



POTTER TOWNSHIP NEWS

SUMMER 2020

TO ZOOM OR RESUME: That’s a hard question!

Thankfully, since we last published, the “season of COVID” has begun giving way a beautiful western Pennsylvania summer. Potter is showing its best stuff as neighbors walk and gather, Rocky Bend Nature Preserve gurgles and blooms, gardens fill with abundance. We are so glad for these signs of life! Here’s what we have done in local government to address this strange crisis:

- **Supervisors declared an emergency and are eligible to recoup the modest investments we made in sanitizer, gloves, masks and extra cleaning for the municipal building. Fortunately, there were no emergency services needed or extra contracts issued.**
- **The municipal building was closed to the public through the end of May and meetings were held electronically for several weeks via the Zoom internet platform. We are now open as usual and ask that you observe extra hygiene measures if you come to a meeting.**
- **A planned reduction in office staff was put into place early to optimize unemployment benefits for employees. We wish the best to Kalyn Marksteiner and Dave Hagen – and miss them already! Thankfully, Dave remains as Potter’s Zoning Officer.**

We are so glad for the **“parade of teachers” from Central Valley** that brightened the difficult end to our local school year. Potter had several graduates this year and we wish them well as the move into the next season of their life. Here’s a shoutout to the parents who suddenly became homeschool teachers!

While we were sequestered, Road Superintendent Justin Cwynar got a head start on vehicle maintenance and extra “in house” projects as our 5-township road co-op worked only in their “home” community. The new parking area at Rocky Bend was seeded and finished with traffic islands that will be planted with large bare-root trees in the fall, thanks to Stefanik Contracting. Township Secretary Linda McCoy had her hands full with all the notifications and updates demanding her time and attention throughout the crisis. She made great use of our Potter-specific Savvy Citizen phone app and we are pleased to see it working so well. You can still sign up to receive text or telephone updates for events, closures, emergency notifications and general announcements in whatever form you want them.

Economic recovery may be challenging for many in our community. Even though many large employers kept working (Nova, Pocket Nurse) or are now ramping up again with additional safety protocol in place (like Shell), smaller enterprises may be slower to recover. If you are a service provider or have a skill that can benefit the township, please fill out the form in this newsletter. Whether we are seeking a telephone quote or putting a large project out to bid, the Supervisors would like to have a directory of local talent to call and work with – and make our community stronger.

Finally, **Recreation Board events** were canceled until Beaver County entered the “green” phase of re-opening. **Movie-in-the-Park will return in July** and **Potter residents are invited for fireworks and ice cream in place of the annual picnic on August 1st**! Enjoy a live band from the comfort of your own camp chair (we are limiting high touch surfaces), get a cone from Bruster’s truck and ENJOY THE SHOW. We will be so glad to see you!

*Thank you for letting us serve you,
Rebecca, Butch and Al*



Potter Township Municipal Building
206 Mowry Road
Monaca, PA 15061

Township Office Hours

Monday—Thursday: 10 am—4 pm
Friday: CLOSED

Municipal Office	724-495-6220
Fax	724-495-3222
Email	linda@pottertwp.comcastbiz.net
Secretary/Treasurer	Linda McCoy
Road Department	Justin Cwynar
Zoning Officer	David Hagen
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
J. Young Refuse	724-495-6199

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

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

Justin Cwynar welcomes the newest addition to the Potter Twp. Road Department!

2020 Ford F-550 XL 4x4 Truck



Shields Asphalt Paving Inc. was the low bidder for the Township 2020 Paving Program.

Thank you to Widmer Engineering for heading up this project!!!

Roads to be paved this fall:

- Mowry/Fish Pot/Bauer**
- Anderson/Pardue/Squirrel Run**

CANOE RACCOON CREEK

Raccoon Creek State Park to Independence Twp. Park - 4 miles
 Independence Twp. Park to Independence Marsh - 1.5 miles
 Independence Marsh to Rocky Bend - 18 miles
 Rocky Bend to Ohio River - 1.5 miles



Canoe Raccoon Creek Map
 Copyright
 Independence Conservancy 2020



Conservancy Corner Summer 2020

Outdoor Etiquette for the Pandemic and Beyond



INDEPENDENCE
 CONSERVANCY

As spring turns to summer, we feel the pull of the outdoors, even more than ever, as a release from the stress of quarantine isolation and boredom. Nature is a wonderful antidote for so much that ails us now.

A great place to get away from it all is Rocky Bend Nature Preserve. Nature is enduring and resilient. But nature is struggling too. Parks all over the world are taking a literal pounding from the trampling feet of so many visitors. Please keep your personal impact in mind by following these common-sense guidelines for



enjoying your time at Rocky Bend.

Perfect Peace: redbud in bloom along Raccoon Creek at Rocky Bend Nature Preserve

Please do not pitch tents or put up canopies in parking areas, on paths or walkways. Be aware that others will need to pass through the same space as your tent. During this time of many visitors, tents and canopies can interfere with flow of cars, pedestrians and maintenance activities like mowing and trimming.

Practice "no trace" when you visit Rocky Bend, or any outdoor area. Take only pictures; leave only footprints. Carry out what you carry in. Please do not litter. Please do not leave trash in the portable toilets or leave burned metal or glass in fire rings. You are welcome to dispose of your trash in the dumpsters behind the Potter Township Municipal Building. There is no trash collection at Rocky Bend; no one is employed to pick up trash bags or gather litter. It is your responsibility to clean up after yourself.

Please leave the scenery the way you found it. Do not break tree branches, dig up plants or harvest mushrooms. Please do not use chain saws, string trimmers or any tools to alter the landscape. Be respectful of wildlife and of other people while you are outdoors, and be kind to the outdoors too. It is there for everyone to enjoy. Take good care of nature, and nature will take care of you!

Drama underfoot: a garter snake swallows a toad at Rocky Bend Nature Preserve



POTTER TOWNSHIP RECREATION BOARD

As the Potter Township Recreation Board along with the Board of Supervisors navigates through the COVID-19 pandemic, changes have been made to the regularly scheduled events for 2020.



THURSDAY—JULY 23, 2020

MOVIE IN THE PARK AT DUSK

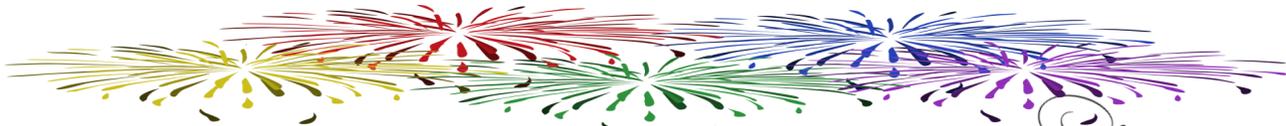
MOVIE TO BE ANNOUNCED

Please bring your own chairs, snacks & beverages
Respect social distancing while enjoying a movie with your neighbors!



SATURDAY—AUGUST 1, 2020

ICE CREAM PARTY AND MUSIC 7PM—9PM



FIREWORKS AT DUSK

Please bring your own chairs, snacks and beverages
Respect social distancing while enjoying the festivities with your neighbors!



NO BUILDING RENTALS FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2020

Due to the outbreak of COVID-19 and sanitization procedures that would be necessary after group gatherings, **all building rentals for the remainder of 2020 have been cancelled and no new rentals will be taken for the year.**



However, we would like to remind you that our park, which includes a pavilion, playgrounds, a basketball court, a fire pit, and a porta potty, remain open to the public. The Township park is open for use at *one's own risk*. We highly recommend *maintaining social distancing* if using the park.

We apologize for any inconvenience this causes as we keep everyone's safety in mind.

We look forward to renting out the building again in 2021.

KALYN MARKSTEINER

The Board of Supervisors, Township residents and especially our Secretary, Linda will greatly miss having these two wonderful individuals as 'clerks' in the Township office!



Kalyn & Dave brought many contributions to the Municipal office! While Kalyn is pursuing her career, Dave will remain on as the Township Zoning Officer!



DAVE HAGEN

WELCOME SUMMER

And with Summer - a couple reminders from your Zoning Officer—DAVID HAGEN

POTTER TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE FOR RESIDENTIAL RENTAL HOUSING UNITS

PLEASE TAKE SPECIAL NOTICE: Potter Township has adopted an Ordinance, identified on our Website in eCode as "**Chapter 153: Rental Occupancy Reports**". This chapter provides for a reporting procedure of residential rental units, and penalties for failure to so report. The Report can be found on Potter Township's website: <https://www.pottertwp-pa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/ANNUAL-FORM.pdf>. If you are currently living in a dwelling that you don't own, and whether it is owned by a third party or a relative, (and whether you pay rent or not) this Ordinance still applies to you—***please notify your landlord or relative of this requirement.*** If you are an owner of rental property, it is your responsibility to provide the annual reporting. Please fill out this form and mail or drop off at the Municipal Office at 206 Mowry Road, Monaca, PA 15061...ASAP...thanks!

POTTER TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE FOR OWNERS OF SEPTIC SYSTEMS

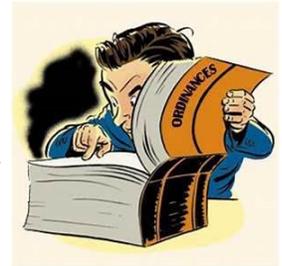
(That's close to everyone - right?)

As part of the routine maintenance of the system, periodic tank pump-out is required by **Ordinance 159-20**. In accordance with State regulations, (Potter Ord 159-14,) this period has been established as **at least every three (3) years**. This is for the protection of public health by preventing the discharge of untreated or inadequately treated sewage.

By providing copies (copies can be made by the office) of your service receipts, whether for pump-out or maintenance, within 30 days of the service, you will fulfill this obligation. If your waste hauler suggests that your frequency be more or less than this period, most likely due to the size of your household, have him note this on your receipt for our records. If you have not yet provided a receipt, please do so now so the office records will be in compliance.

REMEMBER...

This is your home, let's all do our part to keep **Potter Township** looking like the great place it is to live!



SAVVY CITIZEN

SavvyCitizenApp.com



Want to know what's going on in OUR community?

Get Our Community Events, Notifications, Reminders, News, Alerts, and More!

To receive real time updates of what is occurring in **Potter Township**, download the free **Savvy Citizen App**. If you do not want the app, you can sign up for **text or email notifications**. The app will display both emergency notifications and community events.

FOR APP USERS — Download the "**Savvy Citizen**" app from the App Store or Google play. Open the app and put in the requested information if you would like to create an account OR skip all steps until it asks for your zip code. Type in 15061 and select Potter. Complete the setup by choosing if you want information from surrounding communities (check mark the communities you want to receive information from). When asked about Push Notifications, click ALLOW to receive notifications.

FOR TEXT OR EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS — Go to the **Savvy Citizen** website. Click "sign up" to create an account. Put in your zip code (15061) and select Potter. Then, as prompted, type in your cell phone number for text notifications and/or your email address for email notifications.

If you have a neighbor or loved one who is not tech savvy, please help him/her set up these notifications. Contact the Township Office (724-495-6220) with any questions.

POTTER TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS



Vicki Carlton - Chief

Nash - Captain/Secretary

Ray Maylone - V.P./Trustee

247 W. Mowry Road

James Gabel - Asst. Chief/Pres.

Lois Podnar - Treasurer

Monaca, PA 15061

Sue

FUNDRAISING & TRAINING

Congratulations to Paul from Pleasant Drive who won the April "Food Ticket". Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets! We will have another "**Food Ticket**" drawing for the holidays, **November 17th**. We'll let you know when tickets are available.

We hope everyone is staying safe and healthy at home. As you know we have had to cancel or postpone most of our fundraisers for this year. The hope is to **reschedule the Bourbon and BBQ** once we have the OK from the State and the Township, probably late August or September. The **Night at the Races still has to be rescheduled** – we are trying to coordinate dates with Center Stage and the Race personnel. Also, the **November Election Day Soup & Bake Sale is being planned**.

We need some feedback from our neighbors... the soup sale that we had last fall – is it worth our time? Give one of our members a call with your comments or call the station & leave a message -724-495-3364. Thanks.

There isn't much to report on ... we continue to train and maintain our equipment so we're ready for any and all emergencies. We have had a lot of fun doing **neighborhood parades** for some of our neighbors' birthdays! Hope you enjoyed it too!

On a more serious note, WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

Becoming a **Volunteer Firefighter** has never been and never will be "just a job". Being a **Volunteer Firefighter** is nothing short of amazing – it's challenging, satisfying and a rewarding experience! You are literally the link between good and bad. Volunteering can be a meaningful and important way to serve your neighbors and the community you love. You have to admit it... **Potter Township is a great place to live and raise a family!**

There is a special connection between firefighters that can't help but be developed when you have a group of members that, on a moment's notice at any time of day or night, turn up to help a neighbor. You get to be part of the 'brotherhood' and become one of the family. **It's not just for the shirt!** We also have some amazing cooks in our department and are normally very well fed!

Volunteer Firefighter also looks great on a resume. Being a member gives you experience as part of a team and you are more likely to get a second look because of the dedication and experience. The training provided to our Firefighters is not just applicable to firefighting – it is useful in all aspects of a person's life, including other occupations and home life.

----- Think about it, we're normally at the station every Tuesday night! -----



GRILLING SAFETY TIPS

- Propane & charcoal BBQ grills should only be used outdoors
- The grill should be placed well away from the home
- Keep children & pets at least 3 feet away from grill area
- Never leave grill unattended
- Always make sure gas grill lid is open before lighting it
- Never add charcoal fluid or other flammable liquids to fire
- Let coals completely cool before disposing in a metal container
- Check propane gas tank hose for leaks
- If you smell gas while cooking—get away from the fire and call the fire department
- Wait at least 5 minutes before re-lighting a gas grill

OUTDOOR ELECTRICAL SAFETY

- Have a qualified electrician do all electrical work
- Make sure all your outside electrical receptacles are GFCI (groundfault circuit interrupter) protected
- Use lighting & power tools that are listed by a qualified test laboratory & made for outdoor use
- Store electrical tools outdoors
- Keep electrical tools away from children
- Keep area around your electrical meter clear
- Check lighting & extension cords for damage before using
- Use extension cords that are listed by a qualified test laboratory and made for outdoor use
- Call "Before You Dig" (8-1-1) before any digging on property



LOCAL TALENT DIRECTORY LISTING

The Potter Township Board of Supervisors is glad to support our local "skill-force" by requesting a telephone quote or inviting bidders for municipal projects. If you have a business, a service to share or skills and experience that can benefit our community, please help us build our directory by completing the form below. Thank you for your interest!

Here is a sample of services the municipality has requested recently:

- o Appliance repair
- o Builder/Contractor
- o Carpenter
- o Carpet cleaning
- o Catering
- o Commercial cleaning
- o Communications/graphic design
- o Computer/IT service
- o Event and equipment rentals
- o Electrical
- o Grant writing
- o Heavy equipment operations
- o HVAC
- o Landscaping & grading
- o Mechanical/Vehicle maintenance
- o Painting/staining
- o Plumbing
- o Septic tank service
- o Tree service
- o Weed control

PREFERRED DIRECTORY LISTING: _____

BUSINESS OR SKILL CATEGORY: _____

CONTACT NAME: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE: _____

PREFERRED TELEPHONE: _____

EMAIL CONTACT: _____

I WANT TO: GIVE A QUOTE BID ON PROJECTS VOLUNTEER MY HELP

Potter Township Recycling Schedule 2020

J. Young Refuse will pick up your recyclables every other Friday along with your regular garbage pickup.



July

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



Metal Cans

Steel, tin & aluminum soda, vegetable, fruit & tuna cans



Plastic Bottles & Containers #1-5 & 7

Natural and pigmented plastic narrow-neck containers. Milk bottles, water bottles, detergent bottles, shampoo bottles, bleach bottles, etc.



Paper

Brown paper bags, non-confidential, off paper, newspaper, magazines



Paper Cardboard, Dairy & Juice Containers

Food and beverage cartons such as milk, soup and broth. Lids must be removed



Flattened Cardboard & Paperboard

Corrugated cardboard, construction paper, Kraft paper, cereal boxes, shoeboxes or similar



DO NOT INCLUDE: Food waste, plastic bags, or polystyrene foam cups & containers

J. YOUNG REFUSE WILL BE DELIVERING RECYCLING BINS TO POTTER TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS. PICKUP WILL BE EVERY OTHER FRIDAY ALONG WITH YOUR REGULAR GARBAGE PICKUP AT NO COST TO THE RESIDENT.

IF YOU DO NOT WANT A RECYCLE BIN—PLEASE CALL THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE (724-495-6220) AND WE WILL PICK IT UP FROM YOUR RESIDENCE.



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

SUPERVISORS

Rebecca Matsco 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 Lenny Miller Philip Floyd

Mark Summerville Tom Ruff

(Alternates - George Barnes and Ed Kolis)

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!



Duquesne Light's top priority is to provide safe and reliable power to our community.

The only way to be sure Duquesne Light knows of an outage is to report them. Customers who experience an interruption in their electric service should call 412-393-7100 to report their outage, or click the "Report Outage" link on their website:

<https://www.duquesnelight.com/login?redirecturl=/outages-safety/report-outage>.

Immediately report downed power lines to Duquesne Light or your local police or fire department and never go near a downed power line. Even if a line is no longer sparking, do not assume that it is dead.