



## Covid-19 Service Impacts

During these unparalleled times, our Township offices remain closed to the public; however, Township employees are in the office and available via phone or email to maintain our daily level of service. Permits/Real Estate Taxes are being delivered in the mail and our drop box (located on the side of our building) are processed daily as well.

Township meetings are being held remotely via Zoom. You can go onto our website at [www.lowersaucontownship.org](http://www.lowersaucontownship.org), click on the department in which the meeting you are interested falls under, go to agenda/minutes, click the link provided to register for that meeting, after registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information to join the meeting.

Council has extended the Township Real Estate Tax penalty period to December 31, 2020; therefore, you can pay your Lower Saucon Township Real Estate Tax in the Base amount by or before December 31, 2020. After this date a 10% penalty will apply. Tax payments can be mailed to Lower Saucon Township at 3700 Old Philadelphia Pike, Bethlehem, PA 18015, dropped off in our drop box, paid at Fulton Bank, mailed to Berkheimer, or residents can pay online via a credit or debit card. Please note that there is a fee for using this card service. E-checks are \$3.15 and there is a fee of approximately 3% for using your credit card. To ensure proper posting, please be accurate in providing your account number and contact information.

All Township Parks are open for passive use including the Polk Valley Dog Park. Please follow PRPS and CDC safety guidelines for all park activities. Playgrounds are "at your own risk" as they are not being sanitized. Restrooms and water fountains remain closed. Port-a-potties are provided at parks and are sanitized on a weekly basis. Please note all pavilions will be closed for the season after October 31<sup>st</sup>.

Our Compost Center is open on Fridays and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (more Compost information included on page 6). You must have your Township issued compost card and wear a mask on to enter.

Lower Saucon Township utilizes the Nixle emergency alert system that residents are encouraged to sign up for under Alerts on our website: [www.lowersaucontownship.org](http://www.lowersaucontownship.org), which keeps residents up to date on current closures and events within the township.

Everyone is encouraged to check the township website: [www.lowersaucontownship.org](http://www.lowersaucontownship.org) for pertinent and updated information and to also follow the guidelines from the Federal and State government officials.

We continue to all be in this together and Township Council and staff are here to help.

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### School is back in session — Tips for Parents and Students

- Get to the school bus stop five minutes early, so you won't have to run across the road to catch the bus.
- When waiting for the bus, stay away from traffic. Line up at least five giant steps away from the curb or the roadway to wait for the bus.
- Never run after the school bus if it has already left the bus stop.
- Always walk at least 10 feet in front of the bus when crossing so that the school bus driver can see you.
- Wait until the school bus has stopped all traffic before stepping out onto the road.
- When the school bus is moving, always stay in your seat and sit facing forward. Never put your head, arms, or hands out of the window.
- Always obey your school bus driver's instructions, so that he or she can make safe decisions.
- Never play with the emergency exits. Backpacks, band instruments, or sports equipment may not block the aisle or emergency exits. If there is an emergency, listen to the driver and follow instructions.
- Never cross the street behind the school bus.

Information was obtained from the PennDOT website at:  
[www.penndot.gov](http://www.penndot.gov)



Our unused medication - Take-Back Box - is available 24 hours a day. Residents who have expired or unused over-the-counter and prescription medications are able to discard those medications in a MedReturn drug collection unit, which is located in the front lobby of the Lower Saucon Police Department at 3700 Old Philadelphia Pike, Bethlehem, PA

Sourced via CRIMEWATCH®:

<https://northampton.crimewatchpa.com/lowersauconpd/69169>

Please remember to hide your valuables and lock your vehicle anywhere you park your vehicle.  
**LOCK IT!**



Ruin a Bad Guy's Day



**IF YOU SEE  
SOMETHING  
SAY  
SOMETHING**  
Report Suspicious Activity

Lower Saucon Police always need your assistance reporting suspicious activity. Please phone "911" or the non-emergency number 610-759-2200 right away to report any suspicious activity. Do not wait to call police because then it is usually too late.

Trick-or-Treat will take place in Lower Saucon Township & Hellertown Borough on Saturday, October 31, 2020 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

#### **NO RAIN DATE**

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.

Take flashlights with fresh batteries for all children and their escorts. If your older children are going alone, plan and review the route that is acceptable to you. Agree on a specific time when they should return home.

# Trick or Treat

## Plan Ahead with Zoning/Building

All construction, additions, placement of prebuilt structures (sheds, swimming pools, etc.), paving, patios, fences, and decks require that a permit be obtained **before** any work can legally be started. This includes inflatable swimming pools deeper than 24".

Pennsylvania State law requires the Township to adhere to the Uniform Construction Code (UCC), better known as the "Building Code". The UCC allows a municipality up to 15 working days to review a permit application for residential properties and either grant or reject the permit from the time a completed application is submitted to the municipality.

A completed application includes a completely filled out application form, a site plan for the entire lot showing all existing and proposed improvements on the lot (including driveways, buildings, patios, decks, and sidewalks) with all dimensions and distances to property lines and the amount of impervious coverage; proof of workers compensation certificate or waiver; a copy of all the approved documentation related to the proposed improvements from one of our 3<sup>rd</sup> party inspection agencies; and, any [other permits that may be required for the proposed construction (i.e. grading permits, carbonate geology review, etc.) Lower Saucon Township strives to process the permits as quickly as possible. **No work** can be started until you have a granted permit in hand and a placard placed in a location that can be seen from the street.

## Zoom Meeting Login Information



All Township meetings are currently being hosted virtually through the Zoom platform. To attend Township meetings through Zoom, registration is required. The

link to register can be found on the Township website ([www.lowersaucontownship.org](http://www.lowersaucontownship.org)) on the agenda page of the meeting. After your registration is approved, you will receive a link with instructions to access the meeting. The meeting can be accessed through your desktop computer, tablet and smartphone or by calling in from your landline or cellphone. You can participate in the meeting by raising your hand through Zoom on your computer, tablet or smartphone by clicking "Raise Hand" in the control panel on your screen. To do this from your landline or cellphone, you can press \*9 on your keypad and this will alert the host that your hand is raised.

## Snow Removal Tips from Public Works

Snow removal presents a challenge to Lower Saucon Township. During an active snowstorm the Public Works Department will attempt to keep open the major routes (arterial and collector) streets of the Township to facilitate the movement of emergency vehicles. As a storm subsides the snowplows will methodically plow each and every public street in the Township. Residents can assist the Public Works Department by moving, where possible, vehicles off of the streets during and after the storm event.

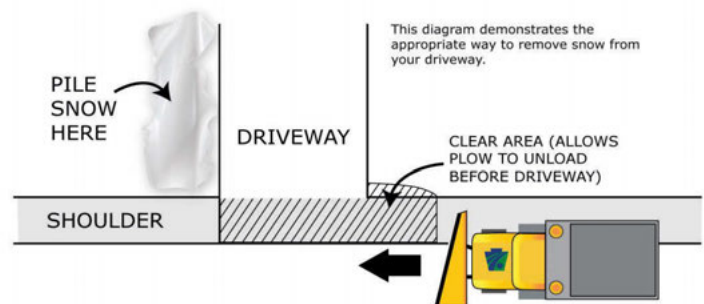
According to the Pennsylvania Second Class Township Code, responsibility for the maintenance of sidewalks rests with the adjoining property owner. Therefore, remember to be a good neighbor and remove snow from sidewalks to keep them safe for pedestrians.

The Township is NOT RESPONSIBLE for damage to mailboxes since they are located in the right-of-way.

Lower Saucon Township DOES NOT provide snow and ice removal on any state roadways.

### Helpful Hints:

1. When shoveling out the mouth of your driveway (see below), deposit snow to the right or "downstream." This will help to avoid the re-depositing of the snow in your driveway when the plow comes to your street. Remember it is impossible to not have snow pushed into your driveway. Please do not throw the snow from your property into the street.



2. Please allow yourself some additional time to travel.
3. Use common sense and "Be Patient."
4. Keep a flashlight, a battery powered radio and emergency equipment available in case of a disruption in power.

# Know the Threats: Flooding

What's the difference between a ***Flood Watch*** and a ***Flood Warning***?

A ***Flood Watch*** means that flooding *may* occur. Residents should stay alert, closely monitor rivers and streams, and be prepared to move to high ground quickly.

A ***Flood Warning*** means that there *is actual* flooding. Residents should act at once and move to high ground.

Flooding is the most common natural disaster in Pennsylvania, destroying thousands of homes and costing billions of dollars each year. No matter where you live, you should be prepared for a flood emergency — especially if you live near water, in a low-lying area, or down-stream from a dam.

Floods can occur in different ways. Some develop slowly during an extended period of rain, or in a warming trend following a heavy snow. Others, like flash floods, can happen very quickly, without any visible signs of rain. Even small streams and dry creek beds can overflow to produce flooding.

## General Flood Preparedness

- Get an emergency supply kit that includes enough provisions for you and your family to live on for a minimum of three days.
- Make an emergency plan for you and your family.
- Learn about the emergency plans that have been established in your area by your state.
- Visit [Flood Smart](#) to find out if your home is at risk for a flood.
- Learn Pennsylvania-specific flood zone information from the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency.
- Elevate the furnace, water heater and electric panel in your home if you live in an area that has a high flood risk.
- Consider installing "check valves" to prevent flood water from backing up into the drains of your home. As a last resort, use large corks or stoppers to plug showers, tubs, or basins.
- If feasible, construct barriers to stop floodwater from entering the building and seal walls in basements with waterproofing compounds.
- Property insurance does not typically cover flood damage. Talk to your insurance provider about your policy and consider if you need additional coverage. You may also want to learn about the National Flood Insurance.

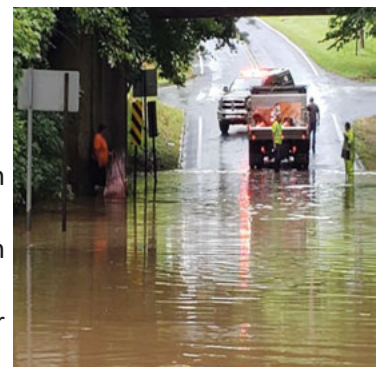


*Meadows Road after Tropical Storm Isaias*

## What to Do in a Flash Flood

Flash floods occur within six hours of the beginning of heavy rainfall.

- Go to high ground immediately.
- Get out of areas subject to flooding, such as low spots, canyons, washes, etc.
- Do not attempt to cross a flowing stream on foot. Even water only six inches deep, when moving at a high rate of speed, can knock you off your feet.
- Never drive through flooded areas or standing water. Shallow, swiftly flowing water can wash a car from a roadway. Also, the roadbed may not be intact under the water.
- If the vehicle stalls, abandon it immediately and seek higher ground. Rapidly rising water may engulf the vehicle and its occupants.
- Be especially cautious at night when it's harder to recognize flood dangers.
- Do not camp or park your vehicle along streams and washes, particularly during threatening conditions.



*Bingen Road near Reading Drive after Tropical Storm Isaias*

For more information on Flooding in Pennsylvania see [www.ready.pa.gov](http://www.ready.pa.gov)



## Why Should I Care About Stormwater?

We are all part of a watershed. Watersheds are land areas that drain to the nearest body of water. For example, if you are in western Pennsylvania, you are part of the Ohio River watershed, while eastern Pennsylvania lands may ultimately drain to the Chesapeake Bay. Smaller local creeks and streams also eventually drain to a larger local water body.

- **Flooding:** When excess water has nowhere to go, flooding can impact property and cause damage to land and structures. Flooding can also be a public safety issue that affects entire communities.
- **Pollution and Health Impacts:** Stormwater picks up anything that is on the ground and carries it along with it. Animal waste, chemicals, pesticides, oil, and sediment – all end up in waterways and potentially in our sources of drinking water.
- **Streambank Erosion:** Uncontrolled stormwater can cause streambank erosion, leaving bare soil and exposing tree roots. This can lead to property damage and cause issues with streambank stability.
- **Sedimentation:** Erosion and runoff, can also lead to sedimentation. Sedimentation of waterways from runoff causes changes to aquatic habitats. Undesirable plant growth increases, water becomes more turbid or cloudy, which leads to disruption of aquatic ecosystems. Sedimentation also fills in waterways, which can increase the flooding potential.
- **Impacts to Groundwater Recharge:** If stormwater isn't sinking into the ground it can affect recharge of groundwater resources. This can affect water levels in drinking water wells as well as impacting levels in surface water.
- **Impacts to Recreational Opportunities:** Stormwater runoff can cause polluted waterways which can lead to restrictions on boating, swimming, and fishing in recreational areas.

Making changes to how stormwater is managed can go a long way to reduce negative impacts. Even small actions by individual homeowners like using a rain barrel, choosing permeable landscaping surfaces, or installing a rain garden can make a difference. Stormwater affects everyone! If you have additional questions about stormwater, or you are just interested in learning more, you can find a full series of videos and articles in the [Penn State Extension Stormwater Basics series](#).

## Lower Saucon Authority Online Bill Pay

The Lower Saucon Authority (LSA) has added their new online payment option effective February 1, 2020. This allows customers to pay their water and sewer bills either online or by phone. This is in addition to the already “existing payment options for which there are not fees”.

LSA customers are now able to go to the Authority’s website, [www.lowersauconauthority.org](http://www.lowersauconauthority.org) and click on a link to “PAY MY BILL”, which will take them to a site where they can view, download, and pay their bill. The site is run by a third party, in conjunction with the Authority. Customers will be charged a service fee by the third party. If paid with an e-check or a bank account, there is a flat fee of \$1.95. If payment is made with a credit card, there is a flat fee of \$4.95 (with a payment limit of \$500.00). Another option is to pay bills by phone by calling **855-925-1658**.

If you have any questions and/or concerns about these services, feel free to call the Authority office at 610-317-3212, Monday thru Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

## TEN TIPS FOR FIRE SAFETY



## Fall Adventures at The Hellertown Area Library

Welcome Fall!! A note about events in the Library. We are beginning to schedule some of our activities inside the library due to anticipated colder weather. Masks are required inside the Library as well as outside when unable to maintain a 6 ft. distance for your safety and our safety.

In order to attend these events, you will be required to pre-register for a time slot so that we may follow COVID-19 requirements. Please e-mail Miss Andrea at [youthservices@hellertownlibrary.org](mailto:youthservices@hellertownlibrary.org) or call the library at 610-838-8381 to register. All indoor events have limited spots available.

Stories at the Park! Wednesday, **Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>** at 10:30 a.m. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and join us for a few stories and songs at Lower Saucon Town Hall Park located at 3700 Old Philadelphia Pike, Bethlehem (close to Rt. 378).

Scary Flashlight Stories Inside the Library on Wednesday, **Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>** – sign up for a time slot for your family to attend. Bring a flashlight and a grown up! Best for ages 5 and up.



Passport to Adventure at the Library or on Facebook, **October 29<sup>th</sup>** at 3:00 p.m. Facebook, 4:30 p.m. at the library. Listen to a story from another country, make a craft and have a snack. Recommended for kids ages 4-9. Bring a blanket or chair, you'll be asked to social distance in your spot. Weather permitting. Facebook friends can pick up a bag of items beforehand.

Library! Friday, **October 30<sup>th</sup>** at 10:00 a.m. Wear your costume and bring a blanket. We'll hear some Halloween stories, sing songs and enjoy a snack. We'll also have a little outdoor parade in our costumes. Trick or Treat at the Library Saturday, **October 31<sup>st</sup>**. Dress in your costume and stop by the circulation desk during our scheduled hours of 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Trick or Treat at the Book Bike – Saturday, **October 31<sup>st</sup>** Miss Andrea will be riding around town (weather permitting) handing out treats during Hellertown's trick or treat!

Donations needed: Baby wipes, juice boxes, individually wrapped Halloween candy, pump hand soap, paper or plastic cups, paper towels.

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

## Compost Center News

The Saucon Valley Compost Center will be closing on Saturday, November 21, 2020 for the remainder of 2020, but will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 9, 16, and 23, 2021 to accept Christmas trees and yard waste.



Please check our website for updated schedules and other information on the Compost Center: <https://www.lowersaucontownship.org/svcompostcenter.html> and for Hellertown: [www.hellertownborough.org](http://www.hellertownborough.org)

Note that all dates listed are subject to change based on weather. The Borough of Hellertown and Lower Saucon Township extend our thanks to everyone that has made our fourteenth year of operation an outstanding success. Please look for further announcements in the Spring of 2021 as we reopen the Compost Center for our fifteenth year of service.

## Memorial Bench Program

Donating a memorial bench is a great way to honor or remember a loved one. Benches can be placed at one of 5 locations in Lower Saucon Township (Polk Valley, Steel City, Southeastern, Town Hall Parks and Woodland Hills Preserve). For information call 610-865-3291 or email [receptionist@lowersaucontownship.org](mailto:receptionist@lowersaucontownship.org).



**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS**  
**Sunday, November 1, 2020**  
**Remember to turn your clocks back**

## Resources of Pennsylvanians PA 211

If you are in immediate need of assistance, PA 211 can help. Start by searching their online database at [www.pa211.org](http://www.pa211.org) or texting your zip code to 898-211 to chat with a resource specialist. You can also call 2-1-1 for live help, but please note that they are experiencing high call volumes and wait times are longer than normal. The United Way has also produced a guide to PA COVID-19 Resources at [www.uwp.org/pacovid](http://www.uwp.org/pacovid) that offers links to resources related to housing, utilities, food, Federal stimulus, financial assistance, employment, and more.

The following Feeding Pennsylvania and Hunger-Free member food banks are working on the frontlines to offer food assistance services in each county. Please contact them directly for assistance or to find out how you can help support their mission. For an interactive map of food pantries, visit the Department of Human Services at [www.dhs.pa.gov](http://www.dhs.pa.gov)

## Find a Food Pantry

Some location's hours may be impacted by COVID-19.  
Call or email pantries to find updated information on when services are available.

Looking for assistance? Want to volunteer? The map below will help you locate the closest food pantry.

If you have questions,  
email: [RAPWFOODSECURITY@pa.gov](mailto:RAPWFOODSECURITY@pa.gov)

**Ebenezer New Reformed**  
3221 Bingen Road  
Bethlehem, PA 18015  
Information : Sheila Deiterly  
[enrcfg@aol.com](mailto:enrcfg@aol.com)  
610-838-0731

**New Jerusalem**  
3233 Apples Church Road  
Bethlehem, PA 18015  
Information: Ken Hasz  
[haszies@yahoo.com](mailto:haszies@yahoo.com)  
610-838-0731

**Holy Bethel Pentecostal Church**  
1224 East 4th Street  
Bethlehem, PA 18015  
Information: Rafael Berrian  
610-691-1244

## Saucon Valley Conservancy Volunteers Needed

The Saucon Valley Conservancy is seeking volunteers to join the Conservancy for the historical preservation of the Michael Heller Homestead. For more information, go to their website at:

<https://www.sauconvalleyconservancy.org/>

## Storm Sewer Inlets & Detention Ponds ARE NOT FOR DUMPING

Our community is designated by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection as an MS4 – Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System which must maintain an NPDES Permit (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) for the discharge of stormwater to local waterways. The primary goal of this program is to improve stormwater runoff quality, which impacts streams and rivers in the community.

One thing that the public can do to help prevent Stormwater Pollution is to never dump pollutants into a storm sewer inlet, drainage ditch or basin. This includes paint, chemicals, detergents or petroleum products, as well as grass clippings and leaves. These facilities drain directly to the local streams and dumping anything other than stormwater causes pollution that is harmful to the aquatic life and pollutes the waters which are used for recreation and water supplies.

Waste materials which are no longer needed can be safely disposed of in several ways. Paints containers can be opened to allow the paint to dry out or can be solidified using cat litter. Major automotive service centers will recycle used motor oil. Mulching of grass clippings, or composting clippings and leaves, allows the materials to be utilized as a natural fertilizer. This information is provided as part of the municipal MS4 program. Additional information concerning improving stormwater runoff can be found on the PA Department of Environmental Protection.

Storm Sewer Inlets and Detention Ponds are important parts of our storm water management system.

We all need to work  
together to keep our  
streams  
and rivers clean.



# 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](http://www.lowersaucontownship.org)

[www.facebook.com/lowersaucon/](https://www.facebook.com/lowersaucon/)



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

## Lower Saucon Township Officials

Sandra Yerger	Council President
Jason Banonis	Council Vice President
Priscilla deLeon	Council Member
Thomas Carocci	Council Member
Kristen Stauffer	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

## Zoom Meeting Schedule

**Council**  
1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays – 7:00 p.m.

**Parks & Recreation Board**  
1<sup>st</sup> Monday – 7:00 p.m.

**Environmental Advisory Council**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday – 7:00 p.m.

**Planning Commission**  
4<sup>th</sup> Thursday – 7:00 p.m.

**Zoning Hearing Board**  
4<sup>th</sup> Monday – 7:00 p.m.

**Lower Saucon Authority**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday – 7:00 p.m.

November 3<sup>rd</sup> - Office Closed  
November 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> - Office Closed  
December 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> - Office Closed  
January 1<sup>st</sup> - Office Closed

## Election Day Poll Locations

Election Day is **Tuesday, November 3, 2020**. Not sure where to go to cast your vote? Listed below are the voting districts and their addresses. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. For more information contact the Northampton County Election Office at 610-559-3055, or visit their website at [www.northamptoncounty.org](http://www.northamptoncounty.org). Please note the Township Offices are closed on Election Day.

**District # 1**  
**Lower Saucon-Hellertown**  
Saucon Valley High School  
Door #19  
2097 Polk Valley Road  
Hellertown, PA

**District # 4**  
**Lower Saucon-Seidersville**  
Seidersville Hall  
(Old Town Hall)  
3700 Old Philadelphia Pike  
Bethlehem, PA

**District # 6**  
**Lower Saucon-Wassergass**  
Southeastern Volunteer  
Fire Co.  
2687 Wassergass Road  
Hellertown, PA

**District # 2**  
**Lower Saucon-Leithsville**  
Leithsville Social Hall  
1995 Leithsville Road  
Hellertown, PA

**District # 5**  
**Lower Saucon-Shimersville**  
Steel City Fire House  
2121 Riverside Drive  
Bethlehem, PA

**District # 7**  
**Lower Saucon-Colesville**  
SE-WY-CO Fire Company  
3621 Old Philadelphia Pike  
Bethlehem, PA

**District # 3**  
**Lower Saucon-Lower Saucon**  
Christ Lutheran Church  
of Lower Saucon  
Old Schoolhouse at the  
Corner of Easton &  
Mockingbird Hill Roads,  
Hellertown, PA



**District # 8**  
**Lower Saucon-SE-WY-CO**  
SE-WY-CO Fire Company  
3621 Old Philadelphia Pike  
Bethlehem, PA