



Buckingham Township

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Special Points of Interest:

- Safe to Sip Initiative
- Sustainability
- Buckingham 325
- Comprehensive Plan
- Summer Concert Series
- For more information
www.buckinghampa.org

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A Letter from Your Board of Supervisors

Dear Neighbors,

If you've just moved into Buckingham Township or have lived here for years, there's always something to learn about our township. So welcome to the 2026 Spring/Summer Newsletter!



Mike Bateman Maggie Rash Jon Forest

Wow!! 325 years old!! And looking great for our age! 2025 was a yearlong celebration of Buckingham's anniversary year hosted by the Buckingham 325 Committee. A year of Buckingham Fun, Fellowship, and History lessons! Thank you, to our staff, volunteer committee members and sponsors!

Thirsty on those 98 degree days? Water is Safe to Sip in Buckingham Township. In 2024 the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) set new standards for PFOA/PFOS in public water systems. Although recent EPA action extended the compliance date to 2031, the Township remains committed to advancing its projects without delay. Check out our updates on several projects underway to meet new EPA guidelines and Sip without care.

Whaaaaat? My IRS Return wasn't mailed in time? But I dropped it in the mailbox on the 15th. How come I owe a late fee on the credit card bill I mailed on time? Yikes! Check out page 8.

Feel safe in Buckingham? Meet two new Buckingham Township Police Officers and find out why. We only hire the best!

So, we are a "Bird Town" but we want to be a "Bee City" and a "Tree City." We're working on being a Tree City as part of our quest for sustainability status so on Arbor Day, this past April, a tree was planted at the Township building thanks to a generous donation by Feeney's Nursery. We're on the way to Tree City!

As you read through this newsletter you will notice the township's focus on Sustainability, from drinking water, stormwater management, conservation, native plantings, the birds and the bees. You'll see that we adopted a Local Climate Action Plan preceded by the adoption of our Energy Transition Plan in 2023. We are looking to form a steering committee to begin to implement these plans. Calling any residents with a passion for working toward sustainable climate control.

Learn from this Newsletter and put lots of fun events on your calendar. See you at the concerts in Hansell Park, at the Night Markets in Holicong Park, or at National Night Out in August. Everything is posted on our website: www.buckinghampa.org. Sign up for township email blasts and check out the Buckingham Township Facebook and Instagram pages.

Enjoy a safe and beautiful Buckingham Summer!

Respectfully,

Maggie Rash
Chairman

Jon Forest
Vice-Chairman

Mike Bateman
Supervisor



PFAS Treatment Program Updates

As you know from previous communications, Buckingham Township has launched a “Safe to Sip” Initiative to ensure that water supplied by the Buckingham Township Water and Wastewater Department will meet the new PFAS (Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances) standards set by Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Buckingham Township is investing in multiple PFAS (PFOA/PFOS) treatment projects to ensure safe drinking water and compliance with state and federal regulations. PFAS treatment facilities are being installed throughout the Township’s water systems to provide long-term protection of public health. Here is an update on our progress.

Hearthstone (Cold Spring CS-3 & CS-4) Treatment Facility

- Construction began in April 2026.
- Facility expected to be substantially complete with system start up in October 2027.

Furlong F-8 Treatment Facility

- Project bidding begins June 2026.
- Construction scheduled to begin August 2026.
- Facility expected to be substantially complete by January 2028 with system startup scheduled for February 2028.

Fieldstone Water System Interconnection

- Elevated PFOA levels were detected in Production Well No. 2.
- Well No. 2 was removed from service in June 2025.
- Township initiated an interconnection with the Cold Spring Water System.
- Project expected to be completed in July 2026 and operational in August 2026.

Cold Spring CS-1, CS-2 & CS-5 Treatment Facility

- Design, permitting, and funding approvals are underway.
- Construction is expected to begin in 2027 with system startup anticipated in February 2028.

Funding and Cost Savings

- To date, Buckingham Township has secured over \$4 million of dollars in PENNVEST grants and low-interest loans.
- No tax dollars are used. All expenses related are paid by those that receive public water.
- Funding assistance helps reduce the financial impact on ratepayers.
- Projects are being completed while maximizing available state funding opportunities.

Looking Ahead

- By early 2028, PFAS treatment systems are expected to be operational in all affected Township water systems.
- These projects represent one of the largest water quality investments in Township history.

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 at www.buckinghampa.org, social media pages and newsletters. Look for the “Safe to Sip” logo for quick access to information both on our efforts and for more information for residents who have private wells.

It's About the Birds, the Bees... and the Trees

Each spring, Buckingham Township proudly celebrates Arbor Day as part of its ongoing commitment to preserving and protecting our natural environment. Guided by the Township's Environmental Action Plan, Buckingham continues to work toward key designations including Tree City, Bird Town, and Bee City USA—having successfully achieved Bird Town status last year.

To qualify as a Tree City, Buckingham Township must meet several criteria, including hosting an Arbor Day observance and proclamation. Last year marked Buckingham Township's inaugural year in accomplishing this requirement. These efforts help raise community awareness about the importance of trees through activities such as tree planting, education, and recognition of local environmental stewardship.



image: Freepik.com

This year, Buckingham Township is especially grateful to Wild Birds Unlimited for its generous \$1,000 contribution in support of our Bird Town initiative. As the program's first official business partner at the Eastern Bluebird sponsorship level, their support reflects a natural alignment with their mission of promoting the enjoyment and conservation of wild birds. Wild Birds Unlimited of Buckingham has served the community for over 30 years, and under the leadership of owner Lisa Mergen, continues to inspire interest in birding.

In celebration of Arbor Day, Buckingham Township will plant a native tree at the Township Building to promote environmental sustainability and support bird-friendly habitat. The planting will include an engraved stone marker beneath a newly installed Cherokee Princess Dogwood, generously donated by Feeney's Nursery. Enhancing the experience, a solar-powered, live-streaming nesting box will also be installed, allowing residents to observe local bird activity from the comfort of their homes.

While Arbor Day is a single day of celebration, its message extends far beyond—trees are deeply rooted in our community, and their benefits continue to grow for generations to come.



BIRD TOWN
PENNSYLVANIA



This tree, donated by Feeney's Nursery and planted by LFB Landscaping, was planted in honor of Wild Birds Unlimited Nature Shop, Buckingham, in recognition of their Bird Town Sponsorship.

Welcome to Mike Bateman, the newest member of our Supervisor Board

A note from Mike:

I'm honored to serve as a Buckingham Township Supervisor and to be part of a community that so clearly values its history, open space, and sense of neighborly connection. What I love most about Buckingham is that it feels both rooted and personal—whether it's our local farms, our parks, or the way people show up for one another. At the same time, I'm energized by the opportunity ahead of us. I believe we can carry forward what makes Buckingham special while also embracing a fresh vision. I'm excited to listen, to learn, and to help shape a future for Buckingham that reflects both our traditions and our shared hopes for what comes next.



Welcome to our newest Police Officers

Nothing gives us more pleasure than welcoming two of Buckingham's finest to the Police Department.

Officer Courtney Truppay was raised in Horsham Township and began her career in 2021 as a police officer with Tullytown Borough after completing the Temple University Police Academy. In 2023, she joined the Pennridge Regional Police, where she served with distinction. She was awarded a commendation for her work in conjunction with detectives from the Bucks County Police on a drug investigation that had resulted in a death. Officer Truppay has a passion for conducting investigations and for community policing. Since joining our department she has "enjoyed getting to know the other officers and the community in Buckingham Township as they are all very supportive and kind."



From left– Officer Courtney Truppay, and Officer Emma Reese



Officer Emma Reese is a Buckingham native who attended our local schools. She was inspired to join our department because of positive experiences as a child, highlighted by this photo with retired Lieutenant JR Landis. She worked at CVS as a shift manager prior to putting herself through the Allentown Police Academy. At graduation, she was presented with the Tracy Szoke Memorial 110% Effort Award* for her work ethic and commitment throughout the academy. Officer Reese has ten years of martial arts training. Her favorite disciplines are Muay Thai kickboxing and Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, in which she currently holds a blue belt. She is "very grateful and excited to be working with the department."

*Tracy Szoke was an officer of the Bethlehem Police Department who was only 23 when she tragically died in a train accident.

Water, Water Everywhere

Otherwise Known as MS4, MCM I (seriously)

Water. We drink it, we swim in it, we bathe in it, we cook with it, we wash our clothes and dishes, water our plants and lawns, skate on it in the winter . . . it touches every aspect of our lives. Miraculous, wonderful, lifegiving water. Until it isn't.



What can go wrong? To borrow a phrase, too much of a good thing. A placid stream can turn into a raging nightmare sweeping away houses. The ocean can pound the shoreline and devastate the coast. On a local level, our streets can flood and our basements can be ruined. And then there's our waterways. Stormwater must go somewhere after it cascades down our drains from catch basins, curbs and ditches, bringing with it all the residue from our streets and lawns.

Buckingham is aware of the problems water can cause. Water must be safe to drink, as our PFAS initiatives demonstrate. (See page 2) Moreover, it also has to be contained so that it doesn't become destructive. And it has to be prevented from polluting our waterways.

Our zoning code embodies the careful approach mandated by state and federal laws. Homeowners who want to add to the hardscaping around their homes sometimes exceed the permissible impervious surface percentage and must mitigate the excess water, lest it become a flood. What that means is that the water displaced by, for example, their new walkway, must be contained in a stormwater management system.

What else does the law require? Buckingham must have an MS4 program (shorthand for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System). Although MS4 sounds a bit like a spy agency, it's a stormwater drainage system mandated by the EPA to control pollution entering our rivers and streams.

As part of the MS4 program, there are six Minimum Control Measures or MCMs (only the federal government could use so many acronyms) that detail the steps that municipalities must meet. So, in this newsletter, we are going to explain and fulfill Step 1 of 6.

MCM I, Public Education and Outreach on Stormwater Impacts:

Stormwater Management in Spring

Spring brings warmer weather, greener landscapes, and — in many regions — **increased rainfall and runoff**, making stormwater management a critical seasonal priority. Effective management helps prevent flooding, erosion, pollution, and costly infrastructure damage while protecting the environment. It is also a great time to plant raingardens and bioswales.

Why Spring Stormwater Management Matters

- Poorly managed runoff can cause **flooding, soil erosion, sediment pollution, and combined sewer overflows** in older urban areas
- Untreated runoff carries **pollutants** such as oils, fertilizers, pesticides, and trash into waterways, harming aquatic life and water quality

Continued on page 6

1. Inspect and Maintain Drainage Infrastructure

- Check **retention/detention ponds, storm drains, catch basins, and infiltration basins** for sediment buildup, debris, and structural damage and make sure drains are not clogged.
- Clear leaves, trash, and road salt from grates and inlets to prevent blockages
Repair damaged downspouts, grates or outlet structures.

2. Address Erosion Risks

- Look for soil displacement, undercut slopes, or exposed roots near downspouts, culverts, and basin outlets
- Repair and replant eroded areas. Install ground covers, vegetated buffers, **riprap, or silt fences** to stabilize soil
Adjust grading, swale design, or infiltration practices to improve water flow and absorption.

3. Maintain Pervious Surfaces and Green Infrastructure

- Use **rain gardens, and bioswales** to slow and absorb runoff
Keep vegetation healthy to support infiltration and reduce surface runoff.

4. Monitor and Clean Out Basins Regularly

- Inspect downspouts and basins
- Remove vegetation that could obstruct flow or damage basin walls.

Buckingham Township adopts Local Climate Action Plan

Buckingham Township has taken another meaningful step toward sustainability by adopting a Local Climate Action Plan developed in cooperation with Penn State's Local Climate Action Program (LCAP). The LCAP program connects Penn State master's program students and faculty with municipalities across Pennsylvania to assess community-level contributions to climate change and design practical strategies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Guided by graduate students Garrett Brissey and Brad Townsend and Penn State faculty Peter Buck and Brandi Robinson and supported by former Environmental Advisory Commission Chair Andrea Strout and Township Manager Dana Cozza, the initiative reflects a strong partnership between academic expertise and local leadership. Using ICLEI's ClearPath software, the team conducted a comprehensive emissions inventory and established targeted goals. Buckingham Township's plan emphasizes five key reduction strategies: expanding energy efficiency efforts across residential, commercial, and municipal sectors; promoting green energy purchasing and solar installations; improving bike and pedestrian infrastructure to support alternative transportation; increasing access to public transit while encouraging electric vehicle adoption; and leveraging state and federal funding opportunities to advance clean energy projects.

Show & Tell, Buckingham Version

Buckingham Township's 325th Anniversary year, 2025, offered both a celebration of the past and a renewed sense of purpose for the present and future. Buckingham is a community shaped by many people from divergent paths who have traveled together for varying times in a place with historical significance.

That spirit of fellowship was brought to life through a year-long series of events led by the Buckingham 325 Committee, a group of dedicated residents, many with deep family legacies that continue to shape the Township today.

The 325 Committee expanded the celebration into a full year of programming, hosting one to two events each month highlighting different aspects of Buckingham's history. From presentations on early schoolhouses and the trolley era, to open houses at historic churches and community-wide experiences such as a ghost hunt, participation continued to grow as neighbors inspired neighbors. The culmination of this milestone year was the Show & Tell event, held at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church on March 6th, 2026.

Show & Tell featured contributions from across the community: local historians, authors, churches, emergency service personnel, and residents who shared personal artifacts and the evolving histories of their own homes. Even younger attendees were drawn in by hands-on displays, from vintage firefighting gear to historical costumes. But what stood out most was not just the artifacts, exhibits, or even the history itself it was the people. Farmers, their faces lined by time and hard work, evoking the fields they have long tended. Young families, experiencing these stories perhaps for the first time. And those in between the steady hands now tasked with carrying forward the legacies of generations before them.

As this chapter closes, a new one begins.

The Buckingham 325 Committee now transitions into the Township's Historical Commission, carrying forward the same passion and purpose. With strong community support and a renewed sense of connection, we are confident they will continue to bridge generations. Because in Buckingham Township, history is not just remembered. It is lived and carried forward together.

Stay tuned to see the newly laid 325 bricks later this summer!



Senator Santasiero and Representative Brennan presented proclamations to celebrate Buckingham Township's 325 year!



Buckingham Township- 325 Years
ENSURING OUR PAST HAS A FUTURE

Why should I care about Postmarks?

Well, read here:

You may have assumed that your mail is postmarked the same day your carrier picks it up or you throw it in the slot at the post office. Nope, not necessarily.

But, you protest, the postal service has my mail—why wouldn't they stamp it?

The answer is that postmarks are applied by automated processing machines at the "originating processing facility." Long gone are the days when a clerk with a handstamp postmarked your mail. That means that the date stamped on your mail is the day the machine processed it, not necessarily the day you mailed it. This procedure was codified at the end of 2025 when the USPS updated its Domestic Mail Manual.

Problems arise for time sensitive items, such as mail-in ballots, tax payments, sewer and water bills, credit card bills, applications, contest entries and the myriad other times you need to have the postmark prove that you mailed your item within the deadline.

And the USPS website contains this ominous language: "The absence of a postmark does not necessarily imply that the Postal Service did not accept custody of a mailpiece, because the Postal Service does not postmark all mail in the ordinary course of operations..." Who knew?

The implications are enormous. Your vote may not count. You may owe interest on your payments. Your application may be rejected.

What to do? Payments for Buckingham may be made electronically or in person. Ballots may be hand delivered at drop off sites, bills may be paid online. Alternatively, you can go inside the post office and ask the clerk for a hand stamp. According to the USPS, you can even purchase a Certificate of Mailing so that you retain proof of the date you mailed your item.

Or, you could mail early and hope that neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night delays the delivery.

Honoring Yesterday, Building Tomorrow

Buckingham Township is proud to announce the reactivation of both the Historic Commission and the Parks & Recreation Commission. Thanks to an overwhelming response from dedicated residents, we welcomed an incredible group of volunteers who have stepped forward to serve our community. Their enthusiasm and commitment will play a vital role in preserving our Township's history while enhancing recreational opportunities for residents of all ages. We look forward to the meaningful impact these volunteer boards will have as they begin their work.

Welcome Corrine Beck, Buckingham's First Co-Responder

Please help us welcome Corrine Beck, the Buckingham Township Police Department's first co-responder. The role of a co-responder strengthens our ability to serve the community with clinically informed support. Corrine's specialized training and community resources allow her to focus on connecting with individuals in crisis to the services and help they need. Just as important, this approach helps to divert individuals whose needs are primarily social or behavioral from unnecessary involvement in the criminal justice system, ensuring better outcomes for both the individual and the community.

We are excited to collaborate with Solebury Township and New Hope Borough Police Departments as Corrine is a co-responder for all three departments. Corrine is employed through the County of Bucks Human Services Division. We are excited to have her as part of our team and look forward to the positive impact this role will continue to make.

To learn more about the program, visit <https://www.buckscounty.gov/1650/Co-Responder-Program>



SAVE THE DATE!

It's never too early to plan for National Night Out with the Buckingham Township Police Department. We are in the early stages of our planning and would like to invite you to participate this year. The event will include officers from our department and other Bucks County Agencies, local community members, vendors, and more.

When: Wednesday, August 5, 2026

Time: 5:00pm - 8:00pm

Where: Peddler's Village (parking lots and fields near Giggleberry Fair)

Raindate: Thursday, August 6, 2026

We invite you to participate in this event to connect and build relationships within our community. National Night Out is about strengthening the bond between law enforcement and the communities we serve. It's an opportunity to rekindle a true sense of neighborhood spirit while fostering positive connections among police, residents, and local businesses. You can learn more about National Night Out by clicking <https://natw.org>.



POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Buckingham Comprehensive Plan

Following a successful year of celebrating 325 years of Buckingham Township, the Buckingham Planning Commission has recently begun the process of updating the township’s comprehensive plan. A comprehensive plan, in essence, is a guiding document that memorializes community objectives and provides sustainable direction for the township. Updating Buckingham’s comprehensive plan includes engaging community members to develop an understanding of their needs, priorities, challenges, and opinions. Input from community members will play an integral role in developing the Comprehensive Plan’s objectives. To gather resident input, the planning commission will spend the next few months developing a statistically valid survey. The resident survey will be launching this fall. Be sure to follow the process on the project website: [Buckingham Township Comprehensive Plan Update | BCPC Connects](#) and keep an eye out for ways to share your voice in the future.



designed by freepik

Don't Miss these Summer Fun Activities

A decorative poster for Buckingham Night Market. The title "BUCKINGHAM NIGHT MARKET" is written in a large, stylized, serif font with a moon and stars above it. Below the title is an illustration of a food truck, several tents, and string lights. The text "LOCAL FARMS. • FOOD TRUCKS. • ONE GREAT NIGHT." is written below the illustration. A banner reads "THREE NIGHTS TO ENJOY!". The dates are listed as July 31ST, August 28TH, and September 25TH. The location is "HOLICONG PARK 5143 YORK ROAD". The time is "5:30 - 8:30 PM" and the activities are "LIVE MUSIC & KIDS ACTIVITIES". The poster is framed with a decorative border.

Buckingham Township Summer Concert Series

All Concerts will be held Thursday Evenings 7pm-9pm at Hansell Park (Route 413 and Hansell Road)

Rain location is Buckingham Springs Club House. Located off Route 413 in Buckingham.

June 18th - "Gruv Tyme" and Ice Cream Social

June 25th - "The O'Fenders"

July 2nd - "Big Baby"

July 9th - "Phantom Trap"

July 16th - "Highway Run"

July 23rd - "Dueling Pianos"

July 30th - "Barefoot Bobby and the Breakers"

August 6th - "End of Innocence"

August 13th - "Cherry Lane Band"

August 20th - "Yesterday's Gone"



Red Cross Blood Drive at the Township Building



The next Buckingham Township Red Cross Blood Drives will be held August 20th from 2pm to 7pm.

Please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive> to make an appointment

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. A special thanks to our Author Susan Sciacca.

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

We're on the Web!
www.buckinghampa.org



Buckingham Township

Board of Supervisors

Maggie Rash, Jon Forest, Mike Bateman

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