Fall has officially begun! With this season, we say farewell to summer and welcome the bountiful harvest, trees adorned in majestic colors, and cooler weather. Just as the summer has flown by so quickly, so, too, will the autumn season fly by. Before we know it, the cold and snow of winter will be upon us. While winter will not officially begin until Sunday, December 21st, it’s never too early to start preparing and planning for what may be to come! With that in mind, our Public Works Department would like to remind our residents of the different ways they can help to prepare for the snow.

### PREPARING MAILBOXES FOR WINTER

Mailboxes can be damaged by snow thrown from snow plows unless they are prepared for winter. Here are some tips on how you can reduce mailbox damage:

- Place a 6-to-8-inch piece of reflective tape on the mailbox to help snow plow operators see it at night.
- Remove snow from around the mailbox but do not throw it back onto the road.
- Consider repositioning the mailbox slightly off the road, but still within reach of the postal carrier.
- Consider the installation of a cantilevered mailbox support that will swing a mailbox out of harm’s way. Free plans for this type of mailbox are available on PennDOT’s website at www.dot.state.pa.us.
- Contact the Post Office for more information on how to correctly position a mailbox.

### SNOW REMOVAL PRIORITIES

Plowing will begin when the snow is three inches deep. Our top priorities are the main roads, including the Fire House Parking Lot, Police Station Parking Lot, Municipal Building Parking Lot, Gettysburg Pike to Route 114, West Winding Hill Road, East Winding Hill Road, Allendale Road, Wilson Lane, Grantham Road, Mt. Allen Drive, Kim Acres Drive, Bumble Bee Hollow Road, Mill Road, Hertzler Road, Fisher Road, Stumpstown Road, Arcona Road, McCormick Road, Sinclair Road and Geneva Drive.

After the main roads are clear and remain passable, road crews will attempt to open the principle access road to each development. However, if the main roads require additional attention, development plowing may be halted. After the snow has stopped falling, plows will return to the developments to make a pass on the roads in each direction. The Public Works Department will no longer be plowing curb to curb. Once all development roads are open and snow has stopped falling, plows may return to widen the road, if possible.

Residents can help by not travelling, unless necessary, during these times; and don’t shovel or blow snow onto plowed or treated streets (the Township has an ordinance that prohibits this, under penalty of law).

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**Trick or Treat will be held on October 30th, from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.**
The Board of Commissioners recently made revisions to Chapter 205, “Snow and Ice Removal,” of the Township Code. Highlights are as follows:

- Private streets as well as public streets are included in the requirement for property owners to remove snow, slush, and ice along the full width of the sidewalks and across driveways within 24 hours after the snow or slush has ceased to fall or ice to form. If the snow, slush or ice cannot be removed within 24 hours due to hardening, property owners must apply an abrasive to allow for safe travel.

- It is the responsibility of property owners on private or public streets to remove or cause to be removed all snow, slush and ice from all fire hydrants located on their property within 24 hours following the storm so as to provide immediate access by fire rescue personnel in cases of emergency, and to keep said fire hydrants clear throughout the duration of the storm.

- In order to allow access by emergency service vehicles and personnel, property owners along private streets shall not allow more than 4 inches of snow or slush to accumulate, or allow ice to accumulate to a degree which renders the street impassable or unsafe for travel. Additionally, property owners along private streets shall apply sufficient ice melt or anti-skid material during icy conditions and/or during freezing temperatures to ensure safe passage to all vehicles and pedestrians.

- Property owners are reminded that it is illegal to throw snow, slush and/or ice onto streets or rights-of-way or to damage any Township property such as street signs, culverts, etc. while removing said snow, slush and/or ice.

Failure to comply with the above requirements may result in fines up to $600.00, plus costs of prosecution of the violation. A complete copy of Chapter 205 is available at the Township office.

The Board of Commissioners recently made revisions to Chapter 233, “Vehicles and Traffic,” of the Township Code. Highlights are as follows:

- The Township may declare a “Snow Emergency,” which will be announced through TV, radio, newspaper, the website, or other available media.

- It shall be unlawful to park any motor vehicle or other vehicle on any Township-maintained street upon commencement of a “Snow Emergency” and until the snow has been plowed.

- Any member of the Township’s Police Department or other employee of the Township engaged in road work is authorized to remove any vehicle parked in violation of the above provisions and to take it to the nearest garage or other place of safety. The owner of said vehicle will be notified of the vehicle’s whereabouts and owner may retrieve the vehicle upon payment of any and all towing and storage charges.

A complete copy of Chapter 233 is available at the Township office.
FIRE DEPARTMENT EVENTS

OPEN HOUSE: Come out and meet your local heroes at our Open House that will be held on October 11, 2014, from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m., at the Fire Station. This event is open to the public and free of charge.

CRAFT SHOW/HOLIDAY BAZAAR: There will be crafts, food and fun for everyone at our annual craft show/holiday bazaar, which will be held on November 29, 2014, from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., at the Fire Station!

MEET SANTA CLAUS! Santa will be making an appearance at the Fire Station during the Holiday Bazaar from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. to take Christmas Lists.

CHRISTMAS TREE SALES: The Christmas Tree Sale will begin on November 29, 2014. We will have fresh cut trees every Saturday morning!

FALL/WINTER FIRE SAFETY

The high cost of home heating fuels and utilities have caused many Americans to search for alternate sources of home heating. The use of wood burning stoves is growing and space heaters are selling rapidly, or coming out of storage. Fireplaces are burning wood and man-made logs.

All these methods of heating may be acceptable. They are, however, a major contributing factor in residential fires. Many of these fires can be prevented. The following fire safety tips can help you maintain a fire safe home this winter.

Wood Stoves and Fireplaces

- Keep a glass or metal screen in front of the fireplace opening to prevent embers or sparks from “jumping” out, unwanted material from going in, and help prevent the possibility of burns to occupants.
- A wood stove should be burned hot twice a day for 15-30 minutes to reduce the amount of creosote buildup.
- Don't use excessive amounts of paper to build large fires in fireplaces. It is possible to ignite creosote in the chimney by overbuilding a fire.
- Never burn charcoal indoors. Burning charcoal can give off lethal amounts of carbon monoxide.
- Before you go to sleep, be sure your fireplace fire is out. Never close your damper with hot ashes in the fireplace. A closed damper will help the fire to heat up again and will force toxic carbon monoxide into the house.
- Check the chimney. Is the chimney solid? Cracked or loose bricks could allow a chimney fire to occur.
- If synthetic logs are used, follow the directions on the package. Never break a synthetic log apart to quicken the fire or use more than one log at a time. They often burn unevenly, releasing higher levels of carbon monoxide.

Expect and prepare for extreme weather! Everyone can prepare with immediate, short-term actions. If there are weather warnings, prepare your home. Remove leaves and debris from gutters, clear your storm drains and drainage areas of any debris or trash, make sure that windows and doors are properly secured, and, if you have a sump pump, make sure that it is working. If there is a risk of severe flooding in your area, move any valuable belongings to the upper floors. In the event of any severe weather conditions coming our way, charge your cell phone, put fresh batteries in your flashlights, and make sure you have adequate food and water for a few days.
Recycle Prescription and Over-the-Counter Medicines

You can now recycle prescription and over-the-counter solid medications, inhalers, creams, ointments, nasal sprays and pet medication at the Medicine Return Box located in the lobby of the Police Department. There is no fee associated with the disposal of these medications. Users are asked to either remove all prescription medication labels or place all the pills in a plastic bag. Citizens can use this box to safely dispose of unwanted medicine they may have. Items not to be deposited into the box are intravenous solutions, injectables, needles, and liquids. The Medicine Return Box will be available during normal business hours, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

MEETINGS

October
1 Board of Commissioners - 6:30 p.m. (if needed)
6 Budget - 6:30 p.m.
8 Budget - 6:30 p.m.
9 Public Improvements - 7:30 a.m.
9 Zoning Hearing Board - 6:00 p.m.
13 Budget - 6:30 p.m.
14 Administration - 7:30 a.m.
15 Board of Commissioners - 6:30 p.m.
20 Budget - 6:30 p.m.
21 Historical Architecture - 7:00 p.m.
22 Parks & Recreation - 6:30 p.m.
23 Sewer Advisory Board - 7:00 p.m.
27 Planning Commission - 7:00 p.m.
29 Budget - 6:30 p.m.

November
3 Budget - 6:30 p.m.
5 Board of Commissioners - 6:30 p.m. (if needed)
10 Pension Board - 7:30 a.m.
10 Administration - 8:00 a.m.
13 Public Improvements - 7:30 a.m.
13 Zoning Hearing Board - 6:00 p.m.
18 Historical Architecture - 7:00 p.m.
19 Board of Commissioners - 6:30 p.m.
20 Sewer Advisory Board - 7:00 p.m.
24 Planning Commission - 7:00 p.m.
25 Parks & Recreation - 6:30 p.m.

December
3 Board of Commissioners - 6:30 p.m. (if needed)
9 Administration - 7:30 a.m.
10 Public Safety - 7:30 p.m.
11 Public Improvements - 7:30 a.m.
11 Zoning Hearing Board - 6:00 p.m.
16 Historical Architecture - 7:00 p.m.
17 Board of Commissioners - 6:30 p.m.
18 Sewer Advisory Board - 7:00 p.m.
29 Planning Commission - 7:00 p.m.

UPPER ALLEN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Kenneth M. Martin, President (seated - right)
Paul M. Rigney, Vice President (seated – left)
Richard A. Castranio, Jr. (standing – left)
Virginia M. Anderson (standing – middle)
James G. Cochran (standing – right)

ATTENTION!

There will be a meeting to discuss the construction of the proposed Off-Leash Dog Area at Center Square Park. The public is welcome to attend. The meeting will be held on October 22, at 7:00 p.m., at the Upper Allen Township Municipal Building.

UPCOMING HOLIDAYS

THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED:
Veterans Day - November 11
Thanksgiving - November 27 & 28
Christmas Day - December 25
Operation Wildcat
Meeting the needs of All Students in our District

Operation Wildcat continues to work to pool the Mechanicsburg Area School District community resources to help district families in need on an ongoing basis. The community’s support of all our projects has enabled us to assist students and families during these tough economic times. For up to date info on any of our projects, please go to our website on the district website, http://www.mbgasd.org/pages/Mechanicsburg ASD/Community_Alumni/Operation_Wildcat.

Wanted: Pickup trucks and labor to help with Furniture pick-up/delivery. If you can help on weekends, please contact Maureen Ross via e-mail at mmross4@comcast.net or by phone at 717-773-1988 for more information.

Project Back to School bins were distributed throughout the school district this summer at various businesses and school district buildings. Thanks to the generosity of our community, we collected hundreds of items that will be available for students as needed throughout the school year. Bins remain in all the school buildings throughout the school year.

Project Bikes has bikes of all sizes available for ANY MASD student. If you or your children are in need of a bike, please contact your child’s school guidance counselor or nurse.

Project Boo’s Free Costume Distribution (open to all MASD families) will be Tuesday October 7th, 5-7 p.m., in Elmwood Elementary School lobby. Donations of new and gently used Halloween Costumes of all shapes and sizes, costume accessories and kids’ candy buckets or bags in drop-off bins are now being accepted in all district school buildings for the month of October. Please no Halloween décor or decorations (these items can be donated to Project Yard Sale N More); see below.

Project Clothes is an on-going year-round project collecting new or gently used clothing for students and families in need. We have helped many district families thanks to the generous donations from people in our school district and the surrounding communities. For up to date list of items we are in immediate need of, please visit our website.

Project Enrichment continues to collect money for the MASD Recreation Scholarship Fund to allow students the opportunity to participate in extra curricular and recreational activities offered by our school district. You can contribute to the Recreation Scholarship Fund whenever you sign up for a program through the Rec Department. Look for us at the Wildcat Foundation’s Community Day!

Project Gift Box: You can make the holidays brighter for a child in the Mechanicsburg Area School District. Go to www.timetosignup.com/operationwildcat, which will have gift wishes of children in need within our district around mid-November. Select the gift(s) you would like to purchase; the maximum amount per gift is $25. Detailed instructions will be on the website. Your help and generosity is always appreciated. If you have a question, please contact Raina Beckett at 620-8464, sommer034@yahoo.com, Jenn Schwarzman at 918-2022, jenniferschwarzman@comcast.net, or Julie Layton 717-585-7740, jlayton0317@gmail.com.

Project Tannenbaum collects artificial Christmas trees, tree stands, ornaments, tree skirts, tree toppers, tree lights, and tree garland for local families. Any other types of Christmas items (such as wreaths, stockings, decorations, etc.) can be donated to Project Yard Sales N More.

Project Thanksgiving will be collecting food, turkey certificates, gift cards, and cash to fill “baskets” containing enough provisions for a Thanksgiving dinner for local families. Details will be posted on our website.

Project Yard Sales N More will be participating in fall and spring yard sales; please visit our website for dates and locations. Our next yard sale is October 24-25 at Mechanicsburg Brethren in Christ Church. All proceeds from the yard sales are converted into gift cards and turned into the District Office to be utilized by the Guidance Staff and School Nurses to help needy families in the school district. If you have yard sale items, toys or home decor items to donate, please contact Maureen Ross at mmross4@comcast.net, 717-773-1988 or Pat Clawges pclawges@gmail.com, 717-512-4164. We do not accept exercise equipment or computer equipment. Tax receipts can be given for all donations. Please also check the website on how to donate items to local consignment stores where Operation Wildcat has an account. The benefit is two-fold: supporting local businesses and the proceeds from the sale of the items go to Operation Wildcat!
Trips

For more Trip Information and Policies visit our website at www.mbgsd.org, click on Community/Alumni and then Parks & Recreation.

**Western PA Splendor**
October 18
Cost: $132 per person. After September 12, $142 per person.

**Finger Lakes Wine Country**
October 25 - 26
Cost: $349 per person Single, $289 per person Double, $269 per person Triple, $259 per person Quad. After August 20, $359 per person Single, $299 per person Double, $279 per person Triple, $269 per person Quad.

**New York On Your Own**
November 22
Cost: $65 per person. After October 24, $75 per person.

**Radio City Christmas Show**
November 22
Cost: $145 per person. After October 24, $155 per person.

**Longwood Gardens & Winterthur**
December 5
Cost: $120 per person. After November 7, $130 per person.

**New York On Your Own**
December 13
Cost: $65 per person. After November 14, $75 per person.

**Winter/Spring 2015**

**New York City, Valentine Getaway**
February 14 - 15

**Philadelphia Flower Show with George Weigel**
March 3

**Killington, Vermont Ski Trip**
March 12 - 15

**Les Miserables**
March 28

**Phantom of the Opera**
March 28

**Save the Date!**

**9th Annual Father/Daughter Dance**
Create special memories that will last a lifetime with your favorite gentleman. Dinner and flower included. Tickets are limited and can be picked up at the Recreation Office. Registration begins on December 2.

**Date:** Saturday, February 21, 2015
**Time:** 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
**Grades:** K - 5th
**Location:** High School Cafeteria
**Couple:** $39 - After January 23, $49. After February 6, $59.
**Extra Child:** $12

**Mother/Son Date Night**
Enjoy a carefree night of bowling and dinner with your special guy.

**Date:** Saturday, November 8, 2014
**Time:** 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.
**Grades:** K - 5th
**Location:** Trindle Bowling Center
**Couple:** $29, After October 10, $39. After October 25, $49.
**Extra Child:** $12
Mechanicsburg Museum Association  
2 West Strawberry Alley  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055  
717-697-6088  
www.mechanicsburgmuseum.org  
mechanicsburgmuseum@verizon.net

“A Slice of Life – Mechanicsburg 1876” Exhibit - opens June 21, 2014 closes October 18, 2014. The exhibit is free and open to the public. Freight Station hours are Wednesday through Saturday 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. This exhibit features historical memorabilia from Mechanicsburg in the 1876 period. The exhibit ties in with the 1876 Centennial in Philadelphia and the celebration of our nation. Things included are local businesses of the time, advertising, artifacts from the 1876 Lock Box that had been opened in 1976. The Freight Station is located at 3 W. Allen Street in Mechanicsburg.

“Norman Rockwell – It’s a Wonderful Life” – Lifetime Enrichment program presented by Selby Doughty, Independent Scholar. October 1, 2014 at 12:00 noon at the Museum Passenger Station. Museum members & children under 13 free; $4 non-members.

“Kauffman’s Station at Boiling Springs” – Lifetime Enrichment program presented by Richard Tritt, Photo Curator at the Cumberland County Historical Society. October 15, 2014 at 12:00 noon at the Museum Passenger Station. Museum members & children under 13 free; $4 non-members.

“Sticks and Stones and Buried Bones – Key to Cemetery Signs, Symbols, and Structure” – Lifetime Enrichment program presented by Sammi Lehman, Researcher. October 19, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. at the Museum Passenger Station. Museum members & children under 13 free; $4 non-members.


Mechanicsburg Museum Christmas Wreath Sale – Orders accepted from November 1st until the 19th. Forms will be available on the Museum’s website (www.mechanicsburgmuseum.org), or can be picked up at the Passenger Station. Orders ready for delivery November 29, 30 and December 1, 2014. Fresh wreaths of mixed evergreens and a beautiful bow.

“The 100th Anniversary of the Great War” – Lifetime Enrichment program presented by Thomas Sweeney, Former Director of the U.S. Army Military History Institute. November 2, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. at the Museum Passenger Station. Museum members & children under 13 free; $4 non-members.

“Snowbound Christmas Express” Exhibit - Opens November 15, 2014 closes January 17, 2015. The exhibit is free and opened to the public. Freight Station hours are Wednesday through Friday 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. and extended Saturday hours from 12:00 noon until 4:00 p.m. This exhibit features trains, toys, snowmen, and decorated trees. Something for all ages – young & old. The Freight Station is located at 3 W. Allen Street in Mechanicsburg.
Woman’s Club News

Upper Allen Woman’s Club GFWC will sponsor the 23rd Annual Arts and Craft Show on Saturday, October 25, 2014, at the Mechanicsburg Area High School. More than 80 vendors will be selling items including, jewelry, stained glass, candles, note cards, and homemade soaps. Handmade scarves and sweaters will also be available for sale. Bake goods and snacks can be purchased for those who get hungry while shopping. The craft show hours are from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. For more information about the Arts and Craft Show, contact marieas@msn.com, Subject: Show.

COOKIES WITH MRS. CLAUS

“Cookies with Mrs. Claus” will be held on Saturday, December 6, 2014, at the Upper Allen Township Building from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Activities for the day will include crafts, games, face painting, and refreshments. Cameras are welcome as there will be opportunities to have your child’s picture taken with Mrs. Claus. An adult must accompany all children who attend this event. Tickets are $5.00 per child for children up to 12 years old and $2.00 per adult.

The Upper Allen Woman’s Club Foundation sponsors “Cookies with Mrs. Claus”. The proceeds will go to The Rhona Ellis Memorial Scholarship. For more information, contact klcochran1@verizon.net.

FRIENDSHIP CASTLE WALKWAY

The Upper Allen Woman’s Club Foundation continues to sell bricks for the Friendship Castle Walkway. Prices begin at $50.00 for a standard size paver. Each brick may be personalized for a special person or event. For additional sizes and prices, please call 697-9747, or email bprigney@gmail.com, Subject: Bricks.

Joseph T. Simpson Library

Join us for our Bowling for Books fundraiser on Saturday, November 1st, at 12:00 noon, at Trindle Bowl. All participants must be registered by October 17th. For more information, please visit us online at www.simpsonlibrary.org.

The Family Fall Festival will be held on Saturday, November 8, at 10:30 a.m. Please register by November 1.

HOLLY TRAIL HOUSE TOUR

Friends of the Joseph T. Simpson Public Library 20th Anniversary Holly Trail House Tour will be held on Sunday, December 8, from 12:30 pm to 5:00 pm. House Tour tickets are $15.00 in advance and $20.00 on the day of the tour.

Tickets, programs, maps to homes, and additional information are available at the library (16 North Walnut Street, Mechanicsburg, 717.766.0171). Sponsored by Friends of Joseph T. Simpson Public Library.

Please visit www.friendsofsimsonlibrary.org for more information.
MECHANICSBURG AREA FOUNDATION

SAVE THE DATE: The Mechanicsburg Area Foundation invites the community to a luncheon on Wednesday, November 12, 2014 at 12:00 noon to celebrate the distribution of the 2014 grants to area non-profit organizations. The event will be held at the Mechanicsburg Men’s Club located at 333 Heinz Street, Mechanicsburg. Please RSVP to Patti Herring at familyzeke@verizon.net.

NEW ADDITION TO WINDING HILLS WEST

This project was funded in part by the Cumberland County Land Partnerships Program

Mechanicsburg Youth Lacrosse Club

We would like to invite your son or daughter to join us in the fastest growing team sport in the country. If your child is in elementary through 8th grade, please contact us at:

Mechanicsburg Youth Lacrosse Club
PO Box 1581
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Website: mechlax.com

Contact Steve Layton (President): 717-585-8782

To learn more about what is happening in the Township, like us on Facebook.
Upper Allen Township
100 Gettysburg Pike
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055