

Spring/Summer 2016

Columbia Borough Newsletter

DATES TO REMEMBER

Yard Waste Collection

Mondays
Beginning 4/4/16

Annual Spring Clean-up

Friday 4/22/16
6:45am - 12am

Fourth Friday Feast

Friday 4/22/16

Earth Day- Sahn Salvage

Saturday 4/23/16
9am - 1pm

Memorial Day Parade

Sunday 5/29/16
2:30pm

Holy Trinity Parish Festival

6/1/16-6/4/16
6pm-10pm

Thunder on the River

Car Show

Saturday 6/18/16
10am-3pm

Antique, Art & Craft Show

Saturday, 6/25/16
Rain Date 7/9/16
9am-3pm

National Night Out

Tuesday, 8/2/16
5pm - 8pm

Feet in the Street Art Show

Friday, 9/23/16
4pm - 8:30pm

Columbia Crossing Ready to Launch for 2016 Season!

The Columbia Crossing River Trails Center at Columbia River Park will re-



open to the public on Wednesday, March 16th under the management of Susquehanna Heritage, a regional non-profit group working to make the Susquehanna a national destination for heritage and outdoor travelers. The Borough has a three-year agreement with Susquehanna Heritage to manage Columbia Crossing as a visitor information and

education center focused on the river. The group also owns and manages the Zimmerman Center for Heritage, an 18th century historic site across the river

at Long Level, also open to the public. Susquehanna Heritage recently announced the hiring of Hope Byers as the new Columbia Crossing Manager. A Columbia area native, Hope has earned bachelor's and master's degrees in American History and worked for numerous museums and historic sites. Hope is excited to bring her vision, skills and experience back to her hometown and lead Columbia Crossing into the 2016 season.



Hope Byers
Columbia Crossing Manager

Columbia Crossing's regular hours starting March 16th will be Wednesday-Saturday 10am-4pm and Sunday Noon-4pm. Restrooms are open 8am-5pm every day. Expanded summer hours will start May 1st and continue through September. The Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce is partnering with Susquehanna Heritage to provide volunteers to help serve visitors at the center. To launch the 2016 season, Susquehanna Heritage will also be installing a special temporary exhibit of river art from the organization's permanent collection at the Zimmerman Center. Starting later this Spring, Columbia Crossing will be available for rent by the public for meetings and events. More information will be available from Susquehanna Heritage after March 16th by calling 717-449-5607.

Columbia Borough Commercial and Residential Recycling Guidelines



RECYCLE

E-Covered Devices:

The Covered Devices Recycling Act prohibits residents from disposing of covered devices as trash and ban haulers from collecting the following items as trash:

- Desktop computers
- Laptops
- Monitors
- Keyboards
- Mouse
- Printers
- Speakers
- Televisions
- E-readers

These items are collected at the Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Facility for free. (Please visit the www.lcswma.org website for limitations)

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.

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 its property owners

Items that are required to be recycled:

- Glass** - Clear, green and brown glass bottles and jars (Remove and dispose of lids in the trash. Rinse bottles/jars thoroughly)
- Steel and Tin Cans** - Remove and dispose of lids in the trash. Rinse cans thoroughly.
- Plastic Bottles** - Only bottles, jars, jugs and anything else with a neck. (Remove lids and rinse out residue).
- Newspapers** - Includes newspapers and glossy inserts.

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[Visit www.lcswma.org](http://www.lcswma.org)
for more information.

Household Hazardous Waste:

Items accepted at Lancaster County Solid Waste Facility located at 1299 Harrisburg Pike, Lancaster, PA. (Free Service):

Adhesives, automotive fluids (5 gallon container max), batteries (including household and automotive), chemistry sets, cooking and frying oils (5 gallon container max), fire extinguishers, floor and furniture polish, fuel (including kerosene, gasoline and propane), household cleaners, lawn treatments (including herbicides and pesticides), mercury containing items (max of 30 per month), paint, rust inhibitors, stains, turpentine and thinners, photographic and pool-chemicals

Other E-Waste: (also collected at Lancaster County Solid Waste Management:

- Cameras: photo and video
- Cellphones and smart phones
- Cell phone chargers, batteries, Bluetooth earpieces, air cards, clips, cases
- DVD and VCR players
- MP3 players and iPods
- PDA's
- Portable electronic game players and video game consoles
- Stereos, CD players, turntables, amplifiers, speakers (no wood)

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?

1. Dispose of hazardous substances correctly. Never pour them down the storm sewer

system.

2. Dispose of trash in proper receptacles.
3. Use pesticides, fertilizers and herbicides properly and efficiently to prevent excess runoff.
4. Pick up after pets and dispose of their waste properly.
5. Store materials that could pollute storm water indoors and use containers for outdoor storage.
6. 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 2016
(1 mill = \$1.00 for every \$1,000 of assessed value)

Revenue for the General Fund is projected at \$5,953,934.

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:

- 50% is attributed to Police
- 13% is devoted to Public Works
- 12% covers insurance
- 25% is attributed to administration, solicitor, general government, municipal buildings, market house and community investment.



Tax Collection



The 2016 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 "Columbia Borough"

*****All taxes paid after December 15, 2016 must be paid by certified check, money order or cash*****

By Mail:

1. Please use the bill stub and envelope included with your bill.
2. When taxes are paid by mail, the US postmark will be considered the date paid - **NO EXCEPTIONS!**
3. If paying by mail and you require a receipt please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

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 charge of \$.25 per copy.

Columbia Borough Spring Cleanup

Curbside Collection - Friday April 29, 2016 (6:45am-12pm)



<u>Acceptable Items</u> <u>\$20 each</u>
Furniture (sofa/chair)
Washer or Dryer
Water Heater
Double Sink
Air Conditioner
Bathtub
Freezer (door removed)
Stove
Refrigerator (door removed)

<u>Acceptable Items</u> <u>\$5 each</u>
Box Spring
Dehumidifier
Toilet
Rug/Carpet
Microwave
Dishwasher
Trash Compactor
Tires (pair)
Push or Electric Mower
Battery (car/truck/marine)
Grill (gas tank removed)

<u>Unacceptable Items</u>	
Paint Cans	
Shingles	
Engines	
Gas Tanks	
Wood	
Bricks	
Yard Waste	
Garbage	
Vinyl Type Flooring	
Concrete Blocks	
Electronics (Televisions, Stereos, Radios, Computers/Monitors/ Keyboards)	
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FREE - Scrap Metal	

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Proposed 2016 Paving Projects:

Chestnut Street (9th to 10th Street)
Chestnut Street (13th-14th Street)
Perry Street (2nd Street to RR Tracks)
Central Avenue (13th to 14th Street)
Ridge Avenue (8th to 9th Street)
Ridge Avenue (8th Street to Bethel)
Bethel Street (Cherry St. to Ridge Ave)

S. 8th Street (Lancaster Ave to Cherry Street)
S. 8th Street (Locust Street to Ridge Avenue)
10th Street (Spruce Street to Walnut Street)
Locust Street (10th to 11th Street)
Locust Street (3rd to 4th Street)
Locust Street (4th to 5th Street)
Poplar Street (2016 CDBG Project - 2nd to 3rd Street)

NEW PUBLIC NOTIFICATION SYSTEM



The Borough of Columbia is proud to offer a **Public Notification System** to its residents. This Public Notification System gives the Borough a chance to reach out to its residents in case of an emergency or to provide other important information. The system is designed to get emergency and public messages to you quickly and effectively via email.

Registering for email blasts regarding Columbia Borough is easy. Log on to the website, www.columbiapa.net and click on the Notify Me button on the top left hand corner of the webpage.

CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOG!!!!



THE BOROUGH WILL PROSECUTE DOG OWNERS WHO DO NOT CLEAN UP AFTER THEIR PETS. PLEASE NOTE THAT PICTURES OR VIDEO TAKEN BY OTHER RESIDENTS CAN BE USED AS EVIDENCE AND THE FINE COULD BE UP TO \$600.00 PER OFFENSE.

Phone Numbers to Remember:

Emergency.....911 Comcast Cable....1-800-266-2278

Columbia Borough Police (Non-Emergency)....684-7764

Justice Bixler (District Magistrate)....684-2761

Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce....684-5249

Columbia Borough QRS....449-5027 Susq.Valley EMS...684-2400

Columbia Borough Office....684-2467

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, housing or bedding feral cats.

Fines for this violation could be up to \$600.00 for each offense.

NEW QUICK TICKET PROGRAM

The Borough now has a Quick Ticket Program

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
- * 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)
- * Non-compliance with the Registration Ordinance or the Certificate of Occupancy Inspection Ordinance
- * Unapproved Outdoor Burning
- * Infestation of Rodents and/or Insects
- * Sanitary Sewer Piping Overflows



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

We're on the Web!
www.columbiapa.net