

MOON messenger

The Official Newsletter of Moon Township | moontwp.com

SPRING 2016

**SPRING,
INTO MOON**

**SUPERVISOR
BACHMAN** (3)

**RECYCLING DAY
JUNE 4** (5)

**PUBLIC AWARENESS
WEEKEND
APRIL 1ST & 2ND** (12)

The Art of Service - Elizabeth Eberts

Inside



A Step Against Litter 4

-  VFC Upcoming Events
-  New Developments In Moon Township
-  Prescription Drug Collection
-  Parks and Recreation Spring Programs & Sponsorship Opportunity



Community Development



Public Works



Green Initiatives



Parks & Rec



Community Television



Police



Fire



Library

Moon Township Administration Office

1000 Beaver Grade Road
Moon Township, PA 15108
412.262.1700
moontwp.com

Moon Township Board of Supervisors

Jim Vitale, Chairman
Joe Wise, Vice Chairman
David Bachman
Andrew Gribben
John Hertzner

Moon Township Staff

Dawn Lane, Township Manager
Jeffrey Ziegler, Assistant Township Manager
Scott Brillhart, Assistant Township Manager/Planning Director
James Koepfinger, Director of Communications and Technology
Lisa Lapaglia, Finance Director
Jim Henkemeyer, Public Works Facilities Manager
John Scott, Public Works Operations Manager
Dave Meinert, Building Inspector
Lora Dombrowski, Code Administrator
Malcolm Petroccia, Township Engineer
Leo McCarthy, Police Chief
Greg Seamon, Police Captain
Lance Welliver, Parks and Recreation Director
Amy Ottaviani, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director
Ashley Bureau, Communications Director
Allison Eastham, Director MCA-TV
Frank Vieira, Assistant Director MCA-TV
Lynda Shandrick, Assistant Managers Secretary/Receptionist
Natalie Thiess, Administrative Assistant

Other Moon Township Contact Information

Always call 911 in an emergency

Moon Township Police Department
412.262.5000
Moon Township Fire Department
412.262.5004 (non-emergency only)
Moon Parks and Recreation
412.262.1703
Moon Community Access Television
412.269.1191
Moon Township Municipal Authority
412.264.4300
Moon Township Public Library
412.269.0334
Elected Property Tax Collector: Catherine Tress
412.299.7446
Earned Income Tax Collector: Jordan Tax Service
724.731.2300

Moon Township welcomes feedback on the Moon Township Messenger at moontwp@moontwp.com or call **412.262.1700**.

Township offices will be closed in observance of the upcoming 2016 holidays:
Friday, March 25 Good Friday
Monday, May 30 Memorial Day

Table of Contents

Moon Township in Brief	3
Community	4
Green Initiatives	5
Public Safety	6-7
Parks & Recreation	8-9
Tax Information / Hollow Oak	10
Valley Ambulance	11
MCA-TV	12
Community Development	13-15



Community Development



Public Works



Green Initiatives



Parks & Rec



Community Television



Police



Fire



Library



The Cover

Spring is coming to Moon Township! Get your cleaning shoes ready for some Spring Cleaning!

The Moon Township Messenger was arranged by Communications Director Ashley Bureau and designed by Web & Graphic Designer Frank Vieira

Read the Spring 2016 Moon Township Messenger and past editions online at moontwp.com



Welcome a'Board Supervisor Bachman

Moon Township welcomed David Bachman to the Board of Supervisors during the January 4, 2016 Public Meeting. Mr. Bachman was sworn in by Mary Murray before officially taking his seat on the board.

Mr. Bachman grew up in Moon Township, graduating from Moon Area High School. He is the President of Bachman Builders, a custom home building company based in Moon Township. He is married to his wife, Deby, has 3 adult children and 6 grandchildren. In his free time, he enjoys hiking, gardening, reading, bible studies and playing with his grandchildren.

Mr. Bachman says he is pleased to begin working toward improving the community. "I am excited to take my seat on the board and begin working for the residents of Moon Township! Moon is a great place to live and work, and I believe we can make this community the premier suburb of Pittsburgh."

Mr. Bachman's goals for the township include creating a true town center with a vibrant restaurant scene that is pedestrian friendly; improving the parks and hiking trails in conjunction with the Montour Trail and Hollow Oak Land Trust; to create a Moon Township government that residents believe is working for the people and to create an environment that is conducive to responsible development in order to increase the tax base with the goal of not having to raise taxes on existing home owners.

A Budget Letter From the Township Manager

I am pleased to report that the 2016 Township Budget was passed at the Wednesday, December 16th Board of Supervisors meeting. The Township mileage for 2016 will remain at 2.74 mils. The funds Included in the 2016 Budget are:

General Fund	\$ 13,421,211
Capital Fund	\$ 3,080,433
Liquid Fuels Fund	\$ 637,503
Local Service Tax Fund	\$ 800,500

The overall revenue/expense allocations indicate an increase of 6.1% from the 2015 Budget. The revenue increase is contributed to an increase in Real Estate Tax and Local Enabling Tax Collections. Both of these revenue factors are directly related to the increased number of homes that have been built in Moon over the past four years. From what we have been presented with to date, we are anticipating, from a planning point of view, this trend will continue over the next several years. While the largest increase in expenditures

is allocated to Police and Highway Maintenance, these are attributed to the continued growth we have seen. The need for additional Police services as well as Highway maintenance includes all of the services provided through public works, such as road maintenance, storm water maintenance, winter road maintenance and improvements to the various township owned facilities and parks.

As Moon continues to grow in 2016, staff along with the Board of Supervisors is pursuing effective ways to provide services and programs that benefits the residents in the most cost-efficient manner, while also working with developers to support a Second Class Township which offers amenities that complement the way of life in Moon. For a more detail analysis of each Budget account, the 2016 Adopted Budget can be found on the Moon Township Website at www.moontwp.com.

Dawn Lane
Township Manager





CITIZEN SPOTLIGHT: SHARON KNOX

On a nice day in Moon, you might spot Sharon Knox picking up trash along the road. A Moon resident of 25 years, Knox began her litter cleanup efforts in May 2015. "I drive these roads every day, and I just got tired of seeing the trash," she explains.

Two women stopped to help her during her first cleanup in May, together they collected 39 bags of trash in one day! Since then, Sharon has gathered more than 100 more trash bags of litter from Brodhead Road and Spring Run Road Extension. The variety of items includes water bottles, beer bottles, cans, chewing tobacco cans, needles, cigarette butts and more.

Sharon coordinates with Moon Township Public Works to collect the

bags she fills. They provided her with a reflective vest and trash bags for her cleanups, as well.

Sharon noted that she often gets a lot of honks, waves and "thank you's" while she is out collecting garbage. "People have been very appreciative," she says, "and I've had people tell me stories of how they never used to think twice about littering but now they don't litter at all."

Unfortunately, though, it doesn't take long for garbage to reappear after one of Sharon's cleanups. Just hours after her hard work is done, pieces of trash will appear along the road. "It is just so beautiful and nice when it is clean." Sharon says, "After I finish for the day, I'll drive back through and enjoy the



Sharon Knox and her family

She admits it is frustrating and sad when the litter comes back. "I haven't figured it out. There are garbage cans everywhere these days."

While she does enjoy the exercise and time outdoors, she ultimately just wants people to think about what they are doing, and stop littering.

IN THE COMMUNITY

Facts about Littering

Not only is littering against the law—fines can range up to \$300 for the first offense—it is also costly to the community. Litter cleanup costs the United States more than an estimated \$11.5 billion each year. Indirect costs of litter include reduction of property value, discourages customers from entering businesses, and deters employers and new businesses from locating to the community.

There are environmental consequences as well, including lost tourism revenues, expenses for

repairing vehicles, restoration of ecosystems and eventually the cost of human health. Debris may be carried to storm drains into local waterways, with potential for serious environmental contamination.

Litter control is important. Learn about the dangers of litter and spread the word. It is more than just a piece of trash blowing in the wind, it negatively impacts our community in numerous ways. Take pride in Moon Township and help us conquer litter throughout our community!



ADOPT-A-ROAD

Moon Township is pleased to offer an Adopt-A-Road program for township owned roads. Families, individuals, businesses and organizations can choose to adopt a road, or stretch of a road. By adopting a road, the applicant agrees to a minimum of two litter pickups per year, or more if deemed necessary, during a 2 year minimum adoption period.

If you or your organization is interested in participating in Moon Township Adopt a Road program, please contact the township office at 412.262.1700.

Choose Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)



Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) is a mutually beneficial commitment between local farmers and their community. Members of the CSA ensure a customer base and stable income for the farmer throughout the growing season. In return, the farmer provides CSA Members with a weekly share of the best and fresh local produces available year round.

To become a CSA member, you must first pre-purchase a membership (the community covers anticipated operational costs of the farm) and receive shares of the bounty throughout the growing season. This economic partnership helps to offset risks to the farmer and reduces costs of marketing and middlemen, keeping food local and affordable for the community. Each CSA farmer has their own unique seasonal share. Each season has a set share and membership price.

By choosing CSA farmers, you:

- Receive a wide selection of healthy farm products harvest weekly
- Support your local economy by keeping food dollars close to home. CSA provides convenience of local deliveries in your Township.
- Contribute to sustainability by keeping farms financially viable and preserving farmland in Southwestern Pennsylvania.

Visit the CSA farmers webpage to find out more information and sign-up!

Moon CSA Farmers

Penn's Corner
(pennscorner.com)
Fellowship Foods
(fellowshipfoods.com)
Clarion River Organics
(clarionriverorganics.com)

General Rules of Residential Curbside Recycling

The complete process of recycling includes three steps: collection and processing, manufacturing, and purchasing new products made from recycled materials. But, in order to get to the last step, it is important that we follow the recycling guidelines! Below is a list of recyclable materials designated by the Moon Township Municipal Authority:

- Aluminum beverage containers
- Steel and bi-metal food and beverage containers consisting of steel, aluminum, and/or tin.
- Plastics – Plastic materials (All clean plastic, even plastic bags)
- Glass – Clear and colored glass bottles and jars.
- Paper Products – Any clean paper that can be torn or ripped
- Corrugated Cardboard must be flattened to be placed beside or below the recycling bin. Flattened boxes larger than 30" x 42" must be cut into smaller pieces to allow loading.

WM at Your Door Program

Can't make it to one of our Recycling Days? Waste Management offers a residential curbside special materials pickup. The "At Your Door Special Collection" program allows Moon Township residents to easily and safely dispose of household materials.

There are three ways to schedule a collection:

1. Online at WMatYourDoor.com
2. Call 1.800.449.7584
3. Email AtYourDoor@WM.com

After scheduling your collection date and time, a Waste Management representative will provide you with information and instructions for preparing your collection. More information on the program and a list of accepted materials can be found through the program's website at WMatYourDoor.com or by calling a representative at 1.800.449.7587.

EVENTS

Moon Township's Electronics Collections

10 am - 2pm

Moon Township Municipal Building
1000 Beaver Grade Rd.

Saturday, April 30

Saturday, August 6

Saturday, October 1

Moon Township's Recycling Day

8 am - 1pm

Moon Township Municipal Building
1000 Beaver Grade Rd.

Saturday, June 4

Please call Lora Dombrowski with any questions at 412.262.1700



National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

Saturday, April 30
10 am – 2 pm
Public Safety Building



OVER
50%
OF PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSERS
GET THEM FROM FRIENDS OR FAMILY

Moon Township Police Department, in coordination with the DEA's National Take-Back Initiative, will hold a Prescription Drug Collection to collect unwanted and unused medications. The National Take-Back Initiative provides residents with the opportunity to safely and properly dispose of medications that are no longer needed.

If you miss April's National Take-Back Day, Moon Township Police Department offers prescription drug disposal all year round. There is a disposal box in the lobby of the Public Safety Building where residents can drop off unwanted or expired prescription drugs. The project is sponsored by the Allegheny County District Attorney's Office. The DA has received assurances from local hospitals to assist in the destruction of unwanted medications. The disposal area is video monitored and under the control of police staff around the clock.

Stay Safe, Make Your Street Number Visible for Emergency Responders

Did you know? According to Moon Township Ordinances, any building or structure to which a street number has been assigned shall have the number displayed in a location near the front or primary entrance of the building or structure, easily observed and readable from the public right-of-way. The minimum size (height) of the street number shall be 3" for residential building or structures and 6" for commercial buildings and structures. If not the number/building cannot be seen from the street, the number must be clearly displayed at the driveway entrance. Using the mailbox to display the street number is acceptable provided that the mailbox is located directly in front of the building and the numbers must be located on both sides of the mailbox. The numbers shall be easily distinguishable such as black on white or white on black and posted as a number not written script.

EMERGENCY

In the event of an emergency or to report an occurring crime or threat, always call Moon Township Police Department's Dispatch Center at **412.262.5000** or dial **911** for immediate assistance. Citizens may also call the Dispatch Center to speak with a Moon Police official regarding information related to a crime or victim of a crime and may choose to remain anonymous.

Moon Dispatch Center
412.262.5000

Emergency Services
911

Crime Tips Hotline
412.264.5202

Callers may remain anonymous.

Suspect a Crime? Call the Hotline.

Contact the Moon Police Department's Crime Tips Hotline to leave an anonymous message regarding the suspicion of criminal activity or with information on a crime, person who committed a crime, or victim of a crime. Call the hotline at any time, day or night, at **412.264.5202** or email **crimetips@moonpolice.us**. Many times the assistance of others saves someone from becoming a victim or helps current victims of crimes.





VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

1000 Beaver Grade Rd. | 412.262.5000 | moonpolice.us



JOIN THE MOON VFC

Have you ever thought about becoming a firefighter? Join the Moon Township Volunteer Fire Company Today! Qualifications for joining are:

- You must be at least 16 years of age.
- You must live within the Township of Moon.
- You will be required to pass a drug test and physical before being accepted into membership.

Applications can be obtained from any active firefighter, or you can stop in at any Fire Station. The VFC has training nights every Monday night at 7 p.m. Anyone who is interested in joining can stop by any station and talk to the firefighters and ask questions.



PUBLIC WORKS



Moon Township Public Works Spring Cleanup Schedule

Curbside yard waste pick-up will run Monday through Friday, March 7, 2016- April 1, 2016. The schedule follows residents' regular garbage collection.

Simply place leaves and branches at the curb by 7 a.m. on pickup day. Residents are asked to put leaves in bio-degradable paper bags. Leaves or branches in plastic bags or boxes will not be accepted. For questions regarding the 2016 Spring Cleanup Schedule, call Moon Township Public Works at 412.262.1700.

Lenten Fish Fries

**Fridays during Lent
11 a.m. – 8 p.m.**

Moon Township Public Safety Building

Join the Moon Township Volunteer Fire Company for their annual Lenten Fish Fries. Both take-out and sit down dinners are available. Choose from fish, shrimp, chicken fingers, sandwiches and desserts. All dinners include fries and our special firehouse recipe coleslaw.



Sportsmans' Bash

**Saturday, April 2
Noon - 7 p.m. (doors at 11 a.m.)**

Moon Township Public Safety Building

Come out to the Public Safety Building for the Annual Sportsman's Bash held by the Moon VFC. Tickets cost \$30 and only 1,000 tickets are available, so grab yours today! Food and refreshments will be available and raffle drawings will be held every 15 minutes (you must be 18 years or older to enter). Tickets are available for purchase from any Moon firefighter.





Become a Sponsor

Parks Build Communities

Moon Parks and Recreation programs offer thousands of residents, of all ages, family friendly entertainment and events throughout the years. From youth basketball and women's volleyball to large scale community events such as Family Fun Nights, Moon Township Independence Day Firecracker 5K, Halloween Spook-tacular and the Independence Day Celebration featuring Zambelli Fireworks and Great Musical Acts, Moon Parks & Recreation provides residents a means to enjoy first-rate entertainment virtually free of charge.

Here's How Sponsors Come into the Picture...Are you interested in both stewardship and reaching thousands of Moon residents? Moon Parks & Recreation is seeking out family-friendly sponsors to partner with us to grow our programs, events and facilities. Sponsors can get involved in several ways:

- Gain naming rights to new Moon Park pavilions and athletic fields
- Gain marketing exposure through advertising banners on

fields

- Sponsor a particular event, T-shirt logos and media benefits
- Sponsor a park amenity or trail
- Sponsor the brand new Moon Park Playground
- Honor or memorialize with donation amenities such as park benches, tree plantings and more.

By becoming a Moon Parks & Recreation sponsor, you will receive a variety of benefits including name recognition in our promotional mailings, media benefits on our email blasts and web instead through media announcements.

Contact Us Today to Get Started!
Please address sponsorship requests to:

Amy Ottaviani
Assistant Director
(p) 412.262.1703
(e) aottaviani@moontwp.us

Grant Announcement!

Moon Township has been awarded a \$250,000 grant for the Moon Park Playground Redevelopment Project. More information coming soon!

Upcoming Events

Bunny Trail

Saturday March 26th
11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Moon Park

Earth Day Celebration

Sunday April 24th
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Robin Hill Park

West Hills Art League (Art Show)

Sunday, May 8
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Robin Hill Park

Summer Camps

June thru August
Registration Now Open
Robin Hill Park and Moon Park

Robin Hill Concert Series

May-September (3rd Wednesday)
Noon -1:00pm
Robin Hill Park

Family Fun Nights

Fridays, June –August.
Concerts and live entertainment start at 7:30pm. Movies at dusk.
Moon Park

Volunteer

Volunteer opportunities are available for all ages and abilities at Moon Park! If you or your company is interested in volunteering at any of our special events please contact the Parks office at Robin Hill Park at **412.262.1703** or email info@moonparks.org.

Reminder!

The Moon Parks office has moved! We are now located in Robin Hill Park (949 Thorn Run Road, Moon Township, PA 15108). Our hours are Mon-Thurs 8:30-4:30, Friday 8:30-Noon.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

HEALTH & FITNESS

HipHop/ CIZE

(Adults & Teens 15+)

Date: Tuesdays March 29-May 3
May 10-June 14

Time: 6:30-7:30pm

Location: Township Municipal Building

Fee: \$45 Moon residents,\$50 non-resident,
per 8 week class (Drop In for \$10)

Instructor: Lori Peterson

PiYo

(Adults and teens 15+)

Dates: Mondays Feb 29-April 18
(No class March 7 & 21)

April 25-May 30

Time: 8:30-9:15am

Location: Robin Hill Center

Fee: \$45 Moon residents/\$50 non-resi-
dents (Drop In for \$10)

Core Conditioning/Pilates

(Adults & Teens 15+)

Date: Wednesday April 6 - May 11
May 18 - June 22

Time: 8:45-9:45 am

Location: Robin Hill Center

Fee: \$45 Residents/\$50 Non-Residents
per 6 week session

Instructor: Judy Elias

Beginner Zumba

(Adults & Teens 13+)

Dates: Mondays April 4-May 9
May 16-June 20

Time: 6:00-7:00 pm

Location: Moon High School Fitness Room

Fee: \$45 Moon Residents, \$50 Non-Resi-
dents, per 6 week session

Instructor: Catherine Hollien

Zumba

(Adults & Teens 15+)

Dates: Mondays April 4-May 9
May 16-June 20

Times: 7:15-8:15pm

Location: Moon High School Fitness Room

Fee: \$45 Moon residents/\$50 non-resi-
dents, per 6 week session

Instructor: Karla Tobias

Zumba Fitness

(Adults & Teens 13+)

Dates: Thursdays, March 31-May 5
May 12-June 16

Time: 6:30-7:30pm

Location: Moon Township Municipal
Building – Auditorium

Cost: \$45 Residents/\$50 Non-Residents -per
6 week session

Instructor: Paola Sanchez

Yoga Basics

(Adults & Teens 15+)

Dates: Tuesdays, March 1-22 | April 5-26

Time: 7:30-8:30pm

Location: Township Municipal Building

Fee: \$40 Moon Residents, \$45 Non-Resi-
dents –per 4 week session

Instructor: Jen Stratakis

Totally Toned

(Adults & Teens 15+)

Dates: Thursdays March 31-May 5
May 12-June 16

Time: 7:30-8:30pm

Location: Township Municipal Building

Fee: \$45 Moon residents/\$50 non-residents

Instructor: Karla Tobias

Senior Workout w/Linda Francis

(Adults - Seniors)

Dates: Wednesdays Mar 2-Apr 6

Times: 9:30-10:30am

Location: Moon Township Municipal
Building Auditorium

Fee: \$21 Moon residents/\$25 non-resi-
dents, per 6 week session (Drop In for \$4)

Instructor: Linda Francis

Driver's Education

Kennedy School of Driving

Dates: Tues & Thurs Mar 1-Mar 31

Time: 6:00-9:00pm

Dates: Mon-Fri June 13-24

Time: 9:00am-12:00pm

Location: Township Municipal Building

Fee: Registration - \$25 Moon residents/\$30
non-residents, Course Fee \$375

AARP Drivers Education for Seniors

Dates: Tues & Weds April 19-20

(Full 8 Hour Class)

Time: 9:00 am - 1:00pm

Friday May 13 (4 Hour Refresher Class)

Time: 9:00 am - 1:00pm

Location: Moon Senior Center-Carriage
House, Robin Hill Park

Fee: \$15 AARP Members, \$20 non-mem-
bers, payments due one week before class

Pavilion and Robin Hill Center Rentals

Pavilions

We are now taking pavilion reservations for Summer 2016. Reservations must be made in person at the Parks office at Robin Hill Park. All pavilion rental information and fees are listed on our website at www.moonparks.org.

Robin Hill Center

Robin Hill Center reservations can be made up to one year in advance. Reservations must be made in person. To receive Moon resident rate, the contract must be signed by and payments made by Moon Township resident. All fees are listed on our website www.moonparks.org

Find more programs and event details at moonparks.org. Register for any of the listed programs by calling the Moon Park office at **412.262.1703** or by e-mailing info@moonparks.org. Online registration open for select programs!

TAX INFORMATION

1700 Beaver Grade Road, Suite 300 | 412.299.7446 | moontaxoffice.us
(Located on the lower level of the Community Service Center,
next to the MCA-TV studio.)

Moon Township
Property Tax Office

Moon Community Center, Lower
1700 Beaver Grade Road Moon Township, PA
Office Phone 412-299-
Office Fax 412-299-

Home Tax Due Dates Qualifying Tax Relief FAQ Online Payment Important Links

“Hello! My name is Catherine Tress and I am the
Property Tax Collector of our community.”

-Catherine Tress, PQMC



2016 PROPERTY TAX INFORMATION

On April 1st Township property owners will receive their 2016 Township of Moon Property Tax statements. The millage rate remains the same at 2.74 mills and the homestead exemption also remains the same at a 15,000 flat reduction from the total assessment value of the property.

The senior citizen tax relief discount, if qualified, will reduce the taxable amount of the total property assessment value by 30%. More information can be found at www.moontaxoffice.us under the tax relief programs tab. If you have trouble calculating your property taxes at any time, do not hesitate to contact the office and we will be happy to assist you.

The township of Moon payment periods are: April 1 to May 31 for the 2% discount, June 1-July 31 for the Face (full amount), and August 1 to December 31 for the 10% penalty amount.

Please remember, if you receive an increase in your property's assessment value from Allegheny County, depending on when you received the increase, your property

might be subject to an “additional” tax, separate from the regular 2016 tax statement you receive in the mail. If you are not certain, please don't hesitate to contact the office and we will be glad to explain the process. Otherwise, you should be looking for this additional bill to be sent to you shortly after you receive the notice from the county. My office does not send special tax statements to mortgage companies because they often ignore them and the property owner is unaware. If you are in need of 2015 property tax receipts for your 2015 income taxes or to file for a property owner/rent rebate, please contact my office or stop in and we will be glad to provide it.



949 Thorn Run Road | 412.264.5354
hollowoak.org

Celebrating its 25th Anniversary!

The community is celebrating 25 years of local land conservation by Hollow Oak Land Trust and you're invited! Save the Date for the March 26th Brewhaha event and sign up to receive info about future events and outings by sending an email to: info@hollowoak.org

Hollow Oak Brewhaha

Saturday, March 26th at Robin Hill Park

- 25th Anniversary Celebration
- Artisanal Brews & Foods Pairings
- Auction, Raffle and Presentations on local farms, craft brewing and of course tasting!

Fat Bike Fest – Saturday, February 6th at Montour Woods Conservation Area

- Mountain Bike Rides
- Cookout, Campfire, Libations & Giveaways

Thanks to member support, Hollow Oak preserves over 400 acres of local wildlife habitat. We work directly with Moon Township to expand and connect trail systems, including a new link from Moon Township Park to Montour Woods Conservation Area, with a combined 10+ miles of woodland trails open to you and your family.

Check out the Montour Woods trail map at hollowoak.org and consider becoming a member today. In our 25th anniversary year, Hollow Oak is protecting more land and establishing more trail connections to ensure our community remains a special place to live, work, and play.

For trail maps and more:
hollowoak.org, info@hollowoak.org, 412.264.5354, or visit our Facebook

KEEPING RESIDENTS SAFE



VALLEY AMBULANCE AUTHORITY



Ready to Respond; Every Hour of Every Day!

Valley Ambulance Authority (“VAA”) is proud to serve as the designated community provider of emergency medical services and medical transportation for Moon Township.

VAA also provides EMS services to the communities of Findlay Township, Crescent Township, Coraopolis Borough and Neville Island.

Moon Township residents in need of an emergency ambulance should call 9-1-1.

VAA’s mobile intensive care units are staffed 24 hours a day / 7 days week by more than sixty (60) dedicated, professional Paramedics and EMTs. The ambulances respond from the Authority headquarters building located at 3550 University Blvd. in Moon Township.

VAA has earned a reputation for providing prompt, professional emergency medical services. Last year, Valley Ambulance Authority responded to more than 2,200 emergency ambulance calls in Moon Township. Total ambulance responses in all municipalities totaled more than 7,500 in 2015. We also provided more than 4,000 wheelchair van transports to patients within our service area.

Valley Ambulance Authority, a non-profit municipal authority, relies on community support and billing fees to fund its operating budget which totals more than \$3 million dollars annually. Residents are often surprised to learn that

VAA receives no municipal tax revenue!

Moon Township residents can support VAA through participation in its annual subscription program. The subscription program provides residents with unlimited emergency medical services and an opportunity to often save hundreds of dollars by providing a 50% discount on any outstanding balance related to emergency medical services.

The subscription program also provides access to certain types of non-emergency ambulance services and discounted rates for wheelchair van transports.

VAA annual subscription fees are only \$60.00 for a family or \$40.00 for an individual. VAA subscriptions are valid from March 1, 2015 through February 28, 2017.

To keep up with increasing expenses, Valley Ambulance Authority also conducts an annual capital fund raising campaign. Residents may contribute tax deductible donations by visiting VAA’s web site at www.valleyamb.org

To schedule a non-emergency transport, inquire about CPR training or to obtain additional information about the life-saving services provided by Valley Ambulance Authority, please call 412-262-2620, visit our web site at valleyamb.org or scan the QR code to the right.



Moon Township residents in need of an emergency ambulance should call 911





Public Awareness Weekend

Join MCA-TV this spring at their annual Public Awareness Weekend (PAW)! PAW is a two-day, 24 hour, live television event featuring interview broadcasts with Pittsburgh area nonprofits. Each group will have the opportunity to speak for 30-minutes to educate others about their cause and encourage the community to take part and volunteer. All interviews will air live during the event and periodically following the event on MCA-TV's cable stations Comcast channel 14 and Verizon FiOs channel 35 reaching approximately 25,000 households in Moon Township and surrounding areas.

Any non-profit organization interested in participating in Public Awareness Weekend can contact Ashley Bureau at abureau@moontwp.us or call MCA-TV at 412-269-1911. Interviews will be scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis.

MCA-TV offers Free Bulletin Board Service

Are you an organization or non-profit looking to get word out on your upcoming event? MCA-TV offers a bulletin board service for Moon Township residents to publicize their community program or event in-between regularly scheduled programming. The community bulletin board is an automated, computer generated, video graphics message service, provided free of charge to all Moon Township residents and non-profit groups and organizations.

Visit www.mca-tv.org and click on "Bulletin Board" for form guidelines and rules and to fill out the online submission form. Paper forms are available in the MCA-TV offices.

MCA-TV Film Fest Returns This Summer

MCA-TV is excited to announce the return of its annual Film Festival. The festival is in its fifth year, with films scheduled to air in July 2016. Thanks to monetary donations from local companies, MCA-TV was able to award more than \$3,500 in prize money to previous winners.

For more information, visit www.mca-tv.org or email Director of Community Programming, Allison Eastham at aeastham@moontwp.us.

MCA-TV

Moon Community Access Television
Comcast channel 14
Verizon FiOs channel 35

MAG-TV

Moon Area Government Television
Comcast channel 18
Verizon FiOs channel 37

Statewide Awards for Communication Efforts

Moon township's efforts to keep its residents updated and informed about the community have earned two awards in the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors' 48th Annual Township Citizen Communication Contest. The annual contest recognizes townships successfully communicating programs to citizens.

Moon Township received second place in the class 1 newsletters category (for townships with populations over 10,000) and tied for third place in the cable tv programming category for the show "The Doctor Is In."

The contest attracted entries from across the commonwealth in eight categories, including printed and electronic newsletters, most improved newsletters, annual reports, other publications, cable tv programming, social media, and websites. In all, 37 townships submitted 95 entries for this year's competition, and 19 individual townships won awards.

Judges for the contest included members of the association's standing committees, representatives from the governor's center for local government services, and staff members of the Pennsylvania Township News, the association's award-winning monthly magazine.

The Pennsylvania state association of township supervisors represents Pennsylvania's 1,453 townships of the second class and is committed to preserving and strengthening township government and securing greater visibility and involvement for townships in the state and federal political areas. Township of the second class represent more residents--5.5 million Pennsylvanians--than any other type of political subdivision in the commonwealth.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

1000 Beaver Grade Rd. | 412.262.1700 | moontwp.com



Property Maintenance Ordinances

Moon Township Property Maintenance ordinances require all cars, trucks, and other vehicles to have a current state inspection sticker and a current state registration.

The fine for this offense is minimum \$300 up to \$1,000 per day that the violation exist.

302.8 Motor vehicles. Except as provided for in other regulations, no inoperative or unlicensed motor vehicle shall be parked, kept or stored on any premises, and no vehicle shall at any time be in a state of major disassembly, disrepair, or in the process of being stripped or dismantled. Painting of vehicles is prohibited unless conducted inside an approved spray booth.

Exception: A vehicle of any type is permitted to undergo major overhaul, including body work, provided that such work is performed inside a structure or similarly enclosed area designed and approved for such purposes.

An Inoperable motor vehicle is a vehicle which cannot be driven upon the public streets for reason including but not limited to being unlicensed, wrecked, abandoned, in a state of disrepair, or incapable of being moved under its own power.



Tips for Hiring Contractors

Spring is coming and so is home improvement season! Keep these tips in mind when choosing a contractor this year:

Checklist for Hiring a Contractor:

- Interview several qualified contractors and solicit written bids (3 or more)
- Ask if the contractor will have employees on site and if so verify workers comp coverage
- Check out the contractor records with consumer protection organizations (Better Business Bureau, Angie's List
- Seek recommendations by word of mouth, turn to your social network for tips. Tweet the news that you are seeking a contractor or post it on Facebook. Ask if anyone knows a contractor that you are considering.
- Ask the contractor for references and then check them out
- Search the contractors name on the internet for reviews
- Check with Moon Township building department on permit requirements for your specific project. Make sure your contractor obtains an approved building permit before you pay the first payment
- Require a contract detailing the cost, work to be done, time schedules, guarantees, payment schedules, building permit and other expectations. No detail is too small to have in writing. Tie payments to work

phases. Don't pay more than half the money upfront. Don't pay the final payment until you have an approved final building inspection from Moon Township. Require a building permit before you pay the first payment. A permit ensures the work will be reviewed and inspected to meet building and zoning codes, so make sure your project has one. And make sure your contractor gets it—not you—so the contractor is responsible if something doesn't meet the codes.

Be Wary of Contractors Who:

- Ask you to pay the entire balance or a very large deposit upfront
- Only accepts cash
- Avoids giving you a written contract
- Goes door to door
- List a PO Box instead of a street address
- Provides credentials or references that can't be verified
- Offer a special price only if you "sign today"
- Ask you to pay in their name instead of in the business name
- Ask you to get the building permit, the contractor should get the permit
- Want to do most or all of the work on weekends or after-hours
- Give you an offer that sounds "too good to be true"



Understanding your Government: What is the Moon Transportation Authority?

The Moon Transportation Authority (MTA) was established in 1987 to build, improve and maintain transportation corridors and facilities; enhance economic development opportunities; increase jobs and expand the local tax base by utilizing dedicated local and county real estate taxes, funded by property owners in the Thorn Run Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance (LERTA) District.

How this works is, real estate tax revenues on new buildings within the LERTA district are diverted to the MTA for a defined period of time. The diverted tax revenues are used for MTA operations, and the engineering, design and construction of transportation infrastructure projects in the LERTA district. To put it plainly, the taxes that LERTA district property owners opt to divert to the MTA over a 10 year period are reinvested into improving transportation infrastructure within the LERTA district rather than

being directed to the Township, School District and County for general operations. This reinvestment in transportation has resulted in modern infrastructure, new employers, thousands of jobs and increased tax base for Moon Township's citizens and governing bodies.

The Moon Transportation Authority was formed in cooperation with Moon Township, Moon Area School District, and Allegheny County. There are 5 board members, two who represent the Board of Supervisors, two representing MASD, and one member who is appointed to represent the Moon Township business community. This partnership is more than just a contractual agreement, it is an investment in Moon Township's economic future that benefits all parties involved. Since 1987, the LERTA district has produced over \$156 million in new building assessments. Since 1997, the MASD has collected over \$28 million and

Moon Township has collected over \$3.9 million in new tax revenue from development in the Thorn Run District.

The MTA has completed multiple projects since it was established, including Thorn Run Road Interchange, Ewing Interchange, Cargo Interchange and Cherrington Parkway Extension. Currently, the MTA is in the midst of finalizing the design for their next project, an upgrade to the Thorn Run Interchange. This project, when finished, will improve access, traffic congestion, safety and air quality, and economic opportunities. The Thorn Run Road Interchange project's estimated cost is \$8 million. The MTA has secured both federal and state grants that, together, will cover \$4.1 million of the project fees.

The MTA Board meets monthly, on the first Monday of each month. More information about the Moon Transportation Authority can be found at moontwp.com.

Storm Water Management Is Everyone's Business

What Is Storm Water?

Storm water is water from precipitation that flows across the ground and pavement when it rains or when snow or ice melts. The water seeps into the ground or drains into what we call storm sewers. These are the drains you see at street corners or at low points on the sides of streets. Collectively, the draining water is called runoff.

Storm water becomes a problem when it picks up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants as it flows, or when it causes flooding and erosion of stream banks. Storm water travels through a system of pipes and roadside ditches that make up storm sewer systems. It eventually flows to a lake, river, stream, wetland, or coastal water. All of the pollutants storm water carries

along the way empty into our waters too, because storm water does not get treated. In this sense, storm water can become "good rain gone bad."

Why Is Storm Water Management Important?

Moon Township, like many other communities, has undergone tremendous growth in the last several decades. The growth is fueled by new office parks, hotels, dwellings, and other major land development. With such expansion, it is vital to minimize the impacts of excessive storm water runoff on our waterways, since Moon's watersheds include several named streams and many unnamed tributaries, as well as the Ohio River. Low Impact Development and the incor-

poration of Green Infrastructure into new and existing building projects is an important aspect of keeping the Township's waterways healthy, but to truly improve water quality every resident, business owner, developer, and employee can take some seemingly small, collectively important steps.

What Can I Do?

As a municipality, Moon Township is trying to prevent storm water pollution through a storm water management program. This program addresses storm water pollution from construction, new development, illegal dumping, and pollution prevention and good housekeeping practices in municipal government. But it is the job of every business owner and resident

BREAKING GROUND



Rain barrels can significantly help stormwater efforts

to get involved. Here are some simple steps you can take:

- Properly dispose of hazardous substances such as used oil, cleaning supplies, and paint. Never pour them down any part of the storm sewer system.
- Use pesticides, fertilizers, and herbicides properly and efficiently to prevent excessive runoff. Use “environmentally friendly” fertilizers such as manure, peat moss, seaweed extracts and bird and bat guano for your lawn when possible.
- Look for signs of soil and other pollutants, such as debris and chemicals, leaving construction sites in storm water runoff or tracked into roads by construction vehicles.
- Report any discharges from storm water outfalls during times of dry weather—a sign there could be a problem with the storm sewer system.
- Pick up after pets and dispose of their waste properly. No matter where pets make a mess, storm water runoff can carry pet waste into the streams and rivers.

A Message from the Moon Township Environmental Advisory Council

New Developments Coming to Moon Township

Moon is a great place to live and work, and the word has gotten out! Here’s a list of projects in midst of development in our community!

RESIDENTIAL

Cimarron

A residential plan, under construction, located off Spring Run Road Extension near the Bon Meade neighborhood. When completed, the plan will include 168 new single family dwellings.

Foxwood Knolls

A residential plan, located off of Foxwood Road. The development will have 147 new single family dwellings when it is complete.

Noble Woods

This is a townhouse development that is under construction and is located along Hookstown Grade Road. The plan includes 10 buildings totaling 41 dwelling units.

Wiltshire Estates

A townhouse development located off of Moon Clinton Road. The plan includes 36 buildings, totaling 166 dwelling units.

Calvert Hill

It will include 56 townhouse units and it is located along Beaver Grade Road adjacent to St. Andrew’s Church.

Ridge Row Student Living (RMU)

RMU has submitted a plan to build additional student housing on campus. They are proposing to build two new four story buildings that can accommodate up to 68 students.

COMMERCIAL

Pittsburgh International Business Park

This office park is under construction and is located along Cherrington Parkway. The master plan includes 7 buildings totaling 347,860 square feet of flex space.

Wal-Mart

The WalMart development is under construction at the corner of University Boulevard and Brodhead Road. The new store will be 151,000 square feet and will include a retail and grocery store. The projected completion of the project is November 2016.

Hilton Garden Inn

This project broke ground in the fall of 2015 and has significantly changed the look of University Boulevard with the demolition of the Rodeway Inn. The new hotel will have 139 guest rooms, a lounge, and a conference center.

Day Apollo Subaru and Volkswagen

The Board of Supervisors approved land development applications for both of these dealerships at their December 2015 meeting.

Moon Township Ford

The Township approved this land development plan at their January meeting. The dealership is also planning to expand their service area to better accommodate customers.

Township of Moon

1000 Beaver Grade Road

Moon Township, PA 15108

Phone: 412.262.1700

Fax: 412.262.5344

www.moontwp.com

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Moon Township, PA

POSTAL PATRON

STAY CONNECTED TO MOON TOWNSHIP

moontwp.com

Visit moontwp.com for the latest township news and events. Your community is one click away.



Sign Up for Moon's E-newsletter

Receive monthly updates on news and events going on in the Township with Moon's free monthly email newsletter, **Moon Township Monthly**. Sign up today at moontwp.com (under Quick Links)

Submit a Question or Concern Online

Submit a question, comment or concern to township officials through the Citizen Request System. This feature allows residents to submit a concern and track its resolution through ongoing updates ensuring a timely response from Moon Township staff. A link can be found at moontwp.com under Quick Links.

Tune in to Local Government

Watch Moon Township Board of Supervisors and Moon Area School Board public meetings on MAG-TV, Comcast channel 18 and Verizon channel 37. Schedule information is available at moongovtv.us. View the meetings and MCA-TV's community produced programming online at mca-tv.org.

Visit Moon Parks and Recreation

Get involved in the many events and programs offered by Moon Parks and Recreation. Use a computer or smartphone to find the most current schedule information at moonparks.org.

Stay Informed with Swift 911

Sign up for Swift 911 at moonpolice.us. This system will call registered phone or cell phone numbers in the event of an emergency or to share important community information.

Like Us on Facebook

- "Moon Township"
- "Moon Community Access Television"
- "Moon Parks & Recreation"
- "Moon Township VFC"
- "Moon Township Public Library"
- "Moon Township Green Initiatives"