

BOROUGH OF EDGEWORTH

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Summer 2014

Dear Resident,

Here is some timely Borough news for the upcoming months that we thought you would like to know. Please be sure to mark your calendar with the important dates listed in the following articles. Enjoy the summer!

RECYCLING SURVEY

Last year Edgeworth Council was approached by several residents who asked Council to consider offering curb side recycling in addition to the present drop off system. Council agreed to review the pros and cons of each method, and receive public input on the matter before making a decision. A Committee of interested residents was formed, and it was decided to conduct a survey of residents. As a school project, the survey was conducted by QVHS sophomore and resident Claire Torrance.

239 households out of the 662 households in the Borough completed the survey. Seventy-nine percent (79%) of the respondents favor curbside pick-up, and twenty-one (21%) percent were not in favor. The Sanitation Committee of Borough Council, chaired by Greg Marlovits along with members Dave Aloe and Dan Wilson, plan to bring the matter before Borough Council for open discussion and public decision at the **July 15, 2014 meeting at 7:30 PM.**

STREET RESURFACING

Sometime this July or August, the following streets will be restored by the Borough, mainly due to the recent Columbia Gas line replacement project which resulted in numerous street excavations.

- Woodland Rd. between Chestnut Rd. and East Dr.
- Irwin Dr. between Beaver Rd. and Chestnut Rd.
- Creek Dr. between Woodland Rd. and West Dr.
- West Dr. between Woodland Rd. and Creek Dr.
- East Dr. between Woodland Rd. and Creek Dr.
- Chestnut Rd between Beaver Rd and Rt. 65
- Challis Ln. and Nicholas Pl.
- Upper Chestnut Rd. near the Sewickley Heights Borough line
- Quaker Rd. next to the BP Station

Part of the existing pavement surface will first be removed by milling it down to accommodate the new asphalt overlay. A. Folino Construction, Inc. is the Borough's contractor. Residents will be notified by Folino Construction of specific dates for milling and paving. There will be temporary traffic and parking restrictions. Your cooperation will be appreciated!

FOURTH OF JULY BIKE PARADE

Mark your calendar for the annual Independence Day bike parade. Decorate your bike in patriotic colors if you want and cruise around town with family, friends and neighbors in our neighborhood parade led by the Edgeworth Police and Cochran Hose Company escort. Please assemble at the Edgeworth Elementary School by **9:45 AM on Friday, July 4th**. Last year there was a great turn out and we are looking forward to continuing this fun holiday tradition! For any inquiries, contact Borough Councilwoman Carrie Duffield at cduffield@comcast.net

WELCOME JOHN!

John Schwend recently began his duties as the new Administrative Assistant to the Borough Manager. John is a native of Hampton Township. He is a 2003 Graduate of Allegheny College with a major in Managerial Economics. Since graduating, he has held management positions with contracting firms and a recreational facility. He is currently enrolled in Pitt's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs and is on

track to complete his Master of Public Administration degree within the next year.

John's career goal is to become a municipal manager. He will be assisting Edgeworth Borough Manager Martin McDaniel in overseeing the Borough's operations, and Mr. McDaniel will serve as his mentor. It was through John's experience as a community volunteer firefighter that he became interested in public service as a career. John and his wife, Tracy, have an 8 year old daughter, Madison.

Please stop by the Borough Office sometime to meet John or give him a call if he can be of any assistance.

CARING FOR YOUR STREET TREES

The most important thing you can do for a newly planted tree, as well as a mature tree, is to be sure it has adequate water to promote re-establishment. Adequate water is vital for all plants. Most newly planted street trees, planted by Edgeworth Borough, will have a Treegator bag attached to them. These bags provide water in the form of drip irrigation. It is important to keep these filled throughout the first growing season. Check them every 2 - 3 days in the beginning to gauge how often they will need to be filled. This will also have to be adjusted based on how much or how little rain is received at your location. Keep the gator bags filled until temperatures start to drop in mid-fall, as lower temperatures require less-frequent watering. It is not necessary to fertilize the tree during the first year after transplanting. If for some reason your tree does not have a Treegator bag attached, keep the soil moist, but not waterlogged. Water trees thoroughly at least once a week, barring rain, and more frequently during hot, windy weather.

It is important for newly planted trees, as well as for mature trees, to maintain the mulch ring that was placed around the tree. Mulching is one of the most beneficial acts a homeowner can do for the health of a tree. The most common reason for using mulch is that it

can enhance root growth and plant health. Mulches aid in maintaining a uniform soil temperature. Mulches can also reduce moisture loss, reduce erosion and soil compaction, provide nutrients, improve soil structure and also retard competing weed growth. They also can provide a measure of protection by keeping "weed eaters" away from the tree trunks. One or 2 bouts with a "weed eater" can severely damage or even kill young trees. It should be noted that improper mulching materials and practices may have little, or even a negative impact, on the trees in your landscape. Double-Grind hardwood bark mulch is generally the most recommended product.

Mulch should be applied from the dripline to the trunk. If this is not practical, minimum mulch circles should be 3 feet for small trees, 8 feet for medium trees and 12 feet for large trees.

Two common mistakes in using mulch are applying it too thick and mounding it up against the trunk or stems of trees and shrubs, sometimes called "volcano mulching". Most mulch should be 2 inches to 4 inches deep. The mulch should be kept away from the tree trunk. Mulch that is in contact with the trunk can retain too much moisture against the trunk, which may result in decay or disease.

To avoid root disruption, mulch should not be removed. Additional mulch of 1 - 2 inches can be applied every 2 to 3 years to maintain a 2 inch to 4 inch depth. New mulch should not be applied until the existing mulch is nearly decomposed.

Lastly, it is recommended to avoid the use of herbicides (weed killers) for the lawn or for other uses near the trees. Completing these simple steps will maximize the likelihood that your new tree will grow and thrive in its new home and provide many benefits for years to come.

HOLIDAY GARBAGE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

There will be no change to the garbage collection schedule for the 4th of July week. Garbage collection will be on **Wednesday, July 2nd**.