

Columbia Borough Newsletter

Spring



SPRING/SUMMER 2013

**DATES TO
REMEMBER
YARD WASTE
COLLECTION BEGINS**

MONDAYS BEGINNING
4/08/13

**ANNUAL SPRING
CLEAN-UP**

FRIDAY 4/26/13 CURBSIDE
7AM-NOON

**EARTH DAY -
SAHD SALVAGE**

SATURDAY 4/27/13
9AM-1PM

**ANNUAL 5K
RIVER RUN/WALK**

SATURDAY 5/25/13
7:30AM-10:30AM

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

SUNDAY 5/25/13
2:30PM

**HOLY TRINITY PARISH
FESTIVAL**

6/5/13-6/8/13
6PM-10PM

**CRUSIN COLUMBIA
CAR SHOW**

SATURDAY 6/15/13
10AM-3PM

**ANTIQUA, ART &
CRAFT SHOW**

SATURDAY 6/29/13
9AM-3PM

**ANNUAL CHIQUES
CHALLENGE**

SATURDAY 8/10/12
7:30AM-11AM

5K MAG FALL FLASH

SATURDAY 11/2/13
7:30AM-10:30AM



**THINGS YOU
SHOULD KNOW
ABOUT
SWIMMING POOLS**

- You are required to obtain a permit from the Borough Office prior to installation. (There is a permit fee).

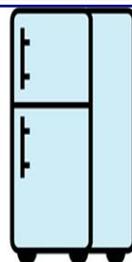
- The Borough's Third Party Inspector must approve the installation. (There is a fee for this service).

- A fence, wall, building or other suitable enclosure, a minimum of 4' high above the surrounding average ground level, is required. This enclosure may be the walls of the pool itself if the access ladder is able to be raised and locked so that it is a minimum of 4' above the surrounding average ground level.

- Pools must be setback a minimum of 5 feet from any lot line and are not allowed in a required front yard.

- Filling a pool will temporarily increase your water and sewer bills.

**PLEASE CONTACT
THE BOROUGH CODE
OFFICE FOR ADDI-
TIONAL INFORMA-**



**COLUMBIA BOROUGH
SPRING CLEANUP**

Friday April 26, 2013
Curbside Collection
from 7a.m. - 12:00p.m.

Acceptable Items - \$20 ea

- Refrigerator/Freezer (Doors Removed)
- Sofa/Furniture
- Washer/Dryer
- Air conditioner
- Heater
- Dishwasher
- Trash Compactor
- Stove
- Bathtub
- Water
- Double Sink

**Acceptable Electronic
Items - \$10ea**

- Television (w/ picture tube)
- Computer (w/ monitor tube)

Free Item: Scrap Metal

Acceptable Items - \$5ea

- Mattress/Box Spring
- VCR/DVD
- Microwave
- Rug/Carpet
- Grills (no gas tanks)
- Push/Electric Lawnmowers
- Cell Phone
- Dehumidifier
- Trash Compactor
- Battery (Car/Truck/Marine)
- Printer/Keyboard/Mouse
- TV with Flat or Projection Screen
- Flat Screen Computer Monitor
- Stereo
- Tires (pair)
- Toilet
- Portable Radio
- Dishwasher

Unacceptable Items

Paint cans, Shingles, Engines, Gas Tanks, Vinyl Flooring, Bricks, Yard waste, Garbage and Concrete Blocks

Item tags may be purchased at 308 Locust Street between 8am-4pm.

Place items curbside after 6pm on Thursday 4/25/13 and before 6am on Friday 4/26/13



**THINGS YOU SHOULD
KNOW ABOUT DOGS**

- It is illegal to allow a dog to run at large upon the public streets or upon the property of others unless accompanied by the owner.

- It is illegal to allow your dog to defecate on property owned by others or upon public streets. All feces deposited by your dog must be removed and disposed of in a sanitary manner.

- A maximum of three total dogs and/or cats, which shall not include more than two dogs, may be permitted to be kept per residence.

- It is illegal to keep dogs in such a manner that it creates a noise or odor nuisance.



Columbia Borough Commercial and Residential Recycling Guidelines



DID YOU KNOW? That Act 101 of 1988 and Columbia Borough Code Chapter 18, Article II, Section 9 require that Columbia Borough residents and businesses recycle. The more tonnage recycled, the more money the Borough earns which, in turn, helps to reduce the amount of tax dollars the Borough needs to collect from it's property owners. **Please recycle whenever possible.**

Recycling Guidelines:

Items that are required to be recycled:

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| -Clear Glass | -Colored Glass |
| -Aluminum | -Steel Cans |
| -Newsprint | -Yard Waste |
| -Plastics | -Tires |
| -High Grade Office Paper | |
| -Corrugated Cardboard | |
| -White Goods (large appliances) | |
| -Batteries (battery bags are available at the Borough Office and should be put in recycle bins) | |

- Recycle only plastic or glass items containing a #1 or #2 on the bottom
- Metal/glass containers should not be broken or flattened. Plastic items may be flattened.
- Remove all plastic/metal lids and rinse containers thoroughly. Labels do not need to be removed.
- Keep newspapers separate by tying in bundles or placing in a brown paper grocery bag. Do not lay them with bottles/cans or use plastic bags. Avoid putting newspapers out when it is raining.
- Place magazines with newspapers. Do not include square-spine magazines.
- Place hypodermic needles in an empty plastic detergent bottle with a screw-top lid. Put in with your other trash.
- Soiled bandages, disposable sheets and medical gloves should be double-bagged in plastic bags and fastened securely before putting them in with your other trash.

Please contact the Columbia Borough Recycling Coordinator, Ron Miller, at 717-684-2654 x29 if you have any questions.

DID YOU KNOW???

Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority located at 1299 Harrisburg Pike, Lancaster, PA 17604 opened a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Site in 2006.

Residents of Lancaster County can drop off household hazardous waste including but not limited to: Computers, Pesticides, Paint, Adhesives, Household Cleaners and Propane Tanks. For more information visit their website at www.lcswma.org or call 717-397-9968

Biodegradable Bags and Recycle Bins

Brown biodegradable (paper) bags are available for purchase at the Borough Office which is located at 308 Locust Street for \$.75 each or 3 for \$2.00. Recycle bins are also available for \$8.00 each



RAIN is important for replenishing drinking water supplies, recreation, and healthy wildlife habitats but can become a problem when pollutants like pesticides, organic impurities, asbestos, chlorine and animal feces get into water supplies. The following are ways you can help prevent storm water pollution:



- Dispose of hazardous substances such as oil, cleaning supplies and paint; never pour them down any part of the storm sewer system, and report anyone who does.
- Dispose of trash in the proper receptacles.
- Use pesticides, fertilizers and herbicides properly and efficiently to prevent excess runoff.
- Pick up after pets and dispose of their waste properly. No matter where pets make a mess in the backyard or at the park storm water runoff can carry pet waste from the land to the storm sewer system to a stream.
- Report any discharges from storm water outfalls during times of dry weather which is a sign that there could be a problem with the storm sewer system.
- Look for signs of soil and other pollutants, such as debris and chemicals, leaving construction sites that could impact storm water runoff to your community.
- Store materials that could pollute storm water indoors and use containers for outdoor storage that do not rust or leak to eliminate exposure of materials to storm water.
- Install innovative storm water practices on residential property, such as rain barrels or rain gardens that capture storm water and keep it on site instead of letting it drain away into the storm sewer system.

TAX COLLECTION

The 2013 Municipal/County Tax Bills may be paid at the Borough Office located at 308 Locust Street during regular business hours.

- All checks should be made payable to the “*Borough of Columbia.*”
- All taxes paid after December 15, 2013 must be by certified check, money order or cash.

By Mail

1. Please use the bill stub and envelope included with your bill. If no stub is available, mail to: Columbia Borough Tax Collections, 308 Locust St, Columbia, PA 17512
2. When taxes are paid by mail, the US postmark will be considered the date paid – NO EXCEPTIONS. Letters mailed at some locations may not be postmarked until the following day, so please exercise caution when meeting this deadline.
3. If you pay by mail and a receipt is required, please include both portions of the tax bill with your payment and a self-addressed, stamped envelope; otherwise only one copy of the bill is required with payment.

In Person

1. Original bill stub or photocopy will be accepted at our office.
2. If a receipt is desired, please take the entire bill and request that the top portion be stamped as paid.
3. If a photocopy is required to either pay your bill or if you would like a photocopy of your bill there will be a charge of \$0.25 per copy.

Credit/Debit Cards

We accept only MasterCard for payment of taxes.

BUDGET INFORMATION

Real Estate Millage of 8.0 remains in effect for 2013

(1 mill = \$1.00 for every \$1,000 of assessed value)

Revenue for the General Fund is projected at \$6,517,766 with utilizing \$625,880 of General Fund Fund Balance.

The majority of the revenue stream comes from three sources:

- 60% from Real Estate Taxes
- 13% from Earned Income Tax
- 27% realized through licenses, fines, interest, rentals and inter-governmental revenue

Operating Expenses for the General Fund are projected the same for a balanced budget and include the following:

- 42% is attributed to police
- 8% covers insurances
- 11% is devoted to public works
- 39% is attributed to administration, solicitor, general government, municipal buildings, market house and community investment.

POLICE DEPARTMENT



Changes to Columbia Borough Stray Dog Ordinance

In light of the increasing number of stray dogs and the financial burden to our community that comes with them, a number of changes have been recently enacted:

First, Borough Council passed a \$50 fee assessed to any dog owner for the handling of any stray dog by the Columbia Borough Police Department.

Second, The Borough of Columbia and the Columbia Animal Hospital have forged a relationship for the care and custody of any stray dog. A dog's owner will be assessed \$20 per day when their pet is kenneled at the Columbia Animal Hospital.

It is important to note that all dog owners may be assessed the above fees as well as receive citations for any violation of the State Dog Law or Ordinance.

Did you know? All dogs 3 months of age or older are required to be licensed and have a current rabies vaccination. Dog licenses may be obtained at www.co.lancaster.pa.us or Musser's Market 960 Lancaster Avenue, Columbia, PA

The Columbia Animal Hospital will host a microchip and rabies vaccination clinic on 4/21/13 from 2pm-5pm at their facility, 4081 Columbia Avenue, Columbia, PA. A rabies vaccine will cost \$10 and a microchip will cost \$30 plus the registration fee.



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

PROPOSED 2013 PAVING PROJECTS

N. 4TH Street	Chestnut to Poplar
Poplar Street	4th to 5th Street
N. 5th Street	Maple to Cedar Terrace
Linden Street	4th to 5th Street
Avenue H	3rd to 4th Street
Walnut Street	11th to 12th Street
Wright Street	8th to 9th Street
Central Avenue	14th to 15th Street
Manor Street	10th to 12th Street
Spruce Street	8th to 9th Street
8th Street	Chestnut to Spruce Street
Commerce Street	Walnut to Rotary Avenue

The Borough Farm which is located at 254 Blue Lane, Columbia, PA is open the second Saturday of each month from 8am-12pm for drop-off of trees, shrubs, grass clippings, limbs etc...

Please remove all trash and debris prior to drop-off.

Zoning/Codes Department: When Do You Need a Permit??

- Building a new home
- Placing a fence on the property
- Installation of wood burning stove
- Finishing a basement
- Sidewalks
- Change of use or Occupancy in any structure
- New roof, new roof structure or new roof over roofless deck or patio
- In-ground and/or above-ground swimming pools regardless of the depth of water
- Remodeling or alteration of kitchens, baths, basements, and attics
- Driveways (expansion to the length or width, paving over a stone driveway)
- Opening a business or home occupation (a business within a home)
- Placing a shed on the property (pre-built or built on site)
- Enclosing a porch or deck (whether screened or windows)
- New installation or upgrade of electrical work or plumbing
- Changing the framing or size of a window or door
- Adding an addition
- New or upgrade of HVAC
- Installation of new downspouts
- Building a deck
- Changing of heating source (oil or gas)

NOTE: Special approvals are required for work in the Columbia Historic District.

If you have any questions regarding the need for a permit please contact the Borough Code Office at 717-684-2467

Phone Numbers to Remember

Emergency
911

Columbia Borough Police
717-684-7735

Comcast Cable
1-800-266-2278

Susquehanna Valley
Chamber of Commerce
717-684-5249

District Magistrate
717-684-2761

Susquehanna Valley EMS
717-684-2400

Columbia Borough QRS
717-449-5027