

The Heart of Upper Bucks County. A Great Place to Live, Work and Play!

Volume 1

Summer 2010 Newsletter

Dear Quakertown Residents:

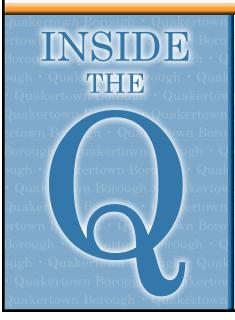
I am thrilled to introduce the new format of the Borough of Quakertown newsletter. As you will note, we have changed the look of the community newsletter, Quakertown Quarterly, to improve and expand the information we provide about our community. We are including more information and articles from every Borough department and passing on critical and interesting information to our residents and businesses.

The Borough has been working hard to deliver information to the community and has not limited this process to the newsletter only. In addition to the improved newsletter, we have had Qtv on air for more than a year, and the response to the Qtv channel has been very positive. We are currently working with Verizon to have Qtv transmitted to all of their FIOS customers as well. Also, we are currently engaging in a community wide information system that permits the Borough to have phone messaging to our residents in the event of a critical or community emergency. As we come up online with this new system over the next few weeks, this will be one more available communication option the Borough can use to keep our community informed of important information.

In addition to the newsletter, Qtv, and the emergency phone information system, the Borough is upgrading and expanding the Borough's website. This will permit the community to have greater interactive communications with the Borough, as well as online utility payments. The Borough has negotiated access time on the Route 309 electronic billboards. These billboards can be used periodically for displaying community news and information as well as emergency information.

For more information or to learn how to access Borough information, please contact a Borough representative at 215-536-5001.

Jim Roberts Council President



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3

Borough Hours and Phone Numbers

Emergency - - Fire, Ambulance or Police dial 9-1-1

Borough Hall	215-536-5001
Utility Billing	267-347-5009
Police Administration	215-536-5002
Police Non-Emergency Dispatch	215-795-2931
Electric Department	215-536-5003
Wastewater Department	215-536-5004
Highway Department	215-536-5005
Water Department	215-536-5855
Swimming Pool	215-536-5235

24-hour Anonymous Crime Tip Line...... 267-371-5094

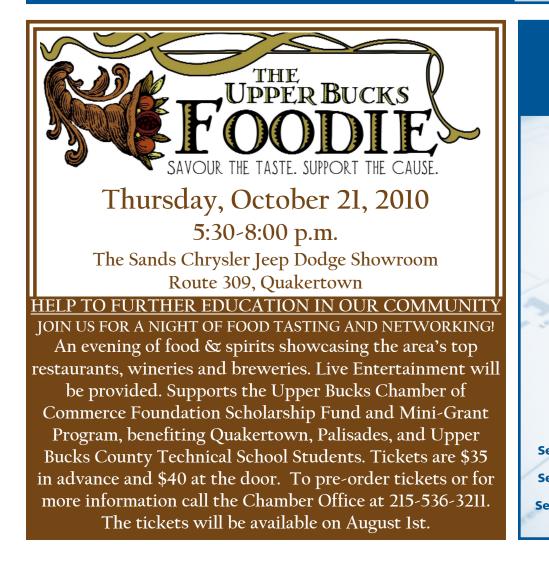
Utility Emergency after hours 215-721-3520

The Borough office is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For your convenience, utility payments can be made at the drive through area located behind Borough Hall. When the office is closed, utility payments can be deposited in the side door of Borough Hall.

Borough Council's regular meeting is normally the first Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. The work session meeting is usually the fourth Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. All meetings are open to the public. Council Chambers is handicap accessible. If you want to confirm a meeting date, please check our website at www. quakertownboro.com.

Planning Commission Meetings are held the second Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Borough Hall will be closed on Monday September 6, 2010 in observance of Labor Day.



DATES TO REMEMBER

Borough services and offices will be closed on Monday, September 6th.

July 18th:	Concerts in the Park, 6:30 pm – Chicasaw
July 25th:	Concerts in the Park, 6:30 pm – The Daisy Jug Band
August 1st:	Concerts in the Park, 6:30 pm – Uptown String Band
August 3rd:	National Night Out, Neighborhood picnics @ 5:00 pm, park events @ 6:00 pm.
August 8th:	Concerts in the Park, 6:30 pm – Liverpool Beat
August 15th:	Concerts in the Park, 6:30 pm – The Quakertown Band
August 16th:	Red Cross Blood drive – Borough Hall, 8:30 am to 2:30 pm
August 22nd:	Concerts in the Park, 6:30 pm – Groovitude
August 25th:	Miller Keystone Blood drive Borough Hall, 2:00 pm to 3:15 pm
August 29th:	Concerts in the Park, 6:30 pm – UBACE
September 6th:	Borough Hall closed / Final Day for Pool
September 7th:	Labor Day Trash Pickup
September 25th	Brush drop off - Erie Road - 8:00 am to 12:00 noon Hazardous Waste drop off at the pool

Where Does Your Sump Pump Dump?

Inflow and infiltration or better known as "I & I" are terms used to describe the way that groundwater and stormwater enter into dedicated wastewater or sanitary sewer systems. Dedicated wastewater or sanitary sewers are pipes located in the street or on an easement that are designed strictly to transport wastewater from sanitary fixtures inside your house or place of business. Sanitary fixtures include toilets, sinks, bathtubs, showers and lavatories.

Inflow is stormwater that enters into sanitary sewer systems at points of direct connection to the systems. Various sources contribute to the inflow, including footing/foundation drains, roof drains or leaders, downspouts, drains from window wells, outdoor basement stairwells, drains from driveways, groundwater/basement sump pumps, and even streams. These sources are typically improperly or illegally connected to sanitary sewer systems, via either direct connections or discharge into sinks or tubs that are directly connected to the sewer system. An improper connection lets water from sources other than sanitary fixtures and drains to enter the sanitary sewer system. That water should be entering the stormwater sewer system or allowed to soak into the ground without entering the sanitary sewer system. Improper connections can be made in either residential homes or businesses, and can contribute a significant amount of water to sanitary sewer systems. An eight inch sanitary sewer pipes can adequately move the domestic wastewater flow from up to 200 homes. But, only eight sump pumps operating at full capacity or six homes with downspouts connected to the sanitary sewer pipe will overload the capacity of the same eight inch sewer pipes. A single sump pump can contribute over 7,000 gallons of water to sanitary sewer systems in a 24 hour period, the equivalent of the average daily flow from 26 homes.

Do you know where your basement sump pump is discharging? It is important for property owners to inspect their sump pumps to make sure that it isn't connected to the sanitary sewer system. Water from sump pumps that enters the sewers may cause environmental harm by overloading the system and also increases the cost of wastewater treatment for everyone. If you are not sure if your sump pump discharge is property piped, please consult your plumber or call the Borough Wastewater Department at 215-536-5004 for assistance. A Borough representative will inspect your sump pump to make sure it is not connected to the sanitary sewer plumbing. If it is, guidance will be offered to correct the problem. Please be green and help keep our systems clean!



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Get Out Safely! "Fire Escape Planning"

More than 4,000 Americans die each year in fires, and 20,000 are injured. Deaths resulting from failed emergency escapes are particularly avoidable. The Borough of Quakertown believes that having a sound escape plan will greatly reduce fire deaths and protect you and your family's safety if a fire occurs.

HAVE A SOUND FIRE ESCAPE PLAN

In the event of a fire, remember - time is the biggest enemy and every second counts! Escape plans help you get out of your home quickly. In less than 30 seconds a small flame can get completely out of control and turn into a major fire. It only takes minutes for a house to fill with thick black smoke and become engulfed in flames.

Practice Escaping From Every Room In The Home

Practice escape plans every month. The best plans have two ways to get out of each room. If the primary way is blocked by fire or smoke, you will need a second way out. A secondary route might be a window onto an adjacent roof or a collapsible ladder - evaluated by a nationally recognized laboratory such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL) - for escape from upper story windows. Make sure that windows are not stuck, screens can be taken out quickly and that security bars can be properly opened. Also, practice feeling your way out of the house in the dark or with your eyes closed.

Security Bars Require Special Precautions

Security bars may help to keep your family safe from intruders, but they can also trap you in a deadly fire! Windows and doors with security bars must have quick release devices to allow them to be opened immediately in an emergency. Make sure everyone in the family understands and practices how to properly operate and open locked or barred doors and windows.

Immediately Leave The Home

When a fire occurs, do not waste any time saving property. Take the safest exit route, but if you must escape through smoke, remember to crawl low, under the smoke and keep your mouth covered. The smoke contains toxic gases which can disorient you or, at worst, overcome you.

Never Open Doors That Are Hot To The Touch

When you come to a closed door, use the back of your hand to feel the top of the door, the doorknob, and the crack between the door and door frame to make sure that fire is not on the other side. If it feels hot, use your secondary escape route. Even if the door feels cool, open it carefully. Brace your shoulder against the door and open it slowly. If heat and smoke come in, slam the door and make sure it is securely closed, then use your alternate escape route.

Designate A Meeting Place Outside and Take Attendance

Designate a meeting location away from the home, but not necessarily across the street. For example, meet under a specific tree or at the end of the driveway or front sidewalk to make sure everyone has gotten out safely and no one will be hurt looking for someone who is already safe. Designate one person to go to a neighbor's home to phone the fire department.

Once Out, Stay Out

Remember to escape first, and then notify the fire department using the 911 system. Never go back into a burning building for any reason. Teach children not to hide from firefighters. If someone is missing, tell the firefighters. They are equipped to perform rescues safely.

Finally, having working smoke alarms installed on every level of your home dramatically increases your chances of survival. Smoke alarm batteries need to be tested every month and changed with new ones at least once a year. Also, consider replacing the entire smoke alarm every ten years, or as the manufacturer guidelines recommend.

Thank you for your assistance in making the Borough of Quakertown a Safe Community.

Sincerely, Douglas C. Wilhelm, FM

> Douglas C. Wilhelm Fire Marshal



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OFFICERS RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR WORK

This year's National Police Week was from May 9 to May 15. The annual weeklong event recognizes the service and sacrifice of U.S. law enforcement officers have made and honors officers killed in the line of duty from the previous year. Sadly there were 48 officers feloniously killed in the line of duty in 2009.

During National Police Week the Quakertown Police Department recognized the actions of several officers who were faced with difficult situations that resulted in successful outcomes.

Recognized for Outstanding Service: Officer Steven Stoneback, Officer Bryan Lockwood, Officer Kristopher Baccari and Officer Christopher Grill.

- Officers Stoneback and Lockwood had arrested an armed male who had assaulted another couple with a shotgun.
- Officers Baccari and Grill arrested an armed male who was attempting to break into a residence. The male attempted to flee but was apprehended after a brief foot chase.

Receiving Department Commendations: Corporal Scott Fogel, Corporal Harold Gross, Officer Joshua Mallery, Officer Steven Stoneback, Officer Bryan Lockwood and Officer Mario Cabrera.

- Corporal Fogel and Officer Mallery responded to a call of an armed male holding a child and yelling at passing motorist. The male taunted officers to shoot him. The officers communicated with the male and were able to convince him to surrender.
- Officer Lockwood was flagged down by several pedestrians who reported that a pharmacy was just robbed. Officer Lockwood observed a male fleeing and initiated a foot pursuit which resulted in the male being arrested. Corporal Gross interviewed witnesses and was able to get additional pertinent information. Two additional individuals were subsequently arrested. The trio was responsible for numerous large scale retail thefts in both Pennsylvania and New Jersey.
- Officer Lockwood and K-9 Kito stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation. The driver gave conflicting information to Lockwood and after further investigation a large sum of money and marijuana was recovered from the vehicle and the driver was arrested.
- Officer Stoneback observed a suspicious vehicle and determined that the vehicle was stolen. Officers Mallery and Cabrera responded and assisted Officer Stoneback. The vehicle was subsequently stopped and two individuals were arrested and stolen property was recovered from the vehicle.

Recognized for Lifesaving: Officer Bryan Lockwood.

• Officer Lockwood responded to Cedar Grove Park for a teenage male who had hung himself. Officer Lockwood cut the male away from the belt and performed CPR until paramedics arrived. The teenager survived and has made a full recovery.

Recognized for Merit: Detective Jeffrey Boehm and Officer William Newman.

• Detective Boehm and Officer Newman perform community relations and devote much of their own personal time to these endeavors. Both are credited with organizing the National Night Out event and the Movie Night in the Park with the police.





Officer

Joshua Mallery



Officer William Newman





Officer Bryan Lockwood







Detective Jeffrey Boehm

Corporal Scott Fogel





Officer Mario Cabrera

Officer Steven Stoneback



Kristopher Baccari



Officer Christopher Grill





Quakertown Alive! is pleased to announce the first annual Pumpkin Gala, 2010.

On Saturday, October 2, 2010 the studio of world-renowned local artist, Steve Tobin, will be the setting of a gala event for residents in and around Bucks County. This black-tie, fund-raising event will serve a two-fold purpose: First, to bring 350 guests together for a night of fun filled with unique art, a live performance by "Easy Street," and a live auction including diverse items from original art by local artists to a Cayman Islands vacation.

Secondly, The Pumpkin Ball will raise funds for Quakertown Alive's! initiatives that improve our community, inspiring businesses and residents to become involved in our long-term revitalization efforts.

A limited amount of tickets will go on sale, July 1 and can be purchased by Emailing Jann Paulovitz at gala2010@comcast.net.

Businesses can be a part of this exciting event and help support efforts to improve our community through Quakertown Alive! by participating as a corporate sponsor. For additional information, please contact Naomi Naylor, Quakertown Alive! by calling 215-536-2273, Email, info@quakertownalive.com, or visit our website at quakertownalive.com.





Autumn Alive October 23, 2010

Our Autumn Alive event this year will be held on October 23, 2010. We will be featuring a growers market, entertainment and a pet parade.

We are currently looking for pet and animal vendors and sponsors for the event. We are also looking for volunteers to help with the pet parade.

Please contact Quakertown Alive! for more information.

POOL HYGIENE TIPS

Swimming pools are fun, relaxing and where many spend the majority of their summer. But while most people sometimes think about waterrelated accidents, cleanliness is also a big concern.

People can get a diarrheal kind of illness from contaminated pool water. Remember, when you're in the pool, you're in with everyone else's bad bugs.

There are a few things the health department and fellow pool goers alike ask everyone to do before making some waves.

- 1. Do not swim if you are ill. If you have diarrhea, don't go to the pool.
- 2. Don't swallow the water. That's how people become ill, by swallowing contaminated water.
- 3. Please, take a shower before you enter the pool.
- 4. Offer younger patrons the opportunity to have bathroom breaks frequently

Those patrons with young children need to be especially careful of spreading illness. Infants should never be changed poolside, and it's important to always keep checking them out. If children are wearing those little swim diapers, please check them frequently.

Although chlorine and other pool chemicals help sterilize the waters, they can't do it all or right away.

Even if we have good pool safety, and good chlorination, all bad bugs are not killed immediately by chlorine. We all have to do our part to keep our recreational water clean.

Pavilions in Memorial Park are available for rent on a first come, first served basis. The fee is \$50.00 per pavilion for resident, \$75.00 for non-resident.



Bicycle Safety Information

Bike riding is fun, it's exciting, great exercise, and also it's a great way to explore the area where you live. You won't be alone when you are riding, however; you'll be sharing the road with vehicles of all shapes and sizes.

Before You Ride Always Do the Following:

Wear a Helmet - Protect your head/life

• All children under 12 years of age must wear a helmet meeting the standards of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), the American Society for Testing and Materials, the Snell Memorial Foundation, or any other nationally recognized standard for bicycle approval. Most serious injuries and deaths on bikes are related to head injuries.

Make sure that your helmet is fitted properly and is snug.

Perform a Bike Safety Check

• The fun of riding is missed if your bicycle doesn't work right. Check your tires daily for air pressure and wear. Making sure the handle bars, saddle, and pedals are tight can prevent a fall. Lubricate the chain and wheels often. Ask your parents or a qualified bike mechanic to help you keep your bike in top condition.

Wear Proper Clothes

• When riding after dark, you must have a front lamp that gives a white light visible for at least 500 feet; a red reflector facing to the rear must be visible for 500 feet and an amber reflector on both sides.

• Wear reflective clothing and put reflective material on your shoes and bike.

• Be sure that books and other loose items are secured to the bike or are carried in a back pack.

When Riding Keep the Following in Mind:

Vision: The first step in riding safely is being able to see the cars, trucks, or motorcycles that are on the road with you.

It's easy to see vehicles in front of you, but you will also have to see vehicles that are coming from behind. This means looking quickly over your left or right shoulder to see if any cars or trucks are coming. Before you ride on any busy street, practice the skill of steering straight ahead and looking over your shoulder. This will help you keep control of your bike and still see the other vehicles.

As you ride, listen for the sounds that other vehicles make as they come up from behind. By hearing these sounds early, you can more easily share the road with them.

Moving In Traffic:

Because you're riding your bike on the same roads as cars and trucks, you must obey the "Rules of the Road" like they do. Some special rules for bike riders are:

• Stay on the right side of the street, near the curb. Move with traffic and watch for parked cars turning into traffic or car doors opening suddenly.

- Ride in single file when you are with others.
- Obey all traffic signs, signals and road markings.
- Use hand signals to indicate a turn or stop.
- Walk your bike across all busy intersections.
- Do not carry passengers or packages. These can cause you to lose control.
- Never weave from lane to lane, or hitch a ride on moving cars, trucks or motorcycles.

• Let all pedestrians, cars, or trucks go first when they are about to cross in front of you.

Protection Against Theft:

A bike can be stolen from just about any place, but simple precautions can deter would-be bike thieves. Remember: Most bikes that are stolen are not locked!

> Always lock your bike securely, whether you're gone for a few minutes, or a few hours.

 If your bike is at home, keep it in a locked garage, or locked securely to a post, tree, or other object. Don't leave it unsecured in the yard or driveway.

 What kind of lock should you use? Use a U-lock, securing both wheels and the frame to a stationary object, like a post, fence, tree, or bike rack. You can also use a high quality lock and a case-hardened chain or cable, placing the chain through both wheels, the frame, and around a stationary object. You could even use both kinds of locks together for extra-added security.

• Record the serial number of your bike and keep it with the sales receipt and a photograph of your bike.

• Mark your bike with some additional form of ID. This means marking it with your driver's license number or your parent's or guardian's drivers license number if you are too young to drive.

Marking your bike helps protect you and serves as a deterrent to would-be bike thieves. It also helps the police in identifying and returning a found or stolen bicycle to the owner. Besides marking your bike, keep a record of the following information in a safe place. You can also register your bike with the Police Department by stopping in during normal business hours.

- Serial number
- Any Special Identifications

• Brand name, model, color, speeds, boys or girls, size, are there fenders, new or used, special accessories and any other descriptive information.

• Date purchased and value.

If your bike is stolen call the police immediately at 215-795-2931. Tell them who you are, where and when the bike was stolen, and give a description of the bike. The sooner you call us the more likelihood of a recovery. If you have another person around, have them follow the suspects and get a good description and direction of travel.

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Borough of Quakertown's Community Access Channel

Quakertown Hires New Officer



The Borough of Quakertown would like to introduce Nicholas M. Filoon, the newest officer to the Quakertown Borough Police Department. Officer Filoon was hired on September 14, 2009 and was sent through the Montgomery County Police Academy, consisting of approximately 780 training hours. He was a former Deputy Sheriff with the Bucks County Sheriff's Department, where he worked for approximately a year

and a half. Prior to that, Officer Filoon worked as the President of a private detective firm in lower Bucks County. Officer Filoon has an Associate's Degree in Police Administration from Bucks County Community College, as well as a Bachelor's Degree in the Administration of Justice from Thomas Edison State College.



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2010 FREE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

The Quakertown Borough Annual Summer Concert Series is held Sunday nights 6:30 pm at Memorial Park. Come, bring your chair or blanket to Memorial Park and enjoy an evening of great live music on a beautiful summer night! And the best part...it's an evening of family fun for free!! Food and beverages may be available for sale during the concert. In case of inclement weather, the concert will be cancelled; there is no alternative site or rain date.

Schedule:

July 18th: Chicasaw: A concert for fans of country rock music, Chicasaw is the Lehigh Valley's Knee Slappin,' Toe Tappin' Country Band. http://www.chicasawband.com/

July 25th: The Daisy Jug Band: A band that is fun for the young and the young at heart. Well known for their diversity of music and getting their audiences involved. Add to all of this their wonderful blend of harmonies, unusual song renditions and unique instrumentation and you've got dynamic entertainment for any occasion! www.daisyjugband.com/

August 1st: The Uptown String Band: Philadelphia String Band music at it's finest. A member of the Philadelphia Mummers String Band Association, they participate annually in the Philadelphia Mummers Parade, held each year on New Year's Day.

August 8th: Liverpool Beat: Relive the "Music" the "Magic" and the "Mania of a "Live" Beatles Concert. They perform an "early years" show.

August 15th: The Quakertown Band: Back by popular demand! The band's mission is to provide the community with a vibrant, quality musical program.

August 22nd: Groovitude: An up and coming band from the Quakertown area. Formerly students from UBACE they have grown into their own. They have performed at the National Night Out event and at the Quakertown Fireman's Carnival last year. http://www.myspace.com/groovitudemusic

August 29th: Upper Bucks Alliance for Creative Expression - UBACE was formed to enrich the lives of all citizens of Quakertown and the surrounding communities in Upper Bucks County through awareness, appreciation for, and active participation in, the arts.

NO alcohol • NO pets • NO bottles • NO smoking Regulation will be enforced



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So, Where Do We Get Quakertown Water?

Well, the short and sweet answer is, from the ground, and to be more specific it comes from wells drilled into the ground. All of Quakertown's water is derived from deep wells. The wells range in depth from 200 to approximately 600 feet and vary in output from 50 to 350 gallons per minute.

The geology of the underground area is made up primarily of red and blue shale rock. Trapped in the rock are minerals and metals from when the earth was formed. Quakertown's water, because it is pumped from deep wells, is extremely hard. The minerals and metals are trapped within the layers of rock and as the water flows through the rock formations, these minerals are absorbed into the water. Absorption of these minerals renders the water high in Calcium (Ca) and Magnesium (Mg) which constitutes hardness. The white scale that forms on plumbing fixtures is calcium and magnesium salts that build up as the water evaporates. Most of the wells are also high in Iron (Fe) and Magnese (Mn), which is filtered out utilizing water treatment removal systems for this condition.

The wells are dependent on rainfall to keep them full. As the winter snow and rain percolate down through the ground, the rock formations are full of cracks, or also called "fractures". The water is stored in these fractured areas until we drill a well and pump it out. As long as we receive our normal rainfall, the wells recharge over the winter months and the cycle repeats every season. The annual average rainfall of Quakertown is 47.65 Inches, and is fairly evenly distributed throughout the year. The wettest month of the year is September, with an average rainfall of 4.88 Inches.

So there you have it, a very non-technical but hopefully helpful explanation of where Quakertown's water comes from.

HAVE GREAT FUN IN THE SUMMER SUN BUT DON'T LET A FOOLISH DECISION "RAIN OUT" YOUR VACATION.

Summer is here and it can be a difficult time for parents to keep their adolescents out of trouble. The good news is that there are many ways to reduce the likelihood that your adolescent gets into trouble.

Adolescents whose parents are involved in their lives are less likely to go looking for trouble. Parents should know who their adolescent's friends are and where they are spending their time when away from home. Invite your adolescent's friends over and get to know them; they are then less likely to disappoint you by getting into trouble or leading your adolescent into a sticky situation.

There are several ordinances in place within Quakertown Borough which parents should be aware of. These ordinances will not only reduce the risk that your adolescent will find trouble but will also reduce the risk of injury to them.

- Curfew for Minors Under the age of Eighteen: Hours of curfew are 5:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 5:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Holidays are 5:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m.
- Use and Possession of Tobacco by Minors on Public Rightsof-Way: Any minor under the age of 18 is not allowed to possess tobacco, in any form, on any public street, public right-of-way, highway, traffic way, alley or sidewalk.
- Municipal Parks: Each park has posted signs indicating the times that congregating is permissible.
- Skates, skateboards, Coasters, Sleds and Other Toy Vehicles: It is unlawful for any person to use, operate or ride upon any skateboard, scooter or roller skates on any public street; or any sidewalk on East or West Broad Streets between Fifth Street and Hellertown Ave.

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Community Ban

JENNIFER COTTON

Assistant Vice President, Customer Service Center

QNB team member for 8 years

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Public Works Department

The Public Works Department is gearing up for another season of street repairs. The following streets are slated for repairs this summer: Dewsbury Lane

> Braithwaite Lane Essex Court Front Street-from Broad Street to Park Avenue Hellertown Avenue-from Broad Street to Front Street

Work zone safety

Each year in Pennsylvania, both highway workers and motorists are killed and/or injured in crashes that happen in highway construction zones.

Recognizing work zones:

Work zones can be major road construction that lasts for weeks, emergency vehicles at the side of the road, a snowplow flashing its warning lights, a garbage pickup, or a municipal utility vehicle. In Pennsylvania, these are all considered work zones.

Any time Borough employees are working in a street or highway near traffic, both drivers and workers are at risk. Being able to identify the work zones up ahead can save lives. So learn the signs of a work zone: flashing lights, utility or emergency vehicles, orange signs, flags, barrels and cones. And, of course, people.

Driving in work zones:

To protect themselves and others, drivers need to slow down whenever they see flashing lights, or move over, if possible, to leave the lane beside the work zone open. In some construction areas, lowered speed limits are posted and must be obeyed at all times.

Remember, when you enter a work zone, be patient. Worrying about the time and traffic won't get you anywhere faster. Instead, slow down and pay attention to your surroundings.

These tips can help you get in and out of a work zone safely:

- Don't fool around. Eliminate distractions like eating, drinking, talking on the phone, or fiddling with electronic devices.
- Expect the unexpected. Speed limits may be reduced, traffic lanes may be changed, and people and vehicles may be working on or near the road.
- Slow down. A car traveling 60 mph travels 88 feet per second, and the faster you go the longer it takes to stop.
- Give yourself room. Rear-end collisions are the most common work zone crashes, so don't tailgate.
- Allow about three seconds of braking distance.
- Look for signs. Orange, diamond-shaped signs usually give you ample warning of lane closings, construction areas, and flaggers and other workers ahead.
- Follow signs. If there is a barricade closing a street, DO NOT go around the barricade, there may be a large street opening or workers walking throughout the work zone.
- Be patient. If you don't see workers, that doesn't mean they're not there. Observe the signs until you see one that says you've left the work zone.
- Plan ahead. Leave early or map out an alternate route. Find the latest road conditions and work zone news.
- Follow the law. Slow down and move over, if possible, when you see flashing lights.
- If you are uncertain about current road construction conditions, please contact the Public Works Department at 215-536-5005.



As a reminder, as per Borough Ordinance 1143 Section 101: "Smoking by any person is prohibited in all Borough of Quakertown Municipal Parks. It shall be unlawful for any person to carry or use a lighted pipe, cigar or cigarette in these locations."



Property Maintenance Code

Quakertown Borough has adopted the 2009 Property Maintenance Code for the purpose of providing a good quality standard for maintaining properties and eliminating conditions that threaten the life, health, safety and general welfare of the public. Some of the most common problems that the Code Enforcement Department deals with are as follows, but not limited to:

Sanitation

Every occupant of a structure is responsible for maintaining the exterior premises and the interior of their structure and keeping it free from the accumulation of garbage and rubbish. Garbage and rubbish shall be disposed of in a clean and sanitary manner by placing such garbage and rubbish in leak proof covered containers.

Unregistered Vehicles

No unregistered or inoperable motor vehicles shall be parked or stored on any premises or any vehicle that is in a state of major disassembly or disrepair, or in the process of being stripped or dismantled.

Fire Safety

The Code Enforcement Department is regularly finding dwellings without smoke detectors, inadequately placed smoke detectors, or detectors in a non-operable condition. Smoke detectors are required by the code and are to be placed on the ceiling or wall outside of each sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms, in each room used for sleeping purposes and in each story of a dwelling unit including basements and cellars. In dwellings with split levels and without an intervening door between the adjacent levels, a smoke alarm installed on the upper level shall suffice for the adjacent lower level provided that the lower level is less than one full story below the upper level.



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Quakertown Borough has joined the growing list of utility companies across the State who are making it easier to pay monthly electric, water and sewer bills with a credit card or debit card. Utility industry researchers report that there has been a growing trend over the last few years toward greater use of credit cards in paying utility bills. The Borough determined that homeowners were looking toward credit cards as an option to pay utility expenses for the following factors:

- More Payment Options. People are now accustomed to buying everything from burgers to blue jeans with plastic and demanding more options for paying routine, recurring bills.
- Convenience. Credit card payments are more convenient than writing checks and hunting down stamps (which continue to increase in cost).
- Rewards. Debit and credit card rewards programs that offer points and cash back based on the amount of credit card use have grown in popularity -- another incentive to put routine bills on plastic.
- The Economy. Some families may be hard-pressed to come up with utility bill payments because their overall living expenses have increased compared to previous years.

As with all credit card transactions, you should use caution when paying utility bills with a credit card and carrying a high interest balance. Despite the convenience that paying with a credit card offers, it is recommended that short-term expenses such as utility bills or groceries should be paid with cash whenever possible. Due to security, credit card payments are only accepted in person at Borough Hall. No telephone transactions will be processed. Stay tuned for online credit card processing in the near future!



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