



# Ontelaunee Township

35 Ontelaunee Drive, Reading, PA 19605



Spring 2023

## Township information Board of Supervisors

**Chairman**  
Josh Steingraber

**Vice Chairman**  
Gary Hadden

**Supervisor**  
Rudy Schmehl

**Secretary/Treasurer**  
Kim Y. Berger  
Ext. 200

**Water/Sewer Department**  
Kelly Burdick  
Water and Sewer Dept., Ext. 208

**Tax Collector**  
Sharon Sweigert-610-926-4240 ext. 204  
Email: ontelauneetc@comcast.net

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

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

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

**Email :**  
ontelauneetownship@comcast.net

**Website:**  
www.ontelauneetwp.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**  
1st Thursday of the month at 7 p.m.

**Planning Commission**  
3rd Thursday of the month at 7 p.m.

**Taxes  
Due**

## TAX COLLECTOR – SHARON SWEIGERT

Phone number – 610-926-4240 press 3

Mail payments to 35 Ontelaunee Drive, Reading, PA 19605

Make checks payable to Sharon Sweigert, Ontelaunee Twp. Tax Collector

Do not pay taxes thru Xpress Bill pay.

**Normal office hours are on Tuesdays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. or by appointment**

**SITTING DATES 9 A.M. TO 12 NOON AT THE TOWNSHIP BUILDING  
APRIL 17, 18, 19, 26, 27 AND 28**

## REPORT STREET LIGHTS OUT

If you have a street light out that you would like to report, please email or call the Township office to report it. Please have the full pole number as well as the approximate address for accurate reporting.

The township is urging Met-Ed to have all the street lights energized in the two housing developments (Willow Glen and Harvest) in the township and hope to have them lit as soon as possible.



## Recreation



We have a pavilion available for use in the Willow Glen Development. The township added electricity to this



pavilion and dusk to dawn lights will be installed this year.

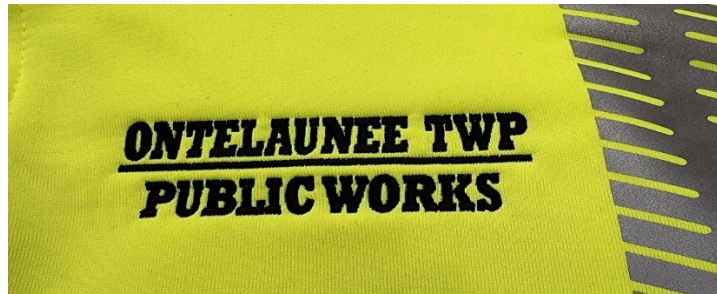


**The YMCA of Reading & Berks County (Tri Valley Branch)** will be offering the summer program at the Ontelaunee Playground this summer in the Willow Glen development. It will be an 8-week program Monday through Friday beginning June 19 and ending August 11 from 9 am-1 pm. For more information and registration for the program please be sure to check the website [ymcarbc.org](http://ymcarbc.org) or follow the Tri Valley YMCA Facebook Page.



## Dog leash/Pick up after your pet

All dogs must be restrained on any street or sidewalk.  
Please clean up after your pet.



The township is pleased to announce that a Public Works Department has been created and has a staff of three full-time employees and one part-time employee to handle the day to day operations, including roads, public parks and water/sewer. The foreman, Daryl Faust brings 20+ years of experience and expertise to the township. The two full-time Public Works Operators are Israel Santiago and Matthew Manley and one part-time operator Andrew Torchia. You will see the Public Works crew around the township taking care of variety of projects and maintenance.



From Left to Right – Matt Manley, Andrew Torchia, Daryl Faust and Israel Santiago



**While mowing your lawn, no grass clippings or garden waste shall be deposited on any public property, sidewalk or street. This is a violation of our ordinance and is hazardous to motorcycle drivers, it is like driving on ice. In addition, the grass flows into the storm drains when it rains and creates back up of the drains.**



## 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 dumpsters is located behind 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.

**Yard Waste** - grass clippings, tree, shrubbery clippings may be taken to Berks Soil and Stone at 1 Belleman's Church Road, Leesport for recycling.

**Phone number is: 484-277-7901**

## **Building/Zoning/Code Enforcement**

### **Township Zoning Officer hours:**

**Monday and Wednesdays – 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.**



As the warm weather approaches and we begin to consider summer backyard projects please be reminded that the Uniformed Construction Code (section 403.62) states **ANY/ALL** prefabricated swimming pools greater than twenty-four (24) inches in height require a Building Permit to be issued. Additionally, a Certificate of Occupancy must be obtained by the home owner **prior to the use of the pool.**

These requirements are for **ANY/ALL** swimming pools regardless of whether they are purchased from a big box store or installed by a pool contractor.

### **Other examples of projects that need permits:**

**Deck, patios, fences, retaining walls, driveway extensions, sheds, electrical and plumbing work just to name a few if you are not sure, give the office a call to determine if a permit is needed.**

Permits are available either at the Township Building or at [www.kraftmunicipalgroup.com](http://www.kraftmunicipalgroup.com). Once completed, the permit application should be submitted to the Township building along with the required non-refundable application fee of \$50 for residential applications and \$150 for commercial

Please contact Kraft Municipal Group at **610.777.1311** with any further questions.

**Please remember that the keeping of chickens or other fowl is not permitted in the township unless the property has two acres.**





## What is Stormwater?

In Pennsylvania, we get an average of 41 inches of precipitation each year. When it rains or the snow melts, where does this water go? In more natural areas, water is quickly able to infiltrate into the ground. A forested area allows for about 18 inches per hour of infiltration, where an average lawn allows for about 2 inches per hour.

Impervious surfaces like pavement and rooftops, offer no infiltration at all. All of the water that doesn't infiltrate flows over the ground, over roofs and through gutters on buildings, into storm drains, and into the nearest waterway –our lakes, rivers, and streams. This is stormwater.

Stormwater can be the water running out of the gutters on your home or garage, and down your driveway. If a home has 2,000 square feet of impervious surfaces, that is equal to 1,246 gallons of stormwater runoff that need to be managed during a typical rainstorm. That's a lot of water that needs somewhere to go! Stormwater can also be the water rushing across a farm field, over a highway, through a parking lot, or through a construction site. It's important to be aware of stormwater, where it comes from, and where it goes because it impacts water quality in your local watershed. Flooding, pollutants, erosion, and property damage can all result from uncontrolled stormwater runoff.

There are local ordinances and regulations for the control of stormwater runoff in your municipality. These ordinances determine the best ways to manage stormwater for the benefit of local residents and businesses, as well as for the overall health of the watershed. Homeowners, businesses and industries can all work together with municipalities to help manage stormwater and its potential impacts. Understanding stormwater is the first step to making good choices and being a good neighbor in your watershed.

**MS4 –STORM WATER– the supervisors will have a special presentation regarding Stormwater on August 3, 2023 at 7 p.m.**

## Parking Of Recreation Vehicles/Trailers



Recreational vehicles are prohibited from parking on any street. All recreational equipment and vehicles, if being parked at a residence, need to be parked behind the nearest portion of a building to a street.



# UNION FIRE COMPANY NO. 1 OF LEESPORT



18 EAST WALL ST. P.O. BOX 777  
LEESPORT, PA 19533  
610-926-4090 (station)  
[leesportfire37@comcast.net](mailto:leesportfire37@comcast.net) (email)

The members of Leesport Fire Co. would like to take this opportunity to thank the residents and officials of Ontelaunee Township for their support. We invite anyone that would like to learn more about what we do to stop by the fire company any Tuesday evening.



**On April 8, 2023 @ 1 p.m. there will be a community Easter Egg Hunt at the Fire Station.**

**June 17, 2023 – Red Knight Charity ride and Fire Company demo @ Leesport Farmers Market**

**September 23, 10 am, the fire company is planning a Corn Hole Tournament and Gun Raffle. Check our Facebook page for more details.**



**Fire Safety: Check your smoke alarms, carbon monoxide alarms and fire extinguishers. Drive safe and watch for walkers and bikers. Stay safe in the moving water, WEAR A LIFE VEST**

The Fire Company has purchased a program called Flow MSP to do our preplanning of commercial property to help us better serve the community. Please check out our website or Facebook page for upcoming events or to schedule a visit. We are always looking for new members for emergency or non-emergency positions.



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

Office: (610)926-2999  
Fax: (610) 926-0309

The Northern Berks Regional Police Department is pleased to announce that we'll be expanding in the near future, with the addition of two more Police Officers, and the creation of two Police Supervisor (Corporal) positions. We expect this process to be completed in the springtime.

Our Police cars and our Officers are also now equipped with video cameras. There are in-car video systems mounted inside the vehicles that record inside and outside the vehicle, along with body-worn cameras that the Officers deploy on every shift. If you are contacted by a Northern Berks Regional Police Officer, there is a very good chance that you are being recorded. This is for your safety as well as the safety of the Police Officer.

Finally, as the weather begins to get milder, and the days start to get longer, please remember to drive carefully and watch for children who are out playing. Soon enough, we'll be holding our annual National Night Out at the Schuylkill Valley High School on August 1st, 2023. We hope to see you there!

# Ontelaunee Township

## Water & Sewer Department



### **SPRING CLEANING AND YARDWORK**



Now is the perfect time to get outside and update your home and yard for the Spring and Summer months. Be prepared for guests and any emergencies that may arise. Make sure your home is clearly labeled with the house number visible from the street. Help emergency personnel and postal workers by updating the street numbers on your mailbox.



It is your responsibility to keep the area to, in, and around your meter pit free of obstacles and encumbrances to permit safe and speedy access to the meter. As warmer weather approaches and you begin landscaping, do not cover the meter pit lid with rocks, mulch, flowers, etc.

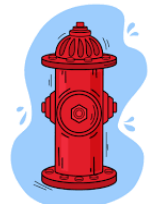
\*\*\*\*\*

### **SEMI-ANNUAL HYDRANT FLUSHING:**

**APRIL 17 – 21, 2023**

**7:00AM – 3:00PM**

You may experience low water pressure followed by cloudy water. Run your water for a few minutes until it clears. The water is safe for all uses and consumption.



\*\*\*\*\*



### **Flushable wipes can cause major issues for both home and public sewer systems.**

Despite the labels on the packaging, flushable wipes do not dissolve like toilet paper. Understandably, people are using more disinfectant wipes to help protect themselves and their families from germs, but the wipes should never be flushed down the toilet. Wipes belong in the trash, not in the toilet.



Have you signed up?



# PAY YOUR WATER & SEWER BILL ONLINE

[WWW.XPRESSBILLPAY.COM](http://WWW.XPRESSBILLPAY.COM)



**Looking for another fast and convenient way to pay your utility bills?**

Pay your utility bills using the mobile app from Xpress Bill Pay.

Available for both iPhone and Android. Download the app from the Google Play & App Stores.

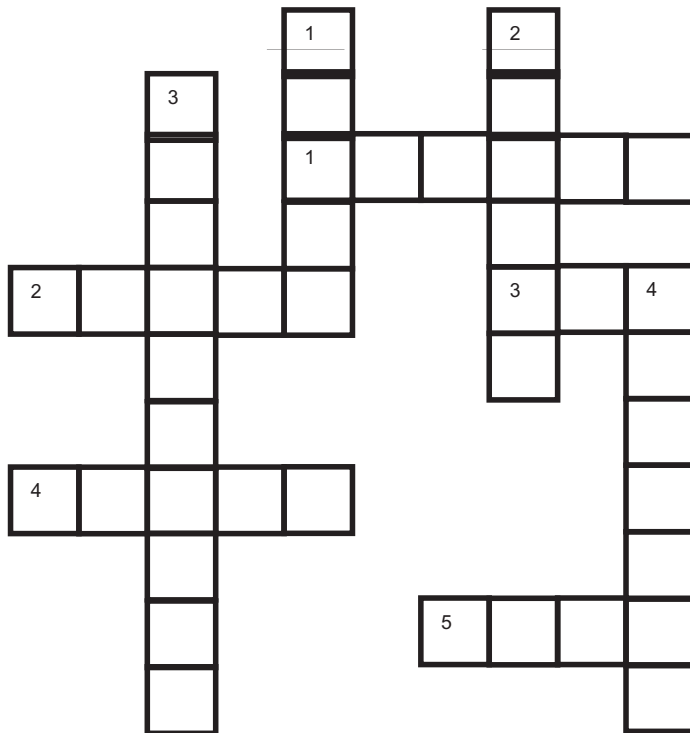
\*\*\*\*\*

## ACROSS

1. The most common water leak
2. Helps regulate the earth's temperature
3. Does not mix with water
4. Do not pour grease down the \_\_\_\_\_
5. Another word for water, or a color

## DOWN

1. Measures Water Usage
2. 64 ounces
3. Another word for sewage
4. Pipe that carries wastewater from your home to the public sanitary sewer main



C  
R  
O  
S  
S  
W  
O  
R  
D

## **ALWAYS BE NOTIFIED** – ANNOUNCING THE SWITCH TO **RAVE ALERTS**

*REPLACING THE PREVIOUS SWIFT 911 SYSTEM.*

INDIVIDUALS WHO WERE PREVIOUSLY SIGNED UP FOR SWIFT 911 WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE ENROLLED IN RAVE ALERTS BUT ARE ENCOURAGED TO ADD ADDITIONAL AND UPDATED INFORMATION TO ENSURE ACCURACY. ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS SHOULD SIGN UP FOR RAVE ALERTS. PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO ENROLL, UPDATE, AND SUBMIT YOUR INFORMATION.



## Ontelaunee Township

35 Ontelaunee Drive,  
Reading, PA 19605

PRSRT STD  
ECRWSS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
EDDM RETAIL

Local  
Postal Customer



## Road Construction

The Township has been notified by PA DOT that there will be road construction on the following roads in April or May:

Leesport Avenue from Snyder to West Huller  
&  
Cider Mill from Kindt Corner to  
Shoemakersville Road

In addition, the township has awarded a bid for repairs to the sewer pump stations. One of the pump stations on Gernants' Church road is set for construction this summer. Please be aware there may be road closures and/or delays on Gernant's Church Road while the construction is going on.