

SUMMIT TOWNSHIP

FROM THE SUMMIT News

THIRD QUARTER 2023
814/868-9686

VOLUME 32, NUMBER 3
www.summittownship.com

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| September 4th | Labor Day (Township Offices closed) |
| September 15th | Picnican 2024 Reservations
Open for Residents Only |
| November 7th | Election Day
(Township Offices closed) |
| November 10th | Veteran's Day (Observed)
(Township Offices closed) |

GENERAL ELECTION DAY IS NOVEMBER 7, 2023.

- Polls are open on election day from 7 A.M. to 8 P.M.
- Last day to register to vote: October 23, 2023
- Last day to request a mail-in or absentee ballot: October 31, 2023



★ ★ Honor a Veteran ★ ★

Veteran's Day is Saturday, November 11th. The Summit Township Veteran's Memorial has plenty of bricks available! Summit families who wish to honor their veteran(s) can purchase an engraved brick for the memorial sidewalk at \$25 each. What a great way to show your veteran(s) the Respect, Honor, and Gratitude they deserve, not just on Veteran's Day but every day! To purchase your brick(s), please visit the Summit Township Municipal Building.

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](https://www.facebook.com/summittownshiperiecountypa)
or @summittownshiperiecountypa



Find us on
facebook.



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 Hudack, 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

Amy McCaslin -

Billing Clerk

Marty McAtee -

Operations Foreman

Chris Hodge -

GIS Specialist/Asst. Project Manager

Andrew Larson, Scott Snyder -

Maintenance Technicians

Hello Summit Residents,

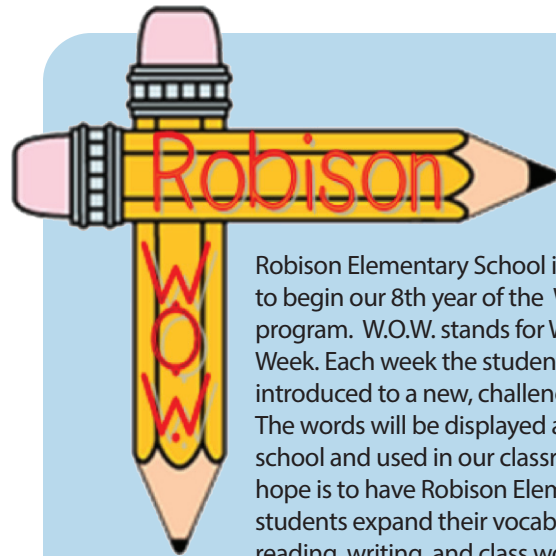
It sure was great to see so many of you at the resident's picnic and all that showed up at the senior picnic.

Things are going very well at the streets department. We were able to pave Hamot Road, Hawick, Dundee, and Glencoe this year. Our new paver worked better than I expected.

We have switched over to cleaning ditches and replacing old metal driveway pipes.

We will also be cutting berms throughout portions of the township. The berms build up with anti-skid, and we end up plowing the sod off in front of so many of your homes. We will do our best to notify you as we work our way around the areas. If you have concerns about sprinkler systems and invisible fences, please feel free to contact me. Enjoy the rest of your summer, and be safe.

Take care, *Supervisor Mark Welka*



Robison Elementary School is delighted to begin our 8th year of the W.O.W. program. W.O.W. stands for Word of the Week. Each week the students will be introduced to a new, challenging word. The words will be displayed around our school and used in our classrooms. Our hope is to have Robison Elementary students expand their vocabulary in our reading, writing, and class work. We are sharing the words with you so you can join in the fun of our W.O.W. program!

OUR WORDS ARE:

September

virtue

beacon

profound

October

prestigious

galore

effusive

November

luster

mirth

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 **October 20th!**

Our next newsletter will be published in mid November.



SUPERVISOR'S CORNER

Hello all, I recently have been asked what a supervisor does, even by youths, so I would like to try my best to explain. This is important information. First, a supervisor's job can be challenging because it is very hard to make everyone happy when making decisions.

Supervisors set a township's annual budget to decide where and what the money will be spent on and managed annually. They manage all the township employees, administrators, two public parks, senior center, lawn, property, and building maintenance. Other responsibilities are road maintenance, traffic lights, snow plowing, public meetings, and maintaining all the trucks and equipment.

We also make many decisions on land development, zoning, traffic studies, future expansion, and signage. That can be very difficult because many do not like our ordinances, but they are designed to work for most of our township.

Summit is a very busy municipality, and I will tell you, we have a very clean and well-organized township. Many thanks to past supervisors for their help in development over the years. Not always popular decisions on issues to some investors and residents. The ordinances that many do not like are mostly public complaint driven. Having a clean township and getting along is in everyone's best interest.

There are a tremendous number of businesses like retail shops, restaurants, hotels, commercial, industrial, casino, and a landfill. We have many subdivisions, four mobile home courts, and five condo associations. The public must be aware of private roads and HOAs when investing in real estate at these locations. Private roads are mostly built substandard to a municipality's specifications. If they are constructed and coordinated with the township engineer and township specs, they can be taken over by the township when completed, if approved by the township engineer. This is always an issue when narrow sub-standard roads start to fail as years pass. Same as large commercial parking lots. They are not owned by the township.

We have two Interstate Highways located in Summit, centered between three large cities, each within a two-hour drive, that have

contributed to growth. They are I-90 and I-79. This township has 15 multiple-lane traffic light intersections. All the traffic lights and cabinets are owned and maintained by our township 24/7. Our road foreman just checked our computerized grid smart traffic counts. For example, Downs Drive and Peach Street had 39,005 vehicles pass by in a 24-hour period on Wednesday, July 19, 2023. That is amazing.

Here are some other facts about Summit Township — per the last County Census, we have 7,400 residents and 14,000 employees. We also share the financial reports at our public meetings for anyone to see. That is public knowledge. Some think we have unlimited funds, and that is not so.

Summit Township supports PHHC EMS paid service, as we should, so our gaming money received is mostly a push. PHHC is very busy because of other Volunteer Fire Departments' shortcomings in Erie County. PHHC is getting worn out. In July of 2023, PHHC answered 50 mutual aid calls out of the township and not just our four neighboring townships. I have mentioned this in past newsletters.

Erie County has had a 911 Recruitment and Retention Committee for about five years now. We usually meet once a month. Many ideas for fixing the shortage of EMTs, Paramedics, and Fire Fighters. Much of that is looking for financial aid, education opportunities, and possible consolidation.

If anyone ever has questions about zoning, buildings, additions, stormwater, or utilities, please call the Summit Township's office to get all the answers you need ahead of time. Summit is signed with BIU building inspectors along with several other townships. They follow the PA State building code and do not go over or above that. This is about public safety and welfare with all buildings and protects consumers against poor quality construction. PA State Building Code is the law, not Summit's idea. Summit Township employees are not professionals in this field. That is why we contract one.

Best regards, *Supervisor Jack Lee*

Hello Summit Residents,

So far, this summer has been very nice compared to others in the past. It does seem that the heat and humidity have been on the higher side of the scale, but after all, it is summer in Erie.

The nice weather has made it possible to accomplish some of the planned projects with little interruption. Our planned 9-hole disc golf course at Picnicana has turned out to be an 18-hole course. We did not need to purchase nine additional catching stations, but instead made nine more tee boxes in different locations to, in effect, have the extra holes by simply changing the direction of the shot.

I would like to take this opportunity to send out a special thank you to Sean Earley, who assisted with the purchase of the equipment through a contact of his that gave us a great price. Also, Sean almost single-handedly installed most of the course himself, which by the way, took a fair amount of time and effort. I would also like to thank Brandon Borgia for mapping the course to install on the U-disc app and providing the signs for each hole. Without their help, it would have been much more difficult.

Resident's weekend took place this year for the first time since Covid, and although it was not as large as in years past, it turned out to be a very nice time for all those who attended. Joe Kuzma

cooked almost 400 ears of corn in his three large kettles over an open fire, and not one ear was left at the end of the day. Thank you, Joe, for all your work and effort in providing everyone with delicious corn from Wasielewski farm. The Mario Brothers movie was shown on the big screen with popcorn and snacks; it was a successful picnic for sure. Hopefully, it can return to a 3-day event next year, as in previous years. I would also like to thank the rec board members for their time and talents in making it all come together.

The senior picnic took place on August 10th this year, and this was also the first time since Covid that we have been able to host this picnic. A special thanks to Presque Isle Downs and Casino and State Representative Bob Merski for their generous donations for the event. It is very much appreciated.

I, for one, would have summer year-round if I could, but we know that is not possible where we live. For now, enjoy the nice weather and your time together with family and friends. We will catch up in the fall.

If there is anything I can do to help, please let me know. Until next time take care.

Best regards, *Supervisor Tony Davis*

Pennsylvania budget focuses on immediate needs, with an eye toward the future

By State Rep. Bob Merski, D-Erie

Fiscal stewardship is an art form that requires a blend of persistent planning, hard work, and data-driven strategy. To achieve desired financial goals, you must invest in areas of need, set aside enough to pay bills, and plan for unexpected expenditures that could arise without warning. The 2023–24 Pennsylvania state budget accomplishes this balancing act by investing in critical initiatives that strengthen our schools, assists seniors living on a fixed income, creates an economy that works for everyone, and supports law enforcement.

As an educator, I know how vital it is to provide a solidified educational foundation that will propel the future leaders of our country towards a life well-lived. This budget will invest more than \$10 billion on K–12 public education, including a \$567 million increase in basic education funding. This is the largest increase in basic education funding in the Commonwealth's history.

A critical initiative that will be receiving \$46.5 million in funding is universal free breakfast. This program will provide breakfast to Pennsylvania's 1.7 million public school students regardless of income. Additionally, free lunch will be provided to all 22,000 Pennsylvania students who are eligible for reduced-price lunches through the National School Lunch Program. I am especially grateful to see these programs get the support they deserve. It is unacceptable for students to have to go through their school day without the nourishment they need to succeed, and I plan to work tirelessly to ensure this funding becomes an annual part of our state budget.

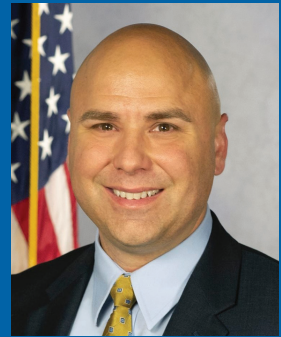
The expansion of the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program is another crucial component that was coupled with the finalized budget. Beginning next year, the newly expanded PTRR Program will provide crucial relief to nearly 175,000 individuals by raising the income eligibility cap to \$45,000 for both homeowners and renters. It is important to note that the income limits for the PTRR program haven't been increased in 16 years; this expansion will help more Pennsylvanians stay in their homes by providing needed financial relief.

To connect Pennsylvanians with a career that allows them to chart their own course, this budget invests \$23.5 million in workforce training and vo-tech programs. It also seeks to broaden the availability of apprenticeships through a \$6 million commitment. Focusing on providing appropriate training so individuals can pursue these types of careers diversifies and expands our workforce while helping individuals without a college degree pursue alternative options for family-sustaining employment.

The continual support of law enforcement was once again prioritized in the agreed-to spending package: \$16.4 million will be earmarked for training nearly 400 new Pennsylvania State Police troopers. Additionally, the Violence Intervention & Prevention Program, administered through the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, will receive \$40 million in state funding. This program is vital in our continued efforts to reduce gun violence and make our communities safer.

This is a brief overview of the good-government initiatives that are being bolstered in this year's state budget, all while holding the line on taxes. I see this budget as a reflection of our priorities and look forward to continuing to champion an agenda that benefits everyone throughout the Commonwealth.

As always, if you have questions or need help with any state-related matter, please don't hesitate to contact my office at 814-455-6319.



Summit Community Food Pantry

Hopefully, everyone is enjoying the beautiful weather. If you have not already done so, please contact Terry to sign up for the new year. Everyone must register each year. As we are in the lazy, hazy days of summer, now is a good time to thank all those that make the food pantry a success: the Supervisors of Summit Township for our wonderful facility, the volunteers who bring your food deliveries to your cars, the donors, the Board Members of the SCFP and most of all, our fearless Director, Terry and her sister and helper, Darlene. Our volunteers and Director spend endless hours collecting food from the Second Harvest Food Bank, separating the food and supplies, doing inventory, as well as navigating the State required paperwork. So much goes on behind the scenes to the end destination in your trunk. When you see our volunteers and Director, a high five and smile to thank them would be nice.

We continue to have curbside pickup. Distribution days are the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from 2:30–4pm. If you had a good harvest from your home gardens, consider donating the excess to the SCFP to share with others. Just let Terry know when you arrive. Check out our new website on FaceBook — just type in Summit Community Food Pantry, and there it will be! We hope to share events, information, and recipes very soon. Have a safe and wonderful fall!



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

Perry Hi-Way News

RESIDENTIAL FUND DRIVE 2023 IN PROGRESS

Just a reminder...the 2023 residential fund drive is still in progress. To date, we have received contributions from just 27% of our residents. The cost for emergency services should be shared by all residents and not just the residents that have donated. There is currently no fire or EMS tax levied in Summit Township at this time. For those who have given, we thank you. For those who have not yet sent in their 2023 donation, we ask you, please send that donation today. We ask for just \$75 per home for an entire year of emergency service protection or less than \$0.21 per day. For those who have a tighter budget, please send in what you can afford, and for those with a little more generous budget, we THANK YOU! Your donations are used to help meet our operational expenses. Checks can be made out to Perry Hi-Way Hose Company and sent to the Oliver Road Fire station at 8281 Oliver Road, Erie, PA 16509. By working together, we can make sure emergency services in Summit Township are available when needed!

AMBULANCE UPDATE

In the last newsletter, we discussed the limitation of ambulance assistance to Millcreek Township and The City of Erie. The State Department of Health, the agency that licenses ambulances in the state, has refused our request to limit our response areas. The state has made it clear that we are not able to limit our response areas, and failure to respond to these areas when called to respond by the 911 center will result in removal of our ambulance license. While this is the way the law is written, it does not make it right. We have consulted an attorney on this matter and found it would be too costly and take too much time to try and fight the State. Not to mention, we do not want to lose our ambulance license. We are working with the Erie City Council and the Millcreek Township Supervisors to try and work out some funding solutions to our issues. We hope to see some assistance

from the County to help with the cost of responding outside Summit Township. We are also working with our state representatives to get the EMS laws changed to address this major injustice.

AMBULANCE BILLING REMINDER

I am reviewing the ambulance billing procedure for Perry Hi-Way Hose Company again in this issue to help clarify for some residents. If Perry Hi-Way Hose Company provides ambulance service to you or a family member, a bill is sent to your insurance company. We accept what the insurance companies pay for our service, even if it is much less than the fees charged. In some cases, even less than the actual cost of providing the service. This is a benefit of living in Summit Township.

Some insurance companies (Highmark, for sure) will send the patient the check and not send it to Perry Hi-Way or our billing agent – Quick Med Claims. If you get an insurance check sent to you for ambulance service, please forward it on to Perry Hi-Way or our billing company ASAP so it can be credited to your account.

There may be times our billing company needs further information for billing your insurance company or a secondary insurance company. Please get the information back to them ASAP as well so we can get your claim paid and closed out.

With today's high deductible plans, many people fall into the situation where they have not met their deductible and are responsible for paying the bill. We can offer a discount to residents to help with this cost. If this is your situation, please contact the fire station (814-864-0680) with patient's name and date of service, and we can work with the billing company to offer this discount.

The cost to maintain the fire and ambulance service for the township is constantly on the rise. We rely on the ambulance billing income to keep our emergency services for the township the best they can be. As a reminder, the operational budget for this year was \$544,000, plus the cost of the paid staffing being an additional \$880,000. This totals just under \$1.5 million annually to provide emergency services to the growing and aging Summit Community.

John Spaulding
President, Perry Hi-Way Hose Company

Here We
Grow
Again

DELTA SONIC recently completed upgrades to their vacuum area by replacing old vacuums and adding two more for customer convenience. Delta Sonic is a family-owned and operated business headquartered in Buffalo, NY, and offers convenience items, fuel, and full-service car washes.

IN THE WORKS:

SMITH'S WHOLESALE APPLIANCE has started the process of opening a retail store at 7200 Peach Street (Summit Towne Centre) Unit 410.

UPCOMING FUNDRAISING EVENTS

PURSE BINGO

Sunday, November 12th

Doors open 12 noon

BINGO starts @ 2pm

TICKETS TO GO ON SALE AUGUST 15th
(Tickets will be on Facebook or in person
at the Oliver Road Station)

FALL CRAFT FAIR

Saturday & Sunday, December 2nd & 3rd

Load in 7:30am – 9am

Open to public for sales 9am – 4pm

Kitchen will be open for food

Call 814-864-0680 to sign up for a table to sell

Watch for updates on our website www.perryhiway.org or
follow us on Facebook at Perry Hi-Way Hose Company.

LeBoeuf Little League

LeBoeuf Little League just concluded another successful year. Weather largely cooperated minus one week, which was a complete washout. Our 11u baseball all-star team won both the district and section tournaments and advanced to the state finals - only one of eight teams in Pennsylvania to do so. Our 12u baseball all-star team was runner-up in this year's district tournament. Our 10u baseball all-

star team finished 3rd in their district tournament but won the little league division of the Jesse Triana Memorial

Tournament in North East to conclude their season at the end of July. Early registration for the 2024 season will begin in December. Stay tuned to our website (flbll.com) or our Facebook page in the off-season for any updated information.



Hello from Robison Elementary School!

Everyone at Robison believes in creating a safe and supportive culture, so our students can learn and grow. We are blessed to have such amazing teachers and staff that are committed to our students and mission. A special thank you to our new head custodian Michelle Kerr and long-time custodian Debbie Richardson for their hard work in getting Robison all ready for our students to return this school year. It really takes a village to get the school year ready, and we are so lucky to have such an incredible group of individuals on our team.

I am looking forward to welcoming back each one of our Robison students and staff and welcoming our new Robison BISON. The newest members of our Robison family, our incoming kindergarteners, and their families will be welcomed at our kindergarten orientation held on Aug 22nd. We will again host a fun Meet the Teachers Night at Robison on Thursday, Aug 24th, where all 1st-5th grade students will have the opportunity to visit their classroom and meet their teacher prior to the start of the school year. We will kick off our school year with our Back to School Bash for all families on August 24th from 5-7 PM. Information about all these events, as well as class assignments, should have been received in your welcome-back mailer. Please contact the school office if you did not receive this information at 814-796-3742.

A special thank you to our Robison staff, Robison families, PTO, and community for their ongoing support of our school. We are excited to kick off another school year filled with learning and growing!

Mrs. Hopkins, Principal Robison Elementary



Trick or Treating

Trick-or-treating will be on Halloween, Tuesday, October 31, 2023, from 6:00-8:00 pm. If you wish to pass out treats, please have your home's front lights on. Please drive slowly and use extra caution to ensure the safety of our children and their families.

Have a safe and fun Halloween!

Summit Lions Club News



We would like to thank everyone who came to our Golf Outing at the Venango Valley Golf Course on June 2nd. Congratulations to our winners, and we hope you all had a good time and enjoyed your steak dinners. We hold this event every year on the first Friday in June, so mark your calendars for next year!

We know some of you are wondering what we do with all that plastic we collect. Well, we have collected enough plastic for over 16 benches so far. They are not all for our Summit Lions Club. We have received five benches of our own; two are at Picnicana, and two are at the Summit Township building near the Veteran's Memorial. The other benches we have helped with have gone to the FLB Leo Club, the Senior Citizens group, Perry Hi-Way Relief Assoc., The Children's Garden at the Sight Center of NWP, and we have helped a few other clubs with their collections.

Part of the plastic we receive is from three businesses. Plastikos and Plastikos Medical have donated well over 3,000 pounds of plastic. We have donated two of the benches we have received to both Plastikos businesses for their help. We also get plastic from Airborne in Lake City. It takes 500 pounds of recycled plastic to make one of these benches. We also need to mention Giant Eagle on Interchange Road since that is where we take our collected plastic to be recycled.

If you would like to help us with our plastic collecting, there are bins at the Township building and the Senior Center. We also collect hearing aids and glasses at the Summit Township building.

If you would like more information on what Summit Lions are all about, please contact our President, Lion Steve Sample, at 814-440-7857 or Lion Denny Franz at 814-450-6033.

Lion Steve Sample, President



Hello!

I just wanted to send out a big thanks to the road crew that repaved Hawick Road.

On Wednesday, my daughter and her friend set up a lemonade and cookie stand. On their break, all the workers stopped by and were so supportive and friendly. It really made the kids' day! It meant a lot to have such friendly people working to improve our neighborhood. Please extend our thanks to all of them, they are great!

- Hawick Road Resident

RESIDENTS' PICNIC

This year's resident's picnic was a success despite the rain that started us off! Hotdogs, nachos, corn on the cob, slushies, pretzels, s'mores, and popcorn made for a tasty night of food and snacks. A very big thank you to Joe and Scott Kuzma for their hard work cooking the corn. Everyone raved about how good it was. We had three bounce houses, two of which were sponsored by Kiwanis, and we are so grateful for the support of our residents and children! Residents had the opportunity to win some prizes playing Bingo thanks to our seniors as well as the opportunity to learn disc golf courtesy of Sean Earley. Also, a special thank you to the Summit Township Supervisors for their continued support of this amazing community event. We ended the evening with the Super Mario Brothers movie under the stars. We look forward to another fun resident's weekend next year and hope to see you all!

The Parks and Recreation Board meets at 4:30pm the first Monday of the month at the Summit Township Municipal Building. We invite you to come to a meeting if you have any questions or concerns specific to the parks. If you would like to become a member of the Board please contact Gina Erbin at 814-868-9686 ext. 222.

The Parks and Recreation Board

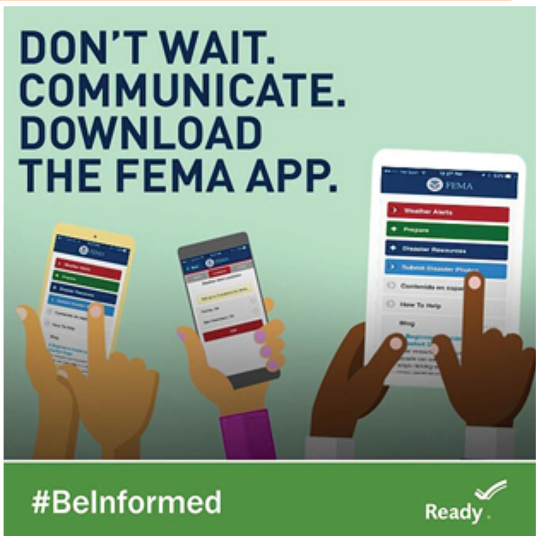


Summit Township Emergency Management

Are you ready?

September: National Preparedness Month Tips

- ✓ Include cash in your emergency supply kit. During an extended power outage, ATMs and credit card machines may not work.
- ✓ Check-in with neighbors to see how you can help each other out before and after a storm.
- ✓ Pick an out-of-town person for everyone to contact during an emergency.
- ✓ Preparing your family for an emergency is as simple as having a conversation over dinner. Remember to include your pets in your family's emergency plans. Make a plan tonight.
- ✓ As part of your family's emergency supply kit, include games and toys to keep children entertained.
- ✓ Get prepared by having an emergency supply kit already stored. #ResolvetobeReady www.ready.gov/build-a-kit
- ✓ Snap some pictures of your property and make an inventory for insurance purposes. Take a current photo of you and your pet together in case you get separated during a disaster. #ResolvetobeReady #PetPreparedness www.ready.gov/animals
- ✓ Make a list of the things you would need or want to take with you if you had to leave your home quickly.
- ✓ Prepare your car for winter: keep your gas tank near full to help avoid ice in the tank and fuel lines.
- ✓ Make a plan to check on neighbors if extreme cold or winter weather knocks out your power.
- ✓ Learn how to shut off the utilities where you live, including water, electricity and gas.
- ✓ #PrepTips: Take a first aid and CPR class. #ResolvetobeReady <https://www.ready.gov/safety-skills>
- ✓ Plan how you will leave and where you will go if you are advised to evacuate. Don't forget to include pets in your plans! www.ready.gov/evacuating-yourself-and-your-family
- ✓ Assemble supplies for a "go-bag" you can carry if you need to evacuate #ResolvetobeReady #PrepTips www.ready.gov/evacuating-yourself-and-your-family
- ✓ Make a portable emergency kit for your car. www.ready.gov/car
- ✓ Save. Save. Save. Your emergency savings can help you get lifesaving items like food, shelter, and water in an emergency. Saving Tips: <https://www.usa.gov/flec> #FinancialFuture2018
- ✓ 48% of people have an emergency fund, which gives them the savings to overcome simple emergencies and possibly ones that may save their life. <https://www.usa.gov/flec> #FinancialFuture2018
- ✓ Search online today for local pet-friendly evacuation locations in case you need to evacuate. Update your pet's microchip registration info.
- ✓ Put your name and contact information on your pet's ID tag in case you're separated in an emergency. #PetPreparedness www.ready.gov/animals



Summit Seniors Enjoy Welcome To The Jungle!

August 10th marked the **25th Annual Summit Senior Citizens Picnic!**

This was the first time since COVID that our Senior Citizens gathered at Picnicana Park to celebrate their special day. Everyone enjoyed the live music provided by Music for Veterans and all the annual activities, including lunch, bingo, ice cream sundaes, and door prizes. Some seniors even dressed the part by wearing jungle-themed clothing!

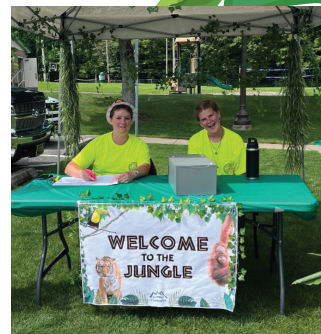
This was the first year lunch was fully catered, and Serafin's provided a delicious buffet that the seniors absolutely loved. As much as we all missed the barbecued chicken, the catered lunch was terrific!

Presque Isle Downs and Casino was, again, the primary business sponsor of this year's event. **Thank you so much, Presque Isle Downs; we couldn't do it without your help!**

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank our **State Representative Bob Merski** for donating several gift card door prizes, **Wasielewski Farms** for donating delicious corn on the cob, and **Joe Kuzma** for cooking the corn in his kettles. Thank you all so much for your generosity!

It's been a few years since our last senior picnic, so we thought we might be a little rusty at planning and organizing the event, but everything went great! Thank you so much to everyone for helping make this year a huge success.

*Michelle Nesselhauf,
Event Coordinator*



FROM YOUR SUMMIT TAX COLLECTOR:

Hello All!

It's hard to believe, but it is time for the third quarter newsletter! Soon it will be back to school. I think parents and children will be happy to see that come.

All taxes for 2023 have been issued and mailed. That includes 2023 County/Twp, School, and any Interims, if applicable. If you have not received any of your bills, please contact the office. As you may have noticed, delivery of the tax bills has been different than in previous years. The contract that Erie County Assessment (they are responsible for the Tax Rolls and delivery of the data to the printer) has with the printer includes not only the printing of the tax bills but insertion of the tax bills into the envelopes. This is to ensure that all tax bills for the County and School Districts are mailed in a timely manner. The printer cannot group multiple bills in one envelope as before. Therefore, if you have multiple parcels, they will be sent in separate envelopes. If you do not receive all your parcels, please wait a few days and then if not received, contact the office and I can email you a copy. The same goes for payment of tax bills. As the delivery of mail can be unpredictable, as pay periods are close to ending, dropping your payment in the lockbox might be a better idea than sending through the mail.

I have been receiving numerous calls regarding the School Per Capita Bill. These are collected through Berkheimer. The School District maintains the per capita listing. Per Capita is paid by ALL residents from 18 years and up. The only two exemptions are if you are under 18 years of age and your total income from ALL sources is LESS than \$10,000.00 per year. You must complete a Fort LeBoeuf School District Request for Exoneration of Per Capita Taxes through the FLB School District Administrative offices at 814-796-2638. If you qualify for either of these exoneration, it is not automatic. You must contact the school administration offices. Berkheimer also

has a local office at the Millcreek Municipal Building. Their number is 814-833-4870. Other than providing you with this information, I have nothing to do with the per capita taxes.

I have had a much larger than normal number of payments being returned NSF (non-sufficient funds). PA statutes state a person commits the criminal offense of passing a bad check if he or she "issues or passes a check or similar sight order for the payment of money, knowing that it will not be honored by the drawee." I post your payments within 3 days of it reaching my office, not counting weekends. Once this is posted, it can take up to ten days for me to be notified of a returned check. Most monies are already turned over to the taxing authorities. This creates a huge problem. I am charged the NSF or returned check fee for uncollectible funds in the tax collector bank account. Summit Township Ordinance #2017-01 allows me to collect any service fees associated with the returned check. YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE for these fees, and it is stated on your tax bill. If you have made a mistake, contact me immediately to prevent any further problems. Putting your phone number on your check can significantly reduce problems by allowing me to contact you directly.

Enjoy the rest of the summer!

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

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE — CHRISTMAS STYLE

Are you thinking about Christmas? We know we are! Greater Erie Area Habitat for Humanity is accepting Christmas decorations between **August 1st and October 15th** for our Habitat Holly Days event happening in December. We are seeking donations of new & used Christmas trees, lights, snowmen, decorations, nativity sets, Santas, reindeer, angels, and wreaths. Please, no dishes! We will continue to accept good, usable building materials.

If you have questions on acceptable items or need to schedule a pickup for larger items, call Stephanie at 814-454-7025 ext.



102 or email restore@habitaterie.org. Donation drop-offs accepted Tues/Wed/Fri 9 am–3pm. Conveniently located at 4922 Pittsburgh Ave. in the business park south of West Grandview, proceed to the back of the building. Shop the ReStore Fridays 9am–12pm & Saturdays 8am–4pm.

Summertime Fun!

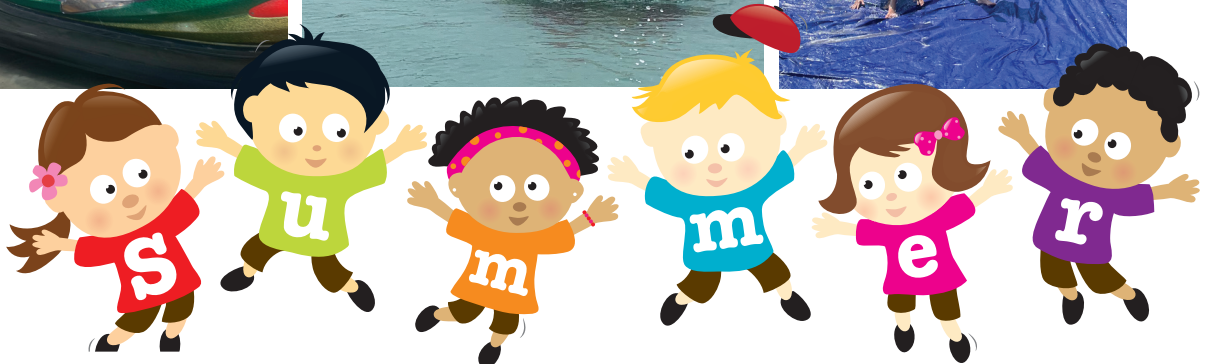
The Summer Rec Program was able to be held this year — the first since 2019! As the new director, I only had a few weeks to put things together but all of the children seemed to have a great time!! With the help of my three counselors — shout out to Hayden, Maddie and Tim!!! — we kept the kids busy and active all summer. Thanks Clare, for helping at the outings and covering days off!

Our three outings — to PlayPort, Sunview Golf and Waldameer — were a blast. A special thanks to Mark Sleppy for donating two shirts to each of the kids and counselors. Everyone received a yellow customized “Summit Township Summer Rec Program” shirt that we wore for the outings and everyone also received a plain white tee that we used for our tie-dye project.

We stayed outside as much as possible! We had a few water days, with a homemade slip-n-slide, water balloons and catching crawfish. We did scavenger hunts and relay races, played kickball and four square, musical chairs and hide-n-seek tag. Unfortunately, we got stuck inside a few times due to storms or smoke from the wildfires. We made the best of it by having movie days, playing board games or making crafts.

The children aren't the only ones that had fun — My counselors and I had a blast too and all four of us are looking forward to making next year bigger and better! Thank you to the Supervisors for making this program possible and all of the employees that helped out when needed! Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Kelsey



PICNICANA PARK 2024 SEASON RESERVATIONS

Picnicana Park is open from May 1st to October 15th, with fully equipped kitchens and pavilions available for rental. **Reservations for the 2024 Season will be taken beginning September 15th for Summit Township Residents and on October 1st for non-residents**, starting when the Municipal Building opens at 8:00 a.m. Reservations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. There will be a number system placed at the front doors and all residents are asked to remain in their vehicles until their number is called. The Municipal Building will not be open prior to 8:00 a.m. These reservations are for Township resident picnics and do not include any company picnics or picnics being booked for non-resident relatives or friends. It should be noted that “walk-ins” at 8:00 a.m. are given priority over phone calls. There’s a 50% discount on the rent for Summit Township Residents booking an event. Each Summit household is limited to one discounted reservation per season.

Note: The 50% discount for resident rate is based on a Summit Township resident hosting a personal function, i.e., graduation party, family reunion, etc. That resident must be the contact, provide the deposit, and will receive any refunded deposit at their place of residence. A person who is both a Summit Resident and owner of a Summit Business may host a function for that Summit Business and is eligible for the 50% discount.



SUMMIT TOWNSHIP RECREATION FACILITY Contact: (814) 868-9686 or gerbin@summitpa.us RATES - RULES & REGULATIONS - GENERAL INFORMATION

	WEEKDAY				WEEKEND				
	REGULAR KITCHEN		UPGRADED KITCHEN #3		REGULAR KITCHEN		UPGRADED KITCHEN #3		
	ONE Pavilion & Regular Kitchen	TWO Pavilions & Regular Kitchen	ONE Pavilion & Upgraded Kitchen #3	TWO Pavilions & Upgraded Kitchen #3	ONE Pavilion & ONE Regular Kitchen	TWO Pavilions & Regular Kitchen	ONE Pavilion & Upgraded Kitchen #3	TWO Pavilions & Upgraded Kitchen #3	TWO Pavilions & Kitchen #1 & Kitchen #3
Rental Rate	\$375.00	\$525.00	\$475.00	\$625.00	\$525.00	\$725.00	\$625.00	\$825.00	\$875.00
Security Deposit	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
Total	\$525.00	\$675.00	\$625.00	\$775.00	\$675.00	\$875.00	\$775.00	\$975.00	\$1025.00

Note: Two Pavilions and Three Kitchens Rental Amount = \$1300.00 Rent with \$200.00 deposit

From the Water Authority

New Website Launched in June

We're pleased to announce that you can now visit our new website www.summittownshipwater.com

A few of the resources that you'll find on the site include:

- Online access to your water account
- Registration for Code Red emergency notifications
- Backflow prevention information for commercial and industrial customers
- Construction specifications for new services
- Latest news for Water Authority



Drought Watch Declaration

On June 15, 2023, Governor Josh Shapiro announced a drought watch for the entire Commonwealth.

On July 27th, following a meeting of the Commonwealth Drought Watch Task Force and the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), a decision was made to continue the drought watch.

Under the watch, consumers are encouraged to participate in a voluntary reduction of water use by 5% to avoid more stringent restrictions should levels continue to decrease. This is for all consumers, regardless of your water source.

These declarations aren't based on one indicator alone, such as rainfall. The DEP assesses data on precipitation, stream and river flow, groundwater level, and soil moisture, as well as information from public water suppliers.

Additional information and status updates can be found at <https://www.dep.pa.gov/Business/Water/PlanningConservation/Drought/Pages/default.aspx>

Brian Hiles, Manager

IRON AND MANGANESE IN WELL WATER

Our water supply includes both surface water and groundwater sources. Both are good quality and are tested to always maintain compliance. Water is very good at dissolving basically every element known to man. Fortunately, our sources provide very good water quality.

Iron and Manganese are minerals that naturally occur in rock, soil, groundwater, surface water, and food and are a normal part of the human diet. As water percolates through soil and rock, it can dissolve minerals containing Iron and Manganese and hold them in solution.

Iron and Manganese can settle out and build up on the pipe walls in areas where the water flow is slower. Then, when there is an increase in water flow through these pipes, there is a chance of the water getting stirred up and becoming discolored. The Water Authority performs large flushes to

maintain the water mains and decrease any build-up throughout the system.

Following a large flush in your neighborhood, we recommend that customers also flush their individual services using cold water and before the water enters any filters that you may be using.

The Water Authority takes weekly samples, as regulated by the DEP, to ensure that the drinking water standards are being met.

"SAFE
DRINKING
WATER
FROM ANY
SOURCE,
ANYWHERE"



SUMMIT TOWNSHIP SEWER AUTHORITY

CONNECTION ASSISTANCE PROJECT

The Summit Township Sewer Authority recently completed 31 lateral stubs at various locations scattered throughout the township. The project was conceived in 2016 and was ultimately awarded a \$343,710 grant on August 17, 2020. The original project cost, including engineering and inspection, was estimated at \$416,130. However, at the September 2022 bid opening, the cost was \$804,848, not including engineering or inspection. Unfortunately, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Finance Authority awards grants based on the engineer's estimates, submitted at the time of the application, not actual bid costs. The bids were rejected and rebid in October when the low bid was \$714,000.

The Authority recognized many unique circumstances surrounding the project and took action to offset these unique cost increases. Additional contributions by the Authority were authorized by the Board at the July Regular Business Meeting. In the end, in addition to the original Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development grant of \$343,710, the Authority contributed \$244,581 in American Recovery Plan Funds and \$52,667 from Summit Township Sewer Authority Capital Reserve Plan Funds. The final total from other funding is \$640,958, or 75.5% of the total project cost.

As with all projects, each homeowner is responsible for paying for a portion of the project, other associated costs, and the connection from the home to the stub via your lateral. Every effort was made to limit the project cost, and the Authority believes it was a worthwhile endeavor.

PRIVATE ON-LOT SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND PUBLIC LATERAL REPAIR LOANS — PENNVEST FUNDING!

PENNVEST, in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency, provides low-cost financing to improve, replace, or repair individual on-lot sewage disposal systems or to connect, for the first time, to public sewers to meet public health and environmental safety standards.

All homeowners of the Commonwealth who are first-time hook-ups to community wastewater collection and treatment systems and meet the program criteria are eligible. Detailed eligibility requirements can be obtained by contacting the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency. See contact information below.

Funds may be used for: rehabilitation, improvement, repair or replacement of an existing on-lot system or sewer lateral located from the house to the main line on a single-family, owner-occupied property which is the primary residence of the owner. Project costs may include design costs, construction fees and costs, permit fees, and most loan origination fees. Loans are up to a maximum of \$25,000, with an interest rate of 1.75%, and up to a maximum of twenty years term.

Other notable terms are construction MAY NOT begin prior to receiving loan approval. Project construction costs incurred before loan approval are not eligible. Also, loan repayment commences within sixty days of loan closing. Please know the loans must be secured by a mortgage lien on the borrower's home, and the loan must be immediately repaid if the property on which the project is located is either sold or transferred.

How to Apply? Contact the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency, (PHFA) at 1-855-827-3466 or <https://www.pennvest.pa.gov/Information/Funding-Programs/Pages/On-Lot.aspx>.





Kiwanis®

CLUB OF FORT LeBOEUF

Kiwanians had a busy summer...from pancake breakfasts to picking corn for the Summit and Waterford Food Pantries. We also participated in the Heritage Days parade and had our K-Kids pass out candy. At the time of this writing, we had an outdoor movie planned for early August for families to attend on the FLB football field. We also have some projects to complete for Waterford works,

including painting a Home Show building at the fair and helping to install frisbee golf poles at Picnicana. Hopefully, many of you saw the Bounce Houses we sponsored at Summit Residents' Weekend. We enjoy seeing happy children!

This Fall, look for our Waterford Fair field trip for all FLB 3rd graders, a Meet the School Board candidates in October, and our Pumpkin Painting event on October 14th. To learn more about our events, follow us on Facebook, "Kiwanis Club of Fort LeBoeuf" or email us at Kiwanisflb@gmail.com.



Senior News



Our Senior Center is growing, and we are enjoying our new members and activities. Listed below are a schedule of current activities:

- Lunch is every first and third Tuesday of the month. Doors open at 11 am.
- Chair exercises are every Tuesday and Thursday from 10 am to 11 am.
- Game day is every Thursday from 1 pm until 3 pm. Come and play cards, pool, and ping pong.

We have other activities also, including guest speakers, movies with popcorn, and game time with dessert. You are welcome to join us and enjoy the great time we have together.

President Jan Birkner

ENGINEER'S REPORT

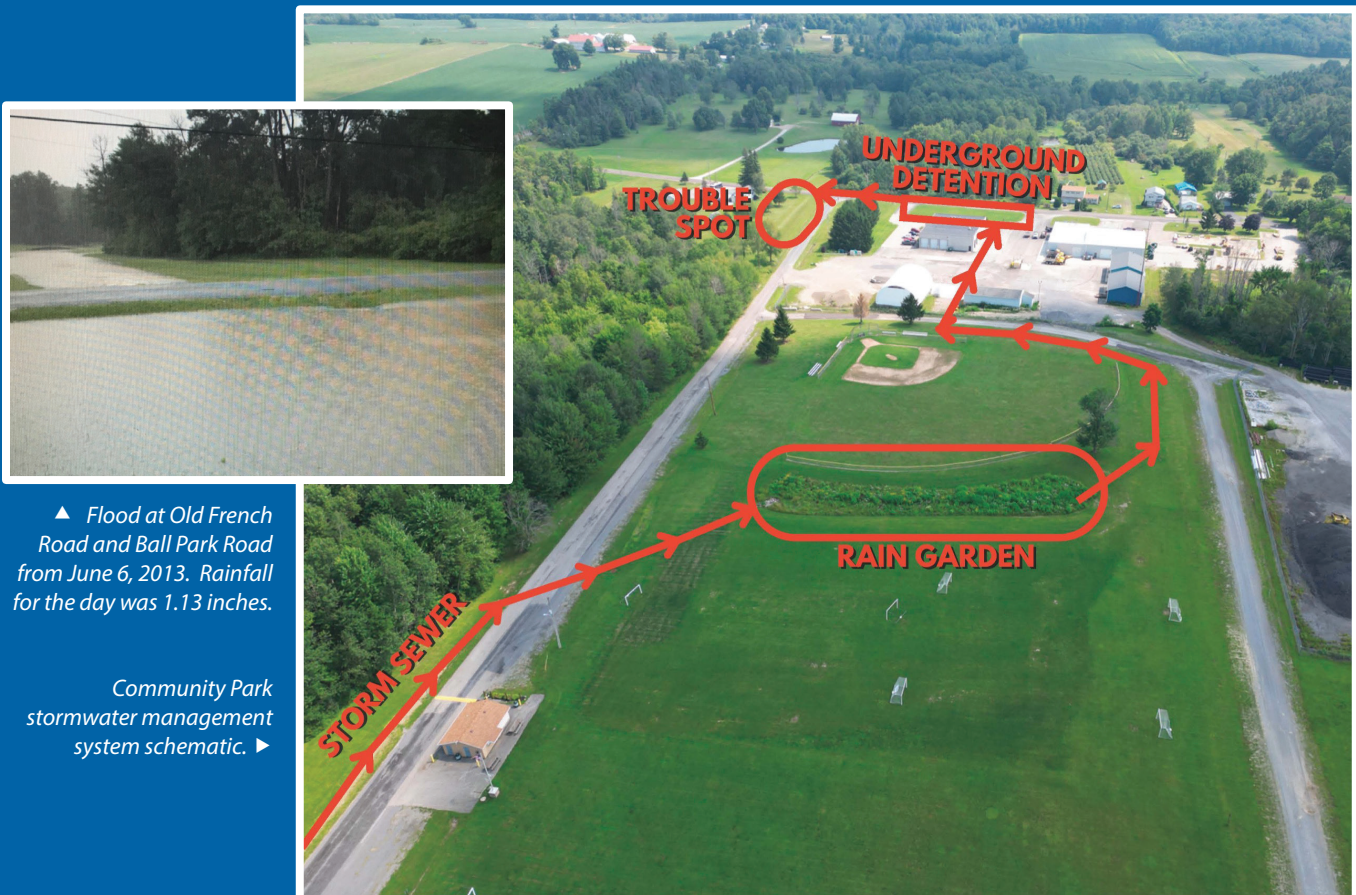
Stormwater Management Success Story.

For years the intersection of Ball Park Road and Old French Road was subject to localized flooding during heavy rain events. At times, the floodwaters would crest Old French Road creating hazardous conditions for the road users. The township took mitigation efforts to help with the flooding, including utilizing the underground detention basin at the garage complex in reverse to reduce water levels.

In 2018, the township was mandated by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection to implement water quality improvements within the LeBoeuf Creek watershed. We used this opportunity to help with the flooding issues at Old French Road. To meet the water quality mandate, we needed to construct a rain garden. A rain garden is a stormwater management facility that detains the runoff and filters the water through a specialized soil mixture with deep-rooted native vegetation to remove sediments and nutrients from the runoff before discharging into the storm sewer. This is done by pooling 6" to 8" of the runoff and forcing it to infiltrate through the soil. Beyond that, the rain garden was constructed deeper, and by limiting the pipe sizes at the discharge, we were able to hold more runoff from larger storms.

The rain garden and storm sewer leading to it were designed to intercept as much runoff from Community Park as physically possible, which at the time flowed down Ball Park Road and into the stream leading to Old French Road. From there, the main discharge from the rain garden goes into an improved storm sewer that runs between the garage complex and the park into the garage complex's underground detention basin. This underground detention system was originally designed for a full buildout of the Old French Road Township Complex, including the Municipal Building. As such, it was underutilized. By directing the runoff this way and detaining it twice, it would significantly slow the runoff down prior to reaching the trouble spot. This, in turn, would reduce the peak flow at this location.

Since the rain garden has been installed, the frequency and severity of flooding in this location have been reduced. On July 28, 2023, a significant storm cell went through the area. We measured 1 inch of rain over a 15-minute period, equating to a 10-year storm event; however, the maximum intensity measured was over 12 inches per hour, which is over a 1,000-year storm intensity. After this rain event, there were reports of localized flooding throughout the township; however, there were no reports of flooding in this area.





PennState Extension

MASTER WATERSHED STEWARDS

The Master Watershed Steward Program educates and empowers volunteers to protect environmental resources. After receiving 40+ hours of training, Master Watershed Stewards give back to the community by offering educational opportunities, collecting citizen science data, organizing clean-ups, working on wildlife habitat and stream restoration projects, and more. For questions about the program or to learn how you can become a Master Watershed Steward volunteer in Erie, Warren, and Crawford Counties, please contact county coordinator Amber Stilwell at ars26@psu.edu or visit <https://extension.psu.edu/programs/watershed-stewards>.

To learn more about Penn State Extension, visit <https://extension.psu.edu/>.



PUMPKIN WALK

The Penn State Extension Master Gardeners of Erie County will host their annual Pumpkin Walk at Waldameer Park and Water World on October 6 and 7, 2023, from 5:30 pm until 9:30 pm (see attached flier). A cash donation of \$4 is suggested for attendees over 3 years of age. The event will take place rain or shine. The Master Gardener Pumpkin Walk is a popular family-friendly community event. Bring your flashlight and dress for an outdoor walk through beautiful Waldameer Park. Enjoy the spectacle of over 1,000 illuminated pumpkins carved by many Erie County community groups and sing along to the student-designed, Halloween-themed Erie High School light show. While you enjoy the sights, learn about the Spotted Lanternfly, Pollinators, and other Penn State Extension programming in our education area. New this year, Master Gardener Pumpkin Walk tickets will be available beginning August 21, 2023, Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm at the Penn State Extension-Erie County Office in the Summit

Township Municipal Building located at 1230 Townhall Rd West, Suite 400, Erie, PA. Cash or check is happily accepted. Penn State Extension trains Master Gardener volunteers to serve the community and educate the public on a wide variety of gardening and environmental topics. They are available to provide hands-on training through demonstrations and seminars for home gardeners, clubs, and other organizations. Funds collected at this event stay in the Erie County community to provide free or low-cost horticultural education to the public. Please contact Penn State Extension Erie County for details or further information at 814-825-0900 or Lisa Rand, Master Gardener Coordinator, at Ima161@psu.edu.

Penn State is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer committed to providing employment opportunities to all qualified applicants regardless of race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, or protected veteran status.



PUMPKIN WALK 2023

Presented by the Penn State Extension Master Gardeners of Erie County

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6TH & 7TH, 5:30-9:30

WALDAMEER



**220 PENINSULA DRIVE
WATER PARK ENTRANCE**



PennState Extension

This publication is available in alternative media on request. Pennsylvania State University encourages qualified persons with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation or have questions about the physical access provided, please contact Penn State Extension Erie County, 1230 Townhall Rd. West, Suite 400 Erie, PA, 16509 at 814-825-0900 in advance of your participation or visit.



\$4

*for ages 3 & up
Cash only
donation*



- Come see hundreds of illuminated pumpkins.
- There will be youth activities and educational presentations.
- Event will be held rain or shine. Please, no pets except for service animals. No reservations are needed.
- Bring a flashlight and dress for an outdoor walk.
- Most of walk is handicapped accessible.
- Well-lit parking lot with 1,200 accessible parking spaces.
- Merry-Go-Round open at additional charge at Scrambler Kiosk.



1230 Townhall Road West
Erie, PA 16509

Supervisors:

Tony Davis, *Chairperson*

Jack F. Lee, Jr.

Mark A. Welka

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Once Upon A Time...

Fall is here! We have featured the county fairs for the season: Wattsburg Erie County Fair, Waterford Community Fair, and the Albion Area Fair.

The Penn State Extension office is involved in all the fairs through the farmers, 4H, and all things food and agricultural.

The Summit History room is open Thursdays from 9 am to 11 am. Please stop in and visit us. Other times and days are available by appointment. We welcome new volunteers.

Call us if your Summit group is interested in using the display case. We are also accepting donations or loans of items for display. Please contact the Summit Township office at 814-868-9686, and we will return your call.

