

Upper Milford Township

A Great Place to Live, Work and Play!

Summer
2011 Newsletter

Welcome to Upper Milford Township

www.uppermilford.net

Ten Things You Can Do to Help Protect Our Water Supply

Pick up after your pets and keep livestock out of streams. Pet and animal wastes can carry harmful bacteria and diseases. They contaminate creeks and require expensive water treatment for human uses.

Never dump anything down a stormdrain or on the ground! Stormwater systems do not filter pollutants from stormwater so anything that goes down the storm drain will end up in the nearest creek or ground water aquifer.

Maintain open, forested floodplains. Floodplains are critical landforms that absorb water during floods and act as giant filters the rest of the time. Filling or paving them increases flooding and pollution elsewhere.

Plant trees and maintain naturally vegetated streamside buffers. Streamside trees and native vegetation help filter pollutants from stormwater run-off and reduce erosion by holding stream bank soils in place.

Convert large yards or public spaces from mown grass to meadows. The typical suburban lawn is nearly as impervious as a parking lot! Native meadow grasses infiltrate stormwater better and provide critical habitat for grassland birds.

Cut back on lawn fertilizers and pesticides. Much of the fertilizer applied in the spring flows directly into the local creeks because the grass is not ready to absorb it. Use a mulching mower set at three inches high to create a healthy, organic lawn. Fertilize only in the fall or not at all!

Disconnect your downspout from a direct run-off outlet. Rainwater from your roof is just as damaging to creeks and streams as run-off from a parking lot. Let your yard help filter out impurities and infiltrate stormwater back into your aquifer.

Convert a corner of your yard to a rain garden. A wet area in your yard can be a nuisance or an amenity, depending on how it's managed. Use native plants that like occasional "wet feet" and create a focal point.

Keep your paved surfaces to a minimum. Patios and parking spaces can be created with attractive pervious materials that allow stormwater infiltration to the soils below.

Maintain your on-lot septic system. Septic tank maintenance isn't appealing but with thousands of on-lot septic systems in our communities, proper maintenance is critical to protecting groundwater and surface water from contamination.



*Upper Milford Youth Association
Summer Activities at Lenape Park.*

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My FAMILY FINALLY LEFT FOR VACATION, SO NOW I CAN GO PLAY WITH MY FRIENDS AT QUEEN OF THE VALLEY!

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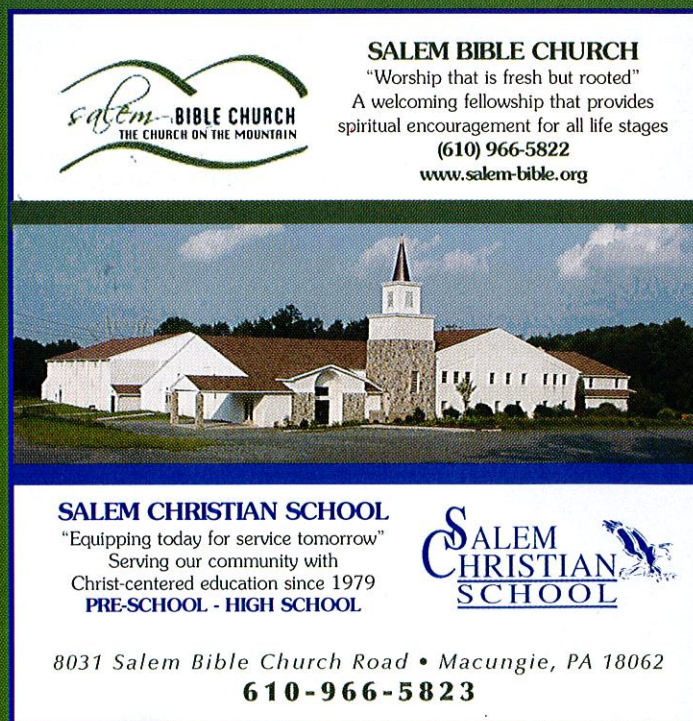
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A Reminder About Park Rules

Periodically, it's a good idea to refresh our memories with the rules that guide visitors using our township parks. These rules are designed to keep our parks the relaxing havens they are for everyone to enjoy.

Some of the posted rules are just common sense, like parking only on paved areas, no littering (that's a rule everywhere, not just the parks), and building cooking fires only on the grills. However, there are other rules more specific to our parks.

Pets are welcomed, even horses on paved areas, but please clean up after those precious pooches.

Alcohol has its place for celebrations, but not in our parks.

Removal of jasper is not allowed, and is punishable by a fine. The Native American jasper pits are historic! We are proud to have them within our park system.

Kids playing UMYA games have first rights to use the fields. Hooray, UMYA!

Riding bikes and recreational vehicles is banned – they get propelled into people and things, and cause lawn damage.

Using any shooting devices could lead to big problems. No-No.

Leave everything as you found it – signs, buildings, benches, tables, trees, flowers, etc. As it has been said, leave only your footprints.

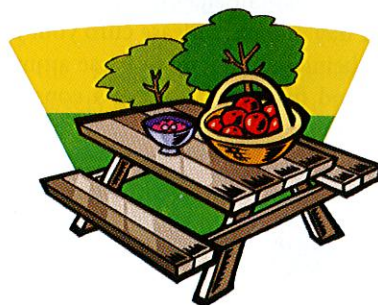
Eat and enjoy your picnic foods at pavilion tables. Remember to recycle.

Stay until dusk. Then it's time to leave. Come back another day.

This is meant to be only a thumbnail sketch of the list of 17 park rules posted on the bulletin board at each township park. Our "parks rule" and will continue to do so as long as we keep observing these park rules. Make them your way of life.

Rose Parry

Recreation Commission



The Barnyard Market

610-966-2341

HOURS:
Daily.....9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Sunday.....10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
 Located between Macungie & Shimmerville
 on Rt. 100

Seeing is Believing

HALLOWEEN FAVORITES

- Scarecrows • Pumpkins • Gourds
- Indian Corn • Cornstalks • Mums
- Witches • Decorative Flags
- Fall Decorations • Straw
- Black Kettles • Apples
- Jelly & Jams

Mark Your Calendars!

FALL FEST is coming!

October 1st & 2nd
October 8th & 9th

Visit Our Country Store!

Filled with Jellies, Jams,
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SOME REMINDERS FROM THE ZONING DEPARTMENT

Please remember to keep your pets, particularly dogs and cats, under control on your property. Roaming animals that deposit waste randomly are not appreciated. Those who love their pets will understand that such activity is not good for their beloved pets, either. Please help by exercising better supervision of pets!

Everyone likes to get into the swing of spring by starting projects, cleaning up the property and sprucing up around the house. No one likes excessive noise, particularly at odd hours of the day or night. Please curb your enthusiasm to get the job done by being considerate of those around you. Awareness of noise is a good first step in being a considerate neighbor! This goes for barking dogs, too!



Open burning is permitted, though limited to residential users in the Township and subject to provisions and conditions. If you are unsure as to what burning is permitted and how, please obtain a copy of the Burning Ordinance No. 97 and amendment No. 107 (available at the Township

Office and on our website). A reminder that the Lehigh County Communication Center needs to be called prior to a burn and when it is extinguished and that number is 610-437-5252.

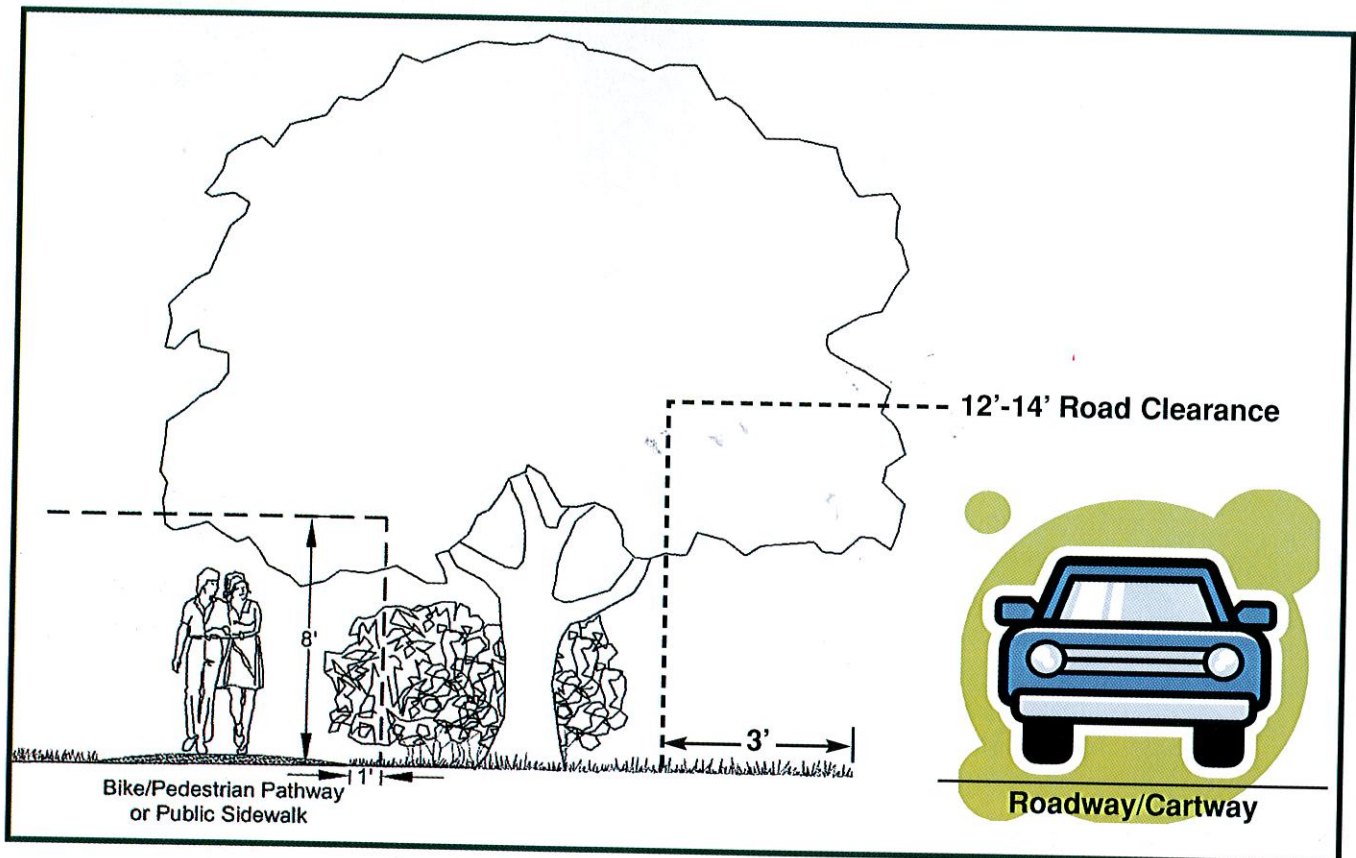
The rampant growth of vegetation is a problem throughout the Township, particularly involving trees and shrubbery too close to the traveled portion of the roadway. Branches extending out into the space of the roadway area must be trimmed back. Please see the chart (below) for particulars. Please help us fix this problem by studying the chart and addressing the problem at your property if your trees require trimming!

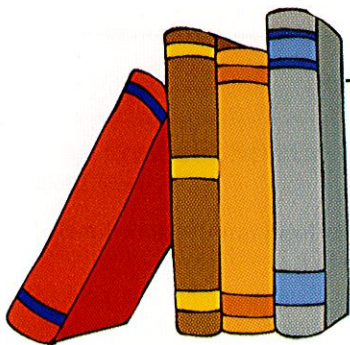
Finally, a general word about permits. Almost any activity, addition or changes to your property, with the exception of routine maintenance and some landscaping, may require a permit. Here in Upper Milford Township we are no different from most other jurisdictions in this regard. Please check with the Township when contemplating any activity, project, improvement or change on your property to see what (if any) permit is required.

Tree and Shrub Pruning Within the Township

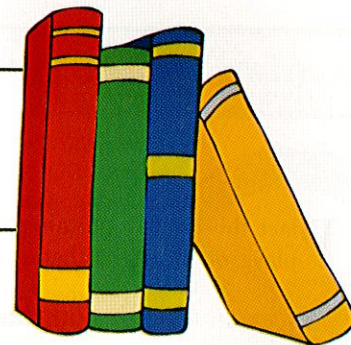
Trees should be pruned and maintained to provide a minimum of 12-to-14 feet clearance directly above the curb and edge of shoulder. To reduce the frequency of pruning, we recommend that limbs and branches be pruned beyond the curb or, in some cases, to the edge of the right-of-way. Clearance above sidewalks should be a minimum of 7 feet.

Additionally, lines of site at curves and intersections must be maintained. The removal of branches etc. will improve driving conditions and will result in reduction of liability for the homeowner and the Township.





FROM THE EMMAUS PUBLIC LIBRARY



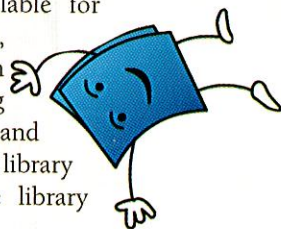
A reminder to all: regular library hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The library offers all citizens of Upper Milford Township access to computers with the Internet and word processing software. The library has information regarding programs for jobseekers available through CareerLink.

Mice and Icons, the individual introduction to a computer, is available by calling the library to schedule your appointment.

The summer reading programs at the library will be exciting as the theme is "One World, Many Stories." There will be activities for everyone. Watch especially for Thursday evening Family Nights during the summer. Young readers will be able to find books to match their interests and help with their reading skills during the summer. Check at the library or on the website for information about book discussion groups for grades 4-5, 6-7-8, and high school.

A new online service is available for children. It's called Tumblebooks, e-books for e-kids. It is a collection of read-along books for beginning and reluctant readers. It's a fun and colorful site. You can find it on the library computers and at home on the library website (www.emmauspl.org).



The Emmaus Public Library is working to make its borrowing policies closer to those of the neighboring libraries. The library has recently instituted a policy for borrowers to check out items if they have forgotten their card upon presentation of their driver's license and a \$1 fee. As of March 1, 2011, the overdue fine for adult books and print materials has been increased to twenty-five cents, again in keeping with the fee schedules at the Allentown and Lower Macungie libraries.

The library has many services and items for all ages. The collection of large print books grows monthly, as does the number of titles in the audio book collections. Downloadable audio books are a very easy way to listen to your favorite titles on-the-go. The interface has been made easier and there are iPod-compatible titles online through netLibrary.

You can browse through many magazines housed in the magazine kiosk. The previous month's issues may be borrowed for one week. Daily newspapers are an important section of the adult reading area – enjoy the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, USA Today, Philadelphia Inquirer, and The Morning Call.

The Notable Books of 2011, a list compiled by the professional staff of the library, is a link on the library website. It is also available in paper form to take home, for a modest fee of \$3.

The public access computers are available to all residents. Bring your library card or sign up for one so you can log onto a computer. Internet access, helpful websites, word processing programs, and the library catalog are on the computers. E-mail, job applications online, and your favorite websites are all here.



If you need assistance, any of the librarians on staff will be glad to help you. Your library card, along with a PIN, will allow you to reserve books, renew items online, and check your account. Just remember, librarians will always be glad to help show you how to navigate the catalog.

The expansion project of the library will be ready to go with a tentative groundbreaking to take place in June. Your donations to the Expansion Fund are always welcome.

Call the library (610-965-9284) or stop by (Emmaus Public Library, 11 East Main St., Emmaus, PA 18049). Our website is www.emmauspl.org. We welcome you as a library patron.

JOHN'S HAULING

TRASH REMOVAL

SNOW

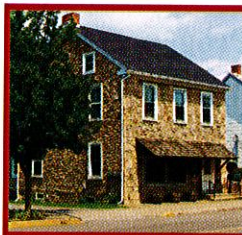


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PLAYGROUND SAFETY

A quick checklist for parents

Place this list in a prominent area of your home for quick reference. Then, before your children head out the door for the playground, check that:

Supervision is present, but strings and ropes aren't.

Adult presence is needed to watch for potential hazards, observe, intercede and facilitate play when necessary. Strings on clothing or ropes used for play can cause accidental strangulation if caught on equipment.

All children play on Age-appropriate equipment.

Preschoolers, ages 2-5, and children, ages 5-12, are developmentally different and need different equipment located in separate areas to keep the playground safe and fun for all.

Falls to surface are cushioned.

Nearly 70 percent of all playground injuries are related to falls to the surface. Acceptable surfaces include hardwood fiber/mulch, pea gravel, sand and synthetic materials such as poured-in-place, rubber mats or tiles. Playground surfaces should not be concrete, asphalt, grass, blacktop, packed dirt or rocks.

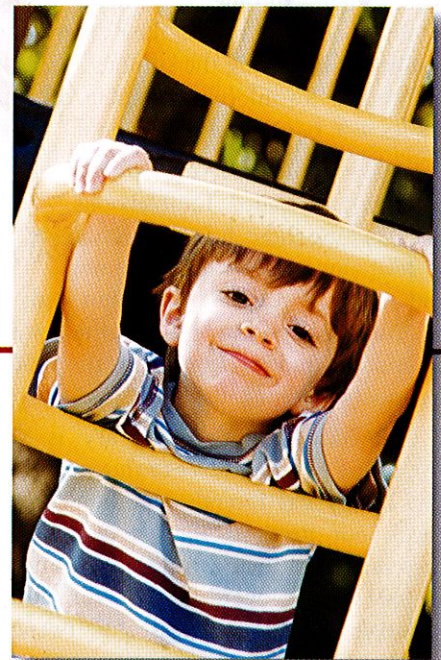
Equipment is safe.

Check to make sure the equipment is anchored safely in the ground, all equipment pieces are in good working order, S-hooks are entirely closed, bolts are not protruding, there are no exposed footings, etc.

National Program for Playground Safety



Checklist is from the National Program
for Playground Safety (NPPS) at
www.uni.edu/playground/



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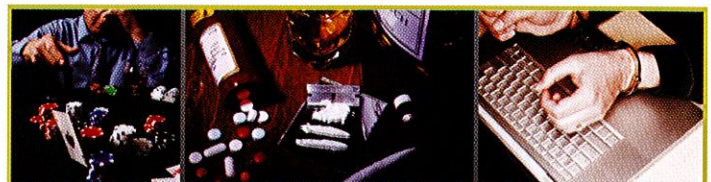
Summer Camp

Call: 866-536-6277 or 215-536-6152

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***Trexlerstown * East Greenville**

www.lq.org



**We meet at Lehigh Valley Baptist Church
every Friday night from 7:00-9:00 PM**

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From the Upper Milford / Emmaus Joint Environmental Council

Biking Provides Several Benefits

By Liesel Adam

Pedestrians, cars, bikes..... can't we all get along?

Walking and biking provide many benefits beyond the obvious healthy ones. Here are few you may not have thought of:

- Pedestrians and bicyclists have a proven calming, slow-down effect on traffic, helping to keep all of us safer.
- People walking and biking remove vehicles from the flow of traffic, reducing everyone's stress.
- Bikes and pedestrians create far less required maintenance for the roads, contributing to lower upkeep costs.
- Walking and biking are sustainable activities.



The list goes on and on. Most items benefit society as well as the person walking or biking. These items are important to our community and are something your Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) is interested in promoting.

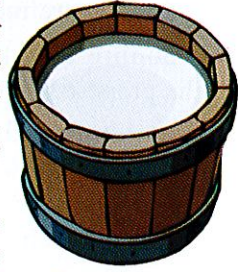
Please let us know how you feel about these issues by contacting us at eacinfo@uppermilford.net, or visit us online at emmausuppermilfordeac.blogspot.com (or look for us on Facebook!).

Living Streamside: To-Do List

By Liesel Adam

Many residents in Upper Milford Township enjoy the benefits of a quiet, rural community with fields, forests and streams in view. Now is the perfect time to complete projects to protect those local streams that run through our community. Here are some ideas:

- Install a rain barrel to collect rain water from your home's gutter system. Rainwater is perfect for outdoor uses such as gardening, irrigation and washing up. In addition to diverting stormwater runoff, installing a rain barrel can also reduce your household water and power costs.



- Set up a no-mow zone leading up to the stream bank. By allowing native Pennsylvania plants to grow in the streamside buffer, stormwater and sediment is slowed down and filtered before entering the stream.
- Build a compost bin to recycle organic materials. If you live near a streamside, use a compost container system (instead of an open-air "compost pile") to contain your compost and prevent the excess nutrients from washing into the stream during rainfall.
- Reduce or eliminate the use of fertilizer, herbicides and pesticides on streamside properties.
- Add gardens and meadows to your landscaping plan to reduce the amount of lawn space. This will further reduce your mowing needs and also creates additional buffer zones for the stream to control water flow and capture stormwater and sediment.

These tips, provided by the Emmaus and Upper Milford Joint Environmental Advisory Council (EAC), can be found online at emmausuppermilfordeac.blogspot.com (or look for us on Facebook!).

Have questions or ideas about your streamside property? Contact us at eacinfo@uppermilford.net.

VERA CRUZ JASPER

Hidden beneath the sticks and leaves in Jasper Park in the village of Vera Cruz are rocks that provided prehistoric inhabitants with their weapons, tools, and articles for trade. These vital rocks are jasper, the third hardest mineral. Today, most people place little value on jasper, except perhaps for a piece of jewelry fashioned by a local craftsman.

But, the historical value of the jasper quarries in Jasper Park is enormous, given the facts that many of the Eastern Pennsylvania jasper mines are gone – buried beneath towns, developed, or filled in by homeowners.

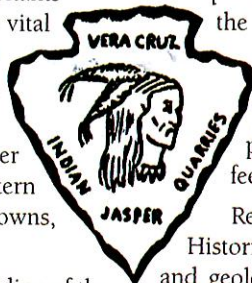
Although parts of the Vera Cruz site were lost to the building of the turnpike, many pits in Jasper Park still exist undisturbed along the trails that wind through the woods. Unfortunately, the casual visitor will usually pass right by the depressions in the ground, since they lie camouflaged by vegetation and nature's debris.

The importance of the Vera Cruz Quarries has long been well

known to archeologists and researchers. Studies of these jasper quarries have been conducted by students and professors from the universities of Lehigh, Lafayette, and Penn State, and displays of local jasper arrowheads and tools are found in museums around the country. A 1970 issue of Pennsylvania Geology indicates there were more than 100 pits operated in the area, some 30 to 40 feet deep and 100 feet in diameter.

Recognizing this local historical treasure, the Upper Milford Historical Society will be spotlighting the Native American and geological history found in Jasper Park at their October 27, 2011 meeting. Local experts Bob Benner and John Fegley will be presenting a program on the history of the jasper quarries in Vera Cruz.

Watch for details about the gathering in local newspapers, on the Patch.com website, and via mailings. Learn all about Pennsylvania's first industry, which was right here in Upper Milford!



PERMITS REQUIRED

Upper Milford Township is a zoned community. The following are required:

Bonfire Permit: required at least 10 days in advance of the proposed bonfire.

Building and/or Zoning 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 and HVAC work; 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 two feet 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 permit.

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 inspection 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 percent of total number of trees on lot are taken down. Call the Township office for specific information.

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

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



PLANNING ON DIGGING?

Call **Pennsylvania One Call System, Inc. (POCS)** three business days before you dig at 800-242-1776 or 8-1-1.

PA Act 287 as amended requires excavators as well as private landowners to call POCS three days prior to any type of digging occurring with powered equipment.

Mark your excavation area in white paint before calling with a dig notification.

By calling you allow the facility owners the opportunity to locate and mark their underground facility in advance of the planned excavation (gas and liquid pipelines will mark underground facilities using yellow stakes, flags or paint).



From Your Tax Collector

Your Tax Office, conveniently located in the Upper Milford Township Municipal Building, is open Tuesdays, Wednesday and Thursdays, from 10 a.m. to noon, and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. I am typically in the office more than just those hours, so if you need assistance please call to be sure someone is available.

August is a very busy month in the tax office. For your convenience, the office will be open two Saturday mornings during the month. The extra hours this summer will be August 13 and August 20, from 10 a.m. to noon. Your School/Township Real Estate Tax Bill will be issued in early July.

If you need a tax payment receipt from your school and township real estate taxes, please include both copies of your bill along with a stamped, self-addressed envelope when submitting your payment. A receipted copy of the bill will be forwarded to you.

As a reminder if you are eligible and choose to make installment payments on your tax bill, the first installment and payment MUST be postmarked by August 10 to qualify. The school district allows no exception to this rule. Also, if making installment payments, no discounts are allowed.

Watch for information on upcoming changes to the Earned Income Tax (EIT) collection process for 2012. Information will be posted on the Township website (www.uppermilford.net) as it becomes available.

Gail Lichtenwalner, Tax Collector

Mailing Address: PO Box 265 Old Zionsville, PA 18068 (mail tax payments to this address)

Office Address: (now located at the new township building - formerly King's Highway School)

5671 Chestnut Street, Emmaus, PA 18049

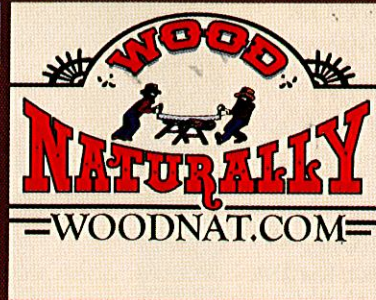
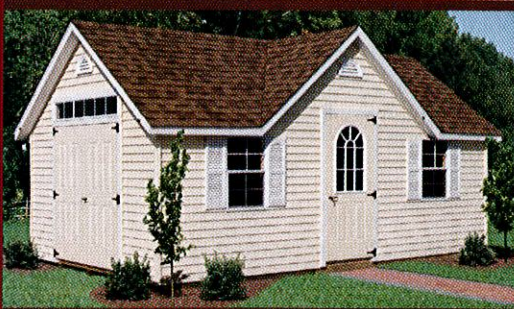
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TOWNSHIP DIRECTORY

UPPER MILFORD TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL CENTER

5671 Chestnut Street • P.O. Box 210 • Old Zionsville, PA 18068

Phone: (610) 966-3223 • **Fax:** (610) 966-5184

Email: info@uppermilford.net • **Web:** <http://www.uppermilford.net>

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m.

The office is closed on Saturday and Sunday.

EMERGENCY: 911

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Steven A. Ackerman – (484) 357-6150

Robert C. Sentner – (610) 965-7651

Daniel J. Mohr – (610) 967-5726

TOWNSHIP MANAGER

Daniel DeLong – (610) 966-3223 (O)

Emergency – (484) 357-6140

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

William Stahler – (484) 357-6139

ROAD EMERGENCY

Call (610) 966-3223. After normal business hours, press extension 400; you will need to leave a message, including the following information: name, address, phone number, brief description of emergency. The on-call person will give you a return call.

SOLICITOR

Worth Law Offices – (610) 437-4896

ENGINEER

Benchmark Civil Engineering Services – (610) 776-6700 (office); (610) 776-1190 (fax)

ZONING OFFICER

Alan Brokate – (610) 966-3223

PLANNING COORDINATOR/ SEWAGE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Brian Miller – (610) 966-3223 (O)

TAX COLLECTOR

Gail Lichtenwalner – (610) 928-1030

Office Hours: Tuesday through Thursday,
10 a.m. to noon; 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Physical Address: 5671 Chestnut
Street, Emmaus, PA 18049

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 265,
Old Zionsville, PA 18068

*Appointments can be scheduled
with Mrs. Lichtenwalner.*

DEER PICK UP

State Road – (610) 798-4280

Township Road – (610) 926-3136

For a police, fire or medical emergency, DIAL 9-1-1

FIRE (NON-EMERGENCY)

Citizens Fire Company – (610) 965-9444

Western District Fire – (610) 966-0739

AMBULANCE (NON-EMERGENCY)

Macungie – (610) 966-2601

Emmaus – (610) 967-5615

POLICE (NON-EMERGENCY)

Pennsylvania State Police – (610) 395-1438

MEETING SCHEDULES

Board of Supervisors: first and third Thursday of each month; workshop meeting at 7 p.m.; regular meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Zoning Hearing Board: second Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Planning Commission: the Monday before the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Recreation Commission: third Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Environmental Advisory Council: alternates between UMT and Emmaus; fourth Monday of each month at 7 p.m.

PLEASE RECYCLE



IT'S THE RIGHT THING TO DO

CLOUD NINE COUNTRY KENNEL

"Your pet's home away from home"

Cyndi Walters - Onsite Owner

Boarding dogs, cats & other small animals.



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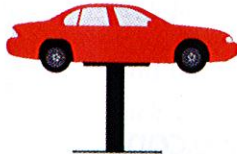
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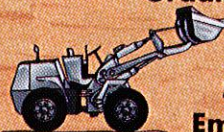
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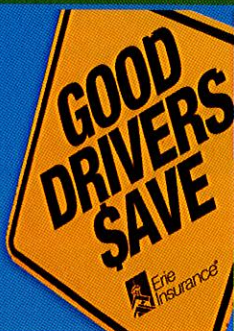
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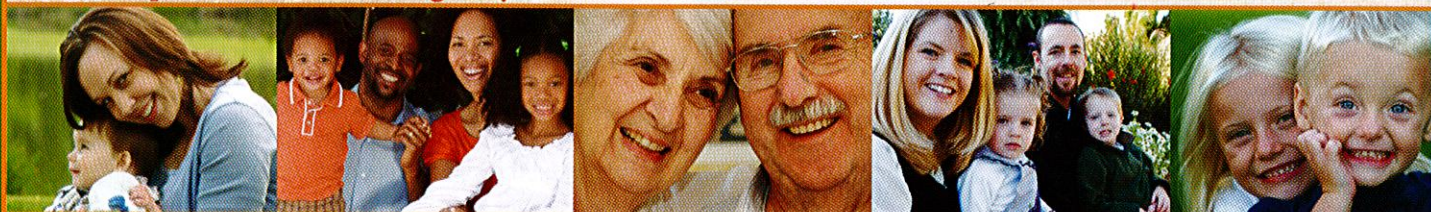
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