



Leet Township Newsletter

194 Ambridge Avenue
Fair Oaks, PA 15003
724-266-2280

Summer 2020



Visit our website: leettownship.org.

Leet Township Commissioners

Donna Adipietro
President
Jim Janaszek
Vice President

Erika Oslick
Carolyn Verszyla
Marty McDaniel

Leet Township Contact Information

Betsy Rengers, Township Manager, Right to Know Officer 724-266-2280, ext. 1

Cindy Phillips, Treasurer 724-266-2280, ext. 2

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

Fair Oaks Volunteer Fire Department: Nathan Turner 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, Building Inspection Underwriters 412-766-2565

Code Enforcement
Betsy Rengers, 724-266-2280, ext. 1

In case of an emergency, Dial 911

Upcoming Events

Dumpster Days

Do you have a household project you have been putting off? Does your yard or porch need to be cleaned up? Is your basement or attic in need of cleaning?

Join us for
Leet Township Dumpster Days

When: August 7th-12th

Time: 8am-4pm

Where: Leet Township Municipal Complex
198 Ambridge Ave (Public Works parking lot)
Fair Oaks, PA 15003

For Residents Only

Dumpster will be monitored. Please bring your i.d. or proof that you live in Leet Township. Prohibited items for the dumpster include: tires, liquids, food items and e-waste (electronics, TVs)

Real Estate Tax Collection Extension at Face for Leet Township Taxes

At the June 8th Board of Commissioners Meeting, the Board voted to extend the real estate tax collection period at face for 90 days. Local real estate tax will now go into penalty after October 15th, instead of July 15th.

Leet Township Comprehensive Plan Survey

The Leet Township Planning Commission is working towards designing a Comprehensive Plan for the community. **Comprehensive planning** is a process that determines community goals and aspirations in terms of community development. The plan both expresses and regulates public policies on land use, recreation, and housing. The first step is resident feedback.

Resident participation is vital in this process! Please take the survey to help us build a better tomorrow for Leet Township.

Ways to take the survey:

- Go to leettownship.org/homepage and click the Online link;
- download and print at leettownship.org/homepage;
- Contact the office at 724-266-2280 x1 for a paper copy;
- Paper copies may be submitted at Leet Township, 194 Ambridge Ave, Fair Oaks, PA 15003 in the drop box, mailed in, or returned in person.



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

Chief William Wanto
Captain Michael Molinaro
Senior Officer Ron Wilson

Officer James Lema
Officer Chuck Galzarano

Officer Barry McQuaid
Officer Mike Pszenny

From the Desk of Chief Wanto~

Recently, the Leet Township Police Department has received several concerns regarding speeding in Quaker Heights. These concerns are highlighted given the current situation with COVID 19. The "stay at home" order resulted in many more residents exercising outdoors. The Police Department received suggestions of speed bumps, traffic monitors, and more signage. We certainly appreciate all your suggestions. This is the type of rapport that we encourage between the police department and our residents. After speaking with department members, it was determined that educating the residents would be the best course of action.

Please keep in mind that it is the residents that live there that are speeding and running stop signs. After a 4-day study last year, it revealed that 16 stops were made for violations and only 2 were nonresidents. I personally pulled over stop sign violators only to find repeat offenders.

As per your suggestions, we have had SLOW and 15 mph painted on Pilgrim and Kenney. Also, we have purchased a radar speed indicator that will be placed in different locations in the plan. This will be available at the end of July. The department also has an ENRADD laser system that when in place, will give us a vehicle count and average speed. In doing so, we can determine the best time and place for enforcement. Speaking of enforcement, keep in mind that traffic violations in Pennsylvania are expensive. For example: a stop sign roll will cost you near \$150.00 and speeding citations are through the roof. It is quite easy to have Officers in the neighborhood and hand tickets out and if need be, that can be done. However, educating the residents seems to make better sense.

Please keep in mind that the plan has no sidewalks and several blind curves. There has also been an increase in families with children. Its YOUR plan. Take a glance at your speed, keep an eye on your time schedule and do not put your neighbors at risk because your running late. Stop at the signs. That extra 2 seconds to STOP makes all the difference. Let's work together and get this under control.

Contacting the Leet Township Police Office

Unfortunately, in this day and age of social media, we are receiving an abundance of instant messages, posts, and information via our Leet Township Facebook page regarding potential emergency situations, concerns, and questions. **We do not monitor the page daily.**

We encourage you to contact the respective Township department pertaining to your request. Also, there have been several instances where residents have brought information forward about events that occurred weeks or even months prior. We strive to protect our community by being as proactive as possible, but unfortunately, we cannot be everywhere.

If you see suspicious activity or have information pertaining to an incident, or any concerns, please call the Leet Township Police Department non-emergency number at 724-266-6141 or the Leet Township Police Department office number at 724-266-6142. We would much rather react to a situation as it occurs rather than read about it days later.

~Thank you~

Leet Township Police Department Welcomes New Full Time Officers

The Leet Township Police Department would like to introduce its two new full-time Officers:

Officer James Lema comes to the department from the Beaver County Sheriff's Department and North Sewickley Police Department. A graduate of Beaver Area High School, Officer Lema also studied Journalism at Penn State and Slippery Rock University. Officer Lema is current on all required certifications and has attended numerous extension classes.

Officer Chuck Galzarano is from Beaver Falls and attended Big Beaver High School. A graduate from CCBC, Chuck holds a degree in criminal justice. Officer Galzarano has seven years of Law Enforcement experience and extensive training in narcotics. He has worked for departments in Midland and Rochester. Prior to that, he worked in a residential treatment facility for 6 years.

Both Officers possess the proactive work ethic that we strive to maintain. Both are very approachable and professional. Welcome Jimmy and Chuck to Leet Township!

How to Recognize Phishing

Scammers use email or text messages to trick you into giving them your personal information. They may try to steal your passwords, account numbers, or Social Security numbers. If they get that information, they could gain access to your email, bank, or other accounts. Scammers launch thousands of phishing attacks like these every day — and they're often successful. The FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center reported that people lost \$57 million to phishing schemes in one year.

Scammers often update their tactics, but there are some signs that will help you recognize a phishing email or text message.

Phishing emails and text messages may look like they're from a company you know or trust. They may look like they're from a bank, a credit card company, the IRS, a social networking site, an online payment website or app, or an online store.

Phishing emails and text messages often tell a story to trick you into clicking on a link or opening an attachment. They may

- say they've noticed some suspicious activity or log-in attempts.
- claim there's a problem with your account or your payment information.
- say you must confirm some personal information and include a fake invoice.
- want you to click on a link to make a payment, say you're eligible to register for government refund or offer a coupon for free stuff.

Four Steps to Protect Yourself From Phishing

1. **Protect your computer by using security software.** Set the software to update automatically so it can deal with any new security threats.
2. **Protect your mobile phone by setting software to update automatically.** These updates could give you critical protection against security threats.
3. **Protect your accounts by using multi-factor authentication.** Some accounts offer extra security by requiring two or more credentials to log in to your account. This is called multi-factor authentication. The additional credentials you need to log in to your account fall into two categories:
 - ~Something you have — like a passcode you get via text message or an authentication app.
 - ~Something you are — like a scan of your fingerprint, your retina, or your face.

Multi-factor authentication makes it harder for scammers to log in to your accounts if they do get your username and password.

4. Protect your data by backing it up. Back up your data and make sure those backups aren't connected to your home network. You can copy your computer files to an external hard drive or cloud storage. Back up the data on your phone, too.



Fair Oaks Fire Department

190 Ambridge Avenue

Fair Oaks, PA 15003

Non-emergency:

724-266-6133

www.fovfd.org

Fire Chief: Nathan Turner



Fair Oaks Fire Department History

The original volunteer fire department was organized July 12, 1905 with fifty members through February, 1912.

Charles W. McNamee was the first Chief. He held this office during the year 1908, prior to moving to Ambridge. Listed as honorary and contributing members at that time were A. J. Minke, Claud Davis and W. R. Motz.

No activities were recorded from 1912 until October 1915 when there was a fire in a dwelling on Mound Street. The call was responded to by the Ambridge Fire Department. Immediately after that incident a call was issued for the formation of a local fire department. At that meeting there was an overflow crowd and the Fair Oaks Volunteer Fire Department was formed.

The first equipment inherited by the reorganized department was a hand-drawn hose cart which was located in a frame shed on Ledge Street near the Fair Oaks School. Practice sessions were held every Saturday at Ambridge Avenue, which was a dirt road at the time, and was a test of strength and energy.

Land on Beech Street was purchased from the Fair Oaks Land Company and the shed was moved there during the summer of 1916.

A few years later the department moved the shed and constructed a fire station consisting of a front room and a double garage. A large back room was added in later years.

The first truck purchased was an American LaFrance equipped Ford. A fully equipped Ambulance was also purchased. The second truck, truck #3, was a Master Firefighter equipped Chevrolet. Free ambulance service was provided for many years.



SPOTTED LANTERNFLY

Checklist for Residents

Help keep spotted lanternfly from spreading. Before you travel or move any items stored outdoors within or out of the quarantine area, check for and remove all stages of spotted lanternfly. Use the guide below to know which items to check.

LIFE STAGES	POTENTIAL EGG MASS LOCATIONS
 <p>EGG MASS FOUND SEPT-JUNE</p> <p>FRESH ACTUAL SIZE 1/2"</p> <p>OLD ACTUAL SIZE 1/2"</p>	<p>Spotted lanternfly egg masses can be laid on any surface and need a careful eye for inspection! Below are some examples of egg masses on outdoor objects.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>OUTDOOR LIGHTBULB</p> <p>Brandon Zimmerman</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>OUTDOOR FURNITURE</p> <p>Jerry Armstrong Powell</p> </div> </div>
 <p>EARLY STAGE NYMPH FOUND LATE APRIL-JULY</p> <p>ACTUAL SIZE: 1/8"-1/4"</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>FENCE POSTS</p> <p>Hector Leach</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>VEHICLES</p> <p>Alfonso</p> </div> </div>
 <p>LATE STAGE NYMPH FOUND JULY-SEPT</p> <p>ACTUAL SIZE: 1/2"</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>OUT-OF-SIGHT AREAS</p> <p>Lori LaCava-Burke</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>CAMPING EQUIPMENT</p> <p>Liz Willow</p> </div> </div>
 <p>ADULT FOUND JULY-DEC</p> <p>ACTUAL SIZE: 1"</p>	

Code Enforcement Officer Appointed

Commissioners appointed Manager Betsy Rengers to the position of Code Enforcement Officer at the March 9th Board meeting. This position enforces nuisance ordinances including property maintenance codes.

Residents with property maintenance complaints are asked to place their complaints in writing. The Complaint Form is on our website at <https://leettownship.org/complaint-form-policy/> or you may stop in the Office to fill one out.

**Complainants will not be disclosed in compliance with
Section 708(b) of the PA Right to Know Law.**

Some of Leet Township Codes to be aware of:

Chapter 27. Zoning

Part 4. Special Regulations § 27-407 Disabled Motor Vehicles

No vehicle which is disabled, from which the wheels or engine have been removed, which is not in operating condition or which does not have a current motor vehicle license and inspection sticker attached shall be placed, parked, stored or repaired on any street, right-of-way or in any yard in any district, nor shall any owner or occupant of property in any district permit said property to be used for the parking, storage or repair or said motor vehicles. The foregoing shall not prohibit the rental of space in a private or public garage or permitted public parking lot, or repairs in a permitted garage in a Commercial or Manufacturing District.

Property Maintenance Code

302.1 Sanitation. All exterior property and premises shall be maintained in a clean, safe and sanitary condition. The occupant shall keep that part of the exterior property which such occupant occupies or controls in a clean and sanitary condition.

302.4 Weeds. All premises and exterior property shall be maintained free from weeds or plant growth in excess of 6". All noxious weeds shall be prohibited. Weeds shall be defined as all grasses, annual plants and vegetation, other than trees or shrubs provided; however, this term shall not include cultivated flowers and gardens.

302.7 Accessory structures. All accessory structures, including detached garages, fences and walls, shall be maintained structurally sound and in good repair.

Types of Communication: Leet Township communicates with our residents in several ways:

Door Tags (a friendly reminder), letters (a little more serious) and certified letters (most serious).

BUILDING AND OCCUPANCY PERMITS

A Zoning or Building Permit must be obtained from the Building Inspector before any existing or proposed building or alteration is made. This includes changes of **grade, walls, fences, swimming pools, driveways, decks, etc.**

Occupancy Permits are required with each and every change in occupancy and annually if you are a landlord.

For building or occupancy permits or if you have a question pertaining to either, please call Leet Township Building Inspector at (412) 766-2565.

LEET TOWNSHIP PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

ANDY WANTO, Foreman

724-266-8072

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

Ways you can help keep our Stormwater Clean

Your actions make a difference!



Install a Rain Barrel
Rain Barrels help divert roof runoff. The rainwater can later be used to water your plants and lawn.



Please Pick Up After Your Pet

- ◊ A single gram of pet waste contains an average of 23 million fecal coliform bacteria, some of which cause diseases in humans.
- ◊ Waters that contain high levels of bacteria and other pathogens from animal waste are unfit for human contact.
- ◊ As pet waste decays, it uses up oxygen that fish and aquatic life need. Pet waste contains nutrients that can cause excessive



Protect Marine Life

- ◊ Use fertilizer responsibly. Fertilizer runoff travels through stormwater drains to our watersheds. This causes toxic algae blooms and is harmful to marine life.



Census 2020

The Census Bureau is committed to making the 2020 Census quick, safe, easy for all participants. You should know that, during the 2020 Census, **the Census Bureau will never ask for:**

- Your Social Security number
- Your bank account or credit card numbers
- Money or donations
- Anything on behalf of a political party

For more information on Census 2020 or to complete online go to:<https://2020census.gov/en.html>

Quaker Valley Ambulance Board Position Available

Leet Township is seeking to fill a volunteer position on the Quaker Valley Ambulance Authority Board. The position will require the Board member to attend monthly meetings in the evening. If you are interested in this position, please send your *Letter of Intent* to the Leet Township Board of Commissioners, 194 Ambridge Ave., Fair Oaks, PA 15003 by 3 p.m. on July 13, 2020.



Looking for a way to conveniently dispose of your household hazardous waste safely, easily and responsibly?

Residents have access to Waste Management's At Your Door Special Collection Service

This service is in addition to your waste and recycling service from Waste Management. No additional cost to participate. Visit www.WMAtYourDoor.com or call 1-800-449-7587 for more information.

