

Township of Ridley

February, 2021

Dear Residents:

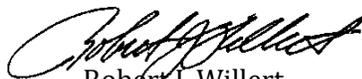
2020 was a year like no other. Local governments all over were presented with a variety of issues due to the global pandemic. Our main goal was to keep township services running with minimal inconvenience to our residents. Our police department was operational, our trash and recycling collection didn't miss a beat and our offices remained accessible. Realizing the financial strain the pandemic caused, the Board of Commissioners were pleased to extend the 2% discount on township property taxes until the end of June and the face amount payment until the end of 2020, thereby not charging any penalty. We are so proud of how our Ridley Township community came together to help each other out during this time. As restrictions begin to ease up, we are hopeful we will all be able to spend time with family and friends as we have in the past. Please visit the township's website, www.ridleytp.org, the Commissioner's Facebook page and our government cable channel for updates on COVID-19 vaccination information and availability. As we enter 2021, we wish all of you health and happiness and also offer our gratitude for your support and patience as we continue to face new challenges.

Delaware County's Reassessment Project took effect this year. The Board had to be conscious of the County's reassessment project when developing the 2021 budget. The budget had to remain "revenue neutral" while at the same time maintain our first-class services, such as police and fire services, twice-a-week trash collection, single stream recycling collection, curbside leaf collection, road and park maintenance, plowing operations, recreation and library programs and more. As a result of the County's reassessment project, some residents may see an increase in taxes, some a decrease and some property owner's taxes will remain the same. The total amount of township property taxes we collect did not increase. However, due to federal government mandates in sewer fees and increased trash and recycling disposal costs, township service charges increased slightly. The Board is mindful of how any increase can burden homeowners, especially during this time, and we will continue to work hard in order to keep charges at a reasonable rate for our residents.

Some good news coming out of 2020 was the tremendous success of our *Hometown Heroes Banner Program*. We are delighted to honor our Veterans and those currently serving our country with this program. There are over 200 banners displayed along MacDade Boulevard, Morton Avenue, Fairview Road & Kedron Avenue. More will be going up at these locations, and also along Chester Pike, in the coming months. Visit our website - www.ridleytp.org - for more information as well as an application. We are also pleased to inform you we will begin to put out notifications directly through the Delco Alert system. Please register with the Delco Alert Emergency Notification System to receive notifications directly from Ridley Township on emergencies, road closures and other important information. This is a FREE service. Simply follow the instructions on the link - <https://www.delcopa.gov/delcoalert/delcoalert.html> - **and make sure you indicate you reside in Ridley Township in order to begin to receive notifications.**

This newsletter includes important information for your use, including the 2021 Trash/Recycling Collection Schedule. Please do not hesitate to contact the township office at 610-534-4800 if you have any questions - we're here to help!

Sincerely,



Robert J. Willert

President, Board of Commissioners

100 E. MacDade Boulevard ♦ Folsom, Pennsylvania 19033 ♦ www.ridleytp.org
Facebook.com/RidleyTwp ♦ Instagram.com/RidleyTownship ♦ Twitter.com/Ridleytp
Government Access Channels - Comcast 5; Verizon 36; RCN 52

POLICE DEPARTMENT

For any police, fire or ambulance emergencies or non-emergencies, dial 9-1-1. **Residents are reminded never to leave valuables in vehicles and always keep vehicles locked.** Don't forget to download our **CRIMEWATCH** app where you can browse crime related information and receive news directly from the Ridley Township Police Department. You can also provide tips and report criminal activity anonymously through the app or by emailing ridleytownshipdptipline@gmail.com. During normal business hours, if you would like to reach the Captain, Detective Division or Records Office, dial 610-532-4000.

TAX COLLECTOR

All Ridley Township tax bills are sent in February to the registered property owner. By doing so, the owner sees the exact amount of taxes levied. **If taxes are paid by a mortgage company, in order to ensure that you get the proper discount, please forward the entire bill to the mortgage company.** If you have any questions regarding your tax bill, please contact the Township Tax Office at 610-534-4807, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. **Senior citizens eligible for the Pennsylvania Property Tax Rebate are also eligible for a partial refund of service charges for rubbish and/or sewer. You must have received your PA rebate check and paid your 2021 TOWNSHIP REAL ESTATE TAXES before applying for a partial refund of Township service charges.** Please call the Tax Office for application information or if you have any questions.

CODE ENFORCEMENT DEPARTMENT

All residents are reminded to call the Code Enforcement Office at 610-534-4803 for permit information and requirements before commencing any new construction or alterations. Residents are also reminded that sidewalks - as well as alleyways - are the responsibility of the property owner and **must be maintained properly**, including being cleared of snow or ice no later than twenty-four (24) hours after snow has stopped falling. **Piling of snow in the street is strictly prohibited. Residents are reminded never to blow grass clippings in the street.** Doing so clogs the sewer inlets and can lead to roadway flooding. If you employ a landscaper, please pass this information along – your neighbors will thank you! The Township enacted an ordinance whereby owners of rental units within the Township are required to secure an annual certificate of use for each occupied or unoccupied dwelling unit pursuant to the regulations listed in the ordinance. Selling your home? Contact the Code Enforcement office to obtain the necessary information prior to going to settlement. Any other questions regarding codes or ordinances, please contact the office at 610-534-4803.

PUBLIC LIBRARY & RESOURCE CENTER

The Ridley Township Public Library & Resource Center is a valuable source of books, DVD's, video games, magazines, eBooks, hotspots, Roku, museum passes and much more. The library has recently added a number of non-traditional items available for residents to borrow, including a blood pressure monitor, sewing machine, metal detector, color blind glasses, a bird watching set and more. Visit our website – www.ridleylibrary.org – or call 610-583-0593 for a full list & other information. Library staff and trustees want to hear from you as we plan for the future. Please let us know a) if you are a library user and b) what you like about the library, and/or what we could do better, and c) if you are not a library user, what might get you to visit. Send responses to info@ridleylibrary.org or jot them down and put in our drop box. Thank you!

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Improper management of discarded needles and other sharp items can pose a health risk to the public and to our Public Works personnel. Township Ordinance requires needles and other sharp items to be placed inside a hard, plastic container, such as a detergent bottle, with a screw on cap or tightly secured lid. We ask that you label the container **“Not for Recycling”** and place it out with your regular trash. Failure to follow the proper guidelines will result in fines ranging from \$300 to \$1,000 per occurrence. Residents in Ridley Township are required by ordinance to clean up after their pet while walking their dog along streets or in public parks. When pet waste is left on the ground, rain and snowmelt can wash it into storm drains or directly into waterways. This “stormwater runoff” can contaminate our sources of drinking water. Animal waste breeds harmful bacteria, promotes excessive plant growth, and causes algae blooms, which can kill fish and other animals.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The Parks and Recreation Department provides recreational opportunities for all residents. Visit our website – www.ridleytp.org and click on the “Parks and Recreation” tab for the latest information on programs available and any special announcements. We hope to be able to hold our summer playground program, camps and other programs that our residents look forward to and enjoy, dependent upon any COVID restrictions in place. Keep checking our website for updates. Looking to rent a place for your next special event? Consider renting *Ridley's Creekside Center*, 794 Milmont Avenue located in the 5th Ward of Ridley Township or *Leedom Community Hall*, located at Darby & Rodney Roads in the 6th Ward. The Creekside Center can accommodate up to 180 guests; Leedom Hall can accommodate up to 50 guests. Contact the Township Office at 610-534-4800 for further information.

RIDLEY TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL MARINA

Ridley Township Municipal Marina, 401 S. Swarthmore Avenue, Ridley Park, PA, offers a public boat ramp and public fishing pier for residents of Ridley Township and the surrounding communities. Seasonal and daily ramp passes are available. In addition, there are four docks housing 99 slips, a secure storage facility, and more! *Water's Edge Banquet Room* located at the Ridley Township Municipal Marina, accommodates 50 to 120 guests - perfect for your next special event! Contact the Marina Office at 610-521-2800 for further information on all services.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

Want to know what you can do to help keep our stormwater and local creeks cleaner? Visit the Chester-Ridley-Crum Watersheds Association website at www.crcwatersheds.org where you will find helpful information on stormwater pollution solutions and what you can do to protect the water resources of the Chester, Ridley, and Crum Creek Valleys, along with announcements of CRC Watersheds sponsored events. In addition to the CRC Watersheds website listed above, the township also posts announcements of upcoming stormwater quality management events to continually educate and solicit resident's participation in this worthy program to assure the township's continued compliance with its mandatory NPDES MS4 Stormwater Management Permit issued and enforced by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP). Did you know that debris and other pollutants that litter driveways, sidewalks, and roads eventually end up in our waterways? When it rains, or when snow and ice melt, the stormwater drains to low points in the streets where storm inlets are located carrying with it salt, leaves, oil, cigarette butts, and any other pollutants. These inlets connect to the storm sewer system & ultimately discharge to creeks. Stormwater does not get treated!

Help us protect our environment by reporting suspicious and unusual spills and other events of hazardous or strange looking fluids that may end up in our township roadside stormwater inlets and ultimately discharge to our local creeks. It only takes a minute and your community will thank you for it. Simply call one of the numbers below that most closely matches what you see, hear or smell out of the ordinary in Ridley Township:

Clogged Sewer Lines/Sewage Smell	→	Ridley Township – 610-534-4800 (After hours, call 9-1-1)
24-hour Water Quality Hotline	→	PA DEP – 484-250-5900
Sewage Spills & Emergency Hotline	→	PA DEP - 484-250-5900
Fish Kills/Illegal Fishing	→	PA Fish Commission – 717-626-0228
Broken Water Mains	→	Aqua PA – 877-987-2782

POLLUTANT REDUCTION PLAN UPDATES

Ridley Township has a permit from PA DEP to discharge its stormwater to local waterways. As a requirement of this permit, Ridley Township had to prepare a Pollutant Reduction Plan (PRP) to reduce the amount of sediment going into the waterways. Local waterways are impaired due to sediment runoff from nearby streets, lawns, and streambank erosion. The PRP will outline in general terms the Township's 5-year plan to reduce sediment loadings from the MS4 stormwater discharges. During this timeframe, the Township will design, construct, and implement management devices to reduce sediment runoff. More information will be provided as the PRP is being developed. Please visit the Township website – www.ridleytp.org – for information.

SWIMMING POOL DISCHARGE

Swimming pools and hot tubs are a great way to relax and spend time with family and friends but what do you do when you are done with the pool or hot tub water? Swimming pool and hot tub water cannot be discharged into streams because this water contains large amounts of chlorine and other chemicals that, once released into the environment, pose a health hazard to fish and other aquatic animals and plants. According to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, swimming pool or hot tub water can be discharged into a sanitary sewer system or drained on-site for irrigation (ensuring that the water is released at a rate to prevent flow into streams and storm sewers). If permission is granted, swimming pool or hot tub water can be discharged into a sanitary sewer system. For information on how to safely dispose of swimming pool and hot tub water, please see DEP's article, "*Splish, Splash: A Deep Dive into Proper Pool Water Discharge*" on their website – www.dep.pa.gov.

Please consult with the Code Enforcement Office if you have any questions about how to discharge your pool or hot tub water.

2021 HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DATES

Delaware County residents can bring unwanted household hazardous waste products to regional drop off sites for proper disposal or recycling. This program is offered as a community service and is not open to businesses, industry or institutions. If improperly discarded, household products containing toxic chemicals can be a threat to people, pets & the environment. Never dispose of hazardous materials in the trash as they may harm sanitation workers or result in a collection vehicle fire. It is also unsafe to pour HHW down a sink or storm drain as it will end up polluting our drinking water. For more information, or if you have any questions, please contact the Delaware County Solid Waste Authority at 610-892-9627 or visit www.delcopa.gov/recycle. **ALL EVENTS WILL BE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY – REGISTRATION REQUIRED. TICKET MUST BE PRESENT TO ACCESS EVENT. Register at <https://delcohwevents.eventbrite.com>**

- Saturday, April 24, 2021
- Saturday, June 19, 2021
- Saturday, September 18, 2021
- Saturday, October 16, 2021

Emergency Services Training Center
1600 Calcon Hook Rd., Sharon Hill, PA 19079
Delaware County Community College
901 Media Line Road, Media, PA 19063
Emergency Services Training Center
1600 Calcon Hook Rd., Sharon Hill, PA 19079
Upper Chichester Municipal Building
8500 Furey Rd., Upper Chichester, PA 19061

NO ELECTRONICS WILL BE ACCEPTED. Latex paint is NOT hazardous waste and should not be brought to a County collection event. In order to safely dispose of latex paint, solidify the paint before placing it out with your trash. Simply take the top off the can and place it outside, away from children and pets, and allow it to harden. If the can is very full, place kitty litter in the can and stir until all the paint is absorbed. Empty, lidless paint cans should be placed in a box and placed out with your trash.

2021 Board of Commissioners Meeting Schedule

The 2021 Ridley Township Board of Commissioners meeting dates are listed below. A public forum is held before the meetings at **6:00 p.m. in Garling Hall**, Ridley Township Municipal Building, 100 E. MacDade Boulevard, Folsom, PA at which time any interested party may be heard. Those interested in addressing the Board, please sign in via the dry erase board upon arrival. The regular meeting will immediately follow the public forum. Meetings are also live streamed on the township website – **www.ridleytp.org**.

Wednesday	February 24, 2021
Wednesday	March 24, 2021
Wednesday	April 28, 2021
Wednesday	May 26, 2021
Wednesday	June 23, 2021
Wednesday	July 28, 2021
Wednesday	August 25, 2021
Wednesday	September 22, 2021
Wednesday	October 27, 2021
Wednesday	November 17, 2021
Wednesday	December 15, 2021

Important Phone Numbers

Police, Fire or Ambulance

9-1-1

Ridley Township Police Department

610-532-4000

Ridley Township General Information
Ridley Township Code Enforcement Department
Ridley Township Manager's Office
Ridley Township Treasurer/Tax Collector's Office

610-534-4800
610-534-4803
610-534-4806
610-534-4807

Ridley Township Recreation Department

610-522-0557

Ridley Township Public Library

610-583-0593

Ridley Township Municipal Marina

610-521-2800

Ridley School District

610-534-1900

County of Delaware Government Center

610-891-4000

Aqua, PA
PECO Energy
Comcast
RCN
Verizon

877-987-2782
800-494-4000
800-266-2278
800-746-4726
800-837-4966

Township of Ridley Board of Commissioners

Robert J. Willert, President/7th Ward Commissioner
Michael J. McCrea, Vice President/ 6th Ward Commissioner

Richard A. Saraceni, 1st Ward Commissioner
Thomas A. Donahue, III, 2nd Ward Commissioner
Betsy Cummins, 3rd Ward Commissioner
Patrick J. McMenamain, 4th Ward Commissioner



Jack Saunders, 5th Ward Commissioner
Shanin Melasecca, 8th Ward Commissioner
Steven L. Bidoli, 9th Ward Commissioner
Joseph A. Ryan, Township Manager