



RAPHO REPORTER

Spring & Summer 2023

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Lowell Fry
Chairperson / Treasurer

Jere Swarr
Vice-Chairperson

Mark Erb
Secretary

PLANNING COMMISSION

Jay Gainer
Chairperson

Carrol Ehrhart
Vice-Chairperson

Dennis Shellenberger
Secretary

Howard Boyd

Chet Eckman

ZONING HEARING BOARD

Chris Moyer
Chairperson

Chris Neiles
Vice-Chairperson

Cleon Martin
Secretary

Nevin Greiner (Alternate)

RAPHO AREA FIRE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Mastersonville Fire Co.,
Mark Duttera

Manheim Fire Co.,
Dan Reif— Vice Chairman

Fire Department Mt. Joy,
Phil Colvin— Chairman

CITIZEN REPRESENTATIVES:

Dale Murray— Secretary
Jerry Ehrhart
Pat Shupp
Gary Good

Trash & Recycling Update

In July, 2022, the Township amended the Trash/Recycling Rules to accommodate the mandatory cart use. There were several reasons for this change. Penn Waste began purchasing SOVs (Single Operator Vehicles) to replace both trash and recycling trucks and the split body trucks. The purpose of this new vehicle is for better efficiency, and most importantly, for employee safety. The SOV is totally operated by the driver, who is seated on the right side of the truck. The truck pulls up beside the cart and the driver uses a “joy stick” to release a shaft that reaches out and grabs the entire cart, lifts it up, and empties it into the “hopper”. It then places it back on



the street where it was found, releases the shaft, and moves on to the next property.

There will be one truck for trash and another truck for recycling. Penn Waste is actively training their drivers for this new type of truck.

Continued on Page 2

Stormwater & Illicit Discharges

Illicit discharges are defined as any type of flow found in the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) that is not composed entirely of stormwater. These discharges can enter the system through illegal connections, intentional dumping, accidental spills, or through cracks in stormwater pipes. Sewage contamination, a common example of an illicit discharge, can occur when a resident or business owner makes an illegal connection of the sanitary sewer system into the stormwater system. Illicit discharges are a major source of water pollution and can be extremely toxic to stream ecosystems because the pollutant/pathogen load is not diluted by stormwater. Eliminating illicit discharges into waterways is a key component of Rapho Township’s strategy to improve water quality.

What is an Illicit Discharge?

Examples of an illicit discharge is anything entering the MS4 that is not stormwater including: trash, paint, gasoline, oil, cleaning products, sewage, soil, leaves, grass clippings and many other items.

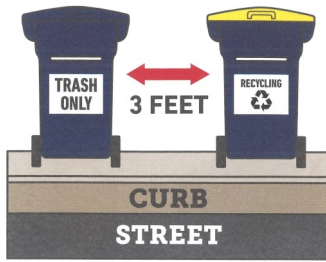
What Can You Do to Reduce Illicit Discharges?

- Contact the Township or County for household hazardous waste drop-off locations and times.
- Clean up spills on paved surfaces as soon as possible using cat litter or other absorbent material.

Continued on Page 3

Trash & Recycling Update (continued)

The second reason for the carts was to simplify the trash process on pick up days in Rapho Township.



When Penn Waste finds themselves short staffed for Rapho Township, they substitute drivers from other municipalities who are completely unfamiliar with our roads and township. With the use of the bright blue carts, clearly

marked, “Penn Waste Trash and Recycling,” there is no mistaking whether a specific address is a Penn Waste customer. In the picture above, you will see the correct placement of carts. Please note the handles facing the house.

Additionally, all bags and trash must be contained within the cart and the lid must close. Trash or Recycling



placed on top of the cart will not be able to be loaded into the truck by the loader arm. This is the same for the recycling cart, which means all boxes must be broken down, confined within the cart and the lid must close.

If you cannot close the trash cart lid, you will have to purchase Extra Trash Tags (\$1.25 each) for an additional three bags per week. Any oversized items would require an Oversized Tag (\$4.00 each) for two oversized items per week.

This is a learning curve for all involved. We ask that you be patient with the drivers, Penn Waste and the Township, as we all work our way through these changes.

We are able to announce that the trash and recycling rate for the year running from July 1, 2023 until June 30, 2024 will be \$300/year. As usual, residents who prepay for the year by June 30 will receive a discounted rate of \$290. If you are interested in joining the municipal program, contact the township office.

Meet our New Zoning Officer

Drew Keller was appointed to the position of Zoning Officer by the Board of Supervisors on November 18, 2022. Drew had worked as Assistant Zoning Officer with Dave Eggert for about two months prior to Dave’s retirement. Drew is a former United States Marine and had previously worked in his family’s construction business.



Septic Pumping Reminder

Property owners in the **Union Square Voting District** (votes at Mastersonville Fire Co.) are due to have their septic systems inspected/pumped in this



calendar year. If you have not already submitted a report, a postcard will be sent to your home as a reminder to hire a hauler, have the work completed, and submit the **white copy**

of the Septic Report Form to the Township Office by December 31, 2023.

While you may periodically receive septic pumping notices or solicitations from septic haulers seeking your business, official reminders come once every four years from the Township. There is no harm in having your tank pumped more frequently than every four years, but you will still need to have it pumped on the year your district is due.

Meeting Dates and Times

Board of Supervisors—1st & 3rd Thurs. at 7:30 p.m.

BOS Work Session—6:00 p.m. Thurs. preceding 1st BOS meeting after Planning Commission meeting

Planning Commission — 1st Mon. at 7:00 p.m.

Zoning Hearing Board— 1st Tues. at 7:00 p.m.

Stormwater & Illicit Discharges (continued)

- Read chemical labels and purchase non-hazardous options when possible.
- Call the Township if you observe illegal dumping or if you see someone pouring/dumping something into a storm drain, ditch, or a stream.
- Never place yard waste in a drainage swale, stormwater basin, along a stream or in a stream.
- If you have an on-lot septic system, have it inspected regularly.

What is the Township Doing to Identify and Reduce Illicit Discharges?

- Regularly inspects the stormwater system and pipe outfalls to detect signs of illicit discharges. A pipe outfall is the location where stormwater runoff discharges into a stream.
- Makes repairs of the stormwater system as soon as identified to reduce stormwater pollution.
- Enforces erosion and sediment control requirements for all earth disturbance activity.

Are there any Exceptions?

Yes, the State Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has identified the following exceptions:

- Discharges from firefighting activity
- Discharges from waterline and fire hydrant flushing
- Non-contaminated irrigation water, water from lawn maintenance, landscape drainage
- Diverted stream flows and springs.
- Non-contaminated pumped ground water and water from foundation and footing drains and crawl space pumps.
- Non-contaminated HVAC condensation and water from geothermal systems.
- Residential vehicle wash water where cleaning agents are not utilized.
- Non-contaminated hydrostatic test water discharges.

The Chiques Creek Watershed Alliance is hosting the **2023 Watershed Expo** on Wednesday, June 7 from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. at the Manheim Farm Show Complex.



Additional information will be available at CCWA's website www.chiquescreekwatershed.com or on Rapho Township's Facebook page.

2023 Rapho Twp. Public Works Projects

In 2023, our public works crew plans to complete the following projects on Rapho Township roadways:

- Oak Tree Road repaving
- Rife Run (PA 72 to Oak Tree Road) repaving
- Horn Road repaving
- Mastersonville Road repaving
- Mill Road Stormwater

Tax Payment Reminder

The County/Municipal Real Estate Tax Bills were mailed on February 15 and all property owners should have received their bill(s). As required by law, all tax bills have been sent to the property owner. If you have your taxes escrowed, it is your responsibility to forward the bill(s) to your mortgage company.

If you live in a development with street lights, you should have also received a separate Street Light Assessment mailed on February 18.

If you have not received your bill(s) and feel that you should have, please contact the Rapho Township Tax Collector at 717-665-3924 on Mondays or Thursdays between 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Advertising Banners – Rapho Community Park

Businesses can sponsor a 7' X 4' outfield advertising banner for the baseball/softball fields at the Rapho Community Park. The cost for a new banner is \$250 for the first year. After that, businesses can renew their signs each year for \$100/year. If you are interested in sponsoring an outfield banner, please contact Melva Kready at 717-665-3827 or by email at melva@raphotownship.com

RAPHO TOWNSHIP

971 N. COLEBROOK ROAD
MANHEIM, PA 17545-9680
Phone: 717-665-3827
Fax: 717-665-7685
Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00am to 3:30pm

Presort
insignia

Randall O. Wenger - Manager
manager@raphotownship.com
John Haldeman - Public Works Director
roadmaster@raphotownship.com
Lindsey Brenner - Financial Administrator
office@raphotownship.com
Drew Keller - Zoning Officer
zoning@raphotownship.com
Ena Marie Banks - Recycling Coordinator
enamarie@raphotownship.com
Melva Kready - Tax Collector & Admin. Asst.
melva@raphotownship.com

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:

Emergencies - 911
Manheim Borough Police
Non-emergency-717-665-2481
Sewage Enforcement Officer
Len Spencer-717-989-9439

UPCOMING 2023 ELECTION DATES:

Municipal Primary - May 16, 2023
Municipal Election - November 7, 2023

RECYCLING FACT

Jewelry made from recycled gold and silver is becoming quite popular, especially among young consumers. A recent New York Times article featured jewelry companies that use metals recovered from electronics. Pandora Jewelry announced in 2020 that by 2025, all of its jewelry will be made from recycled gold and silver, some of which came from e-scrap. (Resource Recycling, October 2022)

RECYCLING



Rapho Recycles

RECYCLING TIP

CORNER

There is still confusion about what belongs in the 96-gallon Trash Cart and what belongs in the 64-gallon Recycle Cart. Generally, trash includes food waste, single-use plastics, and non-recyclable packaging.

Recycling is taking materials and repurposing or transforming them into new uses. Items to recycle are corrugated cardboard, plastic bottles with necks, glass bottles and jars and metal cans. These items must meet certain standards to recycle, such as, they must be clean, dry, and free of contaminants. While you might see Penn Waste trucks throughout the county with graphics showing newspaper as a recycled item, Penn Waste is a York County company with different recycling rules. Lancaster County continues to follow the "BIG 4" for recycling. Always remember the phrase, "When in doubt, throw it out."

Remember that Hazardous Waste refers to any kind of material that poses a threat to humans or the environment if handled improperly and should NEVER be placed into the trash or recycle carts. These items include chemicals, paint thinners, rechargeable batteries, and cleaning products. If thrown into your carts and emptied into the trucks, they can and have started fires. LCSWMA (Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority) has a drive-thru Household Hazardous Waste Facility at 1299 Harrisburg Pike, Lancaster, PA 17603, that is free to residents.

No burning of trash, construction materials, or recyclables, including yard waste, is permitted in Rapho Township.