

COLUMBIA BOROUGH

SPRING 2015 NEWSLETTER

DATES TO REMEMBER

Yard Waste Collection Begins

Mondays beginning 4/6/15

Annual Spring Clean-up

Friday 4/24/15 Curbside
7am-noon

Fourth Friday Feast

Friday 4/24/15
4pm-9pm

Earth Day

Sahd Salvage

Saturday 4/25/15
9am-1pm

Memorial Day

Parade

Sunday 5/24/15
2:30pm

Holy Trinity

Parish Festival

6/3/15-6/6/15
6pm-10pm

Thunder on the River

Car Show

Saturday 6/20/15
10am-3pm

.Antique, Art & Craft Show

Saturday 6/27/15
9am-3pm

Feet in the Street Art Show

Friday, 9/25/15
4pm-8:30pm

Bridge Bust

Saturday 10/3/15
8am-4pm



COME VISIT.....the Borough's NEW Northwest River Trail Services Building is now complete!

The Northwest River Trail Services Building is located in Columbia's River Park and will be open to the public beginning this Spring. This building will be open to the public daily (hours as yet to be determined). Some of the services available include restrooms, vending machines, and an information booth. A park dedication is scheduled for May 1, 2015 at 1pm with more events happening later in the day.

This building will be available to rent for events within the next few months and includes a small kitchen with a refrigerator and a micro-wave. However, no cooking is allowed. The kitchen is a "warming kitchen" only.

PLEASE REGISTER FOR THE BOROUGH'S E-MAIL ALERT SYSTEM by visiting our webpage at www.columbiapa.net and clicking on the "Notify Me" button in the top left corner. Information regarding renting this building will be sent via email, on the back of the sewer bills and on the Borough's Website as soon as more details are available.

COLUMBIA BOROUGH SPRING CLEANUP

Friday April 24, 2015—Curbside Collection
from 7am - 12:00pm



Acceptable Items - \$20 ea

- | | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------------------------------|---------|
| -Furniture (sofa/chair) | -Water Heater | -Air Conditioner | -Washer |
| -Dryer | -Stove | -Bathtub | |
| -Refrigerator (must have doors removed) | -Double Sink | -Freezer (must have door removed) | |

Acceptable Items - \$5 each

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| -Push or Electric Lawnmower | -Mattress | | |
| -Box Spring | -Rug/Carpet | -Grill (without gas tank) | |
| -Dehumidifier | -Microwave | -Dishwasher | -Trash compactor |
| =Toilet | -Battery (car/truck/marine) | -Tires (pair) | |

Free Item: Scrap Metal

Unacceptable Items

PAINT CANS, SHINGLES, ENGINES OR GAS TANKS, WOOD, VINYL TYPE FLOORING, BRICKS, CONCRETE BLOCKS, YARD WASTE, GARBAGE OR ELECTRONIC (TELEVISIONS, STEREOS, RADIOS, COMPUTERS/MONITORS/KEYBOARDS)



Recycle !!
Recycle !!
Recycle !!

**Columbia Borough Commercial
And Residential Recycling Guidelines**

Columbia Borough Code requires 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

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) | |

Notes:

- Recycle Glass items containing a #1 thru #7 on the bottom
- Recycle only plastic items that have a neck.
- Remove all plastic/metal lids and rinse containers thoroughly. Labels do not need to be removed.
- Keep newspapers and magazines 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 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, Jake Graham, at 717-684-2467 x7317 if you have any questions.



Biodegradable Bags and Recycle Bins
Brown biodegradable (paper) bags are available for purchase at the Borough Office which is located at 308 Locust Street. Recycle bins are also available.



Storm Water

Storm Water runoff from cities and suburbs pick up oil, pesticides, and other chemicals as it flows across lawns, roads, and parking lots into nearby streams and storm drains. This type of pollution is significant and difficult to control. Once in our waters these chemicals disrupt the whole food web in a process called bioaccumulation. Small, bottom-dwelling aquatic organisms take up contaminants while feeding. Larger fish accumulate toxins in their tissues when they eat the contaminated organisms. In turn, birds, humans, and other wildlife eat the contaminated fish.

What can you do to help?

- Dispose of hazardous substances correctly. Never pour them down any part of the storm sewer system.
- Dispose of trash in proper receptacles.
- Use pesticides, fertilizers and herbicides properly and efficiently to prevent excess runoff.
- Pick up after pets and dispose of their waste properly.
- Store materials that could pollute storm water indoors and use containers for outdoor storage.
- 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.

BUDGET INFORMATION

Real Estate Tax Millage of 8.0 remains in effect for 2015
(1 mill = \$1.00 for every \$1,000 of assessed value)

Revenue for the General Fund is projected at \$5,715,336.

The majority of the revenue stream comes from three sources:

- Real Estate Taxes
- Earned Income Tax
- 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:

- 53% is attributed to Police
- 10% covers insurance
- 12% is devoted to Public Works
- 25% is attributed to administration, solicitor, general government, municipal buildings, market house and community investment.



TAX COLLECTION

The 2014 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, 2015 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 Street, 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 post-marked 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 \$.25 per copy.



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT Proposed 2015 Paving Projects

- 200 Block Linden St—N. 2nd to N. 3rd
- 400 Block Linden St—N. 4th to N. 5th
- S. 4th Street—Ave. N to Mill Street
- 11th Street—Ironville Pike to Spruce Street
- 1000 Block Spruce Street—N. 10th to 11th
- 900 Block of Chestnut Street—N. 9th to 10th Street
- 1000 Block of Chestnut Street—N. 10th to 11th
- 800 Block Houston Street—S. 8th to S. 9th
- 100 Block Perry Street—Railroad tracks to S. 2nd
- 300 Block Avenue E—N. 3rd to N. 4th
- Central Avenue—13th to 14th
- Manor Street—14th to 15th
- South 12th Street—Barber to Manor Street

Phone Numbers to Remember:

Emergency..... 911	Comcast Cable.....1-800-266-2278
Columbia Borough Police (Non-Emergency).....684-7735	Justice Herman (District Magistrate).....684-2761
Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce.....684-5249	Columbia Borough QRS.....449-5027
Susquehanna Valley EMS.....684-2400	Columbia Borough Office.....684-2467



The Borough Farm which is located at 254 Blue Lane, Columbia, PA is open the second Saturday of each month from 7am-12pm for drop-off of trees, shrubs, grass clippings, limbs, etc...

Yard Waste must be free of trash and rubbish!

FREE RECYCLE BINS!!!!



The Borough has been awarded a recycling grant to provide each residence in the Borough with a FREE recycle bin. **THE BINS WILL BE DELIVERED BY YOUR TRASH HAULER WITHIN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS.**

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visiting our website at www.columbiapa.net and clicking on the "Notify Me" button in the top left corner. Additional information will be sent via email alerts, on the back of your sewer bill and on the Borough's website.

NEW QUICK TICKET PROGRAM

In an effort to efficiently address chronic quality of life issues, the Borough will be starting a Quick Ticket Program in the Spring (Borough Council approved at its July 28, 2014 council meeting.)

The Quick Ticket program is for certain property maintenance violations similar in format to the Downtown Parking Meter Ticketing Program. When identified by the Borough's Code Compliance Officers the following uncorrected concerns will be subject to a \$25.00 fine payable within 15 days (with escalating penalties if not paid and corrected):

- Grass and Weeds over 11 inches
- Accumulation of Trash
- Unapproved Type (Bags) and/or Storage Location of Trash Containers (Clearly Visible from the Street)
- Failure to Remove Snow from Sidewalks in a Timely Manner
- Abandoned (Unlicensed and/or Uninspected) Motor Vehicles
- Absent Functional Smoke Detectors (where required by the Rental Registration Ordinance or the Certificate of Occupancy Inspection Ordinance)
- Unapproved Outdoor Burning
- Infestation of Rodents and/or Insects
- Sanitary Piping Overflows



Please clean up after your pet!!

DENTS CAN BE USED AS EVIDENCE AND THE FINE COULD BE UP TO \$600.00 PER OFFENSE.

THE BOROUGH WILL PROSECUTE DOG OWNERS WHO DO NOT CLEAN UP AFTER THEIR PETS. PLEASE NOTE THAT PICTURES OR VIDEO TAKEN BY OTHER RESI-

FEEDING FERAL CATS IS ILLEGAL IN THE BOROUGH OF COLUMBIA!!

Feral cats are a big issue in Columbia. They wander neighborhoods, cause a noxious odor and destroy property.

The Borough's Code Compliance Officers will prosecute residents who are feeding feral cats.

Fines for this violation could be up to



A PERMIT IS REQUIRED FOR:

- Swimming Pools
- Roof Repairs/Replacement
- Sheds
- Fire pits
- Fences
- Major interior projects
- Replacement windows
- Public Utility Repair
- Dumpsters on streets

****This is not a complete list****

Please call the Borough Office before starting any project 717-684-2467