



Leet Township Newsletter

198 Ambridge Avenue
Fair Oaks, PA 15003
724-266-2280
9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday –Friday

Summer 2017



Visit our website: leettownship.org.

Leet Township Commissioners

Gary L. Bradel,
President
John J. Stephansky,
Vice President

Susan Barness
James Janaszek
Jeff Besong

Leet Township Contact Information

Wayne Hyjek, Township Manager, Right to Know Officer 724-266-2280, ext. 1

Betsy Rengers, Assistant Manager, Secretary 724-266-2280, ext. 2

Bill Wanto, Chief of Police
Non-emergency: 724-266-6141

Fair Oaks Volunteer Fire Department: Mark Brooks, Fire Chief
Non-emergency: 724-266-6133

Leet Township Public Works: Andy Wanto, Foreman: 724-266-8072

Leet Township Municipal Authority (sewer): Elaine Macurak, Assist. Secretary: 724-266-8516

Cindy Wanto, Tax Collector, 724-266-2280, ext. 3

Building Inspector
Joe Luff, 412-766-2565

Code Enforcement
Andy Wanto: 724-266-8072

Leet Township Emergency Management Coordinator
Dave Volk: 412-225-6177

Leet Township Announces the Retirement of Rick Watach, Public Works Foreman

The Leet Township Board of Commissioners and staff wish to thank Ricky for his 30 years of faithful and dedicated service to Leet Township. Ricky built the Public Works Department up from an old pick up truck and limited equipment to what we see today. Ricky was also responsible for the Township always looking clean with his daily roadside garbage pickup regime. Ricky developed the leaf pickup program and if you ever needed anything, you only had to give Ricky a call and it would be done. Ricky is a resident historian and can tell you anything about the area over the last 50 years. Ricky's expertise and knowledge will be greatly missed!



Thank you and good luck to you Ricky!

Quaker Valley High School Update

On Tuesday, May 30, 2017, the Quaker Valley School Board voted to enter into a sales agreement with Three Rivers Trust to purchase a parcel of land located in Leet Township and Edgeworth and Leetsdale Boroughs, at a price not to exceed \$7.5 million.

A final price for the land will be determined based on the net acreage of buildable land and following a period of due diligence by the District.

Stay up to date on the high school project by visiting www.qvvsd.org.

Public Works Department adds Full-time Laborer

Leet Township welcomes Cody Blumling to the Public Works Department. Cody is a resident of Leet Township and his grandfather, Ray Zassick, once worked in the same position many years ago.

Cody attended training and received his Pesticide Certification. Cody is also a volunteer firefighter for Fair Oaks Fire Department and has completed all 4 training modules required for Firefighter Certification.



Welcome Cody!



Leet Township Police Department
Non emergency: 724-266-6141

Chief William Wanto
Lieutenant Robert Simmons

Officer Ron Wilson
Officer Angel Moore
Officer Shawn English

Officer Mike Molinaro
Officer Barry McQuaid
Officer Bill Dreyer

From the desk of Chief Wanto

DID YOU KNOW: That about 1.4 million homes in the US have firearms stored in such a way that makes them accessible to about 2.6 million children? It is very important to start a dialogue with your kids about what to do when around guns and gun safety, even if you don't own one.

Here are some tips to consider:

1. **STOP**
2. **DON'T TOUCH IT** (don't pick it up, aim it, or point it at anyone)
3. **WALK AWAY** (tell a parent if a friend shows you a parent's gun)
4. **TELL AN ADULT IMMEDIATELY** (if you know of a friend with a gun or see one in a backpack)

PARENTS EXPLORE SAFE STORAGE OPTIONS: There are a variety of safe storage and locking options. A trigger lock can keep someone from being able to pull the trigger. A cable lock can be used on virtually every firearm. The cable is placed through the gun barrel and impedes loading and firing. Storage cases can be used for storing and locking a gun. And a lock box or gun safe allows you to store your firearm safely and securely. It also is the best preventative measure to keep your firearms from being stolen.

KEEP IN MIND, OVER 1/3 OF THE HOMES IN THE U.S. WITH CHILDREN HAVE GUNS THE MAJORITY OF WHICH ARE NOT PROPERLY SECURED. THE LEET TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT HAS FREE CABLE LOCKS FOR YOUR FIREARMS. JUST STOP BY AND GET THEM.

ONE MORE THING: Now that school is out for the summer our children will be out and about on our streets and sidewalks. Use caution and watch your speed.

Crossing Guard Needed

The Leet Township Police Department is seeking a Crossing Guard, starting in August for the next school year, at the intersection of Orchard and Main in Fair Oaks. This is a part-time position (2.5 hours a day) and follows the Quaker Valley School District Calendar. Hours are Monday through Friday with all holidays off. It is perfect for a retiree or stay at home parent. No experience necessary.

If you are interested in this position please apply in person to Chief Wanto at the Leet Township Police Station, 198 Ambridge Ave, Fair Oaks, PA 15003.

Driving in Construction Zones

Please be cautious when driving through active work/construction/paving zones. PA Law requires that you slow down and turn on your headlights whether the site is active or not.

Leet Township asks that common sense be applied when driving past our public works crew. Slow down, do not rush through a painting or tarring project. Paint and tar take a few minutes to dry. If you drive through the project where fresh paint or tar has been applied expect for paint or tar to get on your vehicle. Wait until the crew waves you through or take an alternate route, if possible.



Fair Oaks Fire Department
190 Ambridge Avenue
Fair Oaks, PA 15003
Non-emergency:
724-266-6133
www.fovfd.org
Fire Chief: Mark Brooks



The Department is looking forward to receiving final delivery of the new 2017 Spartan / Keystone pumper later this summer. The engine is substantially completed and will be capable of severing the community's fire protection needs well into the future. The engine, which cost \$ 448,980.00 will feature a 425 horse power Cummins diesel engine, a 5 speed automatic transmission, have the capability to carry 7 crew members, pump 1250 gallons per minute with a 750 gallon tank for use until a water supply can be established. It will also have a full complement of scene lighting, a fixed deck gun and a pre-connected blitz-fire monitor for rapid deployment where a large volume of water is required quickly. The engine will carry 1000 feet of 4" supply line and have over 400 feet of other pre-connected attack lines for interior and exterior fire suppression.



The department has always been proud of its well-maintained fleet. The new 2017 Spartan will join the 1996 Simon Duplex and 1973 Mack. These engines are the work horses of the department and without them our job would not be possible. We look forward to your continued support and please remember to attend our fund raising activities and donate to our fund drive, which helps us to continue providing the best emergency services to the residents of Leet Township. The department would also like to recognize township resident Cody Blumling who is an active member of the department and recently completed his Fire Fighter 1 certification.

LEET TOWNSHIP PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

ANDY WANTO, Foreman

724-266-8072

Department Hours: Monday –Friday 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Thanks to "Keep Leet Neat" Volunteers

Thank you to the volunteers who helped make Keep Leet Neat Day a success. With 18 volunteers, groups were formed and dispersed to specific areas; Big Sewickley Creek, Little Sewickley Creek, Camp Meeting Road and Fair Oaks. We filled the dump truck and the pick up truck with over 30 bags of garbage and a few tires. A cookout was held afterwards to thank the group.



Recycling in Leet Township

Rules for how and what can be recycled seem to constantly change. To make it easy to remember what is recyclable use this rule: If you buy it at the grocery store and in is bigger than two inches by two inches and smaller than a two gallon bucket– it's recyclable (bottles, cans, paper, empty milk cartons, juice boxes, and cardboard). This does not include food scraps, soggy or wet paper or wet food stained cardboard, Styrofoam, or paper coffee cups.

Recyclable items should be loose– if they are in a garbage bag– the recycler will put them into the garbage.

Labels can stay on. Flatten water bottles and put the cap back on securely (caps are now recyclable).

Take plastic bags to your local grocery store for recycling. Do not put them in with curbside recycling materials– they wrap around the recycling machinery and reek havoc at the recycling center.

For more info on recycling visit: <http://recycleoftenrecycleright.com>.

For larger items (electronics, TVs, small Freon appliances, tires, etc.) check out upcoming Hard to Recycle Events at www.leettownship.org.



Plum Street Park Pavilion for Rent

Plum Street Park may be reserved by residents and non-residents for events. A permit from the Township Office is required to rent Plum Street Park Pavilion and Park.

Fees for Plum Street Park Rental:

Alcohol Permit: \$10.00

Leet Township Residents: \$60.00 Clean Up Deposit: will be returned uncashed as long as park is cleaned up. No Charge for Park Use.

Non-Resident: \$60.00 Clean Up Deposit: will be returned uncashed as long as park is cleaned up.

1-25 people: \$50.00

26 people and up: \$100.00

Please stop in the Leet Township Municipal Building, 198 Ambridge Ave. or call Betsy at 724-266-2280, option 2, to check the schedule. A deposit of \$60.00 must be received to hold a date. Park rental is on a first come, first serve basis. Rules, Regulations, Park Calendar and Rental Application may be found on our website at leettownship.org under Parks .

Amenities include: Pavilion with electric and picnic tables, 3 grills, sand volleyball and basketball hoop, horseshoe pit, play ground, and restrooms.

Hours of Operation are from dawn till dusk. The renter has exclusive use of the park and restrooms for the day of the rental. The renter is to be sure that all trash is placed in the garbage cans and all equipment returned to the Ladies Room before leaving. Renters and their guest are expected to be reasonable and sensitive to the surrounding residential areas.



Free Compost

Any resident who would like to have seasoned leaf compost for their gardens, flower beds, or for growing grass may pick up compost at the municipal building. The compost storage pile is located in the parking lot of the municipal building near the paper recycling dumpster.

Leet Township Summer Intern

This summer, Leet Township is excited to announce that a summer intern joined the Township staff for the month of June. Leet Township, in collaboration with the Sewickley Valley Community Fund, Edgeworth Borough, and Sewickley Borough set aside a grant to hire Andy House for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems, or MS4. House is a 2013 graduate of the Quaker Valley School District, and a current senior at Westminster College where he plans to graduate in the fall with a Bachelor's in Political Science. He plans to work in municipal administration after he graduates, and is grateful for the opportunity to work not only in Leet, but in Edgeworth and Sewickley Boroughs as well during the summer.

Real Estate Tax Collection

Cindy Wanto, Leet Twp. Real Estate Tax Collector
198 Ambridge Ave, Fair Oaks, PA 15003
724-266-2280 ext. 3

2017 Tax Collection Hours:
Tuesdays 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. /Thursdays 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. or by appointment.

2017 Real Estate Tax Due Dates

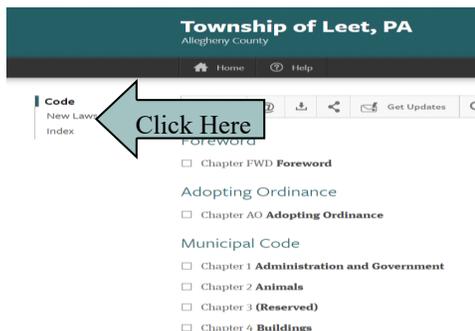
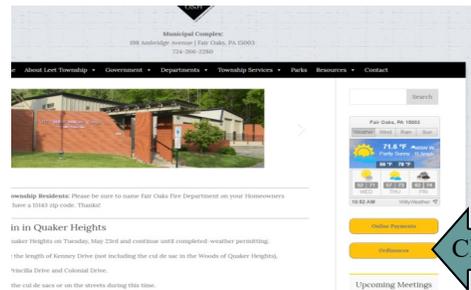
Municipal Real Estate Taxes	Due Date
2% Discount	March 15th– May 15th
Face	May 16th– July 15th
Penalty	After July 15th
Turned over to Portnoff (Delinquent Tax Collector)	December 31st
School Tax	Due Date
2% Discount	July 1st– Aug. 31st
Face	Sept. 1st – Oct. 31st
Penalty	After Oct. 31st
Turned over to Jordan (School District's Delinquent Tax Collector)	April 30th
School Tax Installments (No discount)	Due Date
1st Payment	Aug. 31st
2nd Payment	Sept. 30th
3rd Payment	November 30th
4th Payment	Jan. 31st

Delinquent Taxes

To avoid penalty fees and interest, please pay you taxes on time. Leet Township sends delinquent taxes to Portnoff Law Associates for collection. Once the taxes go into collection interest, attorneys fees, court costs and other fees are added to the balance. If the taxes are unpaid for a specific amount of time, the property will be sent to Sherriff's Sale. Leet Township will then recoup unpaid taxes through this process.

Leet Township Ordinances

Leet Township Ordinances can be found on the homepage of www.leettownship.org on the sidebar. Once on the ordinance page you may search, download, print, share and e-mail ordinances.



New Ordinances can be found on the Ordinance homepage under "New Laws".

Please feel free to call the Manager's office with any questions you have about navigating the website.



**ALLEGHENY COUNTY
VACANT PROPERTY RECOVERY PROGRAM
2017 SIDE YARD & BLIGHTED STRUCTURE PROGRAM**

For a limited time only, Allegheny County will be accepting applications to acquire vacant properties in 50 municipalities at reduced cost to the applicant. The Allegheny County Vacant Property Recovery Program (AVPRP) acquires blighted, tax delinquent properties and resells them to applicants for a reuse outlined in their application and approved by the municipality.

PROGRAM GUIDELINES:

- This limited-time program will be available in Avalon, Baldwin Borough, Bellevue, Blawnox, Brackenridge, Braddock Hills, Brentwood, Carnegie, Collier, Crafton, Dravosburg, East Deer, East McKeesport, Edgewood, Elizabeth Township, Forward, Frazer, Green Tree, Harrison, Heidelberg, Leet, Leetsdale, Liberty, McCandless, Millvale, Moon, Munhall, Neville, North Fayette, North Versailles, Oakdale, O'Hara, Penn Hills, Plum, Reserve, Ross, Scott, Shaler, South Park, South Versailles, Swissvale, Turtle Creek, Versailles, West Deer, West Homestead, West Mifflin, West View, Whitaker, White Oak, and Wilkins.
- Other municipalities that join AVPRP may be eligible to participate depending upon the timing.
- Applications must be postmarked no later than **August 31, 2017**. Up to 60 applications will be accepted in the order in which they are received. No more than 5 applications will be accepted per municipality.
- Each participating municipality must submit evidence of a program marketing strategy to ensure that all residents have an equal opportunity to apply.

PRODUCT	PROPERTY REQUIREMENTS*	COST TO APPLICANT
<i>Side Yard to Owner-Occupied Primary Residence</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must share a common boundary with the parcel on which the applicant's primary residence is located • Must be a vacant lot or a vacant structure that will be demolished by the applicant • Must be less than ½ acre • Must have at least 3 years of unpaid taxes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of the appraised value • Parcel fee of \$3,000 will be <u>waived</u> • Good faith deposit of \$162 or 10% of the appraised value for properties valued over \$2,000 • Closing costs, which average \$500
<i>Demolition of Blighted Structure</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must share a common boundary with a parcel owned by the applicant that contains a primary structure, such as a residence or business • A vacant structure to be demolished by the applicant • Must be less than ½ acre • Must have at least 3 years of unpaid taxes 	
<i>Rehabilitation of Blighted Structure</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A vacant structure to be rehabilitated by the applicant • Must be less than ½ acre • Must have at least 3 years of unpaid taxes 	

* Additional requirements may apply, as outlined in the program application. Other types of applications may be considered through our Standard Program, under which applicants are responsible for all costs of acquisition.

APPLICANT QUALIFICATIONS:

- Must be current on taxes, water, sewage, and refuse bills on all properties owned in Allegheny County.
- Must have no outstanding code violations or municipal liens on properties owned in Allegheny County.

APPLICATION INFORMATION:

(412)350-1090 or www.alleghenycounty.us/VPRP

LAWS CONCERNING THE TRAP/TRANSFER OF NUISANCE ANIMALS

During the spring and early summer months, raccoons and other nuisance animals seem to come out of nowhere and begin to wreak havoc throughout the various neighborhoods. This may include getting into and spreading the garbage that we have put out the night before for garbage pick-up, attempting to nest under porches or other structures, or, in the case of a skunk, the possibility that someone's dog will go after it and get sprayed. And there is always the concern that these animals may carry rabies.

Many homeowners have asked the Police Department to assist them in trapping and transferring these nuisance animals, and, in the past, the Police have assisted them. However, in light of laws promulgated by the Pennsylvania Game Commission concerning the trapping and transferring of these animals, the Police Department can no longer render assistance in these matters.

According to the Pennsylvania Game Commission Southwest Region, these nuisance animals cannot be transferred and released to parks, wooded areas or other seemingly out of the way places. There are, however, alternatives, and the Homeowner is responsible for which ever option he/she chooses. These include:

1. Leave the animal alone. After nesting and raising the young, most times the animal will leave and relocate;
2. Transferring and releasing of nuisance animals is permitted to take place **only** on **Pennsylvania State Game Lands**. (The closest to our area is Wexford on Big Sewickley Creek Road);
3. The Game Commission has established Pest Control Agents that are available, however, these agents **Must Destroy the Animal**; they do not take them to a place for release. Also, there is a fee for the use of these agents, ranging from approximately **\$35.00 - \$100.00**, depending on the animal, how far they have to travel, etc....

There are three Pest Control Agents in close proximity:

a. Moon Township:	Mike Barcaskey	412.849.1207
b. Coraopolis:	Charles Campbell	412.788.4670
c. Franklin Park	Always Available Animal Control	412.364.0869

For further information on this subject, please contact the Pennsylvania Game Commission Southwest Regional Headquarters at: 724.238.9523

Fun Facts about Leet Township:

- *Leet Township has two mailing zip codes: 15143-Sewickley and 15003- Fair Oaks/Ambridge along with two area codes: 412 and 724.*
- *The neighborhood of Fair Oaks, located in Leet Township, was named by Mrs. Annie Hays in honor of her late husband, Alexander Hays, who was promoted to General after fighting in the Civil War Battle of Seven Pines in Fair Oaks (VA) in 1862. General Hays had two horses of note named "Dan" and "Leet".*
- *Walker Park is located in Leet Township, but is owned and operated by Edgeworth Borough.*
- *Both Edgeworth and Leetsdale were once a part of Leet Township. They were both incorporated in 1904.*

