



# Buckingham Township

Published by the Board of Supervisors

September 15, 2025

## Special Points of Interest:

- Safe to Sip Initiative
- Fire Prevention Month
- Thanks to our 325 Sponsors
- Land Ethics Award
- Our Volunteer Fire Co..
- Fall Events
- For more information  
[www.buckinghampa.org](http://www.buckinghampa.org)

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## A Letter from Your Board of Supervisors

Dear Neighbors,

We hope you and your family had a fantastic summer and are enjoying the beauty of autumn.

This fall, we're excited to continue our Safe to Sip Initiative to announce a \$2mil grant from PENNVEST for our PFAS remediation at our Hearthstone Facility and provide information on our wastewater spray irrigation systems. About those sprayfields...do you know that spray irrigation is capable of producing the highest quality of treated water of all land disposal methods and is recommended by the EPA and PA DEP?

It wouldn't be fall without a reminder that October is Fire Prevention Month. Learn how you can join one of our three Volunteer Fire Companies and attend one of their Open Houses. Also keeping our community safe are our officers of the Buckingham Police Department. Look inside to learn more about their \$170,000 DCED Grant for body cameras and new tasers.

Our Environmental Advisory Commission is busy with our new Bird Town designation and their Land Ethics Award for Best Large Scale project at Bowman's Preserve's Land Ethics Symposium.

On Page 10 be sure to see our first in a series of articles on the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's MS4 Program and what that means to stormwater in Buckingham Township. And be sure not to miss our Fall Clean-Up Weekend and Yard Waste Pickup. More details are available on the website or for questions call the township at (215) 794-8834.

We continue to celebrate Buckingham's 325th birthday. Only a few more months to participate in our Buckingham Township 325 Events! Here are some to put on your calendars:

9/26	Show & Tell
10/17	Contra Dance
10/24	Eric Mintel Ghost Hunter
11/5	Shrek At Town and Country
11/9	Mt. Gilead Open House
12/5	Holiday Tree Lighting
12/7	Trinity Open House

A heartfelt thank you to our local businesses for their involvement in making these celebrations possible. See page 11 for a shoutout to our 325 sponsors. Visit our website for 325 updates and fun merchandise! We hope to see you at our Township events.

May you and your family have a safe and fun fall season.

Respectfully,

Maggie Rash  
Chairman

Jon Forest  
Vice-Chairman

Paul Calderaio  
Supervisor



Paul Calderaio   Maggie Rash   Jon Forest



## Pennvest Grant for PFAS Treatment

### Buckingham Township secures \$2,057,063.00 grant from PENNVEST for the Hearthstone PFAS Treatment Facility

Buckingham Township is pleased to announce it has received a \$2,057,063.00 grant along with a \$615,089.00 low interest loan from PENNVEST (Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority) to complete a PFAS treatment system at our Hearthstone Facility. You may recall we first updated you in the spring 2025 newsletter as we were completing the planning and permitting process for the PFOA/PFOS Removal System at Cold Spring Well #4 in our Hearthstone Facility.

Although testing at the Hearthstone Water Facility which combines Wells CS#3 and CS#4 for the Cold Spring Water System tested below the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP) levels, baseline test results demonstrate that the Township should move forward with PFOA/PFOS removal at the site. The Township began planning for treatment in 2023 and has worked through the planning and permitting process. With permits in hand, the Township will be moving forward with the project. The proposed project will provide treatment for removal of PFOA and PFOS to meet the new lower Federal limits for PFAS.

In April of 2024, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued the first-ever national, legally enforceable drinking water standard to protect communities from exposure to harmful PFAS. The Township must follow the new federal requirements.

PFAS, which stands for Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances, are long-lasting, human-made chemicals used in consumer products. These chemicals, the components of which break down over time, are found across the nation (and world) in air, soil, and water.

Under the EPA's new rule, public water systems have three years to complete the initial monitoring requirements, inform the public of PFAS levels, and begin the implementation of solutions focused on reducing those levels so that they are compliant with the new EPA standards.

The Township is set to bid the project next month with an estimated start of construction in winter/spring 2026.

#### Other Facilities

Now that the Township has secured funding for the first PFAS treatment system, we are also investigating a PFAS treatment system that would serve the other two wells in the Cold Spring System and one well in the Furlong System. These wells are well below the state mandated PFAS levels but are just above and/or just below the newest EPA levels. In an abundance of caution and to assure the continued distribution of safe drinking water to our resident customers the Township is moving forward with planning for PFAS treatment systems at these additional locations. The Township is in the planning stages for both sites and is investigating additional funding sources to lower the costs to the Township rate payers.

#### Ways to Stay Informed

The Township is committed to keeping rate payers and those living and working here updated on the "Safe to Sip in Buckingham" Initiative through updates on the Township website ( [www.buckinghampa.org](http://www.buckinghampa.org) ), social media pages and newsletters. Look for the "Safe to Sip" logo for quick access to information on our efforts to ensure high quality drinking water within the communities we serve.

## Why Does Buckingham Use Sprayfields?

For many of us, we flush and forget, particularly if we use township sewers and don't have to worry about maintaining a septic system. But have you ever wondered what happens next? The wastewater must be treated somehow. There is no magic solution; the only choice is how and where.

For well over thirty years Buckingham Township has chosen to treat wastewater by utilizing a system of lagoons and spray fields and has received acclaim for doing so from the County as a "best management practice."

However, there are some residents who have recently expressed concerns and are appalled that spraying is being done. They worry that noxious chemicals in the spray could make them sick, adversely affect their property values, and pollute the ground. Some believe that sludge and industrial waste are being sprayed. The township takes all residents' concerns seriously. So, why did Buckingham make the choice it has so many years ago?

**Why do it?** When initially deciding on options for wastewater disposal, the Township chose spray irrigation due to its environmental benefits and its ability to preserve large amounts of open space for the community while providing cost effective wastewater treatment. Including surrounding buffers, the Township has over 450 acres in protected open space in our wastewater systems.

Spray irrigation produces the highest quality of treated groundwater of all land-based treatment methods. It is sometimes called "land treatment" or "reclamation and reuse" because it helps to recycle water and nutrients. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP), Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) all recommend this type of treatment for wastewater, because (1) land application recycles nutrients instead of disposing them in our waterways (2) it recharges our ground water, (3) conserves our freshwater resources, and (4) works to prevent flooding.

**Has the town seen problems?** With the six treatment systems using spray irrigation, the Township has had little if any problem. Most of our spray fields are surrounded by homes and these lots have become premium parcels since the land will never be developed. The township is unaware of any negative health consequences.

**What is being sprayed?** Before primarily treated wastewater is sprayed, it is biologically treated and disinfected to remove harmful substances. What remains are valuable nutrients like nitrogen and phosphorus, which are treated by being sprayed onto agricultural crops and forested areas where they are taken up for plant growth. The water not used by plants percolates through the soil and recharges our groundwater.

**What about sludge and industrial waste?** Only wastewater first treated to remove sludge and biosolids is sprayed on our sites. *There is absolutely no disposal of sludge (biosolids).*

**How much effluent is being sprayed?** The rate at which spray fields disperse water fluctuates based on the season, the soils and the weather. Irrigation occurs based on the ability of the plants to use the nutrients in the water and on the ground's ability to infiltrate the water. Regulating the rate of dispersal prevents any potential runoff of water to neighboring properties.

**Is the spraying monitored?** The water that is dispersed through the spray irrigation system is tested every month to ensure compliance with the standards set by EPA. Monitoring wells are placed in several locations around the spray fields and are tested each quarter to ensure that the groundwater continues to meet drinking water standards.

**Why not just discharge treated effluent into streams?** If these nutrients were to be discharged into our streams as part of a stream discharge treatment plant, serious imbalances and ecological damage could result. It can cause over-growth of algae and higher temperatures in streams, consumption of dissolved oxygen and lethal conditions for aquatic organisms. It causes habitat destruction and allows invasive species to take over. When primarily treated wastewater is sprayed onto agricultural fields it becomes a beneficial fertilizer. Spray irrigation serves as a means for recharging our groundwater aquifers because the soil acts as a natural filter to further filter the water, as it does with rainwater, before it reaches our groundwater aquifers, where it can begin the whole cycle again.

## The Birds and the Bees



**BIRD TOWN**  
PENNSYLVANIA

Buckingham is proud that last March we became the 84th Bird Town in Pennsylvania. So, what exactly is the point of becoming a designated Bird Town? Surely it can't be just another feather in our cap (ouch) and surely it's not just about seeing pretty birds (though people definitely like that) and it can't be about the nice signs that have suddenly appeared at various places around town.

As you might suspect, our designation has a greater meaning and significance. It recognizes our ambition to restore ecosystems, promote native plants, protect the habitats of birds and wildlife, reduce invasive species, educate the community and promote a healthier environment for our residents. That's us!

We thank our Environmental Advisory Commission and our Special Projects Coordinator Brittany Clark for working hard to reach this goal.

Improvements didn't happen overnight. Restoring the wetlands behind the township building has been a work in progress for a long time, but we are seeing results. For example, according to eBird, a platform run by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, over the last seven years 90 different species of birds have been sighted in those wetlands. Meanwhile, the only creature unhappy about this designation is our friend the Buckingham bee. We can sum up his complaints as follows:

*You won't live long in a world without pollinators! And did you know that there are birds that eat bees? I take that very personally. There is absolutely no comparison between me and a bird! Why aren't WE getting a designation?*

*It's scary that 40% of bee species in the United States are at risk of extinction. The crops that we pollinate are worth between \$18 and \$27 billion a year. That's billion as in a thousand million.*

*I want a pesticide free environment, with a succession of flowering native wildflowers, grasses, vines, shrubs, and trees with abundant nectar and pollen.*

*Did you know that there is an organization called Bee City USA that recognizes the need for healthy and safe habitats for pollinators? The organization was started in Asheville, North Carolina in 2012. Even the city of Detroit is a member. Detroit! Wake up Buckingham, you need to join!*

Calm down little bee! I am informed by a very reliable source, none other than Brittany Clark, that Buckingham is working towards becoming a member of Bee City USA.

One thing we know for sure is that a garden good for pollinators (bees and butterflies) is also going to provide food for birds. But don't tell our jealous little pal.



**Township representatives receiving the BirdTown designation**



## I Told You So!

Remember the Native Pollinator Garden project behind the Township Building that I described in the October 2024 issue? (I'm the bee that lives there, but you really ought to visit.) Anyway, if you'll recall, it started with an idea of 7<sup>th</sup> graders from Holicong Middle School. After they raised money, matched by Bucks Beautiful, the Buckingham Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) took over planning. With the aid of the CB East Keyclub, they transformed a portion of the wetlands into a four-season paradise, with flowers blooming from spring to fall and seed pods to feed hungry birds in the winter.

I knew it was a great place for bees like me to thrive, but now the project's creators, the members of the EAC, have been recognized by the Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve.\* Here's what they said: The township's exceptional and sustained commitment to environmental stewardship, native habitat restoration, and youth engagement within the community was honored with the Land Ethics award for Best Large Scale Project of 2025 at the 25<sup>th</sup> Land Ethics Symposium.

The award nominees were reviewed by a panel of industry professionals and knowledgeable native plant experts for a variety of ecological stewardship criteria. These include the use of plants native to our locale, sustainable design, creativity in problem solving, habitat creation (yes, thank you!), aesthetics, educational opportunities and volunteer involvement. The judges were particularly impressed by the EAC's annual native plant sales, its tree planting initiatives and youth engagement.

I'm thrilled to say that I told you so.  
Your friend, the Bee.



\*The Preserve's mission is to increase the knowledge and use of native plants by serving as an educational resource and destination that inspires conservation action. Visit the Preserve's website, [www.bhwp.org](http://www.bhwp.org), to learn more about the organization and its work and to plan a visit.



## Buckingham Township is now a Certified Silver Community through Sustainable Pennsylvania

Buckingham has officially been recognized as a Certified Silver Sustainable Community! This achievement brings us closer to a more resilient community, highlighting our efforts in environmental stewardship. Read more on our Sustainable Buckingham Tab on our Website!

## What Does it Take to Run a Police Department?

### Equipment, Personnel and Training

A good cop drama on television can feature officers responding to all sorts of incidents at once and wrapping up their cases within that 45 minute time slot. But policing is much more and can't be tied up in a bow in less than an hour.



So, let us imagine a traffic accident. You may think nothing could be more routine than that. However, the responding officer may encounter injured parties, passengers trapped inside their cars, a gasoline leak, debris strewn across the road, utility wires hanging down, traffic backing up, disabled vehicles, angry motorists, possible drunk driving and property damage. What to do first? Ambulances, the fire department, tow trucks, utility companies—they all may be needed. Local schools may have to re-route school buses. Someone has to direct traffic—and all the while there could be other incidents happening in other parts of town.

Meanwhile, the officer at the scene is worried about a possible fire and concerned about rendering first aid. Who will ensure that the emergency vehicles make it through?

This is why our police officers need training from within their own department. We have one of the most robust training programs in the region.

Buckingham is proud that every one of its corporals has undergone specialized training from the Pennsylvania State Police that will teach them to be effective and confident leaders in all kinds of situations. Corporal Kevin Myslinski is our latest graduate of this program and we congratulate him on his achievement.

What about equipment? You could have the best training, but a department still needs good equipment. Buckingham has a long history of applying for and receiving grant money to help. Our latest grant from the PA Department of Community and Economic Development has provided \$170,000 to fund the Axon Body Camera program. The body cameras will sync with patrol car cameras. Taken together, these cameras will protect the public and the officers themselves. The grant will also partially cover the cost of modern tasers. The department has five officers trained in teaching the appropriate use of tasers.



**Paul Calderaio, Jon Forest, Sen Santasiero, Chief Scirrotto, Rep Brennan, Maggie Rash, Lt. Moffett, Wendy Middleman**

Senator Santasiero and Representative Brennan presented the Township Supervisors Paul Calderaio, Jon Forest and Maggie Rash and Police Chief David Scirrotto with a \$170,000 check commemorating Buckingham Township's successful award of a PA Department of Community and Economic Development to fund the Axon Body Camera program.

## Buckingham Township Police Department National Night Out

On Wednesday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025, the Buckingham Township Police Department held its National Night Out. The department once again partnered with Peddlers Village to help celebrate community, connection, and public safety! It was a joy to see families, neighbors, and friends come together for a night full of fun, laughter, and local pride. Our incredible local businesses and vendors had an assortment of food, giveaways, and other prizes. The police officers served the crowd ice cream sandwiches with smiles while connecting with residents. The fire department and EMS teams kept everyone safe and showed off their equipment. From the bounce house to the foam party, face painting, and the PA State Police Helicopter landing, and all the great conversations in between, the night was a true celebration of what community is all about.



## Happy Retirement to Lieutenant Moffett Thank you for your 35 years of service to the Buckingham Community



Lieutenant William Moffett, Badge number 17 of the Buckingham Township Police Department retired on August 15, 2025 after 35 years of service in Buckingham and a total of 44 years in public service. Lieutenant Moffett began his public service in 1981 when he worked as both a volunteer and later a paid EMT. In 1983 he became a dispatcher with the Bucks County Dept of Communications. In 1987 he began his career in law enforcement as a Deputy Sheriff in the Bucks County Sheriff's Department. Finally, in 1990 he began his service for the residents of Buckingham Township within its Police Department where he has held the ranks of Officer, Corporal, Sergeant and Lieutenant. He is extremely proud to have served the residents of Bucks County and his impact on Buckingham Township will be seen for many years to come. He played a major role in implementing a new record management system, obtaining body worn and in car dash cameras, obtaining taser devices and shared his vast experience and leadership abilities to multiple generations of the Police Department's officers. To further cement his legacy, all three of his sons have followed in his footsteps and are currently employed as police officers in various communities also within in Bucks County.



## October is Fire Prevention Month

In truth, fire safety is a concern all year round, not just in October—although it is time this month to check your smoke alarms. If you have ever witnessed the agony of a family watching their home burning—not on TV, but in person—you will need no convincing to follow fire safety guidelines. You will also appreciate the bravery and dedication of our firefighting volunteers who put themselves in jeopardy to save lives and property. Yes, *volunteers*. Our firefighters are your fellow residents.

A year ago, on the first page of this newsletter, we ran an ad seeking firefighters. It's worth repeating. WANTED: Reliable individuals, available on a moment's notice anytime of the day or night, able to lift heavy loads while climbing ladders and wearing heavy protective clothing, not afraid to enter burning buildings, CPR training a bonus, salary \$0.

Reach out to any one of those departments and they will tell you the same thing: they need more volunteers. They face a chronic shortage of firefighters, in part because young adults who would otherwise be interested are priced out of our housing market and tend to move away after graduation. Please volunteer if you can, or donate money for equipment. Your help is appreciated.

We have three fire companies: Midway, Doylestown and Lingohocken.

<https://www.midwayfc.com/volunteer> Midway

<https://lfco.org/becoming-a-member/> Lingohocken

<https://doylestownfireco.org/join/> Doylestown



Click on the QR Code  
to go to our website  
Fire Departments page  
for more information.





## Don't Miss these Opportunities to find out more about our Local Volunteer Fire Companies



**CENTRAL BUCKS  
FIRE PREVENTION EXPO**  
HOSTED BY DOYLESTOWN FIRE CO.




OCTOBER 4TH  
4PM-8PM  
CENTRAL PARK  
DOYLESTOWN TOWNSHIP BUILDING

LIVE DEMOS, FOOD TRUCKS, VENDORS & DISPLAYS

DOYLESTOWN FIRE CO. 79 19  
BUCKS COUNTY  
SERVING SINCE 1879  
PENNSYLVANIA

DEPUTY

### Pizza & Prevention Friday October 10th 6-9pm

-  Free Pizza & Polly's Ice Cream!
-  Meet your local Police, Fire, and EMS!
-  Multiple live demonstrations!
-  Lots of giveaways and fire safety tips!

Please join us on Friday October 10th from 6-9pm for a fun night of fire safety for the whole family! Tour our fire trucks, use a real fire hose, watch live demonstrations including a vehicle rescue, and more!

Station 35  
1090 Washington Ave  
Wycombe, PA 18980  
[www.lfco.org](http://www.lfco.org)



## Midway Volunteer Fire Company

### Open House 2025

October 11<sup>th</sup> 12pm -3pm

Station 5 (near Peddlers Village)

5770 US-202, New Hope, PA, 18938



The Midway Volunteer Fire Company has served our community with courage and compassion for 94 solid years. This Open House is your chance to learn more about their work, explore volunteer opportunities, and celebrate the spirit of service that keeps Buckingham & Solebury Townships safe.

#### MEET YOUR LOCAL FIREFIGHTERS

- Free Admission
- Live Firefighting Demos
- Fire Truck Tours & Photo Ops
- Hands-On Safety Activities for Kids
- Free Refreshments



#### FIRE SAFETY INFORMATION

- Stay Informed on New Hazard Topics
- Such as like lithium-ion battery safety,
- Cooking fire prevention
- Home escape planning

## What is the MS4 Program?

### Why does Buckingham Township make me install stormwater management controls?

Many residents want to know why Buckingham Township requires their residents to install stormwater management controls when they build new impervious surfaces on their property. The simple answer is, because the Federal and State laws require us to do so. As part of a six part series on the Township's obligations to be in compliance with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's (PaDEP) regulations, we will outline what are known as the Township's Minimum Control Measures (MCMs) required by the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for our Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4).

### What is an MS4?

It is a publicly-owned stormwater drainage system that collects and discharges stormwater, such as from streets and gutters, directly into local waterways. MS4s are regulated under the US EPA's Clean Water Act and require permit holders to implement a Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) to control pollution from entering rivers and streams. These systems include components like catch basins, curbs, ditches, and underground pipes, and are distinct from combined sewers and wastewater treatment plants. In Pennsylvania, the state Department of Environmental Protection manages municipalities with MS4 permits.

The MS4 permit is a federal and state mandated permit that requires municipalities to adhere to Minimum Control Measures (MCMs) centered around education, participation, tracking, and reporting. There are six (6) MCMs that detail various steps and goals that municipalities must meet and implement with their communities. MCM requirements include:

**MCM 1: Public Education and Outreach on Stormwater Impacts.**

**MCM 2: Public Involvement and Participation**

**MCM 3: Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination**

**MCM 4: Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control**

**MCM 5: Post-Construction Stormwater Management (PCSM)**

**MCM 6: Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping**

In future newsletters, we will feature each of the Minimum Control Measures to explain our environmental protection efforts and detail how residents and businesses can help prevent stormwater pollution. In the meantime, for more information, please visit our website's Stormwater Management page.

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## Buckingham Township Clean-Up Weekend - October 18 and 19, 2025

Buckingham Township will be holding our "Clean-Up" Weekend 8am until 4pm at the Public Works Building at 4991 Upper Mountain Road on October 18th and October 19th. Free shredding for residents on Saturday from 9am until 12pm.

For further details, please see our website. For questions, please call Mary Jane Atkinson at (215) 794-8834.

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## Buckingham Township Yard Waste Pick-Up

October 27th - Entire Township; November 17th - North of Rte 263; November 19th - South of Rte 263  
Please see our website at [www.buckinghampa.org](http://www.buckinghampa.org) or contact the Township offices at (215) 794-8834 for more information.

## A Big Thank You to Our 325 Sponsors



## Red Cross Blood Drive at the Township Building

Help Buckingham Township residents donate 325 pints of blood this year at our next Blood Drives - September 25<sup>th</sup>, October 23rd, November 13th, and December TBD  
From 2 till 7 pm



If you have any questions, comments, or information related to the Buckingham Township Newsletter, write Buckingham Township, P.O. Box 413, Buckingham, PA 18912, call (215) 794-8834 or email at [contact@buckinghampa.org](mailto:contact@buckinghampa.org). A special thanks to our Authors Susan Sciacca and Dana Cozza.

**Buckingham Township**  
**P.O. Box 413**  
**Buckingham, PA 18912**

**We're on the Web!**  
**[www.buckinghampa.org](http://www.buckinghampa.org)**



## **Buckingham Township**

**Board of Supervisors**

**Maggie Rash, Jon Forest, Paul Calderaio**

Board of Supervisors' Meetings are 4th Wednesdays and as needed 2nd Wednesdays, 6:30pm with a work session at 5:00pm. Meetings are open to all.

**Township Departments - Offices open Monday-Friday, 8:00am to 4:00pm.**

Township offices are on Hughesian Drive, just south of the intersection of Rte 413 & Rte 263

**Administration ..... 215-794-8834**

*Township Manager: Dana S. Cozza, Esquire*

*Finance Director: Jill Pistory, CPA*

*Director of Roads and Facilities: Eric Hinz*

**Building and Codes Department..... 215-794-8836**

*Bldg Dept Director, Fire Marshal and Emergency Mgt.: Jim Kettler*

**Police Department (non-emergency).....215-794-8813**

*Chief of Police: David Scirrotto*

**Water and Wastewater Department..... 215-794-8854**

*Water and Sewer Dept. Director: Steve Clark*

Township email address:  
[contact@buckinghampa.org](mailto:contact@buckinghampa.org)