



UPPER MACUNGIE TOWNSHIP NEWS

Your Township Supervisors



EDWARD EARLEY
Chairman

KATHY RADER
Secretary

SAM ASHMAR
Vice Chairman

Fall/Winter 2007

FOR THE CITIZENS AND FRIENDS OF UPPER MACUNGIE TOWNSHIP

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Leaf Safety Tip

Keep leaf piles **behind** the curb and off the street. Leaf piles in the street are a temptation for children and dangerous for traffic.

2007 Leaf Collection Schedule

The Upper Macungie Township Department of Public Works will begin its 2007 Leaf Collection Program on **Monday, October 15** and continue through **Friday, November 30**. The crews will cover the entire Township three times. Due to the rate of maturity of trees within the township and also the fact that more trees are planted every year, it is impossible to guarantee a set pickup day for a specific street in any area of the Township.

All residents in the Township should place their leaves along the edge of the road, not on the road, **prior to the start of pickup at 7:00 a.m. on Monday** of each week. Leaves will normally be picked up between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Leaves will not be collected on private property. If leaves are not in place when the crews go by, they will be picked up on the following round through the Township.

No return trips will be made to pick them up.

Do not place pieces of wood, steel, rocks or concrete on the leaves to hold them down. These objects will cause extensive damage to the leaf pickup units and put them out of service at a great expense of time and money to the Township and its citizens.

To pick up leaves by mechanical means, it is necessary to dump the contents of plastic bags or other containers into the gutter area. Crews will not empty bags or other containers; this is the responsibility of the resident. Branches, shrubbery, garbage, and building materials will not be picked up. These items will be left behind and it will be the responsibility of the resident for removal and disposal.

To facilitate the picking up of the leaves, please keep all vehicles away from the area where the leaves are piled. The crews will not rake piles of leaves out from between parked cars or from under them.

For questions regarding leaf collection, please contact the Public Works Department at 610-395-4892.

2007 - 2008 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

UMT Office Closings

- Nov. 12, 2007 (Veteran's Day Observed)
- Nov. 22 & 23, 2007 (Thanksgiving)
- Dec. 24 & 25, 2007 (Christmas Day)
- Jan. 1, 2008 (New Year's Day)
- Feb. 18, 2008 (President's Day)
- Mar. 21, 2008 (Good Friday)



Trick or Treat Night

This year's Trick or Treat for Upper Macungie Township will be on **Friday, October 26** from 6 to 8 p.m. The Rain Date will be on **Saturday, October 27** from 6 to 8 p.m. If Friday's event is postponed due to rain, it will be announced as soon as possible in advance of the starting time on the following radio stations: WAEB, WFMZ, WLEV, WODE.

SEPTIC SYSTEMS: Are You Treating Yours Right?

Many properties in Upper Macungie Township have septic systems. Yet a surprising number of citizens treat their septic systems as if they were standard municipal sewer systems. These systems require special care to operate properly. Here are some guidelines to help you keep your septic system working effectively and affordably. For more facts visit www.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/homeowner_guide_long.pdf. If you don't have internet access, you can pick up a free copy at the Municipal Building.

SEPTIC SYSTEM DOS

- Learn the location of your septic system. Keep a sketch of it with maintenance records for service visits.
- Have your system inspected at least every 2 years and pumped by a licensed contractor generally every 2 to 5 years, depending on use and system design.
- If you have a garbage disposal, check with your septic system pumper to make sure it can handle this waste.
- Beware of commercial septic tank additives. They do not eliminate the need for periodic pumping and can be harmful to your system.
- Use water smarter to avoid overloading the system. Repair leaky faucets or toilets. Use high-efficiency fixtures wherever possible.
- Use commercial bathroom cleaners and laundry detergents in moderation. It's better for your septic system to clean toilets, sinks, showers and tubs with baking soda or mild detergents.
- Before allowing water softener backwash to enter your septic tank, check with the Township.
- Keep records of all repairs, pumpings, inspections, permitting and other system maintenance.
- Avoid planting trees and shrubs near your system. Roots can clog and damage the drain-field. Plant grass only.

SEPTIC SYSTEM DON'Ts

- Your septic system is not a trash can. Do not use it to dispose of...
 - Dental floss
 - Feminine hygiene products
 - Diapers
 - Cotton swabs
 - Condoms
 - Coffee grounds
 - Cat litter
 - Cigarette butts
 - Paper towels
 - Latex paint
 - Pesticides or ANY hazardous chemicals!
- Don't use caustic drain openers. Use boiling water and/or a drain snake to open clogs.
- Don't park or drive vehicles over any part of the ground above your septic system. This can compact the soil in your drain-field or damage the tank, pipes or other components.



Caring for Storm Water Is Vital for Our Environment




Storm water is from precipitation that flows across the ground and pavement when it rains or when snow and ice melt. The water seeps into the ground or drains into 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 storm water runoff.


Storm water becomes a problem when it picks up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants. Storm water travels through a system of pipes and roadside ditches that make up storm sewer systems. It eventually flows directly to a lake, river, stream, wetland, or coastal water. Because storm water does not get treated, the pollutants it carries along the way empty into our waters, too.

Storm water flows into
our streams, rivers and lakes.
Those who pollute storm water
HURT OUR ENVIRONMENT!

Here are some of the most important ways to prevent storm water pollution:

- Properly dispose of hazardous substances such as used oil, cleaning supplies and paint—never pour them down any part of the storm sewer system. Report anyone who does.
- Use pesticides, fertilizers, and herbicides properly and efficiently to prevent excess runoff.
- 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 poorly managed construction sites that could impact storm water runoff to your community.
- Install innovative storm water practices on residential property, such as rain barrels or rain gardens, that capture storm water and keep it on site instead of letting it drain away into the storm sewer system.
- Pick up after pets and dispose of their waste properly. No matter where pets make a mess—in a backyard or at the park—storm water runoff can carry pet waste from the land to the storm sewer system to a stream.

■ The widening of **Route 100**  between Schantz Road and I-78 is a work in progress... hopefully, the northbound directional signs will be moved this fall and road work  will **begin in Spring, 2008**, which will include an additional lane and two I-78 eastbound ramps... the same southbound configuration will follow in 2009... the hump on the **Route 100 railroad crossing** will be evened out when that section is re-paved. ■  The **Emergency Services Building**

on Schantz Road is on schedule. A **Smeal pumper truck** has been ordered for the new station,  designated Station 56, and delivery is expected next summer. A **Fire Safety House** will be placed adjacent to the building which will provide a training facility to teach residents — both adults and children — how to respond to a fire. ■ **Two new pavilions** are under construction at the UMT Park on Route 100. ■

**U
M
T
Thumbnails**



By Township Supervisor
Edward J. Earley, Ed.D.

The **UMT Website**



(uppermac.org) has been linked to the website of the



Berks-

Lehigh Regional Police. ■ FYI, there are eleven (11)



PennDOT Districts in the state and

Region 5 includes Berks, Carbon, Lehigh, Monroe, Northampton and Schuylkill counties. ■ A new **UMT**

Municipal Map is planned for the Spring, 2008. ■ **Urban Research Development Corporation** is

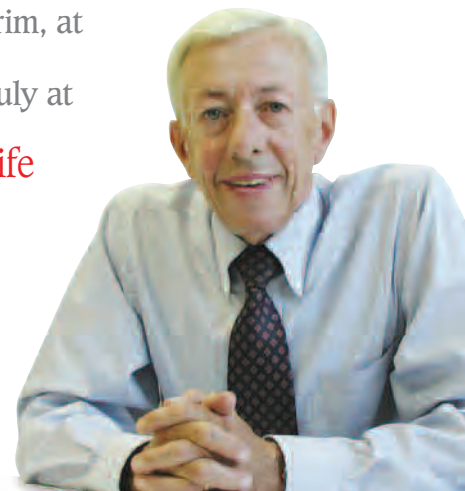
analyzing Fogelsville and Trexlertown for **revitalization** which  would include improvements such as sidewalks, parking areas, streetlights, etc., which would encourage small business development. ■

Both the **Fogelsville and Trexlertown Fire Companies** are staffed by volunteers and welcome new members... if you have an interest in **servicing your community** as a firefighter or fire

police officer, please contact either our Fire Commissioner, Grant Grim, at the township building 610-395-4892; e-mail ggrim@uppermac.org or yours truly at

earley@fast.net for details... **the potential reward is priceless: saving a life**

or lives. ■ Enjoy the beauty of **Autumn** in **Upper Macungie!**



RECYCLING & TRASH PICKUP GUIDELINES

For your convenience, Upper Macungie Township provides property owners with the means to properly dispose of their leaves and yard wastes. There will be a one-time curbside pickup of **YARD WASTE** only on November 14th. After that, yard wastes may be deposited at the UMT Yard Waste Drop-Off Site. Information on both disposal choices are detailed below. The next pickup will be scheduled for spring 2008.

November 14th Curbside Collection for YARD WASTE

This is a one-time, township-wide pickup day for Fall clean-up. Facts are as follows:

WHEN: Wednesday, November 14th, 2007

WHAT: Leaves from trees, bushes and other plants, shrubby clippings and tree trimmings.

(See max. size, detailed below in "How to Prepare")

WHAT NOT: No grass clippings, roots from trees or shrubs or lumber. Improper bags, bundles or materials will go uncollected and tagged to notify residents of reasons why materials were not accepted.

HOW TO PREPARE: Yard wastes placed in commercially designed **open trash containers** (with sloped sides) no larger than 32-gal. capacity with a loaded weight of less than 60 lbs. each. Smaller limbs and branches must be tied and properly bundled to a **maximum size of 48" x 18" x 18" with a maximum weight of 60 lbs.** Ties for bundles must be of biodegradable materials.

HOW MUCH: Combined maximum of 6 containers will be collected.

Yard Waste Drop-off Site

Summer hours will be in effect until 11/26/07. The Winter hours will be in effect on 11/27/07 and are as follows.

WINTER HOURS	
MONDAYS	7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
TUESDAYS	7 a.m. to 3 p.m.
WEDNESDAYS	7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
THURSDAYS	7 a.m. to 3 p.m.
FRIDAYS	7 a.m. to 3 p.m.
SATURDAYS	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
SUNDAYS	Closed
Holidays	Closed

(See page 1 for UMT holidays)



RARITAN VALLEY DISPOSAL services the contract to handle refuse and recycling collection in Upper Macungie Township. **Refuse and recycling pickup will be on a weekly basis, per zone.** For new residents, you must come into the township building to fill out a moving permit. You will then be informed when your trash cart will be delivered (only if you are new construction), which zone you are in for trash pick up, and what day your pick up will be.

ALL COMPLAINTS OR MISSED PICKUPS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO RARITAN VALLEY DISPOSAL AT 610-432-7574

MATERIALS TO BE RECYCLED IN UPPER MACUNGIE TOWNSHIP:

- Newspaper
- Residential Mixed Paper
- Glass (clear, green, & brown)
- Aluminum, Tin, & Steel/Bi-metallic Cans
- Plastic Bottles: only soda bottles, laundry detergent bottles, milk and water jugs will be accepted (1 PETE and 2 HDPE symbols on a bottle)
- Corrugated Cardboard



NEW ITEM FOR RECYCLING

Upper Macungie Township now has a container for recycling **CARDBOARD** and is for UMT RESIDENTS ONLY.

This recycling container is in the UMT municipal building parking lot. All boxes must be flattened and cut down into 2 ft. x 4ft. pieces.

This is NOT eliminating cardboard recycling at the curbside. This is for the times when it rains or you have a lot of cardboard. You can bring it to UMT and put it into the recycling container.

The drop-off site will be open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.



SENIOR CITIZENS DISCOUNT

The Township will be offering a \$30.00 senior citizen discount for trash and recycling for anyone over 65, with proof of age (e.g.-driver's license or passport). A senior must be 65 years of age by December 31, 2007 to be eligible for the discount in 2008. Also you must own and reside at your residence. For any senior who turns 65 between now and December 31, 2007, please come to the township municipal building to register for your senior discount as soon as possible.



OPERATION SAFE STOP: Protecting Our Schoolchildren



Pete Nickischer
Community Relations Officer

Every year, the Berks-Lehigh Regional Police Department receives numerous complaints from school bus drivers regarding school bus violations in Upper Macungie Township. It's that time of year again, and our officers are busy doing their best to catch violators and keep our school bus stops safe.

Thanks to Chief of Police Michael Weiser, we are happy to announce that this school year should be the safest it's ever been in Upper Macungie Township. This Fall, the Berks-Lehigh Regional Police Department officially began Operation Safe Stop, a program designed to aggressively enforce school bus stop laws. Modeled after similar Safe Stop programs in New York, this program places uniformed police officers in marked and unmarked units at bus stops in the township. These officers are looking specifically for cars and trucks that fail to stop for flashing red lights activated by school bus drivers. Motorists who fail to follow the law will be stopped and will be issued a citation for the violation.

To make this program work, we need your help! The Berks-Lehigh Regional Police is asking parents, passers-by, or anyone who shares our desire to keep

our children safe, to nominate specific bus stop locations to be added to our list of "Safe Stops." This list will be circulated to the department's patrol and traffic units, and these units will make rotations between the stops. To nominate a bus stop, simply call Community Relations Officer **Pete Nickischer** at **610-683-8740 ext. 225**, or send him an email at blrpdcrimeprevention@gmail.com. Please send an exact location and times that the bus stops.

Together, let's make sure every bus stop in Upper Macungie Township is a "Safe Stop."



Crime Watch Groups Send Strong Message to Criminals



It all started with one man who was concerned about speeding and recent petty crimes in his neighborhood. This same man reached out to the Berks-Lehigh Regional Police Department's Chief, Michael Weiser, and together, the Windermere Crime Watch was formed. Today, the group works alongside the police in an effort to reduce crime in the neighborhood and keep their children safe. Crime watches are not new to the township, according to Officer Peter Nickischer, who coordinates the township's crime watches. "When I first took this position, I was introduced to Sally Scott, who is the captain of the Green Hills Crime Watch." Nickischer reports he learned a great deal from Scott, and was impressed with her commitment to keeping her neighborhood safe. "I like using Sally as an example when talking with people about starting new crime watches—it's truly amazing



how much of a difference one person can make." After the Windermere Crime Watch was formed, neighbors in the nearby Olde Towne Development became interested, and shortly thereafter, Olde Towne had formed its own crime watch as well. Now there are crime watches forming in Cross Creek, Westbury, and the Whispering Farms developments. "It's an exciting era in Upper Macungie Township," explains Nickischer, "The message is clear: *criminal activity is not welcome here.*"

Anyone who wishes to start a new crime watch, or members of existing crime watches that have not coordinated with the BLRPD, are encouraged to contact Officer Pete Nickischer directly at 610-683-8740, ext. 225.

IT'S THE LAW!

Prohibited Discharge Standards and Penalties for SUMP PUMPS

No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any storm water, surface water, spring water, ground water, subsurface drainage, building foundation drainage and/or basement drainage into Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) by means of connecting a sump pump discharge pipe or outlet to pump or drain into the Upper Macungie Township sanitary sewer system.

Any person who discharges or causes to be discharged any storm water, surface water, spring water, ground water, subsurface drainage: building foundation drainage and/or basement drainage into the POTW by connecting a sump pump discharge pipe or drain to pump or drain into the POTW shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a summary offense, punishable of a fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per violation, per day or, in default there of, by imprisonment for not more than thirty (30) days.

The Beauty of Autumn in Upper Macungie

Many of our residents believe that Autumn is the most beautiful of the four seasons gracing Upper Macungie Township. And who can argue? When the chillier nights and days ease in, our trees are set ablaze with an eye-opening spectrum of reds, golds and vermillions.



Witness Mother Nature's glory soon in any or all of Upper Macungie's parks. From hiking trails to rolling hills, our Township provides a diverse array of settings to complement the wonders of Autumn. For complete facts on the parks awaiting you, pick up your Guide to Upper Macungie Parks and Recreation Resources. This FREE resource is available at the Township building during regular working hours. Enjoy!

Supervisors Vote for Quieter Truck Braking

In an effort to improve the noise levels and maintain quality of life in Upper Macungie Township, the Board of Supervisors unanimously voted at the September 13, 2007 meeting to enact an ordinance to prohibit the use of Engine Brake Retarder systems, commonly known as "jake brakes." The ordinance will not apply to emergency braking use.

Snow Business



When it snows in our region, Upper Macungie Township depends on its citizens to be helpful, responsible, and aware of the needs to remove all snow and ice from the public sidewalks including walks and ramps leading to a crosswalk.

During the winter months, many Township residents (including children waiting for the school bus and the physically challenged) need to be able to safely use the public sidewalks. This means that all snow and ice should be removed from the entire constructed width of the public sidewalk. This enables people of all ages and physical condition to have access to clean pedestrian walkways. An important element in providing safe passage of pedestrians during snow events is in the hands of Township residents themselves, namely, the removal of snow and ice from public sidewalks. Clearing snow and ice from sidewalks should simply be looked upon as a combination of courtesy and caring toward all those who need the use of the public walkways.

Resident Snow Responsibilities

- All snow and ice that has accumulated on the adjacent public sidewalk prior to 5:00 a.m. should be removed by noon.
- Please do not throw or shovel snow in the street.
- Within 24 hours after the end of each accumulation of snow greater than 1 inch, the owner of every residentially zoned property should remove the accumulation from the adjacent public sidewalk and ramps leading to a crosswalk.
- Please exercise caution and care when shoveling, especially during extreme cold.



20% of Township Now Preserved for Greener Future Preservation; Efforts Remain Top Priority For Township Supervisors

Five square miles is a very large area. That is how much land in Upper Macungie Township is now being preserved for parkland, agriculture, woodlands and other protected areas. The conservation of open land has long been a priority for Township Supervisors. Here are some of the latest developments in their ongoing efforts to keep our community greenspaces protected through responsible planning and legislation.

A grant application has been made to the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) for improvements to floodplain buffers along local waterways Schaefer Run, Breinig Run and Iron Run. These improvements would include tree plantings and stream bank improvement to buffer sediment runoff which contributes to silting in the streams. Stream water quality would also be improved by the use of vegetated filtration buffers recommended by the Watershed Protection Program.

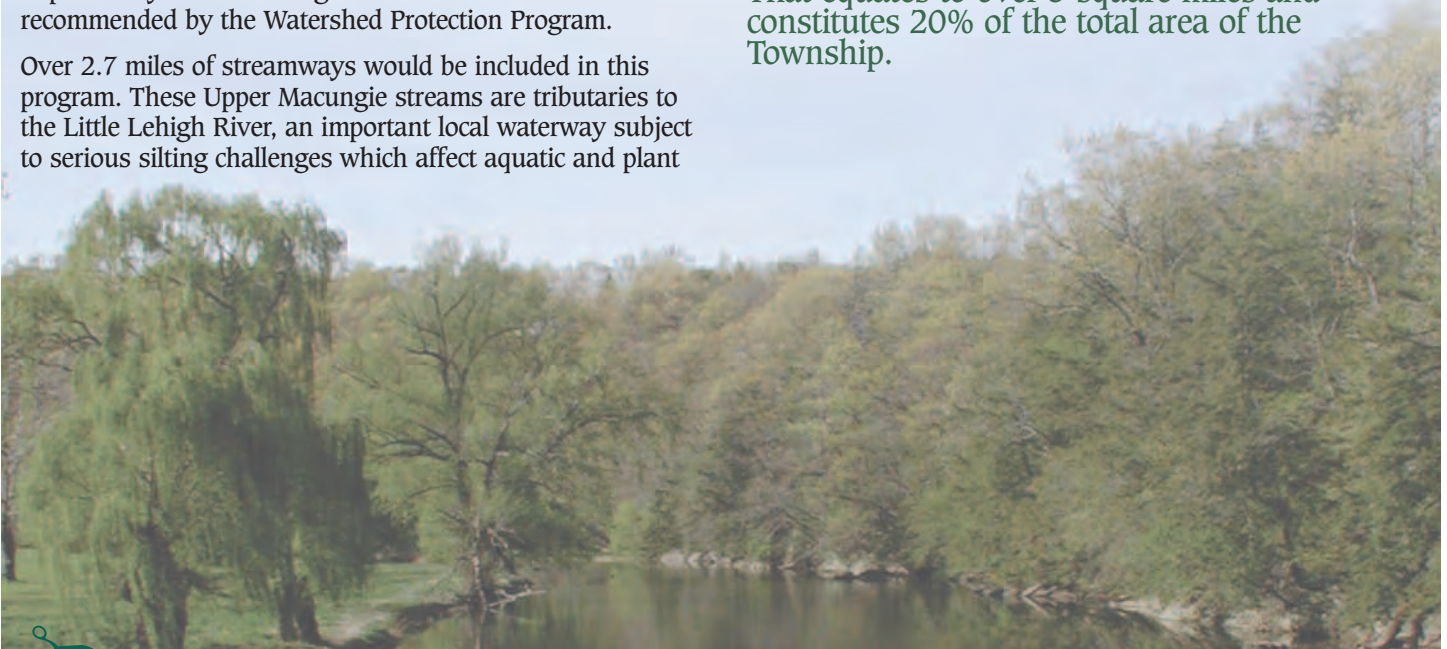
Over 2.7 miles of streamways would be included in this program. These Upper Macungie streams are tributaries to the Little Lehigh River, an important local waterway subject to serious silting challenges which affect aquatic and plant

life, water quality and recreational opportunities. By doing our part through these efforts, Upper Macungie intends to help the quality of the Little Lehigh for the entire community.

In addition to this waterways preservation focus, the Township has preserved the following areas, by category:

- Woodlands, Agriculture, Floodplain486 Acres
- Recreation Lands620 Acres
- Agricultural Conservation Easements973 Acres
- Agricultural Conservation Security1,275 Acres
- Township Agricultural Lands157 Acres

THE TOTAL AREA OF LAND NOW PRESERVED IN UPPER MACUNGIE is now over 3,500 acres. That equates to over 5 square miles and constitutes 20% of the total area of the Township.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

UPPER MACUNGIE TOWNSHIP610-395-4892
Fax 610-395-9355

POLICE (Berks-Lehigh Regional Police)
Emergency911
Non-Emergency: Berks County610-655-4911
Lehigh County610-437-5252
Administration610-683-8740

ANIMAL CONTROL
Dog Enforcement - R. Martrich610-997-3668
Lehigh County Humane Society610-797-1205
Lehigh County Game Commission610-926-3136

LOST & FOUND for UMT Parks Only610-395-4892

HAZARDOUS WASTE
Lehigh County Hazardous Waste & Recycling610-799-4177

WATER QUESTIONS Lehigh County Authority610-398-2503

TRASH OR RECYCLING Raritan Valley Disposal610-432-7574

STREET LIGHTS REPAIR & MAINTENANCE
PPL Utilities800-342-5775

RT. 222 BYPASS INFO
PennDOT (www.222connections.com)877-222-1HWY

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG! PA One-Call System800-242-1776

WEST NILE VIRUS Mosquito Info Line610-366-8345

RAILROAD SIGNALS Norfolk Southern R.R.877-201-4265

YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS
South Parkland Youth Association (www.spya.org)
warehouse (Tues. 6-8 pm, Sat. 10 am-12 pm)610-395-9878
Breinigsville VFW Youth Activities - Earl Gross610-395-1512

Contact UMT Offices by E-mail

POSITION	NAME	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Township Main E-mail		uppermac@uppermac.org
Administrative Assistant Emergency Services	Stephanie Weaver	stephw@uppermac.org
Community Development Director	Bruce Wlazelek	brucejw@uppermac.org
Chairman/Board of Supervisors	Edward J. Earley, Ed.D	earley@fast.net
Secretary/Board of Supervisors	Kathy Rader	krader@uppermac.org
Vice Chairman/Board of Supervisors	Sam Ashmar	ashmar25@ptd.net
Fire Commissioner/Emergency Management Admin.	Grant Grim	ggrim@uppermac.org
PC Administrator / Township Authority Office Manager	Karen Cole Loehr	karens@uppermac.org
Permit Coordinator / Set-up Inspections	Pat Stark	pstark@uppermac.org
Public Works	Scott Faust	pubworks@uppermac.org
Refuse / Recycling Coordinator	Kathy Lancsek	kathyl@uppermac.org
Secretary / Planning & Zoning	Mary Beth Souilliard	mbeths@uppermac.org
Township Tax Collector / Treasurer	Barry Moyer	bmoyer@uppermac.org
Zoning & Code Enforcement Officer	Al Geosits	geosits@uppermac.org
Building Code Official	Bruce Trout	brucet@uppermac.org

Meeting Schedules

- **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**
First Thursday of the month — 7:00 p.m.
- **PLANNING COMMISSION**
Third Wednesday of the month — 7:00 p.m.
- **ZONING HEARING BOARD**
Second and fourth Wednesday of the month — 6:30 p.m.
* *Submission Deadline: 26 days prior to meeting*
- **SEWER AUTHORITY**
Second Thursday of the month of January, April, July, and October — 4:00 p.m.
- **PLANNING COMMISSION WORK SESSION**
Monday prior to the regularly scheduled meeting — 7:00 p.m.
* *Submission Deadline: 28 days prior to meeting*
* *Revision Deadline: 21 days prior to meeting*

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Time-Dated TOWNSHIP NEWS:

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FAX: 610.395.9355
www.uppermac.org

