

Lower Saucon Township



-Established in 1743-

Meadows Road Bridge

Township Notes

A well attended dedication ceremony was held for Luybli's Pond at Town Hall Park in Lower Saucon Township on Wednesday, June 12th. The recently upgraded water feature is named after and was dedicated in memory of the late Kenneth "Kenny" Luybli, who passed away in May 2018, after many years of public service to the Township, both as its Roadmaster and as the Chief of Southeastern Volunteer Fire Co. for more than 20 years. Kenny also served as the Township's Fire Marshal for many years. The new pond is surrounded by boulders and has a fountain at its center. It will also be stocked with fish for recreational catch-and-release fishing by licensed individuals.



Fish on Kenny!



Photo credits to Scott Krycia and Gary Kichline

A Message from Council President Priscilla deLeon

I am hoping you had a wonderful summer with your family and friends. On Tuesday, August 6th Lower Saucon Township and Hellertown Borough Police held another great National Night Out at Dimmick Park. Bike with the Police was held on Thursday, August 8th on the Saucon Rail Trail. It was a perfect day on August 17th for the Hellertown-Lower Saucon Community Day. Thank you to all the volunteers who worked all year planning for these events.

On Friday, September 6th Mobile Technology Graphics and the Hellertown – Lower Saucon Chamber presented a Farewell to Summer Movie Night at Town Hall Park. It was the perfect setting and enjoyed by all those who attended as they watched *Sing* on the giant mobile jumbo Tron. Thanks to all those who made it a great night.

Mark your calendars! The annual Saucon Valley Spirit Parade will start at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 20th and Trick or Treat Night will be held on Thursday, October 31st from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Light-Up Night is Friday, November 29th from 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at Dimmick Park. It is always a great night to kick off the holiday season. Last year over 5,000 people attended. Don't miss the holiday festivities.

Let's work together creating memories that will last a lifetime not only for you but also you families. Let's keep the kids busy – They are our future, our next generation.

Priscilla deLeon, Council President, Lower Saucon Township

Fall 2019

Volume 23 Issue 2

Inside this Issue:

Home Away Checks	2
When Do I Need A Permit?	2
Officers Promoted	3
Talks and Tours at the PD	3
CRIMEWATCH	3
Carbon Monoxide Safety	4
Lower Saucon Authority	4
Naturalizing Your Yard	5
Open Space Preservation	5
Hellertown Area Library	6
Saucon Valley Conservancy	6
Beware - Scam Warning	6
Election Day Information	7
Spirit Parade & Trick-or-Treat Information	8

Home Away Checks

Are you going on vacation or leaving home for a period of time? Contact the Lower Saucon Township Police Department at 610-317-6110 during business hours to complete a home vacation check request or visit our Crimewatch page www.lowersauconpolice.org and complete a home vacation check online.

- If a home has an alarm system be sure its activated.
- Leave interior lights on a timer.
- Notify neighbors to watch home for suspicious activity and phone police if they see anything out of the ordinary.
- Have a friend or family member check on home while on vacation and possibly move vehicles left in driveway around.
- Be sure all doors/windows are locked. Using a security bar for sliding doors or windows.
- Keep shrubbery trimmed on exterior of home so intruders are unable to hide behind them.
- Be sure lawn is cut and trimmed regular if away for extended times.
- Exterior motion lights are a deterrence.
- Keep pool gates locked and secure.

Address Display Requirements

The Township Police Department urges residents to properly display their address on mailboxes or on the front of their homes so that police, fire, and EMS responders can locate their residences without any delay. The key address requirements are:

- The street address number shall be in clear bold numbers.
- The street address number should be neat and legible on mailboxes, buildings, and doors for approaching emergency responders.
- The street address number should be displayed either horizontally or vertically (see examples).



- The street address number should be at least 2 inches high and displayed on both sides of the mailbox or mailbox post.

- More information on these requirements can be found on the Township website at: <http://ecode360.com/6772868>.

When do I need a Permit?

Lower Saucon Township requires permits for many types of construction and building work in residential structures. When in doubt, contact the Zoning Office at 610-865-3291.

General examples of work that requires a Zoning/Building Permit:

- Construction and/or installation of a fence, shed, carport or garage, patio or porch, walkway or deck.
- Widening an existing driveway or resurfacing a driveway with/without enlarging it or changing the shape at all.
- Building an addition onto your house including attached garages and carports.
- Adding a roof to a patio, porch, or deck where the roof is attached to a dwelling.
- Installation of doors and windows if different size than the existing.
- Upgrading an electrical service or addition/relocation of electrical wiring.
- Adding stud walls such as when finishing a basement.
- Above ground and in ground swimming pools, even “wall-less” and portable pools (yes, portable pools). Any pool that is deeper than 24” needs a permit. If your pool is taken down every year, you need a permit to put it back up every year.
- Removing more than three tree’s in one year on your property (damaged or not).

Examples of work that does not require a permit:

- Repair and replacement of existing structures such as deck boards on a deck.
- Putting new shingles on your roof.
- Replacing or installing siding on a house, windows and doors with new ones of the same size.
- Replacing a garage door (however, replacing a manual door with an electric door may require an electrical permit).
- Wallpaper, carpet, tile, paint work, and interior cabinetry such as kitchen cabinets.

Also, please note that a Moving In permit is required for anyone moving into or within the Township. The fee is \$5.00. This permit should be applied for at least 10 business days prior to the move-in or closing date.

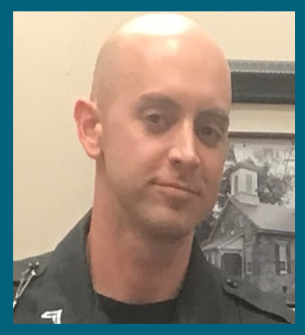
A Moving Out Permit is required to move out of the Township. The fee is \$5.00. Permit is issued the day of application.

Township Officers Promoted

Lower Saucon Township, Chief of Police Thomas Barndt introduced three officers recently promoted from within the department at July's Council meeting. After introductions, family members participated in a ceremonial badge pinning.



Christopher Leidy was promoted to Sergeant on June 3, 2019. Sgt. Leidy graduated from the Allentown Police Academy in 1993 and in 1997 was hired as a part time officer, being promoted to full-time in 1998. In 2000, he initiated and became the first handler of the Department's K9 program. He was then promoted to Detective in 2005 and Detective/Corporal in 2010. Sgt. Chris Leidy graduated from Northampton Community College in 2015 with an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice and in January 2019 he graduated from DeSale's University with a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice.



Eric Marth was promoted to Detective/Corporal on July 1, 2019. Det/Cpl Marth graduated from DeSale's University in 2005 with a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice. In 2008, he graduated from the Allentown Police Academy and was hired as a full-time patrolman by Lower Saucon Township Police Department later that year. In 2010, Det/Cpl Marth became a Criminal Identification Officer responsible for processing crime scenes for his patrol team and has been assisting with investigations since 2016, while also becoming a bike officer. In 2016, he once again graduated from DeSale's University with a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice in Investigative Forensics.



Officer Jared Gunshore was promoted on July 1, 2019. Officer Gunshore graduated from the Allentown Police Academy in 2009. In 2010, he was hired full-time with the Lehigh County Sheriff's Department.

Officer Gunshore was then hired as a part-time officer in Lower Saucon in 2011 and continued part-time until his recent promotion to full time.

TALKS and TOURS

TALKS discussing crime prevention, and other similar topics can be performed at police headquarters or an off-site location within the township.

TOURS of police headquarters and issued police equipment can also be scheduled with Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, etc. Please contact Police Chief Thomas Barndt via email tbarndt@lowsaucontownship.org or by phone 610-317-6110.



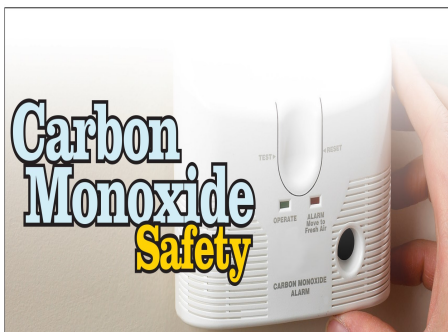
Did you sign up for Crimewatch yet?



The Lower Saucon Township Police Department has joined the CRIMEWATCH Network to align our communication strategy with surrounding police agencies. This process means that we are switching to a new website and social media practice. Our web address is

www.lowsauconpolice.org

We strongly encourage you to visit our CRIMEWATCH Portal and subscribe to receive notifications or download the CRIMEWATCH Mobile Application for Apple or Android devices. The service is free for the public.



Often called the invisible killer, carbon monoxide is an invisible, odorless, colorless gas created when fuels (such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural as, propane, oil, and methane) burn incompletely. In the home, heating and cooking equipment that burn fuel can be sources of carbon monoxide.

FACTS

- ❗ A person can be poisoned by a small amount of CO over a longer period of time or by a large amount of CO over a shorter amount of time.
- ❗ In 2010, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated 80,100 non-fire CO incidents in which carbon monoxide was found, or an average of nine calls per hour.

- CO alarms should be installed in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home and in other locations where required by applicable laws, codes or standards. For the best protection, interconnect all CO alarms throughout the home. When one sounds, they all sound.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for placement and mounting height.
- Choose a CO alarm that is listed by a qualified testing laboratory.
- Call your local fire department's non-emergency number to find out what number to call if the CO alarm sounds.
- Test CO alarms at least once a month; replace them according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- If the audible trouble signal sounds, check for low batteries. If the battery is low, replace it. If it still sounds, call the fire department.
- If the CO alarm sounds, immediately move to a fresh air location outdoors or by an open window or door. Make sure everyone inside the home is accounted for. Call for help from a fresh air location and stay there until emergency personnel declare that it is safe to re-enter the home.
- If you need to warm a vehicle, remove it from the garage immediately after starting it. Do not run a vehicle or other fueled engine or motor indoors, even if garage doors are open. Make sure the exhaust pipe of a running vehicle is not covered with snow.
- During and after a snowstorm, make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove, and fireplace are clear of snow build-up.
- A generator should be used in a well-ventilated location outdoors away from windows, doors and vent openings.
- Gas or charcoal grills can produce CO — only use outside.

Volunteer Picnic

On June 3rd, the Township recognized its volunteers with the annual Volunteer Appreciation Celebration that was held for the 11th year at Town Hall Park Pavilion.

Council President Priscilla deLeon, Council Vice President Ryan Stauffer and Council Members Sandra Yerger and George Gress shared a picnic dinner with the volunteers serving on the Planning Commission, Environmental Advisory Council, Parks & Recreation Board, Zoning Hearing Board, Saucon Rail Trail Oversight Commission, Historical Committee, and our Junior Council Members. In addition, we were joined by our Fire Marshal and many of the dedicated volunteers of our Fire Departments.

All of these wonderful volunteers are part of what make Lower Saucon Township a great place to live. We thank each and every one of them for their continued service and valued input to Lower Saucon Township.



News from the Lower Saucon Authority

Online Bill Pay

Paying your bill is quick, easy & only a click away!

MAKE A PAYMENT

Lower Saucon Authority will be accepting an online bill payment option for its customers. The service will be provided by a third-party vendor, Invoice Cloud, who provides online bill paying services to municipalities and authorities throughout the county.

The Authority hopes to have the service up and running for the 4th quarter 2019 bills. As we get closer to providing this service, we will share more information about it.

The service will come with a cost to customers, but **it is not mandatory** – it is available for those customers who prefer to use it, rather than sending a check in the mail or dropping payment off at the Authority office. If you pay using a bank account, there will be a \$1.95 service charge or if you pay using a credit card, there will be a \$4.95 service charge. There will be a link on the Authority website where you can sign in to view your account, see your statement and pay your bill.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards



Lower Saucon Fire Rescue
Visit us on Facebook at
LOWERSAUCONFIRE

Naturalizing Your Yard

Naturalizing your yard, in some cases, changing your current routine to incorporate practices that are environmentally friendly can be challenging. Below you will find 12 easy-to-implement ideas to protect and preserve our natural resources... and your pocketbook. (Resources: Pennsylvania Environmental Council www.pecpa.org or www.watershedcoalitionlv.org)

1. Plant trees. Trees can act as windbreaks to reduce heating bills by 10-20% and shade and cool your house in the summer. 
2. Rain gardens collect and soak up water from downspouts. 
3. Reduce mowed areas. Landscape naturally with native meadow grasses, trees, and shrubs to attract birds, butterflies and other wildlife to your yard. 
4. Native Wildflowers will soak up more water than grass - a perfect solution for wet spots.
5. Wildlife boxes create additional habitat for threatened species and are easy to make. 
6. A native wildflower patch or butterfly garden will boost aesthetics of your property.
7. Rain barrels help conserve drinking water resources and can save you money.
8. Planting trees on your property can increase your curbside appeal and your property value.
9. Backyard vegetable gardens provide your family with fresher, cheaper, and more nutritious produce.
10. Compost piles create rich, nutrient-filled organic matter to enrich your soil. Composting food scraps will reduce your trash bill and prolong the life of the landfill. 
11. Plant native trees and shrubs to create habitat for wildlife and reduce the need for mowing.
12. Mow high. Mowing your grass at 3 to 4 inches in height will reduce your frequency of mowing, thus saving fuel, and help to discourage weeds.

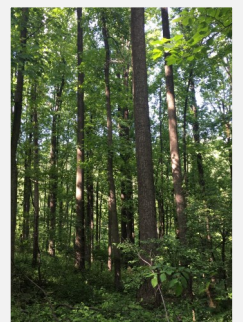
Open Space Preservation



On June 28th Lower Saucon Township, in partnership with Springfield Township and Heritage Conservancy, completed a Conservation Easement of a 35.5848-acre property located in the federally designated Pennsylvania Highlands. The property contains portions of the forested headwater tributary of Cooks Creek and is part of the Springfield Township Source Water Protection Area providing public drinking water directly to local residents. Cooks Creek has been designated as an Exceptional Value stream by the Pennsylvania Chapter 93 Water Quality Standards and according to the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission is the only viable cold water fishery in Bucks County, supporting a naturally reproducing population of trout.

The Mid-Atlantic Highlands region of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and Connecticut forms a 3.5 million acre forested greenbelt around the densely populated areas of Philadelphia, New York City and Hartford. The forested ridges, fertile farm valleys, pure streams and reservoirs of the Highlands are the rugged foothills that lie between the Appalachian Mountains and the increasingly urbanized Piedmont and Atlantic Coastal Plain regions. The US Congress designated the Mid-Atlantic Highlands as "Nationally Significant" when it passed the Highlands Conservation Act in 2004.

The property's resource value was scored by the Open Space Sub-Committee of the Township's Environmental Advisory Council in accordance with the guidelines in the Lower Saucon Township Open Space Plan. The acquisition of the conservation easement will provide over 60 acres (adjacent 25 acres property placed under conservation easement in 2005) of contiguous interior forest habitat protection and water quality protection for the highly scenic mixed hardwood forest and local drinking water sources in our township.



To date, we have been able to preserve over 700 acres of natural areas and farmland in Lower Saucon Township, thanks to your support of our Open Space Referendums. We couldn't have done it without you!

Hellertown Area Library

There are some great things happening at the Hellertown Area Library! HAL is super excited to begin Library-to-Go featuring “Wheelie”, our new book bike! Librarians will be visiting Seidersville Hall and Town Hall Park and locations at Steel City Fire Company and Southeastern Fire Hall to bring programs, books, and other services into the community. Library services will include story times for kids, issuing new library cards and returning and borrowing of materials. Visits began at Steel City on September 11th, at Southeastern on September 25th, and will begin at Seidersville Hall on October 30th and continue on a tri-weekly schedule. All visits will be at 10:00 a.m.



“Wheelie” was unveiled on Tuesday, August 13th at the Hellertown Area Library. Be sure to keep an eye out for Miss Andrea on her book bike. She will be around town and at community events with books, story times, and other surprises! These programs are made possible by donations from the citizens of Saucon Valley, the Hellertown-Lower Saucon Chamber of Commerce, and grants from private foundations.

Our afternoon book club meets the second Monday of each month at 1:00 p.m. They are looking to expand and welcome any new members that are interested in joining.

Adults are invited to join us each month for Adult Craft Night held the last Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. We feature a new craft at each meeting so join in anytime!

Friends of the Hellertown Area Library are seeking new members for the leadership team. This group was instrumental in funding HAL's new roof and stucco! They created the amazing Spirit Parade float and hosted our anniversary celebration among other endeavors. Join a great group of people that have fun and work to help the library flourish.

Be sure to check out our Youth, Teen, and Family Programs. Our calendar is published monthly and events can be found on our website, on social media, and in the library. There is always something fun to do at the library!

For information on any of our programs or any questions please check our website at <http://hellertownlibrary.org/> or call us at 610-838-8381. Follow us on social media too!

Adult Halloween Movie Afternoon!! Join us Thursday, October 31st at 2:00pm for Walt Disney's Hocus Pocus! Snacks provided, costumes optional (but encouraged!)



Saucon Valley Conservancy



Photo Credit to: Dave Sloan

The 5th Annual Saucon Creek Arts Festival held on June 1st, was the biggest and best ever. The largest arts event in Lower Saucon Township, this year's Arts Festival built on the success of previous years with over 50 juried artists and craftspeople, all-day music sponsored by Bethlehem's Godfrey Daniels and record attendance. Costumed docents led guided tours through the historic Heller Homestead and the Widow's House and the weather could not have been better. Plans for the 6th Arts Festival, in June 2020, are already underway. All proceeds benefit the non-profit Saucon Valley Conservancy.

The Saucon Valley Conservancy is now accepting nominations for new board members. No experience necessary, only a desire to make your community stronger! If interested, email:

info@sauconvalleyconservancy.org.



Beware - Scam Warning

The Department of Revenue is warning Pennsylvania seniors and people with disabilities of a scam involving the popular Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program.

The scam consists of unsolicited telephone calls from a person claiming to work for the Department of Revenue. The caller starts the call by saying the recipient's application for the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program has been approved. The caller then asks if the recipient would like the rebate directly deposited into a bank account, which prompts a request from the caller for the recipient's banking information.

The Department of Revenue **DOES NOT** make unsolicited calls requesting banking information and warns consumers to always be extremely cautious when they receive unsolicited phone calls. Learn more about the scam at www.media.pa.gov under Revenue.



Election Day Information

Not sure where to go to cast your vote? Listed to the right are the voting districts and their addresses. Election Day is Tuesday, **November 5, 2019**. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. The Northampton County Voter Registration Office is looking for persons interested in serving as inspectors for the polling places. For more information contact Northampton County at **610-559-3055** or visit their website at

www.northamptoncounty.org/vote.

Please note, the **Township offices are closed on Election Day**.

New Voting Machines for 2019!!!
You are invited to try the new voting machines
for Northampton County at the
following locations below:



10/3/19 at 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. **Cherryville Senior Center @ Hope Lutheran Church**, 4131 Lehigh Dr. Cherryville, PA. 18035

10/5/19 at 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **Hanover Township Community Center- Fall Festival**, 3660 Jacksonville Rd. Bethlehem, PA. 18017

10/9/19 at 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. **Easton Neighborhood Center**, 902 Philadelphia Rd. Easton, PA. 18042

District No. 1

Lower Saucon-Hellertown

Saucon Valley High School
Door #19
2097 Polk Valley Road
Hellertown, PA

District No. 2

Lower Saucon-Leithsville

Leithsville Fire House
1995 Leithsville Road
Hellertown, PA

District No. 3

Lower Saucon-Lower Saucon

Christ Lutheran Church
of Lower Saucon
Old Schoolhouse at the Corner of
Easton and Mockingbird Hill
Roads Hellertown, PA

District No. 4

Lower Saucon-Seidersville

Seidersville Hall
(Old Town Hall)
3700 Old Philadelphia Pike
Bethlehem, PA

District No. 5

Lower Saucon-Shimersville

Steel City Fire House
2121 Riverside Drive
Bethlehem, PA

District No. 6

Lower Saucon-Wassergass

Southeastern
Volunteer Fire Co.
2687 Wassergass Road
Hellertown, PA

District No. 7

Lower Saucon-Colesville

SE-WY-CO Fire Company
3621 Old Philadelphia Pike
Bethlehem, PA

District No. 8

Lower Saucon

- SE-WY-CO

SE-WY-Co Fire Company
3621 Old Philadelphia Pike
Bethlehem, PA

Lower Saucon Township

3700 Old Philadelphia Pike

Bethlehem, PA 18015

610-865-3291

Administration hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Public Works hours: 7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

www.lowersaucontownship.org

www.facebook.com/lowersaucon/



PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Lehigh Valley, PA
Permit #618

Lower Saucon Township Officials

Priscilla deLeon	Council President
Ryan Stauffer	Council Vice President
George Gress	Council Member
Donna Louder	Council Member
Sandra Yerger	Council Member
Lou Mahlman	Controller
Leslie Huhn	Township Manager
Thomas H. Barndt	Police Chief

Important Phone Numbers

Emergency	Dial 9-1-1
Non-Emergency	610-759-2200
Police Department	610-317-6110
Administrative Offices	610-865-3291
Water/Sewer Authority	610-317-3212

MAILING PANEL
NO CONTENT INSIDE THIS BOX

Meeting Schedule

Council

1st and 3rd Wednesdays – 7:00 p.m.

Parks & Recreation Board

1st Monday – 7:00 p.m.

Environmental Advisory Council

2nd Tuesday – 7:00 p.m.

Planning Commission

4th Thursday – 7:00 p.m.

Zoning Hearing Board

3rd Monday – 7:00 p.m.

Lower Saucon Authority

3rd Tuesday – 7:00 p.m.

November 5th - Office Closed

November 28th & 29th - Office Closed

December 25th & 26th - Office Closed

January 1, 2020 - Office Closed



Spirit Parade & Trick-or-Treat

The Saucon Valley Spirit Parade will be on Sunday, October 20th at 2:00 p.m. (Line up begins at 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.). There will be no rain date.

The 2019 Parade Theme is: *Halloween.*

Trick-or-Treat will be held on Thursday, **October 31, 2019** for Lower Saucon Township and Hellertown Borough residents from **6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (rain or shine).**



Residents interested in participating are asked to keep their porch lights on during this two hour period to insure the safety of all those participating. Parents are advised to accompany their children as they go around the neighborhood and should check all candy and treats prior to children eating them.

Motorists should use caution when driving on Trick-or-Treat night and residents should report any suspicious or malicious activity to 610-759-2200 or call 911.