

Stewartstown Borough Newsletter

April / May / June
2004

Springtime Community Events in Stewartstown Borough

-Community Yard Sale

Saturday, May 22nd, Permits are waived for this event. Please note there is no rain date set for this event; however a second community yard sale is scheduled for Sat. Sept. 25th. If you plan to have a yard sale any day other than these two days you will need to purchase a permit. Per Ordinance, a resident must purchase a permit, \$10.00 for the first yard sale and \$25.00 for the second in one calendar year. Each permit is good for two consecutive days. A fine will be assessed to residents who do not comply with this ordinance.

-Voting - Tuesday, April 28th, is the Municipal Primary Election. Borough residents who are registered voters can vote at the borough building. Polls open at 7 am and close at 8pm.

- Large Trash Pick Up

Saturday, June 5th, is one of two dates set for our trash hauler to remove large trash items. The other date is Oct. 2nd. Please note the following items which will not be picked up by the trash collector: concrete material; mounted tires; poles over 4 feet in length; paint/stains/chemical solvents; batteries or major car parts. Set all your items out Friday evening and the trash hauler will be out the next day to collect it. If by Sunday evening your items have not been collected call our office at 993-2963 ext. 280 and leave a message. Make sure you leave your name, address, and phone number. We will contact the hauler Monday morning.



-Street Cleaning

Thursday, April 22nd and Friday, April 23rd have been confirmed as street cleaning days in our borough. Please park your vehicles in your driveway or use other off-street parking where available during these two days.



SEWAGE FACILITIES PLANNING

The Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act, commonly known as Act 537, imposes duties upon a municipality. Act 537 requires municipalities to develop a plan for the disposal of sewage and makes the municipality ultimately liable to ensure proper sewage disposal. The municipality must adopt, by resolution of its governing body, an official Act 537 Plan.

The Act 537 Plan must be approved by the DEP before it becomes effective. This plan must be updated as required or when ordered by the DEP and must address existing and future sewage disposal needs within a 10 year planning period.

Existing needs can include developed areas with failing on-lot sewage systems and areas for which development plans have been approved but which cannot be constructed due to lack of sewage conveyance or treatment capacity. Future needs depend on the municipality's projected growth. The Act 537 Plan is

required to consider various alternatives to address these issues, estimate the cost of each alternative, and select an alternative of choice.

The Borough and Township have each passed resolutions adopting the Stewartstown Borough Official Sewage Facilities Plan ["Act 537 Plan"], dated November 1998, revised May 2000. This plan is essentially a joint planning tool for Stewartstown Borough and immediate surrounding areas of Hopewell Township and has been approved by DEP. It provides that an expanded sewage treatment plant will be constructed to meet the needs for failed on-lot septic systems and development growth in the area.

The implementing agency of the Act 537 plan is the Stewartstown Borough Authority. As agreed in the Act 537 plan as adopted, the Authority will provide sewer service to the Act 537 Plan Service Area, provided that the rules and regulations of the Authority are met, including requiring improved property abutting the sewer and water lines within a prescribed distance to connect to the system.

The Authority cannot afford to spend current ratepayer's money to run sewer or water lines to any future customer with failed septic systems without requiring all properties along the way to hookup.

However, the Authority has no police powers to enforce this. It is up to each municipality to decide where and how it wishes to provide sewer service.

To do this, each municipality must pass a connection ordinance requiring improved properties within a prescribed distance of sewer/water lines in the Act 537 plan service area to connect to the system. This ordinance must be consistent throughout the service area in the respective municipality, according to law.

The Borough currently requires all improved properties abutting a water line to connect to the system and all improved properties within 250 feet of a sewer line to connect to the system. The Township and Authority are still working out a solution.

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Special Points of Interest.

- Join your neighbors for Bingo Night at Eureka Fire Department. Every Thursday night at 7:00pm. Doors open at 5:30pm.
- Reminder—Don't forget to send in your "Fire" Donation Drive to Eureka Volunteer Fire & Ambulance Co.
- Second Annual Basket Bingo, Friday, April 2nd at Eureka Vol. Fire & Ambulance Co.
- Reminder—Don't forget to check your smoke detectors and change those batteries.

What do you know about our state flag?



Pennsylvania's State Flag is composed of a blue field which is embroidered with the State Coat of Arms. The blue, which is the same as the blue in the United States' Flag, signifies justice and purity. The State Coat of Arms: Pennsylvania's Coat of Arms is probably the state's most familiar symbol.

Based on a 1778 design by Caleb Lowmes of Philadelphia, it features a shield crested by an American Bald Eagle, flanked by horses and adorned with symbols of Pennsylvania's strengths—a ship carrying state commerce; a clay-red plough signifying our rich natural resources; and three golden sheaves of wheat, suggesting fertile fields and Pennsylvania's wealth of human thought and action.

An olive branch and cornstalk cross limbs beneath—a message of peace & prosperity. Festooned below is the state motto -"Virtue, Liberty and Independence".



Water Remote
(located outside)



Water Meter
(located inside)

There still seems to be some confusion about water meters and outside remotes. Almost every house has both an inside water meter and an outside remote.

- The water meter, which is located inside of your home, usually in the basement, records the actual amount of water which has been used.
- The remote is located on the outside of your home and was installed so that our employees can read your meter without having to actually go into your home. Most of the remotes are computerized which eliminates discrepancies in recording water usage.

We are currently replacing the older remotes which have numbers instead of computer chips. All customers are billed based on the amount of water used which passes through the inside water meter. The amount is then recorded on the outside remote and read by our employees.

If you have a question about the location of the meter or remote or need to be shown how to read the equipment, please call our office and we will be happy to give you the necessary information.

Marsha England, Chairperson Sewer & Water Committee.

Ordinance Reminders

All ordinances can be viewed in their entirety at the Borough Office. Copies may be purchased.



Per Ordinance 1996-001 & 1994-003

Weeds & Grasses: All weeds & grasses are not allowed to grow above six inches (6") in height. In addition, the following weeds are not allowed to grow regardless of height: Marijuana, Chicory, Succory, Blue Daisy, Canadian Thistle, Multiflora Rose and Johnson Grass.

Per Ordinance 2001-005—

Animal Defecation (Pooper Scooper): It is the duty of the owner of any animal traversing upon public or private property other than property owned by the animal's owner to immediately remove any feces left behind by such animal. The feces is required to be carried away for disposal in a toilet or placed in a non-leaking container for deposit in a trash can or litter receptacle.



Per Ordinance 1990-003

Abandoned Vehicles: Abandoned vehicles are considered a nuisance in Stewartstown and violation of the nuisance ordinance is considered a criminal offense. A vehicle is considered abandoned if it does not have a current license plate, safety inspection sticker and a certificate of insurance. In addition, a vehicle that does not have an engine or cannot move on its own power can be considered an abandoned vehicle.

Per Ordinance 2001-003 which is also known as the "Mosquito Control Ordinance", residents are not permitted to allow the collection of water in areas such as: ditches, pools, ponds, streams, excavations, holes, fountains, cisterns, tanks, shallow wells, barrels, troughs, urns, cans, boxes, bottles, tubs, buckets, miscellaneous junk, receptacles of any kind or other containers or devices that may hold water. Violations of this ordinance can be enforced by the Emergency Mgmt. Coordinator or the Police Dept. Corrective actions can include removing the standing water or treating the water with pellets of larvae insecticide. Violation of any provision of this ordinance shall constitute a summary criminal offense and upon conviction shall be punishable by a fine of Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25).



Per Ordinance 1996-003

House Numbers:

Borough residents are required to have house numbers on homes. House numbers must be at least three inches (3") in height and in contrasting colors so emergency personnel can easily find and identify the location.



New Ordinances

Ordinance 2004-001—Requires permits for yard sales, regulates the number of yard sales per year, establishes a time period for the removal of yard sale signs and provides for penalties for violations.

Although the permit requirement for yard sales and the number allowed each year is not new, Borough Council added the responsibility for the individual or group having a yard sale or special event to remove any and all signs from the Borough right of way. This includes posters and advertisements for special events which may be held elsewhere.

All signs, fliers, posters and bulletins must be removed within three (3) days after the event was to be held. This liability is both joint and severable and any person having responsibility for the removal of advertising, fliers, posters, signs, or bulletins may be prosecuted for each individual advertisement, flier, poster, sign or bulletin as a separate violation. Violation of any provision in this ordinance shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to pay a fine of fifty (\$50) dollars for the first offense, one hundred (\$100) dollars for the second offense and three hundred (\$300) dollars for the third offense plus prosecution costs. This Ordinance may be enforced by the mayor, the Stewartstown Borough Police Dept. or any other duly constituted or authorized police agency, the Zoning Enforcement Officer, and all authorized employees and agents of the Zoning Enforcement Officer. This Ordinance went into effect on the 5th day of January 2004. This Ordinance can be seen in its entirety at the Borough Office.





Stewartstown Police Department

Stewartstown Borough Police Department welcomes a new officer. Originally from Sykesville, MD. Clint Shipley, has been living in Hanover, PA for the past 14 years. A graduate of New Oxford High School and Catonsville Community College, where he earned an Associates degree in Criminal Justice. After college, Officer Shipley joined the United States Marine Corps. His previous law enforcement experiences include one year with the Hanover Borough Police Dept. Officer Shipley enjoys outdoor activities such as hunting and fishing and watching football and playing softball.

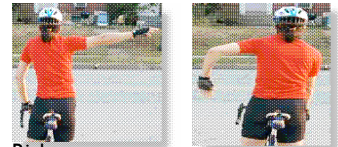
Police Department Staff
 Chief Charles Reid II
 Officer Jason Test—Officer Larry Bailets
 Officer David Brown—Officer Clint Shipley
 Police Secretary, Mary Stanley

Know Your Hand Signals



Right turn

Left turn



Right turn alternative

Stop

Gearing Up for Bike Safety

It's time to get the bikes back out! Reminder: You can register your bike with the Police Dept. for only \$1.00. If interested just stop by and fill out a registration card or call 993-5308 for further information.

Learn more about bike safety.

Go to:

www.kidshealth.org/teen/safety/safebasics/bike_safety



Finding the Right Bike for You

When sitting on the bike, you should be able to just about fully extend your legs to reach the pedals. Be sure there is about 1 to 3 inches of space between your body and the cross bar (or the top bar on boy's bikes when you are standing flat-footed on the ground straddling the cross bar) - you'll be thankful you have that space if you need to unexpectedly jump off the seat. If you're still growing, you'll want to make sure that your bike's seat post and handlebars can be raised to adjust to your new height.

Be a Helmet Head

Bicycle helmets are a matter of life and death—wearing one is not optional. It is a law in our state that all children under the age of 12 wear a helmet and good common sense for all others too. Your head should always be protected when you are biking. Three out of four bike accidents involve an injury to the head and a crash could mean permanent brain damage or death for a person who doesn't wear one while riding. Today's helmets are lightweight and comfortable. Only buy a helmet if it contains either a CPSC or Snell sticker. The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) standards set by the U. S. Gov't. were introduced in 1999. If your helmet was made before 1999, it should be replaced. Make sure your helmet has the correct fit and adjustments. After taking a serious hit, helmets lose their capacity to absorb shock and should be replaced immediately.

Bike Maintenance

Tip: Keep your bike indoors, especially on rainy days. This will help keep your chain rust-free.

Check the following on a regular basis:

- Tire air pressure
- Height of seat
- Brakes
- Chain (for grease & tightness)

Animal Control Service

Contacting the Animal Control Officer: To report a stray animal you should contact the Borough's Animal Control Officer, Terry Hemler/ACS 717-235-6213. If you think your animal may have been picked up by the Animal Control Officer please call Terry Hemler or the Red Lion Animal Rescue League 717-244-9747.



Identification Tags: All dogs, cats and other common household pets are now required to wear an identification tag indicating the owners name, address and phone number. In addition, as required by Pennsylvania State law, all dogs must be wearing a valid dog license and rabies vaccination tag. All cats must be wearing a current and valid rabies tag. Without these identification tags, our Animal Control Officer may not be able to return your pet to you. The Animal Control officers, when contacted, will have the authority to seize any animal that is not properly tagged and found to be running at large.

Curb Side Recycling

Things to know: Borough residents have curb side recycling service. It is part of your trash removal service every Tuesday. A separate trash truck will be around to pick up recycling. You do not need to sort your recyclables. If you do not have a recycling bin, stop by our office and we will provide one for you. If you can not make it to our office during business hours, please let us know and we can bring one to you. **What can be recycled?** Aluminum cans, steel cans, plastic bottles and containers with a #1 or #2 indicated on them, newspapers, all clear green or brown glass bottles, and brown cardboard.



What cannot be recycled? Cereal boxes, salad/deli trays, TV dinner trays, pie plates or food tubes.

The best thing about recycling next to saving the environment is that the more you recycle the more grant money the borough receives which helps to keep the cost of your trash removal down.

Tax Information

Stewartstown Borough has an elected Tax Collector. You will receive tax bills for the borough tax, county tax, and school tax from our elected Tax Collector. The taxes are then processed and sent to the proper taxing authority, i.e. borough taxes will be sent to our borough office and county tax will be sent to York County, etc.

If you have not received any information regarding Real Estate and Per Capita taxes contact our Tax Collector. Her name is Sandra Mitchell and her home telephone number is 993-6334. All taxes should be mailed to her at 11 Springwood Avenue.



RECYCLING FACT: PA'S RECYCLING INDUSTRY -A \$23.4 BILLION INDUSTRY EMPLOYING MORE THAN 81,000 PEOPLE HAS BECOME A DRIVING FORCE IN PA'S ECONOMY GENERATING \$18.4 BILLION IN ANNUAL SALES AND CONTRIBUTING \$305 MILLION IN STATE TAXES.

Stewartstown Borough
6 N. Main Street, Suite A
Stewartstown, PA 17363

Phone: 717-993-2963
 Fax: 717-993-2131
 Police Department - 717-993-5308
 Email: office@stewartstown.org

Utility Billing	Ext.- 202
General Questions	Ext.- 201
Recreation Board	Ext.- 290
Missed Trash Service	Ext.- 280
Emergency Water/Sewer	Ext.- 204

Office Hours: Mon. - Fri. 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Borough Council:

Wilberetta Gibbs—President
 Guy Hook—Vice President
 Frank Paules, Richard Nixon, Marsha England,
 Jeff Bruening, and Mildred Pomraning

Mayor Richard Hall

Authority Chairperson-Jeff Grow
 Zoning Hearing Board Chairperson-Bonner Smith
 Civil Service Commission Chairperson—Harry Lytle
 Planning Commission Chairperson—Lona Full

Borough Staff:

Susan Grow-Sec./Treasurer
 Kelli Waltemire-Billing Clerk
 Melissa Matthews-Asst. Secretary
 Robert Hunt-Director of Public Works
 Ira Walker Jr.- Assistant Director of Public Works
 Tracy Baldwin-Sewer Operator
 Wayne Bush-Asst. Sewer Operator

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
STEWARTSTOWN PA 17363
PERMIT NO. 26

We're on the Web!
www.stewartstown.org
www.stewartstown.org/police

Calendar of Meeting Dates



Council : Apr. 5, May 3, Jun. 7	COMMITTEE MEETINGS	START TIME	DATES
Meetings held— first Monday of each month at 7:30 pm	Personnel Committee	7:00 pm	Apr. 12, May 10, Jun. 14
	Police & Public Safety Committee	7:30 pm	
Sewer & Water Authority: Apr. 21, May 19, Jun. 17	Junior Council Meeting	6:30 pm	Apr. 19 May 17, Jun. 21
Meetings held— third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm	Public Property, Refuse, and		
Planning Commission: Apr. 20, May 18, Jun. 15	Street Lights Committee	7:00 pm	
Meetings held— third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm	Streets, Roads, & Storm Water	7:30 pm	
Zoning Hearings: Apr. 15, May 20, Jun. 17	Special Action/Newsletter Comm.	7:00 pm	Apr. 26, May 24, Jun. 28
Meetings held— third Thursday of each month <u>if needed</u>	Sewer & Water Committee	7:30 pm	



All meetings are held at the Borough Hall Building located at 6 N. Main Street in Stewartstown. Meeting dates and times can also be found on our web page. All meetings are open to the public. If you wish to speak at a meeting, call ahead of time to be placed on the agenda. If you leave a message, make sure you provide your name, address and phone number in case we need to contact you if a meeting is canceled or we need further information. Also indicate the issues you wish to discuss.

