



POTTER TOWNSHIP NEWS

Spring 2018

Two Things to Think About

When we first get acquainted with someone, we typically identify ourselves relative to **where we live** and **how we live**. Both ideas are very local in nature: *you* define Potter Township and Potter Township helps define you! it's important that our community reflects us well, so here are ways we are doing that.

Where: Agricultural Security Areas

Every 7 years, local governments review their Agricultural Security Areas (ASAs) to update the properties that will be included or removed. ASAs were created by Pennsylvania statute to protect the rights of property owners who engage in typical farming activities: as development encroaches on farmland, an ASA prevents new uses – and users – from conflict with current activities, so that farm uses cannot be banned as nuisances if they occur next to a new housing development, for instance (the reason this law first came about). The ASA definition now includes woodlots and other greenspace, as well as contiguous properties of any size that total at least 10 acres together, which means every Potter property is eligible for this designation within the applied guidelines. **This year, for the first time, supervisors voted to place all township-owned properties into Ag Security and any adjoining landowner can join that area.** Property owners lose no right to development or change of use on their lot – it simply prevents nuisance complaints regarding protected activities – but it helps preserve Potter's sense of place as a rural, green community, our *where*.

How: Rental Occupancy Reports

As our society undergoes dramatic social and economic change, we are seeing more rental units come onto the market right in our own community. Residents aging out of their homes, combined with greater interest among millennials to live unencumbered by mortgage and maintenance responsibilities, means more properties being converted to temporary lease units. Added to the equation is a pressing need for temporary housing that will serve workers in the natural gas industry, whether on the Shell project or at a drill site; if manufacturing expands in our region, the need will only increase.

Such transience offers a challenge to the community in two key areas: funding and public safety. An accurate report of the number of people living in the municipality can strongly affect the amount of money available for projects, whether a water line extension or park improvements. Because local government is responsible for public safety, it is essential to know how many people reside at an address where a fire may occur or that must be evacuated in an emergency. **Potter recently passed an ordinance that requires every rental owner to provide occupancy information for each address. Initially, we will survey every property owner to gain the best possible data for the 2020 U.S. Census, which enhances our funding opportunities.** This effort to be a safe and healthy community – our *how* – depends on knowing our resident population and we appreciate your help!

Thank you for allowing us to serve you, *Rebecca, Butch and Al*

Potter Township Municipal Building
206 Mowry Road
Monaca, PA 15061

Municipal Office 724-495-6220
Fax 724-495-3222
Email linda@pottertwp.comcastbiz.net
Secretary/Treasurer Linda McCoy
Road Department Justin Cwynar
Website www.pottertwp-pa.gov
Facebook Potter Twp Beavercountypa

Emergency 911
Police—non-emergency 724-774-0271
Fire—non-emergency 724-495-3364
Animal Control 724-775-5801

Schools
Central Valley School District
Central Valley Office 724-775-5600
Central Valley High School 724-775-4300
Central Valley Middle School 724-775-8200
Todd Lane Elementary 724-775-1050
Center Grange Primary School 724-775-8201
Latch Key Program 724-774-7020

Utilities
Duquesne Light Co. 412-393-7100
Peoples Natural Gas 800-764-0111
Center Township Water Authority 724-774-7960
Municipal Water Auth of Aliquippa 724-375-5525
Valley Waste Service 724-843-9373

Real Estate Tax Collector
Victoria Leininger 412-759-9184
taxcollector@pottertwp.comcastbiz.net

Township Office Hours

Monday—Thursday 10 am—4 pm
Friday 8 am—2 pm

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Rebecca Matsco, Chair

Earl "Butch" Shamp

Al Cwynar

Work Sessions:
1st Wednesday 6pm
3rd/5th Wednesday—if needed 6pm

Regular Meetings:
2nd Wednesday 6pm
4th Wednesday—if needed 6pm

PLANNING COMMISSION

Regular Meetings—if needed:
Thursdays 7pm

Potter Bald Eagles It's Eagle nesting time!

Even though the Eagles have been busy this winter building up their nest, you can see one of them on the nest which means egg(s). Last year the Eagles had one fledging that left the nest in August but stayed around for the rest of the summer. Hopefully they will be successful again this year.

Eagle Facts

- Both the male and female will sit on the egg(s), but it is mostly the female eagle who sits on the egg(s).
- It takes 34- 36 days of incubation for an egg to hatch.
- A parent is with the eaglets at all times for the first 2 weeks and by 3 -6 weeks the parents are dropping off food at the nest for the eaglets to tear apart and feed themselves.
- An eaglet will take it's first flight 10-12 weeks after hatching.
- A Bald Eagle does not have its recognizable coloring until around 5 years old.
- Look for an update on our Potter Bald Eagles this fall.

Casey Harrington



NEW ORDINANCE Potter Township Ordinance 145

An Ordinance of the Township of Potter, Beaver County, Pennsylvania, a Second Class Township under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending the Potter Code of Ordinances, Chapter 153, "Rental Occupancy Reports" to set forth the purpose of Occupancy Reports, provide further definitions and establish a "Residential Rental Annual Report" for residential rental units as well as penalties for violations hereof.

You can view the entire Ordinance online at:

<https://www.ecode360.com/laws/PO2079>

Please call the Municipal Office to get the Residential Rental Annual Report

ROAD DEPARTMENT NEWS

The Road Department will begin "Street Sweeping" the end of March through April. Please remember to help the Road Department by not parking your vehicles on Township roads.



The Road Department would like to remind you to use your driveway when driving onto your yard—do not use the berm of the road. This causes a lot of springtime berm damage.



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

BOY SCOUT TROOP 437 Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Spaghetti & Meatballs
Salad-Bread-Lemonade or Coffee
Desserts & Soft Drinks—\$1.00 each



**TAKE-OUT
IS
AVAILABLE!**

Date: Saturday, April 7, 2018
Time: 4 PM - 6 PM
Place: Potter Twp. Municipal Bldg.
Adults: \$10.00
Children: \$5.00 (12 & under)



MUNICIPAL PRIMARY

Tuesday — May 15, 2018
Potter Township Municipal Building
Polling Hours 7 am — 8 pm



POTTER TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

- - - **Hi Neighbors** — This isn't going to be the usual fire department newsletter...Sure we've been up to our usual trainings and fund raisers, but it's time for a few Q & A's...Do you know who your volunteer fire department is? We're a small group of your neighbors whose purpose is to volunteer their time to protect life and property, which is the basis of the Potter Township VFD constitution.

- - - Do you know what would happen without your local fire department? Well, because the state requires all municipalities to have fire protection, your taxes would increase to pay for another fire department to cover our Township. You would also be paying more for home owners insurance because of the increased response time.

- - - So now you know the **Purpose** of the fire department, how about our **Passion**? We enjoy serving the community and knowing we have the training and knowledge to make a difference in someone's life. Do we like hearing that early morning or late-night siren? Definitely not. But it alerts us to respond to an emergency, hopefully with a positive outcome. Fires and accidents happen and they don't care what time it is, or if we're busy with family and friends – they just happen!

- - - We take **Pride** in the time we invest in training and maintaining our equipment, knowing that we benefit the Township and its residents. We have a good working relationship with our Supervisors and appreciate their support. Do you think you can run your household on \$36,000/year including all utility bills and vehicle maintenance? It isn't easy but that explains our fundraising. Believe me we don't like spending more of our time trying to raise money, but it is essential in maintaining up to date equipment to keep everyone safe.

- - - That takes care of the 3 P's of the Potter Township Volunteer Fire department... **Purpose, Passion and Pride**. If you have any Q's (questions) come on down on a Tuesday night we'd be glad to see you.

- - - OK now to the fun stuff: the new Tanker is nearing completion! We hope to have it in service soon. We also have a few fundraisers scheduled...our annual wine trip will be on Saturday May 19th, and the popular Paint-n-Sip will be Sunday June 24th @ 1 PM. Mark your calendars! We will also have our food ticket available in time for your summer get togethers.

Thank you for your support, Sue Nash, Captain

Saturday, May 19th WINE ON WHEELS!

Spend the day touring 4 PA Wineries. \$90—includes transportation, lunch & dinner. Leaving at 9:30 am from Huntington Bank—Beaver Valley Mall and returning that evening.



RESERVATIONS:

Sue Nash (412-974-3754) – tnashpa@verizon.net
Carrie Maylone (724-312-2421) – maone237@gmail.com
Cancellations before May 12th will receive a \$70 refund. After May 12th there are no refunds.

Book soon – only 50 seats available!
This is an over 21 event!

SUMMER FUN FOOD BASKET

\$5.00 TICKET



We have a new ticket that goes off **Tuesday, May 22, 2018!**
See any firefighter or Linda at the Township Building for tickets!

*If you can help with selling tickets—
please give Sue Nash a call
412-974-3754!*



When: Sunday, June 24th at 1 PM
Where: Potter Township Municipal Building
Cost: \$40 cash or check
What to Bring: favorite drinks (alcoholic or non)
Tickets: call Candace Carlton – 724-709-0359

Instead of painting on a canvas, we will be painting on a **brass barn star for the Fourth of July!!** We will also have a Chinese Auction (donations are accepted) and finger foods for everyone to try! (If you plan on bringing something for everyone, please let us know when you purchase your tickets.)

**** THIS IS AN OVER 21 EVENT ****



NEW TANKER

The Fire Department's new 'Tanker' is almost finished and will come home to the Township this month!



2018 International Navistar
3,000 gallon water tank
1,500 gallon per minute pump
475 horsepower diesel

Potter Township Hall Rental

Need a special place for your event?



*Full service kitchen
Ice machine / Large commercial refrigerator
Seating for over 100 / Flat screen TV for photos/videos
Township park & pavilion
Ample parking*

*Book now as Spring & Summer days are **filling up fast!**
Call **724-495-6220** for more information and availability!*



Potter Residents	Hall Rental	\$150.00
Non-Residents	Hall Rental	\$250.00
Security Deposit		\$100.00

POTTER TOWNSHIP ZONING REGULATIONS FOR ALL AREAS

NOW that the worst of winter is (hopefully) behind us, let me remind everyone of our ever-present and, especially now, HUNGRY neighbors. I'm writing about the animals, the critters, those pesky, furry creatures that ignore all table manners and tip, tear, shred, spread, and in some cases, carry-off what was once our neatly packed, sacked, and contained trash and / or garbage.



The trash collectors will NOT pick up scattered garbage— it is the responsibility of the resident to do this.

To manage the trash (and thwart the critters) Potter Township has, IN PLACE, an **Ordinance 167-26** that states: **It shall be unlawful to place or permit to remain uncovered anywhere in the Township any garbage or other material subject to decay, except leaves or grass or for the purpose of compost, unless placed in a tightly covered metal and/or tightly covered heavy-duty plastic container not to exceed 32 gallons in capacity or 50 pounds in weight. Uncovered garbage, refuse or ashes on any premises in the Township shall constitute prima facie evidence that the owner/occupant is in violation of this article.**

The cover requirement is to prevent the animals from taking trash out of the container. They will tip the container over and, if not tightly covered (or fastened with a bungee cord) they can get to the trash more easily.

If your can is not large enough, you can add a can, or get a bigger one. The trash haulers have said they can handle up to a 45 gallon container.



During a recent drive down W Mowry Road on a Friday morning, I counted 17 incidents of non – compliance. Most of these were plastic bags NOT in containers. The rest were containers without lids.

Let's all do our part to keep Potter Township looking like the great place it is to live!

Dave Hagen, Zoning & Code Enforcement Officer

POTTER TOWNSHIP CODES & ZONING ORDINANCES CAN BE FOUND ONLINE:

<http://www.ecode360.com/PO2079>

THE ONLINE CODE IS FULLY SEARCHABLE!

**GENERAL
CODE**



POTTER TOWNSHIP 2018



Recreation Board Events

Friday

March 23

SPRING BINGO

6PM



ALL RESIDENTS ARE INVITED

Easter Treats



Thursday

July 12

MOVIE IN THE PARK

8PM

ENJOY A MOVIE WITH FAMILY & FRIENDS IN THE TOWNSHIP PARK



Saturday

August 4

ANNUAL PICNIC

4:30PM

CELEBRATE WITH FAMILY & NEIGHBORS



It's Nationality Day



Saturday

November 10

50'S SENIOR DINNER

5PM



ALL RESIDENTS OVER 50 ARE INVITED
***** DINNER IS BY RESERVATION ONLY *****



Call ahead or stop in the Township office to reserve your seat by Nov. 2nd!



Friday

December 7

CHRISTMAS BINGO

6PM



SNACKS & PRIZES DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON

ALL RESIDENTS ARE INVITED





Potter Township

Potter Township Municipal Office
206 Mowry Road
Monaca, PA 15061
Phone: 724-495-6220
Fax: 724-495-3222
Email: linda@pottertwp.comcastbiz.net

Have you visited The
Potter Township Free
Lending Library?



Scan here to go to Potter Twp. Website:
pottertwp-pa.gov.org

Let's do some
Spring Peeping
on a family-friendly one-mile hike led by
Rachael Mahony, Environmental Education Specialist,
DCNR Bureau of Forestry

*Find out...
What's going on?
Who's waking up?
Why all that racket?*

**Everyone is welcome!
Free
No rain date
Dress for the weather
Wear sturdy waterproof boots**

**Sunday, March 25, 6:30 PM till ?
Potter Township's Tank Farm Recreation Area
247 Raccoon Creek Road, Monaca PA 15061**

Hosted by
Independence Conservancy

*Campfire after the hike!
Bring your own lawn chair
& goodies to share.*

POTTER TOWNSHIP



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Rebecca Masco Earl 'Butch' Shamp Al Cwynar

Work Sessions — 1st Wednesday of each month — 6 PM
Regular Board Meetings — 2nd Wednesday of each month—6 PM

PLANNING COMMISSION

**Lauren Patton Casey Harrington Lenny Miller
Philip Floyd Mark Summerville**

Regular Meetings — 3rd Thursday of each month — 7:00 PM
(as needed)

**All meetings are held at the Municipal Building
206 Mowry Road, Monaca, PA 15061**

**ALL TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED
TO ATTEND!**