

Township of Ridley

February, 2023

Dear Residents:

Happy and healthy New Year to you and your family!

I am 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 2023. Even though costs continue to rise across the board, the Commissioners felt it was important to keep township taxes and service charges at the same rate, and not pass along these increases to taxpayers who have been adversely affected by the financial markets, inflation and rising energy prices. **In the last 3 years**, we have been able to repair or replace over 14,500 feet of sewer lines, resurface almost 11 miles of township roads, replace the structure and decking on 2 aging bridges (S. Swarthmore Avenue and Bullens Lane), upgrade 8 parks and playgrounds, improve 6 traffic signals with state-of-the-art technology, upgrade and enhance our Police Department's equipment, and upgrade our Public Works Department's vehicles and equipment, with **no increase** in your real estate tax. Cost saving measures within our departments and successful grant applications combined with rising interest rates on investments assisted in our efforts not to raise taxes during this time. Additionally, despite a 43% increase in County trash fees since 2021, we have been able to hold our increase to 6.25%, while allowing us to continue providing twice-a-week trash collection, recycling collection, bulk trash collection, and curbside leaf collection for \$.70 per day, per household. Likewise, the County's 15% sewer fee increase since 2021 has been held to just 4% on our end, allowing us to maintain our sewers and convey sewage to the processing plants safely and efficiently for \$1.07 per day, per household. **That is our commitment to you – providing first-class services in a cost-effective manner.**

Development was back on track in 2022, with *Urgent Care, Chipotle, Aldi*, medical offices and senior living units at the Housing Authority, renovation of the former *Ace Transmission* building, *Chick-fil-A* renovations, and the *Raymour & Flanigan* renovation projects underway or completed. We anticipate further development will continue in 2023, bringing new businesses to our township.

I'd like to take a moment to acknowledge former 6th Ward Commissioner, Mike McCrea. Mike served for 13 years in this capacity and was a respected member of the Board of Commissioners. We thank him for his service and dedication to Ridley Township and the residents of the 6th Ward, and we wish him well in his future endeavors. We welcome Jeff Warwick as 6th Ward Commissioner and know he brings the same commitment to the residents of the 6th Ward.

Don't forget about our *Hometown Heroes Banner Program*. Applications are accepted from April 1st to September 1st and are available on our website. We have placed over 440 banners in honor of our local servicemen and women – our heroes and loved ones. Visit our website for more information.

This newsletter includes important information for your use, including the 2023 Trash/Recycling Collection Schedule. Please keep handy and refer to it throughout the year. We are grateful for your support over the last year and look forward to working together to make Ridley Township a wonderful place to live, work and raise a family.

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/Ridleytpw
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.** 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 ridleytownshipdtipline@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. **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.** Taxes can be paid at 2% discount by March 31st. 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 2023 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 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, Roku, and much more. All programs, classes and activities are offered both in-person and online. In the spring of 2023, the library celebrates five years in our beautiful new building! Check social media and the website for related activities. 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. 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

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 residents' 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).

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 remember to pick up pet waste when walking your pet.

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. 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 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
Fish Kills/Illegal Fishing
Broken Water Mains
24-hour Emergency Response Hotline

Ridley Township: 610-534-4800 (After hours, call 9-1-1)
PA Fish & Boat Commission: 717-626-0228 or 855-347-4545
Aqua, PA: 877-987-2782
PA DEP: 800-541-2050

POLLUTANT REDUCTION PLAN UPDATE

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 outlines 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. The PRP has been approved by PA DEP as of November 2021. Please visit the Township website for more information.

2023 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 delcoswa.org. **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. TICKET MUST BE PRESENTED TO ACCESS EVENT. Register at <https://delcohhw.eventbrite.com>.**

- Saturday, April 22, 2023
- Saturday, June 10, 2023
- Saturday, September 9, 2023
- Saturday, October 14, 2023

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.

2023 Board of Commissioners Meeting Schedule

The 2023 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, cable channel and our YouTube channel.

Wednesday	February 22, 2023
Wednesday	March 22, 2023
Wednesday	April 26, 2023
Wednesday	May 24, 2023
Wednesday	June 28, 2023
Wednesday	July 26, 2023
Wednesday	August 23, 2023
Wednesday	September 27, 2023
Wednesday	October 25, 2023
Wednesday	November 15, 2023
Wednesday	December 20, 2023

Important Phone Numbers

Police, Fire or Ambulance

Ridley Township Police Department
Ridley Township General Information
Ridley Township Code Enforcement Department
Ridley Township Manager's Office
Ridley Township Treasurer/Tax Collector's Office
Ridley Township Recreation Department
Ridley Township Public Library
Ridley Township Municipal Marina
Ridley School District
County of Delaware Government Center
Aqua, PA
PECO Energy
Comcast
RCN
Verizon

9-1-1

610-532-4000
610-534-4800
610-534-4803
610-534-4806
610-534-4807
610-522-0557
610-583-0593
610-521-2800
610-534-1900
610-891-4000
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
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 and follow the quick link on our home page to "Ward Map" to find your Commissioner and their contact information.