

Township Preparing an Updated Comprehensive Plan

Shaping the Future

Lower Providence Township has embarked on a comprehensive plan update that will lay the foundation for our community for the next 10+ years. A steering committee, made up of Township officials and community members, is working with professional planners from the Montgomery County Planning Commission to craft the update. Input from the public - critical to the success of the plan - will be sought throughout the intensive and lengthy process which is expected to take 18 to 24 months.

Community input is critical to a successful comprehensive plan.

The comprehensive plan update will include background information on the municipality's past, analysis of current issues and trends, a vision for the future, and recommendations to reach that vision. The

plan update will provide goals, objectives and strategies for land use, transportation, housing, conservation and open space, community facilities, utilities and the environment.

The plan provides guidance for future development, road improvements, parks, recreation, sidewalks, trail facilities, infrastructure improvements, and zoning changes. Additionally, the plan lays a foundation for Township ordinances and assists with establishing funding sources for implementation.

The community is strongly encouraged to participate in the process. Progress information and public meeting dates will be posted on the Township website (lowerprovidence.org "Comprehensive Plan Update" link) and Facebook page ([Facebook.com/LowerProvidenceTownship](https://www.facebook.com/LowerProvidenceTownship)).

From the Chairman

Unprecedented, uncertain, challenging - we've heard these words so often over the past months that they barely register. But unfortunately, the words still very much apply. While we are not all in the same boat - everyone's situation is unique - we are all certainly navigating the same storm.

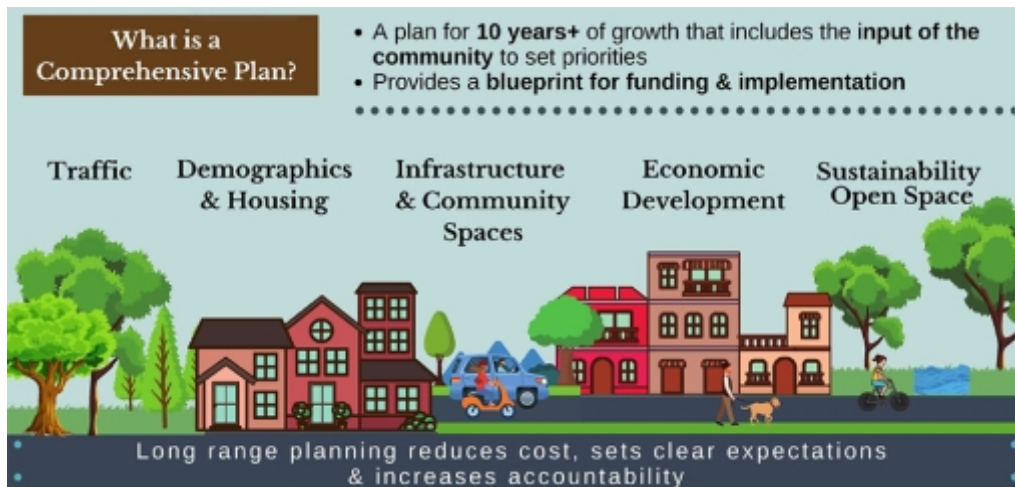
Since the start of the COVID-19 health crisis, we have been working to continue government operations in the Township with your safety as our highest priority. I'd like to acknowledge our police, fire, ambulance, Public Works and all Township staff for their efforts in maintaining services.

It has been inspiring to witness the community spirit of our residents and businesses. Families rising to meet challenges, neighbors looking out for one another, and businesses thinking creatively to make their customers feel safe and respected.

Despite the challenges brought on by the crisis, progress has been made on many fronts in the Township and the information is shared in this edition. While we're unable to pass along definite plans on Township community events as we typically would, know that we're brainstorming ideas and looking forward to safely gathering again.

Jason Sorgini

Chairman,
Lower Providence Board of Supervisors



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ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

100 Parklane Drive
Eagleville, PA 19403
610-539-8020
610-539-6347 (fax)
www.lowerprovidence.org

Hours:

Monday through Friday
8:00 am 4:30 pm

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Jason Sorgini, Chair
jsorgini@lowerprovidence.org

Colleen Eckman, Vice Chair
ceckman@lowerprovidence.org

Cara Coless
ccoless@lowerprovidence.org

Peter MacFarland
pmacfarland@lowerprovidence.org

Gary Neights
gneights@lowerprovidence.org

Board of Supervisors meetings:
First and third Thursdays of the month at 7:00 p.m.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

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Methacton School District610-489-5000

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FEEDBACK

We welcome your comments; if you'd like to send us your feedback, please email us at admin@lowerprovidence.org

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THANK YOU!

We are grateful to those businesses that support the newsletter. Our advertisers make it possible to provide the newsletter to residents and businesses at a greatly reduced cost.

Administration Office and Meeting Guidelines

(Note: Please visit lowerprovidence.org for updates on Township guidelines and COVID-19 resources.)

The Administration Office has reopened to the public. As of this writing, masks are required to enter the building, there is a limit of two person (unrelated) in the lobby at one time and we ask that you maintain social distancing. A mailbox has been installed outside the main entrance and can be used for permit applications, payments, etc. Whenever possible, please contact staff via phone or email (Administration: 610-539-8020, Police: 610-539-5901).

The Township's various boards are utilizing new ways to allow the democratic process of governance to continue under COVID-19

restrictions. Initially, meetings were held virtually using Zoom. In August, the Board of Supervisors and Zoning Hearing Board moved to a hybrid model, with both in-person attendance and participation via Zoom. Seating capacity in the meeting room is limited and safety guidelines, including maintaining social distancing and wearing a mask, must be followed. Attendees may be asked to wait outside the meeting room until there is available seating or they are called upon to enter the meeting room to discuss an agenda topic or participate in public comment.

Because of this limited capacity, the public is encouraged to view and/or participate via Zoom. Instructions are posted on the township website, lowerprovidence.org

For the latest news and information



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Annual Community Awards Nominations

The Lower Providence Township Board of Supervisors is accepting nominations for the annual Citizen, Volunteer and Business of the Year awards. Applications are due by October 30, 2020.

The Citizen of the Year Award is presented annually to an individual who has made exceptional contributions to Lower Providence Township. The selection committee looks for an individual who, among other attributes, continually gives of his or her time, dedication and talents to the betterment of the local community.

The Volunteer of the Year Award is presented annually to an individual, group or organization who has performed outstanding service to the community. The award recognizes the inspiring efforts of volunteers and the selection committee looks for individuals who demonstrate commitment, service, creativity, and cooperation in their volunteer capacity.

The Business of the Year Award recognizes a business that has promoted and inspired the business community through its leadership, example and investment in Lower

Providence Township.

If you have a friend, neighbor, relative or business that you feel meets any of the above criteria, complete a nomination form and return it to the Township by Oct. 30, 2020. Nomination forms are available on the Township website, lowerprovidence.org (enter "Awards" in the search bar) or at the Township Administration Building. For more information, contact Denise Walsh, dwalsh@lowerprovidence.org.



MEETING SCHEDULE

Board of Supervisors

7:30 p.m.
1st and 3rd Thursdays

Parks & Recreation Board

7:00 p.m.
3rd Tuesday

Planning Commission

7:00 p.m.
4th Wednesday

Sewer Authority

6:00 p.m.
2nd Monday
Sewer Authority
Board Room

Zoning Hearing Board

7:00 p.m.
4th Thursday

All meetings held at the Township Administration Building unless otherwise noted.

Please check the website, lowerprovidence.org, for any special instructions.

Watch at home or online:

Board of Supervisors & Zoning Hearing Board meetings are shown on the Cable Access Channel (Comcast Channel 28 and Verizon Channel 42) the week following a meeting. Rebroadcast times are Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 1 am, 9 am and 7 pm.

You can also watch Board of Supervisors meetings on the Township website, www.lowerprovidence.org - click on "Minutes" in the Citizen Action Center on the home page to find the meeting videos.

2020 Administration Office Closures

Columbus Day
Monday, Oct. 12

Veterans' Day
Wednesday, Nov. 11

Thanksgiving Holiday
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Nov. 26 & 27

Christmas Holiday
Thursday/Friday
Dec. 24 & 25

New Year's Day
Friday, January 1

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Domestic Draft & Wings \$7.00 Domestic Drafts \$2.50
Well Drinks \$2.50

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Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan Update Underway

The Township has been awarded a grant from the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) to complete an update to its Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan. Working with a consultant, Simone Collins Landscape Architecture, the Township's Open Space Committee is working on a comprehensive master plan update to identify current and future park, recreation, trail and open space demands for the community.

A primary goal of the comprehensive plan is to find more ways to connect the community to close-to-home recreational opportunities, trails, parks and green spaces and to enhance existing connections to

regional trail systems and to county, state and national parks. In addition, the comprehensive plan will explore opportunities for the Township to expand its use of green infrastructure and innovative stormwater practices.

The process will include committee meetings, public meetings, focus groups, and a public opinion survey.

Initial site inspections took place in July and a committee kickoff meeting was held virtually in August.

For more information and progress updates, visit lowerprovidence.org/parks-and-recreation (Click the "DCNR Open Space Grant Information" link.)



Advisory Council Focuses on Environmental Goals



The Board of Supervisors furthered the Township's environmental goals with the adoption of an ordinance creating a Township Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) in April.

An EAC is a group of community residents, appointed by the elected officials, to advise them and other municipal officials about the protection, conservation, management, promotion and use of natural resources.

EACs undertake a wide variety of projects and information-gathering

tasks, providing in-depth analysis about environmental resource issues.

The Township's five-member council will work to identify environmental issues and recommend plans and programs to the Board of Supervisors for the promotion and conservation of natural resources and for the protection and improvement of the quality of the environment within Lower Providence Township.

Members of the Township EAC are: Patrick Duffy, Leah Baird, Joseph Lulis, Erin McCool and John Zollers.

Opportunities to Serve on Township Boards

The Board of Supervisors is looking for qualified individuals who want to contribute to the quality of living in Lower Providence. The Board will be making appointments to the Environmental Advisory Council, Library Board of Trustees, Parks and Recreation Board, Planning Commission, Sewer Authority, Uniform Construction Code Appeals Board, Vacancy Board, and Zoning Hearing Board.

If you believe you have the education and experience to contribute to one of these groups and are interested in serving your community, please send a letter of interest and resume by November 27, 2020 to:

Lower Providence Township
Attn: Township Manager
100 Parklane Drive
Eagleville, PA 19403
- or -
ddelamater@lowerprovidence.org

Please indicate which group is of interest to you. Each group typically holds one evening meeting per month. Term lengths range from three to five years, depending on the board or commission. Details and meeting schedules can be found at the "Boards and Commissions" link on the Township website, lowerprovidence.org.



Lower Providence Township is working on a Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan and would like to know where you want to see open space and recreation improvements.

3 WAYS TO GET INVOLVED:

1 Attend a Meeting

Let your voice be heard. At public meetings we'll discuss the Lower Providence Township Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan, review progress, and get your feedback. Meetings will be held virtually unless otherwise noted.

- **Public Meeting #1** will take place **Monday September 28, 2020 at 7:00pm**
Join at: <https://tinyurl.com/lowerprovidence1>

- **Public Meeting #2** will take place **Tuesday January 26, 2021 at 7:00pm**
Join at: <https://tinyurl.com/lowerprovidence2>

- **Public Meeting #3** will take place **Thursday April 15, 2021 at 7:00pm**
Join at: <https://tinyurl.com/lowerprovidence3>

- **Public Meeting #4** will take place **Thursday June 24, 2021 at 7:00pm**
Join at: <https://tinyurl.com/lowerprovidence4>

After joining on the Teams app or website and signing in, you will enter the meeting. For information on accessing the meeting, go to <https://tinyurl.com/lowerprovidenceparks>

2 Take the Survey

Obtaining feedback from the community is vital to the planning process. We want to know your opinions on how to improve open space & recreation in Lower Providence. The survey can be completed at the web address below. Hard copies of the survey may be picked up and returned completed to the Lower Providence Administration Building, 100 Parklane Dr, Eagleville, PA 19403

surveymonkey.com/r/LowerProvidenceParks

3 Comment on WikiMapping

Place comments directly on the easy to use digital map of Lower Providence. Let us know existing & favorite trails, challenging intersections & roadways, important destinations, and desired park and open space improvements.

wikimapping.com/Lower-Providence.html

From The Police Department

Department Welcomes New Officer

Congratulations and welcome to Niles Luong, the newest member of the Lower Providence Police Department. Officer Luong is currently participating in the department's training program with his field training officer, Officer Eric Honick.

Officer Luong was born in Vietnam and emigrated to the United States at the age of five. He and his family settled in Easton, PA. Niles graduated from Easton Area High School in 2011 and attended Northampton Community College and West Chester University. He holds an associate's degree and a bachelor of science degree in criminal justice. In December 2018, Niles graduated from the Philadelphia Police Academy.

He previously worked for the Northampton County Correctional Facility as a corrections officer and was most recently employed as a police officer with SEPTA Transit Police.

Upon completing field training, Officer Luong will be assigned to the A Squad supervised by Sergeant Zach Wise.

FOLLOW LPPD

Facebook: Lower Providence Township Police Department

Instagram: Lowerprovidencelpd

Twitter: @PoliceLower



Magistral District Judge Cathleen Kelly Rebar administers the oath of office to Niles Luong.

College Internship Program Offered

The Lower Providence Township Police Department has established a Student Intern Program, available to university and college students who meet the requirements for participation. The objective of the intern program is to provide a positive learning environment for interested college students to experience the various aspects and responsibilities of law enforcement while completing a project as part of their studies.

The intern, while working on operational, administrative, and support functions, will be provided an atmosphere for learning. Coordination of the Internship Program rests with the department's Administrative Sergeant, Sergeant Mark Stead.

The criteria for participation in the Lower Providence Township Police Department's

Student Internship Program are as follows:

- * The student must be currently enrolled, through his or her respective college or university, in an internship or independent study class.
- * The internship MUST be a requirement in order to qualify for the position with the police department.
- * The student must currently have a 2.5 or higher-grade point average on a 4.0 scale.
- * The student must, prior to acceptance into the Internship Program, submit a completed application form and at least one letter of recommendation from a faculty advisor or professor. Reference and criminal background checks will then be conducted.



For more information, contact Sgt. Mark Stead at mstead@lowerprovidence.org.

Tips for Keeping Kids' Screen Time Safe

With most children continuing to learn remotely, we can expect to see increased screen time on their devices. The Police Department reminds families that we must be vigilant to protect children from online predators. Please review these social media quick tips and share with friends and family:

- Educate yourself about social media
 - Examples: WhatsApp, Snapchat, Instagram, Tumblr, Pheed, Kik, ask.fm, Reddit, Yik Yak
- Establish an age limit for your child to start using social media.
- Regularly check your child's privacy settings.
- Keep your child's profile private.
- Make sure your child is not posting personal details, including phone numbers, address, or check-ins.
- Don't allow them to post photos or videos which jeopardize their safety or character.



Accident Report Requests

Requests for accident reports are now available through Carfax; Lower Providence Police Department is no longer processing these requests.

Visit Crashdocs.org to request a copy of an accident report.


There is a \$15.00 fee for all accident reports.



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Emergencies and disasters can strike quickly and often without warning. How prepared are you and your family? An important first step to take is to sign up for ReadyMontco, the notification system used by Lower Providence to send emergency messages. The system also delivers alerts about severe weather, police activity, and other important events throughout Montgomery County.

"The system is a quick and efficient way to have notifications and alerts pushed to email, text message or phone call," said Michael Rohlfing, Lower Providence Township Emergency Management Coordinator. Rohlfing encouraged those who are already registered to check their ReadyMontco profile to make sure it is up to date.

It only takes about 10 minutes to create an account. You can choose to receive alerts via text, email and/or phone. You can also choose to receive alerts from other parts of Montgomery County in addition to Lower Providence - maybe the municipality where you work or where other family members live.

Administered by the Montgomery County Department of Public Safety, ReadyMontco is free (text messaging and voice rates may apply). You can choose to stop receiving notifications via your cell phone or wireless device at any time.

To sign up, go to www.ReadyMontco.org and click on the **Sign Up** tab at the top of the page. If you need assistance, consider reaching out to a family member or neighbor. There is also a short "how to sign up" video you can watch. You will need to provide an email address to register; none of your information will be shared.

Notifications will be sent to your devices and email addresses in the order that you choose and will be sent to ALL of your devices until you confirm receipt of the notification. Choose your devices and the order you wish to be contacted on them thoughtfully.

Emergencies can happen at any time and it is the goal of ReadyMontco to notify you of critical information as quickly as possible. If there are certain times of day or night that you do not want to receive notifications, you can specify custom quiet hours in your

profile. With the exception of a Tornado Warning, you will not receive any notifications during those selected hours.

The "Additional Information tab" gives you an opportunity to provide more information to your municipality emergency management, which may be useful during an emergency or disaster in your area. Provision of this information in no way guarantees specialized service during an emergency or disaster in your area, but helps municipality emergency management in planning and preparing for, and responding to emergencies and disasters in your community.

If you have questions, please call the Township Emergency Management Coordinator Michael Rohlfing at 610-635-3546.

Be Alert • Be Informed
READY MONTCO

Sewer Authority News

Separation of government from utility operations explained:

The Sewer Authority was established in 1962 to finance, construct, own and operate a sanitary sewage collection system and administer to the needs of the residents of the Township regarding the disposal of sanitary sewage.

The Sewer Authority currently maintains approximately 100 miles of pipe and 17 pumping stations within the township. We transport on average 3 million gallons of sewage per day through the collection system to the Oaks treatment plant in Oaks, PA which is operated by the Lower Perkiomen Valley Regional Sewer Authority.

The primary reasons for the enactment of the Municipality Authorities Act of 1945 and the creation of authorities was to separate operation of a utility system from the other responsibilities of local government, to operate the system and incur indebtedness outside of the taxing structure through imposition of user rates, and to buffer operation of the utility system from the other local political and financial decisions facing local governments.

Once a municipal authority is created, it becomes an independent agency of the

Commonwealth and is given powers by the legislature so that municipal authorities may accomplish the purposes granted under the Act in an efficient and economical manner.

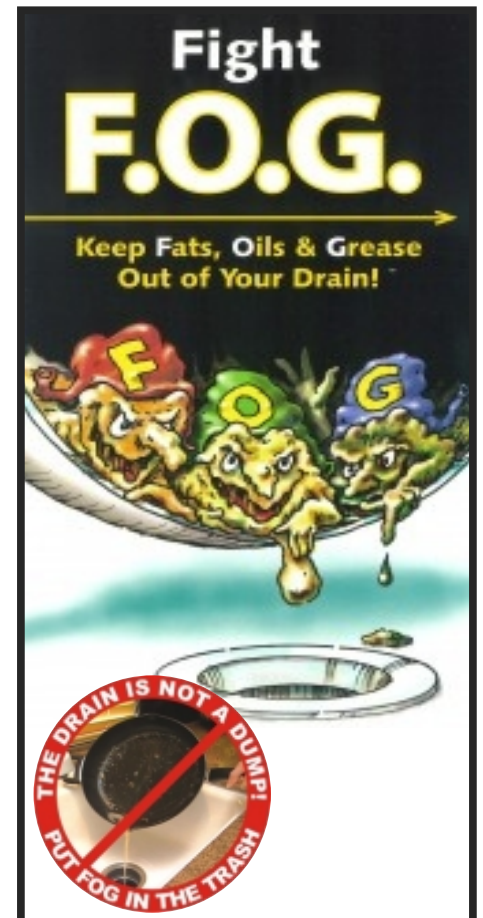
Authority operations are often highly complex, demanding significant attention from the officials overseeing the project. Board members appointed by the elected officials are able to focus on a specific operation or project, concentrating on the financial, engineering and environmental decisions that impact the operation and maintenance of an infrastructure system.

Reminder

Please do not flush masks, gloves or wipes into the sanitary sewer system. This can cause the pumps to clog and damage to equipment at our Pumping Stations. Also, please don't flush disinfecting wipes down the toilet.

The Sewer Authority wants customers to know that our employees are always available during regular business hours by calling 610-539-6161 to address emergency situations. For After-hours emergencies, please call 1-800-379-5713.

If you should have a backup in your outside line, contact us so that we can verify that it is not being caused by a blockage in our main line before you call your plumber.



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Community Development News

New Code Enforcement Officer Joins Community Development Department

There's a new face in the Township's Community Development Department: Jordan McCourry was named the Department's Code Enforcement Officer in August. While new to the position, he is very familiar with Township operations and the Lower Providence community. Prior to his new role, Jordan served as a dispatcher in the Lower Providence Police Department for almost 15 years.

Jordan's primary role is to be

the Community Development Department's "feet on the street," advising residents and businesses on code requirements, fulfilling requests for service, and addressing code violations. He also conducts permit inspections for fences, sheds, etc. and residential resale inspections.

Jordan, a graduate of Methacton High School, resides with his wife and children in Douglassville.



Code Enforcement Officer Jordan McCourry

Development Projects: Underway & Under Review

ON-GOING CONSTRUCTION Courts at Brynwood

Within this 139-townhome community along Germantown Pike, most of the units have already been sold, many are occupied, and construction is continuing for the remainder. Community amenities have been installed.

Crawford Estates, 37 Crawford Road

There are to be eight lots, six of them being new. This project adjoins the intersection of Park Ave./Crawford Rd./Eagleville Rd., site of proposed intersection improvements.

Eagleville Hospital, 100 Eagleville Road

A \$45-million project to modernize the campus has begun. Construction on the residential units is underway and is expected to be completed mid-2021.

Enclaves at Evansburg

DeLuca Homes of Bucks County is underway with this project, which is to include 24 small-lot single homes in a tract connecting Evansburg Road and Ridge Pike.

IROY Gym & Track, 3444-50 Germantown Pike

Work has begun for the approximately 47,000- square foot indoor gym and track facility.

109 River Road

Family and Friends Holdings are renovating the former residence to include office space and exterior improvements. Work is underway.

28 Eagleville Road

Construction of the new headquarters for HTC Builders is anticipated for later this year.

306 Level Road

This project for seven new single-family homes on a cul-de-sac, in between Arrowhead Elementary School and the Woods at Providence - Stella's Way has begun.

PLANS THAT HAVE COMPLETED FINAL REVIEW:

Gambone Family Development

This is a nine-lot single family home development on Woodland Avenue, near the ball fields and Woodland Elementary School. This project has been sold to a builder who is looking to begin soon.

PLANS UNDER REVIEW

Arrowhead Elementary

This project is proceeding through the land development process. Methacton School District is proposing to reconstruct the existing Arrowhead Elementary School building at 262 Level Road. The project will involve continuous operation of the existing building while the new building is being constructed. The new building will add a second story over part, enhanced traffic circulation, stormwater management, and modernized construction systems.

Eagleville Elementary

Methacton School District is proposing to

add an addition at the entryway to the existing school at 125 Summit Avenue. It will be a two-story addition, the area of the addition is 2,190 SF. This project is proceeding through the land development process.

Moscariello at Crosskeys

This is a mixed-use project consisting of three buildings along Ridge Pike that will combine retail and office space with townhouse living above. There will also be thirty townhouses constructed interior to the site near Crosskeys Road. The Township approval process is nearing completion.

Salters Rebuild

This is a proposal to build approximately 12,000 SF of new retail space on the site of the former Salter's Ski and Fireplace building. This project is proceeding through the land development process.

Please check the Planning and Development page on the website or call the Community Development Department at 610-635-3521 for details and updates.



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Public Works - Winter Weather Reminders



The Public Works Department counts on your cooperation to help them maintain roads during inclement weather. Here are some things to keep in mind during this winter's inevitable snow and ice storms:

- It is almost impossible to keep snow from being deposited at driveways during plowing. It's recommended that you shovel out a space - looking at your house to the right side of your driveway - that would allow for some snow to be discharged in that area before it goes past your driveway.
- During plowing, keeping main roads open and passable is the first priority. As soon as all major roads are clear, equipment is moved immediately to residential areas. Because they carry the lowest volume of traffic, cul-de-sacs and dead-end streets are the last plowed.
- Do not place snow from driveways into the street.
- State law requires that vehicles be completely clear of snow and ice and headlights be on when windshield wipers are in use.

When a Snow Emergency Is Declared...

- Parking is prohibited on the odd numbered side of the street unless there is no off-street parking available at or within 300 feet of the property.
- Anyone driving a vehicle without chains or snow (all-weather) tires that becomes stalled, incapable of moving or left unattended is in violation of the snow emergency provisions.
- Any vehicle parked, stalled, incapable of moving under its own power or left unattended upon any street or road of the Township may be removed or towed by the Police Department.

What About Sidewalks?

Property owners and tenants of properties bordering public streets are required by Township Ordinance to thoroughly clear a pathway at least 30 inches wide in the sidewalk within 48 hours after it stops snowing. In ice or sleet events, tenants/owners are required to cover the sidewalk with ashes, sawdust or similar materials. Placing snow in the roadway or gutter is prohibited (Ordinance 120-34).

Adopt-A-Hydrant

If there's a fire hydrant outside your home or place of business, please consider taking the time to maintain it in the event of snowfall. A clear, 3-foot path on all sides makes hydrants easier for fire fighters to locate and can save precious time in an emergency.



Mailbox Damage

It's possible that some residential mailboxes will suffer damage during a snowstorm.

- If damage is caused by snow or ice hitting the mailbox, or due to deteriorated materials, repair or replacement is the responsibility of the resident.
- If it is believed that the damage is the result of direct contact with a plow truck, please call the Public Works Department, 610-635-3525, after the storm has subsided and within 48 hours, and they will evaluate the damage to determine responsibility.

For snow removal information online visit
www.lowerprovidence.org/public-works

State and county roads are plowed by their own crews:

PennDOT: 1-800-349-7623

Audubon Road

Eagleville Road

Egypt Road

Evansburg Road

Level Road - Between Ridge Pike & Yerkes Rd

Park Avenue

Pawlings Road

Ridge Pike

River Road

Trooper Road

Route 422

Yerkes Road

Montgomery County: 610-275-2368

Germantown Pike

Road Improvement Project



The contract for the Township's 2020 road improvement project was awarded to the low bidder, Alan Myers Construction, in the amount of \$416,077.00. The 2020 project included: Parklane Drive, Driftwood Drive, Lee Road, Fox Road, Landis Mill Road, Oakdale Avenue, Oaklyn Avenue, West Sunset Avenue, South Midland Road, Coppermine Road, Leon Avenue, and Kingston Circle.

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Stormwater Management - No Easy Answers

Previous newsletter articles have discussed the increasing frequency of severe storms in our region and their impact on stormwater runoff, especially in older Township neighborhoods with less than ideal stormwater management systems. On August 4, 2020, Tropical Storm Isaias dumped record rainfall on the Township, leading to historic flooding and causing drainage issues that had never been seen before.

With extreme rainfall amounts, extreme runoff is inevitable. Our Public Works Department cleans stormwater inlets regularly, especially in anticipation of storms. But sometimes - as with Isaias - the rainfall is just too much for any system to handle, overwhelming some of the Township's 1,450 inlets.

Township neighborhoods older than 10 or 15 years don't have nearly the same amount of stormwater design and infrastructure as newer developments. The pipes are aging and inefficient. Many designs used grading and swales, which over time become filled in and flatten out and are no longer able to assist in getting water to natural water courses. Unfortunately, there's no easy or inexpensive fix.

Homeowners can find informative resources on stormwater best management practices for their properties on the Township website, www.lowerprovidence.org/stormwater-management and at the Penn State Extension, extension.psu.edu. Please be mindful that loose items such as cut wood, tires, and patio furniture can easily be swept away in storms. These items come downstream causing damage to structures, blocking water channels and possibly becoming hazardous to people and animals.

In 2018, the Township adopted a stormwater ordinance that requires more in-depth stormwater management planning, especially in instances of new impervious surfaces of 1200 square feet or more. As before, property owners are not permitted to direct non-stormwater

discharges into the storm sewer system. In the new ordinance, there are guidelines for roof drains and sump pump drainage. For instance, roof drains and sump pumps are not permitted to discharge water directly onto a sidewalk, walkway, trail or street and they must be constructed to discharge to a dry well/seepage pit or above ground entirely on the property.



Hoy Park is left underwater by Tropical Storm Isaias.
Photo credit: Lower Providence Fire Department

Caring for your Yard this Fall

Tips for reducing stormwater pollution
on your property

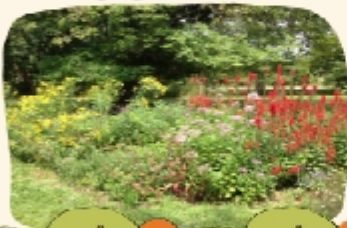
1) Let your grass clippings lay. Not only does this reduce waste, the clippings will act as a natural fertilizer for your lawn, releasing nutrients and water into the soil.



2) Use fertilizers sparingly and never before rain. When applying fertilizers, avoid spreading them in paved areas where they can easily wash into a stormdrain.



3) Plant a native tree! Trees have deep roots that absorb rain water and reduce erosion. Some natives, like the paw paw tree, produce an edible fruit for you to harvest and enjoy!



4) Install a rain garden. Rain gardens are bowl shaped gardens, planted with native vegetation, that will filter and use stormwater. Plant them in a naturally wet area in your yard to reduce flooding!





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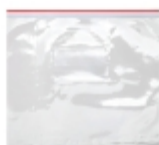
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Before...


AFTER!

Pet Safety & Helpful Tips (Sponsored Content)

Pet Preparedness

by Alyssa Mages, BS, CVT

If there's one thing that the recent events surrounding the pandemic has taught us is that being prepared is a crucial & often overlooked concept. From the lack of toilet paper to shortages in batteries, multiple medication backorders and no critical care supplies, the list goes on & on & on. As focused as we've been on the essentials for us humans - and this is as it should be - let us not forget that it's equally important to not lose sight of our furry family members & their needs.

Many of our canine & feline companions are also on long-term medications and/or prescription diets. Some need additional support in the forms of enrichment and/or behavioral interventions, and they are just as susceptible to the feelings of depression and anxiety during times like these. Having an adequate supply of their food & medications, supportive care provided and/or providers in place, and ways to alleviate and address their stressors are just a few of the ways we need to provide our best friends with the care they need and deserve.

Some other suggestions and thoughts to keep in mind are to ensure your pets are up-to-date on their vaccinations, have necessary ID tags/licenses, and are microchipped.

Remember that loud events - fireworks & thunderstorms - can bring the potential for spooked pets and escapees.

Another thing to be aware of are when other disaster-type events take place such as weather-related incidents, emergencies and/or accidents is to have a First Aid or Emergency Kit solely designated for the furry members of your family. A list of items to include which is not exclusive, is provided below.

First Aid/Emergency Kit

- 🐾 All necessary phone numbers:
 - 🐾 Family & Friends
 - 🐾 Veterinarian
 - 🐾 Veterinary ER - MVA
- 🐾 Copies of Veterinary Records
 - 🐾 Necessary Rx's
- 🐾 Bandage Material:
 - 🐾 Roll Gauze
 - 🐾 4x4 Gauze squares
 - 🐾 Cast Padding
 - 🐾 Vet Wrap
- 🐾 Clean cloth strips, clean towels
- 🐾 Sterile saline
- 🐾 Thermometer
- 🐾 Syringe or dropper
- 🐾 Hydrogen Peroxide

- 🐾 Extra Leash
- 🐾 Carrier
- 🐾 Blanket
- 🐾 Bottled Water

We cannot know all of the impending events that are headed our way, but having checklists can be extremely helpful, and we hope that this will help you too. We here at Metropolitan Veterinary Associates know how much you love your fur babies, and while we're here for them and you 24/7/365, we also want to make sure that they stay safe & that you're prepared to ensure they remain so.

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Parenting Corner (Sponsored Content)

How To T.A.L.K. To Your Children About Vaccines

By Dr. LynAnn Mastaj

I have been an orthodontist for over 25 years, and one of the reasons I choose this medical specialty was because I would not have to give my patients a shot. Being fearful of needles is normal, especially in children.

But given the current COVID-19 pandemic, and the race to develop a vaccine to ensure our health and safety, it is important to talk to our children early and often about the need for vaccines-- of all kinds--and prepare them for the COVID immunization. It is critical to trust this vaccine when it is available and follow the science: For generations, vaccines have prevented countless childhood diseases, and even deaths, and have protected the health of both individuals and the public.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Data show that the current U.S. vaccine supply is the safest in history."

Dr. Robert Murphy, an infectious diseases specialist at Northwestern University and Executive Director of the Institute for Global Health, told CNN that since coronavirus is an RNA virus, similar to SARS and MERS, vaccine researchers are not starting from square one. Protocols for safety and efficacy, which have

been used to develop many other vaccines successfully, are being implemented with the highest standards.

The good news is that some COVID-19 vaccine candidates may have a product thoroughly developed and tested by the end of the year. It is important to note that developing a vaccine and creating enough supply around the clock may increase the financial risk, but not the product risk.

Given that, now is the time to start talking to family members and about getting the COVID-19 vaccine when it is available. This is especially important for our children and teens, who may not be symptomatic but could be carriers.

To facilitate this discussion, I developed the acronym T.A.L.K. to help my patients and their parents talk about and reduce any fears about getting a COVID vaccine.

T Trust the vaccine. Talk to your children about how the medicine will protect them. Explain that they will get a poke under the skin and it will prepare their body to fight the virus. Without the vaccine, everyone can get very sick.

A Assure them the medicine is safe. Tell them that parents and kids have been getting vaccines since they were babies to stay healthy and protected against diseases.

L Learn ways to calm your children and yourself while getting a vaccine. Hold your kids close if they're younger and have them to look away. Try singing, humming and blowing bubbles or kisses. Breathe, count or laugh to distract them.

K Kind words and kisses. Praise your children for being brave. Promise a fun Band-Aid, ice cream or other treat immediately after. Play something special with them once you get home.

Remember, while the COVID pandemic has had a disastrous impact on our lives, we will have a safe, effective vaccine in the foreseeable future that will protect our families and enable us to resume our lives.

Dr. LynAnn Mastaj is an Orthodontic Specialist in private practice in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania. She is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine and received her specialty training at Albert Einstein Medical Center. Dr. Mastaj published "Infection control in the general dental practice with emphasis on orthodontic practice" Compendium, 1994 Jan:15 (1) and is a leader in her field.

Contact her at www.lynnmastaj.com or greatorthodontist@gmail.com.



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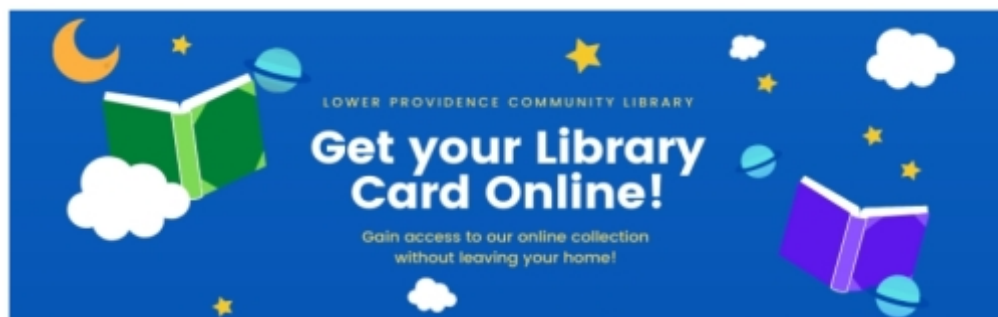
Curbside pickup and extended browsing services are now available at the library. Library hours are Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Monday through Thursday, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Any changes or additions to the schedule will be listed on the library's website, lowerprovidencelibrary.org

Patrons are also encouraged to explore the library's virtual programming and electronic resources. They can be found on the website.

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Department of Parks & Recreation

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Parks & Recreation Director
Karen M. Hegedus
Recreation Superintendent
Karen L. Barron
Administrative Assistant

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Kristen Riddell - *Student Rep. (V)*
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The Lower Providence Township Parks and Recreation Department strives to provide professional, multi-faceted leisure services to the community.

Our mission is based on a passion for enriching the lives of our residents through recreation, creating natural beauty and maintaining a safe, clean park environment. We foster the responsibility for developing, supporting and administering recreational activities and facilities that enhance the quality of life for all our residents.

Check out the website for Lower Providence Township Parks and Recreation Programs! www.lptrec.com

To get started, please visit the website and create an account with all your household information. The data provided - emergency contacts, medical information, etc. - will help us better serve you. This information will also be automatically placed into your registration forms.

2020 LPTRec Fall Recreation schedule is now on www.lptrec.com.

So check out all the fun and exciting recreation programs and presentations!



- Virtual Wellness Programs
- Zumba Fitness
- Jump Start Sports Fall T- Ball
- Yoga in the Park
- Music Lessons Guitar, Bass, etc.
- Medicare Update Seminar
- Estate Planning Seminar
- AND MUCH MORE!

Special Ways To Remember Loved Ones

Consider tree, bench, or brick donations

Memorial trees, benches and Walk of Honor brick pavers are welcomed donations at sites within the Lower Providence Township Parks system and are special ways to honor the memory of a loved one.

If you or your family enjoy a park and wish to place a lasting memorial to a family member, friend or pet consider donating a tree or bench. Memorial brick pavers are added to the Walk of Honor in front of the Township's Veterans' Memorial located at the Administration Building.

Memorial gift forms are available at the Administration Building or on-line at the Parks & Recreation website www.lptrec.com.

The Township must approve any wording that will appear on any plaques and/or bricks. Once the form is received by the Parks and Recreation Department, we will contact you to confirm your donation.

If you have any questions or would like more information about the memorial donation programs, contact Jane Delaney, Director of Parks and Recreation at 610-635-3543 or jdelaney@lowerprovidence.org.



Discount Movie Tickets

Lower Providence Township Department of Parks and Recreation offers discount tickets to the "Movie Tavern" & "Regal Entertainment Group" theatres in our area. These ticket vouchers may be purchased at the Township Building, Monday - Friday, between the hours of 8:00am and 4:30pm. Cash and most major credit cards are accepted to purchase tickets. No personal checks, refunds or exchanges.

Movie Tavern Tickets are \$8.50
Regal Entertainment Group tickets are \$10.00 **

**Participating Regal Entertainment Group theatres include United Artists, Regal Cinemas & Edwards Theatres.





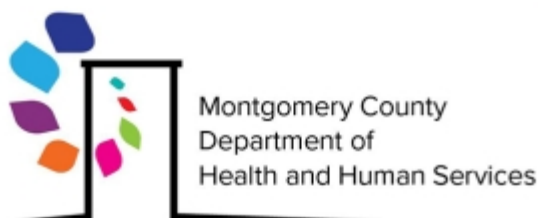
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DRUG TAKE BACK DAY!

A joint program by Lower Providence Township and Montgomery County Senior Services is scheduled for 11:30 am to 1 pm, Tuesday, October 20th at Lower Providence Township Building, 100 Parklane Drive.



For more info go to www.lptrec.com
or call: 610-635-3543

AWARENESS PROGRAMS

Lower Providence Parks & Recreation and Montgomery County Senior Services will provide various awareness programs and presentations that might be helpful with your everyday activities. These programs will include a chronic disease self-management program, pedestrian safety, gun safety, how to effectively talk with your doctor, fall prevention, diabetes prevention and safe driving.

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Parks & Recreation Department

Gold Award Project Adds Unique Games to Park

Thanks to Rachel Gordon, young visitors to Eagleville Park can now enjoy a variety of "Blacktop Games." The games were completed for Rachel's Gold Award Project; the prestigious award is Girl Scout's highest honor.

Rachel, a junior at Methacton High School and member of Troop 71358 of the Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania, presented her project to the Lower Providence Township Parks and Recreation Board in the fall of 2019. She proposed the creation of an engaging and colorful place for children to play by designing and painting "Blacktop Games" at



Eagleville Park. Her project was approved and Rachel began work immediately. She directed a group of friends who helped her complete her "Blacktop Games" in the park on August 1, 2020.

The various games Rachel created for children to play have enhanced the park and have been especially helpful during the pandemic. We greatly appreciate that she picked our

township to be the recipient of her project and thank her for giving back to her community.

On behalf on the Lower Providence Township Parks and Recreation Department, the Board of Supervisors, and the residents of Lower Providence, we congratulate Rachel on the completion of her Girl Scout Gold Award Project.



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4. Take a picture of yourself, pet, or household members in front of an easily identifiable landmark or sign at the park or trail.
5. Email your pictures to receive credit!



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Zacharias Creek Trail



Montgomery County Board of Commissioners
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This project is funded by the Pa. Department of Health's Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant.

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