



Spring 2012

Newsletter

Montgomery County, Pennsylvania

A Community of Tradition and Vision

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Welcome to Towamencin Township

Dear Residents:

The signs of spring are becoming more prevalent each day, as we watch the darkness of winter fade away. As a new season begins, we welcome all new residents to Towamencin Township and trust you are settling in and finding many things to do. We encourage you to avail yourselves of the many opportunities available to you and your family.

We also welcome David Mosesso and Robert Rau to the Board of Supervisors. Dave will be serving a six-year term, while Bob is serving the remaining two years of Dr. Hollenbeck's term. Dave has been active in a number of Township committees, while Bob is no newcomer to the Board of Supervisors, having served a previous term of office, including serving as Chairman. We welcome Bob's vast wealth of experience, and Dave's dedicated effort.

The 2012 Township Budget was passed on December 28, 2011. Although there was no tax increase, pool rates will remain the same, and the continued \$59,000 Homestead and Farm Exemptions, it is a very tight budget. For the second time in three years, the non-uniform employees are experiencing a pay freeze. No capital budget items will be purchased without prior approval of the Finance Committee, which will meet monthly to review revenue and determine if the funds are available to cover the cost of the item requested. The committee will also be reviewing revenue versus overall expenditures on a monthly basis and making recommendations to the Board concerning the "projected" versus "actual" budget.

The 2012 Township and County Tax Bills were mailed with the Sewer Rental Fee also enclosed. You should have received the bills in one mailer. **If you have not received your Tax and Sewer bill yet, please contact the Township at 215-368-7602 and request a duplicate bill.**

One of the continuing issues in the budget is funding the operations of the Towamencin Pool. Memberships continue to decline and have done so for the last five years. We realize the economy has not been conducive to a number of families continuing pool membership. However, as the 2012 Budget developed, we spent quite some time looking at alternatives of increasing membership, advertising, etc. We are aware of the unique nature of the pool, but we are also aware that all residents pay taxes used among other things for the pool. The deficit for pool operations has been approximately \$54,000 per year. That is money out of the General Fund which causes deferrals in other areas. Over the next year, if there is not an economic upturn, and membership decline continues, the Board will need to address the deficit and use of the pool.

As we move into spring, we will see more children outside, playing, riding bikes, etc. Please drive defensively as you travel through the various developments. Also, to all runners and walkers, if you are jogging, running, walking your dog, or just out for a walk through the neighborhood, and you walk in the streets, please walk facing traffic - do not walk at more than two abreast blocking orderly traffic flow, and above all, please wear reflective material so you can be seen at dusk and in the darkness. Remember to dress your pet in reflective material also.

To all bike riders, remember, you are also subject to the traffic laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Stop signs, traffic lights, etc. apply to you also. On narrow roadways you are required to ride in single file.

Please, drivers and bicycle riders, share the road and do so safely.

Board of Supervisors

Visit our website at www.towamencin.org

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THE TOWAMENCIN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Tax and Sewer Bills

Towamencin Township and Montgomery County tax bills, along with Township sewer bills, are mailed out during the first week of March. You need to contact the Township Office if you do not receive a bill by mid March.

Tax and sewer bills are the responsibility of the property owner. Tax bills will not be mailed to mortgage companies; property owners should forward the bill to their mortgage company if their taxes are escrowed.

Payment can now be made online. Please go to www.towamencin.org for more information.

Mortgage companies **will not** pay sewer bills.

Any request for a change in mailing address must be submitted to the Township in writing. The Township does not change the property owner's name unless directed by the County.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE IS AN INVESTMENT THAT PAYS OFF

To the property owner, summer means more than barbeques and vacations. It is the time to examine the exterior of your property; looking for any damage caused by spring weather and making sure weeds are under control.

Grass and weed populations grow quickly as a result of spring rains. Towamencin Township, like most area municipalities, restricts weeds and plant growth to less than 10 inches high. Cultivated flowers and garden areas are not included in this height restriction, but all noxious weeds are prohibited. To determine which plants fall into the noxious category contact the Towamencin Township Code Department at 215-368-7602.

Take a walk around your property. Pay particular attention to sheds, fences, trellises and rose arbors that can take a beating from high winds. While walking around the exterior of your home, don't forget to look up.

Inspect siding, roofs, gutters, and down spouts for damage. Check for peeling paint. If wooden surfaces are left unprotected, water damage can result in surprisingly high repair bills. Wire brush, sand, prime or repaint surfaces as needed. Repair or replace loose and damaged aluminum that covers the fascia a flat board, band or face, often used in combination with moldings and located at the outer face of the cornice.



These building components may seem like small matters; however, if left unattended, they can provide a path for the elements to begin the structural deterioration of your property.

If you are planning to install a new deck, swimming pool or shed, Towamencin Township requires permits and inspections. The Towamencin Township Code Enforcement Department will be happy to explain

regulations for decks, pools and other outside property maintenance issues. We encourage residents to call us with questions at 215-368-7602

Simple measures are key to protecting property and maintaining property values that will ensure a strong return on the time, money and hard work property owners invest in their property.



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T O W A M E N C I N

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- 2 Restaurants
- 6,000 SF Meeting Space
- 10 Suites
- 2 Pools
- On Site Starbucks



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Stephen Sulzbach, DMD, LVIF

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Leaf and Yard Waste Collection

Pennsylvania Law prohibits placing leaves in the trash. Leaves may be composted onsite or placed out for separate collection. Your contracted waste hauler is to provide this service to their customers in Towamencin Township.

- Residents must purchase their own biodegradable leaf and yard waste collection bags that are available at grocery and hardware stores; plastic bags are not permitted.
- No more than 10 bags per collection.



Haulers are to advise customers of specific dates for leaf pick-up:

- First collection in late October
- Second collection in November
- Third collection in May
- Customers can be billed by their hauler for this DEP-mandated collection.
- Haulers are required to report tonnage collected from each collection to Towamencin so that it can be forwarded to DEP.

Reminder: Burning, raking or blowing leaves onto Township streets is **NOT** permitted.

Protect our Waterways

Stormwater pollution from point sources and nonpoint sources is a challenging water quality problem. Unlike pollution from industry or sewage treatment facilities, which is caused by a discrete number of sources, stormwater pollution is caused by the daily activities of people everywhere.

Rainwater and snowmelt run off streets, lawns, farms, and construction and industrial sites and pick up fertilizers, dirt, pesticides, oil and grease, and many other pollutants on the way to our rivers, lakes, and coastal waters. Stormwater runoff is our most common cause of water pollution. Because stormwater pollution is caused by so many different activities, traditional regulatory controls will only go so far.

Using alternative products instead of toxic substances drastically reduces the presence of toxics in stormwater and receiving waters. Common toxic substances found in

the home are cleaners, automotive products, and pesticides. Other common hazardous substances that are found in homes are fertilizers, paints, and fuels (WEF and ASCE, 1998). This measure is targeted to educating homeowners to prevent such substances from entering stormwater by substituting these common household products with safer, less-toxic alternatives.

Applicability

The promotion of safer alternative products should be coupled with other efforts designed to reduce the presence of hazardous or toxic materials from households and stormwater runoff. Examples of commonly used products and safer alternatives are as follows:

- Aerosols. Use pump-type or non-aerosol products.
- Art supplies. Purchase water-based paints or inks. They should not contain lead or other toxic materials.
- Batteries. Rechargeable batteries are a cost-effective alternative to disposable batteries.
- Chemical fertilizers. Composting yard clippings and food scraps is an option. Manure (in measured amounts) is another alternative to chemical fertilizers.
- Motor Oil. Use re-refined motor oil. Doing so will spur the market for recycled motor oil and decrease reliance on new oil supplies.
- Pesticides. Keeping homes and gardens tidy reduces the food supply for insect pests, averting the need for pesticides. Onion, garlic, and marigold plants help keep garden pests at bay.



Home Run Derby

The Home Run Derby will be held on June 9, 2012 and is co-sponsored by the Philadelphia Phillies. The Towamencin Volunteer Fire Company is the only regional organization to continually sponsor this event for more than 40 years. Starting time is set for 10 a.m.

The competition is open for all boys and girls ages 7 - 15. The contest is being held at Fischer's Park and official entry forms will be available at the field the day of the event.

The Towamencin Volunteer Fire Company organizes the Home Run Derby and will award a total of 50 prizes. First, second and third-place winners in each category will receive a Phillies engraved plaque and the lucky winners will be invited to a regional final to be held later in the summer. Other prizes will be awarded to participants, so virtually all entries will be winners. For more information please call 215-855-9487.

FROM THE TOWAMENCIN TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

For Emergencies, Dial 9-1-1 • Police Dispatch: 215-368-7600 • Administrative Office (non emergencies): 215-368-7606

PA GAME COMMISSION HONORS TOWAMENCIN TOWNSHIP POLICE



Left to right: Lt. Jeffrey Kratz; WCO Ed Glover; Police Specialist C.J. Yoder; Booking Tech Kelly Palermo; and WCO Raymond Madden

Chief Tim Dickinson, Police Specialist C. J. Yoder and Booking Technician Kelly Palermo were awarded Certificates of Appreciation by the Pennsylvania Game Commission at the October 26, 2011 Towamencin Township Board of Supervisors Meeting for their assistance in training Wildlife Conservation Officers in the operation of live scan fingerprinting and digital photography identification equipment at the North Penn Regional Criminal Procession Center at Towamencin Police Headquarters.

Lieutenant Jeffrey Kratz accepted the Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of Chief Dickinson, who was unable to attend.

OFFICIAL COMMENDATIONS OF MERIT AWARDED FOR LIFESAVING EFFORTS

Official Commendations of Merit were awarded to Sergeant Daniel Jusko and Officer Steven Miller at the October 26, 2011 meeting of the Towamencin Township Board of Supervisors. Both officers responded to a report of an unresponsive subject in the gym of Calvary Baptist Church at 1380 Valley Forge Road.

Upon arrival they found a male experiencing a serious respiratory and cardiac emergency. The officers conducted lifesaving techniques and applied an automated external defibrillator, thus restoring breathing and heartbeat. Mr. Kenneth Lynch, Sr. attended the meeting to congratulate and thank both officers for their assistance.



Left to right: Officer Steven Miller; Kenneth Lynch Sr.; and Sergeant Daniel Jusko

2011 POLICE TOY AND FOOD DRIVE

The Towamencin Township Police Department and the Towamencin Police Officers Association conducted a Holiday Toy and Food Drive for struggling families in the township.

Our three elementary schools helped identify ten families in need this past holiday season. Donation boxes for toys and canned goods were placed at businesses and at police headquarters. On December 18, 2011 Santa visited the Towamencin Township Meeting Hall and police employees and their families assisted as "Santa's Helpers." Children visiting Santa were asked to bring an unwrapped toy and canned good.

On Christmas Eve morning, a multi-vehicle caravan with Santa on board left Towamencin Police Headquarters and stopped at all ten homes to deliver the toys and goodies. Santa greeted the children at each home and lots of hugs and expressions of thanks and goodwill were exchanged.

Our community and local businesses stepped up and provided enough donations to meet the wishes of every little girl and boy on the list, as well as to provide for a great holiday feast for each family.

On behalf of the Towamencin Township Police Department and the Towamencin Police Officers Association thanks to all that donated and helped.



Santa visits with area children on December 18.



Packed up and ready for delivery on Christmas Eve Morning

TOWAMENCIN POOL INFORMATION

2012 Pool Hours:

May 26 - May 31: 12:30 PM - 6:30 PM
June 2 - 3: 12:30 PM - 6:30 PM
June 9 - 10: 12:30 PM - 6:30 PM
June 16 - September 3: noon - 8 PM
Labor Day: Noon - 6 PM

The pool will close at 5 p.m. on July 4 and when there is a home swim meet. Early closure notices will be posted two weeks in advance.

Pool may also close early if there are less than 10 swimmers.

The opening and closing of the pool due to inclement weather is the sole decision of the Pool Manager on duty and will be consistent with Red Cross guidelines.

What we offer

- 8-lane Competition Pool with 2 diving boards, zero-depth entry ramp.
- Bathhouse with family changing rooms
- 1 Baby Pool with zero-depth entry and mushroom fountain
- 1 Leisure Pool with zero-depth entry, water slide, spray fountains, tumbling water buckets, and mushroom fountains
- Covered picnic pavilion available to rent for private parties, birthdays, reunions, and more!
- Concession stand
- Swim lessons for children ages 6 months and older
- Free WiFi Internet access

What's offered for 2012:

- Adult Swim Lessons • Aqua Swim Programs
- Lap Swim during non-pool hours
- Private party availability before/after hours.
- Adult and Tot Classes

2012 Membership Registration Dates:

Saturday, April 14 and April 21, 9 a.m. to noon
Wednesday, April 18, 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

- * Early Bird Discount when you register by April 21
 Save \$10 for family memberships
 Save \$5 for individual memberships

Registration takes place at the Towamencin Municipal Complex Meeting Hall.

Walk-in/Mail in registration accepted until May 21; thereafter, all registrations will be taken at the pool.

2012 MEMBERSHIP RATES

Family Membership

All members of the registered family must be living at home. A maximum of two people per family over 21 years old are allowed. Children age 2 and under are admitted free and should not be included in your family count. Nannies and babysitters are required to have an individual membership.

Membership Rates

Number In Family	Resident Fee	Non-Resident Fee
Single Adult 18 & up	\$145	\$240
Single Youth 17 & under	\$110	\$110
Single Senior 65 & up	\$35	\$60
2-4	\$300	\$435
5	\$310	\$445
6	\$325	\$455
7	\$335	\$465
8	\$345	\$475
9	\$360	\$485

Membership Refunds

All requests for refunds must be submitted in writing. There will be no refunds of pool memberships after July 4. A \$30 administrative fee will be charged for all refunds before July.

Additional Fees:

All members will be charged \$6 per adult and \$4 per child for a photo ID that remains valid for 5 years (adult) and 3 years (child) when membership is renewed. Lost ID cards must be repurchased. For your convenience, photos will be taken at the pool.

Pool Badges

- Badges and Photo ID are required for pool admission.
- Badges will not be issued for children 2 and under.
- Badges may be picked up at the pool upon season opening; they will not be mailed.
- Badges are not transferable.

2012 Daily Admission Rates

Seniors (Age 65 & up)	\$5
Adults (Age 18 & older)	\$10 resident; \$12 non-resident
Youth (Age 3-17)	\$6 resident; \$8 non-resident
Family:	\$30 (2 adults, 2 children)
Bonus Card:	\$30 (Gets you a \$36 value in guest passes)

Pool Pavilion Rental

The pavilion at the pool is a great place to hold a party. The pool pavilion may be rented by any Towamencin Township Resident or Pool Member. The \$25 Rental Fee gives you exclusive use of half of the pavilion for 3 hours. There is a maximum of 25 people per party. All people in your party must be pool members or pay daily admission.



SWIM LESSONS

Eligibility

No refunds permitted after the second day of swim lessons.

Registration

Registrations begin the week of June 18. Register for one or all three sessions during normal pool hours.

Youth Swim Lesson Schedule and Fees

Morning Group - Swim Lessons

Mon-Wed ~ 2-week sessions

\$40 per session members

\$50 per session non-members

Classes are half-hour time slots from 10 a.m. until noon.

Lessons are three days a week for two weeks

Session One.....June 25- July 3 (Mon – Thurs for Week I);

Mon and Tues for Week II (no lesson July 4)

Session TwoJuly 11- July 20 (Mon – Wed)

Session ThreeJuly 16 - July 25 (Mon – Wed)

Classes are limited register early.

Youth Swim Programs

Evening Group - Swim Lessons • 6:15 p.m.-7 p.m.

Aqua Zumba

(registration required)

Mon-Wed-Fri, 11:15 a.m. – noon

Cost is \$5 per class; classes begin week of June 25. Catch the new wave of exSwim and Dive Team Informationcitement

FIT LAP Swim

Want to get in some laps before the crowd hits the pool? Sign up for a FIT LAP swim pass. This pass gives you access to the pool Mon through Fri from 11:15 a.m. until noon. FIT LAP swim lasts from June 21 through September 3.

Daily Pass

\$2 for Members • \$4 for Non-Members



Mon and Wed ~ 3-Week session

\$40 per session members

\$50 per session non-members

Session One: July 9-25

Session Two: August 6–22

Classes are limited register early.

Private and Semi-Private Lessons

Mon - Sat

\$17 per half hour - Private Lessons

\$15 per half hour - Semi-Private Lessons

Pre-registration is required

You choose how many lessons, time and day, and your instructor.

Adult Swim Lessons:

Whether your are a beginner or tri-athlete, we have the staff for your level.

Swim Lessons can save your life! Please inquire about private lessons for adults. It can change your life in many ways.



Parent and Tot Class

Saturdays • 11 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

For children 6 months to 2 year

Shrimp-Kippers

11:30 a.m. – noon

For children 2 years to 3-1/2 years

Inia-Perch

Classes run from July 7 through September 1

Pre-registration is required

Members: \$3 per class • Non-Members: \$5 per class

Classes are offered in a teacher-directed group environment with parent interaction. Parent and child classes stress water adjustment, body awareness and sharing through songs and games.



SWIM AND DIVE TEAM INFORMATION

Head Coach: Beth McConnell

Want to be a Mighty Dolphin?

You can be part of a Towamencin Championship Tradition. Join the 2012 Towamencin Mighty Dolphin swim team. Your child will learn what it is like to be a part of a team that dedicates a lot of time to practice and takes pride in their performance. Our swimmers come back year after year because of the great experience.

Swim and Dive team practice begins in late May; the season ends in early August.

Eligibility

Pool members age 6 through the summer after high school graduation are invited to register and compete. Youngsters must be able to complete one lap of the pool freestyle or backstroke to join the team. The Bux-Mont League requires team members to be members of their team pool.

Fees and Registration

Swim Team registration takes place at the Towamencin Municipal Complex Meeting Hall during the following dates only:

Saturday April 14 and April 21, from 9 a.m. until noon

Wednesday April 18, from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Late registration will be accepted only if room permits; a \$25 late fee applies. To register, please complete the pool membership form and the swim team membership form.

1 Swimmer/Diver - \$45

2 Swimmers/Divers - \$70

3 Swimmers/Divers - \$85

4 Swimmers/Divers - \$95

5 or more Swimmers/Divers - \$100

Visit the swim team website at www.towamencinswimteam.org

2012 Swim Meet Schedule

June 23 – Time Trails (in the morning)

June 26 @ Souderton

June 28 @ Harleysville

July 10 @ Nor-Gwyn

July 12 – Home - Fanny Chapman

July 17 @ Hatfield

July 19 – Home - Lansdale

July 24 – Home - Pennridge

July 30 – C Champs @ Lansdale or Souderton

August 1 – B Champs @ Nor-Gwyn

August 4 – A Champs @ Towamencin

7 am – 12:30 pm



Morgan Log House 2012 Spring and Summer Events

For more information, or to register for one of these programs, please visit www.morganloghouse.org or call 215-368-2480.

April 14, noon until 4 p.m – Open House

Has your dream always been to step back in time to the 18th century? Have you always wanted to try cooking in an 18th century fireplace? Do you enjoy gardening? Then you are just who we are looking for!

Please consider joining the Morgan Log House family of volunteers. We need people like you to help with our mission of keeping the Morgan Log House open as a public resource for local history education. At the Open House, you will meet with staff and other volunteers to learn how you can help out. This program is Free.

April through June – Bookbinding Workshops

Before the invention of Gutenberg's printing press in 1447, bookbinding had been primarily practiced by monks and religious clerics. But with the development of the printing press, the practice of bookbinding took off, though binding remained very much a craft, with each book constructed by hand. Have you ever wondered how books were put together in the Colonial era? Have you ever wanted to make your own personal book for keeping photos or memories in?

During this workshop you will be introduced to the basic techniques of bookbinding. Each registrant will make a 5.5 by 8.5 inch Journal with decorative paper cover, a Quarter-cloth notebook measuring 4 by 5.5 inches, and a Half-cloth Notebook measuring 5.5 by 8.5 inches.



Registration is required. The \$25 registration fee covers the cost of materials. Space is limited, so register early.

May 19, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Military Might at Morgan Log House

This is a day dedicated to the men and women who have fought for their country, beliefs, ideas, and futures. Re-enactors covering the 18th, 19th, and 20th century campaigns will tell the story of how residents in this region, county, state, and nation played an important role in wars spanning the past 300 years. Presentations include military and medical advancements, discussions on how the home front was affected during war, home gardens usage, exhibits of letters, diaries, journals, photographs, postcards and more.

The event will highlight military encampments, clothing, equipment, drills, and artillery over the course of 300 years. Admission charged.

June 23 – Colonial Festival & Craft Fair

It's summertime, and we're celebrating in the old-fashioned style. Join 18th century re-enactors and crafters as we

celebrate this festive time of the year! Try period toys, games or buy your own in our Museum Shop. Relax in our reconstructed family style Tavern-on-the-Green as you learn about Colonial-style refreshments and tavern games. Tour the Morgan Log House decorated in the 18th century Welsh style using garlands of herbs and flowers. Experience the mystery and magic as costumed historical interpreters show how the early Welsh kept "evil spirits" away and summoned ghosts to foretell the future. In addition to the Colonial Festival there will be a Craft Fair showcasing one-of-a-kind handmade items for sale. Admission is charged for the Colonial Festival only. The Craft Fair is free of charge and in a separate area of the park.

July through September Farmers Market & Craft Fairs

Join us twice a month beginning in July and running through the end of September for our third annual Farmers Market and Craft Fair program. The upper field at the Morgan Log House features local farmers and more than a dozen vendors selling handmade jewelry, pocketbooks, clothing, lotions, soap, dog treats, wooden items, home decorations and so much more! Stop on over with your morning cup of coffee and pick up fresh produce and baked goods for that cookout you planned. Grab some dog treats for Fido. Or snag that one-of-a-kind pocketbook you've been looking for! All this while supporting local farmers and vendors. The Morgan Log House will open for special tours and demonstrations during each Farmers Market & Craft Fair. Visit www.MLHmarket.org for dates, time, and a list of vendors.



July 23 through July 27 Time Travelers History Camp

Register now for an adventure back in time as we learn about life in Colonial Pennsylvania! During Time Travelers History Camp at Morgan Log House, campers will experience hands-on activities including open-hearth cooking, candle making, paper marbling, ink making, quill pen writing, dyeing, Colonial games, and much more!

Campers will learn about the amazing journey colonists made to the New World; what the colonists found when they arrived; how their cleared the land and built their homes. What was farm life like here at Morgan Log House? What chores did children do? What games did children play? How did colonists use plants, animals, and trees to keep them alive in this New World?

Camp is open to children entering 3rd to 6th grades. Registration is required. Registration fee is \$130 per child for non-members, and \$120 per child for Members.

Space is limited, register early.



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TOWAMENCIN VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

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The winter months for the Towamencin Volunteer Fire Company (TVFC) are generally a time for us to complete a refresher and re-certification in certain areas. This is training we can do indoors as we work through the challenging weather conditions of winter.

The company will be conducting and completing our First Aid and CPR certifications over several weeks, followed by our Hazardous Materials refresher and recertification. These areas of training are essential for us to remain current and prepared to respond when these emergency situations occur within our township or in our coverage area of the turnpike.

Additional training and preparedness is being scheduled for the remainder of the winter until we return to outside drills and training. Every Thursday evening, your firefighters are meeting, training and mastering skills so that when called, we're ready.

The Towamencin Volunteer Fire Company ended 2011 with just shy of 500 alarms, our busiest year ever for both dispatched alarms and activities. For those that keep track from past newsletters, this is again an increase for your all-volunteer fire company.

Members of the Towamencin Volunteer Fire Company, like each of you, must balance life demands of work and family along with the demands of serving as a volunteer with Towamencin Volunteer Fire Company. Training and fundraising are part of what we do all year, along with alarm response, to continue to provide the best professional fire/rescue service to the businesses and residents of Towamencin Township and those travelling through our township via our roads and the turnpike.

The Towamencin Volunteer Fire Company delivers the fire/rescue services on a full 100-percent volunteer basis at a fraction of the cost to support a fully paid or partially paid department. Salary and benefits alone for members of a paid fire/rescue department providing around-the-clock coverage would cost up to \$2 million per year. When you add the cost of equipment, apparatus, and station upkeep, you can see this could become a hefty additional tax burden for businesses and residents.

As a fully volunteer organization, we successfully run on a budget of just under \$300,000. The savings generated by our volunteer staff is tremendous, as evidenced by the comparison made here.

Our membership is a critical component, so we encourage you to come and check us out as we are always seeking new personnel. The training requirements are initially demanding; however, the "return" is just as great. We meet every Thursday at 7:15 p.m.

Consider one of our newest firefighters. He and his wife work and live in Towamencin. He had "always thought about it" when considering firefighting but had never inquired about it before. Well, his curiosity to take that step has been to our benefit as he recently completed the initial firefighting training course on nights and weekends. Less than a week after graduation, he was manning a hose line at a residential house fire, stopping the advancing blaze. The teamwork provided by our firefighters and neighboring units saved the home, its contents and, most importantly, the residents who lived there.

As we begin 2012, the Towamencin Volunteer Fire Company is looking ahead to the opportunities and the challenges in continuing to deliver these fire/rescue services when called upon and to serve this community with events for you to participate in and enjoy along with us.

Our new officers for the year are and off and running. Our committees are engaged in support of the officers and administration. We will be kicking off our 2012 Fund Drive in March, so be watching for your support request to arrive in the mail. We ask for your continued consideration and THANK YOU for your support of this fund drive in these challenging economic times.

Our Ladies Auxiliary will be hosting its annual Basket Bingo event on March 16 and their Flower Sales on May 5.

The fire company will be having a Spring Car Wash and will be participating in the North Penn 5th Fire District Water Battle competition (dates to-be -determined; watch our sign for an announcement).

As we look forward to spring, we ask that you keep in mind what the volunteers of Towamencin Volunteer Fire Company provide to the township. When that siren sounds, while annoying to some, let it be a reminder that men and women are voluntarily leaving their homes, places of work, church, or kids' events and sacrificing "life's balance" in support of Towamencin Township. That siren is also a reminder to be alert that there will be folks responding to the fire station and then responding with fire apparatus, so we ask for your patience and awareness as traffic congestion and construction delays in the township impact us too in responding for an alarm.

Again, please consider the opportunity to make an impact locally by joining us. If you have "always thought about it," now could be your time to join the men and women of the Towamencin Volunteer Fire Company. Your service with us will help in making "life's balance" a little easier in 2012.

Have a safe and enjoyable winter and Spring!
Towamencin Volunteer Fire Company

Dates to Remember

March 1: 2012 Fund Drive Kickoff

May/June: Car Wash (TBD; watch for date)

June/July: 5th District Water Battle (TBD; come out and support the Towamencin Volunteer Fire Co)

March 16: Basket Bingo (Main Station, Bustard Rd)

May 5: Flower Sale (Main Station, Bustard Rd)

September 8: Chicken Barbecue

FROM THE TOWAMENCIN TOWNSHIP FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

1090 Troxel Rd • PO Box 303 • Kulpville PA 19443-0303 • 215-368-7602 • 215-368-7650 (Fax)

Help us Find You in an Emergency

All properties within the Township are required to have their address posted to identify their home. The Fire Code requires that all addresses be placed in a position that is plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property.

These numbers shall contrast with their background. Address numbers shall be Arabic numbers or alphabetical letters.

The best way to accomplish this is with reflective numbers that will be noticeable with the lighting on the emergency vehicles.

Numbers shall be a minimum of 4 inches (101.6 mm) high with a minimum stroke width of 0.5 inch (12.7 mm).

Where should I put my address?

If you have a curbside mailbox the address should be

placed on both sides of the post or the mailbox.

If you do not have a curbside mailbox the address should be mounted on the front of your home in a location that is visible from the street.

Where access is by means of a private road and the building cannot be viewed from the public way, a monument, pole or other sign or means shall be used to identify the structure.

Do not put your address on your curb where it will be blocked by parked cars or snow.

When police, fire or medical services are called to your residence or business we need to be able to see your address so we can find you in a timely manner. Posting your address in accordance with the Township Fire Code **"HELPS US TO FIND YOU IN AN EMERGENCY."**

Grilling Safety Tips

Fire in the grill, under hot dogs and burgers, is a welcome sight at the family cookout. But fire anywhere else can make your summer kick-off barbecue memorable for all the wrong reasons.

General Safety Tips

- Propane and charcoal BBQ grills must be used only outdoors. If used indoors, or in any enclosed spaces, such as tents, they pose both a fire hazard and the risk of exposing occupants to toxic gases and potential asphyxiation.
- Position the grill well away from siding, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
- Place the grill a safe distance from lawn games, play areas and foot traffic.
- Keep children and pets away from the grill area: declare a three-foot "safe zone" around the grill.
- Put out several long-handled grilling tools to give the chef plenty of clearance from heat and flames when flipping burgers.
- Periodically remove grease or fat buildup in trays below grill so it cannot be ignited by a hot grill.

If you use a charcoal grill...

- Purchase the proper starter fluid and store the can out of reach of children, and away



from heat sources.

- Never add charcoal starter fluid when coals or kindling have already been ignited, and never use any flammable or combustible liquid other than charcoal starter fluid to get the fire going.

If you use a propane grill...

Check the gas cylinder hose for leaks before using it the first time each year. A light soap and water solution applied to the hose will quickly reveal escaping propane by releasing bubbles.



If you determine your grill has a gas leak, by smell or the soapy bubble test, and there is no flame, turn off the gas tank and grill. If the leak stops, get the grill serviced by a professional before using it again. If the leak does not stop, call the fire department.

- If you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call the fire department. Do not attempt to move the grill.
- Use only equipment with the label of a recognized testing laboratory. Follow the manufacturers' instructions on how to set up the grill and maintain it.

For more information:

http://www.nfpa.org/gallery/grill_safety/slideshow.html

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

ADMINISTRATION

Robert Ford, *Township Manager*
 Maureen Doyle, *Director of Finance*
 Joe Leis, *Director of Community Planning*
 Kevin Pezzano, *Fire Marshal*
 P. Timothy Dickinson, *Police Chief*
 Dave Hillmantel, *Director of Public Works*

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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 H. Charles Wilson, III, *Vice Chairman*
 Robert N. Rau, *Treasurer*
 James P. Sinz, *Secretary*
 David J. Mosesso, *Assistant Treasurer / Secretary*

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Police-Fire-Medical Emergency Dial 9-1-1	North Penn School District 215-368-0400	Volunteer Medical Service 215-362-2345
Police (non-emergency) 215-368-7600	PECO Energy 1-800-841-4141	Tax Collector 215-368-8071
Fire (non-emergency) 215-362-2776	Comcast 610-684-3700	Towamencin Youth Association 215-362-8924
Township Building 215-368-7602	North Penn Chamber of Commerce 215-362-9200	PA Game Commission 610-926-3136
North Penn Water Authority 215-855-3617	Towamencin Pool 215-368-2615	District Justice 215-393-7534
Sewer Authority 215-855-8165	Montgomery County Courthouse 610-278-3000	Voter Registration 610-278-3280

2012 Dates to Remember

- **May 19:** Towamencin Day
- **May 19:** Montgomery County Concert Band
- **June 24 and August 12:** Flick-n-Floats
- **July 12 and August 9:** Movies in the Park
- **June 21:** "Almost Fab" Beatles Tribute
- **November 17:** Turkey Trot 5k
- **December 8:** Holiday Lights Festival

Towamencin Township is proud to announce our Facebook Page!! Please search Facebook under Towamencin Township and "Like" the page. You will be able to get up-to-the-minute information on Township news, events, and much more!!! This is a great way to stay connected to your Township, Police, and Fire Department.



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