

BOROUGH OF EDGEWORTH

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Summer 2021 

Dear Residents,

Summer has arrived! Check out some important reminders and happenings around Edgeworth for the coming months below. Be sure to follow us on Facebook and check the website for regular updates as well. As always, feel free to contact the Borough Office with any questions. Happy summer!

The Retirement of Chief English



After twenty dedicated years of service to Edgeworth Borough, Police Chief John English has announced his retirement effective in September. Chief English came to Edgeworth in 2001 after retiring as Commander on the West Palm Beach, Florida police force, where he served for over twenty-seven years. After arriving in Edgeworth, he became invested in the community and fell in love with the charm of our town and its residents. Chief English often describes Edgeworth as similar to the quintessential town of Mayberry from “The Andy Griffith Show,” one of his personal favorites.

Chief English is not only dedicated to Edgeworth, but also to his profession. Throughout his career, he has served on the Executive Boards of the Western Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association, FBI Academy Associates, and the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association. As a member of the Pennsylvania Chiefs, he chaired multiple committees aimed at furthering the policing profession throughout the state. He was elected to serve as the organization’s President in July of 2020, and will become Chairman upon the completion of his presidential term in July, 2021. Chief English led the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, and worked hard to ensure that police departments across the state were well equipped, properly trained, and prepared to help their local communities respond to any situation.

“Edgeworth has been extremely fortunate to have someone with the police experience and accomplishments of John English at the head of our Police Department,” said Mayor Gary Smith. “I have known Chief English for over fifty years and had the opportunity to work closely with him for the past twenty years, and I was not at all surprised last year when the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association chose John as their President. The Borough owes John English a debt of gratitude for the many years of strong leadership he has given us.”

When he is not patrolling the streets of Edgeworth or meeting with legislators in Harrisburg, Chief English is enjoying time at home with his wife Bebe, and raising his granddaughter, whom he calls the greatest joy in his life. Chief English will be greatly missed, and we thank him for his many years of service to our residents and the community as a whole. Be sure to say hello and congratulations when you see him around town!

Fourth of July Bike Parade



The annual Fourth of July Bike Parade has returned! We encourage all of our younger residents to take part in this fun tradition by grabbing their bike, adding some patriotic décor, and peddling around town with friends and family. The lineup will start at Edgeworth Elementary School at 9:45 am, and the parade will take off at 10:00 am on Sunday, July 4th. The parade will be escorted by the Edgeworth Police Department and Cochran Hose Company. We hope to see you there!

Infrastructure Updates

Some important infrastructure updates will be taking place this summer! Portions of Beaver Road between Edgeworth Lane and Academy Avenue, along with Sycamore Road, will be repaved. Additionally, the streambank along Little Sewickley Creek in Walker Park will be stabilized and restored in order to reduce erosion and sedimentation impacts for years to come. The sanitary sewer beneath Poia Road will also be replaced, and new catch basins will be added. Finally, PennDOT is repairing landslides along Little Sewickley Creek Road in three locations. Due to the scale of this project, Little Sewickley Creek Road will be closed to traffic through October. However, Walker Park can be accessed through Bell Acres, and the park and shelters remain open for enjoyment! Please be on the lookout for these projects and contractors working in the Borough throughout the summer.

Hard to Recycle Event

Mark your calendars for July 10th! The Quaker Valley COG and Pennsylvania Resources Council will host a Hard to Recycle Event at Quaker Valley High School from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. A wide variety of materials can be recycled, such as small appliances, electronics, televisions, and tires. **Pre-registration is required for the event.** For registration details, a list of acceptable materials, and associated fees, please visit prc.org.



“Goat” Things are Coming to Town!

Edgeworth Borough is always searching for innovative ways to increase sustainability. This summer, the Borough is teaming up with Allegheny Goatscape to bring a small herd of goats into town to help the Public Works crew clear a hillside of knotweed and other invasive plants. Utilizing goats to clear vegetation is a great way to maintain land efficiently and sustainably, without the use of harmful



weed killers or pesticides. They also eat weeds to the root, allowing for significantly slower re-growth in future years. The goats, and their protective donkey, will be in town for approximately one week. While we discourage residents from crossing Route 65 to visit the goats out of safety concerns, we encourage you to check out the Borough website and Facebook page for updates!

Sidewalk Replacement Program

It's time again for the sidewalk replacement program. The Borough Engineer recently assessed damaged sidewalk slabs throughout the community. Slabs with significant cracking, holes, or areas that constitute a tripping hazard have been marked for replacement and/or grinding. Notices will be sent to property owners in the coming weeks regarding hazardous conditions, along with options for repair and replacement. The Borough reserves the right to complete the repairs and lien properties that are marked for repair if the property owner does not remedy the hazard within a reasonable timeframe. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Borough office. We appreciate your advanced cooperation in keeping sidewalks safe!



Sidewalk Safety

Sidewalks are an important aspect of our community! Keeping them safe and accessible is necessary for all residents and visitors to enjoy. Borough ordinances require that all sidewalks remain free and clear of obstructions for the width of the sidewalk area, and up to seven feet high, in order to allow two pedestrians to utilize the sidewalk at one time. Obstructions include but are not limited to shrubs, bushes, flowers, tree branches, and other plants. Residents must cut back or tie any branches, leaves or plants that encroach onto the sidewalk and limit pedestrian use. If you have any questions or concerns regarding sidewalk responsibilities, feel free to contact the Borough office. Please help us to keep sidewalks in the best condition possible for all to enjoy!

Protect Your Skin from Sun Exposure

Summer heat waves bring along strong UV waves! Overexposure to the sun is linked to harmful effects such as lowered immune system, eye damage, early aging, and skin cancer. Be sure to protect yourself while enjoying the summer season by keeping these tips in mind, and for more information about living well, visit livewellallegheny.com!

- Use and reapply sunscreen regularly! Experts recommend using a broad-spectrum SPF 15 or higher, and applying sunscreen 30 minutes before heading outdoors. Remember to reapply after swimming, sweating, and approximately every two hours.
- Avoid direct sunlight when the sun is at its strongest, between 10 am and 4 pm. Utilize shady areas, and take indoor breaks.
- Use protective measures to limit direct exposure on your skin. Loose fitting clothing, longer sleeves, hats and sunglasses are great ways to cover up!
- Remember that UV rays are still harmful during cloudy and overcast conditions. Since UV light reflects off of surfaces like water and concrete, sun damage can still occur when you aren't expecting it.



Water Runoff and Construction

With construction projects in full force throughout the summer, it's important to remember the impact that water runoff from construction activity can have on our local waterways. Stormwater management plans are a requirement for construction projects in the Borough, and for good reason! Water runoff leaving construction sites can carry pollutants such as dirt, oils, paints, and other chemicals into storm drains if control measures are not properly installed. Erosion and sedimentation controls, such as silt fences, sediment traps, minimal grading, and inlet protection are some of the recommended measures for contractors when planning stormwater management practices. Additionally, keeping a clean work area, minimizing fueling and vehicle maintenance on the job site, and proper waste disposal are all simple ways to ensure that harmful debris and materials are not leaking into our creeks and rivers. When planning construction projects, be sure to include details regarding stormwater management, and comply with applicable laws to help us keep our waterways healthy!

Stormwater and the Construction Industry

Protect Natural Features



Bad



Good

- Minimize clearing.
- Minimize the amount of exposed soil.
- Identify and protect areas where existing vegetation, such as trees, will not be disturbed by construction activity.
- Protect streams, stream buffers, wild woodlands, wetlands, or other sensitive areas from any disturbance or construction activity by fencing or otherwise clearly marking these areas.

Construction Phasing



Bad



Good

- Sequence construction activities so that the soil is not exposed for long periods of time.
- Schedule or limit grading to small areas.
- Install key sediment control practices before site grading begins.
- Schedule site stabilization activities, such as landscaping, to be completed immediately after the land has been graded to its final contour.

Vegetative Buffers



Bad



Good

- Protect and install vegetative buffers along waterbodies to slow and filter stormwater runoff.
- Maintain buffers by mowing or replanting periodically to ensure their effectiveness.

Maintain your BMPs!

www.epa.gov/npdes/menuofbmps

Silt Fencing



Bad



Good

- Inspect and maintain silt fences after each rainstorm.
- Make sure the bottom of the silt fence is buried in the ground.
- Securely attach the material to the stakes.
- Don't place silt fences in the middle of a waterway or use them as a check dam.
- Make sure stormwater is not flowing around the silt fence.

Site Stabilization



Bad



Good

- Vegetate, mulch, or otherwise stabilize all exposed areas as soon as land alterations have been completed.

Construction Entrances



Bad



Good

- Remove mud and dirt from the tires of construction vehicles before they enter a paved roadway.
- Properly size entrance BMPs for all anticipated vehicles.
- Make sure that the construction entrance does not become buried in soil.

Slopes



Bad



Good

- Rough grade or terrace slopes.
- Break up long slopes with sediment barriers, or under drain, or divert stormwater away from slopes.

Dirt Stockpiles



Bad



Good

- Cover or seed all dirt stockpiles.

Storm Drain Inlet Protection



Bad



Good

- Use rock or other appropriate material to cover the storm drain inlet to filter out trash and debris.
- Make sure the rock size is appropriate (usually 1 to 2 inches in diameter).
- If you use inlet filters, maintain them regularly.