



POTTER TOWNSHIP NEWS

Winter 2019

POTTER WINS CURBSIDE RECYCLING ON ELECTION DAY

You asked for it – and now Potter Township residents are getting it: a residential recycling program! On November 5th, voters coming and going at the municipal building participated in a survey to gauge interest in easy-to-access recycling. The resounding results convinced supervisors that creating the program would make fiscal sense and be well-used, so curbside pickup will begin in 2020.

Fifty-five percent of those who responded are already recycling in some way; a curbside program would boost participation to over 79%. More than 69% thought that the extra cost would be worthwhile. Even though the township can recover some or all of the cost of recycling by instituting a ban on burning recyclable materials, residents responded 68% to 42% that the privilege of backyard campfires is part of our way of life and not negotiable! As a result, supervisors voted to establish the program without grants and rebates.



We are proud to announce that Shell Chemicals Appalachia will partner with the township to help get our program off the ground with an initial purchase of wheeled 95-gallon containers that will accommodate most households for every -other-week pickup. J. Young Refuse, which submitted the winning bid for waste collection in Potter over the next 3 years, will inform residents of the bi-weekly collection schedule in 2020. Residents will be able to use their container for mixed materials, including metal, plastics and paper, with the exception of glass.

Thank you for offering valuable feedback on decisions for Potter Township – we are glad to hear from you. Please continue to participate in the life of our community in 2020: consider attending township meetings, serve on a committee or board, come out to our social events. **YOU make Potter better!**

A “BRAND” NEW POTTER TOWNSHIP



Potter’s regional profile has grown significantly in the last decade with the emerging petrochemical industry. At the same time, our local natural assets have been acknowledged as an important balance to development and a positive identity for our area, to preserve its rural aesthetic and maintain the quality of life we cherish. Potter was thinking forward when we conserved the state’s first Natural Heritage District and established Rocky Bend Nature Preserve along Raccoon Creek but also backward, to the history that formed us. Our rural lifestyle and beautiful surroundings are a draw for both current and new residents, and our neighborly hospitality is valued by locals and visitors alike.

This is what township supervisors and Raccoon Creek Greenway volunteers had in mind in January as designer Colin Matsco led us through a brand development process. The best kind of “brand” is more than a logo: it expresses values and ideas as an easy-to-recognize mark and communications style, used consistently across every platform to create a distinctive identity. We wanted audiences beyond Potter to identify us for what we think is best about our community and our new logo and color scheme does that.



The bold, fun shape of the words says that we are a warm and welcoming community. Twigs and leaves evoke the great outdoors and the prospect of enjoyable, respectful interactions with people and nature. Rendered in dark blue and rich golds, the logo says that Potter should be taken seriously, that our community is strong and proud of our past and present. The wonderful color scheme allows us to adapt to many different environments and, most importantly, align harmoniously with logos developed concurrently for the Greenway, Rocky Bend Nature Preserve – Potter’s premier public asset – and our Greenway partners, Independence Conservancy. Taken together, the branding schemes tell a coherent and exciting story to spark interest in the best place in Beaver County to be “Home. Naturally!”

Look for the new brand as signs are updated and the website gets a fresh look. The color scheme is getting deployed in the municipal building addition and with new paint. Soon, you can get a Potter shirt or tote to show community pride. In Potter, you can make yourself at home!



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RECEIVE TEXT ALERTS BEGINNING IN 2020

For a minimal annual investment, Potter Township is updating its communications with an opt-in text messaging service called Savvy Citizen. Texts will supplement other information streams like Facebook, email and the township website. Many residents are already familiar with choosing to “opt in”, or voluntarily respond, by providing a mobile telephone number to receive texts. When you respond to the opt-in code, your information will be securely stored and not shared. Savvy Citizen will be used to alert residents of emergencies, provide a reminder of upcoming meetings or events and disseminate important information from other government agencies such as PennDOT and the county 9-1-1 system. We look forward to connecting with you in 2020!



ROCKY BEND AWARDED \$150K GRANT FOR BARN RENOVATION

Potter Township and Independence Conservancy have been informed of our successful joint grant application to PA Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources (DCNR) to renovate one of two historic “blending barns” on the WWII defense site along Raccoon Creek called the Tank Farm. The structure is in solid structural condition and will be conserved and re-imagined for a picnic shelter and rental venue in 2020. This follows 2019 improvements that include a new parking area and public restroom facility with water, septic and electric services.

Residents are encouraged to get involved with this exciting project! Look for an invitation to join “Friends of Rocky Bend” soon!

Thank you for allowing us to serve you in 2019,

Rebecca, Butch and Al

HOLIDAY GREETINGS

FROM... **YOUR ZONING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

‘TIS THE SEASON THAT GENERATES CHEER AND GOOD WILL. IT ALSO GENERATES A LOT OF WRAPPINGS, RIBBON, TAPE, BOXES, AND...WELL YOU GET THE IDEA. SO, WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH ALL OF THE EXTRA STUFF THAT HAS FULFILLED ITS PURPOSE AND IS NOW JUST, WELL, TRASH?

BEHIND THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE ARE THREE DUMPSTERS JUST WAITING TO BE FILLED EACH WEEK. BUT THEY DO COME WITH A FEW RULES. THEY ARE:



Also, please be sure all trash is in bags, boxes are flattened, and nothing is left on the ground around the dumpsters. Thanks, and ...

MERRY CHRISTMAS to all and a Happy New Year, too.

- Dave Hagen, Zoning Officer

POTTER TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS



Vicki Carlton - Chief
James Gabel - Asst. Chief/Pres.
Sue Nash - Captain/Secretary

Lois Podnar - Treasurer
Ray Maylone - Trustee

247 W. Mowry Road
Monaca, PA 15061
Phone: 724-495-3364

Fax: 724-709-7074
Email:
PotterTwpVFD@yahoo.com

2019...

As the year closes out the fire department would like to *thank the Township Supervisors, our neighbors and friends for all of their support.* This has been an exciting year for us as we were able to purchase a UTV to help us with search and rescue and brush fires, our Tanker (water tender) is in service, and we were also able to buy new air packs (SCBA's) that are essential for firefighters.

This year was also special as *we were able to pay off our mortgage on the fire station early* and had a ceremonial mortgage burning at our open house in October! *Thank you to all that attended the open house.* We hope you had fun and maybe even learned how to use a fire extinguisher or get out of the smoky house safely in case of a fire, and learned electrical and generator safety with Bob the Duquesne Light Representative.



2019 is a special anniversary for our **Chief, Vicki Carlton.** It is her **35th year** in the fire service. *Thank you doesn't express our appreciation for her dedication and hard work!*

We continue to work hard and train even as the year comes to a close...we recently had Unmanned Response give us a demonstration of their drones and how they can be useful to the fire service. They may be returning when the weather is a bit better (not fogged in and rainy) to do a search and rescue training.



Fundraisers

The Fall Food Basket Raffle was won by D. Wilson of Brighton Township. The **Spring Raffle** will go off on **April 7th.** Tickets will go on sale in February.

Our first fundraiser of 2020 will be a **Soup and Hoagie Sale** on **Saturday, February 8th.** Pick up will be 10 AM to 2 PM. The 8" hoagies are from Bowers and are \$5. Traditional Italian and Turkey are the choices. The soup choices will be Chicken Noodle, Chili, Chicken Tortilla, and Cheesy Potato Bacon. Quarts are \$7, pints are \$4. Orders are due by **January 31st.** *Please call Lois Podnar at 724-407-3304 or Sue Nash at 412-974-3754 to order.*



The Girl Scout Cookie/Wine and Cheese Tasting will be **Friday, March 6th** at 7 PM at the Township Building this year. There is a maximum number of 40. The cost is \$20 per person. Get your reservations in early. Please call Lois or Sue to register.



The fire department is sponsoring a **Night at the Races** on **March 28th** at Center Stage. Doors open at **5 PM** & races start at **7 PM.** *Tickets are \$30 & include buffet dinner, beer, soft drinks, and snacks.* There will be a CASH bar, silent auction, & 50/50 raffle.



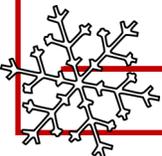
Ways to help include... donating a silent auction basket, buying a horse (\$10), & being a race sponsor (\$75). *Contact Carrie Maylone (724-312-2421) or Lois Podnar (724-407-3304) for any questions or to pick up prizes. Hope to see you there!*

A Couple of Quick Fire Safety Tips...

Have you changed the batteries in your smoke detectors? This is also the season for carbon monoxide (CO) emergencies. Have your furnace checked and your wood burning fireplaces and stoves cleaned and maintained and ready to keep you warm and cozy!



Lastly, we wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe New Year!



Conservancy Corner

Have You Spotted This?



Winter days can be bleak in our part of the world. But this little gem shines bright in our woodlands. Have you spotted it?

American beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*) stands out from the grays and browns with its eye-catching purple-pink berries. Beautyberry is a small shrub that grows in sun or shade, offering food for wildlife. Look for it along Raccoon Creek Road, but look fast, before it's gone.

Enjoy the Winter Woods

Eighteen people and four dogs joined Independence Conservancy for a "Walk in Penn's Woods" at Rocky Bend Nature Preserve on October 6. Despite the drizzle, the group enjoyed each other's company while learning about local history, geology, forestry and the creatures that live in the waters of Raccoon Creek. Here they are, waving their souvenir tree cookies in the giant sassafras grove above Alum Rock. Please plan to join us next year as we host this statewide annual event on the first Sunday of October.



-Independence Conservancy

The Eagles are Back!



Casey Harrington reported that the eagles have once again been spotted. They will be busy working on their nests for the Spring. Keep an eye out for them this Winter!

Holiday Recycling Reminder

Styrofoam from holiday shopping can be recycled at [NOVA Chemicals](#).

The bin is located in the front parking lot, outside the main entrance, at...

400 Frankfort Road
Monaca, PA 15061
724-770-2458



Drop off clean polystyrene with the #6 recycling symbol in the marked bin. Only molded packing foam is accepted. **NO food service items or packing peanuts.*

*For more information, visit:

<http://www.novachem.com/expandablestyrenics/Pages/sustainability/recycling.aspx>

Memorial Benches and Trees

Due to the increased prices of the items, costs to add a memorial bench or tree to the Township Park have been raised.

Benches - \$2,000



Trees - Dogwood, Crimson Maple, Bradford Pear

- call the Township Office for pricing (*price varies by type, year, season, & size*)





PLEASE DON'T FEED THE DEER

More harm than good

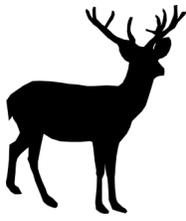
While feeding deer may enhance wildlife viewing, decades of research has clearly shown that supplemental feeding leads to increased disease risk, long-term habitat destruction, increased vehicle collisions, habituation to humans and alteration of other deer behavioral patterns and, ultimately, the demise of the value of deer and deer-related recreation. With CWD approaching our borders, the increased potential for disease transmission and outbreak is perhaps our greatest and most immediate concern, but habitat degradation, resulting in loss of wildlife diversity, abundance, and the introduction and invasion of exotic plants are consequences of feed that have been documented throughout North America and are a concern for Pennsylvania.

Spreading feed spreads disease

Supplemental feeding congregates deer in unnatural densities. Gathering large numbers of deer into small areas creates a serious risk for spreading terminal diseases such as chronic wasting disease and tuberculosis. Mange is another disease that spreads between animals in close contact. The spread of disease within and among species is encouraged by repeated and prolonged contact at feeding sites.

Eaten out of house and home – literally

Feeding can cause more deer to survive than the natural habitat can support, leading to long-term degradation of the habitat and diminishing the carrying capacity of the area. This is not new. A 1944 study reported, “feeding serves to concentrate deer in small areas year after year where animals do serious and possibly irreparable damage to native forage species, which in turn further reduces the carrying capacity of the range and makes deer increasingly dependent upon supplements.” Over years, the composition of the plant and animal communities can change markedly – diversity is reduced, and less desirable plant species can be found up to a mile from feeding locations increase. Weeds contained in feed can threaten the integrity of a community, and feeding increases the likelihood of invasion by exotic plant species. The forest understory declines and ground cover disappears, trees become larger and the number of dead trees increases.



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With less nesting cover available and nest predators such as raccoons and skunks being drawn to feeding sites, ground-nesting bird populations such as wild turkeys decline in feeding areas.

“Feed junkies” behave unnaturally

In winter, deer normally move less and rest more as an adaptation for conserving energy and safeguarding their fat reserves. Activities that increase energy demands, that use those precious fat reserves, are detrimental. Feeding can lure deer away from protected areas and entice them to move further than they otherwise would, several times a day, often for only a small amount of food or perhaps none at all. Energy-wise it’s a losing proposition, like a motorist burning three gallons of gas to go buy only two gallons of gas. Feed sites are often in open areas, where deer are exposed to cold winds, causing them to lose body heat, requiring them to consume even more calories to stay warm. If the feed is near roadways, it increases the likelihood of vehicle collisions. Feeding areas lure deer away from natural wintering areas, increase energy loss and often lead to malnutrition and even death.

The right prescription

There are better, more helpful, ways to attract deer and other wild animals to an area. *Population and habitat management offer long-term solutions.* You can help deer survive the winter by creating and maintaining good quality deer habitat and improving food resources that will actually benefit all wildlife. **Plant mast producing trees and shrubs and protect those plantings until they are large enough to survive deer browsing; plant evergreen trees for winter thermal cover and cut sections of mature forests to create forest openings and increase the amount of woody browse available to deer.** The welfare and future of wildlife depends on the ability of natural habitats to support diverse, healthy and sustainable populations. Wildlife populations must be managed at levels that are compatible with the long-term carrying capacity of a diversity of habitats. Research demonstrates that a smaller, well-fed herd can produce more deer than a larger, poorly-fed herd. The key to productivity is fawn survival, and remember, fawns feed last, if at all, at feed sites. The herd will be more fit if it is not dependent on humans for food.



For more information, please visit www.pgc.gov.

-Matt Kramer, PA Game Commission

THANK YOU!!!

The success of Potter Township is a reflection of the ever-increasing dedication and enthusiasm that the staff and volunteers display on a continual basis. The Board would like to personally thank you for your contribution of time, creativity, and energy. We look forward to working with you in 2020!

Annual Winter Road Safety Reminder

Whether shoveled or plowed, *snow must remain on your property and not be put on Township roads or rights-of-way.* This would interfere with the Township's ability to plow and maintain the roadways.

If you would like more details, read from eCode on the Potter website. Click on 'Ordinances' and refer to Ordinance 200, Article III.

Also, please keep the approach to your mailbox clear.

Thank you for your cooperation!

PLOWING

Thank you and kudos to Justin Cwynar!

He does a great job plowing the roads!



NOTICE: New Garbage Company

The last pickup of the year and the **final** pickup for Valley Waste will be *Saturday, Dec. 27th*.



New Company: J. Young Refuse

Pickup Day: Friday mornings

****Have your garbage set out by 6:00 AM***

**The first pickup will be Sat, Jan 4th, due to the holiday, & then pickups will continue on Fridays*

Phone: 724-495-6199

Website: <http://www.jyoungrefuse.com/index.html>

**Information will be updated on Potter Township's website soon*

2020 Census

The census counts every person living in the 50 states, District of Columbia, and five U.S. territories. The count is mandated by the Constitution and conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. **By April 1st, 2020**, each home will receive an invitation to participate in a questionnaire online, by phone, or by mail. The 2020 Census is the first census that you will be able to respond to online. This is the 24th time the U.S. has counted its population since 1790.



Census data is important because it determines the amount of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives. The results also affect the amount of federal funding that goes to hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads, and other resources.

For more information, visit:
[2020census.gov](https://www.census.gov)





Hall Rental Price Update

Starting **January 1st, 2020**, hall rental costs will increase due to the remodel. All new reservations made on/after January 1st, 2020 will be as follows:

\$150 for Residents

plus \$25 to use the addition/stage

\$300 for Nonresidents

plus \$50 to use the addition/stage

\$100 Security Deposit

Hall Renovation Update

The hall renovation is well under way! The addition was added, the windows are in, the stage is built, and the walls are painted. The outside of the building will also be stained to match the Fire Department building. When finished, the addition will include a large desk, executive chairs, and a technology center. Here is a sneak peak of the renovation so far...



REORGANIZATION MEETING



The Supervisors' Annual Reorganization Meeting will be held on
Monday, January 6th at 6 PM
at the Municipal Building.

All residents are invited to attend.



*The Potter Township Supervisors and Employees
extend to you & your family our very best wishes
for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*

***The Township Office will be closed for the
Christmas and New Year holidays from
December 24th, 2019 through January 1st, 2020.**



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



Scan to go to our Website:
pottertwp-pa.gov.org

POTTER TOWNSHIP

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Rebecca Masco, Earl 'Butch' Shamp, and 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, Lenny Miller, Philip Floyd, Mark Summerville,
and Tom Ruff

Regular Meetings — 3rd Thursday of each month — 7 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!**

Township Office Hours

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

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	

