

2022 Budget Maintains Service Levels, Supports Firefighting Initiative

The Board of Supervisors approved the 2022 budget at their December 2, 2021 meeting. The budget maintains the current level of Township services while supporting a new initiative in the Lower Providence Fire Department. Additionally, the existing structural deficit was cut in half. A copy of the 2022 budget is available on the Township website.

The 2022 budget will increase the General Fund mill rate by .16, decrease the Emergency Services Fund mill rate by .2358, and establish a new Fire Fund with a mill rate of .3558 which nets out to a total of a .28 mill rate increase. Using an average property assessment of \$168,518, a taxpayer will see an average tax increase of \$47.18 or less than \$4 per month.

2022 BUDGET



The majority of expenditures in the 2022 budget remain consistent from last year with the exception of the normal annual personnel increases including salaries, pension and benefits. These represent a large portion of the General Fund, yet the Township is at a point where it is difficult to make cuts in this area without compromising services.

The Township's finances are on solid footing and anticipated to close 2021 in the black. Progress was made on traditional areas of concern such as the deficit and pension funding. The high returns in our pension fund afforded us

the opportunity to update the mortality tables to more realistic assumptions.

The Supervisors have positioned the Township to effectively deal with the deficit going forward. Long-term financial planning will be a critical part in achieving an ongoing stable budget. Planning will identify the sources and amount of revenue needed to support current and future operations.

The new Fire Department initiative will help address the national issue of declining volunteerism in the fire service. The program will pay firefighters to be on call at certain times to guarantee a response when the alarm sounds. This is crucial to ensure adequate fire protection throughout the Township.

Inside This Issue

Contact Information	2
Welcome New Township Manager.....	2
Meetings Schedule & Office Closures..	2
Supervisors Reorganization Meeting...	4
Trash Contract Awarded.....	6
Comprehensive Plan Update.....	6
Community Strong - Hurricane Ida.....	6
Community Awards	8

Sewer Authority News	10
Water Bill Assistance Program	12
Police Department News	14
Development News	18
Public Works Reminders	20
Stormwater Management.....	22
Parks & Recreation.....	24-30



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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Gary Neights, Chair
gneights@lowerprovidence.org

Cara Coless, Vice Chair
ccoless@lowerprovidence.org

Dr. Janine Darby
jdarby@lowerprovidence.org

Peter MacFarland
pmacfarland@lowerprovidence.org

Jason Sorgini
jsorgini@lowerprovidence.org

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

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

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www.lpfire.com
Ambulance Business Office.....610-539-8465
www.medic322.com
Library.....610-666-6640
Sewer Authority.....610-539-6161
Tax Collector610-666-1980
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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

PHOTO POLICY

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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.

LPT WELCOMES NEW TOWNSHIP MANAGER

The Board of Supervisors have announced the hiring of E.J. Mentry as Township Manager. He was introduced at the December 16th Board meeting and started in mid-January.

E.J., who is originally from Watertown , N.Y., is excited to join the Lower Providence Township team.

E. J. holds two degrees from Villanova University, a B.A. in Political Science and a master's degree in Public Administration.

He has been working in local government in southeastern Pennsylvania since 2013. Most recently, he served as the Township Manager in Schuylkill Township, Chester County, and prior to that, as Manager in Upper Nazareth Township, Northampton County.

E.J. presently serves on two different local government committees, one at the state level and one at the national level and has previously served as an adjunct faculty

E.J. Mentry



member in Villanova University's Public Administration program.

E.J. resides in Chester Springs with his wife, Claire. He enjoys golfing and cheering on the Villanova Wildcats!

2022 MEETING SCHEDULE

Dependent on health and safety restrictions, meetings will be held in one of the following ways: in-person at the Township Administration Building, virtually via Zoom, or a hybrid combination of in-person and virtually. Agendas and specific instructions for meetings will be posted to the calendar on the Township website, www.lowerprovidence.org. Those without computer access can attend virtual meetings via phone. For phone-in instructions, call 610-539-8020.

Board of Supervisors

First & third Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Comprehensive Plan

Update Steering Committee
Third Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

Environmental Advisory Council

Third Monday of the month at 6:00 pm.

Library Board of Trustees

Third Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Board

Third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Planning Commission

Fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Sewer Authority

Second Monday of the month at 4:30 p.m.

Zoning Hearing Board

Fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

2022 Administration Office Closures

Presidents' Day.....Monday, Feb. 21
Good FridayFriday, April 15
Easter Monday.....Monday, April 18
Memorial Day.....Monday, May 30
Flag DayTuesday, June 14
Independence DayMonday, July 4
Labor DayMonday, Sept. 5
Columbus DayMonday, Oct. 10
Veterans' DayFriday, Nov. 11
Thanksgiving Holiday.....Thursday, Nov. 24
.....& Friday, Nov. 25
Christmas Holiday.....Friday, Dec. 23
.....& Monday, Dec. 26



How To Watch Meeting Rebroadcasts

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.



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SUPERVISORS HOLD ANNUAL REORGANIZATION MEETING

Re-elected supervisor Peter MacFarland and newly-elected supervisor Dr. Janine Darby were sworn in as the Township Board of Supervisors held its reorganization meeting January 3, 2022.

Also taking oaths of office were newly-elected auditor Kelbin Carolina and re-elected tax collector Michael Deal.

The Board elected Supervisor Gary Neights to serve as chair for the year; Supervisor Cara Coless was elected as vice chair.



Judge Lori Dumas administers the oath of office to Supervisor Dr. Janine Darby



Supervisor Peter MacFarland is sworn in by Judge Cathleen Kelly Rebar



Auditor Kelbin Carolina is sworn in by Judge Garrett Page



Judge Cathleen Kelly Rebar administers the oath of office to Tax Collector Michael Deal

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TOWNSHIP-WIDE TRASH CONTRACT AWARDED

Following a competitive bidding process, the contract for the Township's residential trash and recycling collection was awarded to J.P. Mascaro & Sons. The Board approved the award at its December 16, 2021 meeting in a 4-1 vote pending a staff review of the bid documentation.

The Board previously had authorized the issuance of a bid for trash and recycling services since the current contract expires at the end of February 2022. The bid was issued in November and a mandatory pre-bid meeting was held on November 30, 2021. Representatives from three firms were in attendance. The companies were J.P. Mascaro, Republic Services, and Whitetail Disposal.

Bids were received from Mascaro and Republic and were opened on December 13, 2021 at a public bid opening.

Several options were included in the bid, including two options which would allow homeowners to choose either once or

twice a week pickup. Only one bidder submitted a bid for these options and the pricing was the same for once or twice a week pickup. Since no savings would be realized by a homeowner selecting once a week pickup, there was no value in considering these options.

The Board selected bid option #4 which includes twice per week trash and once per week recycling collection. Mascaro's bid for the five-year contract totaled \$18,026,640 and was the lowest bidder. In the initial year of the contract, from March 1, 2022 to February 28, 2023, the annual cost per household will be \$479.76 with residents billed four times per year.

In selecting this option, Supervisors wanted to maintain the same service level the residents are used to. Although savings could have been realized by reducing to a single trash pickup per week, there was a concern that this would have been a burden to many families.

The new contract continues to include year-round yard waste collection on Wednesdays and bulk pickup with the following modifications. Yard waste will be limited to 10 bags per collection and bulk pickup will be limited to one item per month, with the option to schedule more for \$50 per item. Tires will no longer be collected.

Annual household costs for the remainder of the contract are: \$551.76 in year two, \$601.32 in year three, \$655.44 in year four, and \$716.16 in year five. The contract includes an option for two additional years with annual household costs of \$734.04 and \$756. The Board will make a decision on the option years when the five year award nears its end.



COMMUNITY STRONG

Unprecedented Storm, Extraordinary Response

Last September, the remnants of Hurricane Ida brought unthinkable devastation to our township and across the region. We want to take this opportunity to thank our first responders and all those who reached out to help those in need during and after the storm.

The storm produced historic flooding levels of local waterways, with the Perkiomen Creek and Schuylkill River surpassing all-time records. Homes, businesses and infrastructure were severely damaged by the rising flood waters and wind.

For law enforcement officers, firefighters, EMS and Public Works crews, the storm demanded an unprecedented response. These courageous and dedicated public servants not only met the challenge but placed themselves in great danger in order to provide assistance to the residents and businesses of Lower Providence and the surrounding area.

Some 106 households reported water damage through emergency response and a number of residents were completely displaced from their homes. Nine Township residents have chosen to participate in the buyout program offered by the Hazard Mitigation grant program offered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) working with the Township to buy

out homes in the flood plain and maintain the properties as undevelopable open space.

In the days and weeks following the storm, there have been extraordinary efforts by community groups and individuals to help neighbors in need and those efforts are continuing.



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

Lower Providence 2040

A Comprehensive Plan for Lower Providence Township

Lower Providence Township is continuing the process of updating its Comprehensive Plan that will lay the foundation for our community for the next 10+ years. The plan will describe a long-range vision for the Township and provide direction for implementation of that vision. A committee made up of Township officials and community members is working with professional planners from the Montgomery County Planning Commission on the update.

A public meeting will be held in May for the community to review the proposed plan and provide input. Look for details on the Township website and Facebook page. It is anticipated that the Board of Supervisors will vote on the final adoption of the updated Comprehensive Plan in the fall of 2022.

In December, the committee went out into the Township's various neighborhoods to document what is working well and to determine what opportunities exist for

specific recommendations to include in the final plan.

The committee is using data gathered and survey results to make policy recommendations and set priorities in these key areas:

- Employment and business development
- Commercial character
- Natural environment
- Road safety, traffic and transit
- Walking and biking
- Housing and Neighborhoods
- Community identity

Follow the Progress

You're encouraged to follow the progress of the Comprehensive Plan update and provide input in this important process. Schedules, meetings videos and materials, and other resources are available online: www.lowerprovidence.org/comprehensive-plan-update.

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COMMUNITY AWARDS

Congratulations to Our 2021 Community Awards Recipients

The Lower Providence Township Board of Supervisors recognized the outstanding contributions of individuals and businesses as they presented the annual Community Awards. The 2021 recipients are: Citizen of the Year, Lisa Yanak; Volunteer of the Year, Lisa Furman Lampe; and Business of the Year, Evansburg Vineyards. A special recognition award was presented to the Outreach House of St. James Episcopal Church.

Citizen of the Year - Lisa Yanak

Through her 37-year career as an elementary school teacher in the Methacton School District and now in her many roles with community organizations, Lisa Yanak has made a difference in Lower Providence Township. Lisa devotes much time and effort on behalf of the Lower Providence Community Library. She served two terms on the Board of Trustees and continues to serve as president of the Friends of the Library. In this role, she is instrumental in ensuring the long-term success of the library through community fund-raising events.

Many in the township may remember the Halloween Haunted Garden she hosted at her home for 12 years. The event featured story time, snacks and interactive exhibits and though it was free, donations from visitors helped contribute over \$3500 to the library. In addition, Lisa has a leadership role in Lower Providence Community Action Partners which raised over \$3,000 for uniforms for the Lower Providence volunteer fire department. She also volunteers her time with the Patrician Society's local food pantry and Theater Horizon.

Volunteer of the Year - Dina Furman Lampe

Dina uses her contagious compassion to rally the Lower Providence community to help those in need, gathering much-needed supplies for those most in need. She fields requests either in person or over the phone, reaches out to the community for resources, and often personally delivers the items. Utilizing her background in social services and public administration, Dina provided social service assistance with paperwork and referrals at the Haws Avenue Soup Kitchen in Norristown, holding office hours every other Sunday and serving dozens people in a day.

Dina sets an example for all, viewing those in need not as lesser, but as neighbors deserving respect and kindness.

Business of the Year - Evansburg Vineyards

Yuval and Leli Blat, and their daughter, Rorem, are an American success story. Immigrants from Israel, Yuval and Leli had success in the corporate world before opening their business on an old horse farm in Evansburg. Their unique, understated winery has become a favorite of neighbors, Township residents and a growing number of guests from the surrounding area.

The Blats have successfully partnered with a number of local businesses and Evansburg Vineyards has blended itself into a quiet neighborhood, operating with cooperation and consideration for the area residents and businesses. The Blat family has literally planted roots and is growing a future in Lower Providence.

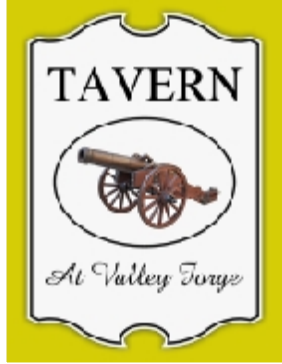
Special Recognition Award - Outreach House

The Rev. Dr. William Sowards - "Father Mike" - is certainly well known to his parishioners but is also known by extension to many individuals and families in need. At Outreach House, St. James takes in food, gently used clothing, furniture, and other basic essentials. In turn, they provide assistance to clients from our Lower Providence community, Collegeville and Trappe. In addition, Outreach House provides weekend food for children from the Arrowhead and Woodland elementary schools. Carole Exeley serves as Outreach House director, managing all volunteers, donations and clients. This year, her leadership was critical to the coordination and distribution of donations following two local disasters. Under her guidance, families who lost everything in a fire and as a result of flooding received what they needed to get back on their feet.

In their own charitable and quiet way, Father Mike and his flock reach out to provide much-needed support through Outreach House, not only when disasters strike, but each and every day to carry those in need to a better place.

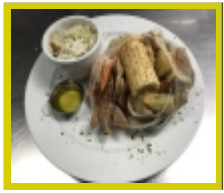
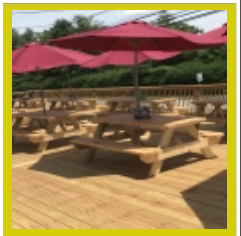



2021 Community Award recipients: The Rev. Dr. William Sowards/St. James Outreach House, Dina Furman Lampe, Lisa Yanak and Yuval Blat/Evansburg Vineyards.



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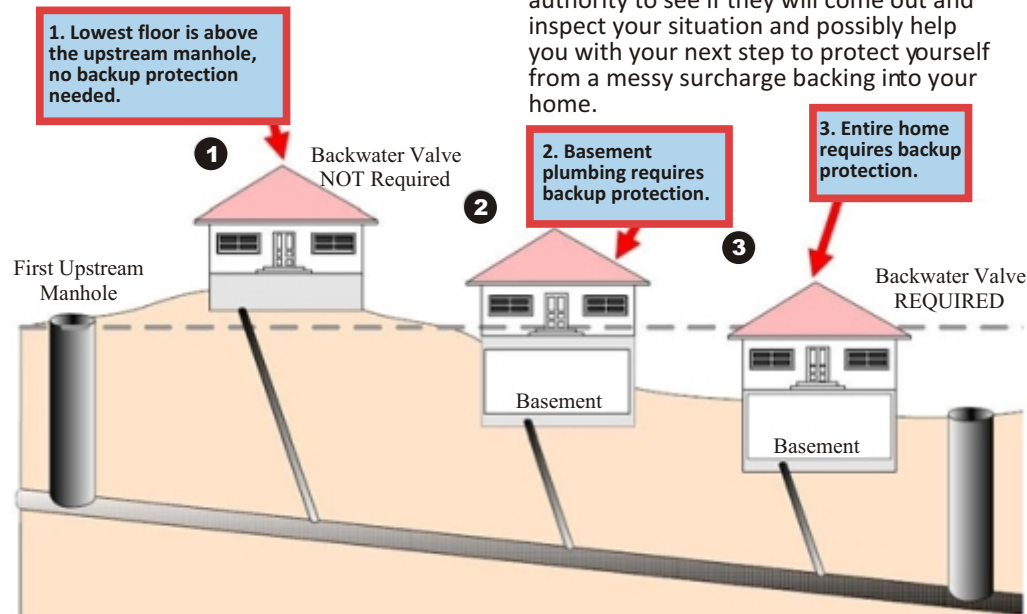


SEWER AUTHORITY NEWS

How Can Overloaded Sanitary Sewers Cause Flooding In Your Home?

The water in an overloaded sewer flows at a higher level than normal. If the home has sanitary fixtures or floor drains that are below the higher overload level, water can flow backwards through the sanitary sewer lines into the basement or other low-lying areas of the home.

Section 715.1 of IPC (International Plumbing Code) states that any plumbing fixtures that are installed on a floor with an



Sewer Line Replacement Work

In the Sewer Authority's continued efforts to remove I/I* from the sanitary sewer system, construction is being completed on the section of Walker Lane from East Mount Kirk to Church Road including Jamestown & Roanoke Circle, and from Church Road halfway to the cul-de-sac. Construction will continue through spring 2022 to replace the main sanitary sewer lines and laterals serving the properties on the following streets, in no particular order:

- Summit Avenue
- Amy Drive, Alexandra Drive, Jennifer Lane
- Second Street
- Sunnyside Avenue (Note: Sunnyside Avenue will be detoured during the construction work. All residents will have access to their homes at all times.)

Questions about this upcoming project should be directed to the Sewer Authority at 610-539-6161 during the hours of 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM Monday through Friday.

**Inflow and infiltration (I/I) is clear water that enters the sewer system from a variety of sources.*

elevation below the elevation of the manhole cover of the next upstream manhole in the public sewer, such fixture shall be protected by a backflow preventer in the building drain or horizontal branch serving such fixture.

Such fixture connections might include washer hookups, water softener, backflushing lines, toilets, shower stalls, sinks and illegally connected sump pumps and floor drains.

If you feel that your fixture connections fall in this category, contact your sewer authority to see if they will come out and inspect your situation and possibly help you with your next step to protect yourself from a messy surcharge backing into your home.

Inflow is water that is entering the system through downspouts, floor drains and sump pumps.

Infiltration occurs when groundwater seeps into sewer pipes through cracks, leaky pipe joints and/or deteriorated manholes which may cause sewage volumes to exceed design capacity.

Low Income Housing Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP)

The Sewer Authority is now a vendor for LIHWAP. This is a temporary emergency program to help low-income families pay overdue water & sewage bills. Find out who is eligible and how to apply at www.lowerprovidence.org/sewer-authority.

Other Information:

LATE FEE: If payment is not received by LPTSA by the due date printed on the sewer bill, a 10% penalty is added on the current amount due only. The aggregate amount thereof shall bear interest from the penalty date at the rate of .5 % per month (1.5% quarterly). **Failure to receive your bill does not relieve you of your obligation to pay, nor waive customer of paying penalty.**

Be Proactive and Protect Your Pipes



It's all about prevention. Frozen pipes can leave you without water in the worst of weather. And they cost a lot to repair. But with a few simple steps, you can easily preserve both your budget and your peace of mind.

Before the Freezing Temperatures Set In

- Know where your main water shut-off valve is located.
- Turn off your irrigation system.
- Eliminate sources of cold air near water pipes by fixing windows or insulating walls.
- Protect exposed pipes by wrapping them with insulation, fabric or newspaper.

When Temperatures Stay Below Freezing

- Let the snow cover your water meter. Snow acts as insulation, so don't disturb it.
- Allow a small trickle of water to run over night to keep pipes from freezing.
- Open cabinet doors to let warm air in your home reach the pipes.

If Your Pipes Freeze

- Shut off the water immediately.
- Warm the air around the frozen pipe. Avoid kerosene heaters or open flames.
- Turn the water back on slowly once pipes have thawed and check for cracks and leaks.

-Source: PA American Water

DELINQUENCY: Delinquent sewer bills will result in water shut off and/or property liens. Water turn off/on and property liens will result in additional fees charged to your account.

PAPERLESS BILLING:

Get your bill sooner! Sign up to receive your monthly sewer bill by email. If you haven't already signed up go to <http://www.lowerprovidence.org/sewer.htm> to complete the form. Past due and/or shut off notices will not be emailed. They will be mailed to you in paper form. Emailed bill(s) will come from "sewerbill@lptsa.org".

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 our customers to know that our employees are always available during regular business hours by calling 610-539-6161 to address emergency situations. After hours emergencies, please call 1-888-831-7818. 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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LIHWAP may be able to assist you with overdue water and wastewater bills.

What is LIHWAP?

The Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) is a temporary emergency program to help low-income families pay overdue water bills. LIHWAP is a grant. You do not have to repay it.

To receive help...

- Apply starting January 4, 2022.
- You don't have to be on public assistance.
- You need to have an unpaid water bill.
- You can either rent or own your home.

How does LIHWAP work?

LIHWAP Crisis grants may be available if you have an emergency situation and are in jeopardy of losing your water service. You can receive one Crisis grant for your drinking water service and one Crisis grant for your wastewater service, up to \$2,500 each.

Crisis situations include:

- Past-due water bills.
- Termination of utility service.
- Danger of having utility service terminated (received a notice that service will be shut off within the next 60 days).

How do I apply?

- Apply online at www.compass.state.pa.us.
- Request an application by calling the Statewide Customer Service Center at 877-395-8930 or call PA Relay at 711 for the hearing impaired.
- Applications are available at your local county assistance office.

To apply, you will need:

- Names of people in your household;
- Dates of birth for all household members;
- Social Security numbers for all household members;
- Proof of income for all household members; and
- A recent water bill.

Who is eligible?

You may qualify for a LIHWAP grant if:

- You must have an overdue water bill that you are responsible for paying.
- Your household income meets the following income guidelines:

INCOME GUIDELINES

Household Size	Maximum Annual Income
1	\$ 19,320
2	\$ 26,130
3	\$ 32,940
4	\$ 39,750
5	\$ 46,560
6	\$ 53,370
7	\$ 60,180
8	\$ 66,990
9	\$ 73,800
10	\$ 80,610

Each Additional Person
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After your application is processed, you will receive a written notice that will tell you if you qualify. If eligible, it will tell you the amount of your grant.


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POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

New Hire

The Lower Providence Township Police Department recently hired a new Patrol Officer, Thomas Foy. Officer Foy was sworn in on November 30, 2021 by Magisterial District Judge Cathleen Rebar and formally recognized during a Township Board of Supervisors meeting on December 2, 2021. Officer Foy was a patrol officer with the Philadelphia Police Department, assigned to the 25th District for four years prior to joining LPPD. We are pleased to welcome him aboard and wish Officer Foy the best of luck throughout his career here serving the Lower Providence Township community.



No Shave November

LPPD partnered with Red Corner Benefit and eight other local police departments to raise money for a family that is struggling and received the devastating news that their two-year old little girl has cancer, which she is now fighting. Several officers from Lower Providence Township Police Department participated in the **No Shave November** event and grew facial hair in support of the cause.



Thefts from Motor Vehicles

Every year we have several thefts from motor vehicles, but this year we are experiencing an increase in this unfortunate crime. We urge everyone to remember to **lock their doors** when leaving their vehicles unattended. A few other helpful tips are as follows:

1. Remove your keys from the vehicle and do not leave spare keys inside.
2. Close all windows, including the sunroof.
3. Park in a driveway, garage, or well-lit area.
4. Install an audible alarm system and anti-theft device.
5. Do not leave valuables inside your vehicle and if you must, make sure they are out of sight.



Dog Walk & Watch Program

The Lower Providence Township Police Dog Walk and Watch Program is a crime awareness project that enlists, educates, and encourages dog walkers throughout the Township to assist the Lower Providence Police by being an extra set of eyes and ears in crime prevention. The program is designed to educate residents on how to effectively observe and report criminal activity as they are out and about walking their dog in their neighborhood.

As a trained Dog Walk & Watch observer, you will become more aware of activities occurring during your walk and less hesitant to report suspicious activity to the Lower Providence Township Police Department.

Applications for the program can be located on the Township website at www.lowerprovidence.org.



Firearm Safety

Firearm safety is of utmost importance and something that should be reviewed regularly. Owning a firearm brings with it a great deal of responsibility and education is key

when it comes to preventing an accident. Below is a list of safety tips to remember any time you own or handle a firearm.

1. Treat the gun as if it's always loaded.
2. Always unload a gun when it is not in use.
3. Never point your weapon at another person.
4. Keep your finger off your weapons trigger unless you intend to shoot.
5. Know your target and what is beyond your target.
6. Store your weapon and ammunition safely. The best place to store your weapon is in a locked safe that is out of reach of children.



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DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Development Projects: Underway & Under Review

ON-GOING CONSTRUCTION / NEARING COMPLETION

Courts at Brynwood

Within this 139-townhome community along Germantown Pike, the units have completely sold out with construction nearing completion.

Eagleville Hospital

Phase 2 of the on-going rebuilding has begun. Several of the older buildings are being taken down in anticipation of new buildings replacing them in the next couple of years.

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. Most of the homes have been completed.

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. Most of the homes have been completed and are occupied.

306 Level Road /Creekview Estates

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. All the lots have been sold, with several homes having been completed.

Arrowhead Elementary

Methacton School District is reconstructing the existing Arrowhead Elementary School building at 232 Level Road. The project involves continuous operation of the existing building while the new building is being constructed. The new building is adding a second story over part, enhanced traffic circulation, stormwater management, and modernized construction systems. Construction is underway, and the new school is on schedule to be opened in Fall 2022.

Eagleville Elementary

Methacton School District is adding 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. Construction work is now completed.

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 30 townhouses constructed interior to the site near Crosskeys Road. Site work is near completion. Townhouse construction by D.R. Horton is to begin shortly.

955 Madison Avenue

R.E. Lamb is retrofitting the second floor of this office building for a new tenant.

PLANS THAT HAVE COMPLETED FINAL REVIEW:

Montgomery County EOC Development

This is for the construction of a new 21,950 SF building for the County Coroner and a new 22,200 SF Archives Building. Construction to begin soon.

Gambone Family Development

This is a nine-lot single family home development on Woodland Avenue, near the ball fields and Woodland Elementary School.

PLANS UNDER REVIEW:

Branca 420 Church Road

A subdivision plan has been submitted for review after an appeal was granted by Common Pleas Court. Presently, the plan shows 24 lots and has been reviewed by the Township Planning Commission, prior to consideration by the Board of Supervisors.

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



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PUBLIC WORKS REMINDERS

Snow Removal Reminders

How Are Roads Cleared?

Snow removal is a difficult and a time-consuming job. Township crews need many hours to complete snow clearing operations. As snow begins to accumulate, the Township concentrates on the major roads. As long as snow is falling, the Township's first priority is to keep the main roads open and passable. In such instances, it is unlikely that residential roads will be reached immediately, because the main roads must be repeatedly plowed and kept open. As soon as all major streets are clear, equipment is immediately moved into residential areas.

Roads are brined in advance of a storm; salting operations begin on priority roads and continue until all roads are complete. All roads are monitored for icy spots that may need treatment.

When plowing operations begin, usually around the 2" benchmark, plows start opening up the roadways. Opening up refers to plowing two passes along each street and this may be completed multiple

times before the storm ends. This process helps first responders get to any emergencies. In addition, it reduces the amount of snow needed to be cleared once the storm has ended. At that point, curb-to-curb plowing operations will begin.

The most economic and timely way for crews to clear snow is to push it off typically with the plow angled right. Crews are instructed to safely plow the snow in the most suitable area to expedite the process.

If your driveway is cleared before the street is completed, here is a tip that will help minimize the amount of snow left in front of your driveway. Clear an area to the left of the driveway entrance (standing in the driveway facing the street). When your street is plowed, the snow from the plow can be unloaded in this area instead of your driveway.

Please limit driving during winter storms whenever possible. Remember: If you are stuck in traffic, so are we. Also, please do not shovel or blow snow from your driveway into the street.



A smart way to shovel your drive

How to reduce the possibility of getting a huge pile of snow in your driveway opening when snowplows clear your street:



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.

Any questions regarding a Snow Emergency Declaration should be directed to the Lower Providence Township Emergency Manager, Michael Rohlfing, 610-635-3546, or the Lower Providence Police Department, 610-539-5901 (non-emergency).

State and County Roads

State highways are cleared by state snow removal crews and county roadways are cleared by county snow crews. For concerns on these roadways, use the numbers listed below:

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	

What About Mailboxes?

Help reduce the risk of your mailbox being damaged. Do a visual inspection prior to the winter season. Most damage occurs from either an old, rotted post, or if the entire mailbox was installed incorrectly. Please visit the USPS website for more details.

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 we will evaluate the damage to determine responsibility.

It's the Law

State law requires that vehicles be completely clear of snow and ice. Headlights must be on when windshield wipers are in use. Daylight running lights, a standard feature on most cars these days, are not enough. It is necessary for drivers in vehicles with daytime running lights to turn on their headlights in order to activate their taillights.



Fire Hydrants

If you have a fire hydrant on your property, please clear the snow away from the area around it, leaving the markers intact. This will assist firefighters in the event of an emergency.



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STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

Deicing With Salt: What You Should Know



When rainwater or snowmelt dissolves deicing salts, they can be carried into groundwater or surface streams with a detrimental effect. Native freshwater organisms, including fish, shellfish, insects, and plants, are not tolerant of high levels of salt, and consequently die off or are weakened. By killing freshwater plants,

excess salt also destabilizes streambanks, leads to increased erosion, and hinders the effectiveness of efforts to restore native freshwater ecosystems.

Numerous alternatives to salt for deicing are available:

- Gritting materials (wood ash, sawdust, cinders, sand, kitty litter) create non-slip surfaces. They also accelerate natural melting by darkening the surface, retaining more solar heat. These will generally require sweeping in the spring.
- Small walkways and paved areas may be outfitted with heating elements to melt ice and snow.
- Pervious surfaces, including porous pavement, pavers laid in sand, and

similar features allow meltwater to quickly drain and prevent ice from forming in the first place.

Another anti-icing technique involves spraying dry roads with pre-mixed salt solutions referred to as brine. The result is a "non-stick" layer that helps prevent ice from forming in the first place. It requires significantly lower quantities of salt. It is important to be mindful that rain gardens, infiltration trenches, bioretention ponds and similar stormwater management facilities, if used to drain roads or parking areas that are regularly treated with deicing salts, also can create high salinity in groundwater.

How Trees Aid in Stormwater Management

Trees and forested areas play a critical role in preserving the ecological health, character, natural beauty, and historic heritage of our Township. Lower Providence is a largely built out community of wooded hillsides and curving roads. Many of the original drainage channels have been encroached upon by historical development which preceded existing stormwater, steep slope, and floodplain regulations. While the Township works on trying to mitigate the effects of some of this past development through stormwater remediation projects, restoration and protection of our existing natural landscape including maintaining current tree canopy levels is key to keeping our precious, native soils in place, mitigating stormwater flows, and recharging our groundwater.

Trees are important to stormwater because they capture and reuse large amounts of water. In particular, trees with trunk diameters of 30" or greater make the most significant contributions to runoff control. A single large, mature oak tree can capture 40,000 gallons of rainfall per year (source: <https://www.usgs.gov/special-topic/water-science-school/science/evapotranspiration-and-water-cycle>). Conifers also intercept a lot of stormwater due to their year-round needle-leaf coverage.

Trees help reduce flooding through infiltration, interception, evaporation, and foliar (leaf) transpiration (see diagram). Interception and evapotranspiration also decrease runoff volume with larger trees providing exponentially more benefit than smaller trees. An average sized mature tree with a 25-foot diameter canopy can manage the 1-inch rainfall from 2,400 square feet of impervious surface, the footprint of a typical single-family home (EPA, Stormwater Trees Technical Report, 2017.) The absorption and interception of rainwater by large canopy trees as well as evergreens reduces volume and peak flow during storms. Many of us have

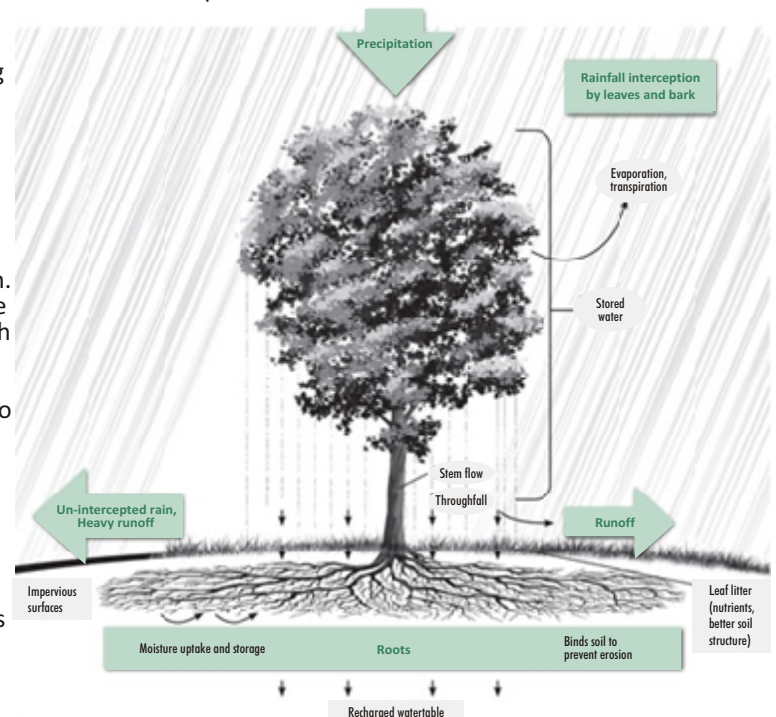
experienced rainfall slowly dripping from large trees during a downpour. Tree canopy reduces rainfall intensity by 20%, increasing lag time by up to three hours, reducing flooding by allowing both natural and township systems to manage and infiltrate stormwater more effectively. (Eric Kuehler, USDA Forest Service, "Give Me the Numbers: How Trees and Urban Forests Really Effect Stormwater Runoff")

Infiltration of stormwater recharges our underground aquifers which keeps our streams flowing during dry periods, helping to keep trees healthy, but also reducing flooding. Research has found that infiltration is on average 8X greater under tree canopies. (Eric Kuehler et al, USDA). This recharging of rainfall to groundwater is a natural form of stormwater control which trees do through their extensive root and leaf area systems. It helps maintain a more consistent base flow in streams during dry periods and helps reduce severe and rapid "out of bank" flooding during downpours. Clearing even relatively small numbers of trees from a property can increase runoff to downstream neighbors, and aggravate downstream erosion. Once heavy rains are in direct contact with compacted lawn or eroded topsoil, the capacity of the soil to absorb and retain at least some of the stormwater is significantly impaired. Preservation of woodland remnants whenever possible is also important since native forest soils may have taken

hundreds of years to develop and are not readily replaced.

According to the Nature Conservancy "A Green Path to a Stable Climate", trees help moderate climate extremes and can help reduce the reoccurrence of extreme storms and cloudbursts, both locally and regionally. The evaporation and transpiration of moisture drawn up by trees from the ground restores moisture to the atmosphere where it can create a cooling effect and more gradual, regular rainfall, instead of violent cloudbursts.

In conclusion, preventing or slowing tree loss and replacing what is being lost whenever possible is one important tool the Township and residents can utilize to slow and offset future increases in stormwater flows while protecting our Township's natural heritage, beauty, and quality of life.



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The Lower Providence Township Parks and Recreation Department strives to provide professional and diverse program services to the community.

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2022 LPTRec Winter Recreation schedule is now on www.lptrec.com! Check out all the fun & exciting recreation programs & presentations we have planned!

You Snooze...You Lose! Nothing cancels a good class quicker than waiting until the last minute to register. If there are not enough registrations by a week before, the program will be cancelled! No walk-ins accepted at program site, so please register early!

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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.



HOMETOWN HEROES BANNER PROGRAM

Lower Providence Township's Hometown Heroes Banner Program provides a way for the community to recognize and honor those who are serving or have served our country in the United States Armed Forces.

Banners will be displayed within the Eagleville Park Complex from Memorial Day 2022 through May 1st, 2023. Each banner requires the

Hometown Hero Form to be filled out, along with a photograph of the hero in uniform and payment of \$130.00 for each banner, payable to Hometown Heroes. Please mail payment, form & photo to:

Anne Henning Scheuring
225 South Line Street
Lansdale, PA 19446 or email to: heroes@verizon.net

If you have questions, please call 215-855-1743.



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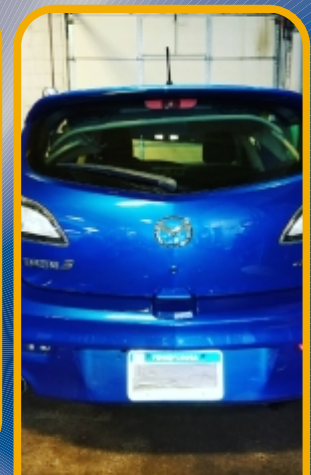
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PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

2022 LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY EVENTS

42nd Annual Egg Hunt

Eagleville Park

Saturday, April 2, 2022

10:00 - 11:00 am



Lower Providence *Spring*



Saturday, May 21, 2022

Time: 8:00 am - 2 pm

Come ONE, COME ALL

Do you want it out of your house now? Clean out your closets and garage and earn a few extra dollars along the way. Join Lower Providence Township Parks and Recreation and sign up to participate in a community wide yard sale! LPTREC.com (LP Residents Only)

CONCERT IN THE PARK



Sunday, June 26, 2022

6:00 - 8:00 pm

Band: Southern Edge - Southern Rock & Country

Eagleville Park - Community Lawn

26TH ALL-AMERICAN FIREWORKS CELEBRATION

Monday, July 4, 2022

Time: 7:00 - 9:30 pm

Eagleville Park





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PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

THANK YOU to all our 2021 Community Event Sponsors!

Without your support we would not be able to provide amazing events to the LP Community this past year!

2022 Community Events Sponsorships:

Lower Providence Township Parks & Recreation Department proudly hosts several special events throughout the year at no charge to the community.

We are reaching out to the Township's businesses asking for support for the 2022 community special events. Sponsorship for these events is vital to the continuance of these important Township traditions.

The sponsorship forms allow you to choose a variety of sponsorship levels that work for your business. Your commitment allows for us to budget for the events in advance of receiving your donations.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of partnering with Lower Providence Township to make our special events a huge success. If you have any questions, please contact Parks & Recreation Director, Jane Delaney at jdelaney@lowerprovidence.org. Sponsorship packets are available to download at www.lptrec.com under department forms.

Platinum Sponsor: \$3,000 - \$5,000

- Named sponsor for (3) events
- Business on sponsor board at events
- Booth space with table and chair provided
- Name and logo will appear on LPTREC website/social media
- Listed as sponsor on all event marketing materials & program book

Gold Sponsor: \$1,000 - \$2,999

- Named sponsor for (2) events
- Business on sponsor board at events
- Booth space with table and chair provided
- Name and logo will appear on LPTREC website/social media
- Listed as sponsor on all event marketing materials & program book

Silver Sponsor: \$500 - \$999

- Named sponsor for (1) event
- Booth space with table and chair provided
- Listed as sponsor on running banner on LPTREC website
- Listed as sponsor in event program booklet

Friend of the Parks: \$250 - \$499

- Named Friend of the Parks for (1) event
- Booth space with table and chair provided
- Listed as sponsor in event program booklet

Donations:

No donation is too small; we greatly appreciate any in-kind or monetary donations.



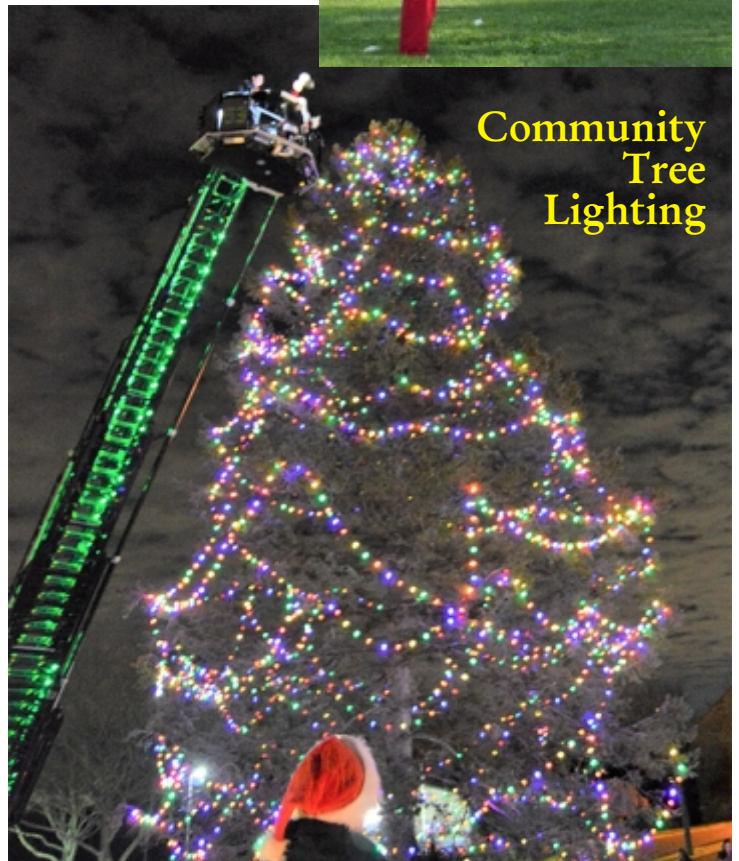
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PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

2022 SUMMER CAMP INFORMATION

LIL' PERKIOMY CAMP

MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Sites: Eagleville Park - Pavilion Area

Children ages 4 & 5 years old as of 6/1/2022.

Camp Dates: Session 1: Monday, June 20 - Friday, July 1
Session 2: Monday, July 11 - Friday, July 22
Session 3: Monday, July 25 - Friday, Aug. 5

2022 PRICING SCHEDULE

Rates	Early Registration Savings	Regular Fee (April 4 th)
First Child Rate	\$145 per session	\$165 per session
Additional Child Rate	\$125 per session	\$145 per session
Non-Resident Rate	\$175 per session	\$175 per session

CAMP PERKIOMY

MONDAY - FRIDAY 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Sites: Eagleville Elementary & Woodland Elementary

*Children must have **completed** Kindergarten to be enrolled. Camp Perkiomy is for children who are entering 1st thru 4th grade as of 9/2022.*

Camp Dates: Monday, June 20-Friday, July 29 (no camp 7/4)

2022 PRICING SCHEDULE

Rates	Early Registration Savings	Regular Fee (April 4 th)
First Child Rate	\$800	\$870
Additional Child Rate	\$775	\$845
Non-Resident Rate	\$1070	\$1070
Extended Care PM M-Th. 4-5 pm	\$160	\$185

PERKIOMY TRAILBLAZERS

MONDAY - FRIDAY 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Site: Arcola Intermediate School

Perkiomy Trailblazers is for youths who are entering 5th thru 8th grade as of 9/2022.

Camp Dates: Monday, June 20-Friday, July 29 (no camp 7/4)

2022 PRICING SCHEDULE

Rates	Early Registration Savings	Regular Fee (April 4 th)
First Child Rate	\$930	\$980
Additional Child Rate	\$905	\$955
Non-Resident Rate	\$1220	\$1220
Extended Care PM M-Th. 4-5 pm	\$160	\$185

Registration Opens for all (3) summer camp programs on:

***Residents: Monday, FEBRUARY 28, 2022**

***Non-Resident: Friday, APRIL 1, 2022**

2022 Summer Camp Job Opportunities...



**Come join the fun
this summer with LPP&R!**

Lower Providence Parks and Recreation Department is accepting summer job applications for staff positions for the Lil' Perkiomy Camp (*pre-school age camp*), Camp Perkiomy (*elementary age camp*) and Perkiomy Trailblazers (*middle-school age camp*) 2022 summer camp programs.

Tentative Summer Camp dates:

Monday, June 20, 2022, through Friday, July 29, 2022.

No camp scheduled on Monday, July 4th.

Applications accepted until Friday, March 4, 2022.

Applications and Job Descriptions are available to download and print from www.lptrec.com under department forms. Please bring all original clearance documents if asked to interview.

- Positions are classified as part-time seasonal employment.
- Lower Providence Township is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
- PA Child Abuse Clearance is needed for employment.
- FBI Fingerprinting Clearance is needed for employment.





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