



EAST PIKELAND TOWNSHIP



1158 Rapps Dam Road • P.O. Box 58 • Kimberton, PA 19442
Hours: Monday - Friday / 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. • www.eastpikeland.org • Phone: 610.933.1770 - Fax: 610.933.0919

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Meets 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
Ronald M. Graham - Chairman
Russell L. Strauss - Vice Chairman
J. Benson Campbell - Supervisor

TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATION

Kimberly Moretti - Manager
Kisha Tyler - Zoning Officer
Michelle Rubin - Community Resources Coordinator

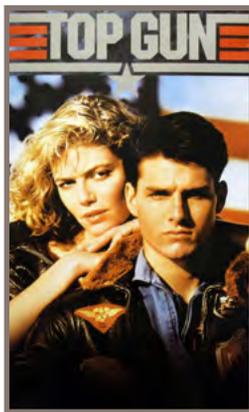
EAST PIKELAND TWP. POLICE DEPT.

Susette Wilson - Police Chief
610.935.0606

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Al Cushman - Director

FALL EVENTS



Date Night Movie Night (September 22)

Join us for our first **Date Night Movie Night on Friday, September 21!**

Food trucks available from 5-10pm at the Kimberton Park lot, with *Top Gun* starting at 7:30pm on the amphitheater stage. Don't forget your blanket and chairs for the movie!

Co-organized by Food Truck Craze. Sponsored by Citadel Bank & the East Pikeland Park and Recreation Board.



Halloween Movie Night (October 27)

Celebrate your spooky side with a classic Halloween movie, costumes, candy, and more! The movie will be on **Saturday, October 27** at an indoor location

and time to be announced. Check East Pikeland's website and Facebook page for more information as it becomes available.

Voting to select the movie starts on the East Pikeland Township Facebook page on October 1. Prizes for the best costumes will be awarded!



Help us clean up the trail for fall. Join us on **Saturday, November 3 from 9am to noon** for the Fall Clean-Up along the French Creek Trail. *Rain date is Saturday, November 10.*

Volunteers meet in the parking lot next to Rapps Dam Covered Bridge. Wear work clothes and heavy shoes, and bring

work gloves, bow saws, shears, clippers, long handles pruners, pole saws, shovels, and/or pickaxes. If you plan to participate, please email mrubin@eastpikeland.org.

For event updates please check the East Pikeland Facebook Page or www.eastpikeland.org.



The East Pikeland Environmental Advisory Council has started a monthly E-newsletter. Stay updated on current environmental events and local recreation and education opportunities. Email mrubin@eastpikeland.org to sign up.

Park & Recreation Survey Results

Thank you to everyone that took our 2018 Park and Recreation Community Survey! The Township and Park and Recreation Board will use the results to guide planning for future parks and recreation opportunities in East Pikeland Township.



Highlights:

- 88% of survey responders would like to have access to more park facilities throughout East Pikeland.
- Residents would like more information about parks, trails, recreation programs, and community events in East Pikeland.
- People would like more park opportunities (like paved walking paths, multipurpose trails, access to woods and natural areas, community gardens, and dog parks).
- Respondents would like more adult recreation and education opportunities.
- People would like to see more outdoor events (especially involving music and food) and outdoor education and fitness opportunities.

DISCOUNT Amusement & Park Tickets Available at Township:

Cash or check only

- Adventure Aquarium, Camden, NJ
- Baltimore Aquarium, Baltimore, MD
- Crayola Experience, Easton, PA
- Dorney Park, Allentown, PA
- Dutch Wonderland, Lancaster, PA
- Elmwood Park Zoo, Norristown, PA
- Hershey Park, Hershey, PA
- Knoebels Amusement Park, Elysburg, PA
- Philadelphia Zoo, Philadelphia, PA
- Six Flags Great Adventure, Jackson, NJ

New this year:

- Museum of the Amer. Revolution, Phila., PA
- PA Renaissance Faire, Lancaster, PA
- Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, PA

Visit our website to view discount pricing!



Opioid Crisis Townhall Meeting

Wed., October 17, 7-9pm at the
East Pikeland Township Building

Join State Re. Becky Corbin for an informative evening about the opioid crisis: **how we got here, where we are, and where we are going.** Presented by Chester County District Attorney, Tom Hogan.



DISCOUNT Movie Tickets

Regal Cinema PREMIERE movie tickets \$9.50 (cash or check only)

Tickets are available year-round at the Township office.

Premiere Tickets are redeemable nationwide at any Regal Cinemas, Edward Theatres or United Artist Theaters locations.

Surcharges apply to all IMAX, RPX, Large Format, 3D and 4DX films. Other surcharges may apply at Premium or Luxury Seating locations or select theaters. Premiere tickets never expire.



Kimberton Park Amphitheater

The Kimberton Park Amphitheater is officially open!! The Park and Recreation Board is planning events for the stage next year, and so can you! The amphitheater will be available to rent for public and private events like weddings, concerts, fundraisers, etc. Contact mrubin@eastpikeland.org for more information.



Park Closing Info

FYI: Kimberton Park closes for winter on November 1. While you can still access the park, the bathrooms will be closed and water fountains turned off.



EAST PIKELAND UPDATES

1/ Kimberton Park Party

On June 16, over 400 guests helped wish Kimberton Park a Happy 20th Birthday and said "hello" to our new amphitheater!



2/ Classic Movie Night

Our first Classic Movie night had to be moved indoors due to weather. Guests enjoyed *Casablanca* on the big screen at the Kimberton Fire Company.



3/ Guided Bird Walk

The Environmental Advisory Council sponsored a guided bird walk on the French Creek Trail. Over 25 birds were seen and heard from the trail!



4/ Family Movie Night

In July, over 300 guests enjoyed *Grandpop Bubbles* and *Jumanji*, our first movie, on the amphitheater stage.



5/ National Night Out

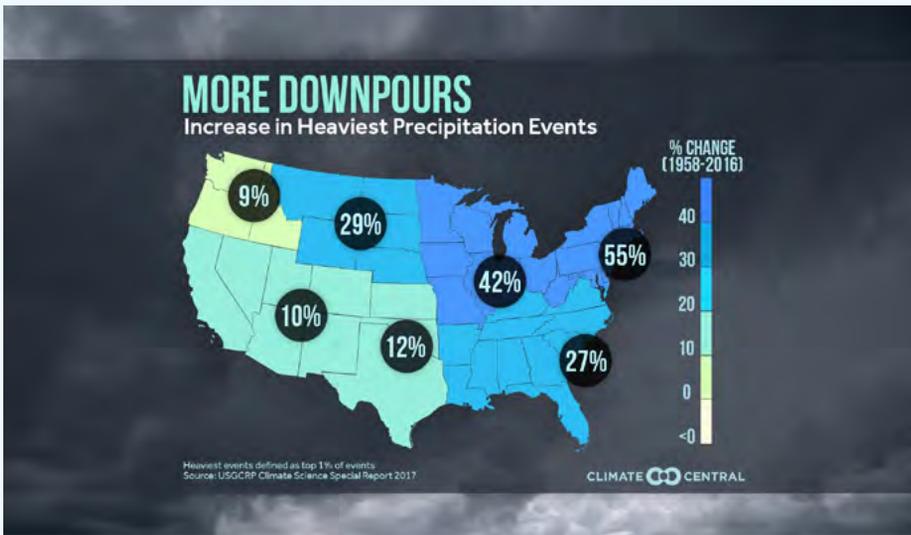
National Night Out was held on August 7th. Thanks to everyone who came out to celebrate this new event that focuses on building police-community partnerships!



Pictured L to R: Sen. John Rafferty; Supervisor Ron Graham; event organizer, Officer Dan Corbo; and Supervisor Rusty Strauss

Kids having a blast throwing water balloons at the officers. A fun way to cool off on a hot night!





Rain, Rain, Everywhere

2018 will certainly appear in the record books as one of the wettest years in history. During the first six months of 2018 our area saw 95 days with precipitation – that’s 52% of the days this year with wet weather. Total precipitation (including snow and rain) from January to June was over 34”, as compared to the State average of 20”. In addition to the increase in precipitation we have had more heavy rain events and flash flood warnings.

As the world warms from the increase of greenhouse gases in our atmosphere, there is more evaporation from oceans, lakes, rivers, and even transpiring plants. For every 1°F of warming, the saturation level of the atmosphere increases by about four percent. This means more water is available to condense into precipitation, and it can come down in heavier downpours. Heavier rain means more flooding — both flash flooding and larger river flooding. This can lead to more property damage. More and more, scientists attribute the role of climate change in individual extreme rainfall events.

What is the Township’s responsibility regarding stormwater?

With the rise in amount of rain also comes a rise in complaints about the rain. The township staff has received significantly more calls from residents this year in relation to stormwater issues. The ground has been so saturated that it cannot hold more water, causing the stormwater to sheet over the land and roadways and flow onto other properties. This would also explain why so many homes have had water in their basements this year. While the township can address some of these issues, unfortunately we cannot fix them all. Many of the older developments in the township were constructed with little to no stormwater infrastructure. Grassy or concrete swales were the traditional method of managing stormwater, however as many residents have learned this year, they are not always effective in heavy rains. Over the past several years, the township has taken steps to install stormwater management structures in conjunction with road paving projects – when funds are available.

The township has a stormwater ordinance that is enforced by the township engineer with new construction and development projects. The ordinance generally regulates earth disturbance activity that may affect stormwater runoff.

What is the Property owner’s responsibility regarding stormwater?

As a property owner you can help protect your property by maintaining any stormwater facility on it – including swales and inlets, or pipes under your driveway. Keep these facilities free from debris so that water can flow unimpeded. Do not rake leaves or cut grass into the street as it may clog stormwater inlets in the street. If you have a stormwater facility on your property you cannot alter it without township approval. Whenever a property owner is planning to grade an area, the township office should be contacted to determine if a Grading Plan is required. Grading Plans are relatively simple to prepare and help to prevent stormwater problems and complaints.

Sources:

<https://www.usclimatedata.com/climate/pennsylvania/united-states/3208>

<https://science2017.globalchange.gov/>



Snyder’s Mill Restoration Complete

The restoration of Snyder’s Mill along French Creek took place over a period of ten years and, thanks to the persistence of the volunteer Historical Commission, is now complete.

Snyder’s Mill is thought to have been first constructed between 1830 and 1847 on the site of an old graining mill that was operational at the Continental Powder Works during the Revolutionary War. Over the years, it was operated at various times as a clover mill, linseed oil mill, a saw and grist mill, as well as a spoke mill. Snyder’s Mill ceased operation in 1935, at which time it was making carousel parts. From that period on the building was unused and gradually deteriorated. Realizing its importance, the township had the mill partially stabilized in the early 1990’s and again in 2008 when the four walls were reconstructed. This final phase of restoration included installation of a roof, windows and doors and minor repointing of the masonry.

The Board of Supervisors recognizes the importance of preserving historic resources in the township and authorized funding from the township’s Capital Fund.

The Mill is a focal point of the French Creek Trail at the Rapps Dam trailhead. Visitors are invited to learn the history of the Mill and the Continental Powder Works through a series of interpretive signs located along the Trail.

How to Handle a Rabid Animal

From a young age, we are told not to interact with wild animals, especially those that might be sick. Although not all wild animals are infected with rabies, it is still good to be cautious whenever you cross paths with an animal in the wild. It is important to be aware of what rabies is, how it is contracted, and how you can prevent it from infecting you or your pet.

Rabies is a contagious viral disease that attacks the central nervous system. It is spread from animal to animal, or animal to human, through a bite or scratch. It can also be spread if saliva from the infected animal reaches your eyes, nose, or mouth. Most reported rabies cases in the Chester Country area are of foxes, groundhogs, squirrels, and rabbits. Bats, skunks, and raccoons are also common carriers of the disease. Earlier this summer there was a rabid fox in the township. Unfortunately, this dangerous animal attacked several people and their pets who then had to be treated for rabies exposure.

If you think you see a rabid wild animal, do not approach it, attempt to shoot it, or try to capture it, as you could be endangering your own life or the life of others. Report the sighting to the Pennsylvania Game Commission at (610) 926-3136. They will deal with and dispose of the sick animal. In the meantime, keep your pets and children indoors until given the all clear by the Game Commission.

If you or your pet have received a bite or scratch from a wild rabid animal, you must thoroughly clean the wound with soap and water, as well as seek medical help. Anyone exposed to the rabies virus must go through a series of vaccinations. Pets that have been exposed to rabies may be quarantined and tested before being properly treated.

Though in recent years the number of rabies cases has been low, it is still important to take preventative measures in order to protect you and your animals from rabies. The best way to prevent against rabies is to vaccinate your pets. All cats and dogs over three months of age are required by law to have a rabies vaccination. It is also important to keep contact with wild animals to a minimum. Do not approach a wild animal, even if it seems friendly, and most certainly do not touch it. Even though baby squirrels and foxes may seem cute, they can still be carriers of rabies. Protect your pets with a fenced in yard and always walk your animals on leashes. Leaving food outside could also attract unwanted visitors, so feed your pet inside. Prevention is also the best way to keep you and your loved ones uninfected and safe.



Game Commission Procedures

The Pennsylvania Game Commission manages Pennsylvania's wildlife and their habitats for current and future generations, as well as Pennsylvania's hunting and trapping licenses. If you see road-kill, violations of wildlife protection laws, or are involved in a wildlife emergency, please contact the Game Commission at (610) 926-3136.

- Wildlife emergencies can include finding an injured or trapped animal or encountering a rabid animal.
- Please report dead deer or other larger road-kill animals as follows:
 - State Roads (Routes 724, 23, 113, Coldstream, Hares Hill & Merlin Roads), contact PennDOT (484) 340-3201
 - Township Roads, contact the Game Commission (610) 926-3136.
- The shooting, trapping, or killing of any protected or endangered species is illegal, as well as hunting without a proper license.





**CITIZENS
POLICE
ACADEMY**
Enrolling
Now



Police Academy

As part of a continuing mission to provide optimum service to residents, the East Pikeland and West Vincent Township Police Departments will join forces to conduct their third Citizens' Police Academy. The program will be held on Wednesdays beginning September 5 through November 14 (off on Halloween) from 6 to 9pm.

The Citizens' Police Academy allows everyday people a glimpse into the operations, decisions, and challenges faced by police officers on a daily basis. Topics will include forensics, use of force, drugs, and a variety of other police procedures. Participants will be able to participate in real life "shoot/don't shoot" scenarios in a firearms simulator. The first class was featured in the Philadelphia Inquirer during their participation in the simulator.

The program is open to all Chester County residents. Pre-registration is required and there is a limited number of seats. Interested individuals can obtain additional information and an application by contacting Officer Daniel Corbo, East Pikeland Police Department at 610.935.0606 x433 or dcorbo@eastpikeland.org.



**Lifesaving training is
for everyone**

Stop the Bleed

"Stop the Bleed" is a national awareness campaign designed to initiate grassroots efforts that encourage bystanders to become trained, equipped, and empowered to help in a bleeding emergency before professional help arrives. Even with quick response time from professional emergency responders, bystanders will always be first on the scene. A person who is bleeding from a penetrating injury can die from blood loss within five minutes. Quickly managing the bleeding is critical.

West End Fire Company #3 in Phoenixville began a community education program, hosting "Stop the Bleed" classes this summer. The informative classes, which were open to the community, provided instruction on managing penetrating injuries. The areas of instruction included use of tourniquets, specialized bleeding control, and wound packing.

West End Fire Company will offer classes in the near future and interested citizens may check the West End Facebook page for the event schedule for classes on "Stop the Bleed". The classes are free of charge and all are welcome to attend.

Regulations for Draining Your Swimming Pool

Another summer has come to an end and it's time to close the pool. Before you extend that hose, remember, the water in your pool is full of chemicals! Improper draining of your pool is harmful to the environment, and a violation of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Clean Streams Law!

- It is **illegal** to drain pool water or backwash into any water course or storm drain because it may contain chlorine, copper, and filter backwash that can harm aquatic life in local creeks and rivers. Storm drain systems are not designed to filter or dissolve these pollutants.
- Pool water should **NOT** be discharged into the street! It should be discharged into a grassy area on your property where it will allow for absorption, filtration, and aeration of the water through the soil before it reaches the groundwater table. By draining the pool at a slow and steady rate, filtration will be optimized and erosion will be prevented. When draining pool water into the grass, be attentive so that the water does not drain onto a neighboring property, which is a violation of township ordinances.
- Pool water may be discharged into a sewer cleanout, laundry sink or other plumbing fixture. The sanitary sewer system is designed to remove many pollutants from water.
- If you utilize a professional service make sure they comply with these regulations!

A fact sheet from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection entitled Swimming Pool Water Discharge Guidelines is available online at www.dep.state.pa.us (search keyword: Wastewater). Questions concerning these guidelines should be directed to the PA DEP Southeast Regional Office in Norristown at 484-250-5900.

§306.B.2.K OF THE EAST PIKELAND SUBDIVISION & LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE REFERENCES THE SAME PROHIBITIONS AS MENTIONED:

Any water originating from a non-natural source, such as swimming pools, air conditioning units, sump pumps, roof drains, or other similar flow, shall be properly discharged into a recharge facility or natural watercourses on the property or connected to an existing or proposed storm drainage system as approved by the Township. Polluting matter from such sources may not be deposited into natural watercourses or storm drains.

ENFORCEMENT 101

A Quick Reference Guide for Enforcement of Ordinance Violations

Discovery of zoning or code violations, illegal or unpermitted activities, usually occurs by a complaint from a neighbor, curiosity of a concerned citizen or a motorist just passing through. Violations are also uncovered in the course of routine township-wide inspections and visual observations. The zoning officer can legally make a visual inspection from the street, sidewalk or other public place; however, he or she must obtain permission from the owner or tenant to walk onto the property or enter a home or business.

The most common violation issues relate to noise, intersection visibility, proper permits, and property maintenance. Many violators are unaware that they have committed an offence, and with a little luck, some diplomacy and a friendly oral warning the zoning officer is likely to gain compliance without the need for further enforcement. For those that chose to ignore the compliance letter, further enforcement may be necessary.

The Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code Act of 1968), referred to as the "MPC", is the governing resource for municipalities in the Commonwealth that sets the requirements for enactment and enforcement of ordinances. In accordance with the MPC, the Zoning Officer is charged with the duties of enforcement of the Zoning Ordinance, Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, Property Maintenance Code, and related codes and ordinances. The zoning officer is not the building inspector, nor the building code official.

When an enforcement notice is warranted, the compliance period is determined by the applicable ordinance, and may be 5, 10 or up to 30 days. The emphasis of enforcement is to gain compliance, not to punish. If the violation has not been corrected or abated, or an appeal filed, the next step is the district justice. The district justice will impose fines as prescribed for the cited violation. **The zoning officer cannot proceed with a civil filing without first issuing an enforcement notice. The township must follow the regulations of the MPC for successful legal enforcement.**





BUILDING, CODE ENFORCEMENT, AND ZONING

Accessory Structures

Sheds and similar structures under 500 sf, gazebos and pergolas require a Zoning Permit, and must be setback 15' from the side and rear property lines. Detached garages, barns and other accessory structures over 500 sf require a Building Permit and must be setback a minimum distance equal to the height of the structure, but not less than 15' from the property line.

Building Permits

Building permits are required for all construction and most renovation projects. If the project is structural or involves plumbing, electrical or mechanical work, a permit is needed. No permit is needed to re-shingle your roof, replace siding, or replace windows or doors in kind. *Exterior modifications of historic structures or structures located within the Kimberton Certified Historic District require review by the Historical Commission before obtaining a building permit.*

Burning is PROHIBITED!

Ordinance No. 136 prohibits outdoor burning for purposes of disposing of any municipal waste, leaf waste, yard waste or recyclable material. Controlled burning for Farm Use properties over 5-acres is permitted for agricultural purposes with prior notification to the township. *An outdoor fireplace or fire pit, a small campfire for recreational purposes, and any outdoor wood burning unit for home heating are allowed as long as they are used for their intended purpose.*

Fences

The township does not require a permit to erect a fence. The maximum height is six feet (6'). We recommend setting it at least a mower's width in so that it can be maintained without trespassing onto the neighboring property. If you have a corner lot, it cannot obstruct visibility. If you are unsure where your property lines are, the township suggests you have a property survey done.

Maintenance of Outdoor Vegetation

Grass, shrubbery and outdoor plantings require continued maintenance. Grass and weeds in excess of 12" violates the property maintenance code (natural meadows, cultivated flowers and gardens and rain gardens are excluded from this provision). Shrubs and tree limbs should be trimmed back from the sidewalk and the street to ensure pedestrian and vehicle safety. ***Mowing, or blowing of grass clippings, leaves and yard debris into the street is PROHIBITED under Section 2326 of The Second Class Township Code (obstructions and nuisances on public roadways).*** Yard debris clogs storm drains and creates slippery conditions when it rains. The chute of the mower or tractor should face the yard when cutting near the roadway.

Yard Sales

Temporary lawn signs in the neighborhood and nearest intersection may be posted a few days in advance and must be removed immediately after the sale. ***Posting of notices, advertisements, or other signs upon a lamppost, electric light, telephone or other utility pole, pier or column on or along the public roads of East Pikeland Township is PROHIBITED.***

All ordinances and permit applications are available online at www.eastpikeland.org.