

BOROUGH OF EDGEWORTH

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Spring 2019

Dear Residents,

Spring is just around the corner! Here are some informative news articles that you may find useful as we head into warmer days. Edgeworth Borough now has a Facebook page! Follow us to stay up to date on everything happening in our town. Don't forget to "spring forward" on March 10th! As always, feel free to contact the Borough Office with any questions.

Special Election

A special election to fill Pennsylvania's 37th State Senate seat will occur on April 2nd. The seat was vacated after Guy Reschenthaler won election to Congress in November. This election is **not** a primary and is open to all registered voters. Due to a change in precinct location, **all residents will now vote at Edgeworth Elementary School**, located at 200 Meadow Lane. **Voting will no longer occur at the Edgeworth Club.** Edgeworth Elementary has off street parking, and is handicapped accessible. Voting will take place in the school's gymnasium. If you have any questions about this change, please contact the Borough Office.

Primary Elections

Pennsylvania's Primary Elections will occur on May 21, 2019 for school boards and municipal offices. **This election will also take place at Edgeworth Elementary.** For information regarding voter registration and absentee ballots, please visit votespa.com.

Edgeworth Borough Designated a Banner Community!

For the second year in a row, Edgeworth has been named a Banner Community by the Allegheny League of Municipalities. This honor is given to communities throughout Allegheny County that demonstrate commitment to professional development, intergovernmental cooperation, sound fiscal management and proactive communications for their residents and staff. Edgeworth is honored to receive this recognition!

Recycling Changes

Considerable changes to our recycling habits are ahead. Starting on April 1, 2019, recycling containers with plastic bags in them will no longer be accepted by Waste Management. This includes plastic garbage bags and plastic shopping bags. Plastic bags have never been recyclable in the curbside program, but drivers have accepted them up until now. Waste Management will leave one reminder notice to any resident who puts plastic bags in their recycling container after April 1. After the initial notice, Waste Management will not pick up any recycling containers with plastic bags in them. We suggest that plastic bags be taken to a retailer who will recycle them, such as Giant Eagle or Target. Single stream recycling should be used for plastic bottles and jugs, rinsed cans, paper, and flattened cardboard.

Another major change centers on glass. Edgeworth must prepare for the day when glass will no longer be allowed in our single stream recycling. Glass remains a recyclable commodity. However, when placed in the single stream process it will break and contaminate recyclable paper, plastic, and metal loads, creating a backlog in Waste Management's sorting process. These contaminated materials then end up in a landfill.

In order to recycle glass properly and efficiently, Edgeworth is partnering with the Pennsylvania Resources Council (PRC) to host a glass recycling "pop-up" event. **The event will be located at Edgeworth Elementary School on March 30th from 9 am to 2 pm.** All residents will be able to drop off glass products at no charge during this time. Numerous municipalities throughout the Pittsburgh area will be hosting these pop-up events in the coming months. Municipalities in the Quaker Valley COG will be hosting events as well: on April 27th in Avalon Borough Park, and on June 1st in Avonworth Park. Please visit prc.org to see a full list of dates and locations.

Recycling is an important way to protect the environment. Consider carrying a reusable water bottle, purchasing and using reusable shopping bags, and limiting single use plastic. As a reminder to all residents, the Recycling Center located on Chestnut Road is for **recyclable materials only**. Please remember to not throw garbage into the dumpsters, and break down all cardboard boxes to save space. Recycling cans are available for purchase in the Borough Office. The cost of each can is \$20. This spring, garbage collection will be delayed one day the week of Memorial Day. Collection will take place on **Thursday, May 30 for that week only**. As always, if you have any questions or concerns regarding recycling changes or the Glass Pop-Up Events, please contact the Borough Office.

Spring Leaf Collection

Weather permitting, the curb-side Leaf Collection Program will begin on April 1st. It is our goal to have the leaves picked up within two weeks - by Friday, April 12th. Leaves that are not put out for collection will need to be bagged and left for Waste Management until the fall collection time. Please observe the following rules:

1. If at all possible, place leaves along the street line or in the curb lawn, and NOT on the pavement.
2. Do not mix brush, shrubbery clippings, grass, root balls, clumps of dirt or foreign objects with the leaves since this could cause a serious injury to our Public Works employees and will **clog** or **damage** the leaf collection machine, slowing down the entire operation. Grass and shrubbery clippings are to be bagged for weekly garbage collection and brush will be disposed of with the Borough's brush chipper on a routine basis. Leaves that are mixed with brush/grass will not be collected.

Edgeworth's Leaf Compost

While planning for beautiful gardens and yards in the warmer weather, please remember that the Borough has plenty of leaf compost available for your use. If you are interested in receiving some of this rich soil for your summer projects, please call the Borough Office in order to be placed on the delivery list.

Note: Delivery make take up to two weeks, depending on the availability of the Public Works Department. If you require immediate load of the compost, there will be stockpiles available at the Edgeworth Recycling Center. If using the compost located at the Recycling Center, residents must retrieve the compost themselves.

Meet Ellen DeWeese!

Ellen DeWeese was chosen in January to fill the open Administrative Assistant position for the Borough. Originally from Linesville, Pennsylvania, Ellen recently moved to the Pittsburgh area from Washington, D.C., where she received her Masters of Public Administration degree from American University in December. Prior to graduate school, she received a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Westminster College in 2017. Ellen is a lifelong Penguins fan, and is looking forward to experiencing all that Pittsburgh has to offer. In her spare time, she enjoys exploring new places and taking motorcycle trips. Don't hesitate to contact Ellen at the Borough Office if she can be of any assistance!

A Message from the Police Department

Spring is in the air! As days get warmer and evenings get longer, Edgeworth Police Department would like to remind all residents of road safety procedures as more children and pedestrians take advantage of nice weather. All Borough streets are 25 mph. Please be mindful of decreased speed limits of 15 mph around Edgeworth Elementary during morning and evening hours. Additionally, all children under the age of 12 are required to wear helmets while riding a bicycle. All cyclists are required to obey traffic signals and road signs, and all motorists should give cyclists ample room when passing. As always, we wish you a safe and enjoyable spring season. Please don't hesitate to contact us with any concerns or questions.

LED Lighting: A More Efficient Borough Building

The Borough Building will be receiving new updates to its lighting. In an effort to increase efficiency and lower electricity costs, the entire building will be retrofitted with cost and energy saving LED lighting. We estimate the change could save as much as \$170 per month. We encourage you to stop in and see the updates made to the building over the past few months!

Best Practices for a Stormwater Friendly Yard

Taking care of your lawn is an important aspect of landscaping and maintaining a home. On top of the aesthetic benefits, a well maintained lawn can effectively slow down and absorb stormwater runoff. As you prepare your homes for warmer days, consider these tips to help protect our waterways, including Little Sewickley Creek, from any harmful runoff.

- Set your lawn mower to 3 inches or taller. Deeper root systems will better absorb runoff, and preserve moisture in times of drought.
- Use a mulching lawn mower. Grass clippings are a great natural fertilizer to reuse on your lawn. These mowers also limit the amount of clippings and other debris flowing into runoff after heavy rains.
- Apply fertilizers only when necessary, if at all. If your lawn has a naturally thick cover, additional fertilizer may not be required. If your lawn does require extra fertilizer, consider using natural options, such as compost. Reducing the rate and monitoring the lawn will ensure proper fertilization and reduce debris in runoff.

Everyone plays a role in effective stormwater management. Consider how you can help protect our waterways.