Fall/Winter 2021 Newsletter

# Bushkill Township

# Chairman's Corner

by Brien Kocher

Bushkill Township has a long history of cooperating with our neighbors. Our police and public works departments often combine forces so we can achieve larger projects than would be possible with our forces alone. Funding one common library is another example of regional cooperation where it makes sense.

In 2007 we were part of a 10 community Regional Comprehensive Plan. This plan was a guide for our communities to determine land use, water and sewer locations, open space and farmland preservation, and nat-

ural resource protection. In 2017 at the forum of the Nazareth Council of Governments, the communities of the Nazareth Area decided once again to form a Steering Committee to update this comprehensive plan to address the issues now facing our region such as development pressure, traffic congestion and a changing economic landscape. I have again been appointed to represent Bushkill Township on this steering committee.

With the help of the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission, the steering committee has been meeting since October of 2018 to gather data and gain public input regarding the issues and goals that are important to our residents. In addition, this allows the LVPC to understand how each of our 10 communities has its own distinct character and identity that can be retained among the region as a whole and have some input in how the area develops as a region.

Among the goals of the plan are to develop a natural resources plan, a farmland preservation plan, a future land use plan, a transportation and circulation plan, and a parks, recreation, open space, historic resources plan for each of the 10 communities applying a regional planning approach. We are nearing the end of our data collection and definition of the issues facing the region and will be completing a draft of this updated comprehensive plan this fall. This will allow the LVPC to present this proposed plan to each of the 10 communities for review by their planning commissions and governing bodies. Public input will be key to this process so I encourage you to review this draft and let the township know your comments. Your Board of Supervisors is committed to retaining our rural character and we believe in a plan that allows us to retain that character.

Call in to the township office or check our website for updates on the release of the draft plan. You can provide your comments to the township staff or attend our Planning Commission meetings when the plan is reviewed.

## **Bushkill Township Info**

#### **Phone Numbers:** Websites: Township Office 610.759.1250 Hours: Mon-Fri 8-4 Bushkill Township www.Bushkilltownship.com Local Tax Collector 610.759.6784 Hours vary **Bushkill Police Dept** www.Bushkilltownship.com **Zoning Office** 610.759.7197 Hours vary **Bushkill Fire Dept** www.Bushkilltownshipfireco.com **Public Works** 610.759.2758 Hours: Mon—Fri, 7-3 BTAA (Bushkill Township Athletic Assoc) Police-Office 610.759.9588 Hours: Mon-Fri, 7-3 www.btaabaseball.com 911 Nazareth Soccer Police/Fire —Emergency www.nazarethsoccer.org Police—Non-emergency 610.759.2200 Fire-Non emergency 610.759.2200

# **Bushkill Township Police Department**

**Back to School:** 

#### Pennsylvania's School Bus Stopping Law

- Motorists must stop at least 10 feet away from school buses that have their red lights flashing and stop arm extended.
- Motorists must stop when they are behind a bus, meeting the bus, or approaching an intersection where a bus is
- Motorists following or traveling alongside a school bus must also stop until the red lights have stopped flashing, the stop arm is withdrawn, and all children have reached safety.
- If physical barriers such as grassy medians, guide rails, or concrete median barriers separate oncoming traffic from the bus, motorists in the opposing lanes may proceed without stopping.
- Do not proceed until all the children have reached a place of safety.



Drive carefully & obey the speed!

#### Penalties if convicted of violating Pennsylvania's School Bus Stopping Law include:

- Five points on your driving record
- 60-day license suspension

We encourage commuters to: avoid distractions such as cell phones, allow extra time for delays, or, consider routes that avoid school bus stops altogether. In any case, when you are mindful of students' safety, you won't mind a little longer commute.



#### Deer on The Move, Motorists Use Caution:

With fall ushering in, deer become more active with the lead-up to their fall breeding season. Motorists are advised to slow down and stay alert. Dusk and dawn are the peak hours for deer activity. Deer will often travel in groups and walking single file. So, even if one deer successfully crosses the road in front of you, it doesn't mean the threat is over as another could be right behind it. Reduce your chances of a collision with a deer by just paying added attention while you are driving.

#### Halloween Safety Tips:

- Cross the street at corners. Look left, right, and left again when crossing and keep looking as you cross.
- Put electronic devices down, keep heads up, and walk. Do not run across the street.
- Teach children to make eye contact with drivers before crossing in front of them.
- Always walk on sidewalks or paths. If there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic as far to the left as possible.
- Watch for cars that are turning or backing up. Teach children to never dart out into the street or cross between parked cars.
- Decorate costumes and bags with reflective tape or stickers and, if possible, choose light colors.
- Choose face paint and makeup whenever possible instead of masks, which can obstruct a child's vision.
- Have kids carry glow sticks or flashlights to help them see and be seen by drivers.
- When selecting a costume, make sure it is the right size to prevent trips and falls.
- Slow down and be especially alert in residential neighborhoods. Children are excited on Halloween and may move in unpredictable ways.
- Enter and exit driveways and alleys slowly and carefully.
- Get rid of any distractions like your phone so you can concentrate on the road and your children.
- Turn your headlights on earlier in the evening to better spot children from greater distances.
- Popular trick-or-treating hours are 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. (6 to 8 p.m. in Bushkill Township). Be especially alert for kids during those hours.



# **Bushkill Township Fire Department**

#### Carnival

The Bushkill Township Volunteer Fire Company would like to thank all of the supporters and volunteers of our Carnival. With your help and support, the 2021 Carnival was a great success. Proceeds from the Carnival help the firehouse purchase and maintain life saving equipment.



#### **Ambulance**

The ambulance fund drive will be out again in April 2020. Your subscription helps us operate and you can save on billing should you need our services. Full information is included in the subscription envelope. We would like to thank the community for your continued support.

#### Fire Fund Drive

The fire fund drive will be out in September. Your donation helps operations and replacement of our rescue truck.

# Christmas is Coming so is Santa!

The Santa run 2021 has been scheduled for December 18th. Full information is on our Facebook and website. Donation \$10.00 for up to 3 children, it is \$5.00 for each additional child.



# Do you know what they are and what they represent?

They are the shoes of volunteer firefighters, not of paid firefighters.



They are the comfortable shoes, worn at home, running errands, taking the dog out, and raking the leaves.

They were shed without hesitation to put on heavy uncomfortable boots and bunker gear designed to offer at least some protection from fire, broken glass, and jagged metal.

Clothing whose sole purpose is to protect those who protect you.

They are local guys and gals...Township residents...JUST LIKE YOU!

They work in administration, construction, homes, clinics, trucking companies, phone companies, and area farms.

They leave their spouses, children, parents, coworkers, and friends to come to the aid of complete strangers when called to duty.

They do this at 12 noon, 3pm, 4 am.....it makes no difference.

We are looking for more shoes and to fill some empty boots. Come visit us after 7PM on Monday or Wednesday nights.

Although the commitment can be challenging, it is also extremely gratifying.

Not ready to park your shoes? We welcome social and junior members for support and help with our fundraisers.



Facebook: @nazarethlibrary
Instagram: @memorialnazarethlibrary
Teen Instagram: @mlnvteens
Twitter: @MemorialLibNaz
Phone Number: 610.759.4932

Fall is here, and the Memorial Library of Nazareth and Vicinity is excited for what's ahead! Take a look at the events and programs we'll be offering this Fall and Winter.

#### **Upcoming Events:**

Touch a Truck. Vehicles galore, story time with Alice & The Mad Hatter, food trucks, raffles and more at the library's largest fundraising event of the year on **Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10am-2pm** at the Bushkill Township Recreation Fields (1114 Bushkill Center Road, Nazareth, PA 18064)! Children can explore and touch trucks, ambulances, helicopters, construction equipment and more. Tickets on sale now!

Benefit Concert for the MLNV Join us at The Phoenix on Friday, November 19<sup>th</sup> for a night of music and entertainment to support the Memorial Library of Nazareth and Vicinity! Beloved musicians, Craig Thatcher, Dave Fry, and Dick Boak will be strumming the night away, while you enjoy some light snacks, drinks, and conversation! Doors open at 6:30pm. Concert begins at 7:30pm. This event is 21+. Tickets on sale now!

Christmas in Nazareth. The MLNV is excited to continue our participation in the Nazareth Area Chamber of Commerce's Christmas in Nazareth event! Stop by the library on Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 3pm to get in the holiday spirit!

#### **Ongoing Programming**

Children's Programming. Our weekly children's programming is back in action! Join us on the following days:

Tuesdays at 10:30am - Shake and Boogie at the library

Wednesdays at 10:30am - Storytime at the library

Thursdays at 10:30am - Storytime at Lower Nazareth Township Park Pavilion

Fridays at 10:30am - Shake and Boogie at Bushkill Township Recreation Fields Pavilion

<u>Please note:</u> all programming will be held outside as long as possible. Once the weather starts to get colder, programming will move indoors at the library, and at Bushkill and Lower Nazareth Townships.

**Teen Advisory Board.** Need a fun way to log volunteer hours?! The Teen Advisory Board (TAB) is an open-forum where teens discuss the issues related specifically to teen use of the library (materials and events). Perks of joining the TAB: making new friends, receiving volunteer hours, and the ability to make creative and financial choices involving teen programming & the YA/Teen room renovations. Email TAB Supervisor, Shelby Rozell, at <a href="mailto:srozell@nazarethlibrary.org">srozell@nazarethlibrary.org</a> if interested in joining.

MLNV Writing Group. This virtual writing group is facilitated by a local college professor who holds a Ph.D. in English and has a love for writing. At each meeting, participants will receive a writing prompt and be asked to share their responses (whether poetry, fiction, or nonfiction) to a previous writing prompt. If you are interested in joining the group and obtaining more details about the group, email Jill Silvius at jsilvius@nazarethlibrary.org.

Brainy Bibliophiles Book Group. This scholarly book club is led by Jill Silvius, Ph.D. and meets four times a year. The next discussion will be on Jonathan Safran Foer's Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close on December 7th. This library-led discussion group supplies copies of the selected book upon registration, while supplies last. For more information and to register, email jsilvius@nazarethlibrary.org.

STEM Programming. Our monthly STEM activities are back for the Fall and Winter. Join Kevin and Lauren for more STEM fun on the following dates:

STEM @ the Library - 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the Month (Sept 15, Oct 20, Nov 17, Dec 15) at 6:30pm Virtual STEM with Kevin - 1st Friday of the Month on Facebook & YouTube (Sept 3, Oct 1, Nov 5, Dec 3) at 10:30am

Craft Nights. The MLNV will now be hosting monthly craft nights for all ages.

Adult "Craft Club" with Anneliese - 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the Month (Sept 21, Oct 19, Nov 16, Dec21) at 6:30 pm Kids Craft Night - 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the Month (Sept 23, Oct 28, Nov 18, Dec 16) at 6:30pm

#### **Upcoming Closures**

The library will be closed on the following dates:

Saturday, October 16 - Halloween Parade

November 24 - 5pm Closure - Thanksgiving Holiday

November 25-27, 2021 - Thanksgiving Holiday

**Saturday, December 11, 2021 -** Christmas in Nazareth - <u>Closure for Library Services, but open for Christmas in Nazareth activities.</u>

December 24-27, 2021 - Winter Holiday



#### News You Can Use

by State Rep. Ann Flood 138<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

I'm pleased to inform you about two opportunities available to local residents. The first is designed specifically for our military veterans, while the second

could potentially help anyone.

My district office staff and I are offering a monthly, in-person assistance program for area veterans and their families at my district office in Wind Gap on the second Wednesday of each month.

An American Legion service officer will be available to discuss benefits and help file claims. Those interested in scheduling an appointment should call 610-746-2100. Our office is located at 196 W. Moorestown Road.

Veterans in our area are encouraged to take advantage of this free service. They deserve to receive all the benefits coming to them and we are pleased to assist them in that process.

The second opportunity could help people identify and locate money that is owed to them. The Pennsylvania Treasury Department is currently holding billions of dollars in unclaimed property, with approximately one in 10 residents eligible to recoup that property.

Unclaimed property is any financial asset that has been left inactive by the owner for a period of three years or more. The most common kinds of unclaimed property include savings and checking accounts, uncashed checks, unclaimed insurance benefits and items abandoned in forgotten safe deposit boxes. The amounts can range from a few dollars to a few thousand dollars.

The Treasury is required to advertise the names and addresses of unclaimed property owners in their last known county of residence, but only if the property is valued in excess of \$250. The names and addresses of unclaimed property owners appear in the newspaper only once per year, even though they may be owed multiple pieces of property. State officials are also cautioning individuals to be wary of services or "finders" that charge costly fees to help locate unclaimed property.

There is no need to pay a private service to submit a claim when there is a FREE and more effective way to conveniently determine if the state is holding some of your money.

To search Pennsylvania's unclaimed property online database, go to the Treasury Department's website, <a href="https://www.patreasury.gov">www.patreasury.gov</a>, and follow the simple instructions. If you would like help, please call our district office at 610-746-2100 and we can search the website for you to determine if you have unclaimed property.

For more helpful information like this, please visit my website at <a href="https://www.RepAnnFlood.com">www.RepAnnFlood.com</a> and follow me on Facebook at <a href="https://www.Facebook.com/RepAnnFlood">www.Facebook.com/RepAnnFlood</a>.

#### Renewing the Push to Provide School Property Tax Relief in Pennsylvania

State Senator Mario Scavello 40<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District (includes Bushkill Township)

cine, or their school property tax bill.

This year I have re-introduced two bills to provide much needed school property tax relief for Pennsylvania's homeowners. Property taxes continue to rise at an alarming rate. No tax should have the power to leave you homeless, and no citizen should be forced to choose between paying for food, medi-

My first piece of legislation, Senate Bill 590, would provide a property tax rebate of up to \$5,000 for all seniors age 65 and older who have an annual household income of \$60,000 or less. (Fifty percent of your Social Security benefits are excluded when determining the annual household income) This legislation expands upon the existing Property Tax Rent Rebate Program. With a rebate of up to \$5,000, the legislation would eliminate school property taxes for the majority of senior across the commonwealth. It is important to keep seniors in their homes as any new child that occupies that home, if a senior is forced to sell, adds a roughly \$20,000 expense per year to the local school district.

To fund this tax relief, Senate Bill 591 provides for a one-half percent increase in the sales and use tax. This legislation does not expand the sales and use tax to other items — all currently taxable and non-taxable items would remain the same.

I have also introduced Senate Bill 587 to provide the revenue necessary to eliminate school property taxes on all owner-occupied homes via the homestead exclusion. This legislation followed the Constitutional Amendment question passed by voters in 2017 expanding the homestead exclusion to 100 percent of a home's assessed value. The voters spoke and I acted.

I've sponsored similar legislation in the previous session and have fought diligently for the complete elimination of school property taxes. I will continue to fight for total elimination of school property taxes. I'm proud to say I've co-sponsored and voted for Senate Bill 76 on multiple occasions.

If you have questions about this legislation or any other state related issue, please do not hesitate to contact me at 610-863-1200 or <a href="mailto:mscavel-lo@pasen.gov">mscavel-lo@pasen.gov</a>. My office is located in Pen Argyl Borough at 2 N. Robinson Ave, Pen Argyl PA 18072, right on the corner of N Robinson and Route 512.



# **Dog Friendly Open Space Parks**

Bushkill Township offers two basic public recreation areas — our Recreation Complex for sporting activities and our open space preserves (including the Township Trail off of Route 512). Our open space preserves include: Ballas Meadow Preserve (Kromer Road), Heintzelman Pond Preserve (West Beil Avenue), and Albert Ponds Preserve (Albert Road). These Preserves and our trail all allow dogs, provided they are on a leash, and dog waste stations are available at each location. Our Recreation Complex across from the Township Building on Bushkill Center Road is an active park.

It includes ball fields, playgrounds, pavilions, etc. These types of activities produce many people, often children, playing and running around. Any dog, even the most well behaved, can be surprised and react badly. With the exception of service animals, dogs are not permitted in our Recreation Complex by ordinance passed back in 1988. Should you see a stray or aggressive dog in in any of our public recreation areas, please call the non-emergency police line 610.759.9588.

All rules and regulations for the Recreation Park and our Preserves are posted at each location. You are welcome to enjoy our Preserves and the Township Trail with your furry friends!









# Have a happy and safe Fall/Winter season!!

# Fall / Winter Municipal Office Closings

Veterans' Day Thurs, Nov 11

Thanksgiving Day / Black Friday
Thurs, Nov 25 / Fri, Nov 26

Christmas Eve / Christmas Day Fri, Dec 24 / Sat, Dec 25 Office closed Fri Dec 24, Mon Dec 27

New Year's Eve / New Year's Day Fri Dec 31 / Sat, Jan 1 Office closed Thurs, Dec 30, Fri Dec 31

Presidents' Day Mon, Feb 14

Good Friday Fri, Apr 15



# Kenneth N. Butz Elementary School PTA



There are so many new things going on at Kenneth N. Butz Elementary School! A new year of activities and learning, a newly built and upgraded school, and new friends at every grade level!

The KBES Parent Teacher Association was happy to welcome the new and returning students and families to our school this Fall. We are proud to play a part in the success of our community's elementary school by providing enrichment to the school year that is both educational and fun!

#### New to KBES? Connect with the PTA!

We invite you to get involved with volunteer opportunities, meet other KBES families, and help build our great learning community!

- ☐ Join the KBES PTA Facebook page at www.facebook.com/KBESPTA
- ☐ Check out our webpage at <a href="www.kbespta.org">www.kbespta.org</a>
- ☐ Join your child's KBES Class Volunteer Group on Signup Genius!\*
- □ Receive texts from the PTA about events and opportunities for you and your student on the REMIND\* app!

\*Class codes for REMIND and Signup Genius can be found on the KBES PTA Facebook page or by sending

Don't miss our community fundraiser



at the Bushkill Township Firehall NOVEMBER 20, 2021 at 1:00pm!

Tickets will be available Online and at the Door!

Visit our website at <a href="www.kbespta.org">www.kbespta.org</a> for details!

KBES PTA thrives through the volunteer work of Parents and Teachers, but also with support from Bushkill Township Businesses and Community Organizations. It takes a community to build a strong school and together we can give our students a strong start on their way to becoming the community leaders and business people who carry our township forward! Find out more about our activities and fundraisers at <a href="https://www.kbespta.org">www.kbespta.org</a>!

Is your business interested in a sponsorship opportunity with KBES PTA?

Join others in our community in sponsoring classroom materials, activities, and more!

Check out our Community Partner's page at <a href="https://www.kbespta.org/community">https://www.kbespta.org/community</a>



# Election Day Tuesday, November 2nd

For information on Pennsylvania municipal elections, visit the website:

http://www.northamptoncounty.org



# **Calendar of Events**

Sat Sept 25	Fall Vendor/Craft Fair at the Park	Naz Borough Park, 10am-3pm
Sat Oct 2	Touch-A-Truck	Bushkill Township Rec Complex, 10am-2pm Need tickets—see flyer in newsletter
Mon Oct 11	Columbus Day	
Sat Oct 16	Nazareth Halloween Parade Northampton County Shredding event	12pm-3pm 10am -12pm, <i>see flyer in newsletter</i>
Sat Oct 23	Moravian Historical Soc, Harvest Festival	10am-5pm
Oct 30/31	Jacobsburg Historical Soc, Market Faire	10am-4pm Sat/10am-3pm Sun, see flyer in newsletter
Sun Oct 31	TRICK-OR-TREAT	6pm-8pm
Tues Nov 2	Election Day	Your vote counts!!
Sun Nov 7	Daylight Savings Time ends	Fall back-turn clocks back & get extra hour of sleep!
Thurs Nov 11	Veteran's Day	Township offices closed
Sat Nov 20	KBES PTA Cash BINGO fundraiser	Bushkill Fire Hall, 1pm see PTA article in newsletter
Thurs Nov 25	Happy Thanksgiving	Township offices closed
Sat Dec 11	Christmas in Nazareth	Nazareth Historical Society, 10am-5pm
Dec 11/12	Jacobsburg Historical Society Christmas at Boulton House Tours	Sat 11am-4pm, Sun 12pm-4pm see flyer in newsletter
Sat Dec 18	Bushkill Township Fire Dept Santa Run	details on Fire Dept Facebook & website
Sat Dec 25	Merry Christmas!!	Township Offices closed Friday/Monday
Sat Jan 1	Happy New Year!!	Township Offices closed Thursday/Friday
Mon Jan 17	Martin Luther King Day	and the second s
Mon Feb 14	Happy Valentine's Day!!	

Township offices closed

Please note: As of the printing of this newsletter, all of the information above is correct. However, due to changing COVID restrictions/rules, plans may change. Please check with the Event organization or website to make sure the event is still going on as planned.



President's Day

Happy St. Patrick's Day

Mon Feb 21

Thurs Mar 17



## **Bushkill Township Athletic Association**

# PLAY BALL!

The Spring baseball and softball leagues were a smashing success, with 15 teams representing Bushkill across multiple age divisions in the area. Our younger kids developed their playing and team skills. Meanwhile, all our teams for older kids advanced into the playoffs, some all the way to the finals!

Once again, we are continuing the momentum and kids' excitement for another year of 'Fun in the Fall', with baseball games beginning the last week of August. As usual, Bushkill will host an end of season baseball tournament on the weekend of Columbus Day (Saturday, Oct 9th and Sunday, Oct 10th).

Come on out to support our kids before the winter sets in! And why not come in style? The online store for merchandise sporting our logo is open now to show support for your local baseball team: https://bushkill-twp-baseball-fall-2021.itemorder.com

Our Fall season and Columbus Day tournament is once again made possible through the support of the Township and the local community. We would especially like to thank...

<u>Our sponsors</u> - for your continued support and generosity -- which helps us upgrade equipment, make necessary repairs, and keep our fees reasonable

<u>Our Coaches and Volunteers</u> - for the countless hours you spend helping the kids and supporting the much-needed clean-up

If you have any questions about our programs or are interested in volunteering, please visit our website (<a href="www.btaabaseball.com">www.btaabaseball.com</a>) and Facebook page.



# Nazareth Soccer

The Nazareth Soccer Club is launching its 27th year this fall and will serve more than 560 players on more than 50 teams this season. The Club weathered the COVID pandemic, garnering grant funding in 2020 from Target and Brown-Daub Chevy to cover the costs of masks, sanitizer, touchless thermometers, and a mobile team management software system that allows pre-activity health screenings. It hasn't been easy, but we are happy to have found ways to make soccer happen for the kids in spite of the pandemic.



The Club could not serve so many players without the support of the Bushkill Recreation Board and its field space at Lucas Lane (fall and spring) and Bushkill Recreational Fields (spring). Tom and Dale, the field managers, do an outstanding job keeping the grass playable (in spite of summer growth spurts), moving our mobile lights into place to allow fall practices after the daylight savings conversion, and upgrading the surfaces in the offseason. The Board is grateful for the Bushkill team's support.

The Club, however, is

in need of further help from the community. The biggest challenge we face is people-power. We're an all volunteer organization, and just a handful of Board members are doing multiple jobs year-round to keep Club operations going. Especially if you are a retiree and want to help local kids in the community in a fun, outdoor, sports-oriented setting, please contact <a href="mailto:pres@nazarethsoccer.org">pres@nazarethsoccer.org</a>. We need all the help we can get!



## Nazareth Women's Club

Nazareth Women's Club begins Another Year. The Nazareth Women's Club is looking for civic-minded ladies to join them, as they help others in the community and throughout the region.

The Club has a monthly meeting the second Tuesday of each month at St. John's Lutheran Church, 200 South Broad St., Nazareth. Every meeting is an opportunity to meet others in the community and enjoy an informative program and/or speaker. Any woman 18 or older is welcome to join.

The Club does a variety of service projects. Each September the ladies kick off the Club year by donating school supplies for needy children. From pens, pencils and markers to notebooks filled with paper, members make sure that underprivileged area students have everything they need to begin the new school year.

The Memorial Library of Nazareth and Vicinity, including Bushkill Township, is another of the Club's projects. The Club helped start the library at the end of World War II and continues to support it to this day. An annual donation helps ensure that area residents have access to the latest print materials, software, and computers. The ladies also donate a new book in honor of each Club member who passes away.

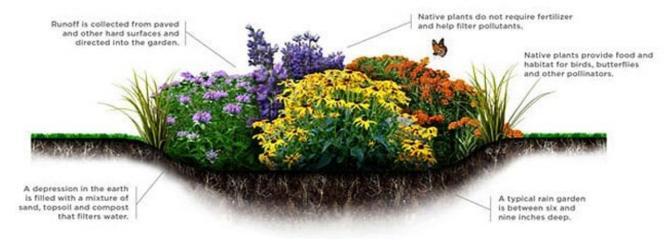
Every year the Club presents three scholarships to Nazareth High School seniors. It also supports the Nazareth Food Bank; donates magazines and handmade neck pillows to residents of Gracedale Nursing Home; makes hospital gowns, arm bands and blankets for Operation Smile, which performs oral surgeries on underprivileged children; collects soda can tabs for the Ronald McDonald House; and donates toiletries to Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley, which provides shelter and support for battered women and children.

For more information about the organization or to join, call Sharon Bonner at 610-759-5968.

# Home Stormwater Management: Rain Gardens

#### What is a Rain Garden?

Nature's Water Filter: Rain gardens are shallow landscaped depressions that capture, clean and absorb stormwater runoff from roofs, parking lots and roads.



Installing a Rain Garden is a great way to manage stormwater and can be planted with a variety of beautiful perennial wildflowers and grasses. These flowers and grasses provide habitat for wildlife and are important for pollinators such as birds, butterflies, and bees.

A rain garden is a depressed area that collects rainwater from gutters, driveways, streets, or swales and allows it to infiltrate into the ground. Rain gardens are typically planted with native wildflowers and grasses which help the water to soak into the ground. Allowing the water to infiltrate into the ground filters the stormwater, which may carry pollutants, allows the water to cool before entering surface waters, and provides groundwater recharge therefore slowing the surge of water entering streams and reducing the chance of flash floods. Rain Gardens are dry for much of the time. It typically will only hold water for a short period during and following rainfall.

Rain Gardens are relatively cheap and easy to install and are effective at managing stormwater. Planting islands can also be incorporated into a lawn, reducing the amount of high-maintenance lawn, reducing the amount of fertilizers/herbicides/pesticides, and allowing stormwater to infiltrate into the ground at a higher rate than lawn.

# **Invasive Species Spotlight: Mile-a-minute**

Asiatic Tearthumb, more commonly known as Mile-a-Minute is an invasive plant that is native to India and Eastern Asia. It was accidentally introduced into York County, Pennsylvania in 1930 and has been spreading across the United States ever since. It is called Mile-a-Minute because of how quickly it grows. In peak growing season it can grow up to 6 inches in a day! Growing so thick in areas that it decreases native vegetation and wildlife habitat, having a major impact on the ecosystem in that area.

Mile-a-Minute is very noticeable from its triangular shaped leaves that are alternate and light green. Its green vines are herbaceous and narrow, becoming woody and reddish over time. Both the vines and the underside of the leaves are covered in recurved barbs (hence, why it is called "tearthumb"). A "cup" surrounds the stem at nodes and forms

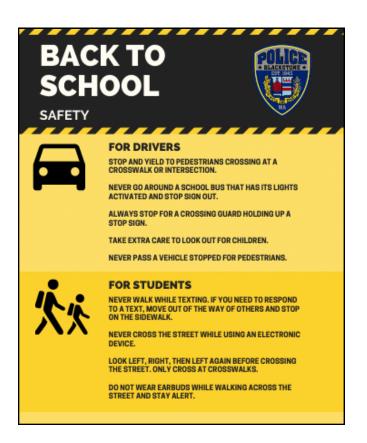


small white flowers, which eventually form spikes of blue, berry like fruits, each containing a single black seed.

Mile-a-Minute typically colonizes natural and man-made disturbed and open areas along the edges of woods, streams, fields, wetlands, and roads. It is typically found in wet environments and will use its recurved barbs to climb over plants to reach sunlight and outcompete other vegetation.

There are a few ways to control Mile-a-minute. Biological control involves the use of the Mile-a-Minute weevil. This small weevil is host-specific to Mile-a-Minute and has been successfully released in multiple locations in the United States. The weevil damages the plant by eating the leaves and then laying its eggs on the surface of the vine. When the larvae hatch, they bury into the stem and eat the stem from the inside. The damage that the weevils cause severely damage and stunt the growth of the Mile-a-minute and can sometimes kill the vine. Pre-emergent herbicide sprays can also be used to kill the vine before it emerges in the spring, but this does not prevent the vine from regrowing in subsequent years. Spraying also poses a threat to native vegetation in the area, which can potentially be killed by overspray. Manual control can also be used for the removal of Mile-a-minute. This involves pulling the vines as early in the season as possible, letting them dry out completely, and then disposing of the vines.





## **Jacobsburg Environmental Educational Center**

Fishing Rods and Tackle Available

When: Mon - Fri, 8am to 2:30pm Where: Visitors Center

Borrow fishing poles and tackle to use in Jacobsburg's creeks! To borrow equipment, you must provide a driver's license or other form of state issued identification. Persons age 16 and older must possess a current fishing license to fish. Adults can help children under 16 fish without a license. Bait is not provided.

<u>DiscoverE Adventure Backpacks Available</u> When: Mon - Fri, 8am to 2:30pm Where: Visitors Ctr Borrow a backpack full of kid-friendly tools to explore Jacobsburg! These backpacks are best for families with young children. Each backpack includes binoculars, notepad, colored pencils, magnifying lens, bug box, dip net, and five field guides for exploring the pond, insects, birds, trees, butterflies and moths.

Wabi-sabi - Beauty in the Imperfect When: Tues, Oct 5 at 5pm to 7pm

As Pennsylvania's lush summer greenery begins to die back and plants go dormant, we are left with dry, withered stems and browned landscapes. Wabi-sabi, the Japanese concept of finding beauty in something that is imperfect, decaying, or deteriorating is what we will discuss at this program. Participants will be able to learn about and gather expired native and invasive plant stems to create a wabi-sabi-inspired floral arrangement to take home. This free program is for adults only and is offered in both English and Spanish. Registration is required. Los verdes y frondosos campos de Pensilvania empiezan a tornarse marrón y naranja y con ello dejan al descubierto las hojas secas y los tallos marchitos. Wabi-sabi es un concepto japonés que consiste en encontrar la belleza en lo imperfecto y deteriorado y es el tema de este programa. Los participantes aprenderán y recogerán plantas de la región y otras invasivas para crear un arreglo floral inspirado en wabi-sabi y se lo podrán llevar a casa. Este programa es gratuito y es sólo para adultos. Se presentará en inglés y en español.

<u>Weekly Weeders</u> When: Thursdays, Oct 7, 14, 21, 28 at 8:30am to 10:30am Interested in learning more about gardening with native plants? Volunteer to work alongside our education staff as they mulch, pull weeds, divide plants, and amend soil in the center's native plant garden. We provide instruction, tools, and weeding mats. Registration is required.

#### **Expand Your Pollinator Habitat!** When: Sat, Oct 16 at 2pm to 4pm

Looking for a way to add more native plants into your garden? Join us and collect seeds from a variety of native flowers and grasses found in the park! Learn about that types of pollinators the plants attract, which are host plants for caterpillars, and what sort of site conditions are needed in order for the plant to flourish. Please bring scissors or clippers and containers for the seeds you collect. Registration is required. This program is best for children ages eight and up. It is intended for small, personal gardens. Not large scale projects and restorations. Any seed collected must be for personal use.

**Autumn Campfire** When: Sat, Oct 16 at 7:30pm to 8:30pm

Celebrate the cool autumn evenings while relaxing around a toasty campfire! We'll have a nice campfire prepared and may even lead a few sing-along songs. Guests are welcome to bring snacks to cook over the fire but the park will not be providing any food for this program. Registration is required.

Family Night - Owl Prowl When: Fri, Oct 22 at 6:30pm to 8pm

Join educator Lauren Forster for this walk through the woods of Jacobsburg in search of local species of owls such as the Eastern-Screech Owl and the Great Horned Owl. We'll also learn about other nocturnal creatures and stop to play games along the trail. This program is for families with children aged 5 and up. Participants should dress for the weather and bring a flashlight. Program limited to 20 participants. Registration is required.

<u>Don't Leaf Me Hanging! - A Fall Family Adventure</u> When: Sat, Oct 23 at 1pm to 2:30pm As the weather starts to get cooler, trees begin to look different. Their leaves become new colors, fall to the ground, and they begin to conserve resources. This program explores why and how trees do this followed by a leaf scavenger hunt and craft. Registration is required.

<u>Caves and Karst: The Formations Beneath Our Feet</u> When: Sat, Oct 23 at 4pm to 6pm 2021 is the International Year of Caves and Karst. Attend this program to learn more about local karst topography and how to conserve the formations that could be right below your feet. We will be able to see demonstrations by Pennsylvania cave enthusiasts on caving preparedness and safety and learn about caving as a recreational activity. Participants will have the chance to try their hand at being a speleologist (someone who studies caves) while entering our mock cave. Registration is required.

For more information call 610-746-2801 or email jacobsburgsp@pa.gov.

# Farmers'Markets in our area

#### Nazareth Farmers' Market

Main & Center Streets, Nazareth, PA 18064 Saturdays 9am – 1pm. May thru October

#### **Bath Farmers' Market**

Keystone Park: Green St & Route 329 (Race Street)
Bath, PA 18014
Fridays 3 – 7pm, May 15<sup>th</sup>-September 25<sup>th</sup>

#### Northampton Farmers' Market

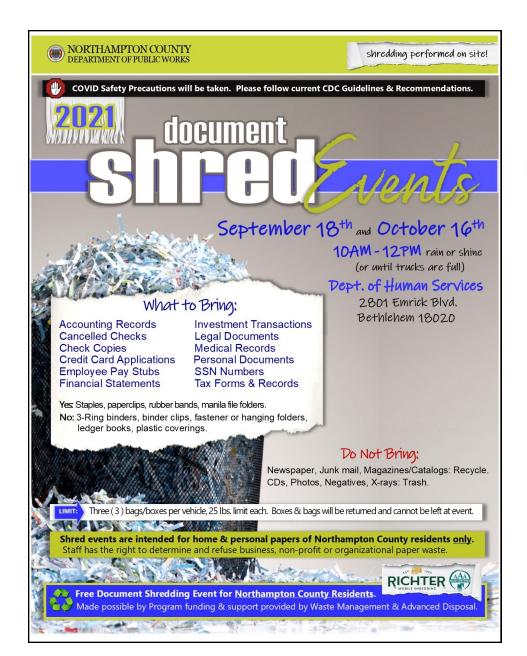
1401 Laubach Ave. Northampton, PA 18067 Tuesdays 3pm – 6:30pm. May 7<sup>th</sup> – September 29<sup>th</sup>

#### Bethlehem Farmers' Market

Farrington Square at Lehigh University Thursdays 10am – 2pm. May 2<sup>nd</sup> – October 29<sup>th</sup>

#### **Easton Farmers' Market**

Summer: Centre Square, Easton PA 18042
Saturdays 9am – 1pm. May thru December
Winter: Church Street parking lot behind Easton
Public Market. 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays, 10am-Noon
January thru April (3/14, 3/28, 4/11, 4/25)







# Leaf Collection—MS4 Program for Urbanized Areas

As part of the federally <u>mandated</u> MS4 Program, which focuses on management of stormwater from municipal-owned properties and rights-of-way, Bushkill Township is required to provide leaf collection from "<u>Urbanized Areas</u>" within the Township. MS4 stands for "Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems," and the Urbanized Areas are designated by the federal government based on higher population densities (based on the 2010 Census, see Area information below). Bushkill Township has been and will continue to be a relatively rural township based on our adopted Nazareth Area Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan, and there will not be leaf collection in rural areas. To help control costs of this program, all residents in all areas are encouraged to compost leaves on their properties.

If you live in an Urbanized Area within the Township, leaf collection will occur based on the schedule listed below. Residents of the Township are required to abide by the following regulations governing leaf collection: 1) Residents must place their leaves in piles or rows along the edge of the street. It is the responsibility of the resident to protect their leaves so they do not blow throughout the neighborhood. It is not the responsibility of the Township collection crew to empty plastic bags or containers; this is the responsibility of the resident. Branches, grass clippings, shrubbery, garbage, and building materials will not be collected and will be left behind. 2) Please do not use bricks, rocks, etc. to hold tarps on top of your leaf piles. They can get mixed into the pile and vacuumed-up by the equipment, resulting in costly damages and delays. With the increasing number of maturing trees each year and variable weather conditions, it is impossible to guarantee a specific pick-up day for any one location. If the leaves are not in place when the crew goes by, they will be picked-up on the next scheduled rotation, or residents can take their leaves to the Public Works Department yard waste facility at 897 Clearfield Road. The schedule is subject to inclement weather, mechanical breakdown, and other factors, and your area could be skipped at any time should these situations occur.

#### Leaf collection will tentatively occur in accordance with the following schedule:

Area 1 Boundary – Beginning at the Moore Township/Bushkill Township border, State Route 512, Miller, Bushkill Center, West Douglasville, Clearfield, Hahn, and Williams Roads. If you live within these boundaries, leaf pick-up will occur during the fifth week of October and the fourth week of November.

**Area 2 Boundary** – Beginning on Miller, Baron, Keller, Gold Mill, Parkland, Renaldi, State Park, Jacobsburg, Henry, and Schoeneck Roads and ending at Bushkill Center Road. If you live within these boundaries, leaf pick-up will occur during the first week of November and the fifth week of November.

**Area 3 Boundary** – Beginning at Williams, Hahn, West Douglasville, Bushkill Center, Beil, High, Gower, and Knauss Roads and ending with Bok Road. If you live within these boundaries, leaf pick-up will occur during the second week of November and the second week of December.

Visit www.bushkilltownship.com for a map of the leaf collection zones.







It is illegal for residents or any unauthorized personnel to plow snow, ice or slush onto or across roadways because it can present a serious traffic hazard.

# Public Works — Fall & Winter tips

Fall is here and winter is rapidly approaching. Here are some tips to keep you and your neighbors safe:

- 1. **Mailboxes**: Please check the position of your mailbox to ensure that it doesn't extend over the edge of the street, making it susceptible to plow damage. The Road Crew makes every effort to avoid causing damage to mailboxes; however, plowed snow may be pushed against mailbox posts, especially during large storms.
- 2. Remove all items from the Township's right-of-way before winter arrives. Items like decorations, garbage/recycling cans, basketball hoops, and other portable objects are not permitted in the right-of-way at any time. A good rule-of-thumb is to keep such items at least ten (10) feet back from the roadway to reduce the chance of plow damage.
- 3. Trim trees and shrubs so that branches do not extend within three (3) feet of the roadway edge.
- 4. Grass clippings and leaves must never be blown into the street or storm drains.

#### Winter weather responsibilities:

- 1. **Vehicle parking:** Whenever there is a winter weather event, all vehicles must be removed from Township streets, including cul-de-sacs, until the storm has ended and the Public Works Department has completed the final storm clean-up. If vehicles are parked on the streets during a winter weather event, they are subject to towing at the owner's expense.
- 2. **Do not throw or blow snow into the streets:** Pile the snow behind the street edge where it won't obstruct traffic movement or the Township's plowing operations.
- 3. **Fire hydrants and storm drains:** You are required to clear snow around fire hydrants. Clearing snow from storm sewer catch basins located along your property can help minimize flooding.
- 4. **Tips about clearing your driveway:** The Township receives complaints about the staff plowing driveways closed after a resident has spent hours shoveling them open. Unfortunately, during plowing operations, snow is pushed to the right side of the road, regularly blocking driveways. The best way to avoid having to clear snow from your driveway multiple times is to wait until plowing operations are completed before you clean-up. If you'd like to get a head start but don't need to get out of your driveway; consider not shoveling the last six feet toward the street until the plowing operation is complete. If you need to clear your driveway before plowing is complete, you can minimize the amount of snow plowed into the driveway in the following manner: clear not only your driveway out into the street, but also all of the snow at least ten (10) feet along the street to the left of your driveway (facing street). This will allow plow trucks to unload most of the snow in the plow before crossing in front of your driveway. During heavier snowstorms, snow emergency roads will be completely cleared prior to equipment starting to plow secondary roads. Should you have a non-medical emergency during a snowstorm, please contact the Bushkill Township Police Department at 610.759.2200. For medical emergencies, please dial 911.

# YARD WASTE... Just a reminder

All Bushkill Township residents can drop off yard waste at our local collection facility at 897 Clearfield Road. A free permit is required and can be obtained at the Township Office during regular business hours. ALL commercial businesses and contractors must drop off at the Central Processing Center at 6701 Weaversville Road, Northampton, PA 18067 (in East Allen Township). All grass clippings must be taken to the Central Processing Center, as they cannot be accepted at our local facility.

#### The local facility <u>can</u> accept:

**Branches** (no more than 4 inches in diameter/5 feet long)

Leaves (loose or in brown bags designed for leaves)

**Christmas trees** (free of tinsel, lights, and ornaments)

Small brush, hedge trimmings, garden plant residue

#### The local facility <u>cannot</u> accept:

Grass clippings Tree stumps

Sod Large woody debris

Lumber, Bamboo Plastic/other synthetic materials

For residents who want to compost:



Current Hours for local drop off are Wednesday and Friday, 7:00am to 1:00pm and Saturdays, 8:00am to 12:00pm. Please call the Township or check the website for seasonal, updated hours. For hours for the First Regional Compost Authority (FRCA), please contact their office. For additional info, visit the Bushkill Township website or contact FRCA at 610.262.1000.

# **Local Phone Numbers**

#### **Electric:**

PP&L 800-342-5775 Met Ed 800-545-7741

#### Phone/Cable/Internet:

 Verizon
 800-837-4933

 RCN
 800-746-4726

 Service Electric
 610-865-9100

 Direct TV
 888-777-2454

#### State Officials:

Senator, Mario Scavello

District 40 610-863-1200

Representative, Ann Flood

District 138 610-746-2100 Governor, Tom Wolfe 717-787-2500

#### **Government Agencies:**

 IRS
 800-829-1040

 DEP
 866-255-5158

 Natl Poison Center
 800-222-1222

 Social Security
 800-772-1213

 Medicare
 800-633-4227

 PennDOT Motor Vehicle
 800-932-4600

#### **Northampton County Services:**

Animal Health & Welfare 610-858-7722

Memorial Library of Nazareth 610-759-4932

Nazareth Area School District 610-759-1170

Naz-Bath Chamber of Commerce 610-759-9188

Northampton County 610-829-6500

#### **Local Hospitals:**

Lehigh Valley Hospital, Muhlenberg 610-402-8000

St Luke's Hospital, Anderson

484-503-3000



# SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2021: 10AM - 4PM SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2021: 10AM - 3PM Adults \$7.00 - Free on-site parking MEMBERS/ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY/SCOUTS/CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER: FREE Fur Trade Era Living History Encampment Early American Arts & Crafts Exhibits with Demonstrations LEATHERWORK, HORNWORK, GUNSMITHING, BLACKSMITHS, OUTDOOR COOKING, SHOEMAKER The Pennsylvania Longrifle Museum, the 1832 J. Joseph Henry House, Summer Kitchen, Carriage Barn Exhibit, Nicholas Hawk Gun Shop, Blacksmith Shop Exhibit, and Henry Boat House Exhibit will be open during this event!

lacobsburg Annual Living History Events are funded in part through the 2020 Northampton County's Hotel Tax Program

Located at 402-403 Henry Road, Nazareth PA - Just west off the Belfast exit of Route 33

WWW.JACOBSBURGHISTORY.COM



610-759-9029

## A Very Special Christmas at Boulton House Tours

JACOBSBURG@RCN.COM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2021 11 AM - 4 PM SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2021 12 PM - 4 PM

# Visit our beautifully decorated 1832 J. Joseph Henry House!

1832 J. Joseph Henry House Summer Kitchen Nicholas Hawk Gunshop Early American Craft Center Pa. Longrifle Museum Carriage Shed Display Henry Boat House Display Blacksmith Shop Display

> Enjoy refreshments including our famous Jacobsburg Brew!

#### Adults \$10

Children 12 & under are Free JHS Members, Active Duty Military & Scouts in Uniform are Free



Special Holiday J. Joseph Henry House Only Tour on Sunday, December 26, 2021, Noon-3pm Adult Admission \$5 Weather Permitting

Jacobsburg Annual Living History Events are funded in part through the 2020 Northampton County's Hotel Tax Program

JACOBSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY & BOULTON HISTORIC SITE

LOCATED AT 402-403 HENRY ROAD, NAZARETH PA JUST OFF THE BELFAST EXIT OF ROUTE 33
PHONE 610-759-9029 www.JacobsburgHistory.com Email: Jacobsburg@rcn.com

# BE WELL

# Winter Weather Safety Tips



#### If Outdoors

- Dress to withstand the lowest temperature or the wind chill temperature
- Dress in layers so that you can remove them as you get warm
- When temperatures are below zero, all exposed skin should be covered
- Wear waterproof boots to keep your feet dry

#### For the Home

- Chimney/flue should be inspected annually
- Furnace system and vent should be checked by a qualified technician
- Install a smoke detector and carbon monoxide detector (check batteries monthly and replace twice a year)
- Have an emergency kit
- When shoveling snow, lift with your legs and not your back. Stretch before starting and pace yourself by taking frequent breaks







#### If You're Cold. So is Your Pet!

Pets can get frostbite on their ear tips, noses, tails and paws. Don't leave your dog outdoors for too long and make sure your pets have a warm place to sleep.



Keep Your Cat Inside!
When outdoors, felines can freeze, become lost, be stolen, injured or killed. Cats allowed to stray are exposed to infectious diseases, including rabies from other cats, dogs and wildlife. Outdoor cats live about 3 years. Indoor cats live



#### **Winter Pet Poisons!**

Anti-freeze is a lethal poison for dogs and cats. Be sure to thoroughly clean up any spills from your vehicle and consider using products that contain propylene glycol not ethylene glycol.

#### **Clean Paws!**

Rock salt used to melt ice on sidewalks may irritate footpads. It can cause burns and cracks. Be sure to rinse and dry your dog's feet after a walk. Use a warm wet towel. Don't miss between the toes





#### **Never Off Leash!**

Never let your dog off the leash during a snowstorm. Dogs can lose their scent and easily become lost. More dogs are lost during the winter than during any other season, so make sure your dog always wears a collar with ID tags. Be extra careful when walking or playing with your dog near frozen lakes, creeks or ponds. Your dog could slip or jump in could slip or jump in.

#### **Cold Weather and Arthritis!**

For pets with arthritis, cold weather can be extra painful. Limit outdoor time and outfit your pet in a coat. Ask your vet for medication to help ease your pet's pain. Know the areas of your pet's body where pain can be felt.





DURCES: DR. JULIA GEORGESEN, DVM, BLUM ANIMAL HOSPITAL-CHICAGO, AVMA 2014 SG MEDIA, PRODUCED BY STEVE GRZANICH

**PETSPODCAST** 

# **Bushkill Township**

1114 Bushkill Center Road Nazareth, PA 18064





# **Board of Supervisors**



Front Row (L-R): Julie Bender, Brien Kocher (Chairman), Carolyn Hill Back Row (L-R): Jason Smith (Vice-Chairman), Harrison Kline