



LEHIGHTON BOROUGH

INDEX

Lehigh's 51st Halloween Parade ...	3
Trick or Treat	3
Public Works Department	5
Naturalizing Your Yard	5
Lehigh Area Memorial Library.....	6
Helpful Tips for the Winter Season ...	8
Snow & Ice Removal Reminders	8
New Ordinance.....	8
Garbage & Recycling	8
Lehigh Borough Directory	10

LEHIGHTON AREA HERITAGE ALLIANCE

The mission of the Lehigh Area Heritage Alliance (LAHA) is to identify, preserve, promote, and educate the public about the historical legacy of Lehigh and the surrounding area. We are a small group of volunteers committed to collecting stories and artifacts to safeguard them for future generations.



Since reorganizing after the sesquicentennial in 2016, we meet monthly and have held several historical cemetery walks and more recently, Songs & Stories in the Mausoleum, at the Lehigh Cemetery. Our next "Songs & Stories" event will be held on November 13, in partnership with Lehigh Legion Post 314 and Lehigh United Veterans Organization.

Our future goals are to incorporate as a non-profit organization and to secure another accessible public space for a heritage center museum in which we can provide educational

continued on page 3



Map of Lehigh 1883

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Lehigh Area Heritage Alliance *continued*

exhibits, programs, and activities for adults and children alike. To achieve these goals, we need the support of individuals and businesses who proudly carry the heritage of the Lehigh area in their hearts. We invite you to help us in this quest.

For more information on how to get involved, visit lehighheritage.org, follow LAHA on Facebook, or email lehighheritage@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE!

Lehigh Area Heritage Alliance in partnership with
Lehigh Legion Post 314 & Lehigh United Veterans Organization presents

Songs & Stories: Honoring our Veterans

Sunday, November 13, 2022, at 2:00 PM

Lehigh Legion Post 314

History stories by Kathy Long and local veterans with traditional and popular music by Dave Matsinko.
Light refreshments to be served. Admission by donation.



Lehigh's 51st Halloween Parade

The Halloween Parade will be held on Saturday, October 15, 2022 at 4:00p.m. The raindate will be Sunday, October 16, 2022 at 2:00p.m. Registration forms may be picked up at Zimmerman's Dairy, JTNB Lehigh Branch, Carbon County Music & More, Lehigh Municipal Building, Lehigh Halloween Parade Facebook Page. For questions, please contact Julie Harris at 570-657-6927 or jdharris@ptd.net.

TRICK OR TREAT

Trick or Treat will be held on Wednesday, October 26, 2022, from 6:00p.m. to 8:00p.m. **THERE IS NO RAIN DATE!**

If residents wish to welcome children, please have your porch light on. Kids should always trick or treat with an adult. Be careful when walking the streets. Wear something reflective on your costume so that cars can see you.



Thank You To The Businesses

This publication is made available through generous sponsorships of the businesses listed throughout the newsletter. We wish to encourage your patronage of these establishments; they play a substantial role in the economic vitality of our community.



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PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT



- Street Sweeping on First Street will begin the first Wednesday of March and continue every Wednesday until November 1, 2021. There will be no parking on First Street from 4:00am – 6:00am during this time, weather permitting
- For Street Sweeping on all other roads, please look for the temporary Orange “No Parking” signs. Do not move vehicles back until the road has been swept and all signs have been taken down
- Please do not place any yard debris in the Street gutters. When it rains, this debris will block catch basins and cause ponding of water on roads
- When cutting grass, please do not blow or sweep grass into the streets
- A large, black dumpster will be placed behind the Public Works garage for yard waste beginning April 15 thru May 15, 2023. No branches larger than four (4) inches in diameter or bundles longer than four (4) feet in length may be placed in dumpster

Plant Natives

Native plants are plants that existed in the region prior to European settlement. When selecting flowers, trees, grasses and shrubs for your landscaping, opt for native species to provide a food source for our native birds, insects and other wildlife. Many residents set out bird feed in the winter, but do not realize that they may be starving the birds in the summer by planting non-native species. Lawn grasses and the non-native landscaping ornamentals have limited wildlife habitat value. One term used for lawns and non-native plants is a “green desert,” because, although they appear vibrant, they offer no habitat value.

One way to address these issues is to reduce the area around your home that you currently devote to lawn, encouraging a more natural landscaping approach with native meadow grasses, trees, and shrubs. This approach saves you money on fuel by mowing less and boosts the aesthetic value of your property. It's also an ideal solution for backyard wet spots – native wildflowers will soak up more water than grass.

Remove Invasive Plants from your Yard

Invasive plants are exotic species that were either intentionally or inadvertently introduced from other continents. An invasive exotic plant spreads aggressively into other areas and environments. Due to the absence of natural controls, invasive plants reproduce rapidly and can form stands that exclude nearly all other plants. In the process, they damage natural areas, altering ecosystem processes and displacing desirable native plant species. Invasive plants are a serious problem throughout the state; over 27% of the vascular plants species now growing within the borders of Pennsylvania are not native. Removing invasive plants from your yard and replacing them with native plants will be a big help to the region's wildlife.

Protect Local Streams and Rivers by Retaining and Filtering Water on your Property

Rain Barrels sit beneath downspouts to collect water from a roof during each rain event; the water can be saved and used to water plants in your yard and garden during dry spells. Rain barrels help to save groundwater resources, utilize higher quality water for plants, and decrease water bills.

Conserve drinking water resources. On average, nearly 30% of our daily water use is attributed to lawn and garden care. Collecting water from rain events decreases the amount of drinking water used to water plants.

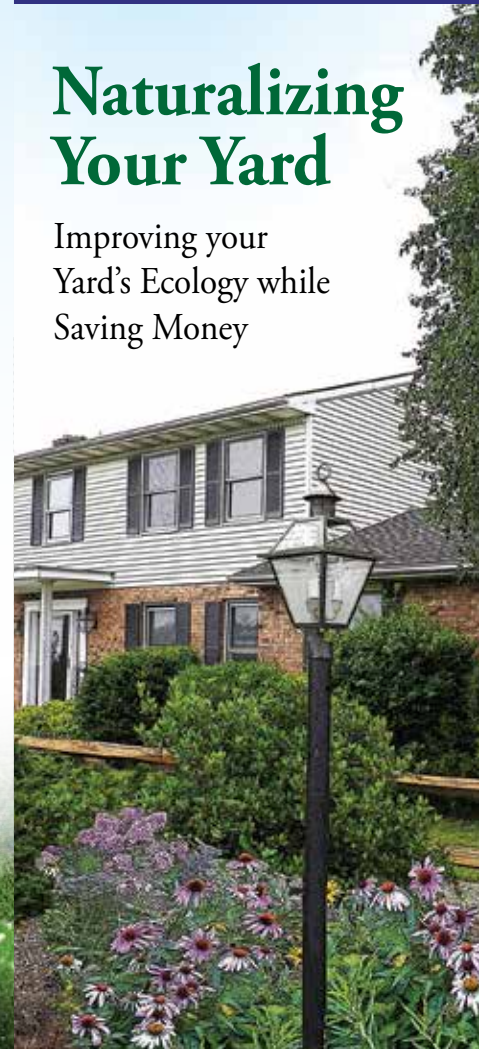
Decrease water bills. Capturing rain water also reduces the amount of water needed from municipal sources and consequently reduces associated bills.

Utilize higher quality water for plants. Water collected from rain events is better for plants than treated water (which often contains chlorine); however, rain water should be used with some caution. Water collected from the roof can be laden with leaf litter, bird droppings (potential for bacteria), dust, other airborne materials, and chemicals from the roof. It is best to use the water on inedible plants such as the lawn or flowers. To ensure safety when watering vegetables, make sure to water near the base of the plant and avoid the fruit and foliage, especially in leafy greens.

Rain Gardens are an attractive solution to retaining and filtering water. Rain gardens are landscaped depressions planted with native wildflowers, specifically designed to collect and soak up water from downspouts. When it rains, water fills up the garden and slowly infiltrates into the soil. This helps protect our local waterways by filtering pollutants and recharging the groundwater supply.

Naturalizing Your Yard

Improving your
Yard's Ecology while
Saving Money



LEHIGHTON AREA MEMORIAL LIBRARY:



124 North Street | Lehigh, PA 18235 | 610.377.2750 | libleh@ptd.net
lehighonlibrary.com

At the Library

New Time: Preschool Storytime Wednesdays at 10:30 am

New Programs: Toddler Time: Fridays at 10:30 am

Middle School Creative Writer's Workshops:

Call for information Through the LCLC

The Library is open Tuesday through Saturday with materials and services for everyone. Most are FREE and many are available to you without a Library Card:

- Books, Audiobooks, DVDs, Large Print Books, eBooks, and eAudiobooks
- Public Computers and Free WiFi
- Assistance with online applications for employment, housing, and other necessities
- Local Newspapers and National Magazines
- Photocopying, Faxing, Color and B&W Printing, and Wireless Printing (small fee)
- Online Databases for adults and children
- Online Journal and Magazine Articles
- One on One Computer, Tablet & Smartphone Help by appointment
- Educational and recreational programs for all age groups
- Summer Reading & Learning Program for all ages.

Through the LCLC

Bring in your ID and your Library Card is FREE! The Lehigh, Catasauqua, Coplay, Dimmick (Jim Thorpe), Emmaus, Lower Macungie, Palmerton, Parkland, Slatington, Southern Lehigh and Whitehall public libraries comprise the Lehigh Carbon Libraries Cooperative (LCLC).

- Eleven libraries share their collections
- Your library card gives you access to all 11 libraries
- Choose from 500,000+ items including books, DVDs, and audiobooks
- Request items from any of the LCLC libraries and pick them up in Lehigh within 1-2 days

In the New Addition

- A Children's Room: An open area with furnishings that adapt to many activities and age groups, and games, toys, and other items for children. Drop in and check it out!
- A Community Room: An enclosed space for library programs, quiet study, tutoring, and other activities.
- Accessibility: A remodeled front entrance and ADA compliant restrooms with changing tables.

Online

The Library is open 24/7 online with a variety of materials & resources for FREE. Go to our website for a full list of what we offer, including:

- Website with Library News and an Online Catalog: lehighonlibrary.com
- Application for a library card
- Virtual programs
- eBooks, audiobooks, and magazines
- Interactive books and activities for kids
- Tutoring and test prep
- Job search resources
- Language tutorials
- Genealogy and Local History
- POWER Library: the online portal to all that Pennsylvania libraries offer

Your Library is always here to help!

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HELPFUL TIPS FOR THE WINTER SEASON

- Do not shovel, plow or blow snow into the roadway. This is illegal and can cause a dangerous situation for vehicles and pedestrians.
- For your safety and to assist the Lehighton Fire Department, adopt a hydrant if there is one near your property. Please clear the snow from the hydrant.
- If you have any low hanging trees and/or shrubs on your property, please cut or remove these branches over public sidewalks and over any streets or roadways.
- Wait to shovel snow from the edge of your driveway until the street is plowed full width.
- Keep in mind that we are a community and during extreme situations such as a winter weather event, the entire community needs to work together to address the situation.

SNOW & ICE REMOVAL REMINDERS

- Borough Residents are reminded that snow and ice must be cleared from sidewalks for a path of at least 36 inches wide within 48 hours after the snow has ceased to fall.
- Businesses are reminded that all snow and ice must be removed within four hours after the snow has ceased to fall. If the snow and/or ice cessation happens in the hours of darkness, the time limit of removal begins at daybreak. Businesses must have the entire sidewalk free of any snow and ice.

NEW ORDINANCE

There is a new Ordinance in place pertaining to dumpsters. Residents wishing to place a dumpster on a Borough Street must obtain a Dumpster Permit through the Police Department. The permit must be obtained at least 5 days prior to delivery to ensure placement will not cause any traffic issues or hinder any Borough project that might be going on in the area. There is also a \$40 fee for the permit.

GARBAGE & RECYCLING

Changes were made to the Borough's Garbage/Recycling Ordinance prior to the start of the new Garbage/Recycling contract. January 2021 the new contract with Tamaqua Transfer began and the changes to the Ordinance went into effect.

The major change is that **only one** garbage toter per household will be emptied per week. This was caused by residents dumping the contents of a property at the curb for garbage pickup instead of renting a dumpster to remove items left behind by the previous occupant. This practice is not fair to the elderly/single residents who put out a small trash bag per week and pay the same garbage rates as those dumping houses at the curb.

One bulk item is still able to be put out per week without a phone call being made to the hauler or the borough. The only **NEW** requirement is that if it is a mattress/box spring or another piece of furniture made with material and padding (couch/ chair) it **MUST** be sealed in plastic for the item to be picked up.

A "Bulk Item" is an item that will not fit into the trash toter like furniture or an appliance. **It does not mean an extra bag of trash.**

Recycling is still unlimited and residents are encouraged to recycle as much as possible as it will help to lessen the amount of trash going into the toters each week. Please refer to the Tamaqua Transfer Flyer on our website for the list of items that can be put out for recycling.

Please contact Tamaqua Transfer directly at 570-668-4515 if your trash or recycling were missed. Please contact the Borough Secretary, Brenda Kreitz at 610-377-4002*211 if you are still having issues after you have contacted Tamaqua Transfer directly.





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APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Clark Ritter, Mayor

610-377-4003

mayor@leightonborough.com

Cathy Smith, Treasurer

610-377-4002 ext. 216

treasurer@leightonborough.com

Kim Rubin,

Assistant Treasurer/Secretary

610-377-4002 ext. 218

assistant@leightonborough.com

Stephen Travers, Borough Manager

610-377-4002 ext. 214

stravers@leightonborough.com

Brenda Kreitz, Secretary

610-377-4002 ext. 211 secretary@leightonborough.com

leightonborough.com

James Nanovic, Solicitor

Bruce Steigerwalt, Engineer

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Darryl Arner, Donald Rehrig, Autumn Abelovsky, Ryan Saunders

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Brian Schnell

Chris Schnell

Alternates-Manuel DaCosta, Steve Niehoff

BOROUGH OFFICE HOURS AND HOLIDAY CLOSURES

The Borough Office is open Monday through Friday from 8:30a.m. to 4:30p.m. When the office is closed, utility payments can be deposited in the payment box outside of the door on the North side of the building. The Borough offices will be closed on the following

Holidays: Thursday, November 24, 2022, Friday, November 25, 2022, Friday, December 23, 2022, Monday, December 26, 2022, Friday, December 30, 2022, Monday, January 2, 2023, Monday, February 20, 2023.

The Borough Council Meetings are usually held the first Monday of the month at 7:00p.m. in the Municipal Building. All Meetings are open to the public.

Please check out our website at www.leightonborough.com to confirm meeting dates and times, ordinances, events, etc.



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Fall/Winter 2022

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Who Needs Building Codes?

We all do—whether in our homes, offices, schools, stores, factories or places of entertainment. **We rely on the safety of structures that surround us in our everyday life.** The public need for protection from disaster due to fire, structural collapse and general deterioration underscores the need for modern codes and their administration. Most aspects of building construction (electrical wiring, heating, sanitary facilities) can represent a potential hazard to building occupants and users. **Building codes provide safeguards.** Although no code can eliminate all risks, reducing risks to an acceptable level helps.

Who is Leighton Borough's Codes Enforcer?

Barry Isett and Associates, Inc. is the Building Code Official, Zoning and Code Enforcement Officer for Leighton Borough, appointed in 2013. As certified Inspectors, our responsibility is the protection of the health, safety and welfare of the public by creating safe buildings and communities. This is accomplished through the enforcement of federal, state and local ordinances adopted by the Borough.

We take pride in providing a professional level of assistance to the community. Enforcement often begins with a written letter (Notice of Violation) to identify items that are out of compliance, the code requirement, a timeframe for completion and a fine if no action is taken to abate the issues. These items are required to be listed in the notice and may seem overwhelming and are often interpreted as demanding and offering no help. In fact, that is not the case. The Borough wants compliance with codes to ensure health and safety for the community. Isett will work with you throughout the process and provide guidance. Cooperation on your part is needed in order to achieve a successful completion of the project.

Property Maintenance and Quality of Life

One of the Borough's highest priorities is to work with property owners and tenants to preserve and maintain the neighborhoods and commercial areas. The presence of property nuisances detracts from the enjoyment and quality of life in the community. Isett handles complaints related to private property nuisances, both residential and commercial. You can assist Code Enforcement by reporting any condition you believe to be a nuisance.

Together, we can keep Leighton Borough a beautiful place in which to live and do business.

*For more information, see the Zoning & Building section of Leighton Borough's website.

UNDERSTANDING LEIGHTON BOROUGH'S CODE ENFORCEMENT