

*Penn Township
228 Clifford Road, Selinsgrove
Snyder County, PA*

Summer 2010

We're Up and Running on the Web

www.penn-township.net

Our web site is finally up and running. Although it's still under construction, you can find a lot of useful information. On the home page, you will find events current in the Township, such as road work or closings, weather related events, new recycling information and community events.

Using the sidebar, you can click on things such as the Township calendar. Here you will find dates and times for all Township meetings, the tax collector's schedule, park events and pavilion rentals. Also in this sidebar, you will find detailed information on numerous items, such as Penn Township recycling and the compost site, East Snyder Park, Supervisors' meeting minutes, and Planning Commission meeting minutes.

Soon, we will be adding the capability for anyone to print any application, including those for zoning permits, building permits, driveway or road-cut permits. Also, applications for sub-division/land development, conditional use, zoning variance will be found.

If there is anything specific you'd like to see, just drop us a line at penntwp@ptd.net and let us know or sign the website guestbook.

ROAD CLOSURE

PennDot will be closing a section of State Route 1011, a.k.a. Salem Road due to bridge work. The section will be in the northern part of the Township and continue into Jackson Township. This will begin around June 8th and will continue for approximately one month. Detour signs will be in place. If you have any questions about this project or any other state roads, please contact PennDot at 372-9100.

COMMUNITY GARDENS

The community gardens are located on University Avenue across from the East Snyder Park and is in its second season. Last year, 30 plots were rented, and this year so far, 61. These are 30'x30' plots and the fee is \$10 per year. You can apply for more than one plot and you may garden from dawn to dusk. All plots are on a first come-first serve basis. New this year, raised garden beds were built on an as-needed basis but only for people who need them.

The community gardens are operated by PA Dept of Agriculture and the Penn State Cooperative Extension Office of Union County. Applications and rules for plots are available by calling or stopping in at the Township office or calling Joel Imgrund at 966-8194.

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We hope you find this newsletter useful and informative. If there is anything you'd like to see included in the future, please let us know.

**PENN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

WILLIAM J MOYER, CHAIRMAN
25 M&M Lane
Freeburg, PA 17827
Term expires 12/31/2013

**FREDERICK R ULRICH
V-CHAIRMAN**
405 Route 204
Selinsgrove, PA 17870
Term expires 12/31/2015

BRIAN WENTZEL, ROADMASTER
435 Route 35
Selinsgrove PA 17870
Term expires 12/31/2011

**PENN TOWNSHIP
OFFICES**

ROBIN BIEBER
Township
Secretary/Treasurer
374-4778
Mon—Fri 8:30am-4:30pm

THOMAS SNYDER
Zoning Officer
374-9167
7:00am-11:00am
Other hours available by appointment

BRENDA MOYER
Planning Commission Secretary
Recycling Coordinator
374-4778
Mon & Thur 9:00am—4:00pm

GRADING AND RIGHT-OF-WAYS

The Penn Township road crew will begin grading roads near the end of May. This is necessary to keep water off the roads. Water that lays on the road is a safety hazard and will eventually help to wear away the road, or in the winter, can turn into ice and make unsafe conditions. Roads are graded only in the right-of-way and enough ground is removed so the water will go to the edge of the roadway. This fill will be used by the Township to create safer driving standards on our roadways. Each road, while it is being graded, will be closed to 'through' traffic. Generally, right-of-ways are 50', especially in the developments. This means that from the center of the road, the right-of-way is 25' in both directions. On some of the back

roads, the right-of-way is 33', 16.5 ft in each direction from the center of the road. The purpose of a right-of-way is to allow road crews plenty of room to perform any work that may be needed, such as installing pipe, culverts, grading, tree trimming, etc. You should not plant trees, shrubs, plantings, flowers, etc in the right-of-way. If you do and the Township needs to dig into it, they are not responsible for replacing anything that was there. If an established tree in your yard is out of the right-of-way, but the branches have grown into the right-of-way and may present a hazard to Township trucks the grading is completed.

PERMITS

Why do you need a Zoning Permit?

A Zoning Permit is required to ensure that your project (or your neighbor's project) meets all Penn Township Zoning requirements. Zoning Permits are needed for any construction on a property including, but not limited to:

- Additions
- Decks
- Sheds
- Garages (attached or unattached)
- Porches
- Pools (in-ground or above-ground)
- New homes
- Mobile homes (new or used, on your own lot or in a park)
- Enclosures
- Patios
- Solar panels

Even sheds that are 'easily moved' or 'on skids' require a permit. Any construction that changes a dimension or 'footprint' of any structure does require a permit.

What can you do without a Zoning Permit?

You do not need a zoning permit for new siding, replacement of same size windows, fencing (although you may need a Building Permit) or paving a driveway.

Do you also need a Building Permit?

On April 9th 2003, Pennsylvania passed the Statewide Building Code, known as the Uniform Construction Code. This provides for safe, consistent construction standards. Building Permits are issued by the Central Keystone COG and are required for, but not limited to, the following:

- New home construction
- Any mobile home
- Any living space addition
- Attached garages
- Decks with the floor over 30" from the ground (attached or detached from the home)
- Any roof repair/replacement of framing when attached to the home
- Detached accessory structures over 1000 sq ft
- Renovations when changing means of egress, moving or cutting into load-bearing walls, and/or changing or moving plumbing or electric
- In-ground swimming pools or above-ground pools that have more than 24" of water AND are permanent
- Fences higher than 6'
- Masonry walls higher than 4'
- ANY commercial renovation except paint

Permit Fees

Zoning Permits are calculated by the value of your project. \$20 for the first \$1000 of the value, then \$3.00 per thousand thereafter. For example, if you're adding a garage and its been valued at \$18,000, your cost would be \$71.00 which is \$20 + \$51 (17x3). If you have any questions, call the Township office at 374-4778 or Tom Snyder, Zoning Officer, at 374-9167 between 7:00 am and 11am.

Building Permits fees are calculated by the square footage of your project, or in cases of pool and mobile homes, there is a flat rate. The formula for the fee is on the Central Keystone Council of Government website at www.ckcog.com or you can reach them toll free at 1-877-457-9401.



PENN TOWNSHIP TAX COLLECTOR
RONALD ZEIDERS
 374-8401

Ron will be available to collect payments at the Township Building on the following dates:

- June 30th 5-7 pm
- September 15th 5-7 pm
- September 16th 5-7 pm
- September 20th 5-7 pm
- September 22nd 9-11 am
- September 23rd 9-11 am, 5-7 pm
- September 30th 9-11 am, 5-7 pm




1 Complaint to the Township Office

Throughout the year the Township office receives numerous calls with questions and complaints about dogs and dog licensing. After researching PA Dog Laws we have come up with the following information that should be helpful. Save this information for future reference.

- The Township has no specific Ordinances regarding dogs and cannot enforce those in place by the State.
- Snyder County Dog Warden would be a good resource for questions.
- All dogs three months of age or older must be licensed by the County Treasurer.
- All dogs must be under control and must not be allowed to run at large. Dogs are personal property, and owners are responsible for damages caused their dog.
- It is illegal to mistreat or abuse any animal. Violations should be reported to a local humane organization or the police.
- It is illegal to abandon or attempt to abandon any dog.
- No dog under eight weeks of age may be sold, traded, bartered or transferred.
- You may not place any poison or harmful substance in any place where dogs may easily eat it, whether it is your own property or elsewhere.
- You must have a current kennel license if you operate a facility that keeps, harbors, boards, shelters, sells, gives away or transfers a total of 26 or more dogs in any one calendar year.
- Owners of dogs and cats 3 months of age or older are required to have a current rabies vaccination.

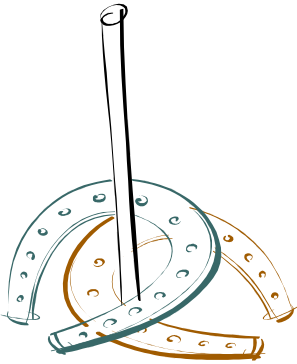
It is illegal to interfere with an officer or employee of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture engaged in the enforcement of dog laws.

Contact Information Regarding Dogs

<p>Dog Licensing in Snyder County Ms. Gale A. Jones, Treasurer - (570) 837-4221 Snyder County Courthouse P.O. Box 217/9 West Market Street Middleburg, PA 17842</p>	<p>Dog Shelter Servicing Snyder County: PSPCA – Danville 2801 Bloom Road Danville, PA 17821 (570) 275-0340</p>
<p>Toll-Free Dog Law Tip line: Call 1-877-DOG-TIP1 (1-877-364-8471) to offer confidential tips about unsatisfactory kennels.</p>	<p>Snyder County Dog Warden: Kenneth Snyder (570) 837-1915</p>
<p>Region II Dog Warden Supervisor: (includes Snyder County) Ned Lucas (814) 343-2508</p>	

To register an online complaint or tip with the Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement use this web address: <http://www.agriculture.state.pa.us/agriculture/cwp/view.asp?a=3&q=148459> there will be an online form to complete, your name and contact information is optional. Any submission with contact information will be completely anonymous, but the bureau will not be able to contact you to follow-up on your complaint.

Always a question....Which States Have "Leash Laws?" Only two states really address the issue of leashes for dogs on a statewide basis, **Michigan and Pennsylvania**. These mandate that owners restrain their dogs on leashes when the dogs are not on their owners' property. Many have questioned whether Pennsylvania's law is truly a "leash law" in the traditional sense. Pennsylvania's law appears direct, stating that it is unlawful for the owner or keeper of any dog to fail to keep at all times such dog either confined within the premises of the owner or firmly secured by means of a collar and chain or other device so that it cannot stray beyond the premises on which it is secured. 3 P.S. § 459-305. Dogs engaged in training or lawful hunting are exempted from this requirement. If an owner disregards the law, he or she may be found negligent in a civil suit where the dog being off-leash caused harm to another.



In Loving Memory of Ken Battram

1929 - 2010

Many generous contributions have been made to East Snyder Park by Ken, his family, and Northway Industries.
Thank you Ken for sharing your dream with us.
You will live forever in our hearts.

www.eastsnyderpark.com

Ken and Dora Battram Pavilion: This pavilion is for community use, but you can reserve this space for a nonrefundable \$35 fee; call the Township office at 374-4778. Space will be held for you **after** receipt of the fee. Space is reserved on a first come first served basis. There are two outdoor grills available for your use. You could check the township website at www.penn-township.net to check availability, but do verify your date with the Township office before making plans. We try to keep the calendar updated with scheduled events at the park but some events may not have made the calendar yet.

To follow is a review of **some** of the contributions, volunteer efforts, donations and work completed at the East Snyder Park in 2009. It's difficult to track the countless hours and effort given by this community working toward the growth and improvement at the park. But, read on to get a glimpse of what has been accomplished and the generosity of this community.....

.....installed a chalkboard, thank Hepco Construction and Larry Eckstine @ value \$250. + 300 more mums from Wal-Mart, thank Tom Stem + over seeded and prepped lacrosse/midget football and softball field + scraped and repainted bleachers, thank SU Freshman and Selinsgrove Lacrosse Club + storage trailer use, thank Truck and Trailer Sales, @ value \$1300 + pavilion and tables, thank wonderful Ken and Dora Battram @ value \$30,000 + painting and edger and work on 3 existing ball fields, thank Dave at DB Construction + more trees, thank Brad at Hawks Landscaping + Little League scoreboard hook up and supplies, thank Chris at SRS Electric + refurbishing the LL scoreboard, thank Pete DeWire + installation of birdhouses in wetland area, thank Dean Schreiber + fence and backstop painting, thank Dave at DB Construction + PVC to run wiring for LL scoreboard, thank Alvie Cook + cash donation \$1000, thank Wal-Mart + cash \$1634.52, thank Penn Twp Supervisor Bill Moyer, + cash \$500, thank The Mustard Seed + cash \$1000 toward LL dugouts, thank Selinsgrove Area Little League + cash \$3600 toward LL dugouts, thank Penn Township Phillies + cash \$150, proceeds from Community Breakfast, thank Harold Aucker and the VFW + cash \$1000 toward walking trails, thank Graysonview Homeowners Assoc. + Bricks! Bricks! Bricks!, thank Don Rowe at Penn Fire+ speakers at horseshoe pits and pavilion, thank Brian Harro + cement ends for benches, thank Todd Musser + \$58,200, thank DCNR for grant award, \$3000 toward horseshoe pits, thank Central Susquehanna Community Foundation and Selinsgrove Area Youth Foundation + Quickcrete and chalkboard installation, thank Pete and Cookie DeWire + installation of new bar and shelf in LL concession, thank Ken Battram and Pete DeWire + painting and mulching, thank SU students + time, expertise and a machine that rolls, thatches, distributes seed and discs...all in one, thank Greg Bingaman + 21' top fencing and @ 350' of fence, thank National Beef + labor to load and deliver, thank Dennis Camp of Apollo Fencing + trailer and backhoe use, thank Fred Ulrich + \$2000 for goalposts and fencing reconstruction of LL field and backstop at softball field, thank Selinsgrove Area Youth Foundation + back softball field dugouts, new roofs and painted + finished trail around wetlands + sunshade at the end of LL field, thank The DeWire's @ value \$500 + 10 foot table at sunshade, thank Susquehanna University + 3 BBQ pits and 2 charcoal ash collection cylinders + graded and seeded pavilion area + tetherball post, thank Don Rowe, Penn Fire + storage shed completed, lots of volunteers and materials from ASP, thank Mark Johnson + Olympic stain for pergola and picnic tables, thank Pete and Cookie DeWire + fence installed at new softball field + more cash \$500, thank again...The Mustard Seed + \$50 cash donation, thank Union Snyder Senior Olympics + 5 bluebird houses for wetland area, thank Frank! + borders, mulching and helping to winterize the park, thank SU Freshman Honor Society + countless volunteer hours, thank SU Alpha Phi Omega + stone, slate and labor for monument at flag, thank Jeremy Beaver.....put this all together, WOW!

If you, your group or organization would like to contribute time or money to the park call the Township office at 374-4778 or contact Pete DeWire at 259-1838.

All donations are tax deductible.

**Dauntless Hook and Ladder Fire Company (DH&L)
Serving Selinsgrove Borough and Penn Township**

By now, all residents should have received the annual Fund Drive information from DH&L. Funds raised during this drive will be used to repay debt on both the fire station and apparatus. **All donations are tax deductible.**

DH&L is served solely by volunteers. If you are interested in joining the fire department or help the community in the following ways:

- Volunteer Firefighter
- Fire Police
- Administrative/Non-Emergency

Please call 374-0011

Recycle your CFL's
(Compact Fluorescent Light bulbs)
at the Penn Township Office,
Monday thru Friday, during regular office hours, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.

Bulbs contain a small amount of mercury therefore MUST be in a plastic zip locked bag.

Estimated \$47 in energy cost over the life of a CFL versus incandescent.

COMPOST SITE

548 Gaugler Lane (at the end)
Hours: Every day dawn until dusk
This site is for grass clippings, garden waste, leaves, trees, branches and shrubs.
Ashes from your wood or coal burning stoves are also accepted, but **NOT** ashes from burn barrels.
Signs are in place indicating placement of each specific material.
Materials **NOT** able to be left here are flower pots, garbage bags, tree stumps, meat or fish bones, fat, great, oil, dairy products, and any other containers used to bring your materials to the compost site.
Contact the Township office for availability of coarse mulch or compost.



Remember: Abuse of this site equals closure

**RECYCLE
CORRUGATED CARDBOARD AND OFFICE PAPER**

The old laundry building on State School Road (Selinsgrove Center). The dock is easy to find—there is a large recycling center sign on the building.

Drop off hours are Mon—Fri 8am—3:30pm.

There is a bell to ring for service, located inside along the garage door with the clipboard. Please sign the clipboard with what you are dropping off and that you are a "Penn Township Resident".

You can open the large garage door to place your items inside, especially if it is raining.

Clip and post for future reference.

**Penn Township Recycling
2nd Saturday Every Month
8 AM – 12 NOON
What can I recycle at this site?**

YES:

- #1 plastic bottles and jugs only
- #2 plastic bottles and jugs only
- newspaper
- magazines
- catalogs
- clear glass
- green glass
- brown glass
- blue glass
- tin cans w/ lids
- aluminum

NO:

- aerosol cans
- paint buckets or cans
- flower pots
- prescription bottles
- junk mail
- dishes, glass or plastic
- plastic drinking cups
- pool chemical buckets or their lids
- yogurt cups or their lids
- cool whip containers or their lids
- deli trays or their lids
- 5-gallon buckets or their lids
- baby wipe containers
- oil jugs (contaminated)
- antifreeze jugs (contaminated)
- supermarket bags
- lids on soda bottles
- lids on water bottles
- #5 plastics
- #7 plastics
- #4 plastics
- no obscure plastic items
- that are not a jug or a bottle
- propane bottles

Flood Information

Penn Township continues to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS), which requires the Township to be re-certified annually. Continued participation in this program allows business owners and all residents of Penn Township to purchase flood insurance at reduced premiums in recognition of the efforts made by the Township to lessen the impact of flooding. With our continued efforts, FEMA has designated Penn Township as a Class 8 municipality, allowing for 15% reduction on flood insurance to those in the floodplain and a 5% reduction for flood insurance for non-floodplain residents.

Any home in Penn Township can be covered by flood insurance, but don't wait for the next flood to buy insurance; there is a 30-day waiting period for coverage to take effect. Talk to your agent today.

As part of the CRS recertification, we send letters to local realtors, insurance agencies, and lenders. The letters make them aware that Penn Township participates in the CRS Program. Another part of the recertification involves making our community aware of flood hazards through letters to those living in the flood plain and repetitive loss areas. These letters inform residents on Flood Safety, Natural and Beneficial Functions of Floodplains, Flood Insurance w/ Mandatory Purchase Requirements and Federal Financial Aid, Property Protection and much more.

The complete "Flooding and You" information has been included at least once annually in our Township newsletter. If you need a copy of this, please call the Township Office or e-mail Brenda at bpenntownship@yahoo.com

Penn Township annually updates the names, addresses, and phone numbers of our "need to call/evacuation" list in case of an emergency. Our Zoning Officer also enforces the Flood Plain and Stormwater Management Ordinances. Contact our office for permit requirements for floodplain development. Our Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC), along with the Penn Township road crew have over time, identified areas with chronic flooding and drainage problems and continue to work to improve these areas. You can help by keeping ditches and drainage areas on your property open and free of debris.

2 Complaint to the Township

Signs - We've all seen them.....faded, blowing in the wind or laying in the ditch. The ones advertising a neighborhood yard sale or a community event that have long passed. Penn Township Zoning Ordinance 2005-01 (amended 7/17/07) under Section 506.6 - Temporary Signs, states:

A. Temporary signs shall be removed no later than three (3) days following the advertised event.

B. A temporary sign for non-profit events and political campaigns may be erected for a period not exceeding forty-five (45) days.

We appreciate the fact you want your event to be advertised and noticed. But, typically these signs are not posted on or along your property. After weeks of enduring the weather, the signs now become litter and an eyesore for those living and travelling near your posted signs. Your fellow residents would also appreciate that they are removed after your event.

Failure to remove signs after an event may compel the Township to strengthen the Ordinance and as a result the placement of temporary signs could be more restrictive, require a permit or be totally prohibited.

Any permanent signs erected in the Township do require a zoning permit. Applications for such are available in the office or online from the township website - www.penn-township.net.

Frequently Asked Questions

Should Penn Township have a large item clean up??

Many years ago, Penn Township stopped having a yearly 'cleanup' due to high costs. The Supervisors are considering reinstating the 'cleanup' but would like to get your feedback. You can contact the Township office at 374-4778, drop us an email at penntwp@ptd.net or attend a Township meeting.

Does Penn Township have a real estate tax?

No. Although you pay a real estate tax, this is accessed by Snyder County and the School District, and that is where your money goes. Penn Township does not receive any of these tax monies. We are one of only a handful of municipalities in Pennsylvania that does not have a Township real estate tax.

Where does the Township get its money?

If you are employed, there should be a deduction on your paycheck of 2.1% for 'Local Tax'. Selinsgrove School District receives 1.6% and the Township receives .5%.

We also have a **Local Services Tax** which is paid by anyone working in the Township. That is \$10.00 per person per year. Selinsgrove Speedway and the Snyder County Tractor Pullers Association collect **Amusement Tax**, a 10% tax on the price of admissions to those events.

We also receive a **Realty Transfer Tax**. This is .5% of the selling price of a home purchased in the Township.

Also, once per year, we receive **State Liquid Fuels** from the State. This amount is determined by how many miles of road we maintain and by the number of residents we have. That is another reason why the census is so important. We are very limited as to what that money can be spent on. The monies must be kept in a separate account and is audited by our local auditors as well as two different governmental auditors from Harrisburg.

Various other sources of income include Zoning Permits, Fines, Land Development fees, etc.

Is burning allowed?

Penn Township does not have any Ordinances regarding burning, although some neighborhoods, such as Harris Estates and Salem Glenn, do not allow burning per their deed restrictions. We ask that you use common courtesy, and not burn items with noxious odors or that would be detrimental to you or your neighbor's health. No burning is allowed anywhere when a burning ban is in effect for Snyder County.

Selinsgrove Center Nature Trail in Penn Township



As the map indicates this nature trail is located just off Salem Road, between Salem Road and the Middlecreek Valley Tractor Association grounds. The trail was made possible with assistance from the Growing Greener Grants Program under the office of Pollution Prevention and Compliance Assistance, DEP and the Commonwealth of PA. Parking for the trail is right along Salem Road on the extra wide berm just before the bridge at the unnamed tributary to Penns Creek, and adjacent to the Salem Glenn Development. Motor vehicles are not allowed to drive back the field (access) road at this time. If you walk back this access

road you will notice a station marker on the left, # 1. This is where the trail begins and is marked throughout with numbered posts or station markers that will correspond with the guide included on the left in this article. Each station depicts a natural or unique resource along the trail. Who owns the land? The land was originally a transfer from DGS (Department of General Services-State School) to SCCD (Snyder County Conservation District). Then Penn DOT purchased the ground as part of the natural resources mitigation site for the construction of the Central Susquehanna Valley Thruway (CSVT) project. This

1. Silver Maple
2. Wetland Crossing
3. Stream Flow Monitoring
4. Black Oak
5. Red Oak
6. White Oak
7. Ridge and Valley Section
8. Wildlife Clover
9. Tree Conjugation
10. Streambank Erosion
11. Grapevines
12. Soil Profile
13. Barbed Wire Fence
14. Tree Cavity – Den Hole
15. Woodpecker Damage
16. Wetlands
17. Underground Stream
18. Floodplain
19. Old Orchard
20. Drainage Way
21. Fence Posts
22. Stream Weathering
23. Minnow Habitat
24. Reptile Habitat
25. Bird Houses
26. Warm Season Grasses
27. Wildflower Field
28. Bat Box
29. Old Farm Traces
30. Trail Facts & Brochures

mitigation work is evident from the old milking barns and silos along Old Colony Road, out past the Snyder County Prison and the Middlecreek Tractor Association grounds, and extending over to Salem Road. So, PennDOT does own the land...but SCCD is now leasing it. In an effort to preserve and enhance the area, SCCD has created the Selinsgrove Center Nature Trail. The trail of about one-half mile meanders through the woods and over and back across the stream. This made possible with the installation of two foot bridges. Along the trail you will find a picnic area with tables and benches built by Selinsgrove High School student Craig Haines of Kratzerville as part of his Eagle Scout project. Craig was assisted by his parents, grandfather, Snyder County Conservation District and Scout Troop #441. This picnic area is open for public use, but there are no waste receptacles, so anything brought in must be taken back out with you. You will also see near the start of the trail an area that is fenced in. This is another part of the mitigation project and a study of newly planted tree seedlings that are protected from the deer and enclosed approximately one acre of land. This is a PennDOT project with a “yet to be determined” lifespan.

Work included in the wetland mitigation plan to offset the impacts to natural resources associated with the construction of the thruway project (CSVT):

1. Creation of 7.9 acres of new wetland habitat.
2. Transformation of 2.6 acres of existing wetland habitat.
3. Restoration of 6123 linear feet of stream channel.
4. Creation of 70.2 acres of grassland habitat.
5. Creation of 49.2 acres of forest habitat.
6. Enhancement of 33.2 acres of existing forest habitat.

Visit this natural area in Penn Township and enjoy!

Whatever you are be a good one. – Abraham Lincoln.

PENN TOWNSHIP

228 CLIFFORD ROAD
SELINSGROVE, PA 17870

Phone: 570-374-4778
Fax: 570-374-4931
Roadmaster: 570-374-4258
E-mail: penntwp@ptd.net
website:
www.penn-township.net



Have a safe and happy summer!!

SUMMER!! Summer is almost here and that means backyard barbeques, lazy days by the pool and lots of activities for the kids. Here's a list of safety tips to help ensure a safe and happy summer!

POOL SAFETY

Drowning is one of the major causes of death in children. Accidents in the pool can happen very suddenly without warning. Even smaller water bodies such as buckets, fountains and barrels carry a danger of drowning.

- Never allow a child to swim alone without any adult supervision. Even kids who know how to swim can develop cramps, or even hit their head. Any type of accident can happen. There should always be persons around to help.
- Make sure there are always life saving floatation devices close by.
- Be observant. Watch your children and supervise their activities.

In case of a backyard swimming pool, all above tips apply, and—

- Pools should be surrounded by high fences which can be locked. Do not leave the pool open, especially when you are not close by.
- Make sure the cover of the pool is completely lifted off the pool. Do not partially remove the cover or allow children to walk on the cover.

PLAYGROUND SAFETY

Children love to play outdoors. Playgrounds and backyard playsets have always been popular.

- There should be a 6 foot fall zone around the playset to ensure that your kids do not hurt themselves as they move around.
- The playset should be designed sensibly. There should be enough landing space provided for kids sliding down the slides. Swings should not be too close to the perimeters.
- The playset should be the right size for your child. For younger children, smaller pieces of equipment should be available that they can handle easily.
- If you're installing a playset at your home, make sure the hardware is installed properly by following all manufacturer's directions. There should be no sharp or pointy surfaces.
- Recommended playground surfaces are mulch, fine sand or even fine gravel. NO surfaces should be made of asphalt, concrete or metal. Even grass is not recommended as your child can easily get hurt on hard ground that does not 'give' such as the mulch or sand does.

BACKYARD SAFETY

There are many ways to keep your children safe as they play in the backyard.

- Fully enclose your backyard. Make sure there are no open gates or other means for your child to leave while unattended.
- Move all sharp objects out of reach, including gardening tools, equipment and lawn mowers.
- Avoid unstable deck chairs and tables.
- Be observant and regularly check on the children.

DON'T FORGET 2010 GENERAL ELECTION

Tuesday, November 2, 2010

Polls are open from
7:00am until 8:00pm.

Where do you vote?

Penn 1—29 Graysonview Court

Penn 2—228 Clifford Road

Need to register to vote? Want to know if you're already registered?

**Call Voter Registration at
837-4209**