



# Ontelaunee Township

35 Ontelaunee Drive, Reading, PA 19605



Fall/Winter 2019

## Township information Board of Supervisors

**Chairman**  
Kenneth Stoudt

**Vice Chairman**  
William Klein

**Supervisor**  
Gary Hadden

**Secretary/Treasurer**  
Kim Y. Berger, ext. 200

**Water/Sewer**  
Kelly Burdick, Ext. 208

**Tax Collector**  
Brittney Hadden, Ext. 204

**Office number:**  
610-926-4240

**Fax number:**  
610-926-5476

**Address:**  
35 Ontelaunee Drive,  
Reading, PA 19605

**Website:**  
[www.ontelauneetwp.net](http://www.ontelauneetwp.net)

**Email:**  
[ontelauneetownship@comcast.net](mailto:ontelauneetownship@comcast.net)

**Office Hours:**  
Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Meeting Schedules**  
*all meetings are open to the public and held at the township building*

**Board of Supervisors**  
First Thursday of the month  
at 7 p.m.

**Planning Commission**  
Third Thursday of the month  
at 7 p.m.



## Fire Hydrant Flushing

Ontelaunee Township will be performing the Fall fire hydrant flushing October 1 through October 8 during the hours of 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. Water customers may experience cloudy or discolored water as a result. If this occurs, customers are asked to run water for a few minutes until it clears. The water is safe for all uses and consumption

## Taxes

The School Taxes are due by October 31, 2019 for the flat rate. The remaining tax collection sitting hours at the township building are from 9 a.m. to 12 noon December 31, 2019.

Taxes may only be paid by check or money order. You **cannot** pay taxes on XpressBill pay where you pay your water/sewer bills.



NEW TAX COLLECTOR HOURS:

**Tax Collector regular hours are Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

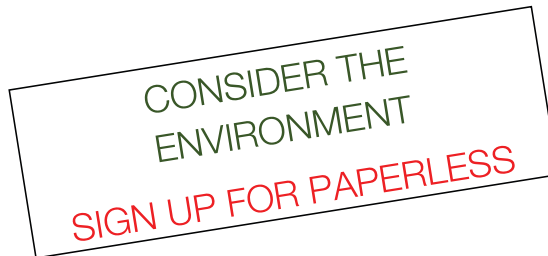


## Designated Trick or Treat Night

**will be October 31, 2019 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.**

If you would like ghosts, goblins and other masqueraders to stop at your home, please leave your porch light on.

## Water & Sewer Department



Many of you have taken advantage of setting up your Water & Sewer account online through [www.xpressbillpay.com](http://www.xpressbillpay.com). We hope that you are finding the site easy to navigate and are enjoying the convenience of this online service. If you are not comfortable with online payments but like the option of paperless statements, that's ok! You can create an online account, receive your statement by email, and then simply send in the bottom portion of the invoice with your payment. If you have any questions or issues setting up your online account, please call Xpress Bill Pay and speak to one of their customer service representatives. (800) 766-2350

**\*\*\* DO NOT pay your Taxes through Xpress Bill Pay\*\*\***

## SWIFTREACH 911

In the event of an emergency, we utilize Swift Reach 911 call out service to inform our customers of any incidents which would affect our sewer or water customers. If you have not signed up for notifications, please send us an email with your name, telephone number, and property address. Send info to: [otws@comcast.net](mailto:otws@comcast.net)

Although deemed "*flushable*" by their manufacturers, today's wet *wipes* actually do more harm than good *when flushed* down the toilet.



### WATER METERS:

Please note that it is your responsibility to keep the area to, in, and around the meter free of obstacles and encumbrances to permit safe and speedy access to the meter.

## Recycling information

Ontelaunee Township offers free Single Stream Recycling to our residents. Single Stream Recycling allows participants to place their recyclables in one container without sorting or separate bins. The single stream dumpster is located at the Township Building. Residents are welcome to drop their recyclables from dawn to dusk seven days a week. The area is monitored by security cameras. The Township does not provide pick-up or recycling containers.



### Acceptable:

Aluminum cans, glass food & beverage containers (brown, green & clear), plastics (#1 thru #7), paper and cardboard. - In order to use all the space in the dumpster please smash or crush your plastic and cardboard.

### Not Acceptable:

Pots, pans, aluminum foil, ceramic oven-ware, drinking glasses, window glass, mirror glass, light bulbs, Styrofoam, clay pots, plastic bags, foil type paper, paper towels, tissue paper.

### Berks County Recycling News:

#### Household Hazardous Waste

Free to Berks County Residents 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

October 19, 2019- Berks County Ag Center, 1238 County Welfare Road, Leesport, Pa. 19533

Paper Shredding - Free to Berks County Residents 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

October 12, 2019 - Berks County Ag Center, 1238 County Welfare Road, Leesport, Pa. 19533

#### Electronic Recycling

Free for residents of Berks County

Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday 8:00 AM - Noon

1316 Hilltop Rd., Leesport, Pa. 19533

#### Tire Collection

Fees apply

Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday (1316 Hilltop Rd., Leesport, Pa.)

8:00 AM - Noon

County Recycling Center, 1316 Hilltop Rd., Leesport, Pa. 19533

#### Leaves, Brush and Limb recycling

Berks Soil and Stone, 1 Bellemen's Church Road, Leesport, 610-916-8301

# Winter Weather Is Fast Approaching

Before you know it the first snowflakes will be falling. It is hard to believe that summer is over and fall is upon us. After last year's winter, we are hoping that this years will be milder. It could be a very cold, brutal winter. You need to be prepared.

The road crews whether it be a Pa Dot driver or a township driver, they all need your patience and assistance during any snow or ice event.

Please remove the vehicles from the street to give the driver ample room to maneuver the plow. If possible wait until the road has been plowed before clearing your driveway. There is no way to prevent snow from being pushed into driveways; however, shoveling snow to the right side of the driveway will minimize the amount of snow pushed back into the driveway by the plow. Please do not put any snow back onto plowed roadways.

All major thoroughfares will be done first. After the initial pass, the plow will return to widen the path.

The snow emergency routes are:

- Calais Drive (entire length)
- Verdun Drive (entire length)
- Hannibal Lane
- Nantucket Drive (entire length)
- Indian Manor Drive from Belleman's Church Road to Gernant's Church Road
- Gernant's Church Road from Indian Manor Drive to Loose Lane
- Edinboro Lane (entire length)



The township supervisors are asking all residents with a fire hydrant in front of or on their property to adopt the hydrant during the winter months. Please shovel any snow that may accumulate around the hydrant. In a fire situation, seconds count and if the firefighters cannot find the hydrant or have to dig it out the lost time could result in catastrophic damage to your or your neighbor's home.

Prevent street flooding by clearing catch basins near your home to allow rain and melting snow to enter the drainage system.



All snow plows are angled the same way (to the driver's right) and will automatically push the snow that direction. It is impossible for the equipment operators to avoid pushing snow into cleared driveways and sidewalks. If you must clear your driveway prior to the completion of snow plowing, please keep in mind that the snow that is in front of the plow will unload wherever there is a cleared area. This is why snow is left in a cleared driveway as the street is plowed. Clearing an area on the side of the driveway from which the plow approaches will provide an area for the snow to unload before it reaches your driveway. This area needs to be at least five feet long and two to three feet wide.

**It is unlawful to shovel, plow or snowblow any snow into the street or roadway.**

Any property owner/tenant of every property fronting any street in the township is asked to remove from the sidewalks all snow or ice that has fallen within 24 hours after any snow event. Please have a path of 36 inches wide cleared.

Mailbox damage - the township is not responsible for any mailboxes that are located within the right of way, that are hit by snow, ice or snowplows.

It is our mission to make the streets passable and as safe for motorists as we can in the shortest period of time. Every storm is different and poses different challenges.



## Northern Berks Regional Police Department

Serving the residents of Maiden creek Township, Ontelaunee Township, and Leesport Borough

### Contact Information

**Northern Berks Regional Police Dept**  
**37 Ontelaunee Drive, Reading, PA 19605**

**Office: (610) 926-2999**

**Fax: (610) 926-0309**

**Records office hours between**  
**8 a.m. and 3 p.m. - Monday-Friday**

## Union Fire Company #1 of Leesport



18 EAST WALL ST. P.O. BOX 777

LEESPORT, PA 19533

610-926-4090 (station)

Non-Emergency: 610-926-4090

Emergency: 911

Fire Chief - Kenneth Quell - 610-926-4090



**Drill Nights - every Tuesday evening at the fire station**

**Bingo every Thursday night**  
**from September thru May**



**Meat tray/cash bingo**  
**Doors open at 5 p.m. -**  
**Games start at 6:30 p.m.**  
**Hard Cards and paper specials**

## SAVE THE DATE

Northern Berks Regional Police



**August 4, 2020**



Northern Berks Police  
National Night Out

*I want to thank everyone  
who supported our second  
National Night Out in 2019.*

*Chief Brian Horner*

*Save the date for 2020*



# Stormwater – what you need to know

*What is an MS<sub>4</sub> and where do MS<sub>4</sub> regulations come from?*

The federal Clean Water Act (CWA) prohibits the discharge of pollutants into United States' waterways without an associated permit. Pennsylvania and its Department of Environmental Protection (PaDEP) regulate the discharge of pollutants through multiple programs in order to meet the runoff related requirements set forth by the federal CWA. The MS<sub>4</sub> program in particular regulates and permits discharges from municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS<sub>4</sub>). An MS<sub>4</sub> is a system of stormwater conveyances (i.e. storm drains, pipes, ditches, and outfalls) that drain directly to waterways and are owned by a state, city, town, village, or other public entity.

Ontelaunee Township is a regulated MS<sub>4</sub>, therefore the township is required to develop and implement a stormwater management program which incorporates six minimum control measures to reduce contaminated stormwater runoff:

- Public education and outreach
- Public involvement and participation
- Illicit discharge detection and elimination
- Construction site runoff control
- Post-construction stormwater management in new development and redevelopment
- Pollution prevention and good housekeeping for municipal operations and maintenance

Untreated or uncontrolled stormwater runoff is the leading cause of impairment to our local waterways and the number one cause of water pollution throughout the United States. Stormwater runoff can pick up debris, chemicals, dirt (yes, excess dirt in our waterways is a pollutant) and other pollutants then flow into a storm sewer system or directly into a lake, stream, river, wetland or coastal water, completely untreated. Pennsylvania's MS<sub>4</sub> program is ultimately aimed at protecting water quality through pollution reduction at a municipal level.





## Building/Zoning/Code Enforcement

**Zoning Officer Township Office hours**  
**Monday's 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.**

**Wednesday's - 12 noon to 2 p.m.**

**\*\*unless the building is closed due to a holiday.**

A common question we receive is "Do I need a permit to have work done?" In most cases, yes you do. A permit is required for, but not limited to additions, decks, fences, pools, renovations, signs, driveway paving, concrete, roof, electrical and plumbing work.

Our Building Inspector/Code Enforcement is handled by Kraft Code Services.

Please visit their website at [kraftcodeservices.com](http://kraftcodeservices.com) to obtain permit applications.

Please submit your completed application with the application fee of \$50 for residential applications and \$150 for commercial applications to the township office. The application fee will be deducted from the permit fee.

Sheds and other storage accessory buildings need to be placed in the rear yard. Sheds need to be placed ten foot from the side property line, five foot from the rear property line and ten feet from the home or other structure. However, if it is a corner lot or there is an easement of some type on your property, please contact Kraft Code Services at 610-775-7185 to discuss this further.



Fences may be placed on the property line, however, we suggest that you leave 1 to 2 feet on the side for maintenance of the fence.



**The township is looking for volunteers:  
We need a Zoning Hearing Board member. The  
Zoning Hearing Board meets when necessary.**

**We also need an auditor. The Auditors meet  
once a year in January.**

## Ontelaunee Township

35 Ontelaunee Drive,  
Reading, PA 19605

PRSR STD  
ECRWSS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
EDDM RETAIL

Local  
Postal Customer

## PEDESTRIAN SAFETY TIPS



## SCHOOL'S OPEN DRIVE CAREFULLY



- ▲ Cross only at corners so drivers can see you. Never cross between parked cars or mid-block.
- ▲ Always use caution when crossing. Use a crosswalk when it is available. Don't assume that because you can see the driver, the driver can see you.
- ▲ Cross right when the light turns green so you have time to cross safely.
- ▲ Use the crosswalk push-button signal when possible, and cross when the signal allows.
- ▲ Look all ways before crossing. Look and listen for cars, pedestrians and bicyclists.
- ▲ Watch for cars that are turning left or right when you are crossing.
- ▲ Walk on a sidewalk when it is provided. If you must walk in the street, walk facing traffic, on the left side of the road and as far to the left as possible.
- ▲ Make it easy for drivers to see you — dress in light colors, wear reflective material or use a flashlight.
- ▲ Remove headphones and don't use cell phones or electronic devices when crossing the street.
- ▲ Watch for vehicles backing out of driveways or coming out of parking lots.
- ▲ Go directly to and from school or the school bus stop. Do not stop along the way.
- ▲ Avoid walking alone. Walk with a friend.
- ▲ Cooperate with crossing guards, AAA School Safety Patrollers and police officers.
- ▲ Be careful in bad weather. Drivers may not see you, and cars may not be able to stop as quickly.