE BATTERIES ACCEPTED**
- Air Conditioners & Dehumidifiers

How to Help Community Cats In Your Neighborhood

Working together we can make a difference for the community cats and shelters in our area. Trap, Neuter, Return (TNR) has been a proven method to help reduce the cat overpopulation. This program ends reproduction, stabilizes colony populations, and improves cats' lives. The behaviors and stresses associated with mating – pregnancy, yowling, spraying and fighting- stop. Plus, there are no new litters of kittens.

T – Humanely trap the cat

N – Take the cat to a spay/neuter clinic

R – Return the cat to their original outdoor home

Our local shelters take in over 4,000 cats a year. Fixing 1 community cat can save 200 from entering our shelter doors. If you would like more details on how to TNR, please contact one of the organizations to the right for more details.

Working together we can make a difference!

Deb Dreisbach, Board of Directors
No Nonsense Neutering



The universal sign that indicates a cat has been fixed is when the cat is ear-tipped.

These cats have a caretaker and should not be retrapped or brought to a shelter.

LEAF COLLECTION – October 31 to December 5

1. Park off the street as often as possible.
2. Rake leaves to the edge of your property that meets the street. Crews will not enter onto your property for collection. The pile may extend the length of your property.
3. Do not mix tree branches with the leaves.
4. Avoid placing leaves on any storm water basins.
5. Be patient. Ideally the crew can pass in front of each home once every week, but this schedule will be affected by adverse weather and the amount of leaves falling.

In Berks, there are now additional resources available to help us with community cats. Two organizations that focus on community cats are:

<p>No Nonsense Neutering 1500 Frush Valley Road, Reading PA 19605 www.nnnlv.org 866-820-2510</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traps available • Online and phone scheduling • Open Wednesdays, Fridays and 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month • Check website or Facebook for pricing and specials • Also provides low cost spay/neutering for pet dogs and cats • No appointment needed for one feral cat, cost \$35 per cat
<p>Fairchild Foundation 58 Kennel Road, Birdsboro, PA 19508 ARL Surgery Building www.fairchild.org Fairchildfoundation@gmail.com</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email Scheduling • Open one Sunday a month • Cats only • No appointment needed for one feral cat, cost \$35 per cat

RESIDENTIAL CURBSIDE BRUSH COLLECTION
Dates: September 19th, October 3rd, October 17th
 Please call the Township Office at 610-926-4920 (press 5 and leave your address after the tone) to be placed on the collection list the Friday before collection day
PLEASE DO NOT PUT OUT THE FOLLOWING FOR BRUSH PICK UP: ornamental grass, garden plants; (these will be picked up with leaves), trees or bushes with a diameter greater than 12", or anything with dirt and roots attached.

NOTICE TO MAIDENCREEK TOWNSHIP AUTHORITY WATER CUSTOMERS: Starting July 1, 2014 you will be able to view the annual water quality report on-line at http://www.maidencreek.net/files/MTA_CCR_2015_WEBSITE_COPY.pdf or www.maidencreektownshipauthority.ORG/Documents/CCR%20Report.pdf.

This report contains important information about the source and quality of your drinking water. Please call 610 926 4173 if you would like a paper report delivered to your home.

NOTICE TO MAIDENCREEK TOWNSHIP AUTHORITY AVISO A LOS CLIENTES DE LA AUTORIDAD DE AGUA DEL MUNICIPIO DE MAIDENCREEK: A partir del 01 de julio de 2014 serás capaz de ver el informe anual de calidad de agua potable on-line en http://www.maidencreek.net/files/MTA_CCR_2015_WEBSITE_COPY.pdf

or www.maidencreektownshipauthority.ORG/Documents/CCR%20Report.pdf. Este informe contiene información importante sobre el origen y la calidad de su agua potable. Por favor llame al 610 926 4173 si desea que se le entregue un informe periódico a su hogar.

----- FREE MULCH AVAILABLE FOR RESIDENTS AT THE TOWNSHIP BUILDING -----

MAIDENCREEK TOWNSHIP

PO Box 319
Blandon, PA 19510

Resident
Blandon, PA 19510