

BOROUGH OF EDGEWORTH

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Summer 2017

Dear Residents,

As schools are beginning to let out and swimming pools are filling up, the Borough will begin preparing for the upcoming summer months. Here are some timely articles that will inform you about current events in Edgeworth.

Pennsylvania Municipalities at Risk Due to Legislative Inaction

Every five years, the Insurance Services Office (ISO) performs a survey to determine Building Code effectiveness using a traditional grading scale. The ratings given by the ISO play a contributing factor to the insurance rates that property owners will pay in every municipality across the Commonwealth, and each municipality in the Commonwealth is subject to this survey. Unfortunately, certain aspects of the survey are outside of the control of Edgeworth Borough and other local municipalities. Since the Pennsylvania Legislature has failed to adopt the entirety of the 2015 version of the International Building Code, ISO intends a universal downgrade for all municipalities throughout the Commonwealth. This downgrade could lead to an increase in insurance rates for residents within the Commonwealth. We encourage Edgeworth residents as well as interested parties throughout the Commonwealth to voice their questions and concerns regarding this inaction by contacting their State Representatives and State Senators.

Welcome Elizabeth Genter to the Edgeworth Borough Council

On March 21, 2017, Mrs. Elizabeth Genter was appointed to the Edgeworth Borough Council to fill the Council vacancy. Mrs. Genter is a longtime resident of Edgeworth and alumni of both West Virginia Wesleyan College and the University of Pittsburgh. She currently serves as President of Sewickley based Schenley Capital and sits on numerous boards including the Ellis School Board of Trustees. Mrs. Genter is an avid gardener and also enjoys playing an occasional round of tennis. Mrs. Genter is grateful for the opportunity to serve her community and is excited to bring her experience to Borough Council. Please welcome our newest Councilwoman Mrs. Elizabeth Genter!

Volunteers Needed for Boards and Commissions

The Borough of Edgeworth is looking for residents who want to become involved in their local government and are interested in serving the community that they call home. Currently there are three openings that include a position on the Edgeworth Municipal Authority's Board, a position on the Leetsdale Municipal Authority's Board, and a position on the Edgeworth Zoning Hearing Board. Interested residents can inquire by visiting the Borough Office, by phone at 412-741-2866, or by email at office@edgeworthborough.org.

Summer Stormwater Tips

Did you know that you can make a difference and keep our waterways clean this summer? As the weather gets warmer and the sun stays out longer many Borough residents will be enjoying activities such as washing their vehicles and walking their pets. These everyday tasks may seem harmless, but they can have an impact on our waterways. Detergents, soaps, and chemicals that are used to wash vehicles can find their way into our storm sewers. Residents can ensure that the chemicals used to wash their cars are more properly filtered by washing their vehicle in the grass. The dirt, clay, and sand beneath our lawns acts as a natural filter ensuring that the water that enters the water table and eventually Little Sewickley Creek and the Ohio River is in a more purified form. Another method would be to use biodegradable soap products to wash your vehicles. Removing pet waste from your lawn can also play a part in promoting cleaner water ways. Animal waste is full of bacteria and if left on the grass or street, it can wash away into our storm sewers. Bring plastic bags when you walk your dog to clean up the waste. Small steps like these can make a big difference.

New Faces in the Borough

During the summer months Edgeworth will be hosting two interns who are gaining their first experience within local government. Through a partnership with the Sewickley Valley Community Fund, Mr. Andrew House will be helping Edgeworth with our Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) program. Andrew, an Edgeworth Resident, is currently an undergraduate student at Westminster College and is studying political science. He will be spending four weeks in Edgeworth as well as four weeks in Leet Township and Sewickley Borough. Andrew will be focusing on public education and outreach programs regarding stormwater management. Keep an eye out for Andrew's improvements to the Borough's MS4 webpage! The Borough will also be hosting Mr. Alexander Austin for a Geographic Information System (GIS) Street Tree inventory. Mr. Austin is currently a graduate student at the University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs pursuing a Master's Degree in International Development with a concentration in Energy and the Environment. Mr. Austin will be categorizing all Borough street trees into a searchable data base which will assist the Borough with future tree maintenance, removal, and planting. Make sure to give both interns a proper Edgeworth welcome when you see them throughout the Borough!

Tax Collection Information

For your convenience, a representative from Jordan Tax Service will come to the Borough Building on Friday, July 14th from 9 a.m. until noon if you wish to make your real estate tax payment in person. School taxes will also be collected at the Edgeworth Borough Building on Tuesday, August 22 from 1:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Holiday Garbage Collection Schedule

There will be two weeks this summer that the normal garbage and curbside recycling collection by Waste Management will change. Please mark your calendars with the following two dates. First, the week of July 3rd, garbage and recycling will be collected on THURSDAY JULY 6th. Second, the week of September 4th, garbage and recycling will be collected on THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 7th. These changes are due to the July 4th and Labor Day holidays.

Little Sewickley Creek Volunteers

Did you know that Little Sewickley Creek is one of the few waterways in Pennsylvania that is recognized as a high quality stream? Little Sewickley Creek is a valued resource for Edgeworth Borough and serves as an educational hub and a community treasure. The Little Sewickley Creek Watershed Association is seeking interested volunteers who would like to participate in the Association's mission of being recognized as an exceptional quality stream by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. More information can be found by visiting lscwatershed.org.

Fourth of July Bike Parade

Mark your calendar for the annual Independence Day bike parade. Decorate your bike in patriotic colors and cruise around town with family and friends in our neighborhood parade escorted by the Edgeworth Police Department and Cochran Hose Company. Those interested in participating in the parade should assemble at the Edgeworth Elementary School by 9:45 A.M. on Tuesday, July 4th. The parade will begin by 10 A.M. Last year there was a great turn out and we are looking forward to continuing this fun holiday tradition! For any inquiries, please contact the Borough Office.

Quaker Valley COG Recycling Day

Unfortunately it has become quite a dilemma to properly dispose of items such as old televisions and tires. The Quaker Valley Council Of Governments will be hosting a recycling event on June 24, 2017 at the Quaker Valley High School from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Items that will be accepted include computers, televisions, small Freon containing appliances, batteries, used tires and more. More information about this event including disposal fees and excluded items can be found on the Borough's website or by contacting the Pennsylvania Resource Council at 412-488-7490.

Edgeworth Borough Recognizes Arbor Day

In Edgeworth Borough's pursuit of becoming recognized by "Tree City USA", several events were conducted to support sustainable tree growth in the community. The events began with Mayor Smith reading an honorary proclamation recognizing Arbor Day in Edgeworth at the April Borough Council Meeting. The next event included Administrative Assistant Patrick Connors, Borough Intern Alexander Austin, Borough Arborist Robert Crusan, and Mayor Smith, who performed a ceremonial planting of a redbud tree in Way Park on May 23, 2017.

Recycle Center

Recycling our household materials and waste is an extremely easy way to make our community a more sustainable municipality to live in. In saying that, there are some helpful tips that make the recycling process flow smoother, safer, and more efficient. The recycling center is a valuable resource to our Borough. It allows residents to recycle large amounts of material such as paper shreds, cardboard boxes, and glass anytime at all! It is important to ensure that when you dispose of items in the recycle center (and in your recycle containers at home) that you do not place them in a bag. Recyclable items that are placed in bags **will not** be accepted by waste management's Green Star Recycling center. When the bags arrive at the recycle center they are **immediately** placed in the trash. There are many reasons for this, including the safety concerns of the workers when opening unmarked opaque bags and the harm that the bags can cause to the automated sorters within the facility. Please ensure that you throw your items directly in your recycling container or directly in the recycle center. Cardboard boxes are among the most recycled items at the recycle center. Materials such as this can often take up a large percentage of the containers. Cardboard must be broken down into smaller pieces (14" x 14" is ideal). If you have any questions regarding the Borough's recycling operations please contact the Borough office at 412-741-2866 or by email at office@edgeworthborough.org

Shade Trees: More Than Meets the Eye

Alex Austin will serve as the Borough's urban tree management intern this summer. For the next several weeks you'll see Alex throughout the community using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in order to precisely plot locations, measure tree sizes, and analyze the health of our shade trees. This information will be used to assist the Borough when making decisions concerning future planting, maintenance, and removal of shade trees for many years to come! All along the streets of Edgeworth, you'll notice a unique variety of shade trees including maples, oaks, cherries, elms, lindens, ginkgoes, and others that help distinguish our community. In addition to aesthetic value, shade trees play an important role in the overall health and well-being of our residents. Shade trees can reduce noise pollution and energy usage, improve air and water quality, increase privacy and property value, and provide additional wildlife habitat. If you have any questions or concerns regarding Borough Shade Trees please stop and talk to Alex or call the Borough Office.

Quaker Valley School District Tentative Land Purchase

On Tuesday, May 30, 2017, the Quaker Valley School Board voted to enter into a sales agreement with Three Rivers Trust to purchase a parcel of land located in Leet Township and Edgeworth and Leetsdale Boroughs, at a price not to exceed \$7.5 million. A final price for the land will be determined based on the net acreage of buildable land and following a period of due diligence by the District. Stay up-to-date on the high school project by visiting www.qvvsd.org.