



# MUDDY CREEK MESSENGER



Spring/Summer, 2022



## TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

### Supervisors:

- \*Dale R. Kerr, Chair
- \*Eric "Rick" Saunders, Vice-Chair
- \*Robert J. Jesteadt, Sr.

### Real Estate

#### Tax Collector:

- \*Abbie Flinner

### Auditors:

- \*Ron Flinner
- \*Derek Flinner

### Solicitor:

- \*Thomas L. Smith, Esq.

### Engineer:

- \*Tom Thompson

### Sewage Enforcement

#### Officer:

- \*Doug Duncan

### UCC Building Code

#### Official:

- \*John Nath

### Road Department:

- \*Glen Hempfling: Foreman
- \*Cody Lunn: Road Worker

### Secretary/Treasurer/

#### Permit Officer:

- \*Abbie Flinner

### Assistant Secretary:

- \*Marnie Chuba

### Planning Commission:

- \*Cindy Hinkle, Chair
- \*Larry Coble, Vice Chair
- \*Jim Jancse, Secretary
- \*Sean Gramz
- \*Chris Smith
- \*Eric "Rick" Saunders, Alternate
- \*Robert J. Jesteadt, Sr., Alternate

## ROAD DEPARTMENT NEWS

### Tentative road work plans for the summer, 2022:

- ✓ Crack sealing on Stone Church Rd, Kirk Rd., Kelly Rd., and Yellow Creek Rd.
- ✓ Single seal on Stone Church Rd., Kirk Rd., Kelly Rd., and parts of Yellow Creek Rd.
- ✓ Double seal on Flinner Hill.
- ✓ Pipe replacement on Yellow Creek Rd. for future paving project in 2 years.
- ✓ Sub-base repair on Sawyer Rd. and Guillard Rd.
- ✓ Tree trimming on Stanford Rd.
- ✓ Mowing is scheduled for the end of May & also at the end of August.

*Our road department consists of 2 men who are taking care of 32 miles of roads in Muddy Creek Township. If you come upon them working, please let them know what a great job they are doing!*

## VOTE!

### PRIMARY ELECTION DAY TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2022

Poll hours: 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Polling Location: Muddy Creek BBQ  
911 Perry Highway, Harmony, PA 16037

This primary Election Day, Pennsylvanians will vote for their party nominees for U.S. Senate & Governor, with Senator Pat Toomey retiring and Gov. Tom Wolf's two-term limit up. All 203 State House seats and 25 out of 50 State Senate seats are up for election as well.

### YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

JUST A LITTLE  
*Reminder*

Any swimming pool greater than 24 inches in depth requires a building permit. This permit requirement is part of the Uniform Construction Code adopted by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. If you have any questions, please contact the building inspector, John Nath at 724-449-2662 or the township administrative office at 724-368-3438. Building permit applications are available through our office or on our website at [www.muddycreektwp@gmail.com](http://www.muddycreektwp@gmail.com).



811 is the national call-before-you dig phone number. Anyone who plans to dig should call 811 a few business days before digging to request that the approximate location of buried utilities be marked with paint or flags so that you don't unintentionally dig into an underground utility line.

811 protects you and your community! Hitting a buried line while digging can disrupt utility service, cost money to repair or cause serious injury or death. Always contact your 811 Center, wait the required time for utilities to respond to your request, and ensure that all utilities have responded to your request before putting a shovel in the ground.



## PURPLE PAINT LAW

A change, during 2020, in Title 18, the state Crimes Code, gives landowners the option of using purple paint, rather than signs, to post their properties and alert others that lands are private and trespassing isn't permitted.

This law is effective in all but Philadelphia and Allegheny counties.

Landowners using purple paint to post their properties use vertical purple lines that are at least 8 inches long and 1 inch wide. The bottom of the mark must be no less than 3 feet or more than 5 feet from the ground. And painted marks are not more than 100 feet apart.

Now that the "purple paint law" is effective, hunters and trappers should know they might encounter purple markings on trees and that these marks are meant to define the boundary of an adjoining private property that's posted against trespassing.

The new law also authorizes unarmed persons to go onto private property for the sole purpose of retrieving a hunting dog.

A recent legislative act has provided the Game Commission the authority to investigate trespassing complaints and enforce trespassing violations as a primary offense, even if game-law violations aren't alleged, and the agency will do so.

For more information, visit [pgc.pa.gov](http://pgc.pa.gov).



# SUMMER FUN!



## BUTLER RIB & MUSIC FESTIVAL

May 27- 30  
(All Day)  
Butler Farm Show grounds

## 11<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL BANTAM JEEP HERITAGE FESTIVAL

June 10-12

## BERRY DAYS FESTIVAL & CRAFT SHOW

June 25 & 26  
Freedom Farms in Valencia

## RODFATHERS 27<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CRUISE-A-PALOOZA

June 26  
Downtown Butler



## THE BIG BUTLER FAIR

July 1 – July 9

## BUTLER BIKES & BBQ

July 22-24  
Butler Farm Show grounds

## PORTERSVILLE STEAM SUMMER SHOW

August 4 - 7

## MORAINE STATE PARK REGATTA

August 5 - 7 (All Day)

## BUTLER FARM SHOW

August 8 – 13



## BUTLER ITALIAN FESTIVAL 2022

August 26 – 28  
Downtown Butler





Butler County offers numerous local farmers' markets providing amazing fresh produce for you and your family! Visit these great markets throughout the summer and fall to find a wide variety of goods and seasonal specialties. Buy farm-fresh fruits, vegetables, meats, cheeses, and baked goods. You can also find flowers, small gifts, and gardening items!

Check out a farmers' market near you to find fresh, nutritious, and delicious locally-grown foods!

**BUTLER FARM MARKET**  
901 Evans City Road  
Renfrew, PA 16053

**FREEDOM FARMS FARMERS MARKET**  
795 Pittsburgh Road  
Butler, PA 16002

**HARVEST VIEW FARM & MARKET**  
143 Eagle Mill Road  
Butler, PA 16001

**SWEETWATER FARMS**  
100 Perry Highway  
Harmony, PA 16037

**CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP FARMERS MARKET**  
Cranberry Township Municipal Center  
(Front Parking Lot)

2525 Rochester Road  
Cranberry Twp., PA 16066  
Open: June 4-October 1, Fridays 3-7 PM

**SLIPPERY ROCK FARMER'S MARKET**  
Gateway Park, New Castle Street  
Slippery Rock, PA 16057

**ZELIENOPE-HARMONY FARMERS MARKET**  
Zelienople Community Park  
East Beaver Street, Zelienople, PA 16063  
Open: June-October, Mon. 3:30-7PM

### **MEMORIAL DAY**

Monday, May 30, 2022

#### **REMEMBER & HONOR**

In observance of Memorial Day, the township office will be closed.



### **INDEPENDENCE DAY**

Monday, July 4, 2022

In observance of Independence Day, the township office will be closed.





## KEEP PETS SAFE IN THE HEAT

The summer months can be uncomfortable – even dangerous- for pets. It's difficult enough simply to cope with rising temperatures, let alone thick humidity. You can keep your pets safe and cool this summer by following some tips from the Humane Society.

- Never Leave your pets in a parked car. On a warm day, temperatures inside a vehicle can rise rapidly to dangerous levels. On an 85-degree day, for example, the temperature inside a car with the windows opened slightly can reach 102 degrees within 10 minutes. After 30 minutes, the temperature will reach 120 degrees. Your pet may suffer irreversible organ damage or die.
- Watch the humidity. It's important to remember that it's not just the ambient temperature, but also the humidity that can affect your pet. "Animals pant to evaporate moisture from their lungs, which takes heat away from their body. If the humidity is too high, they are unable to cool themselves and their temperature will skyrocket to dangerous levels very quickly." Taking a dog's temperature will quickly tell you if there is a serious problem. Dogs' temperatures should not reach over 104 degrees.
- Limit exercise on hot days. Take care when exercising your pet. Adjust intensity and duration of exercise in accordance with the temperature. On very hot days, limit exercise to early morning or evening hours, and be especially careful with pets with white-colored ears, who are more susceptible to skin cancer, and short-nosed pets, who typically have difficulty breathing. Asphalt gets very hot and can burn your pet's paws, so walk your dog on the grass if possible. Always carry water with you to keep your dog from dehydrating.
- Don't rely on a fan. Pets respond differently to heat than humans do. (Dogs, for instance, sweat primarily through their feet.) And fans don't cool off pets as effectively as they do people.
- Provide ample shade and water. Any time your pet is outside, make sure they have protection from heat and sun and plenty of fresh, cold water. In heat waves, add ice to water when possible. Tree shade and tarps are ideal because they don't obstruct air flow. A doghouse does not provide relief from heat – in fact, it makes it worse.
- Watch for signs of heatstroke. Extreme temperatures can cause heatstroke. Some signs of heatstroke are heavy panting, glazed eyes, a rapid heartbeat, difficulty breathing, excessive thirst, lethargy, fever, dizziness, lack of coordination, profuse salivation, vomiting, a deep red or purple tongue, seizure, and unconsciousness. Animals are at particular risk for heatstroke if they are very old, very young, overweight, not conditioned to prolonged exercise, or have heart or respiratory disease. Some breeds of dogs, like boxers, pugs, shih tzus and other dogs and cats with short muzzles, will have a much harder time breathing in extreme heat.
- How to treat a pet suffering from heatstroke. Move you pet into the shade or an air-conditioned area. Apply ice packs or cold towels to their head, neck and chest or run cool (not cold) water over them. Let them drink small amounts of cool water or lick ice cubes. Take them directly to a veterinarian.

**Did You  
KNOW?...**

*One World Trade Center (the rebuilt World Trade Center) is the tallest building in the United States. It is 1,776 feet tall, which was built to reference the year the Declaration of Independence was signed.*

### **TAKE PRIDE IN YOUR PROPERTY**

Muddy Creek Township wants the residents to take pride in the appearance of our Township. Please take care of your high grass & weeds, various debris & clutter, old tires & junk cars. Not only should this be important to you, but your neighbors will appreciate your efforts to keep your property clean. **Thank you.**

## CONTACT US



### Administrative Office:

Address: 420 Stanford Road  
Prospect, PA 16052

Phone: 724-368-3438

Fax: 724-368-3432

Email: [muddycreektwp@gmail.com](mailto:muddycreektwp@gmail.com)

Website: [muddycreektwp.com](http://muddycreektwp.com)

### Office Hours:

Monday: 8:30 – 4:00

Tuesday: 8:30 – 4:00

Wednesday: 8:30 – 4:00

Thursday: 8:30 – 4:00

Friday: By Appointment Only

### Monthly Meetings:

Planning Commission meetings are held on the  
1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM.

Board of Supervisors meetings are held on the  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM.

All Meetings are held at  
420 Stanford Road, Prospect, PA 16052.

\*Please use our after-hours drop-off box located  
right outside of our front door for your after-  
hours drop off of permit applications, letters, etc.



## NOTES FROM YOUR TAX COLLECTOR

County and municipal taxes are paid at the discounted rate in March and April. These taxes can be paid at face value in May and June. In July, a 10% penalty is added. The school interim bills that were mailed out in February also follow this payment schedule. You would have received one of these bills if you had made any improvements or additions to your property after June, 2021. This is a partial payment made to the school district for the newly assessed value of the property for the portion of the year that you were able to enjoy your new addition or improvement.

School taxes for the 2022-2023 school year can be paid at the discounted rate in August and September. These taxes can be paid at face value in October and November. A 10% penalty is added in December. Please remember that I cannot accept a personal check after December 15<sup>th</sup>. Payments received after December 15<sup>th</sup> will have to be made with either a money order or cash.

Payments can be mailed or made in person during office hours or by appointment. Office hours are listed in the lower left corner of the bottom portion of your tax bill. A locked drop box is also located next to my garage for your convenience. If you would like a receipt with your dropped payment, please remember to include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Regardless of payment delivery method, when requesting a receipt, please remember to include your full tax bill and I will return it to you as your receipt. Please remember to get a receipt with your payment if you are planning on filing for the PA Property Tax/Rent Rebate when filing next year's taxes.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your real estate taxes, please feel free to call me at (724)473-5269. This is a land line, so I am not able to receive texts at this number. You can also email me at: [muddycreektwptc@gmail.com](mailto:muddycreektwptc@gmail.com).

**GOOD, BETTER, BEST.  
NEVER LET IT REST.  
'TIL YOUR GOOD IS  
BETTER AND YOUR  
BETTER IS BEST.**

St. Jerome