

# O'HARA NEWSLETTER

Township of O'Hara—A Council Manager Community  
Township Office: 412-782-1400  
Spring Edition 2017  
[www.ohara.pa.us](http://www.ohara.pa.us)



## Road Improvement Program

Bids will be received this spring for the milling and resurfacing portion of the Township's 2017 annual road improvement program. The Township will again be bidding with neighboring communities which has helped to reduce costs in past years.

Roads scheduled for *milling and resurfacing* are:

Parkview Boulevard  
Midway Drive  
Kirkwood Drive  
Edgewood Avenue  
Spring Grove Road  
Brownhill Road

Alternates (if pricing allows):

Fox Hall Drive  
Keystone Street

Roads that may be *chip sealed* as an alternate are:

South Oak Hill Road (Rockingham to N Oak Hill)

During construction season, residents should keep in mind the following:

- ☺ Obey posted speed limits and keep alert for temporary barricades and equipment.
- ☺ Do not remove signs, barricades, covers or cones that may be in use in construction areas.
- ☺ When driving past workers or equipment, follow the directions of traffic control personnel.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation. ☐

## Designations of Distinction

Township of O'Hara Council is pleased to announce that the Township has received two Designations of Distinction.

The Township has been once again named a Banner Community by the Allegheny League of Municipalities (ALOM). This indicates that O'Hara Township implements the best practices in all aspects of their operations and that it is governed in an inclusive, collaborative manner. O'Hara, along with over 45 other municipalities in Allegheny County have received this important designation.

The Township has also been certified a Gold Community through Sustainable Pennsylvania. This municipal certification program aims to shine a light on the pacesetters and brings more local government leaders to the forefront of sustainable community development. The program sets 131 policies and practices that they recommend that municipalities have in place.

Please join us in congratulating Council and Staff on a job well done. ☐

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## **Yard Waste Collection**

The Township's trash collection contract provides for curbside collection of yard waste on one Wednesday each month from May - September.

The following Wednesdays are scheduled as collection days for 2017 - **May 17, June 21, July 19, August 23 and September 20.**

Residents **must** call 412-784-1784, ext 203 at least **ten (10) days** prior to each scheduled date to request collection. Anyone who fails to notify the Township in time to be put on the list will not qualify for collection that month.

Yard waste includes leaves in biodegradable bags, garden residue, shrubbery trimmings, limbs, twigs, brush, tree trimmings and similar material, but **NOT** grass clippings. All tree trimmings and limbs must be cut in lengths less than 48" and limbs must be less than 3" in diameter. All material must be securely bundled and each bundle must weigh less than 40 lbs.

The Township continues to provide Spring and Fall Brush Collection. For info check the Summer Newsletter or our website at [www.ohara.pa.us](http://www.ohara.pa.us). □

## **Real Estate Tax Rebate Program**

On December 13, 2016 O'Hara Township Council adopted Ordinance No. 1317 establishing a real estate tax rebate program for senior citizens.

If you are age 60 or older, have lived in the Township for ten years or more, have an annual income of less than \$30,000 and your Township real estate taxes increased in 2017, you may be eligible for a real estate tax rebate. The rebate equals 25% of the increase in 2017 Township real estate taxes over 2016 Township real estate taxes.

Forms are available at the Township office or on the website at [www.ohara.pa.us](http://www.ohara.pa.us). For more information call the Township at 412-782-1400. □

## **Tax Collector**

Jordan Tax Service, Inc., the Township's Real Estate tax collector will have a representative available at the Township office to accept Real Estate Tax payments on Friday, April 21 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm and on Thursday, April 27 from 1:30 pm to 5:00 pm.

Jordan's phone number is 412-345-7962 and their address is 102 Rahway Road, McMurray, PA 15317. □

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## **Do You Know Your Township Elected Officials and Staff?**

How well do you know the people who govern and maintain your Township? Match the names listed below with the proper title. **Good Luck!!!!**

*Answers on Page 6*

<b>A</b>	Council President	_____	John Denny
<b>B</b>	Council At-Large Member	_____	Cassandra Eccles
<b>C</b>	Council First Ward Member	_____	Allison Garcia
<b>D</b>	Council Second Ward Member	_____	Bob Smith
<b>E</b>	Council Third Ward Member	_____	Mark Rothert
<b>F</b>	Council Fourth Ward Member	_____	Julie Jakubec
<b>G</b>	Council Fifth Ward Member	_____	Jim Farringer
<b>H</b>	Treasurer	_____	Chuck Steinert
<b>I</b>	Manager	_____	Ben Kotys
<b>J</b>	Police Superintendent	_____	Scott Frankowski
<b>K</b>	Engineer	_____	Loren Kephart
<b>L</b>	Public Service Superintendent	_____	Charles Vogel

## Storm Water Solutions for Commercial Properties

Keeping pollutants out of our waterways is everyone's responsibility. We can make sure at work that we use the best storm water practices.

Here are some storm water pollution reduction ideas for work:

- Sweep up litter and debris from sidewalks, driveways and parking lots, especially around storm drains.
- Cover grease storage and dumpsters and keep them clean to avoid leaks.
- Ensure all work vehicles are well maintained and leak free.
- Use a commercial car wash to wash work vehicles.
- Ensure that yard waste and grass clippings are kept off the street and out of the storm drains.
- Properly clean up any spills and if needed report them to the appropriate agency.

We can keep our waterways clean together. ☐

## Do I need a Permit for That?

Old man winter may be trying to hold on, but plans are hatching in the minds of many residents for spring projects. Permits are required for:

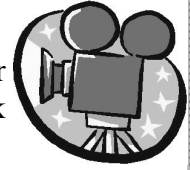
- Decks, porches or roofs on existing decks or porches
- Swimming pools, spas and hot tubs
- Sheds
- Fences and retaining walls
- New driveways
- Changes to roof or storm water or French drains

To apply for permits for these projects either visit our website [www.ohara.pa.us](http://www.ohara.pa.us) to download a "Small Projects" building package or visit the Township office and pick one up.

Please feel free to call the Township office with any questions while completing the permit application. ☐

## Movies in the Park

Everyone is invited to another season of Movies in the Park at Squaw Valley Park.



The free movies are held on Tuesday and start at dusk, weather permitting. If necessary, the rain date will be the following Thursday.

June 13 - *The Secret Life of Pets (PG)*

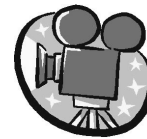
June 27 - *Doctor Strange (PG-13)*

July 11 - *Moana (PG)*

July 25 - *Elf (PG)*

August 8 - *Teenage Mutant Turtles - Out of the Shadows (PG-13)*

August 22 - *Beauty and the Beast (PG)*



## Throwback Thursday Movie

The "Throwback Thursday" movie will continue this summer.

Come to Squaw Valley Park on Thursday, June 22 as we bring back the classics with a special showing of the 50th Anniversary restored edition of *My Fair Lady* starring Audrey Hepburn and Rex Harrison.

The movie starts at dusk, weather permitting. *My Fair Lady* is rated G. ☐

**Come and join the Fun!**

## **Storm Water Pollution Solutions**

Storm water runoff occurs when rain or snowmelt flows over the ground. Impervious surfaces like driveways, sidewalks and streets prevent storm water from naturally soaking into the ground. You may be asking why is this a problem? Storm water picks up debris, chemicals, dirt and other pollutants and flows into a storm sewer system or directly into a stream, river or lake. Anything that is picked up ends up untreated in our waterways.

Polluted storm water runoff can have many adverse effects on people, plants, animals and fish. Below are some things we can all do to help:

### **Lawn Care**

- Do not over water your lawn. Consider using a soaker hose instead.
- Use pesticides and fertilizer sparingly.
- Use organic treatments for bugs and blight whenever possible.
- Compost or mulch lawn waste. Do not sweep it into the streets or catch basins.
- Tarp topsoil or mulch piles until they are used.
- Use manure for fertilizing sparingly and away from waterways.

### **Auto Care**

- Wash your car in your grass or use a commercial car wash.
- Repair auto leaks and dispose of used auto fluids and batteries at designated drop offs or recycling centers.

### **Septic Systems**

- Inspect your system every three years and pump the tank as necessary (every three to five years).
- Do not dispose of household hazardous waste in fixtures connected to your septic system.

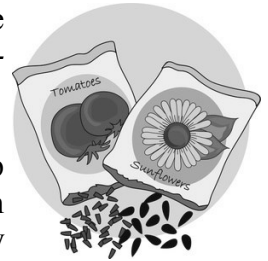
### **Landscaping**

- Consider using a rain barrel to collect your roof top rain water to later water your landscaping and garden.
- Consider planting a rain garden to absorb the rain water from your yard and roof.

Working together we can all make a difference. □

## **Seeds for Seniors**

Packets of flower and vegetable seeds are now available for *Township of O'Hara Senior Residents*.



The seed packets can be picked up at the Township Building between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday.

Seeds will be distributed on a first-come basis until the supply is exhausted. □

## **Attention Archery Hunters**

Tryouts for the deer management program in O'Hara, run in conjunction with Whitetail Management Associates, will be held on Sunday, May 7 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Northside Sportsman's Association in Warrendale, PA.

If interested, you *must* call the Township Police Department at 412-782-1403 for further information and mandatory program requirements. □

## **What's up in the Parks**

Last year was a busy year for parks projects in the Township with the opening of the adaptive playground and the addition of a concrete ping pong table, both at Squaw Valley Park.

This year new pieces of equipment will be placed in the other Township parks.

- Meadow Park – Drum and chime panels
- Slim Jim Park – A rock, paper, scissors panel
- Schafer Park – A rock, paper, scissors panel
- Beulah Frey Park – A tunnel with climbing surface
- Woodland Park – Activity panels
- Sacco Park – A drum table

Township Council, the Parks and Recreation Commission and staff hope everyone enjoys the new additions to the Township parks. □

## Clean Water Assistance Fund

The Allegheny County Sanitary Authority has created the Clean Water Assistance Fund to help families pay their sewage treatment bills. This program serves low-income residential customers in the 83 municipalities that ALCOSAN serves. It is administered by Dollar Energy Fund.

**Who is eligible?** The Clean Water Assistance Fund is available to ALCOSAN service area residential homeowners (and tenants who have accounts in their own names) who meet family income limits set by the federal government. See sample below:

Household size	Monthly income	Annual income
1	\$1,485	\$17,820
2	\$2,003	\$24,030
3	\$2,520	\$30,240
4	\$3,038	\$36,450
5	\$3,555	\$42,660
6	\$4,073	\$48,870
7	\$4,591	\$55,095
8	\$5,111	\$61,335

### Do I live in the ALCOSAN service area?

Yes, O'Hara Township is served by ALCOSAN.

**How much will I save?** The grant from the Clean Water Assistance Fund is \$30 every three months. The credit will be applied to your account by the agency that bills you for sewage treatment – these bills will come from Fox Chapel Authority or Hampton Shaler Water Authority. The credits will automatically appear every three months even if you are billed monthly, bi-monthly or quarterly.

**How do I apply?** You will need to provide a copy of your water/sewage bill which includes ALCOSAN charges. You must also provide the Social Security numbers of all household members and proof of your household's monthly income. If you are already eligible for an assistance program through another utility, you can use that approval to verify your eligibility. Social service agencies across the region accept and process applications. For the list of these agencies please visit [www.dollarenergy.org](http://www.dollarenergy.org) or call the Dollar Energy Fund at 1-800-375-1388. □

## Important Phone Numbers

### Animal Control

Hoffman Kennels..... 724-468-5505

### Community Center

Lauri Ann West Community Ctr ... 412-828-8566

### Fire/EMS Departments (Non-Emergency)

Parkview EMS..... 412-449-1080

Parkview ..... 412-781-9728

Pleasant Valley ..... 412-781-8108

### Fox Chapel Area School District

Fox Chapel High School..... 412-963-9600

Dorseyville Middle School..... 412-767-5343

Fairview Elementary..... 412-963-9315

Hartwood Elementary..... 412-767-5396

Kerr Elementary..... 412-781-4105

O'Hara Elementary..... 412-963-0333

### Library

Cooper-Siegel Community Library 412-828-9520

### Magistrate

Elissa Lang ..... 412-784-8555

### Tax Collection (Earned Income Tax)

Keystone Collections Group..... 866-539-1100

### Tax Collection (Real Estate Tax)

Jordan Tax Service Inc. .... 412-345-7962

### Trash Collection

Waste Management ..... 800-458-4090

### Utilities

Comcast Cable ..... 800-266-2278

Duquesne Light - Emergency ..... 888-393-7000

Verizon ..... 800-837-4966

Verizon Wireless ..... 888-781-5510

Peoples' Natural Gas ..... 800-764-0111

### Water Authorities

Fox Chapel Authority ..... 412-963-0212

Hampton Shaler Water Authority.. 412-486-4867

### PA Dept of Transportation

..... 412-429-5000

### County, State and Federal Elected Officials

Allegheny County Chief Executive

Rich Fitzgerald ..... 412-350-6500

County Council

Ed Kress - District 3 Rep..... 412-350-6535

PA State Senator / PA State Representatives

Randy Vulakovich - Senator..... 412-487-6600

Dom Costa - 21<sup>st</sup> Dist Rep..... 412-361-2040

Harold A. English - 30<sup>th</sup> Dist Rep 412-487-6605

Anthony DeLuca - 32<sup>nd</sup> Dist Rep. 412-793-2448

U.S. Senators / U.S. Representatives

Robert P. Casey, Jr. - Senator ..... 412-803-7370

Patrick J. Toomey - Senator..... 412-803-3501

Keith Rothfus - Representative.... 412-837-1461

## Hard to Recycle Collections

The Pennsylvania Resources Council will hold a Hard to Recycle Collection at Pittsburgh Mills Mall this Spring. The event will run from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm on Saturday, May 13.

Acceptable items collected free of charge include: CPUs (towers), laptops, keyboards, mice, home/cell phones, tablets, PDAs, UPS units, servers, routers, modems, computer speakers, web and digital cameras, hubs, external drives, VCRs, DVD players, stereos, cable boxes, DVRs, paper shredders, microwaves, copiers, fax machines, scanners, zip drive, video game consoles, electronic cables, compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs), expanded polystyrene packaging material

Fees will be charged for the following items: Televisions, computer monitors, small household appliances, printers, large stereo speakers, vacuum cleaners, alkaline batteries, small freon containing appliances, CDs, DVDs & floppy disks, tires, and fluorescent, incandescent, halogen and neon lighting, projector bulbs

Hard Drive Data Destruction Verification is available - first drive is \$11.50, each additional drive \$3

For a complete list of acceptable items and any associated fees, please visit [www.prc.org](http://www.prc.org). □

## Household Hazardous Waste

Residents will have an opportunity to safely dispose of HHW products including almost any chemical product used in the home.

The collection, held by the PA Resources Council will take place on Saturday, May 6, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at the North Park Swimming Pool parking lot. There is a cash only participant fee of \$3 per gallon of material being dropped off.

For more information call 412-488-7490, e-mail [infowest@prc.org](mailto:infowest@prc.org) or visit [www.prc.org](http://www.prc.org). □

## 2017 Trash/Recycling Holidays



<u>Holiday</u>		<u>Collection Day</u>
Memorial Day	May 29	Friday, June 2
Independence Day	July 4	Friday, July 7
Labor Day	Sept. 4	Friday, Sept. 8
Thanksgiving	Nov. 23	Friday, Nov. 24
Christmas	Dec. 25	Friday, Dec. 29

## Sewer Certification Required



Township of O'Hara Ordinance No. 1299 requires that prior to a property sale or deed transfer, a Sanitary Sewer Certificate must be obtained from the Township.

The Sanitary Sewer Certificate is issued after a registered plumber performs a test verifying that no storm, ground or surface water is directed into the sanitary sewer system. Property owners arrange and pay for a registered plumber to perform the test. The Township witnesses, inspects and certifies the test at a cost of \$100 for residential buildings and \$200 or more for commercial buildings.

If violations are found, they **must** be corrected prior to closing or, if the property is not sold, within one hundred eighty (180) days of testing. Once the Certificate is issued, it is good for one year from the date of the original test.

For more information on the Sanitary Sewer Certification, contact the Township at 412-782-1400. □

## Official's and Staff Quiz Answers

B G F A D I J K H E L C  
 ???

# Community News

## **Fox Chapel Newcomers Club**

The Fox Chapel Newcomers Club invites anyone new to living in the Fox Chapel Area School District (five years or less) to join their monthly meetings on the second Friday of the month from September to May. The Newcomers Club hears noteworthy speakers and organizes social and community outreach events at each meeting.

### ***The upcoming meetings are:***

**Friday, April 7** - Bill Nichols, Director of Operations and Visitor Services for The Frick Pittsburgh

**Friday, May 12** - Spring Luncheon, Pittsburgh Field Club (RSVP and Fee to Attend)

Meetings are held at 9:30 am at Christ Church Fox Chapel, 630 Squaw Run Road East, Pittsburgh, PA 15238. Babysitting is available at each meeting for a nominal fee. For more information please visit: [www.Facebook.com/FoxChapelNewcomers](http://www.Facebook.com/FoxChapelNewcomers) or [www.FoxChapelNewcomers.org](http://www.FoxChapelNewcomers.org). □

## **Celebrate Gardenfest!**



✿ Celebrate all the fun of spring at the Lauri Ann West Community Center's Gardenfest event on Saturday, May 13 from 9 am until 3 pm.

Featuring plant and flower sales from local garden clubs, a market of local artists with handmade items for sale and family activities for kids of all ages, this event will have everything you need to celebrate the new growing season!

Plus, bring your garden tools (and kitchen utensils) to have them professionally sharpened so that they are ready for the summer ahead.

More information about Gardenfest and the vendors in attendance is found online at [www.lauriannwestcc.org](http://www.lauriannwestcc.org). Or, feel free to stop by 1220 Powers Run Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238 or give us a call – 412-828-8566. □

## **Squaw Run Garden Club Plant Sale**



The Squaw Run Garden Club will hold its annual flower sale on Saturday, May 6, at Squaw Valley Park from 9 am to 2 pm.

A wonderful selection of annuals, perennials, herbs, vegetables, hanging baskets and planters will be for sale, as well as the ever popular perennial plants dug from the members' gardens.

Proceeds from the sale benefit local projects such as the Aspinwall Riverfront Park, Cooper-Siegel Community Library, Lauri Ann West Community Center, and Camp Guyasuta. Additionally, the Club provides educational grants to local schools.

Mark your calendar now so you won't forget to come to Squaw Valley Park on May 6, browse the beautiful selection of plants and help support your community. □

## **Parkview Ladies Auxiliary Cash Bash**



The Parkview Ladies Auxiliary will hold a Cash Bash on Saturday, April 29 at the Parkview VFD Social Hall, 726 Midway Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15215. The doors open at 5 pm and the last drawing will be held at 10 pm.

Join your neighbors for food and fun and to support your local Fire Department.

Tickets are JUST \$10.00 and include a great buffet and a beverage.

Contact Dianna Rizzo 412-784-1736 for tickets. □

TOWNSHIP OF O'HARA  
 325 FOX CHAPEL ROAD  
 PITTSBURGH, PA 15238  
 (412) 782-1400  
 www.ohara.pa.us

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**TOWNSHIP OF O'HARA**

**Township Council**

Robert John Smith, At-Large, President      Charles A. Vogel, Ward 1, Vice President  
 Mark F. Rothert, Ward 2      Scott Frankowski, Ward 3  
 Allison Garcia, Ward 4      Cassandra Eccles, Ward 5      John R. Denny, At-Large

Regular meeting: Second Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.

Workshop meetings: First Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.; Second Tuesday following Regular meeting

**Planning Commission**

Edward M. Crates, Chairperson  
 Charles F. Bleil      John J. Claus  
 Richard Citrin      Bruce W. Gay III  
 Joseph M. Kelly      Joseph Zgurzynski  
 Meetings: 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, 7:30 p.m.

**Zoning Hearing Board**

Scott Duffy, Chairperson  
 Alvin A. Kinsel      Richard Lockwood  
 Barbara Simanek, Alternate      Lisa Steimer, Alternate  
 Vacancy, Alternate  
 Meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> Monday, 7:00 p.m.

**Parks and Recreation Commission**

Mark Yon, Chairperson  
 Mary Jo Bisceglia      S. Joseph Jablonski  
 Mary E. Lasher      Mary Lee Mahon  
 Shamus Petrucelli      Michael J. Veltri  
 Meetings: 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.

**Civil Service Commission**

David R. Schaffner, Jr., Chairperson  
 Judy Bossart      Dianna Rizzo  
 James R. Stahl      Robert Ward  
 Meetings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, 7:00 p.m.

All meetings are held at the Municipal Building, 325 Fox Chapel Road and are open to the public.  
 All Township citizens are cordially invited to attend.