

Township of Ridley

February, 2024

Dear Residents:

Happy and healthy New Year to you and your family!

We are happy to announce there will be NO increase in your township real estate tax, nor any increase in the rubbish or sewer service charges for 2024 – the fourth year in a row.

The Board of Commissioners are committed to providing top notch services to our residents in a cost effective, responsible manner. In addition to the many projects and programs we were able to undertake in 2023, we also completed 1,995 feet of drainage improvements, expanded four playgrounds, constructed a bocce court at Ridley Township Municipal Park, continued our multi-phase improvement project at Nall Field, resurfaced 15,200 feet of roads in the township, and updated police and public works vehicles and equipment all to better serve our community.

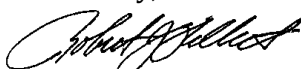
We would like to take this opportunity to stress the importance of recycling in Ridley Township. Our Public Works personnel collects recycling township-wide every Wednesday. County trash fees have increased 48% since 2021, however, that increase has **not** been passed on to our residents. While we are currently paying to have recyclables processed, it is far less than what we would pay if those same recyclable items were disposed of in your trash. In order to keep any future increases at bay, please do your best to keep recyclable materials out of the trash stream. For a list of recyclable materials, please refer to the insert in this newsletter. If you have further questions, please contact your Commissioner or the Township office at 610-534-4800. Thank you for your cooperation in this endeavor.

Please note the following important information regarding payment of your property tax bill:

- **Tax payments will no longer be accepted at TD Bank.**
- **If taxes are paid by a mortgage company, in order to ensure you receive the proper discount, please forward the entire bill to the mortgage company.** Taxes can be paid at a 2% discount by March 31st.
- In-person payments can be made by check or money order at the Ridley Township Tax Office, 100 E. MacDade Boulevard, Folsom Monday through Friday, 9:00am to 4:00pm, excluding holidays. **NO CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED IN PERSON AT THE TAX OFFICE.** **The Tax Office will extend their hours on **Thursday, March 28th to 7:00pm** in order to accept in-person payments.*
- We are no longer using the Philadelphia Lockbox for mailing payments. Payments may be mailed directly to the Ridley Township Tax Office in the envelope provided. Payments may also be made online at **EdmundsGovPay.com/RidleyTownship**. *The third-party processor charges a 2.95% fee for credit/debit card payments or a flat \$1.95 fee for bank ACH payments.*

We are grateful for your support and look forward to working together to continue to make Ridley Township a wonderful place to live, work and raise a family.

Sincerely,



Robert J. Willert
President, Board of Commissioners

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.** Check out the Ridley Township Police Department's Facebook page for the latest information and any community updates. You can provide tips and report criminal activity anonymously by emailing ridleytownshippdtipline@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

Senior citizens eligible for the Pennsylvania Property Tax Rebate are also eligible for a partial refund of service charges for rubbish and/or sewer up to \$200.00. You must have received your PA rebate check and paid your 2024 TOWNSHIP REAL ESTATE TAXES before applying for a partial refund of Township service charges. Please call the Tax Office at 610-534-4807 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 wet leaves or other debris, as well as snow or ice. Snow must be cleared 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, including single family dwellings that are rented 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. For 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, eBooks, zoo and museum passes, video games, magazines, DVDs, hotspots, Rokus, and much more. All programs, classes and activities are offered both in-person and online. The Library is now a designated Passport Acceptance Facility. Passport application processing appointments can be made on the Library's website. Visit the website – www.ridleylibrary.org or email RidleyLibrary100@gmail.com for more information about all the library has to offer.

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 Ridley Township Parks and Recreation Department provides recreational opportunities for all of our residents. Visit our website, www.ridleytp.org and click on “Parks and Recreation” for information on our available programs and special announcements. Keep an eye out for our summer programs and register early as space is limited and they fill up quickly. Check our website and like our Ridley Township Parks and Recreation Facebook page for news and updates.

RENTAL HALL INFORMATION

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 the *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

Ridley Township has a permit from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP) to discharge its stormwater to local waterways. This permit is referred to as the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for stormwater discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4). As a requirement of this permit, the 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 outlines in general terms the Township's five-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. Please visit the township website for more information.

WHEN IT RAINS, IT DRAINS!

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. These inlets connect to the storm sewer system and ultimately discharge directly to creeks, carrying with it salt, leaves, oil, cigarette butts, and any other pollutant. Stormwater does not get treated! You can help keep harmful pollutants out of our local waterways by doing the following:

- Limit your use of pesticide and fertilizers.
- Don't blow grass clippings or leaves into the streets.
- Wash your car on your yard or use a commercial car wash.
- Please discard cigarette butts in designated containers.

SWIMMING POOL DISCHARGE

Do you know what to do when you are done with the water in your pool or hot tub? 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 PA DEP, swimming pool or hot tub water can be 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 PA DEP's article "APLISH, SPLASH: A DEEP DIVE INTO PROPER POOL WATER DISCHARGE" on their website at 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.

REPORT IT!

Township residents are typically the first to spot "illicit" discharges of suspicious spills or contaminated stormwater that may end up in our roadside inlets and outfall pipes that discharge to our local creeks. Help us protect our environment by reporting all stormwater violations and problems to the Township office at 610-534-4800 and your complaint will be directed to the appropriate personnel. It only takes a minute, and your community will thank you for it! Additional helpful numbers are below:

Clogged Sewer Lines/Sewage Smell	Ridley Township: 610-534-4800 (After hours, call 9-1-1)
Fish Kills/Illegal Fishing	PA Fish & Boat Commission: 717-626-0228 or 855-347-4545
Broken Water Mains	Aqua, PA: 877-987-2782
24-hour Emergency Response Hotline	PA DEP: 800-541-2050

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Want to know what you can do to help keep our stormwater and local creeks cleaner? Visit the Chester-Ridley-Crum Watershed 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 Watershed 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 PA DEP.

2024 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 additional information, or if you have any questions, please contact the Delaware County Solid Waste Authority at 610-892-9620 or visit delcoswa.org.

- Saturday, April 20, 2024
 - Saturday, May 18, 2024
 - Saturday, September 7, 2024
 - Saturday, October 12, 2024
- Emergency Services Training Center**
1600 Calcon Hook Rd., Sharon Hill, PA 19079
- Rose Tree Park**
1671 N. Providence 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.

2024 Board of Commissioners Meeting Schedule

The 2024 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 our YouTube channel.

Wednesday	February 28, 2024
Wednesday	March 27, 2024
Wednesday	April 24, 2024
Wednesday	May 22, 2024
Wednesday	June 26, 2024
Wednesday	July 24, 2024
Wednesday	August 28, 2024
Wednesday	September 25, 2024
Wednesday	October 23, 2024
Wednesday	November 20, 2024
Wednesday	December 18, 2024

Important Phone Numbers

Police, Fire or Ambulance

Ridley Township Police Department	9-1-1 610-532-4000
Ridley Township General Information	610-534-4800
Ridley Township Code Enforcement Department	610-534-4803
Ridley Township Manager's Office	610-534-4806
Ridley Township Treasurer/Tax Collector's Office	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	877-987-2782
PECO Energy	800-494-4000
Comcast	800-266-2278
RCN	800-746-4726
Verizon	800-837-4966

Township of Ridley Board of Commissioners

Robert J. Willert, President/7th Ward Commissioner
Patrick J. McMenamain, Vice President/ 4th Ward Commissioner

Richard A. Saraceni, 1st Ward Commissioner
Patti Rodgers Morrisette, 2nd Ward Commissioner
Betsy Cummins, 3rd Ward Commissioner
Jack Saunders, 5th Ward Commissioner



Jeff Warwick, 6th Ward Commissioner
Shanin Melasecca, 8th Ward Commissioner
Steven L. Bidoli, 9th Ward Commissioner
Joseph A. Ryan, Township Manager

Residents are reminded to contact their Commissioner with any concerns you may have. That's why we are here! Don't know who your Commissioner is? Visit the township website at www.ridleytp.org and follow the quick link on our home page to "Ward Map" to find your Commissioner and their contact information.