

Upper Milford Township Newsletter

Chairman
Daniel J. Mohr

Vice-Chairman
Henry H. Kradjel

Supervisor
Steven E. Ackerman

Fall / Winter 2006

Volume 2 / Issue 1

Editor: Kim Shaak

King's Highway School Ad Hoc Committee

Since the last newsletter, there has been a King's Highway School Ad Hoc Committee created in order to help determine whether or not the King's Highway School would be of benefit to the Township.

There have been several meetings held during this past summer and there have been several articles in the newspaper regarding this issue.

The Board of Supervisors has authorized the Township Manager to work with the Township's Architec-

tural Consultant, Muhlenberg Greene, to evaluate the condition of the King's Highway School and to prepare a report on the same for the Board of Supervisors' consideration. Keep in mind that no decision has been made on the ultimate disposition of the school.

The Board of Supervisors, with input from the committee, and support from the community would like to be in a position to make an informed decision when the opportunity arises.

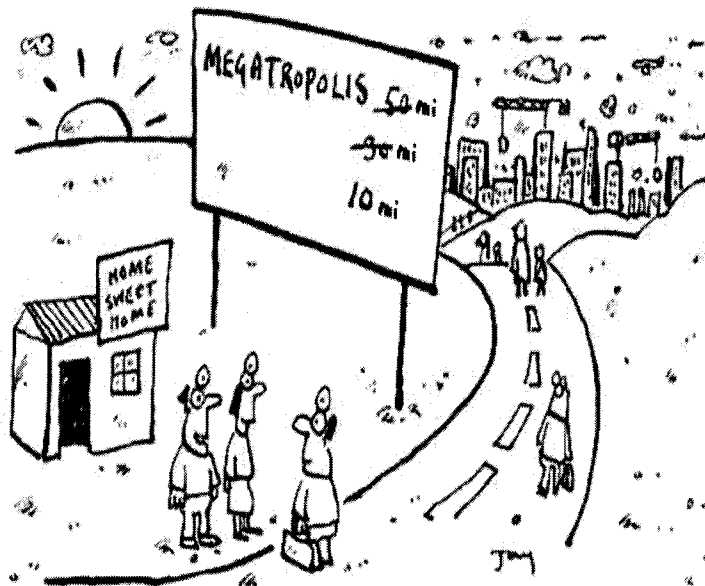
The Ad Hoc Committee met on Wednesday, September 20th, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. At this meeting they made a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to pursue negotiations with the East Penn School District with the ultimate goal of purchasing the vacant King's Highway School at a reasonable price. At this time, there is no regular meeting date set. Please check with the Township Office and website for future dates.

Upper Milford Township Sewerage Project (s):

The Township's Official Act 537 Sewerage Facilities Plan, which proposed recommendations of various degrees for addressing wastewater disposal for the entire Township, was approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP) on January 27th, 2006.

As provided for by Law, the approval action was appealed to the Pennsylvania Environmental Hearing Board in Harrisburg, PA.

The hearings have now been scheduled and the Township Officials and Consultants are awaiting the outcome of the hearings at which time the appropriate actions will be taken and updated information will be distributed to the residents regarding the sewerage projects.



"We're waiting for the city to come to us..."

Concerned about open space?

See the Open Space Committee's insert!

~ Fire Companies are always looking for New Volunteers ~

A Message from your Tax Collector:

Beginning in 2006 the tax collection system changed. Lehigh County has decided to issue and collect its own taxes. Your elected tax collector no longer is authorized to collect Lehigh County Taxes. Your Real Estate Tax Bill from Lehigh County must be paid directly to Lehigh County. Payments must be mailed to the address supplied by Lehigh County. Payments in person must be to a location that they designate.

The Upper Milford Township Real Estate Tax, previously included with the Lehigh County Tax Bill, is now

Lehigh County Discount Prescription Program

Lehigh County has joined a discount prescription plan which can be used by anyone for any prescription not covered by insurance. This program also has a 90-day supply mail service program.

The cards are available at the Township Building. There are no enrollment forms, no membership fees, no restrictions or limits on how often you use the card. You will save 10—50% on brand names, generics and mail orders.

For more information you can contact (800) 997-3784 or by going to the Lehigh County's website at <http://www.lehighcounty.org>.

Current List of Trash Haulers:

A.J. Blosenski, Inc.—610-942-2707; Allied Waste Services—215-723-0400; Chest-Mont Disposal—610-524-3200; CHRIN—Commercial Only—610-258-8737; J.P. Mascaros & Son—610-434-2501; John's Hauling—small truck—610-965-3160; Reiss Brothers Hauling—610-346-7535; Waste Management—Allentown—610-285-6321

included with your East Penn School District Tax Bill. That bill will continue to be collected by your elected Tax Collector.

REMEMBER: You must pay your Lehigh County Taxes directly to Lehigh County. You will continue to pay your East Penn School District and Upper Milford Taxes to the Upper Milford Township Tax Office. Any payments received by the Upper Milford Township Office for Lehigh County bills will have to be returned.

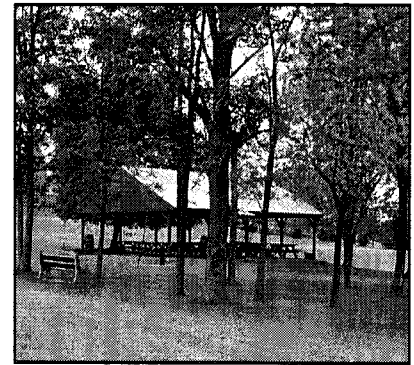
Some Trivia About Upper Milford Township

- At one time magnetite ore was mined from South Mountain in the area East of Vera Cruz Station.
- Charles Stahl established a pottery works in Powder Valley in 1840.
- Upper Milford's population in 1870 was 2015. Emmaus, on the other hand, just had a population of 477.
- The Lenni Lenape Indians manufactured jasper arrowheads and other jasper tools in the vicinity of Vera Cruz until approximately 1680.

Newsletter Input

Residents are encouraged to make suggestions for articles in the Township Newsletter. Should you have a suggestion, please contact Kim Shaak at the Township Office.

The purpose of this newsletter is for it to be informative to our Township Residents.



Pavilion Rentals

Pavilions at Jasper and Lenape Parks can be reserved, for a fee, by either calling the Township Office at 610-966-3223 or by stopping in at the Township Office during office hours (8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.). The Township will accept reservations up to a year in advance.

Yard Waste / Recycling

The Township accepts yard wastes dropped off by residents at the Township's Yard Waste Drop Off area behind the Township's Garage, accessed via Church View Road. Materials may only be dropped off by Township residents and this service is not offered to lawn maintenance or landscape businesses.

Grass, leaves, and brush or branches must be kept separated and unloaded at the appropriate location as identified by the signage at the site.

Branches are limited to 4" diameter and must be no longer than 8'.

The Township, most of the time, has a supply of single ground wood mulch available to the public. Residents may load their own vehicles at any time or the Township will load your truck or trailer by appointment only. Appointment hours are based on employee availability so please call prior to stopping by.

Telephone books may be recycled by dropping them off in the foyer at the Township Offices.

Upper Milford Township does not provide centralized solid waste or recyclables collection or disposal. Township residents are required to contract for their own solid waste and recycling collection and disposal services.

Permits Required

Upper Milford Township is a zoned community and the following permits are required:

Bonfire Permit - Required at least ten (10) days in advance of the proposed bonfire.

Building Permit - Required for new construction, additions or alterations to exterior of existing structures, deck, patio, pool, spa or hot tub, electrical work or wiring, plumbing, HVAC, and shed.

Driveway Permit - Required for the construction of a driveway or other means of ingress or egress onto a Township or PennDOT road.

Fence or Wall Permit - Required for the installation of any fence or wall over 2' high.

Grading Permit - Required if not in conjunction with another permit.

Moving Permit - Required when moving into, out of, or within Upper Milford

Township. There is no fee for this.

Occupancy Permit - Required prior to occupying a newly constructed building.

Park Permit - Required in order to reserve a pavilion in a township park.

Peddler's Permit - Must be obtained before engaging in solicitation or peddling in Upper Milford Township.

Sewage Permit - Required for the installation of a new septic system and for the repair or enlargement of an existing system.

Tree Cutting and Logging Permit - Required if more than 10 trees / year or more than 30 % of total number of trees on lot.

Use or Change of Use Permits - Required for any activity, occupation, business, or operation carried on or intended to be carried on in a structure or on a lot.

Other permits may be required for certain activities. For specific information call (610) 966-3223.

How a Septic System Functions

There are two types of anaerobic (without oxygen) on-lot systems—gravity distribution systems and pressure distribution systems. In both types, there are three major components: (1) the septic tank, (2) the distribution box (gravity system) or dosing tank (pressure system), (3) the absorption area or drainfield.

Sewage flows to the septic tank, where the primary treatment process takes place. In the tank, the heaviest matter settles to the bottom (forming sludge) and the lighter matter (scum) floats on top of the clear liquid. The sludge and scum must be pumped out regularly every three years.

The liquid and some suspended solids flow out of the tank to a distribution box or dosing tank, which is then directed to the absorption area. This liquid exits the pipes into a layer of gravel and then percolates through the soil for additional treatment. The bacteria in the soil neutralizes many

of the contaminants in the wastewater.

Signs of an on-lot system in trouble include:

- Toilet runs sluggish.
- Sewer odors in the house and / or drinking water.
- Sponginess around septic tank, distribution box or dosing tank and absorption area.
- Surfacing raw sewage.
- Dosing pump runs constantly or not at all.
- Dosing tank alarm light is on.
- Backup of sewage into laundry tubs or other fixtures.

For more information regarding septic systems you may call the Township's Sewage Enforcement Officer, Brian Miller at (610) 966—

2006 Official Directory

Emergency 911

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Daniel J. Mohr H: 610.967.5726
Henry H. Kradjel H: 610.967.1536
Steven E. Ackerman H: 610.967.4315

TOWNSHIP MANAGER:

Daniel DeLong O: 610.966.3223
Emergency 484.357.6140

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATOR:

William Stahler C: 484.357.6139

ROAD SUPERINTENDENT:

Frank Weber O: 610.966.3223
Emergency 484.357.6142

SOLICITOR:

Worth Law Offices O: 610.437.4896

TOWNSHIP ENGINEER:

Schoor DePalma O: 215.361.6050
Fax: 215.361.6150

ZONING OFFICER:

Alan Brokate O: 610.966.3223

ASSISTANT ZONING OFFICER:

Harry Kleiner O: 610.966.3223

SEWAGE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:

Brian Miller O: 610.966.3223
Home Office: 610.967.2205

TAX COLLECTOR:

William Weber O: 610.966.5355

DEER PICK UP:

State Road O: 610.798.4280
Township Road: O: 610.926.3136

FIRE: (Non-Emergency)

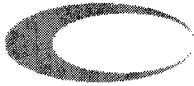
Citizen's Fire Co. O: 610.965.9444
Western Dist. Fire O: 610.966.0739

AMBULANCE: (Non-Emergency)

Macungie O: 610.966.2601
Emmaus O: 610.967.5615

POLICE: (Non-Emergency)

PA State Police O: 610.395.1438



**Borough of Emmaus-
Upper Milford Township**
Joint Environmental Advisory Council

Offices:
28 South Fourth Street
Emmaus, PA 18049
Phone: 610.965.9288
Fax: 610.965.0705

5831 King's Highway South
P.O. Box 210
Old Zionville, PA 18068
Phone: 610.966.3223
Fax: 610.966.5184

There has been a lot of news in recent months concerning the issue of storm water and flooding. The torrential rains earlier this summer resulted in excessive amounts of storm water runoff, stream flooding and significant damage to homes, business and property. Unfortunately, the problem of stream flooding is not an easy fix and can not be readily addressed through traditional engineering controls, e.g., installation of storm drains. In fact many of the engineering controls commonly employed today only exacerbate the condition and cause greater damage in the long run. There are no easy answers. However, there are some simple actions that can be taken by individual home owners that in the long run will protect our water resources. Some of these actions include:

Modify Lawn Care

- Cut only 1/3 of your grass blade's length—it will grow more slowly and require less mowing. This will slow storm water runoff, minimize erosion and filter out particulates and contaminants associated with the storm water.

Plant Trees

- Trees reduce cooling bills by shading your home and also help to minimize erosion.
- Tree roots help storm water enter the ground and recharge underground water sources.
- Trees increase property values by 10—15 %.

Protect Backyard Streams

- Allow for a wide planted strip alongside your stream. This "buffer" helps reduce erosion, slow runoff and creates a healthy habitat around the stream. If your stream bank is eroding your property, look to plant native shrubs and trees to stop this loss.

Remember, installing a pipe and / or swale only increases the problem downstream.

Use Rain Barrels

- Rain barrels allow you to store rainwater from your downspouts for use in your garden or lawn. Instead of drawing from your well or increasing your water bill, consider storing this free, pure water which your garden will love; this reduces storm water runoff.

Create Rain Gardens

- Instead of allowing rainwater to run in sheets over your lawn, install rain gardens, which will soak up and filter the water from your downspouts.
- The typical lawn is only 11% pervious! 89% of water will simply run across it. Installation of a rain garden will allow 30% more water to sink into the ground instead of rushing along your culverts, roads and into streams.
- A rain garden is built by digging an area 3-4 inches deep and about 20-30% of the surface area of your roof. This area is planted with native plants which can tolerate periods of wet soil.

Plant Wildflower Meadows

- Wildflower meadows help prevent flooding, allow water to re-enter the ground and naturally filter water. They also create beautiful habitat for birds, butterflies and other wildlife.
- Wildflower meadows decrease the amount of time you will have to spend mowing, fertilizing and watering.
- Wildflower meadows help

filter particulates and pollutants before they reach ponds or streams.

It is advisable that if you are taking any of these actions listed above adjacent to public thoroughfare and / or adjacent to public property the local municipality should be contacted to ensure compliance with local ordinances.

This article has been brought to your by the Joint Environmental Advisory Council for the Borough of Emmaus and Upper Milford Township. We invite you to learn more about protecting our water resources and improving our environment; please join us at on of our regularly scheduled meetings or visit our booth at the Emmaus Farmer's Market.

Meetings of the Joint EAC, comprised of eight appointed members (four residents of Emmaus Borough and four residents from Upper Milford Township), are the 4th Monday of each month, alternating between the Emmaus Borough Building and Upper Milford Township Building. The next meeting is October 23rd, 2006 at 7 p.m. in the Upper Milford Township Building. Members of the public are encouraged to attend and share their concerns and ideas, or to assist and become involved in outreach activities. Contact Jeff Clapper, Emmaus Borough Public Works Coordinator, at (610) 965—9288 or Dan DeLong, Upper Milford Township Manager at (610) 966—3223 to become involved in the Joint EAC's local environmental stewardship efforts.

The Open Space
Committee meets at
7:30 on the second
Wednesday of each

Ways to learn more:

Visit these websites:

www.lehighconservation.org

www.wildlandspa.org

www.heritageconservancy.org

www.natlands.org

JOIN US! NOVEMBER 8TH, 7PM

Upper Milford Open Space Committee



Dear neighbor;

Exciting things are happening in Upper Milford Township!

As you know, our township is fortunate to have a lot of natural resources: high quality streams, farmland, woodland, wetlands, cultural and historic areas, and many other wonderful features. However, it's hard not to notice that the region is experiencing the joys and frustrations that result from the pressures of development and population growth.

As a community, we get to decide how our area grows.

The Upper Milford Open Space Committee, has come together to find ways to maintain, preserve, and enhance the rural character, wonderful natural features, and beautiful open space that make Upper Milford Township special. We need the support of the elected officials and the help of all residents in order to do this. Among the many challenges we face are: 1) how do we decide which features and properties to protect and preserve? And 2) how can we fund the effort?

Join us for a "town meeting" on November 8th at 7pm to discuss how you feel about the possibilities.

In 2004, Upper Milford Township published their "Park, Recreation, Open Space and Environmental Plan" and the "Southwestern Lehigh County Comprehensive Plan" which sought to inventory our resources, and develop a plan to create recreation areas and preserve open space. The Board of Supervisors is committed to implementing these plans. The Supervisors formed an Open Space Committee at the request of some dedicated residents. More than 20 enthusiastic members of the community volunteered to serve on the committee.

Do you know as much as you'd like about conservation options?

One of the Committee's goals is to provide information to property owners about methods of preserving their land or managing its natural features. ***We believe that preservation of land should always be an individual's voluntary choice.*** Attending some of our meetings or workshops may help inform you of different options.

FUNDING The Board of Supervisors has the final authority on how to pay for preservation, but residents advise and direct them. The committee is examining options such as: bond issues, tax increases, grant applications, bequests, and other creative ideas. We are currently pursuing options to use some existing limited funding for projects. Ultimately, the Supervisors and the voters will decide on the specifics of funding options. We would like your input!

PARTICIPATION Join us! Every survey about quality of life conducted in our region has overwhelmingly shown that our citizens value our green spaces. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Committee, join us on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm. We meet in the Upper Milford Township building. If you own a special piece of land you would like to preserve, we are interested in talking to you—regardless of how large or small the piece is. *We believe that preservation should always be voluntary*, and we know there are residents who have already preserved their land and share our vision.

PRESERVATION The Committee is working on a ranking system which would evaluate attributes such as ground water resources, high quality streams, scenic value, environmental value, historic value and prime agricultural land. This ranking system would be used to select properties that land owners offer for preservation.

The Committee and the Township needs to know who would like to learn a bit about the advantages and implications of preserving their property. We would like to know who is interested in preserving their land for future generations to enjoy. These opportunities, issues, and questions are reasons we are sending this letter.

Are you interested? What do you think we need to know? What do YOU think?

Come to the November 8th meeting to show on a map where you think there are special places to preserve.

If you have ideas about land preservation, or are interested in learning more about preserving your property as a "natural area, agricultural resource, or beautiful open space" contact:

Camille Lore, Planning Coordinator for Upper Milford Township at 610-966-3223 CLore@uppermilford.net, or 5831 King's Highway South, P.O. Box 210, Old Zionsville, PA 18068.

Any of the members listed below would also be happy to speak with you:

Scott Bieber Beebs@fast.net 965-1167

Tom Gettings, Wildlands Conservancy Tgettings@Wildlandspa.org 610-965-4397 x40

James R. Baker (610) 965-7032 (Daytime) jrbaker2@ptd.net

Sarah Whitney

Fran Caputo FGCap@aol.com

George and Melanie DeVault

Nils Hovik 610 966-4130

Joe Seem seemjs@aol.com

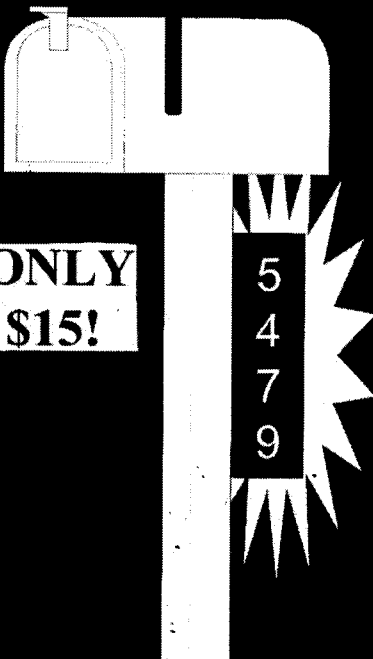
Linda Moyer Lmoyer@fast.net

Mary Ellen Snyder 610-390-6373



"Mark and I didn't do it (preserve our land) for the money or for our children's inheritance. We did it to follow our convictions that we should leave the earth/nature better than when we arrived. We don't own the land, we're just caretakers/stewards. It's nature's property. If we hadn't preserved the fields, Geissing Road would have been houses from end to end." Patty Klein, 90 acres of preserved farmland on Geissing and Scout Roads.

**IF WE CAN'T
FIND YOU
WE CAN'T
HELP YOU**



**REFLECTIVE
ADDRESS
MARKERS**

*Citizen's Fire Company of Upper Milford Twp
(Vera Cruz Fire Department Station 28)*



*Upper Milford Western District Fire Company
(Old Zionsville Fire Department Station 19)*

FEATURES

- **Highly Visible Day or Night**
- **Reflective Material on Both Sides**
- **Fade Resistant, Last for Years**
- **Pre-drilled Holes**

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OR SOMEONE YOU LOVE.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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OR

WWW.UPPERMILFORD.NET

EMAIL: INFO@VERACRUZFIRECOMPANY.COM

REFLECTIVE ADDRESS MARKER ORDER FORM

Please complete the following information:

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, ST Zip _____
 Phone Number _____

Address Number Requested

Note: If your address has fewer than 5 digits, please X those boxes not used.

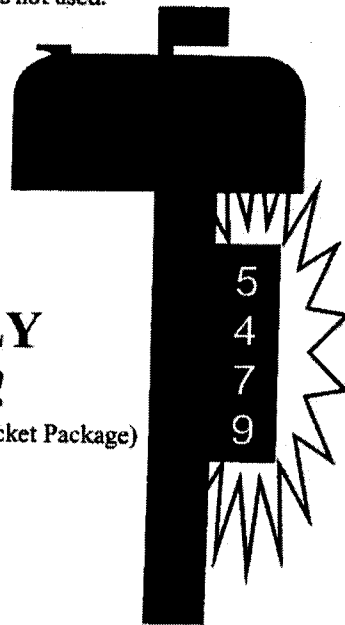
Mounting Preference

HORIZONTAL _____
 VERTICAL _____

HORIZONTAL

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 For alternate mounting methods
 \$3.00/pkg.
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 (\$18 with L-Bracket Package)

Mail To:
 Upper Milford Fire Departments
 4093 Main Rd West
 Emmaus Pa 18049

Make Checks Payable To:
 UPPER MILFORD FIRE DEPARTMENTS

PLEASE ALLOW 2-4 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY

Stormwater Frequently Asked Questions:

What is the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Stormwater Program?

Polluted storm water runoff is a leading cause of impairment to the nearly 40 % of surveyed U.S. water bodies which do not meet water quality standards. Over land or via storm sewer systems, polluted runoff is discharged, often untreated, directly into local water bodies. When left uncontrolled, this water pollution can result in the destruction of fish, wildlife, and aquatic life habitats, a loss in aesthetic value, and threats to public health due to contaminated food, drinking water supplies, and impair recreational waterways.

Mandated by Congress under the Clean Water Act, the NPDES Storm water Program is a comprehensive two-phased national program for addressing the non-agricultural sources of storm water discharges which adversely affect the quality of our nation's waters. The program uses the National Pollutant Discharge Elimina-

tion System (NPDES) permitting mechanism to require the implementation of controls designed to prevent harmful pollutants from being washed by storm water runoff into local water bodies.

What kinds of storm water discharges are required to have NPDES storm water permit coverage?

The NPDES storm water permit regulations, promulgated by EPA, cover the following classes of storm water discharges on a nationwide basis:

- Operators of MS4s located in "urbanized areas" as delineated by the Bureau of the Census,
- Industrial facilities in any of the 11 categories that discharge to an MS4 or to waters of the United States; all categories of industrial activity (except construction) may certify to a condition of "no exposure" if their industrial materials and operations are not exposed

to storm water, thus eliminating the need to obtain storm water permit coverage,

- Operators of construction activity that disturbs one or more acres of land; construction sites less than one acre are covered if part of a larger plan of development.

Construction: What types of construction activities are regulated under the construction storm water permit program?

All construction activities one acre or larger must obtain permit coverage. Construction activities less than one acre must also obtain coverage if they are part of a larger common plan of development or sale that totals at least one acre. Small construction activities, i.e., less than five acres, may qualify for a waiver. For more information on the waiver see: <http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/waiver.cfm>.

Community Map Project:

The Township has authorized Municipal Publications, Inc. to prepare an updated Township Street Map and Informational Guide.

The Township Map is offered as a public service to all residents and businesses in Upper Milford Township and will also serve to introduce the area to new residents. It will include the services provided by the Township, a listing of important phone numbers, business advertisements, and most importantly, a street map of the Township. A copy of the map will be mailed to every resident and business within the Township with additional copies available at the municipal building. It is our intent to have the map completed and distributed by Spring 2007.

If you are interested in sponsoring this map please contact the Township Office at (610) 966—3223 or Mr. Richard Kalady of Municipal Publications, Inc. at (610) 349—7264.

Frequently Asked Questions about Winter Road Maintenance

Fall is just beginning and very shortly, another winter will be upon us. Our Public Works Department will be preparing for the upcoming weather under the management of our Road Superintendent, Frank Weber.

What roads will be plowed first?

- Arterial and collector roads will be plowed first. Secondary roads and cul-de-sacs will be plowed after the main roads have been cleared.

What can I as a resident do to assist the road crew?

- Do not drive unnecessarily in any storm whether it is snow or rain.

- If a major snow fall is anticipated remove your vehicles from the street until the road is plowed.

- Do not shovel or plow your driveway snow into the road. That is illegal to do and it is a safety hazard to both you and the motoring traffic.

- Residents are encouraged to properly place their mailboxes at a safe distance from the road so that their mailbox will not be damaged during the snow event.

- Contact the Township with problems on the road. However, allow time to let the snowplows get out and do their job.

Emergency Response

In order to better serve the residents of Upper Milford Township it is necessary to gather information. We need to compile a list of residents that require special assistance should an emergency happen. Please complete the below information and return to the address listed.

Is special assistance needed?

- Hearing Impaired
 Sight Impaired
 No car or way to evacuate.
 Bed bound or non ambulatory patient.
 Confused or person with dementia / Alzheimer's.

Do not speak English?

- Spanish
 German
 Other _____

Is ambulance assistance required?

Other information that is relative to an emergency:

- Oxygen in house.
 Ventilator dependent person.

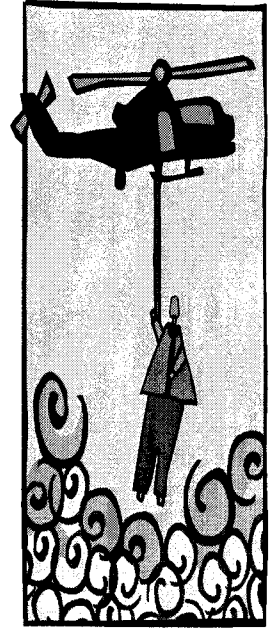
Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

UPPER MILFORD TOWNSHIP

Emergency Management Coordinator
William Stahler
4864 Vera Cruz Road
Emmaus, PA 18049



MEETING SCHEDULES:

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

1st and 3rd Thursday of the Month
Workshop Meeting at 7:00 pm;
Regular Meeting at 7:30 pm

ZONING HEARING BOARD:

2nd Monday of each Month at 7:30 pm

PLANNING COMMISSION:

The Monday preceding the 1st Thursday
of the month at 7:30 pm

RECREATION COMMISSION:

3rd Monday of each Month at 7:30 pm

OPEN SPACE AD HOC COMMITTEE:

The 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL:

Alternates between Emmaus and UMT, 4th
Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

UPPER MILFORD TOWNSHIP

5831 King's Highway South
PO Box 210
Old Zionsville, PA 18068
Phone: (610) 966-3223
Fax: (610) 966-5184
E-mail: info@uppermilford.net
Website: <http://www.uppermilford.net>

Office Hours:

Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.
Saturdays and Sundays the office is closed.

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