SUMM/> FROM THE SUMMIT TOWNSHIP

SECOND QUARTER 2023 814/868-9686

VOLUME 32, NUMBER 2 www.summittownship.com

MARK YOUR SPRING AND SUMMER CALENDARS!

May 13 Spring Clean-Up (See Page 18)

May 16 Primary Election Day

May 26 Rec Program Registration Deadline (See Page 16)

May 29 Memorial Day (Offices Closed)

July 4 Independence Day (Offices Closed)

July 28–30 Summit Residents' Weekend (See Page 5)

August 10 Summit Senior Citizens' Picnic (See Page 19)



Saturday, May 6th, 2023 10:00am-12:00pm

Meet staff. Learn about the program.
On-site Registration available!

OTE

PRIMARY ELECTION DAY IS MAY 16, 2023

- Polls are open on election day from 7:00am–8:00pm
- Last day to register to vote: May 1, 2023
- Last day to request a mail-in or absentee ballot: May 9, 2023

Be sure to like and follow the official **Summit Township Facebook Page** for up-to-date news and information.

You can find us at www.facebook.com/ summittownshiperiecountypa or @summittownshiperiecountypa





MEET THE STAFF

TOWNSHIP: 868-9686

Jack Lee, Jr. -

Supervisor/Treasurer/ Dir. Land Development

Mark A. Welka -

Supervisor/Roadmaster

Tony Davis -

Supervisor/Chairman/Director of Parks/Equipment Maint. Supervisor/

Assistant Roadmaster

Lisa Vallimont -

Municipal Secretary

Michelle Nesselhauf -

HR Director/Recycling Coordinator/

Newsletter Editor

Tamara Cass -Zoning Administrator

Debra Jageman -

 $Zoning\ Administrative\ Assistant$

Kip Hayford - Code Enforcement

Matthew Jonas -

Township Engineer

Joe Whitmer – GIS/MS-4 Technician

Gina Erbin - Receptionist

THE ROAD CREW:

Mike Hanas - Road Foreman

Darrell Sayers - Garage Foreman

Steve Skelly, Joe Passerotti, Larry Hudacky, Jeff Matheis,

Andrew Fox, Joe Malinowski, Dan Wilder & Tim Eliason

WATER AUTHORITY: 864-2323

Brian Hiles - Manager

Sean Miller - Foreman

Gretchen Hayford - Office Manager

Kathy Hiles – Administrative

Secretary

Brian Clark, Lisa Culbertson,

Adam Wilps, Chad Miller - Systems

Operators

SEWER AUTHORITY: 868-4495

William Steff, P.E. - Manager

Caitlyn Haener-Schwab -

Administrative Supervisor

Amv McCaslin -

Billing Clerk

Marty McAtee -

Operations Foreman

Chris Hodge -

GIS Specialist/Asst. Project Manager

Andrew Larson, Scott Snyder -

Maintenance Technicians

LeBoeuf Little League

Please mark your calendars for LeBoeuf Little League's Annual Fundraiser the weekend of May 19, 20, and 21. Follow Little League on our website (flbll.com) or our

Facebook page for details in the near future.





With Daylight Savings Time change, remember to check or change the batteries in your smoke alarms!!

PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE

Board of Supervisors:

1st Monday of each month, 6:00 p.m. 3rd Monday of each month, 4:30 p.m.

Planning Commission:

2nd Monday of each month, 6:30 p.m.

Sewer Authority:

Last Thursday of each month, 9:00 a.m.

Water Authority:

1st Tuesday of each month, 6:00 p.m.

Recreation Board:

1st Wednesday of each month, 4:30 p.m.

LeBoeuf Little League:

2nd Sunday of each month, 6:00 p.m. at Waterford American Legion

Zoning Hearing Board:

4th Tuesday of each month, 6:00 p.m. As needed and advertised only

Summit Township Industrial and Economic Development Authority (STIEDA):

4th Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m. as needed.

Debra Cameron, Summit Township Tax Collector

1754 Townhall Rd. West, Erie, PA 16509 | (814) 866-2653 Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 10AM-2PM | Monday evening 5-7PM By appointment May, September, and November 1 - March 1

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The next deadline for submission of newsletter articles is **July 28**. Our next newsletter will be published in late August/early September.



Hello all, I want to talk about our comprehensive plan and zoning regulations. Much of the public never hears about all the requests we get and how many developers want to bend the rules or manipulate the system for personal gain. Summit Township invested much time and money to update the old comprehensive plan and zoning. It is no secret we were behind the times because of all the expansion that has taken place in the last 45 years and is still ongoing.

Zoning regulations are mostly made up because of public complaints and requests, not because of "Government". That is where it starts. This can be very difficult for any elected official. You must make the best decisions you can for your municipality, the public, and businesses, not for special interest projects. Zoning separates residential, commercial, retail, and industrial.

I do realize the importance of zoning regulations. I live in a very nice neighborhood and subdivision with modest homes and families. It took my wife and me many years to move into a neighborhood like this. You start out young, work hard, and buy what you can afford. As you get older and save for the future, you begin to buy nicer things and also work on your retirement plan. That does not happen overnight. I brought this up because I do not want a business of any kind moving in beside me. It is a residential zoned area with neighbors, not strangers.

Many developers are good marketers and like using hot topics and titles to manipulate the system, and do not want to accept no for an answer. All we want and ask is for them to follow the rules with a proper land development plan, like everyone else.

As we all know, Summit Township is a very busy place. We can't ignore the rights of neighbors and businesses by not managing traffic, sewer, water, stormwater, and rubbish. We have more developers moving into Summit now, and most are very good and do what they are asked.

We have a contract with BIU, along with several other townships in Erie County. They are a professional building inspection firm. They do a very good job and protect the public and developers from shoddy or substandard construction. The public needs that protection. They follow

Hello Summit residents,

The winter is over, and the roads held up great. If you happen to find a pothole on one of our roads, please let me know.

The road crew is working on yard repair and cutting berms down. Over the years, the anti-skid builds up and we need to shave it down. The plow and wing on our trucks are 13 feet wide, and many of our lanes are only 11 feet wide.

We intend on tar and chipping several roads this year. The seal coats help preserve the asphalt and lock the oils in the road. Following is a list of the roads for tar and chip:

SUPERVISOR'S CORNER

PA Building Codes and do not go over or above that. The process could save anyone a tremendous headache down the road. I'm sure most of us remember the housing units in Erie County that had been condemned because of poor construction and fell apart.

Here are some repeated facts, Summit has 7,400 residents, 14,000 employees, and who knows how many visitors we have daily. Upper Peach Street averages more than 22,000 vehicles per day. For these reasons, we must do a good job managing this township and really watch the budget. Summit also owns and maintains 15 multiple-lane traffic lights and cabinets 24/7.

We also have no use for LERTA, a Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance, to provide a tax-exempt program at this time. LERTA is used to promote businesses and jobs for blighted properties in struggling cities, boroughs, and municipalities. That is not Summit. If someone is looking for LERTA, they have the whole county that could use economic development.

As for myself, I will not approve of special exceptions every time someone asks. Our budget becomes tighter and tougher to balance each year. Many believe Summit has unlimited funds, and that is not so, especially since we stepped up our game to help support EMS with Perry Hiway Hose Company. We are still trying to find a good resolve for recycling, which is proving to be difficult because it is not cost-effective, so it is hard to find a hauler. No business is run with a negative profit.

I am an elected official and here to serve the public, not every special exception that comes along. Sorry to ramble, but the requests for discounts and change are never-ending. My goal is to preserve all the good things in our township and keep it that way. I have told outsiders; they are welcome to go elsewhere if they do not like it here. Summit is a very popular area and one of the very few townships in PA that have expanded and grown 22 years in a row.

Thank you,

Supervisor Jack Lee

- Shunpike Road
- Osborn Road
- Marsh Road
- Lee Road
- Nies Road
- Elk Creek Road (from Rt. 97 to Rt. 19)
- Old French Road (from Lee Road to Townhall Road)

We will also be paving some roads this year. Following is a list of the roads for paving:

- Hamot Road (from Elk Creek Road to New Road)
- Hawick Road
- Dundee Road
- Glencoe Road

Have a great spring, and if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me.

Supervisor Mark A. Welka

Hello Summit Township Residents,

It looks like Spring is finally here, and with that, much clean-up will be taking place at the parks. Baseball fields #1, #2, and #3 will be freshened up with edging, weeding, and additional Dura-edge material for the dirt surfaces. Playground areas will be inspected, and equipment needing repair will be attended to. Existing picnic tables will be painted, and leveling feet will be added to reduce the wobble they currently have. New tables may be purchased in phases over the next couple of years since a one-time replacement proved to be quite expensive. With the budget being tighter, fixing what we currently have makes more sense financially.

Community Park will have an AED installed near the restrooms this year; we are currently waiting for a weatherproof box to arrive.

We are planning a 9-hole disc golf course along the trails at Picnicana this year, which has recently become a popular sport among all age groups.

Let's all hope for some nice weather this Spring. Meanwhile, enjoy your time spent with family and friends.

Best regards,

Supervisor Tony Davis



COMPOSIFLEX recently completed construction of a 23,081 sq. ft. addition to their commercial building located at 8100 Hawthorne Drive. Composiflex has been designing and manufacturing advanced, high-performance composites for more than 37 years. Composiflex's strong suits are a knowledgeable engineering staff, "art-to-part" projects, cost-effective rapid prototyping of parts, a range of modern manufacturing technologies, and material selection expertise – all of which contribute to the company's reputation for producing composites yielding consistent quality and reliability.

IRONSTONE MEADERY opened its new location at 2890 Copperleaf Drive Suite 140 inside the Copperleaf Community off Edinboro Road. Ironstone Meadery strives to offer only the best handcrafted, slow-fermented meads flavored with only natural, top-quality fruits, spices, and botanicals and made with 100% real honey.

IN THE WORKS:

BIANCHI HONDA has started the process of adding an addition and renovations to their dealership located at 8430 Peach Street.

Summit Community Food Pantry

Welcome Spring!

It's time to begin planning your gardens whether it be flowers or vegetables. If you will be planting a vegetable garden this year, maybe you can plant another row and donate to the food pantry at harvest time?! Or when those delicious peaches, pears, and apples become ripe, donate a bushel to the food pantry? Everyone loves a pie!

We continue to do curbside distributions. If anyone would like to volunteer their time on distribution days to help put boxes in vehicles curbside, please come on a distribution day and ask for Terry. You do not

have to make a commitment every week. Any help is appreciated. We continue to thank all our volunteers for their continuous commitment to making Summit a "no one goes hungry" zone.

Distribution days remain on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from 2-4 pm.

Summit Community Food Pantry (SCFP)
1230 Townhall Rd., West, Basement
Erie, PA 16509



SUMMIT TOWNSHIP RESIDENT'S WEEKEND! Friday, July 28th and Saturday, July 29th

Mark Your Calendar Now

The Summit Township Rec Board would like you to enjoy the weekend with fun and games at Picnicana Park. Rain or Shine, the park is reserved for township residents to enjoy! This event is free to all Summit Township residents. *The Rec Board would like you to consider bringing a non-perishable food or paper product donation on Saturday to benefit the Summit Food Pantry. Some items they need are toilet paper, paper towels, tissues, personal care products, peanut butter, tuna fish, soup, canned fruit, and cereal, but any donation you can make will be greatly appreciated!

Friday, July 28th—Carnival Night

Please join in on the fun starting at 6:00 pm with the summer program's "Carnival Night"!

Residents are welcome to use the facilities, mingle with your Summit Township neighbors, and tumble in/on the inflatable objects!

Saturday, July 29th — Bingo and a Movie



(Don't forget to bring your Summit Food Pantry donation)

Bingo – 5:00 pm-8:00 pm; enjoy a friendly game of Bingo with your neighbors, along with the opportunity to win prizes!

Food - serving will begin at 5:30 pm. Sit by the bonfire; enjoy corn-on-the-cob, hotdogs, slushies, nachos & cheese, s'mores, popcorn, and drinks.

Movie – 8:30 pm, join in for a great children's movie on the big outdoor screen. Bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit back & relax while watching the movie under the stars!



For questions or additional information, please contact any Rec Board Member:

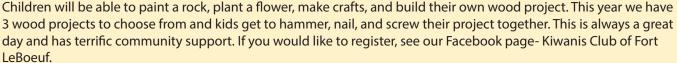
Kelly Ford 814-464-5758 Steve Skelly 814-434-9071 Adam Suroviec 814-460-7739 Chris Galdon 814-450-1868 Shannon Scully 814-873-2765

Summit Township web page at: www.summittownship.com



We are always looking for ways to serve the children in our community, and we have assisted our FLB School nurses over the past few years. This year we collected 343 items to be divided among the four FLB schools. The donated items included sweatpants and shorts, sneakers, deodorant, underwear, and feminine products. Many children visit the nurse each day, and we are happy to give them items to make their day comfortable.

We will be holding our annual "Spring Fling" on Saturday, May 20th, at Waterford Elementary. This family event is open to all FLB students.



Finally, we recently collected items for Foster Placement Bags. When children are placed in foster care, they often come without a change of clothing. Our club put together 124 bags for children of all ages. These bags contain an outfit, pajamas, toiletries, a book, and a stuffed animal. Thank you to all that donated.



Fort LeBoeuf School District Robison, Mill Village, Waterford Elementary Schools

2023-2024 KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Registration for all children living in the Fort LeBoeuf School District will be held in the gymnasium at Waterford Elementary School located at 323 Cherry Street, Waterford, PA. (796-4833). Please park in the rear of the building by the gymnasium entrance. Kindergarten is a full-day program at Fort LeBoeuf, and children entering in the fall of 2023 must be five years of age before June 1, 2023.

Registration will be held during the following dates and times. **You** will need to sign-up for a registration time slot at https://ptcfast.com/schools/FLB

Monday, May 15, 2023, 11:00 AM – 6:30 PM Tuesday, May 16, 2023, 11:00 AM – 6:30 PM

Registration will not be complete until the office has a copy of the child's birth certificate and immunization record. Please be aware students must have the state-mandated immunizations within the first 5 days of school, or they will not be eligible to attend. Please bring a "baby book" with the required data or a doctor's written statement regarding immunization history. If your child's immunization record is not updated, please come to registration with the information you have and an updated immunization record may be given to the school before classes begin. Proof that you reside in the Fort LeBoeuf School District is required at time of registration. Please have two proofs of residency, and one should be your driver's license.

Due to our updated security policies, please be prepared to show your ID before entering the school building. Your child must be with you so that vision and academic screenings can be carried out on the day you register. If your child wears glasses, please have her/him wear them on registration day.

Perhaps you would be willing to share this information with a friend or relative who have a kindergarten-age child. Please have them call any of our three elementary schools if they have not received this packet.

If you are not planning to register your child in the Fort LeBoeuf School District, or have questions regarding registration, please call an elementary school office.

Sincerely,

Mr. Jason Vaughn Principal Mill Village Elementary 814-796-2060 Mrs. Jenna Hopkins Principal Robison Elementary 814-796-3742 Mrs. Yvonne Best-Proctor Principal Waterford Elementary 814-796-4833



SUMMIT SENIOR CENTER

1450 Townhall Road West

1st & 3rd Tuesday Lunch – 11:45 am Doors open at 11:00 am for fellowship Open to anyone age 55+



Follow us on Facebook: Summit Township Senior Citizens Group, Erie County, PA

Plans are being made for more activities coming in the next few months. Stop in and join us!

Spring update: Harrisburg happenings and other news

Spring is a classic time for growth and change, and as we welcome those seasonal changes to the landscape here at home, I also wanted to catch you up on some developments in Harrisburg.

In March, Gov. Josh Shapiro delivered his budget address. Although it is just a blueprint, and we will be negotiating the details in the months ahead, I heard a number of proposals I support.

First, the proposed budget calls for no new taxes, a reduction in business taxes, and the elimination of the cell phone tax. It would boost funding to our public schools and to police, fire, and EMS departments. And, it would provide a tax credit for residents who want to become police, nurses, and teachers.

The plan also calls for an expansion of the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program that would raise the maximum annual rebate from \$650 to \$1,000, increase the qualifying annual income cap to \$45,000, and tie that cap to the cost of living.

I strongly support expanding the program, which is vitally important to thousands of Pennsylvania seniors living on a fixed income. In fact, I recently reintroduced legislation of my own that would permanently exclude Social Security cost-of-living increases for purposes of qualifying for the program.

Of course, any budget is a compromise, and it's up to us to hammer out the details. I will be working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to come up with a final plan that spends sensibly while investing in our most important resources: our families, our seniors, and the small businesses that power our economy.

Other news from the state Capitol

In other Harrisburg news, I recently introduced a slate of bills to help cut government spending, increase accountability, and fight blight.

I have also introduced legislation that would allow us to develop areas of Lake Erie for wind generation. I believe it's time for our area to reap the economic benefits of this clean, renewable energy source.

To address health and safety issues that threaten students, teachers, and school workers at many of Erie's aging schools, I recently joined several colleagues in introducing legislation that would allow us to address leaky buildings, poor ventilation, electrical problems, and other hazards that have no place in our schools. (You can read more about these bills and other news affecting our district by visiting my webpage at www.RepMerski.com.)

Finally, I'm excited to report that House Speaker Joanna McClinton recently appointed me to serve on the America250PA Commission's Infrastructure Improvements and Projects Committee.

As America prepares to celebrate its 250th birthday, I'll be working with my colleagues to highlight Pennsylvania's special role in our nation's birth. I'm proud to have been selected to represent our region alongside my Republican counterpart, state Rep. Parke Wentling.

As always, if you have questions or need help with any staterelated matter, please don't hesitate to contact my office at 814-455-6319. Also, please remember that my Summit satellite office located in the Municipal Building at 1230

Townhall Road West is open every Wednesday from noon to 4 pm. Stop in to see how we can help – or just to say hello!

State Rep. Bob Merski, D-Erie, represents the 2nd Legislative District.



Perry Hi-Way Hose Company

May Flowers and PERRY HI-WAY Fund Drive

Greetings and Happy Spring! As I write this article, it is a winter wonderland outside with snowflakes steadily falling and stacking up on my vehicle. For the first half of March, it is normal to get that storm around Saint Patrick's Day. With a mild winter, we had to catch up on snowfall at some point to get closer to normal. With that, I sure hope that the sun is shining and the weather is getting warmer by the time the 2nd quarter newsletter is delivered.

The start of May means the start of the flowers beginning to come alive and grow and the buds on the trees and plants pop out. May 1st also starts the annual residential Fund Drive Campaign for the Perry Hi-Way Hose Company. The fund drive provides money to meet our operational costs such as fuel for our emergency vehicles, utility costs, vehicle and liability insurance, vehicle maintenance, station upkeep, and ambulance supplies just to name some of our bigger expenses. While the Township Supervisors continue to provide a large amount of funding from the LST funds and casino funds, the vast majority is used to pay for the paid staffing wages and benefits, a total in excess

of \$845,000 for this year. **THERE IS NO FIRE TAX LEVIED BY THE TOWNSHIP AT THIS TIME.** Your donations are needed to keep the department open and in operation. It is disappointing that only 1/3 of the residents pay for the services that stand ready to serve them should an emergency occur. We ask for just \$75.00 per home or less than \$0.21 per day to support the emergency services for Summit Township. The fund drive mailer will be sent out on May 1st and all residents should have it in their mailbox by May 6th. Please return your donation in the small envelope provided to show your support for this vital service. If a fully paid fire and EMS system was put into place the cost would be much higher than \$75.00 per year. A small force 1/5 the size of the City of Erie would cost an estimated \$3,000,000 per year or \$2.75 per day per Summit home.

As we watch the flowers grow and the leaves return on the trees, let's see if we can grow the number of contributors to the Perry Hi-Way fund drive. Be safe and enjoy the warming spring weather and have a wonderful spring and summer season.

PERRY HI-WAY IN THE NEWS

Many of you have seen the news reports about Perry Hi-Way stopping mutual aid ambulance responses as of May 1st. We will still be providing some assistance to the communities of McKean, Waterford, and Greene Township as well as the ambulance services we have contracts with for paramedic assistance in a backup capacity. The reason for this change is due to the abuse and dependence on Perry Hi-Way to provide service to Millcreek Township and the City of Erie. We have been tracking the number of emergency calls we get called to in Millcreek Township as well as the City of Erie. For the past several months, Perry Hi-Way has been called into Millcreek an average of 17 times per month and into the City of Erie an average of 14 times per month. We also get called to all the surrounding municipalities as well but in much smaller numbers. Statistics from the 911 center show in 2022 Perry Hi-Way was called out of Summit Township 849 times out of 2000 total EMS calls. That is 42% of our ambulance calls are outside Summit Township. When our staff is called out of the Township to respond on mutual aid, they are no longer available to respond to emergencies in Summit Township. Summit Township supervisors pay for those responders to be here to provide care to Summit residents when needed.

The staff that has been hired to work at Perry Hi-Way are both Firefighters and EMS (ambulance) personnel. These men and women respond to all emergencies within Summit Township, be it a house fire, vehicle fire, vehicle accident, or medical emergency. The staff is not just ambulance staff, but they also provide the daytime firefighting staff for Summit Township. The lack of volunteers has made it necessary to pay to have people available to respond when an emergency call comes in. Unlike many departments, our staff does all levels of emergency service and not just the ambulance work. I can say that 70 to 75% of our emergency calls are for the ambulance. Our staffing levels currently are a crew of just 2 on duty in the fire station from 9 pm till 9 am. The

crew level doubles to 4 staff on duty from 9 am to 9 pm. The 9 am to 9 pm staffing is sometimes less when there are sick call-offs and we have no one available to backfill or take the open spot due to illness. There have been several times over the past 3 months that we are answering mutual aid calls and have been unable to respond to calls in Summit Township.

The Board of Directors for Perry Hi-Way as well as the 3 Township Supervisors have decided to be more focused on Summit Township and stop running the extreme number of calls into Millcreek and The City of Erie. The law stipulates that the municipality is responsible to ensure there is fire and ambulance coverage for their area. Millcreek and the City of Erie have been relying on Perry Hi-Way and Summit Township to provide their ambulance coverage when their contracted services are falling short. Millcreek and The City have not provided the funding needed to make sure their emergency ambulance providers have the staff and equipment needed to provide service to their municipality. These municipalities rely on Perry Hi-Way to cover their emergencies and provide no financial support to Perry Hi-Way or Summit Township. So in essence Summit Township is stuck paying for the staff that is covering Millcreek Township or the City of Erie and that is not right. We have attempted to share the cost of providing service to Millcreek and the City by billing for service each time we respond but have been told no by Millcreek and have had no response from the City Finance department. So with the goal to improve safety in Summit Township and keep the funds the Supervisors pay for emergency fire and ambulance coverage in Summit, we have no choice but to limit our areas of mutual aid. Summit has made provisions to make sure there is fire and ambulance coverage for Summit Township, it is now time for Millcreek, The City of Erie, and other municipalities to do the same! John Spaulding, President, Perry Hi-Way Hose Company

Springtime Stormwater

With Spring finally upon us, stormwater will again be more noticeable in the Erie County communities along with litter, oil slicks, and other pollutants that tend to populate our streets. Because stormwater can carry these hazardous materials into our waterways and affect such resources as drinking water, it is important to consider ways we can personally improve local water quality. Even those of us with seemingly insignificant yards can make a huge impact!

As Spring progresses, consider engaging in these activities to improve the water quality of stormwater where you live:

- Dispose of any wind-strewn trash from this past winter and fall, including missed organic matter like leaves and grass clippings.
- Test the soil in your lawn to better inform your fertilizer needs and minimize excess waste runoff into local waterways. If you do use fertilizers, seek out slow-release nitrogen fertilizers to further minimize harm to water quality.
- Mow high (about 2.5 inches or more) to allow your lawn to retain moisture and promote dense growth. Allow any grass clippings to decompose on your lawn. This is free fertilizer!
 Sweep any clippings off impervious surfaces such as a driveway onto your lawn so that they may avoid becoming runoff pollution.

For the more adventurous out there, consider reimagining your lawn altogether!

 Plant native meadow grasses and wildflowers instead of traditional turf, even just to replace a bare planting bed. Native plants have deeper roots and are better adapted for the local

- environment than turf grass and also provide a microhabitat for insects, birds, and other wildlife.
- Planting native trees and shrubs provides further water quality improvement, and doing so along the edges and borders of your lawn—along fences and other boundaries—reduces mowing space, saving you time and money. Reach out to ReLeaf Erie (releaferie.org) to participate in their mission to plant one tree for every citizen in Erie County! The Erie County Conservation District also offers its annual seedling sale every Spring (erieconservation.com).
- Install a rain barrel, redirect a downspout into a planting bed, or install a rain garden. There are many things we can do to create a more watershed-friendly and aesthetically pleasing green space at home.

For more information and resources on stormwater, please visit the Erie County Stormwater Information webpage (https://eriecountypa.gov/departments/planning-and-community-development/resources/stormwater-information/) or the Erie County Planning Department's Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/ErieCountyPlanning/).





FROM THE SUMMIT TOWNSHIP SEWER AUTHORITY

SHIP SEMENT ON THE COUNTY AND THE CO

Old Perry Relief Sewer

This force-main and gravity replacement project is 90 % complete. Progress has been exceptionally good, and the Authority expects the construction to be completed by June 30, 2023. Motorists traveling on Old Perry Highway in the area between Bloomfield Parkway and Old French Road should exercise caution when driving through the construction site.

Connection Assistance Project

Currently, 23 of 31 connections are completed. With only 9 laterals remaining, the Authority anticipates the project will be completed ahead of the June 30th deadline. With 75% of the project complete, we believe the project is progressing nicely.

The locations of these connections are scattered throughout the Township. Please continue to be cautious when driving through any construction site.

Oliver Road Lift Station, Force Main, and Gravity Upsizing Project

Contract #1 - Gravity Upsizing Project, being performed by Terra Works, Inc., is expected to utilize a gyroscopic-based pipeline mapping system designed to accurately determine the XYZ location of underground utility pipes. After the contractor performs a comprehensive survey and catalogs the defective pipe, the Authority expects the contractor to remove and replace the off-grade pipe.

The project is still expected to be completed by July 28, 2023.

Contract #2 - Force Main

Replacement Project was
completed on time and within budget by
Konzel Construction in October 2022 for \$179,690.

The existing force-main was replaced to provide future capacity for lands south of Five Points.

Contract #3 - Oliver Road Lift Station Replacement is underway. National Fuel Gas has disconnected the natural gas supply, and Penelec is disconnecting the power on April 10, 2023. Ray Showman Junior Excavating, Inc. will then commence the demolition of the existing lift station in advance of the installation of a prefabricated wastewater lift station. The work appears to be on schedule for the July 31, 2023, completion deadline.

If any sewer customer has any questions pertaining to the sewer system or billing concerns, please feel free to call the Authority at 814-868-4495 or attend a monthly meeting. Check your Township calendar for Sewer Authority meeting dates. The Authority office hours are currently 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday. If you plan to attend a meeting, please call and let us know. We will be glad to put you on the agenda.

William C. Steff, P.E.,



Are you moving, downsizing, remodeling, or a business cleaning out your warehouse? Please keep **Greater Erie Area Habitat for Humanity & ReStore** in mind! **Now accepting donations of new & used building/construction materials, cabinetry,**

vanities, lighting, plumbing, hard furniture, home goods, appliances (10 yrs or newer), and tools in good working condition. If you have questions on acceptable items or need to schedule a pick-up for larger items, call Sara, at 814-454-7025 ext. 103 or email restore@habitaterie.org. Donation drop-offs accepted Tues/Wed/Fri 9am-3pm. Conveniently located at 4922 Pittsburgh Ave., enter the second driveway and proceed to the back of the building. Shop the ReStore Fridays 9am-12pm & Saturdays 8am-4pm.

Engineer's Report

The Transportation Map and Sidewalk Ordinance have both been updated to denote the areas in the Township where sidewalks will be required in the future. This will allow for a more organized approach to the implementation of future sidewalks with fewer sidewalk deferrals, and the possibility to apply for grant funds.

We are also in the process of updating the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance. As with the other ordinances we have recently updated, this ordinance is outdated and with the new Zoning Ordinance, certain sections of this ordinance are longer relevant. So, we have begun, which is a complete rewrite of the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, using Erie County's model ordinance as a starting point and editing and revising to meet the needs of Summit Township. To date, we have completed the first draft and are reviewing the draft with the Planning Commission. We are currently about halfway through the draft. As always, these discussions take place at regular and special public meetings. So, you are more than welcome to stop in and see how it is progressing.

After this review, we will take the comments and generate another draft and continue reviewing and editing. Once we have a complete draft that is acceptable to the Planning Commission, the draft will go to the Supervisors for review and we will start the official public review process. During this process, there will be a 30-day review period during where the Ordinance will be posted online and at the Township Building. There will also be a public hearing for the Ordinance prior to adoption. Please stay tuned for further updates.

As for engineering projects, the Downs Drive paving project has been pushed back to 2024 to allow for more work to be done on the local roads. Also, there is an area at the intersection of Downs Drive and the marginal accessway that needs repair. So, we will be tackling that this year to improve the subsurface drainage and repair the pavement.

Also, the design work for the replacement of the culvert on Old Zuck Road has begun this year. The plan is to replace the undersized culvert with a small bridge which will allow for better stream flow and to provide for a wider roadway and pedestrian pathway. This year will be spent finalizing the design and obtaining environmental permits. If everything goes to plan, the bridge may be replaced in 2024.



From the Water Authority...

WATER MAIN FLUSHING TO BEGIN IN APRIL

Last year we started a flushing maintenance program where we strategically flushed problem areas of the system to remove sediment which builds up over time. This has proven to be successful in eliminating the complaints that we've received in previous years for dirty water.

We intend to begin this year's flushing the second week of April. We will be posting the schedule on our Facebook page (Summit Township Water Authority) and on the Summit Township website (summittownship.com) to keep customers informed. Customers registered with our Code Red notification system will also receive an alert in advance of flushing in their area.

CODE RED NOTIFICATIONS

Recently we experienced two emergencies that resulted in service interruptions. The first was on a Saturday when a fire hydrant was hit at the intersection of Lee Road and Peach Street. The second was a Monday morning when a valve broke at the intersection of Ennis Drive and Sodhaven Drive. These events were not planned or anticipated and customers that signed up for Code Red Notifications were notified immediately of the outages. So if you haven't registered to receive our Code Red notifications, please do so as soon as possible so you can be notified of service interruptions caused by events just like these.

Thank you to all of our affected customers for their understanding during these emergencies.

NEW WEBSITE COMING SOON

We've been working hard with the staff from Mega Media Factory to develop a new website for the Water Authority. While we've appreciated being included on the Township's website, having our own will allow us to post more information that is helpful to our existing customers as well as new developers. Our new address will be www.summittownshipwater.com



PennState Extension.

What is Extension?

As of late last year, Penn State Extension moved into office space at Summit Township. You might have found yourself asking... "Who or what is Penn State Extension?"

Penn State Extension is a modern educational organization that is dedicated to delivering science-based education when and where you want it. We provide information to people, businesses, and communities on a wide variety of subjects. Partnering with and funded by federal, state, and county governments, we have a long tradition of bringing unbiased support and education to the citizens of Pennsylvania. We make a difference locally through focused engagement, and more widely to customers connecting in the digital landscape.

AREAS WE COVER ARE:

4-H and youth development – Positive Youth Development, Science, Volunteer Management, and Development

Energy, business, and community vitality - Business, Entrepreneurship, and Economic Development, Energy, Leadership and Community Vitality, New and Beginning Farmers

Food safety and quality – Food Safety Modernization Act, Industrial Food Safety and Quality, Retail, Food Service, and Consumer Food Safety

Agronomy and natural resources – Farm Safety, Field and Forage Crops, Forestry and Wildlife, Master Watershed Steward, Pesticide Education, Urban Forestry, Water Quality, and Quantity

Food, families, and health – Family Well-Being, Health and Wellness, Vector Borne Diseases

Horticulture – Grape and Enology, Green Industry, Master Gardener, Tree Fruit, Vegetable, Small Fruit, Mushroom, and Pollinator

Animal Systems - Dairy, Equine, Livestock, Poultry

Extension program teams consist of a collection of educators, associates, and faculty that come together from various units when their expertise is needed. Since program team members live and work alongside you, they have a vested interest in ensuring our products and services better their communities. Our program teams also have unique partnerships with county and state governments and facilitate collaboration with industry, non-government organizations, and others.

In Erie County, we have an amazing team of dedicated educators and staff! Follow this QR Code to see who all is based in Erie County and what team they are on and their area of expertise.

Stay Connected with Penn State Extension by creating a

customer account and choosing the information you receive from us!

We look forward to continuing to serve Erie County from our new office space in Summit Township. We are also thankful for the partnership with our State Legislators and Erie County Government.



Now that you know we are here, stop in and say hi! We Are! Penn State Extension.

Craig Conforti, Client Relationship Manager Area 1 and Erie County

FROM YOUR SUMMIT TAX COLLECTOR:

Spring has sprung!

Greetings from the sunny north (at least for today as I write this). It's time to come out of hibernation and see and be seen!

By now everyone should have received their 2023 County/Twp bills. They were mailed March 1st. If you did not receive one, please make sure your mailing address provided to Erie County Assessment (814-451-6225) is correct. Your tax bill will be mailed to the last mailing address you provided to Assessment. The tax collector cannot change anything on the tax roll. If you are having issues with mail delivery, please contact the USPS.

Contact my office for a duplicate copy if needed.

The 2023/2024 School bills (they will be the color Canary) will be mailed July 1st. The Ft. LeBoeuf School bill covers the fiscal year July 1st, 2023 through June 30th, 2024. As of this time, I do not know if there will be a mill increase or not. The final budget is approved in June. If you wish to make comments or hear what is being proposed, I encourage you to attend a school board meeting. Meeting dates are listed on the calendar mailed to you from Summit Township. All other meetings are listed on the calendar as well.

As phone books seem to be going to the wayside with less landline phones and more cell phones, it is harder to find

From The Office Of District Judge McGowan

Commonwealth v. Hansel and Gretel Schmidt

Friday, March 17th, 2023, we were pleased to welcome once again Mrs. Dahn's 4th and 5th-grade gifted class to the courtroom for a mock trial. The students participated as jurors, witnesses, defendants, and attorneys in the case of the Commonwealth v. Hansel Schmidt and Gretel Schmidt. I had the honor of serving as judge on the case.

The Schmidts were accused of aggravated battery, criminal mischief, and petit theft. The exercise was designed with no clear winner in mind. There were facts that supported both the prosecution and the defense. The mock trial was conducted as close to the real thing as you can get, with the students presenting opening statements, direct testimony, cross-examination, and closing arguments. After receiving instructions from the court, the jury deliberated. It was not an easy decision nor was it unanimous, but the jury acquitted the Schmidts of criminal mischief, convicted them on petit theft, and were split on the aggravated battery charge.

I would like to congratulate Mrs. Dahn on all the hard work and preparation she put into the exercise. It all came together and was evident in the excellent job the students did in presenting their cases. It was truly a pleasure and honor to conduct the trial. I hope the students left with a greater appreciation for our jury system. I enjoyed presiding over the trial and Mrs. Dahn and her students are welcome back anytime.

Brian M. McGowan, MD9





much needed numbers. The Erie County website has a wealth of information. You can find specific departments with mailing addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses along with often asked questions. The website is www.eriecountypa.gov. Summit Township's website is www.summittownship.com. I have compiled a list of commonly needed numbers. If you come into the office, ask for a copy.

Please remember, that in order to receive the 2% discount on the 2023 County/Twp taxes, your envelope through the USPS must be postmarked no later than April 30th. You may use the lock box to the right of the office door at any time. It is checked several times a day. If paying with cash, please have the exact change. If paying with personal check, certified check, or money order include your phone number on the check. If there is an error, I can contact you to correct it in enough time to receive the discount.

The office is closed for the month of May. You can reach me, however, through email or by leaving a voice message. I will get back to you as soon as possible. Take time and smell the roses!

Debra Cameron Summit Twp. Tax Collector

1754 Townhall Rd., West Erie, PA 16509 (814) 866-2653

Email: summittaxcollector@yahoo.com

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday, 10AM – 2PM, Monday evening 5 – 7PM By appointment May, September November 1 – March 1

The Summit Lions News



On March 7th, several of our members went to Robison Elementary School to pass out new books to the students for Read Across America. Each student could pick out one book, they then received a bookmark and gathered for story time. Many of the students learned a little about Leader Dogs and how blind people get around. The books were purchased with funds from our golf outing. If you would like information about our golf fundraiser, please contact PDG Bob Mitchell at 814-864-9194.

We are still collecting plastic bags and receiving benches made from recycled materials. You can see what the benches are like at Picnicana Park and the Summit Township Municipal Building. Collection boxes are located at the Township building and the Senior Center. Please only donate clean plastic. We can take retail store bags, dry cleaner bags, bread bags, Ziplock bags, produce bags, case overwrap (think toilet paper and paper towel wrappings), newspaper bags, shrink wrap, and plastic mailing envelopes are also able to be recycled when the paper labels are removed, bubble wrap and air pillows, etc. Check to see if the plastic will stretch when you pull it. If yes, it can be included. If it tears like paper, then please don't put it in the bin. Is the package shiny or does it make a crinkly/crunchy sound in your hand? If yes, do NOT recycle in the NexTrex® bin. Items like shower curtains and flannel-backed tablecloths or laminated items cannot be recycled. We also can't take candy bags, pet food bags, or frozen food bags.

The Summit Lions Club also recycles eyeglasses and hearing aids; these can be dropped off with the receptionist at the township building. We appreciate all your recycling efforts. A little actually goes a long way toward lessening the landfill load.

We are always looking for new members. If you think you would like to see what we are about, contact any member of our club or call me Steve Sample at 814-440-7857. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. Our meeting on the 2nd Wednesday is at the Summit Senior Center at 7:00 p.m. Feel free to drop in if you are interested. Call if you would like to go to one of our dinner meetings on the 4th Wednesday. We may even pick up the tab!

Steve Sample
President







Summit Township Water Authority ALERTS TODAY

Following extensive review, and with input from our customers, the Summit Township Water Authority has implemented the CodeRed system, a notification service provided by OnSolve.

This system will allow us to quickly notify customers via phone calls, text messages and email of situations that have an effect on their water service and will replace our previous means of communication. Further, customers will also have the option of receiving notification when an emergency alert has been issued by the National Weather Service.

There is no charge to participate.



- Visit www.summittownship.com
- Select the Departments tab at the top of the page, then chose Water
- Click the CodeRED logo to get started
- Enter your cell phone number and address
- Enroll any additional contact information including emails
- Save these numbers in your phone's contacts



💢 Do Not

- Delay. Signing up is easy and takes just a minute. As soon as you sign up, you'll immediately get alerts that impact your exact location
- X Assume. If you have recently moved or changed your telephone number, log in and enroll your new contact information





2023 SUMMER REC PROGRAM

Picnicana Park • 9150 Old French Road • Waterford, PA 16441

Registration Deadline: Friday, May 26th • No late registrations will be accepted

Registration

Registration forms are available on the Township Website at www.summittownship.com and at the township municipal building. Please call the township office at (814) 868-9686 Ext. 0 if you need them mailed directly to your home.

Free Lunch

Free lunch will be provided by the Fort LeBoeuf School District for all registered children. Refrigerators are available to store lunches for those not interested in the free lunch.

Day Program

- å Ages 6-14
- Monday Friday (no program July 4th)
- (11:00 a.m. 3:30 p.m.
- Must have completed Kindergarten
- Must wear socks & shoes daily
- Pop and snacks will be available for purchase through a charge account that campers can setup using cash.
- (\$) Day Program Fees:

Summit Township Residents \$250 per child OR \$650 for 3 or more children of immediate family

Non-Residents \$275 per child

DAY PROGRAM FIELD TRIPS

June 19th- Sunview Mini Golf & Bumper Boats \$9.00 per child - No Lunch

June 26th-Playport \$10.00 per child - No Lunch \$16.50 per child - Includes Lunch

July 15th - Waldameer WITH SEASON PASS: FREE - No Lunch \$7.00 per child -Includes Lunch WITHOUT SEASON PASS: \$28.00 per child - No Lunch \$35.00 per child - Includes Lunch

Family Carnival Night



Friday, July 28th 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Preschool Program

- Ages 3-5
- Tuesday & Thursday (no program July 4th)
- (1) 11:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.
- Must be fully potty-trained
- Must wear socks & shoes daily
- Preschool children will be allowed to buy snacks at 12:50 p.m. with a parent present
- ⑤ Preschool Program Fees:

Summit Township Residents \$200 per child

Non-Residents \$250 per child

PRESCHOOL PROGRAM FIELD EVENTS

Erie Zoo

June 29th- 11:30 am to 3:00 pm

Also planned are relay races, playing games, singing songs, and making crafts. Please dress children in OLD CLOTHES

Donate to the Program!

The following items are things we use every year. Donations can be dropped off during camp hours.

Paint Paper Bags Any Glue Wiggle Eyes Tape Balloons **Puzzles** Old CDs **Paper Plates** Sequins Plastic Jars

Styrofoam Balls **Sponges Children's Books** Yarn Fun Foam **Artificial Flowers** Foam Plates **Buttons Foam Meat Trays Old Nylons**

Sports Equipment

Stickers

Nestle Quick Containers Sewing Needles Paint Brushes Pringles Cans with Lids Frosting Containers Games (any kind) Plastic Totes with Lids Flower Bulbs **Grass Seed Scissors**

Craft Items

Donations for our Chinese auction on Family Carnival Night are greatly appreciated!

> If you have any questions, please contact Pat McGuire (814) 868-9032



2023 SUMMER REC PROGRAM

June 12th - July 28th

Day Program (Ages 6-14) Monday - Friday 11:00am - 3:30pm

Pre-School Program (Ages 3–5) Tuesday & Thursday 11:00am – 1:00pm

NOW HIRING CAMP COUNSELORS!

HOW TO APPLY:

Go to

www.summittownship.com/applications and fill out/print an Employment Application or pick up an application at the Municipal Building front desk.

Submit applications and/or resumes to:

Michelle Nesselhauf, HR Director 1230 Townhall Road West Erie, PA 16509

or

mness@summitpa.us



Must Be 16 or Older To Apply



Saturday May 13, 2023 8:00 a.m - 3:00 p.m. 8990 Old French Road

SUMMIT TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS ONLY

Freon Item Pickup



Optional pickup service is available for appliances containing Freon (Refrigerators, Freezers, Air Conditioners & Dehumidifiers)

- Residents must register at the Municipal Building NO LATER THAN THURSDAY, MAY 11th
- \$10 non-refundable fee for each item
- Items must be placed curbside by 7:00 a.m. on Friday, May 12th
- Items will be picked up on either Friday, May 12th or Saturday, May 13th

Drop Off Information

Residents may bring allowable items for drop off. Township personnel will be on hand to accept items, which must be generated solely from your household and not brought in from elsewhere. All visitors will be required to show a photo driver's license for proof of residency. Residents are to remain in their vehicle and a township employee will unload allowable items.



Allowable Drop Off Items





\$ = FEE REQUIRED PER ITEM. CASH OR CHECK ONLY.

• Appliances: Limit of TWO (2) appliances per household. No duplicates of same appliance

\$Air Conditioners - \$10 \$Refrigerators/Freezers doors removed - \$10 \$Dehumidifiers - \$10 **Washing Machines Clothes Dryers Dish Washers** Stoves **Hot Water Tanks**

- Auto Parts (NO GAS TANKS)
- Automotive Batteries
- Demolition Waste Bathtubs, Sinks, Toilets, House Doors, Windows

- Electronics (without glass) Computers, Keyboards, etc.
- Furniture Mattresses, Box Springs, Couches, Chairs, Dressers, Tables, etc.
- Lawn Mowers/Rototillers/Snow blowers
- Metal Items (unlimited)
- \$Televisions & Monitors \$10 (no broken glass)
- \$Tires: Limit of TWELVE (12) tires per household \$3 per tire OFF rim \$5 per tire ON rim

Items <u>NOT</u> Accepted

- NO household garbage
- NO gasoline or propane tanks
- NO vehicles

- NO paint or oil cans
- NO hazardous waste
- NO bagged material
- NO shingles, demolition wood, or blocks (see allowable demolition waste)



Call (814) 868-9686 if you have any questions



Our twenty-fifth Annual Senior Citizen's Picnic is scheduled for August 10th at Picnicana. This event is for the enjoyment of Summit's senior citizens (55 & older). We are planning another continuous day of FUN! You are welcome to participate in any or all of the planned events or simply sit and enjoy the food, music, and friends!

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED & MUST BE RETURNED BY JULY 28th!

This year's event will be catered, so instead of bringing a dish, there will be a \$10.00 fee (prepaid/non-refundable) for a Summit Township senior citizen and a \$15.00 fee (prepaid/non-refundable) for a non-resident senior guest age 55 and older. Each Summit senior will be limited to ONE non-resident senior guest.

** Regular & decaf coffee, fruit drink, and water will be provided. Should you require another type of drink, you are welcome to bring your own.

** Please bring a lawn chair if you can. Pavilion seating is available.

Thursday, August 10th, 2023 PICNIC SCHEDULE

11:00 – Noon Registration
Noon – 1:00 Lunch

Noon – 2:00 Musical Entertainment

Nasical Enter

2:00 – 3:00 Bingo

3:00 – 3:30 Build your own SUNDAE

3:30 – 4:00 Door Prize Drawing

Clip and return this portion to: Summit Township, 1230 Townhall Road West, Erie, PA 16509

RETURN FORM NO LATER THAN JULY 28th

25th ANNUAL SENIOR CITIZEN'S PICNIC - RESERVATION FORM

NAME(S)			
ADDRESS:			PHONE:
Number of Senior Residents		@ \$10.00 per Resident = \$	(Must enclose payment)
Number of Guests		_ @ \$15.00 per Guest = \$	(Must enclose payment)
Guest Name(s)			
Please write the TOTAL NUMBER (#) of people listed on this form who are participating in each of the following:			
FOOD CHOICES:	#/Lunch		#/Sundae
ACTIVITY CHOICES:	#/Bingo		





1230 Townhall Road West Erie, PA 16509

Supervisors:

Tony Davis, *Chairperson* Jack F. Lee, Jr. Mark A. Welka



Once Upon A Time...

Did you know? The Penn State Extension Office is located here in the Summit Township building! This display shows just some of

the many services they offer. Please see their article in this newsletter.

The Summit History room is open Thursdays, from 9 am to 11 am. Other times and days are available by appointment.

Is your Summit group interested in using the display case? Call us. Also, we are accepting donations or loans of items for display. We welcome new volunteers. Please contact the Summit Township office at 868-9686 and we will return your call.



