



Building a better community for you!

Township of Cumru
1775 Welsh Road
Mohnton, PA 19540

Township Offices
Monday–Friday
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Except Holidays
Phone: 610-777-1343
Fax: 610-796-0850
CumruTownship.org

Board of Commissioners
Meet Third & Fifth Tuesday
of each month at 7 p.m.

President:
Ruth O'Leary

Vice President:
Edward L. Gottschall

Commissioner/
Deputy Treasurer:
Sheri Hoover

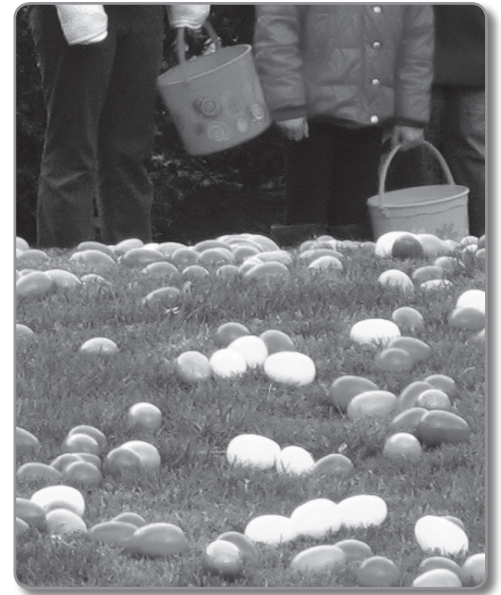
Commissioners:
Tony J. Sacco
Sheri Hoover
Lorri Swan

Solicitor:
Michael A. Setley, Esq.

Engineer:
Great Valley
Consultants, Inc.

MARCH 19, 2016 BUNNY BREAKFAST & EGG HUNT

It is hard to believe, but it is almost time to kick off our spring programming with our annual Bunny Breakfast and Egg Hunt. The Bunny Breakfast will begin at 9:00am on March 19, 2016 at the Warren Rec. Center, please arrive a few minutes early to sign in and find your seats. The breakfast buffet is being catered by Cloud 9 Cafe and we have eggs, casseroles, bacon, hash browns, fresh fruit, bagels, and fresh baked pastries on the menu. Along with a great meal, we will have crafts for the kids, door prizes for all ages, and last but certainly not least, a visit from the Easter Bunny. Preregistration is required and registration is limited. The cost is \$9.00 for adults and \$7.00 for children (U3 Free).



We will follow up the breakfast with our Egg Hunt at 11:00am, which is free to attend and open to children ages 12 and under. We will be running four egg hunts; for ages 2 and under, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12. We will have plenty of prizes on hand for everyone in attendance. We will also have refreshments and snacks available in the Warren Rec. Center. We ask that you please preregister, so that we have a rough head count, and that you arrive 15 minutes early to check in. You can register for the Bunny Breakfast in person at our Municipal Offices Mon-Fri 8:00am-4:30pm; we accept cash or check. You can preregister for the Egg Hunt by contacting us at (610)777-1343 x.121. We cannot wait to see you all March 19th, and remember this event is outdoors rain or snow or shine, so dress your children accordingly!

SPRING 2016

MEETING SCHEDULES

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Meetings held 3rd Tuesday of each month and the 5th Tuesday, when applicable, at 7:00 pm.

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Township Planning Commission meets the first Monday of each month at 6:00 pm. Except: September (2nd Monday). The Township Secretary is available to answer questions about the application for plan review and plan review fees; call (610) 777-1343.

PARK AND RECREATION BOARD

The Board meets the 2nd Monday of the month at 6:30 pm, except in October. The Park and Recreation Board is always looking for volunteers to help with our events and programs. Contact the Rec. Director for details.

ZONING HEARING BOARD

The Zoning Hearing Board meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. A staff assistant is available to answer any questions regarding a Zoning Variance Application during normal business hours. Call (610) 777-1343.

PENSION BOARD

The Pension Board meets whenever the committee deems necessary to perform its functions and responsibilities. A staff assistant is available to answer any questions regarding this Board during normal business hours; call (610) 777-1343.

MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

The Municipal Authority is scheduled to meet on 4/14/16, 7/14/16, and 10/13/16 at 8:00am to discuss the sanitary sewer system.

*A full listing of boards & commissions, along with a meeting schedule can be found at www.cumrutownship.org.

**If you would like to volunteer to serve on one of our Boards with a vacancy, please contact the township at (610) 777-1343 for details on how to declare your interest.

TOWNSHIP CLOSINGS

The Township Administrative Offices will be closed for the following Holidays in 2016: New Year's Day(1/1/16), President's Day(2/15/16), the Friday before Easter(3/25/16), Memorial Day(5/30/16), Independence Day(7/4/16), Labor Day(9/5/16), Columbus Day(10/10/16), Thanksgiving Day(11/24/16), the Day after Thanksgiving(11/25/16), half the day before Christmas Eve(12/23/16), The day after Christmas Day(12/26/16), half of the day before New Year's Eve(12/30/16).

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS

Please visit our website, CumruTownship.org, and scroll to the bottom of the page to sign up for email notifications. You will receive road closures, winter weather advisories, public safety advisories, program and events reminders, and more. It only takes a few moments, and you will stay up to date with important Cumru Township information.

TAX COLLECTOR INFORMATION

Sitting Dates and Times

March, April, July, and August hours:

- Tuesday & Thursday, 10 am to 2 pm
- Wednesday, 11 am to 4:30 pm

All other months:

- Tuesday, 10 am to 2 pm (no Thurs hours)
- Wednesday, 11 am to 4:30 pm

CLOSED ON THESE DATES:

- 7/25/2016 - 8/1/2016
- 9/26/2016 - 10/3/2016
- 12/19/2016 - 1/2/2017

Important Notes

- ONLY FULL PAYMENT ACCEPTED. ONLY EXACT PAYMENT ACCEPTED.
- A \$15.00 fee will be charged for all returned checks.
- All payments payable to Kathleen Sonnen, Tax Collector.
- If remitting payment without bill, please note type of tax, current year & tax bill number.
- Refuse fee: After 12/31/2016, unpaid refuse charges are sent to collection agency for payment.
- Real estate taxes: After 12/31/2016, unpaid real estate tax bills are collected by Berks County Tax Claim, (610)478-6625. A fee of \$15.00 per bill is added when filed with Berks County Tax Claim. As of 2/1/2017, ¾% interest is added per month.
- Per capita taxes: Per capita tax is assessed for any person 18 years of age or older, working or not working. Bills dated July, if not paid by 12/31/2016, will be submitted to GH Harris collection agency, (570)639-5005. Bills dated November, if not paid by April 30, 2017, will be submitted to GH Harris collection agency.
- A drop box is available inside the Cumru Township Office Building at 1775 Welsh Rd., Mohnton, PA. DO NOT LEAVE CASH IN THE DROP BOX. Regular office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., excluding holidays. Township holidays are as follows: New Year's Day, Presidents' Day, Friday before Easter, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Columbus Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Friday after Thanksgiving, after 12:00 p.m. December 23, 2016, December 26, 2016, after 12:00 p.m. December 30, 2016, and January 2, 2017. The office closes for 2016 on December 30, 2016, at 12:00 p.m.

TIPS FOR MAKING PAYMENTS

Cumru Township accepts cash, personal checks, money orders, and physical checks generated by on-line bill pay services.

Cumru does not accept electronic funds transfers via ACH, debit cards, or credit cards.

- The consumer is responsible for monitoring the disbursement of funds from her/his account.
- The consumer is responsible for being aware of her/his bank's internal policies.
- The Township is not responsible for errors by on-line bill pay services.
- The Township assesses a fee of \$32.00 for deposited checks that are returned for insufficient funds. The consumer is then required to pay the fee and original bill in cash.

Please include your full name, address, and account information when mailing or placing payments in our drop box. This insures that we can credit the appropriate account.

WHY IS MY SEWER RATE INCREASING

As has been widely reported, the City of Reading wastewater treatment plant at Fritz Island is mandated to perform certain upgrades. Some of those upgrades have already begun. Cumru Township sends 98% of its sanitary sewer effluent to Fritz Island. Sewer customers in all of the municipalities sending sewer effluent to Fritz Island, including Cumru Township, are responsible for a portion of the cost of these upgrades. Certain additional charges from the City of Reading will begin to increase over the next few years. Cumru Township's only source of income to pay these costs is the quarterly fee charged to its sewer customers.

Rather than imposing a sudden, steep increase in the sewer rate, Cumru Township endorsed a strategy in 2012 of gradually raising the sewer rate to pay for the estimated cost of Fritz Island upgrades and other charges by the City of Reading. Several municipalities have adopted this strategy, with a rate increase projected to be between 8% and 8.25% annually for 9 years. Each year, a certain amount of the sewer fund balance is designated for payment of the City charges described above. The sewer rate is reviewed each year as part of the annual budget preparation. This strategy was discussed at public meetings in 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015.

The 2016 sewer rate increase will be 8.0% (rounded). A metered account will pay \$119.00 for a minimum charge on the first 7,500 gallons of water consumption and an unmetered (well) account will pay a flat rate of \$166.00 per equivalent dwelling unit, or EDU.

The Township staff and the Municipal Authority are drafting ordinances in preparation for a future well metering program that is intended to bring sewer charges for well properties in line with sewer charges for properties on public water.

SCHUYLKILL RIVER TRIBUTARIES

Did You Know?

- A Tributary is a stream that flows to a larger stream or other body of water. In Berks County, the Schuylkill River has 17 major tributaries that are recognized.
- The Schuylkill River is the largest tributary of the Delaware River, and enters the Delaware River just northeast of Philadelphia International Airport.
- The Schuylkill River travels approximately 130 miles from its headwaters in Tuscarora Springs in Schuylkill County to its mouth at the Delaware River in Philadelphia. During its journey it travels through the center of Berks County touching 18 different municipalities.
- The Perkiomen Creek (portion in eastern Berks County) is the largest tributary of the Schuylkill River representing 306 square miles of the entire watershed.
- As rain or melting snow drains off of the land to a creek it can pick up pollutants such as pesticides, fertilizers, loose soil, road salt, and dog waste. This is called Stormwater Runoff Pollution, and is a major stressor in the Schuylkill River Watershed.

Explore the Watershed!

Wyomissing Creek:

Includes portions of Brecknock, Spring, and Cumru Townships, the Boroughs of Mohnton, Shillington, Wyomissing, and West Reading, and the City of Reading. The watershed contains numerous municipal parks and playgrounds as well as the Reading Public Museum grounds.

Angelica Creek:

Begins in Cumru Township and includes the boroughs of Kenhorst and Shillington, and the City of Reading. Plenty to explore here including Nolde Forest State Park, Angelica Creek Park, and the Nature Place.

STREAM NAMING CONTEST

Over 85% of all streams in PA are un-named. Why should we name our stream?

Giving a place a name gives it an identity that we can relate to. The more people that identify with a place, the more likely they are to act as careful stewards of that resource. Therefore, we propose officially naming the local streams that are tributaries of Angelica Creek, which go through our parks and school yards.

The process of choosing a name can be fun and rewarding. It can generate community awareness, pride and ownership. This then creates opportunities for learning and recreation associated with the named stream.

When choosing a name, citizens often learn much about the area in a geographical, historical and ecological context. The process of naming will allow for learning more about the stream's role in the past and how this connects to its' present day role in the local Schuylkill watershed as well as the Delaware Valley Basin.

When choosing a stream name, there are a few guidelines to consider (taken from Chester-Ridley-Crum Watershed Association's Document for naming a stream):

1. Do consider names already in common usage for the stream.
2. Do use imaginative, distinctive names suggested by local history, folklore, topography, natural life.
3. Do use simple names (it's best to limit the name to two words including Creek or Run). In the case of Angelica Creek tributaries, the second word should be "Run", because that is the system that is currently in use. One tributary in Nolde Forest is named "Punches Run".
4. Do Not name a stream to honor a living or recently deceased person.
5. Do Not choose a name that is already in use in Berks or a nearby county.



The Township of Cumru Park and Recreation Board will be hosting a stream naming contest to name the tributary between Oregon Road and Route 625, along Church Rd. Submissions may be made by mail, online at cumrutownship.org (see Stream Naming Contest Tab), or by direct message on facebook. Please include your name, phone number, address, and your submission. All entries must be received by May 8, 2016. The Park and Recreation Board will pick a winner at our May 11, 2016 meeting. Our winner will receive a \$25.00 Visa gift card.

RESIDENT INFORMATION

STORM WATER FACTS:

What many people don't realize is how storm water collects debris, like yard waste and litter. Solid materials bundle together at storm drains and block the flow of rain into storm water pipes. This can result in localized flooding that could have been prevented. Solid materials that get through the storm water system flow directly into local creeks and rivers, often containing pollutants that are harmful to aquatic ecosystems. Like many other municipalities, Cumru Township is responsible for enforcing regulations to minimize yard waste, litter, and other debris in storm water. Accordingly, by Ordinance No. 658, as amended, Cumru Township prohibits the disposal of grass clippings and other material in streets, unless clippings are removed from streets by one hour after sunset on the day on which such clippings are deposited in the street. **When it rains, it drains, everyone is downstream of someone.**

Storm drains clogged by trash and debris cause excess stress on other drainage systems which contribute to sinkholes and premature deterioration of roadways by undermining their foundations over time as water seeks alternative routes to drain away under the surface.

STREET LIGHTS:

If you experience a streetlight outage, call Met-Ed (1-800-545-7741) or PPL (1-800-342-5775) directly. When trees block streetlights, the lights cannot be serviced. Property owners are responsible for having their trees trimmed so as not to interfere with streetlight maintenance.

TREE TRIMMING:

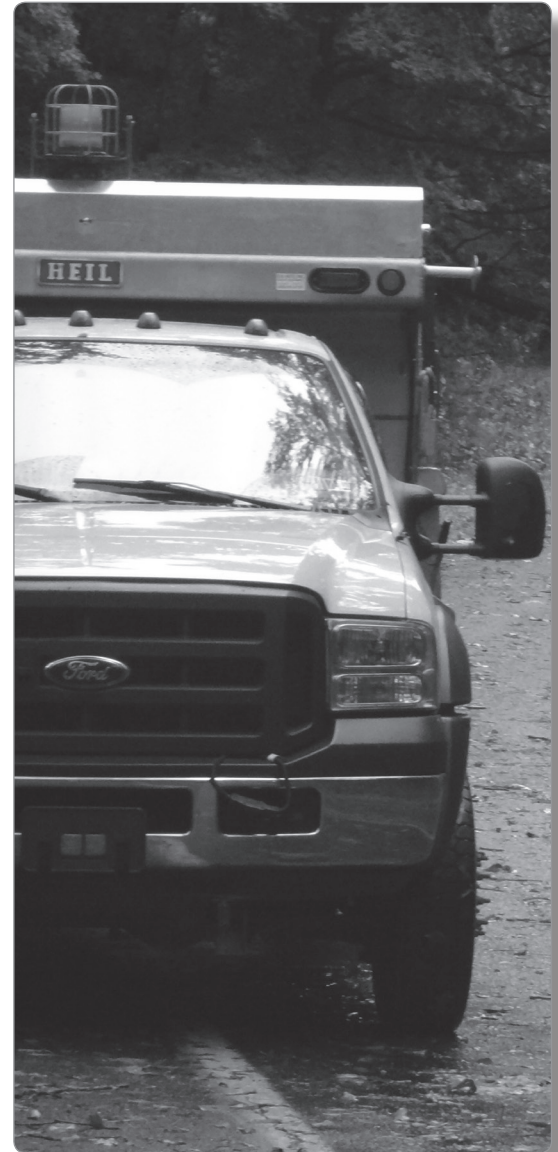
Trees and vegetation must be trimmed to provide at least seven and one half feet (7'-6") of clearance above sidewalks and at least fourteen (14') of clearance above streets (Ordinance No. 137). Low branches can damage vehicles, impede sidewalk travel, and block signs. Property owners are responsible for having their trees trimmed. New trees shall be planted a minimum of 10 feet outside of the legal right of way of streets (Ordinance No. 690).

POTHOLES:

The Highway Department fills potholes all year round. Please call (610) 777-1343 to report potholes.

SNOW EMERGENCY ROUTES:

Parking is prohibited along Snow Emergency Routes during a declared Snow Emergency. Check www.cumrutownship.org and facebook for Snow Emergency updates, or sign up for email alerts (pg. 2).



MAKE IT A BREAKAWAY:

A new mailbox is a great spring project, but make sure that the new one is a breakaway post. Mailbox structures that are not breakaway, like brick or masonry, can cause damage to Township equipment and other vehicles, and are obstructions in the right of way.

WINTER WEATHER MAINTENANCE:

Less than three (3") inches of snow, the roads will be treated as conditions warrant. Depending on the storm, plowing may not begin until there is at least three (3") of accumulation. Over three (3") inches of accumulation, the road will be plowed if parked cars permit. The number and frequency of passes that the plow will make depends on the intensity, duration and type of frozen precipitation. HOWEVER, no two storm events are the same and temperature, duration, intensity, type of precipitation, time of day, time of year, manpower levels, equipment availability and many other factors will vary from storm to storm. The number and position of vehicles parked along the road will seriously impact the Township's ability to push snow off of the road.

*It is unlawful to cast or deposit snow and/or ice in streets of the Township (Ordinance No. 332). Cumru Township maintains the traveled cart way of dedicated roads, defined as traveled lanes, as its first priority, so as to minimize snow accumulation becoming a hazard on the roadway. After cart ways are plowed (traveled width), a cleanup and widening operation follows. Roads are plowed in a priority order, beginning with the highest traffic volume routes and working toward the lower traffic routes.

NO SEWER DEDUCTIONS:

For those sanitary sewer customers on public water, Cumru Township discontinued the practice of deductions for pool fill-ups or other water that does not go through the sanitary sewer system. Sewer consumption is based solely on water consumption, as required by ordinance.

SEWER VENTS:

Sewer vents and clean-outs are a critical part of every building's sanitary sewer lateral. They provide access for repair, maintenance and inspection of the sewer pipes that convey sewage from a building to the Township's sewer collection system. The sewer vents and clean-outs are owned by and the responsibility of the property owner. The area around the sewer vents and clean-outs must be kept clear of vegetation, landscaping, and other permanent structures.

SEWER BACK-UPS:

Residents are encouraged to call the Township before they contact a plumber in the event of a clogged sewer. At no charge, the Township will investigate the problem and advise the property owner of the results.

If you experience a sewer backup, do not flush your toilet or use water until the cause of the problem has been determined. The Township recommends contacting the Sewer Department at (610) 777-1343 Monday through Friday 8a.m.-4:30p.m. or after hours at (610) 607-1815. The Township will check the sewer main and sewer lateral. If the clog is in the main or in the Township's Section of the lateral the Sewer Department will clear the blockage. If the clog is on the property owner's section of the lateral or the building trap, the Township will advise the property owner to contact a plumber. There is no charge for this service.

HOLIDAY TRASH/RECYCLING COLLECTION

Trash and recycling collections shall not be made on the following holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. When a holiday falls on a Monday or a Tuesday, collection shall be made on the prior Saturday. When a holiday falls on a Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, collection shall be made on the following Saturday. These changes are reflected in the trash and recycling schedules.

Residents are encouraged to place their items curbside on Friday evening.

*Please dispose of hazardous waste appropriately.

CURBSIDE BRUSH/YARDWASTE COLLECTION

There will be two curbside "brush and yard waste" pickups during 2016. The collection schedule is as follows:

If your trash day is Mon: pickup will be Sat., April 2, 2016 and Sat., Oct. 1, 2016

If your trash day is Tues: pickup will be Sat., April 9, 2016 and Sat., Oct. 8, 2016

If your trash day is Wed: pickup will be Sat., April 16, 2016 and Sat., Oct. 15, 2016

If your trash day is Thurs or Fri: pickup will be Sat., April 23, 2016 and Sat., Oct. 22, 2016

Please Note:

1. All brush/yard waste must be set out the night prior to collection. There will be no re-run routes.
2. All brush/yard waste is to be in kraft bags (biodegradable bags) or tied securely with rope or twine not to exceed two (2) feet in diameter, and three (3) feet in length. No wood over four (4) inches in diameter will be taken because of possible damage to trucks. No bundles or bags weighing over forty (40) pounds.
3. The limit per household is 12 bags or bundles.
4. No firewood, stumps, dirt, or rocks will be taken as part of this collection.

INTERESTED IN RENTING OUR FACILITIES?

CALL (610) 777-1343 FOR DETAILS

Looking to host a birthday or graduation party? How about a bridal or baby shower? Don't have enough room at home for that family get together? Our Warren Recreation Center is the perfect solution! With ample space, affordable rates, and all the necessary facilities, make sure you give us a call before you make arrangements anywhere else. We may have exactly what you are looking for. We book quick, so do not hesitate to call!



YARD WASTE FACILITY

Open ONLY on the Second Saturday of the Month, Yard waste will not be accepted on any other day. Normal Hours of Operation are 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m, Winter Hours (Dec-March) are: 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. The Facility is located off of Poplar Neck Rd.



The following items will be accepted:

- Leaves
- Garden Debris
- Brush and Bushes
- Tree Trimmings
- Weeds
- Flowers and Garden Plants

The following items will **NOT** be accepted:

- Stumps and/or stump grindings
- Grass
- Plastic Bags or Paper Bags
- Root Balls
- Treated or Painted Wood
- Railroad Ties
- Tree Branches (larger than 5ft long & 6in wide)
- Glass
- Trash
- Dirt or Sod
- Concrete or Brick
- Rocks**

***PAPER BAGS MUST BE EMPTIED.**

Fines up to \$300 will be issued for illegal dumping (Ordinance No. 676). Open ONLY to residents of Cumru. Identification will be required! No commercial vehicles are allowed. The site will be patrolled by police and is under video surveillance.



*In order to comply with PaDEP regulations, items proposed to be dropped off at the yard waste facility may be declined at the Township's discretion.

CTPD - BICYCLE RULES & REGISTRATION

All persons operating a bicycle must obey vehicle traffic control signals, signs and other devices. Bicycles must travel in the proper direction on 1-way streets unless the person dismounts from the bicycle and obeys all pedestrian regulations. Bicyclists must ride as close to the right-hand side of the roadway as is possible. Operators may not carry another person on a bicycle unless the bicycle is designed and equipped to carry another person (adults carrying a small child securely attached to the adult in a backpack or sling excluded).

When operating a bicycle between sunset and sunrise, the bike must be equipped with a front light that emits light visible for at least 500 feet, amber reflections on each side, and a red reflector visible from the rear of the bicycle for 600 feet. A red light visible to the rear for at least 500 feet may be used in addition to the red reflector.

To prevent theft and help the police trace lost or stolen bicycles, all bicycles must be registered. Bicycle registrations, at no cost, can be obtained by calling the Traffic Safety Officer.

KIDS, COPS & FRIENDS TROUT DERBY

The Cumru Township Police Department, in conjunction with the Parks and Recreation Department, will be holding the 10th annual Kids, Cops & Friends Trout Derby on May 21, 2016. The event is free to attend for children 12 and under; however, registration is limited to the first 50 children. Food and drinks will be provided. Please bring your own tackle. Prizes will be awarded for tagged trout. The trout derby will begin promptly at 9:00am, please arrive early to sign in and to pick your spot. The event will wrap up around 12:30pm. Registration will begin April 11, 2016. Please contact us at (610)777-1343 for more information.



imited to the first 50 children. Food and drinks will be provided. Please bring your own tackle. Prizes will be awarded for tagged trout. The trout derby will begin promptly at 9:00am, please arrive early to sign in and to pick your spot. The event will wrap up around 12:30pm. Registration will begin April 11, 2016. Please contact us at (610)777-1343 for more information.

CTPD FACEBOOK PAGE

The Cumru Township Police Department has a Facebook page! Please visit us at www.facebook.com and search for "Cumru Township Police Department."

PERSONAL PROPERTY TRACKER

Report It
Citizen Property Inventory System
Powered by LeadsOnline

Safe. Secure. Free.

Keep track of your valuable personal property

reportit.leadsonline.com

FIRE DEPT - HOW TO GET INVOLVED

WHY VOLUNTEER?

Becoming a volunteer firefighter gives you a unique opportunity to serve your community while joining a select group of people few ever get to be a part of. Whether you choose to help out in a support role, become a fully qualified firefighter, rescue technician or apparatus operator, or pursue a path to becoming a fire officer, it requires hard work and commitment, but it can also be one of the most rewarding experiences you'll ever have. If you want to be part of a close-knit team, have a desire to learn and keep on learning, and want to help people when they need it the most, then the volunteer fire service just might be for you.



WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I VOLUNTEER?

If you're new to the fire service, you'll start off with an orientation period in which you'll be taught basic skills needed to safely help out during emergency responses. Over the first year or two, you'll participate in department activities and emergency responses, filling roles suited to your level of training and ability, and complete the State Fire Academy training that helps you become fully qualified as a firefighter or function in your chosen support role. If you've already spent some time in the fire service, your initial duties will be matched to your level of training and experience. Either way, where you go from there is largely up to you.

HOW TO JOIN

First, you must complete one combined application to the Cumru Township Fire Department, Cumru Township Volunteer Firefighters' Association, and Cumru Township Volunteer Firefighters' Relief Association. You must then pass a criminal background check, complete an interview with the Membership Committee, and be accepted into probationary membership by a vote of the Firefighters' Association. Successful completion of the six month probationary period completes the full membership process. We take applications year-round at the Fire Chief's office in the Cumru Township Municipal Building at 1775 Welsh Road, or you can speak directly with a department officer. There is no cost to apply or to be a member of the department.

More information is online available at <http://cumrutownship.org/ctfdmembership.html>.

CTFD ANNUAL INCIDENT REPORTS



Fire Department Yearly Report- 2015
Total Incidents-660
Fires-127
Overpressure/Overheat-4
Rescue and EMS-126
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)-41
Service Call-102
Good Intent Call-154
False Alarm-105
Special Incident-1
Total Estimated Losses- \$2,282,400

Fire Department Yearly Report- 2014
Total Incidents-627
Fires-105
Overpressure/Overheat-4
Rescue and EMS-117
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)-46
Service Call-103
Good Intent Call-128
False Alarm-117
Severe Weather-1
Special Incident Type-6
Total Estimated Losses- \$1,565,330

CODES DEPARTMENT

Do I Need a Permit?

Permits are required to protect all people from the effects of the repairs, additions, or new construction which are in violation of codes and which could cause harm to life and property. Permits are also required to ensure that federally mandated building related requirements, such as energy conservation and accessibility, are complied with.

For spring, many people may be contemplating the purchase and installation of a shed, pole barn, garage, or home addition. Depending upon the type and size of project, permits may be needed. Looking forward to summer, many people may be contemplating the purchase and installation of a pool or pool-type structure. Any pool, spa, hot tub, or other similar structure that can hold more than 24 inches of water needs a building permit and a zoning permit.

Sometimes, it can be confusing as to whether or not a permit is needed. If you have a question about permits, or if you need one for your next project, please call a Building Inspector at (610) 777-1343, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

PENNWYN PLAYGROUND UPDATE

In 2014, a partnership consisting of the Wyomissing Creek Watershed Coalition, the Berks County MS4 Steering Committee, the Center for Watershed Protection, Great Valley Consultants, and the Berks County Conservation District formed. The partners provided training opportunities for Berks County MS4 municipalities at the Pennwyn Playground where attendees were asked to suggest and preliminarily design



various Best Management Practices (BMPs) for the playground. The exercise was meant to show attendees that BMP opportunities are all around us, readily available for design professionals to retrofit. The Center for Watershed Protection then took the recommendations of the training and began scoping out possibilities. (Cumru Township, spurred on by the energy at the training, went on to tackle a few low cost practices such as reducing unnecessary impervious surfaces in the park.) The Center for Watershed Protection, through funding provided by the Altria Group, informed the partners that there was funding available to complete a final design and to cover the cost of a BMP installation. The partners selected the infiltration trench and rain barrel as the pavilion at the playground had recently been renovated and was in need of down spouting and a place to direct the roof runoff. The infiltration trench and rain barrel were installed in October 2015. Signage

at the park will be installed to educate playground users about the BMPs and will provide tips on how everyone can keep local streams clean. The 384 square foot roof top produces about 9,000 gallons of water each year. With the installation of a rain barrel and infiltration trench, the Wyomissing Creek now receives cleaner water from this property.

In addition to the installation of a new pavilion, infiltration trench, and rain barrel the Township of Cumru applied for and received a matching grant from Playword Systems to replace the aging playground equipment at Pennwyn Playground. The previous equipment had served the township residents well since its installation in 2000, but had lived out its life expectancy. Installation of the new equipment was completed in December 2015.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Muhlenberg Township will be hosting “The Moving Wall” at Jim Dietrich Park from June 9 through June 13. Opening Ceremony will be on Thursday, June 9 at 7PM. We plan on having a Candlelight Service on Friday night at 8PM and a Wreath Laying Ceremony on Saturday at 10AM. The Closing Ceremony will be Sunday, June 13 at 7PM. The park will be open 24 hours a day while “The Wall” is in at the park. For more information check out the Township’s website at www.muhlenbergtwp.com.

Muhlenberg River Fest at Jim Dietrich Park on Saturday, Aug. 27 from 10AM to 10PM and Sunday, August 28 from 10AM to 5PM. Music of all types, food, beer/wine, and so much more fun. Come check it out at www.muhlenbergtwp.com or call 610-929-4727.

Healthy Kids Day & Go Fly a Kite ! Day Saturday April 23, 2016. From 12-6:00pm (raindate: Sunday April 24) Berks County Youth Recreation Facility (Big Vision Sports Complex) 1098 County Welfare Rd, Bern Twp. Get Active and Take Flight! Fun run, health & wellness info, bike rodeo & helmet check, children’s kite workshop & kite contests, Demos by professional kites, hot air balloon demo!

MIFFLIN COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Hours:

Monday 9 am-8 pm
Tuesday 9 am-8 pm
Wednesday 9 am-5 pm
Thursday 9 am-8 pm
Friday 9 am-1 pm
Saturday 9 am-4 pm

The Mifflin community library is hosting numerous programs and activities throughout the week, including a stitching circle, storytime programs, a lego club, and more. Of course they also have a fantastic selection of books, magazines, music, and more available every day. Stop in or check out their website for more information (<http://www.berks.lib.pa.us>).



Upcoming Events:

- Mondays: 9:30 AM Preschool Storytime - 6:30 PM Evening Stitching Group
- Tuesdays: 9:30 AM Preschool Storytime - 10:45 AM Toddler Storytime
- Wednesdays: 1:00 PM Afternoon Stitching Circle
- Thursdays: 3:30 PM Magic: The Gathering Club for Teens - 6:45 PM Thursday Evening Storytime

MIFFLIN AREA YMCA

<http://www.ymca-berkscounty.org>

The Mifflin Area YMCA offers a state-of-the-art fitness center, interactive youth center, gymnasium, and child-watch area. Youth and adult programs are running year round and the gymnasium is available for rentals. Financial aid is available, call for more information.

BERKS NATURE

Little Ones Nature Walk at the Nature Place Angelica Park April 14, 10 am & May 12, 10 am
Children explore nature with their favorite adult during our Little Ones Nature Walk series. Nature-based stories, nature walks, and art projects are all part of the fun! Sign up with your little one to discover the wonders of wildlife together! Designed for children ages 2-5 and their parents/caregivers. Adult participation and pre-registration required. Please be sure to dress for outdoor play. Cost: \$5 per family (members) \$10 per family (non-members)

Plant Trees with Berks Nature! April 2 10:30 am - 12:30 pm (Meet at Angelica Park parking lot)
April 9th = Rain date. Register in advance so you are notified of any changes to the schedule. Roll up your sleeves, meet new conservation-minded friends, have a good time, and help out the environment – all at the same time! Come join us and our friends from the Angelica Creek Watershed Association and the Alvernia University Environmental Club! Volunteers are asked to bring work gloves and wear long sleeve shirts, long pants, and closed toed shoes that are appropriate for digging. Keep in mind you will get dirty and the day may be chilly and wet. Please bring a shovel, if possible.

Spring Bird Count Workshop April 30 from 9:00 am - 10:00 am
Our expert friends from the local birding club, Baird Ornithological Club, will introduce children and their families (anyone that wants to learn about birds!) to bird identification as we conduct a Spring Bird Count in Angelica Park! Bring binoculars if you have them, but not a requirement. Nature walks will occur and interesting facts will be shared as we learn about birds.

BERKS ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE

ADOPT-A-THON

It's summertime and the kennels are full! Stop in for extended hours this weekend and adopt a new pet. We'll have special promotions all weekend, raffles, a bake sale and more.

Saturday, June 4: 11am – 6 pm

Sunday, June 5: 11am – 4 pm

Venue: Animal Rescue League
Start: June 4, 2016 11:00 pm
End: June 5, 2016 4:00 pm
Address: 58 Kennel Rd, Birdsboro PA, 19508

DOG SWIM

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. Ever wondered if your dog would love to swim? Here's your change to find out! Well behaved and social dogs are invited to swim in the pool on the last day of the season! Admission is dog food, cat food, cat litter, blankets/towels to be donated to the Animal Rescue League. They poop; you scoop rule is in effect!

Venue: Antietam Swimming Pool
Start: September 10, 2016 9:00 am
End: September 10, 2016 3:00 pm
Address: 905 Byram St.. Reading, PA, 19616

DESIGNER BAG RAFFLE

More info will be released closer to the event. Please check back! Good food, raffle, special games, and extra cards are available *Bring non-clumping (cheap clay type) cat litter and receive card for a free game (one offer per person)*

Venue: Leesport Farmer's Market
Start: Sept. 11, 2016 11:00 am
End: Sept. 11, 2016 5:00 pm
Address: 312 Gerner's Church Rd. Leesport, PA, 19533

NOLDE FOREST EEC

Nolde Forest encompasses more than 665 acres of deciduous woodlands and coniferous plantations. A network of trails makes the center's streams, ponds and diverse habitats accessible to both students and visitors. Teaching stations offer places for students to work and benches for those who wish to sit and enjoy the sights and sounds associated with the natural world. ADA accessible trails are located by the mansion and sawmill.

The Nolde mansion houses offices for the center staff. A garden featuring native wildflowers is adjacent to the mansion. The C.H. McConnell Environmental Education Hall near the mansion is the indoor site for year-round programming.

Please visit <http://dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/findapark/noldeforest/index.htm> for a full listing of upcoming programs and events.

ZUMBA FITNESS CLASSES



Thursday evenings from 6:15 pm - 7:15 pm at the Warren Recreation Center. The cost is \$5.00 per class at the door or you may purchase a five class punch card for only \$20.00. Weekly schedule updates available on facebook.

BFIT - FITNESS CLASSES

Keep the holiday bulge away, kick off the New Year right, or just get back in shape. Various programs offered throughout the year, check our website or facebook page for the latest program details.

CHILDRENS DANCE CLASSES

We will be offering a variety of Jazz, Acro, Tap & Ballet classes. Instructor Kayla Welsh has over 20 years of experience, and a passion for working with children. Please check our website or facebook for exact details as the year progresses.

A TOUCH OF CLASS - ADULT DANCE CLASSES



TAP CLASS (6:00 pm - 6:45 pm)
Students need no prior experience.

Belly Dance (6:45 pm - 7:30 pm)
Wear your sneakers, comfortable clothes, and bring a water bottle!

Wednesdays Beginning March 16, 2016 runs thru May 4, 2016(8 Weeks). Each class is \$40/per person. *SPRING SPECIAL!!!! SIGN UP FOR 2 CLASSES FOR \$75/per person. ALL REGISTRATIONS AND FEES MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE TOWNSHIP BY MARCH 11, 2016.

Instructor Kate Maue has been dancing since the age of 3. Her dance experience includes: Tap, Ballet, Jazz, Baton, and Middle Eastern Dance. This is Kate's 11th year with Cumru Township!

PAINT SOME POTTERY - APRIL 22, 2016



Class held at Warren Rec. Center at 5:00pm. All ages are welcome. (\$13 - MUG) Pieces will be fired and available for pick up about a week after the event. Call for additional details. To register, mail a check (payable to "Township of Cumru") or stop by our offices at 1775 Welsh Road Mohnton PA 19540.

INTRODUCTORY SOCCER - **MIGHTY KICKS**

Mighty Kicks will be offering an introductory soccer program for children ages 2-7 at the Monrose Manor Playground on Saturday mornings from April 9, 2016 until May 28, 2016. Each session will last 45 minutes. Makeup sessions will be provided for rainy days.

The 8 week program costs \$ 78.00 per child.

Mighty Kicks offers Premier Introductory and Mobile Soccer Programs for kids. Our enthusiastic and experienced instructors teach basic soccer skills by using age-appropriate games, drills, and exercises. The sessions are healthy, educational and FUN! The team atmosphere builds socialization and LIFE SKILLS at an important developmental age.

BEGINS MAY 5, 2016 - **ADULT COED VOLLEYBALL**

Thursday evening from 5-8:30pm at the Warren Recreation Center Court (1775 Welsh Road). Water and volleyballs provided, indoor restrooms available. All skill levels are welcome, and the program is free to attend. Facilities include two playgrounds and a basketball court, so bring the kids along.

TENTATIVE START MAY 3, 2016 - **ADULT COED SOFTBALL**

Games will be on Tues/Thurs afternoons. The cost is \$180/team and includes a minimum of 6 games and playoffs, as well as, referee fees, and shirts. Please call (610)777-1343 x121.

JUNE 27, 2016 - AUG 5, 2016 - **SUMMER PLAYGROUND**

We are hard at work planning the 2016 Summer Playground Program, please save these dates, and check our website and facebook page in the coming weeks for the latest updates.

STARTS JUNE 26, 2016 - **ADULT MEN'S BASKETBALL**

Men's 17+ Basketball League starts June 26, 2016, Sunday afternoon's 3-6pm, \$400/team. Fees cover jerseys, referees, score/time keeper & admin fees. Minimum 6 games plus playoffs. Registration begins May 2, 2016. All games will be played at the Warren Rec. Center.

JUNE-AUG 2016 - **OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHTS**

We will show a PG rated new release at 8:30pm on the third Friday of each month, June/July/Aug. Popcorn & drinks provided. These events are free to attend.

New programs may be added throughout the year. Check our website for information on our most up to date schedule.

Township of Cumru Program Registration Form

Program Registration Form

Program Name: _____

Number of Participants: _____ Cost/Participant: _____ Total Cost: _____

Payment Received: _____ ***Make Checks payable to the "Township of Cumru"***

Name of Participant (and parent if under 18): _____

Sex: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Signature of Participant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent if Participant is a Minor: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Emergency Contact Phone Number: _____

**Registration in a program constitutes an agreement between the participants and the Department to allow photographs or video of the Participant(s) to be published for promotional use. The undersigned, understand that the listed activity (ies) may involve certain risks, and in consideration of admittance to this activity, does hereby for myself, my minor child, successors, and assigns agree to release, waive, and forever discharge from all liabilities and further agree to indemnify, save, and hold harmless the Township of Cumru, its Commissioners, servants, agents, and employees from any loss, liability, damage, or costs which may be incurred due to participation of this activity.

Two ways to register:

1. Come visit us at the Township offices
2. Download a registration form online & mail it in



Township of Cumru

Berks County, Pennsylvania

1775 Welsh Road

Mohnton, Pa 19540

www.cumrutownship.org

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Lancaster, PA
Permit #23



governor mifflin area

**sparks'n fun
finder**

Trash/Refuse Collection

Collection shall be once a week for everyday household refuse.

Spring Cleanup

If your trash pickup is Mon Spring Cleanup is Mon, May 2, 2016

If your trash pickup is Tues Spring Cleanup is Tues, May 10, 2016

If your trash pickup is Wed Spring Cleanup is Wed, May 18, 2016

If your trash pickup is Thurs Spring Cleanup is Thurs, May 26, 2016

If your trash pickup is Fri Spring Cleanup is Fri, May 27, 2016

Recycling Collection

Recycling collection shall be every other week.

*Our recycling program is a single-stream program. This means all recycling materials can be mixed in the recycling container.

**Please see the Refuse/Recycling Calendars for exact dates of collection, available online at CumruTownship.org.

If you experience any problems with your trash or recycling collection, call the Township Office during the next business day at (610) 777-1343.

VISIT US AT

CUMRUTOWNSHIP.ORG



Find us on:
facebook