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Fall/
Winter
2023-2024



SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP • MONTGOMERY COUNTY • PA Newsletter

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Election Information

The 2023 Municipal Election is Tuesday, Nov. 7, 2023. The voter registration deadline is Monday, Oct. 23, 2023. For details regarding voting procedures, poll locations, or registering to vote, please call Montgomery County Voter Services at 610-278-3280 or visit www.montcopa.org.

Digital Newsletter Available

Did you know that you can easily access this newsletter, the articles inside, and even more information in a digital format by visiting the Township webpage? Use this QR code or visit us online!



Township Receives Two Governor's Awards

On April 12, 2023, Springfield Township was recognized in Harrisburg with the "Innovative Planning and Sound Land Use Practices" Governor's Award. This award recognizes local governments that have found creative ways to improve their communities. Springfield was recognized for projects such as the Mermaid Park Stream and Habitat Restoration, Chiamonte Park ADA Playground Improvements, 1725 Walnut Avenue/Tank Car Park Redevelopment, Bysher Fields ADA Improvements, and the upcoming Cisco Park Playground Rehabilitation.

The Township was also awarded the 2023 Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence, presented by the PA Department of Environmental Protection, on April 25, 2023. This award recognized Springfield's work on the Mermaid Park Stream & Habitat Restoration Project; a four-part initiative to restore the aquatic habitat and environmental ecosystem of Mermaid Park in Wyndmoor, PA. More information about the Mermaid Park Stream & Habitat Restoration Project can be found by visiting springfieldmontco.org.



Administration

NEW HIRES & PROMOTIONS



CRAIG LLOYD ~ ASSISTANT MANAGER/FINANCE DIRECTOR

Craig joined Springfield Township in 2021 as Finance Director, and was appointed by the Board of Commissioners as the new Assistant Township Manager in Summer 2023. Craig earned his BA in Accounting/Business from Alvernia College and an MBA in Technology Management from University of Phoenix. Previously, he served as Township Manager for West Pottsgrove Township. Craig spends his free time as a Scuba/Water Rescue Instructor and volunteers with Wyndmoor Hose Co.



JARED STEVENSON ~ POLICE SPECIALIST

Jared joined the Township in July 2023, filling a new role as Police Specialist. Jared grew up in Abington, and graduated Abington Senior High School. He attended the Eastern Center for Arts and Technology in Willow Grove and previously worked for the Montgomery Township Police Department and Abington Police Department. In his free time, Jared enjoys golf and fishing, and he is a member of the Upper Gwynedd Township Fire Department.

FOND FAREWELLS



LINDA GALLO

Linda spent six years serving Springfield Township as the beloved receptionist to the Police Department. Linda had previously worked in the Philadelphia Police Department for 36 years, including the 5th District in Roxborough. We will miss her humor and wish her a relaxing retirement!



BRANDON FORD

Brandon served as the Springfield Township Assistant Manager for the last four years and was responsible for securing over \$3 million in grant funds to enhance Library, Parks and Recreation, Police and Public Works operations and facilities. He also greatly contributed to the environment, intergovernmental cooperation, and technology. Brandon accepted a new position at Lower Merion Township as the Assistant Manager. He will be missed!



OFC. MARK HOISINGTON

Officer Hoisington served Springfield Township for 34 years with the STPD. Throughout his career, he enrolled in many training courses, including but not limited to First Aid and CPR recertification, Active Shooter Training, Anti-Bias training, Opioid Overdose training, Equine De-Escalation Training, and Gas and Electrical Emergency training. Over his career, he has received 32 letters of appreciation from Township residents. Thank you for your service officer!

Plastic Bag Ordinance



At their regularly scheduled August Business Meeting, the Board of Commissioners voted in favor of a Single-Use Plastic Bag ordinance. This ordinance, which will take effect beginning February 2024, prohibits retail establishments from distributing single-use plastic carry-out bags to customers at the point of sale. Customers are encouraged to bring their own reusable bags but may also pay a 10-cent fee to the retailer for a recyclable paper bag or reusable bag. The Springfield Township Environmental Advisory Committee will be hosting an ongoing reusable bag exchange at the Springfield Library.

Single-use plastic products can be defined as items that are used once, or for a short period of time (as little as just a couple of seconds!) before being thrown away. This type of plastic waste has a big impact on the environment and our health. Single-use plastic products are more likely to pollute the environment and end up in our seas than reusable options.

Tax Collector Information

The County/Township tax bills are mailed by February 1 and are due by May 31. If payment is received in full by March 31 a 2% discount is applied. Payments received June 1 or after will be subject to a 10% penalty. The school tax bills are mailed by July 1 and are due by October 31. If payment is received in full by August 31 a 2% discount is applied. Payments received November 1 or after will be subject to a 10% penalty.

Police & Public Safety

Take Me Home Program

The Springfield Township Police Department is proud to introduce the Take Me Home Program for families of individuals who may not be able to communicate with a law enforcement officer because of various physical and/or cognitive conditions (i.e., Autism, Alzheimer's, Down Syndrome, etc.). Once registered, officers can search a secure database for information specific to the person to include physical description, photographs, medical conditions, home address, and a list of persons to contact in the event of an emergency. To register for the Take Me Home Program, visit the STPD website.



BIKE SAFETY TIPS

Bicycle riding is a fun and healthy activity for people of all ages. Whether riding for leisure or sport, it is important to remember that a bicycle is not a toy; it's a vehicle! Here are some bicycle safety tips from the STPD:



- Wear proper safety gear, especially those that protect your head and hands.
- Choose the right bike for the ride. Road bikes, hybrid bikes, and comfort bikes are best for use on roads. In contrast, mountain bikes are perfect for off-road cycling.
- Make a habit of checking your bike before riding. Specifically, make sure that your bicycle chain, derailleurs, and brakes are in good condition.
- Make yourself visible by wearing bright colors during the day and clothing with reflective strips during the night. Always ride with traffic to appear more visible to drivers. Riding in groups can also increase visibility.
- Always obey traffic lights and signs, and share the road with vehicles.
- Limit distractions while riding by avoiding texting, phone calls, or listening to music.
- Keep hydrated while cycling. Always keep a bottle of water on your bike.
- Keep your hands on the handlebar, unless you are signing to other vehicles.
- Don't pass or overtake vehicles on the right. The safest place for bicycles is to the right of car traffic.
- Eye contact is essential to have a mutual understanding of those around you in traffic. However, you might also need to make some noise using a bell or horn to alert those who aren't aware of visual cues.
- Consider bringing a first aid kit that includes essential tools and cash in case of emergencies.
- Bring a 3x5 card with proper identification, including your name, address, and emergency contacts in case of an emergency. Make sure to tell someone where you are going and when you plan on being back.

Blue Envelope Program

A blue envelope-shaped form for the Blue Envelope Program. The top section is titled "DRIVER HAS SPECIAL NEEDS" and includes a "DRIVER IS:" section with checkboxes for "VERBAL" and "NON-VERBAL". Below this is a "THIS DRIVER:" section with checkboxes for "IS ON THE AUTISM SPECTRUM", "MAY HAVE DEMENTIA SYMPTOMS", "HAS COMMUNICATION CHALLENGES", and "OTHER". The bottom section is titled "VEHICLE PAPERS AND CONTACT INFORMATION ENCLOSED" and includes the "MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PA - LAW ENFORCEMENT 'BLUE ENVELOPE'" logo. At the bottom, there are instructions for the driver and the officer.

The purpose of the Blue Envelope Program is to help vehicle drivers who have conditions such as Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), communications challenges, dementia, anxiety or other conditions that might impair their ability to communicate easily during a traffic stop, car accident or other on-the-road interactions with police officers. Blue envelopes are free to all residents and can be picked up at the Springfield Police Station.

POLICE WEBSITE REDESIGN

The Springfield Township Police Department (STPD) has freshly redesigned department webpages on the Township website!

In addition to STPD branding and a department-specific top menu bar that will now follow visitors as they explore our new webpages, new sections have been built to increase access to public safety-specific news articles, community engagement programs, police services (such as security camera registrations, civilian fingerprinting, vacation checks, etc.) and so much more! Non-confidential department policies and procedures are also now available for the public to view/read.

Follow Us on Facebook!



Follow the Springfield Township Police Department on Facebook, @STPDMontco! Stay in-the-know on Police events, happenings, and general information. Also, check out our newly redesigned web page springfieldmontco.org/departments/police/!

Building & Zoning

BUILDING & PLANNING REQUIREMENTS

Building & Zoning is the first point of contact for developers, property owners, and contractors looking to submit plans, schedule an inspection, or obtain a permit for new construction and renovation work in the Township. Here are some important requirements to keep in mind if selling or renovating a property:

- When selling a property, you are required to obtain a Statement of Certification for Real Estate Transfer and submit it at least 30 days prior to settlement (application available online and in person).
- Property deeds must also be registered with our office. Make sure to follow up with your settlement company about this important step.
- Permits are required for any addition, alteration, demolition, replacement, or new construction prior to the start of any work.
- Home additions must comply with Springfield's zoning ordinance. Call or visit the Building Department for questions about zoning.
- Property maintenance issues, such as weeds, junk, and abandoned vehicles, can be reported to our office over the phone or in person.
- Visit us with questions related to permits, code requirements, zoning, setbacks, or property size!

SIGHT & SIDEWALK OBSTRUCTIONS

Township ordinances state that no obstructions are permitted within the public right-of-way. This includes portable basketball stands, sporting nets, and overgrown vegetation. These items cause sight obstructions for adjoining property owners attempting to exit their driveways. Portable basketball stands and other sports equipment within the right-of-way can interfere with trash collection and snow plowing. These obstructions can also block important street signage, which can be hazardous if not maintained.

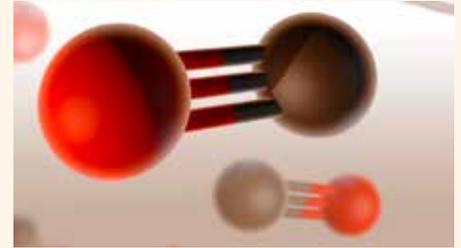
BE STORMWATER SMART

Here are some tips from the Penn State Extension to consider when trying to control the stormwater on your property:

- **Downspout Disconnect/Redirect** - look for opportunities to redirect your downspouts to lawn and garden areas. Just be sure that all downspouts are directed away from foundations to avoid basement flooding
- **Rain Barrels** - Rain barrels capture and hold water until it can be used or slowly released into planted areas. It is important to have a plan for using the water before installing one.
- **Patch Grass** - Inspect for bare spots in your lawn. A thick lawn produces less runoff than a thin lawn with exposed soil. Reseed grass in mid-spring, when the threat of hard frost is past but it's still too early for most weeds to grow.
- **Rain Gardens** - One of the best options for managing stormwater on your property is to install a rain garden. A rain garden is a bowl-shaped garden that can capture and hold water until it is able to be absorbed into the soil.



From the Fire Marshal Carbon Monoxide Warning: CO



Carbon Monoxide (CO) is a poisonous, invisible, odorless and colorless gas that is created when fuels such as propane, natural gas, and wood do not burn completely. Installation of a CO alarm will provide early warning of CO in your home. CO alarms should have a label from a recognized testing laboratory. Manufacturer's instructions for the placement and mounting height should be followed. CO alarms should be installed outside of sleeping areas and on every level of the home.

Home Heating Safety Tips

Winter is coming and when the temperature drops, many of us find comfort in curling up by the fireplace or heater. However, heating devices are a leading cause of home fires and injuries. These safety tips from the Fire Marshal can help you prevent heating-related fires.

- Establish a "kid free zone" three feet from heating equipment.
- Make sure heating equipment and chimneys are cleaned and inspected every year.
- Unplug space heaters when you go to bed or leave the room.
- Make sure fireplaces have a sturdy screen to stop sparks.
- Cool ashes before putting them in a **metal** container, and keep it stored outside the home.

Public Works

Curbside Leaf Waste Collection



The Township's residential curbside leaf collection program runs from late March through December with a special collection week at the end of February – weather permitting.

Leaf waste includes leaves, garden residues, shrubbery, tree trimmings and similar material. Residents should place their leaf waste in a biodegradable paper bag or securely tied and bundled (so as not to exceed 4 feet in length, 6" in diameter, nor 50 pounds in weight) at their curbside by 7:00 AM on their regular collection day. Please note: Grass clippings are not leaf waste. Place grass in cans or plastic bags for regular Refuse collection.

Leaves are composted into mulch that is available to our residents free of charge at 201 W. Wissahickon Avenue. For more information about the Curbside Leaf Waste Collection Program, visit springfieldmontco.org/departments/public-works.

Save those Paper Leaf Waste Bags!

Residents are reminded that paper leaf waste bags should only be used for leaf waste and only during the leaf waste collection season (late March through December). Paper leaf waste bags placed at the curb will NOT be collected before or after the leaf waste collection time period.

2023-24 FALL / WINTER HOLIDAYS

Trash and recycle **will not be collected** on these holidays. Trash, recycle, and leaf waste will be collected the following business day.

Friday, November 10 - Veterans Day
Thursday, November 23 - Thanksgiving Day
Monday, December 25 - Christmas Day
Monday, January 1 (2024) - New Year's Day
Monday, January 15 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Administration will remain open)
Monday, February 19 - Presidents Day
Friday, March 29 - Good Friday

TREE COLLECTION

Christmas trees are collected during the first three weeks of January. Make sure to remove all decorations and tree stands, and place your tree at the curbside along with your refuse on your normal collection day.

Be sure to not "wrap" your tree in plastic as the trees are chipped into mulch and made available for FREE to the public every spring at our site on W. Wissahickon Avenue (across from St. Joseph Academy).

HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING REGULATIONS



GLASS: All colors. (NO ceramics, light bulbs, plate glass, head lights, mirrors, windshields or glass blocks).



CANS: Aluminum beverage cans and bi-metal cans.



PLASTICS: (#1 through #7) containers including soft drinks, water bottles, milk jugs, detergent bottles and food/yogurt containers (NO hard plastic) (NO plastic bags).



NEWSPAPER, MAGAZINES, JUNK MAIL, TELEPHONE BOOKS, CORRUGATED CARDBOARD

including cereal boxes, cracker boxes, and cartons from beer and soda (with no waxy coating).

- 1 Recyclable materials may be combined in one can or container not to exceed 32-gallon capacity or 50 lbs. in weight (**No plastic bags!**).
- 2 New and replacement recycling containers are available at the Township Administration Building for \$25 (cash or check only). Lids can be purchased separately for \$5.
- 3 Place all acceptable recycling materials **a short distance from refuse materials** on your regular collection day.
- 4 Food containers need to be **cleaned out of any food waste and debris** prior to placement in the recycle can.

Not sure how to dispose of an item? Visit springfieldmontco.org under "How Do I...?" and "Trash/Recycle" for a list of commonly asked about items. All recycling and trash regulations can be found on our website under "Public Works," or call the Township at 215-836-7600.

Snow Removal

SNOW STORM OPERATIONS AND REGULATIONS

Springfield Township recognizes the importance of snow removal, not only to residents, but to everyone who needs to travel to or through our community. When winter weather is forecasted, help us keep our community safe with these winter weather tips:



- 1 Remove trash and recycling cans, portable basketball stands, and the like from the roadway before winter weather hits to avoid potential damage by snow plows.
- 2 Do not place trash and recycling cans out the night before if two (2) inches of snow or more is forecasted. Check the Township website for possible trash collection updates and cancellations.
- 3 Remember that no vehicle, trailer, boat or camper may be parked in the roadway once two (2) inches of snow or more has fallen. Those who do NOT have access to off-street parking are permitted to park on the even numbered side of the street only in a year ending in an even number, and on the odd side of the street in a year ending in an odd number.
- 4 Clear snow, sleet and ice from sidewalks in front of your property within 24 hours after a storm.
- 5 Do not shovel, blow or plow the snow from your driveway and/or sidewalk into the street.
- 6 Leave space just off the foot of your driveway to avoid being plowed in. Shoveling out a space just before your driveway allows the snow that builds up on the plow to fall off in that space and not in your driveway!
- 7 Keep stormwater inlets open after snow has accumulated. Keeping inlets open will prevent flooding and icing conditions on the street.
- 8 If you have a curbside mailbox, check that your mailbox and post are in good repair and that they are behind the curb, not leaning out over the street.

Please Note: The Township cannot plow residents' private driveways. Please contact a private plow operator if you are in need of assistance in plowing your private driveway.

WHAT IS A SNOW EMERGENCY?

Declaring a snow emergency in the Township helps ensure the safety and efficiency of the employees working to remove the snow and ice. It also provides better and easier access to roads for police, fire, and emergency medical services vehicles access as this becomes a very busy time for our emergency responders.

- No vehicles shall be parked to impede or obstruct snow/ice removal efforts or create a hazardous condition.
- Please remove cars, trailers, boats or campers as well as portable basketball stands, trash cans and recycle containers from the street.
- Sidewalks should be cleared within 24 hours after the cessation of the snow/ice event.

Student Snow Shovel Registry

At the beginning of the winter season the Township solicits the local Middle and High Schools for a list of students who will, for a fee, shovel snow from walks and driveways. The consolidated list can be found online, picked up from the Township Administration Building, or mailed upon request. The "business" arrangement is then made between the resident and student that he or she chooses to employ.

The Snow Shovel Registry is open from September to November for students interested in participating. The list becomes public beginning in late November. Both the sign-up sheet and full snow shoveler list can be found on springfieldmontco.org under "Public Works."

Help Keep Hydrants Clear



Winter storms often hide fire hydrants under snow and ice, making them difficult to access quickly. If you have a fire hydrant located on or near your property, please consider clearing a 3 foot perimeter around the fire hydrant in order to allow firefighters access to the fire hydrant in an emergency situation.

Register for News Alerts

The Township updates the website with important information during snow storms, such as snow emergency alerts and trash collection cancellations. Make sure to sign up for email notifications by registering on the Springfield Township website at www.springfieldmontco.org!

Parks & Recreation

Community Day

- Date: Sunday, October 1
Rain Date: Sunday, October 15
(5k race only)

- Time: 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
- Location: James A. Cisco Park

Join Springfield Township for a day filled with family fun for all! This event features fishing at Hillcrest Pond, face painting, inflatables, balloon creations and surprise guests! Enjoy a day of music, games and free food all in your hometown.

Let's Stay Connected!



Want to stay connected with Springfield park happenings, program announcements, and general fun? Follow us on Instagram and Facebook @springfieldmontcoparksandrec! We also provide monthly E-Newsletters for individuals who sign up in advance. You can sign up for the E-Newsletter at www.springfieldmontco.org under "Parks and Recreation".

Recreation Basketball 2023-2024:

League Begins Saturdays, December 2

Springfield Township Parks and Recreation is partnering with Chris Vernick of Big Game Hoops for the Recreation Basketball League. This program is for players looking for a fun, skill-building experience. No cuts are made during this program. Each Saturday, players will have one hour for practice and games. The league will feature eight weeks of basketball, the first week will be team placements, the following two meeting dates will be practice. The remaining five meeting dates will be games. During registration, an opportunity to make a friend or coach request will be available. Requests limited to one per person. Requests will only be considered if the person requested reciprocates the same request.

ADULT CLASSES

Martial Arts

With Paul and Amanda Schmidt

THURSDAY from 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Session VI Dates: (7 Sessions)

November 2, 9, 16, 30, December 7, 14, 21
(No 11/23)

Mondays from 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Session VI Dates: (7 Sessions)

October 30, November 13, 20, 27,
December 4, 11, 18 (No 11/6)

- Ages 7 - 18+
- Location: Recreation Center B
- Single Day Fee: \$110
- Combined Fee: \$200

Springfield Martial Arts emphasizes traditional Isshinryu Karate, self-defense judo, and Brazilian Jiu Jitsu. Additionally, this martial arts

session will integrate cardiovascular training, wellness and philosophy of excellence by habit. Students develop self-discipline, mindfulness, goal-setting skills and respect for themselves and others. Parents are encouraged to enroll with their child for a shared experience.



Adult Pottery Workshop

- Fall I: Wednesdays, October 4, 11, 18, 25
- Times: 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm
- Location: Recreation Center B
- Ages: 21 and Up
- Fee: \$155 Per Resident / \$165 Per Non-Resident

In this four-week class you will learn about hand building pottery, textures, and glazing. Every class will begin with a lesson on a pottery technique. Over the four weeks you will be able to take what you have learned to create and glaze 3 unique pieces. Please join us to create, meet others, and relax. All supplies included. All pottery will be fired and dropped off at the Parks and Rec office within a week of the last class

Inspirational Yoga

With Jennifer Schelter

FALL / WINTER

Dates: Fall II: Tuesdays, November 14, 21, 28, December 5, 12, 19
(6 sessions)

Time: 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Fee: \$108.00 Resident
\$118.00 Non - Resident
(6 sessions)

Drop In (per session) \$20.00 Resident
\$22.00 Non - Resident
Online registration must be completed prior to start of class

Location: Recreation Center B

Ages: 14 – Adult

Do you suffer from anxiety? Stress? Overwhelmed? In this Yoga course, students experience

relief, balance, flexibility, and ease from the mindful movements and philosophy of Yoga. Each class focuses alignment, breath, flexibility, strength and balance. Students feel present and at ease in body and mind.



Adult Watercolor Social

- Fall II: Wednesdays, November 8, 15, 29, December 6 (No 11/22)
- Times: 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm
- Location: Recreation Center B
- Ages: 21 and Up
- Fee: \$155 Per Resident / \$165 Per Non-Resident

In this four-week class, you will discover the beauty of color and self-expression as you experiment with watercolor techniques to create plants and feathers. You will learn brush techniques, wet on wet, wet on dry, color mixing. You will also learn blending techniques using different types of paper to create your own pieces of art to decorate your home.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Jump Start Sports: Fall Basketball

Little Hoop Stars

- Ages: 4 - 5 year olds
- Fall II: Wednesdays, Nov. 1, 8, 15, 29 Dec. 6, 13 (Skip 11/22)
- Times: 4:45 - 5:30 pm or 5:30 - 6:15 pm or 6:15 - 7:00 pm
- Fee: \$100 Resident / \$110 Non-Resident

Hoop Stars

- Ages: 6 - 8 year olds
- Fall II: Thursdays, Nov. 2, 9, 16, 30 Dec. 7, 14 (Skip 11/23)
- Times: 5:15 - 6:15 pm or 6:15 pm - 7:15 pm
- Fee: \$100 Resident / \$110 Non-Resident

Jump Start Sports: Little Hoop Stars Basketball

Players are taught the basics of dribbling, passing, positioning, defense, and rebounding in this fun-oriented program. All instruction conducted by Jump Start Sports staff. All children receive a t-shirt and award.



Jump Start Sports: Hoop Stars Basketball

Players are taught the basics of dribbling, passing, shooting, positioning, defense, and rebounding in this fun-oriented program. Then they apply what they've learned in low competition games. All instruction conducted by Jump Start Sports staff. All children receive a t-shirt and award.

Indoor Soccer Clinic: Fall

- Fall II Dates: Mondays, November 13, 20, 27, December 4, 11, 18 (6 sessions)
- 4:50PM - 5:30PM Classic's Program (3-5-year-old)
- 5:00PM - 5:30PM Minis Program (2-3-year-old)
- 5:35PM - 6:15PM Classic's Program (3-5-year-old)
- 6:20PM - 7:00PM Premier Program (5-8-year-old)
- Fee: \$142 Resident / \$157 Non-Resident
- Location: Recreation Center A



MINI - (2-3-year old's)

Soccer Shots Mini is a high-energy program introducing children to fundamental soccer principles, such as using your feet, dribbling and the basic rules of the game. Through fun games, songs and positive reinforcement, children will begin to experience the joy of playing soccer and being active.

CLASSIC - (3-5-year old's)

Soccer Shots Classic utilizes creative and imaginative games to focus on basic soccer skills like dribbling, passing and shooting. We also highlight a positive character trait each session such as respect, teamwork and appreciation.

PREMIER - (5-8-year old's)

Soccer Shots Premier focuses on individual skill, fitness and sportsmanship, providing an opportunity for children to be challenged through fun games and team interaction. Children will also be introduced to competition in a developmentally appropriate manner.

OTHER PROGRAMS

After School Pottery Workshop

- Fall I: Wednesdays, October 4, 11, 18, 25
- Times: 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm
- Location: Recreation Center B
- Ages: 8-18 years old
- Fee: \$155 Per Resident / \$165 Per Non-Resident

In this four-week class you will learn about hand building pottery, textures, and glazing. Every class will begin with a lesson on a pottery technique. Over the four weeks you will be able to take what you have learned to create and glaze 3 unique pieces. Please join us to create, meet others, and relax. All supplies included.

Ceramic Cheese Plate Pottery Workshop



- Date: Friday, November 3, 2023
- Time: 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
- Location: Recreation Center B
- Age: All Ages (Under 12 must be accompanied by an adult)
- Fee: \$55 Per Resident / \$65 Per Non-Resident

Design and create your own Cheese Tray to impress at your next social gathering. In this class you will learn the basics of hand building with clay as you roll out a slab and learn the process of pressing, texture, and glazing. Choose from a variety of provided herb, flower, and leaf clippings as well as a selection of textures and laces for a vintage look. All levels welcome. All supplies included.

October is Fire Prevention Month

Lithium-ion Battery Safety

From Wyndmoor Hose Co.



In recent years, there have been several reports of E-bike and E-scooter batteries catching fire or exploding, both during use and while being charged. To minimize the risk of a battery-related fire, Wyndmoor Hose Co. recommends the following safety tips:

1. Use only the charger provided by the manufacturer and ensure that it is in good condition
2. Never leave a battery charging unattended for long periods, especially overnight.
3. Keep the battery and charger away from flammable materials and exits in case of a fire.
4. Do not use or charge a battery that appears to be damaged, swollen or hot to the touch.
5. Regularly inspect the battery and E-bike for signs of wear and tear or damage.
6. Plug devices or batteries directly into wall outlets for charging (do NOT use extension cords or power strips).
7. Keep lithium-ion batteries at room temperature when not in use.
8. If the device begins to expand or smoke, leave immediately and call 911.
9. Never try to extinguish a lithium-ion battery fire. Dial 911 from a safe location.
10. Lithium batteries can be disposed of at annual Montgomery County Household Hazardous Waste events.

IN HONOR OF FIRE PREVENTION MONTH, HERE ARE SOME IMPORTANT FIRE SAFETY TIPS FROM YOUR LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS!

COOKING SAFETY

From Flourtown Fire Co.

This year's theme for National Fire Prevention Week, October 8-14, is cooking safety. In 2021, there were 170,000 home cooking fires in the United States, making them the number one cause of home fires and fire-related injuries. To reduce the risk of cooking fires, follow these safe cooking practices from the Flourtown Fire Co.:



- When cooking, remain in the kitchen and never leave the stovetop unattended even for a short period of time.
- Pots and pans should have their handles turned to the back to prevent accidentally bumping them or any accidents involving children or pets.
- Extinguish pan fires by placing a lid over the pan and turning off the stovetop.
- Never try to put out a grease fire with water.
- Remember to keep your oven and stove top clean and remove any spilled food or grease.
- If a fire occurs in the oven, the best practice is to keep the oven closed until the fire is extinguished; ovens are designed to contain fire.
- When using an outdoor grill, always maintain 3 feet of unobstructed space around the grill and designate this as a "kid free zone."

As part of National Fire Prevention Week, Flourtown Fire Company hosts community events, visits local schools, and distributes informational material in Springfield Township. Stay tuned for information about our open house!

SMOKE DETECTOR TIPS

From Oreland Volunteer Fire Co.

Smoke detectors are an important part of fire prevention. Roughly 3 out of 5 fire deaths happen in homes with no working smoke alarms. The tips listed below from the Oreland Volunteer Fire Department can help educate homeowners about the importance of smoke detectors:

Safety Tips

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home, including the basement.
- Choose interconnected smoke alarms, which will sound all alarms when one is activated.
- Test all smoke alarms at least once a month. Press the test button to be sure the alarm is working.
- Consider switching to "multi-sensing" detectors, which could include both smoke and carbon monoxide detection.
- Keep smoke alarms away from the kitchen, on the ceiling or high on a wall, to reduce false alarms. Preferably, they should be at least 10 feet from the stove.
- There are special smoke alarms for those who are hard-of-hearing or deaf. These alarms have strobe lights and bed shakers.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.

From the Library



[Freelibraryofspringfieldtownship.org](http://freelibraryofspringfieldtownship.org)

Phone: 215-836-5300



CREATING COMMUNITY AT THE LIBRARY

By getting a library card at the Free Library of Springfield Township, you can open yourself up to a world of possibilities! Your local library is a place that you can sit back, relax, and have fun - for free!

The Library offers many different programs for varying ages. For example, we offer baby story time (birth - 24 months), family storytime (for the whole family), and plenty of activities for teens throughout the year. Children's programs are available on our YouTube Channel, @freelibraryofspringfield. For all ages, the library offers book clubs, movie screenings, games, and art classes.

Lifelong learning starts and continues here, at the Free Library!

BENEFITS OF READING ALOUD

Did you know that reading out loud has powerful benefits? Reading aloud to your child from birth helps imprint language sounds in your baby's brain. Only thirty minutes of reading aloud a day can help influence speech for the child's entire lifetime.



Middle and high school students who read aloud or listen to audiobooks become better writers and tend to have better scores on their SATs. This helps to develop more profound vocabulary and establish well-written and well-spoken English.

FIND YOUR "THIRD PLACE" AT THE LIBRARY!

"Third places" are defined by sociologist Ray Oldenburg as the "public places on neutral ground where people can gather and interact". In contrast to first places (home) and second places (work), third places allow people to put aside their concerns and simply enjoy the company and conversation around them (Source: Project for Public Spaces).

By getting a library card at the Free Library of Springfield Township, you can find your "third place!"

Library Hours

Mon-Thurs. 9:00am - 9:00pm
Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm
Saturday 10:00am - 5:00pm
Sunday 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Library Phone 215-836-5300

2023 Holiday Closures

These closures pertain to the Free Library only and do not reflect Township or refuse collection schedules:

November 7: Election Day

November 10: Veterans Day:
(Observed)

November 22: Closing at 5pm

November 23: Thanksgiving:

December 23,24,25: Christmas

December 30,31: New Year's Eve

January 1: New Year's Day

March 29, 31 Good Friday/Easter

Digital Resources

Download books straight to your E-reader, iPad, iPhone, Nook, and/or Kindle! Online resources are available through applications such as Libby, Hoopla, Freading, and so much more. By using the Free Library's digital resources, you can access the Philadelphia Inquirer, stream movies, and even read magazines online! For questions on how to get started, visit the Library or call 215-836-5300!

**Find Us On Facebook
and You Tube!**





COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND CONTACTS

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP

1510 Paper Mill Road, Wyndmoor, PA 19038
P: 215-836-7600
F: 215-836-7180

FREE LIBRARY OF SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP

8900 Hawthorne Lane, Wyndmoor, PA 19038
P: 215-836-5300

SPRINGFIELD DISTRICT COURT

1316 Bruce Road, Oreland, PA 19075
P: 215-572-7845

SCHOOL DISTRICT

Administration: 215-233-6000
Enfield Elementary: 215-233-6080
Erdenheim Elementary: 215-233-6085
Middle School: 215-233-6070
High School: 215-233-6030

POLICE NON-EMERGENCY

P: 215-836-1601 (8:30 am - 5:00 pm)
P: 215-836-1600 (after 5:00 pm)

EMS - COMMUNITY AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION OF AMBLER (CAAA)

P: 215-643-6517 (non-emergency)
Email: support@amblerambulance.org

MONTGOMERY COUNTY COURT HOUSE

2 E. Airy Street, Norristown, PA 19404
P: 610-278-3000
Web: montcopa.org

GAME COMMISSION (DEER REMOVAL)

610-926-3136 or 3137

VOTERS REGISTRATION

610-278-3280

TAX COLLECTOR INFORMATION

REAL ESTATE TAXES

Joelle Kleinman, Township Treasurer/Tax Collector
P.O. BOX 461
Flourtown, PA 19031
P: 215-233-1084
F: 215-935-4523
Web: springfieldmontcotaxcollector.com
Email: joelle@springfieldmontcotaxcollector.com

EARNED INCOME TAX (EIT) AND LOCAL SERVICES TAX (LST)

Berkheimer Tax Innovations
63 W. 4th St.
Bridgeport, PA 19405
Web: hab-inc.com
P: 610-599-3142 (LST)
P: 866-701-7206 (EIT)

BUSINESS PRIVILEGE AND MERCANTILE TAXES

Tri-State Financial Group
P.O. BOX 38
Bridgeport, PA 19405
P: 610-270-9520
F: 610-270-9522
Web: tfgtax.com

HEALTH RESOURCES

MONTGOMERY COUNTY OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

1430 DeKalb Street, PO Box 311
Norristown, PA 19404-0311
Phone: 610-278-5117
publichealth@montcopa.org

PA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

1-877-PA-HEALTH

MONTGOMERY COUNTY DRUG/ALCOHOL SERVICES

Phone: 610-278-3642
www.montcopa.org/1339/Drug-Alcohol

UTILITY PROVIDERS

AQUA

1-800-711-4799

PECO (OUTAGE)

1-800-841-4141

PENNDOT

610-275-2368

PA ONE CALL

1-800-242-1776

XFINITY/COMCAST

1-800-934-6489

VERIZON FIOS

1-800-837-4966

BUCKS COUNTY WATER & SEWER

P: 215-343-2538 (non-emergency)
P: 215-343-3946 (emergency)

*For Sanitary Sewer (manholes/inside house)

COUNTY, STATE, & FEDERAL OFFICIALS

MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Kenneth E. Lawrence Jr. Chair
Jamila H. Winder, Vice Chair
Joseph C. Gale, Commissioner
One Montgomery Plaza Suite 800
Norristown, PA 19404
Phone 610-278-3000
www.montcopa.org

COMMONWEALTH OF PA

Governor Josh Shapiro
508 Main Capitol Bldg.
Harrisburg, PA 17120
Phone 717-787-2500
www.governor.state.pa.us

PA Sen. Art Haywood
1168 Easton Road, Abington, PA 19001
Phone: 215-517-1434
www.senatorhaywood.com

PA Rep. Napoleon Nelson
115 E. Glenside Avenue, Suite 8
Glenside, PA 19038
Phone: 215-572-5210
www.pahouse.com/nelson/

U.S. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

U.S. Congresswoman Madeleine Dean
115 E. Glenside Ave.
Suite 1
Glenside, PA 19038
Phone: 215 884-4300
dean.house.gov

U.S. Sen. John Fetterman
200 Chestnut Street
Suite 600
Philadelphia, PA 19106
Phone: 215-241-1090
www.fetterman.senate.gov

U.S. Sen. Bob Casey
2000 Market Street
Suite 610
Philadelphia, PA 19103
Phone: 215-405-9660
www.casey.senate.gov

TOWNSHIP COMMISSIONERS:

James M. Lee, *President - Ward 3*
Baird M. Standish, *Vice-President - Ward 5*
Michael E. Maxwell - *Ward 1*
Susanna O. Ratsavong - *Ward 2*
Peter D. Wilson - *Ward 4*
Jonathan C. Cobb - *Ward 6*
Brendan May - *Ward 7*

Officers:

Michael Taylor, *Township Manager*
James J. Garrity, *Solicitor*
Joelle Kleinman, *Tax Collector/Treasurer*
Timothy Woodrow, *Engineer*
Bee, Bergvall and Co., *CPA Auditor*

Assistant Township Manager/Finance:

Craig Lloyd

Fire Marshal:

Chuck Bailly

Library:

Marycatherine McGarvey, *Director*

Parks and Recreation:

Emily Baiada, *Director*

Planning and Zoning:

Mark Penecale, *Director*

Police Department:

Michael Pitkow, *Chief of Police*

Public Works:

Ian Hammer, *Director*



Springfield Township
1510 Paper Mill Road
Wyndmoor, PA 19038

WWW.SPRINGFIELDMONTCO.ORG
215-836-7600



Be sure to subscribe to your favorite Township notification categories by registering on the Springfield Township website (www.springfieldmontco.org)! By subscribing to the website, you will receive email notifications for emergencies, advisory board meetings, announcements, and more year round!



PUBLIC MEETINGS

All meetings of the Board of Commissioners and Advisory Boards are in-person meetings at the designated locations below:

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORKSHOP MEETING

7:00 PM • Township Building
Held on the Monday preceding the second Wednesday of every month.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS BUSINESS MEETING

7:30 PM • Township Building
Held on the second Wednesday of every month.

EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

As Announced

Meets on an as-needed basis; meetings are announced in advance.

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION

7:00 PM • Springfield Library
Held on the fourth Wednesday of every month.

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

6:00 PM • Township Building
Held on the first Tuesday of every month.

LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

7:00 PM • Springfield Library
Held on the fourth Tuesday of every other month (Jan., Mar., May, July, Sept., Nov.).

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

6:30 PM • Township Building
Held on the first Wednesday of every month (except the months of Jul. and Aug.).

PLANNING COMMISSION

7:00 PM • Township Building
Held on the first & third Tuesday of every month.

POLICE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

As Announced
Meets on an as-needed basis; meetings are announced in advance.

RECREATION CENTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

6:00 PM • Springfield Library
Held on the first Thursday of every month.

SHADE TREE COMMISSION

7:00 PM • Springfield Library
Held on the fourth Thursday of every month.

ZONING HEARING BOARD

7:00 PM • Township Building
Held on the fourth Monday of every month.