



MUDDY CREEK MESSENGER



Spring/Summer, 2024



TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

Supervisors:

- *Dale R. Kerr, Chair
- *Eric "Rick" Saunders, Vice-Chair
- *Dale A. Hall

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
- *Dale Hall, Alternate

ROAD DEPARTMENT NEWS

TENTATIVE ROAD WORK PLANS FOR SUMMER, 2024

- ✓ Crack sealing will be done on Pfeifer, Walker, Bauder School, and the upper end of Sawyer Road.
- ✓ Single seal is planned for Sawyer, Pfeifer, Bauder School and the upper end of Stanford Road.
- ✓ Double seal is planned for Sawyer.
- ✓ Surface treatment is planned on Walker Road
- ✓ Paving plans are in the works for Yellow Creek Road in 2025.
- ✓ Pipe replacement will be done on Bauser Mill, Hufnagel and Hutchins Lane.
- ✓ Sub-base repair will be done on Guillard, Kildoo & Johnson Roads.
- ✓ Right of way clearing will be done on all of Cheeseman Road and a section of Stone Church Road.
- ✓ Mowing is scheduled for the end of May & also at the end of August.

*If you come upon our road department working,
please pass with care.*

Welcome

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Dale Hall as our new Supervisor. Dale was elected on January 1, 2024. We are thrilled to have him with us. Congratulations and Welcome aboard Dale!

Thank You

We would like to send a special Thank you and heartfelt gratitude to Robert "Bob" Jesteadt for his years of dedicated service to Muddy Creek Township as a Supervisor. Bob held this position since 2012. Bob will be greatly missed. We wish him the very best!



SUMMER FUN!

*Portersville Steam Shows – May 18 & 19, August 1-4, and
October 5-6*

Bantam Jeep Heritage Festival – June 7-9

Cruise-A-Palooza, Butler – June 23, 10:00-5:00

Big Butler Fair – June 28-July 6

Butler Rib & Music Fest – August 2-4

Moraine State Park Regatta – August 3-4

Butler Farm Show – August 5-10

Butler Italian Festival – August 23-25



Friendly Reminders

- ◆ A permit is required for all new construction, additions, structural repair, garages, driveways, sheds, greenhouses, decks, hot tubs and swimming pools.
- ◆ Avoid planting trees and shrubs on the township's right of way.
- ◆ Please slow down. No speeding
- ◆ Please remove grass clippings from the road. It creates dangerous conditions for motorists.
- ◆ Please do not litter. Keep our township clean.
- ◆ Keep all driveways free from water & debris run offs.
- ◆ Vegetation should be cut to prevent sight distance obstructions.
- ◆ Please be courteous to your neighbors and be mindful of Pennsylvania state regulations when burning.



Bike MS: Escape to the Lake 2024 June 1-2, 2024

The National MS Society (Multiple Sclerosis) will be sponsoring their annual fundraising bicycle ride. This is a 2-day event. The bike event will begin on Saturday, June 1, 2024 at 7:00 AM at Moraine State Park (South Shore). The riders will pedal through the rolling hills and small towns of Western Pennsylvania and finish at Lake Erie in Conneaut, Ohio.

Please be aware of the bicyclists on the roadways and use caution when approaching and passing.

If you would like more information, please visit nationalmssociety.org.



NOTES FROM YOUR TAX COLLECTOR

Sample Assessed Value: 15,470

COUNTY/MUNICIPAL TAX - TAXPAYER'S COPY - 2024		
KIND OF TAX	MILLS/RATE	AMOUNT
COUNTY GENERAL	22.0550	341.19
COUNTY DEBT	2.6360	40.78
COUNTY BC3	2.9350	45.40
LOCAL GENERAL	3.5000	54.15
LOCAL FIRE	1.5000	23.21
		0.00
		0.00
Mar 1-Apr 30	2%	DISCOUNT Amount
		494.64
May 1-Jun 30		FACE Amount
		504.73
Jul 1-Dec 31	10%	PENALTY Amount
		555.20

When looking at your tax bill, it is important to know how your money is being distributed. Your tax breakdown can be found on the right-hand side of both the "Tax Payer's Copy" (the portion you send in for your receipt) and the "Tax Collector's Copy" (the portion the tax collector keeps as part of the payment record).

If we look at the sample provided, the total payment is broken down into five different taxes. Looking at the "Kind of Tax" column shows where the money is going. Any tax that says "County" goes to the county, and any "Local" goes to the local municipality (your township). "General" indicates that the money will be placed in a general fund and go towards various expenses. "Debt" would be placed into an account that is specifically used to pay down debt. "BC3" indicates funds designated to go to BC3, and "Fire" indicates that funds are paid to the local volunteer fire department once they are received by the municipality (less collection fees).

The "Mills/Rate" column shows the millage assigned to each tax. Millage (or Mills) represents the amount of tax for every \$1,000 of a property's assessed value. So, to calculate your tax payment, you would take your property's assessed value (located on the left hand side of your tax bill), and multiply it by the millage, then divide by 1,000. The amount shown in the in the "Amount" column is the result of this equation for each tax.

The totals of all the taxes levied are given in the last column at the bottom of the chart. These are broken down by the payment periods. If you pay between Mar 1 and April 30 (for County/Municipal Taxes), this period is considered "Discount", and 2% is taken from the actual total of the taxes that are due. If you pay between May 1 and June 30, this period is considered "Face", and you will pay the actual total of the taxes that are due. If you pay between July 1 and December 31, this period is considered "Penalty", and a 10% penalty is added to the actual total of the taxes that are due.

So, here is the payment distribution for the sample above:

If I were to pay at "Discount" – Butler County receives: $(\$341.19+40.78+45.40) - \$8.55 = \$418.82$
 Muddy Creek Twp./ Portersville/Muddy Creek VFD receives: $(\$54.15+23.21) - \$1.55 = \$75.81$

If I were to pay at "Face" – Butler County receives: $(\$341.19+40.78+45.40) = \427.37
 Muddy Creek Twp./ Portersville/Muddy Creek VFD receives: $(\$54.15+23.21) = \77.36

If I were to pay at "Penalty" – Butler County receives: $(\$341.19+40.78+45.40) + \$42.74 = \$470.11$
 Muddy Creek Twp./ Portersville/Muddy Creek VFD receives: $(\$54.15+23.21) + \$7.73 = \$85.09$

When paying the School Taxes in the fall, 100% of your taxes are distributed to Slippery Rock Area School District. The same formula is used to calculate the Real Estate portion of these taxes, and a \$10.00 Per Capita tax is assessed for every individual over the age of 18 living within the household. This may be included on your Real Estate card or may come as a separate card for a spouse whose name is not on the deed or an "adult" child living within the home. Renters should also receive a "Per Capita" only tax card. The same "Discount" (-2% - July 1-September 30), "Face" (October 1-November 30), and "Penalty" (+10% - December) also apply to the school payments.

If you have any questions please call me at 724-473-5269 or email me at muddycreektwptc@gmail.com.

Summer Closings

The Township office will be closed on the following holidays:

*Monday, May 27 for Memorial Day
Thursday, July 4 for Independence Day
Monday, September 2 for Labor Day*



PLEASE DON'T LITTER!

There are over 500 million pieces of litter on Pennsylvania's roads. Litter is also polluting our neighborhoods, parks, streams, and rivers. People litter because they don't feel responsible for taking care of the environment. They believe someone else will take care of the litter, or there is already so much litter in an area that they don't think one more piece will make a difference.

Here are some ways you can help stop the littering:

1. Keep a reusable bag in your car for your food wrappers, carryout containers, or other trash, and throw it out at home.
2. Cover your trash and recycling bins when you take them to the curb. If you sweep the sidewalk in front of your home, don't sweep the litter into the street. It won't be picked up. Bag it and throw it in a trash can.
3. Anytime you haul junk in the back of a truck, cover it. Uncovered trucks are one of the top three sources of litter on Pennsylvania roads, along with drivers and pedestrians.
4. If you are a smoker, keep a container in your car and pocket for cigarette butts. Cigarette butts aren't natural fiber, like many people think. They contain plastic, and leach nicotine and heavy metals. They take about 5 years to break down.
5. Educate children about the importance of disposing of trash properly. It is particularly important to set a good example for children, who rely heavily on the actions of others to decide what is OK and not OK for them to do.



PROSPECT MEMORIAL DAY PARADE & COMMUNITY DAY

**May 25th at 11:00 AM
Main Street, Prospect**

Parade, Vendors, Food, Balloon Artists, Fun Tattoos, Firetrucks, Bouncy Houses, Characters & More!





PENNSYLVANIA'S MOVE OVER LAW

MOVE OVER ♦ SLOW DOWN ♦ SAVES LIVES

Pennsylvania's Move Over Law requires drivers approaching an emergency response area who are unable to safely merge into a lane farther away from the response area to “pass the emergency response area at a speed of no more than 20 miles per hour less than the posted speed limit and reasonable for safely passing.” An emergency response area is where an emergency vehicle has its lights flashing, or where road crews or emergency responders have lighted flares, posted signs, or try to warn travelers.

The Law (Act 105 of 2020, signed on October 29, 2020 and effective 180 days later on April 27, 2021):

- Creates a new point system that imposes two points for failure to merge into the lane not next to the emergency response area.
- Sets fines at \$500 for first-time offenders, \$1,000 for a second offense, and \$2,000 for a third or subsequent offense.
- Sets additional fines of up to \$10,000 for violators who injure or kill an emergency service responder or a person in or near a disabled vehicle.

Emergency responders will mark response areas with road flares, caution signs, or other traffic-control devices.

IF YOU ARE IN A CRASH

For a crash that does not involve injury or major damage to the vehicle:

Move vehicles from the roadway.

Exchange insurance, driver and vehicle information, and phone numbers for insurers.

Note minor damage and write down a statement of what happened.

You may contact police to respond.

For other crashes:

Contact 911 for police and, if needed, fire and ambulance response.

Police will need your driver's license, insurance, and vehicle registration information.

Police will take witness statements for a crash report.

You may call a towing company, or the police will contact one to move your vehicle.

If your vehicle becomes disabled:

Call 911 for police.

Turn on four-way flashers or tie a flag to show you need help.

Have your preferred tow company information available.

Keep emergency contact information inside your vehicle for police/EMS to contact family if needed.

For more information, visit penndot.pa.gov.

CONTACT US



Administrative Office:

Address: 420 Stanford Road
Prospect, PA 16052

Phone: 724-368-3438

Fax: 724-368-3432

Email: muddycreektwp@gmail.com

Website: 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 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM.

Board of Supervisors meetings are held on the 3rd 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 for permit applications, letters, etc.**

WANTED

Muddy Creek Township is currently looking for individuals to serve on the Township Planning Commission as Alternates. The Planning Commission serves in an advisory capacity to the Muddy Creek Township Board of Supervisors. Each member must be a resident of Muddy Creek Township.

The Muddy Creek Township Planning Commission consists of 5 volunteer township residents who make recommendations concerning subdivisions, land developments, and lot line revisions. The Planning Commission meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm if needed. Typically, they meet 3-5 times a year.

If you are interested in serving your community and devoting your personal time to the Muddy Creek Township Planning Commission, please contact the office at 724-368-3438 or email us at Muddycreektwp@gmail.com.

**NO MATTER HOW GOOD OR
BAD YOU THINK LIFE IS, WAKE
UP EACH DAY AND BE
THANKFUL FOR LIFE.
SOMEONE SOMEWHERE ELSE
IS FIGHTING TO SURVIVE.**

Street golf

