

RAPHO REPORTER

Spring 2017

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MANHEIM BOROUGH POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Manheim Borough Police Department has begun its sixth year of providing police services to the residents of Rapho Township. Police Chief Joseph Stauffer and his staff have moved into a new headquarters at 211 North Charlotte Street. Officers patrol and respond to calls 24 hours per day as part of a contracted arrangement between the Township and the Borough of Manheim.



Our Police Department has dramatically improved emergency response time since they replaced State Police coverage for the Township in 2012. Chief Stauffer prepared a 2016 year-end report, which provided statistics on the nature and number of crimes over the past four years. Most of these are reflective of national trends. In 2016 there were 5,207 calls for service. 71% of criminal offenses were cleared (solved or closed) by our very professional force, which includes two detectives. This clearance rate is far above the national average, and our rate improves every year.

The greatest impact on crime in our area is drug use and activities of drug-addicted persons. Prescription drug and heroin abuse is at an all-time high. Drug and alcohol use can cause vehicle accidents. From September 2015 through January 2017, Manheim Borough Police officers administered Narcan seven times in drug overdose situations. Our Department contributes one officer to the Lancaster County Drug Task Force to help combat drug-related crimes. The Task Force investigates drug-related crimes, and officers mentor youth groups with yearly presentations on the dangers of drug use.

Manheim officers are proactive in preventing burglaries and thefts. These crimes can be more prevalent in rural settings where residences are farther apart and criminals can conceal their activities. Officers aggressively investigate reports of burglaries and remind residents to lock their homes and their vehicles.

Chief Stauffer encourages residents to contact an officer if there is suspicious activity near their homes or businesses. The Department posts information about crimes in real time on their Facebook page. Remember, if you see something, say something. Don't be afraid to call the non-emergency line at (717) 665-2481 if you have a concern that may not be an emergency warranting a 911 call to the County.

Officers are also active in preventing vehicle accidents. In 2016 they performed several "PA Aggressive Driving" and "Click-It or Ticket" operations after receiving grants from the state to support these. Heavier traffic volume can generate increased traffic accidents, and when incidents occur, officers investigate thoroughly and look for patterns. Traffic enforcement deters speeding and distracted driving.

Manheim Police officers not only respond to calls, but they also help residents with community services. Officers can perform vacation checks if residents register to let officers know when they will be away. Fingerprinting services for ID's and background checks are offered for a fee by appointment.

The new police station includes a safe medication disposal site, as well as a craigslist purchase exchange location. The area for exchanges is located in front of the building, and is well lit and monitored by security cameras.



The new station offers opportunities for meetings and trainings relating to public safety. Chief Stauffer has worked with business owners to create emergency response strategies they can implement on site. The K9 unit creates visibility and investigates crimes. Officers patrol on bicycles in addition to vehicles.

Rapho Township residents are well served by the Manheim Borough Police Department. Learn more about their services on Facebook or at www.manheimpolice.org.

LOVE YOUR DOG LICENSE YOUR DOG

All dogs three months or older must be licensed by January 1 of each year. An annual license is \$8.50 and a lifetime license is \$51.50. If the animal is spayed or neutered, the annual fee is \$6.50 and the lifetime fee is \$31.50. Discounts are available to older adults and people with disabilities. The small license fee protects the millions of dogs in the state by funding the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement. Dog licenses are available from the County Treasurer.

Why license your dog? It's the law. All dogs three months and older must have a current license.

- **If your dog gets lost, a license is the best way to get him back.** A license helps animal control and shelters identify your dog and get him home safely.
- **The cost of a license is less than the penalty for being caught without one.** Owners who fail to license their dogs could face a fine of up to \$300 for each unlicensed dog.
- **License fees support animal control.** The annual fee you pay to license your dog helps keep shelters running.

E & S PLAN REQUIREMENTS FOR DISPOSAL OF SOIL

Contractors, excavators, and farmers frequently ask the Lancaster County Conservation District questions regarding the requirements for importing and exporting fill (soil) from a project site. If you are disturbing over 5,000 square feet of earth, you are required to submit an Erosion and Sedimentation (E & S) plan that includes Best Management Practices (BMPs) to minimize the potential for accelerated erosion and sedimentation from your project. This includes fill that is stockpiled on or integrated into construction project sites or agricultural operations.

You may have additional requirements depending on where the fill is derived and where it will be placed. Additionally, the material that is being moved must be considered "clean fill", which is defined as "uncontaminated, non-water-soluble, non-decomposable, inert solid material." This term includes soil, rock, stone, dredged material, used asphalt, and brick, block or concrete from construction and demolition activities that are separate from other waste and recognizable as such.

If you are planning on importing or exporting fill, please don't hesitate to contact the Conservation District at 299-5361 for guidance on fill requirements for your specific project.



THE MANY BENEFITS OF BUFFERS

Do you have a stream on your property? Do you have trees growing along your stream? If you don't have one already, perhaps you could consider adding a riparian forest buffer to your current conservation practices. Riparian forest buffers combined with streambank fencing are some of the most important and cost-effective Best Management Practices (BMPs) on farms with stream access. From improving water quality to enhancing wildlife habitat, riparian buffers offer numerous benefits.

Riparian buffers create unique habitats surrounding waterways that often contain vegetation suited to wet areas. They provide transition areas between the banks of the stream and fields, yards, or roads. These habitats take time to fully establish themselves, which is why streambank fencing of the buffer is strongly recommended for farms with grazing animals.

A 100-foot planted buffer has proved to be the ideal width for improving stream temperature and aquatic habitat for fish and insects. Deer can be discouraged by installing plastic tree shelters around the small saplings at planting time.

For more information on this Best Management Practice and the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), contact the Lancaster County Conservation District Agriculture Conservation Technician at 299-5361, ext. 5.

LIBRARY NEWS

The Friends of the **Manheim Community Library** is hosting its annual **Spring Used Book Sale** at the Manheim Farm Show Building from May 4-6. A special Storytime with Miss Lisa will be held.

Thursday, May 4 – 9:00 am-Noon and 3:00 pm -7:00 pm

*Special Storytime with Miss Lisa at 10:00 pm

Friday, May 5 – 9:00 am-Noon and 3:00 pm-7:00 pm

Saturday, May 6 – 9:00 am –Noon

*\$5 (plus tax) Bag Sale all day

Visit www.manheimlibrary.org for more information.

The **Mulanof-Schock Library** also offers programs for all age groups. The **Blueberries for Books** fundraiser begins April 17 and ends in June. World War I programs will be held in April and May. The Friends' **Used Book Sale** is held at the Donegal High School June 8, 9 & 10.

Visit www.mslibrary.org for more information.

2017 SUMMER PLAYGROUND PROGRAM

This year's program will be held from June 12—July 27 at Rapho Township Park, 960 Strickler Road, for children ages 6-14. Register soon at www.getintoGEARS.org!

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Township Office - 665-3827

County Control - 911

Manheim Borough Police non-emergency
(717) 665-2481

Sewage Enforcement Officer - 653-1008

MEETING DATES AND TIMES

Board of Supervisors—1st & 3rd Thurs, 7:30 pm

BOS Work Session—7:30 am Tues prior to Thurs
BOS meeting which follows the PC meeting

Planning Commission — First Mon at 7:00 pm

Zoning Hearing Board—First Tues at 7:30 pm

CHIQUES CREEK WATERSHED ALLIANCE
WATERSHED EXPO 2017

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7 6:00-8:00 P.M.

NEW LOCATION!

MANHEIM FARM SHOW, 502 E. ADELE AVE. MANHEIM



Bring the family for a fun, educational evening by the Chiques Creek at our 6th annual Expo!

This year's Expo is a featured event for the Lancaster County Conservancy's Water Week!

Expo highlights include:

- Painting a rain barrel
 - Streambank fencing and no till farming exhibits
- Creepy crawly creek creatures
 - A model rain garden... with real rain!
- Native plant display
- Live music by Songsmith
- FREE ice cream courtesy of Kreider Farms
- FREE reusable shopping bag
- Water balloon slingshot



Check out our website or Facebook page for more info: www.chiquescreekwatershed.org

WILDFIRE PREVENTION TIPS

The warm weather that we will soon be enjoying will draw more people outdoors. It's a good time for a reminder about preventing wildfires, since 98% of the wildfires in Pennsylvania are caused by humans.

- * Check your forest district's wildfire alert system and for high winds before creating any outdoor fire.
- * Never leave any fire unattended.
- * Completely extinguish any outdoor fire you create with water and dirt.
- * Don't throw cigarettes, other smoking materials or matches on the ground or out of vehicle windows.
- * Be mindful when operating equipment outdoors that can create heat or sparks.



DISPOSING OF MEDICAL WASTE

Please remember to properly dispose of medical waste. We recommend that you place any used needles in a closed heavy plastic container (laundry detergent bottles or coffee containers, for example). Place these materials with your trash, not with your recycling. Much of the work done at recycling facilities is automated, but there are employees who physically sort the materials by hand. Proper disposal of needles prevents injuries to those employees.



MASTERTONVILLE FIRE COMPANY NEWS

Over the past 20 years, the Mastertonsville Volunteer Fire Company has been planning and anticipating the construction of a new fire station. Final plans have been drawn by SGS Architects and Engineers. Paul Risk Construction from Quarryville has been selected to build the new fire station. Various local businesses have offered to supply equipment and have donated services to help this new fire station become a reality. The Fire Company hopes to have ground-breaking in early April and move-in date in the fall. The total cost will be approximately 2.4 million dollars. The project includes a 6 bay fire station with offices, storage, training facilities and a 13,000 gallon underground water supply tank. The new fire station will be constructed on a 10-acre parcel directly across the street from the current station at 2166 Meadow View Road. Please visit Mastertonsville's website at www.mastertonsvillefire.com and support fund-raising events for this all-volunteer organization. Stop by the fire house on **May 6 for a Chicken Barbecue** starting at 10:00 am.

SPRING CLEANUP TIME IS HERE

Spring is a great time for cleaning up. Try these environmentally friendly activities at your property:

- 1) Look through your house for items that are recyclable. All haulers collect glass bottles and jars of any color, steel and tin cans, plastic bottles such as water, soda or juice, detergent containers, milk jugs, and paper, including newspapers and inserts, phone books and junk mail.
- 2) Organize a cleanup or beautification event. March 1 through May 31 is the Great American Cleanup of PA. During this time, residents from across the state gather to clean up litter and trash along roadsides, streams, parks, forests and neighborhoods. Register at www.gacofpa.org to receive supplies and equipment free of charge. Contact Allison Vollmer at (717) 397-9968 prior to an event.
- 3) Take advantage of household hazardous waste programs for disposal of paint, electronics, fluorescent lightbulbs and more. These can be disposed for FREE at the LCSWMA facility on Harrisburg Pike.
- 4) Commit to composting, an excellent way to recycle vegetable scraps, grass clippings, leaves and other organics, turning those materials into a useful product to naturally improve your soil. Not sure where to begin? Check out a FREE workshop on May 20 at East Donegal Township or June 7 at the Manheim Farm Show Building during the Watershed Expo. Call (717) 397-9968 for more information or to sign up for one of the workshops.

PAPER SHREDDING EVENT

Stop by Saturday on the Square at Pleasant View Retirement Community (544 N. Penryn Road) on **May 6 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm** to have your documents shredded for FREE. The event is sponsored by Rapho and Penn Townships and Manheim Borough. Bring one box of paper and a non-perishable item to donate to the Manheim Central Food Pantry.

RAPHO TOWNSHIP

971 N. COLEBROOK ROAD
MANHEIM PA 17545
Phone: 717-665-3827 Fax: 717-665-7685

Sara Gibson - Township Manager
manager@raphotownship.com
Dave Eggert - Zoning Officer
zoning@raphotownship.com
Melva Kready - Tax Collector
melva@raphotownship.com
John Haldeman - Public Works Director
roadmaster@raphotownship.com
Ena Marie Banks - Recycling Coordinator
enamarie@raphotownship.com
Lindsey Brenner - Bookkeeper
lindsey@raphotownship.com

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www.raphotownship.com

RECYCLING TIP

Did you know that when preparing containers for recycling, any package containing soap should **NOT** be rinsed? The residual soap is helpful in cleaning the plastics for reprocessing. Food containers should be rinsed.

RECYCLING CORNER

PROTECT OUR WATERWAYS

Some ideas to help us be good stewards of the land and keep our waterways clean and healthy:

- * Do not dispose of any yard waste in a storm water runoff facility such as an inlet, swale, drain or stream. You may bring your yard waste to the Township's Yard Waste Recycling Facility. Remember to renew your annual fob for \$5.
- * Maintain your lawn at a height of three inches. Mulch your grass so that the clippings will provide a natural fertilizer of nitrogen, potassium and phosphorous
- * Check to make sure your vehicle is not leaking any fluids onto your driveway or on the road in front of your house. Oil, grease, antifreeze and gasoline will wash into stormwater during storms. Clean up all spills.
- * Take your vehicle to a commercial car wash, and if you must wash it at your residence, remember to do it on the lawn and use phosphate-free car soap.
- * Always clean up after your pet.



RECYCLING FACTS

95% of an automotive battery can be recycled, including the battery acid, which is turned into chemicals for laundry detergent. Phosphates in soap are a form of fertilizer that can cause weeds and algae to grow.

No burning of trash or recyclable materials, including yard waste, is permitted in Rapho Township!