



Rush
Township
Schuylkill County, PA

www.rushtownship.org

104 Mahanoy Avenue, Tamaqua, PA 18252

Phone: 570.668.2938 Fax: 570.668.3129

JULY 2019



Summer is a great time of year! The kids are out of school, teachers are off work for several months, families are taking vacations, and neighbors are getting together for parties and picnics. While all of this is rather exciting, we sometimes forget to remember safety. Please try to keep some summer safety tips in mind: Apply sunscreen generously, drink plenty of water, use extreme caution around open flames and fireworks, wear proper shoes when mowing the lawn, wear a helmet when riding a bicycle, prevent overheating by taking breaks in the shade, etc. Have fun in the sun, but most importantly, BE SAFE!

FREE Electronics/Metal Recycling
(anything with a monitor,
however, will cost \$25)



Rush Township offers FREE electronics & metal recycling (i.e., bikes, grills, washers, dryers & stoves) for residents. Drop off at the Township Building Monday-Friday 8:00am to 4:00pm. A current Drivers I.D. is needed for proof of Rush Township Residency. If you need assistance unloading your electronics or pick up of your large metal items, please call the township office at 570-668-2938 to plan arrangements. Please see our website for more information.

CodeRED
Keeping Our Citizens Informed

Residents are urged to enroll for the Code Red Alerts on the Rush Township website. To enroll on the website, go to the homepage, then under the news tab scroll down to the link for Code Red Enrollment, click the link and complete with your information. You have the option to receive notifications by telephone, text message or email.

Code Red is an Emergency & Notification Communication Network.

Ash Pick-Up on Thursdays
Rush Township Road Crew picks up ashes for our residents every Thursday. Please have your ashes out Wednesday night. Please contact the Rush Township office at 570-668-2938 to be added to our ash pick-up list.



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Some Ordinances at a glance...

Ordinance #164: Establishing sex offender residency restrictions and penalties and violations.

- *The Board of Supervisors finds that persons who have committed the violations referred to in Megan's Law II, or who have been adjudicated as sexually violent predators, have a reduced expectation of privacy and furthermore, that residency restrictions for such persons provides additional protection for children where they congregate,*
- *It shall be unlawful for any sex offender as defined above to establish a permanent or temporary residence within 1500 feet of any school, child-care facility, common open space, community center, public park, or any other recreational facility.*

Ordinance #176: Prohibiting use of tobacco and tobacco products in recreational areas, public parks and public playgrounds and providing penalties for violations.

- *Tobacco product-any product or item intended to be chewed, smoked, or ingested by an individual which contains the substance known as tobacco, including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipes, and chewing tobacco.*

Ordinance #181: Providing that in certain fire losses, the insurer having a policy with respect to such loss shall transfer insurance proceeds to the treasurer of Rush Township to be used to pay delinquent taxes and other municipal claims or held as security and used to pay the total cost of removing, repairing, or securing the damaged building and providing for penalties for violations.

- *Implements certain procedures for the payment of fire loss claims whereby the payor insurance company, association, or exchange is required to first pay money to the home municipality to satisfy certain municipal claims and obligations or to escrow to pay costs of demolition and removal.*

Ordinance #182: Prohibiting nuisances, providing for exceptions requiring notice, prescribing penalties for violations and repealing Rush Township Ordinance #82.

- *Nuisance-any condition, whether affecting the public at large or a particular person or group of persons, existing on property, or emanating (through smoke, odor, light, noise, or vibration) from the property of any person which endangers the life, health, or safety of another person, or unreasonably causes annoyance to the comfort of any other person in the use or enjoyment of said other person's property, or unreasonably and adversely affects the property value of other properties.*



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Ordinance #183: Amending Rush Township Ordinance #180 to provide definitions of recreational fire and ceremonial fire, and to amend the notice provisions of Section 3C5.



- *Recreational fire-an outdoor fire built either in a stone, brick, or carbon steel structure designed for use as a fireplace, in a chimenea or similar structure, or in an open dirt area no more than 3 feet in diameter surrounded by brick or stones and wherein the flames from the fire do not exceed a height of 2 feet, built for the purpose of providing warmth to persons congregating around the fire.*
- *Ceremonial fire-a fire built by a chapter of a national or state-wide civic or fraternal organization containing tax-exempt status, or a religious organization or church containing tax-exempt status, as part of a ceremony of such organization.*

Ordinance #184: Amending certain provisions of Rush Township Ordinance #112-94, titled Transient Retail Business Ordinance.

- *The Board of Supervisors, recognizing the present need for the protections underlying Ordinance #112-94, such as the prevention of fraud upon unwary citizens, the prevention of crime, and the protection of citizens' privacy rights in their home, also recognizes the need to amend or modify certain provisions of Ordinance #112-94 to better offer those protections and adjust to changes in procedure brought on by passage of time since September 8, 1994 [for example criminal background checks now need to be performed by a non-police officer official of Rush Township via the internet, the website available for such checks requires the payment of a fee to perform the search, and this adds increased administrative expense to Rush Township.*

Ordinance #187: Adopting the international property maintenance code, as published by the International Code Council, 2009 Edition, with certain enumerated alterations, as the property maintenance code of Rush Township, excepting de minimis violations and prescribing penalties for violations.

- *The Board of Supervisors wishes to regulate such maintenance in Rush Township to prevent buildings and housing from deteriorating into such a dilapidated condition so as to constitute blight, which could affect property values in Rush Township and have a deleterious effect on the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of Rush Township.*



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Ordinance #189: Prohibiting any actions or behaviors within Rush Township tending to make insecure the safety of persons or property within Rush Township and prohibiting disturbances of the peace within Rush Township and providing penalties for violations.

- *No person shall engage in any unreasonable action or behavior within Rush Township which tends to threaten the peace, quiet, or good order of Rush Township, or which unreasonably causes danger to or the insecurity of any persons or property located within Rush Township.*
- *No person, irrespective of age, while under the influence of alcohol, shall engage in any action or behavior within Rush Township which tends to threaten the peace, quiet, or good order of Rush Township, or which causes danger to or the insecurity of any persons or property located within Rush Township.*

Ordinance #194: Prohibiting the placing, securing, or affixing of any sign or item on any traffic regulation sign of Rush Township, authorizing the abatement of any violation by officials of Rush Township and prescribing penalties for violations.

- *The Board of Supervisors is aware of the habit, custom, or actions of the public in placing certain signs or items (such as balloons) on Traffic Regulation Signs to advertise or to promote or inform of an event (i.e. yard sale, birthday party, or open house) and the Board is aware of the important purpose that Traffic Regulation Signs serve, namely to regulate the safe flow of traffic and the potential distraction any signs or items placed thereon could cause to motorists, potentially causing them to miss or fail to see the regulations stated by the Traffic Regulations Sign. Therefore, Rush Township is given authority to protect the welfare of its citizens (Section 1506 of the Second-Class Township Code), secure the safety of persons within the Township (Section 1527 of the Second-Class Township Code), and prohibit nuisances (Section 1529 of the Second-Class Township Code).*





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Ordinance #195: Prohibiting the leaving of signs or items on posts, poles, or on the ground within public rights-of-ways in the Township, which were places to advertise or to promote or inform of an event, beyond 48 hours after the event being advertised, promoted, or informed of has occurred, and in no event longer than thirty (30) days; authorizing the abatement of any violations by officials of Rush Township and prescribing penalties for violations.

- *The Board of Supervisors is aware of the habit, custom, or actions of the public in placing certain signs or items (such as balloons) on Traffic Regulation Signs to advertise or to promote or inform of an event (i.e. yard sale, birthday party, or open house) and the Board is aware of the habit, custom, or actions of the public in affixing certain signs or items directly into the ground within public rights-of-way within Rush Township to advertise or to promote or inform of an event (such as a mattress sale at a local business establishment. The Board is also aware that often times the signs or items referenced above are left placed or affixed in public rights-of-way within Rush Township after the event which the sign or item advertised, promoted, or informed about and has passed, therefore, Rush Township is given authority to provide for the proper care of the Township [Section 1506 of the Second-Class Township Code], which encompasses the authority to prevent littering and taking actions to keep the Township beautiful and aesthetically pleasing.*

Ordinance #196: Regulating the parking of vehicles during periods of declared snow emergencies; prohibiting the placement of snow and ice onto the public streets; requiring owners or occupiers of real property to clean and remove snow and ice from sidewalks; prohibiting the placement of snow and ice so as to limit or restrict access to fire hydrants; and proscribing penalties, including summary fines, imprisonment, and towing, for violations.

- *Snow and ice can and do impair the flow of vehicular traffic and fire equipment and pedestrian traffic, which may result in conditions adverse to the welfare and safety of the residents of Rush Township. It is necessary in order to ensure the welfare and safety of the traveling public, that the streets and sidewalks in Rush Township be cleared of snow and ice as promptly as possible. Restricting parking on certain streets makes it easier to plow and treat those streets.*





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Ordinance #198: Requiring a license to engage in transient retail business in the Township; Outlining an appropriate application; creating exceptions; governing issuance; describing prohibiting acts; allowing revocation; establishing a review process; and prescribing penalties for violations.

- *The Board of Supervisors desires to regulate transient retail businesses within the Township to lessen the potential for fraud upon unwary citizens, particularly a significant elderly population, to lessen the chance of crime, and to protect the privacy rights of citizens in their home.*

Ordinance #199: Establishing parking regulations, authorizing towing, and establishing penalties for violations.

- *The parking of motor vehicles in various ways throughout Rush Township can affect both the safety of the traveling public and the property of the public and Section 2328 of the Second-Class Township Code, 53 P.S. 67328, authorizes a Board of Supervisors to regulate parking by ordinance, and the Rush Township Board of Supervisors wish to regulate certain parking practices in Rush Township.*

Ordinance #200: Authorizing the placement of a street sign on a street warning drivers of the possible presence of a hearing or visual impaired individual residing in the vicinity; establishing eligibility requirements; establishing an application form and fee; and establishing placement guidelines.

- *A parent or legal guardian of a child 16 years or less with a medically documented visual or hearing impairment, or the legal guardian or caretaker of a mentally challenged adult with a medically documented mental impairment and visual or hearing impairment, may apply to Rush Township for the placement of a street sign on a street in the vicinity of the child's or person's residence warning drivers of the possible presence of a visual or hearing impaired child or person.*

Ordinance #201: Repealing and replacing Rush Township Ordinance #197; setting standards and regulations for the application and approval of person with disability or severely disabled Veteran parking spaces; setting and application fee for administrative purposes, proscribing certain actions; and establishing penalties for violations.

- *Section 2328 of the Second-Class Township Code, 53 P.S. 67328, authorizes the Board of Supervisors of a Second-Class Township to enact ordinances to regulate parking, including persons with disabilities or severely disabled Veteran parking; and 75 Pa.C.S.A. 3354 and Act 144 of 2018 grant a township additional powers with respect to the regulation of parking, including persons with disabilities or severely disabled Veteran parking.*





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Leaf and Branch Collection

Leaf and Branch collection will start in October and run thru November 2019. Leaves will not be collected in the Lake Hauto development. All leaves and branches must be raked curbside and not bagged for trash.

Week of Oct 28: areas South of 54 & East of 309
Week of Nov 4: areas North of 54 & East of 309
Week of Nov. 11: areas South of 54 & West of 309
Week of Nov 18: areas North of 54 & West of 309
Week of Nov 25: General scattered cleanup

See our Facebook page or Web Page for any changes or updates.



Curbside Recycling

As part of the weekly garbage collection, Rush Township also offers curbside recycling pick up for our residents. Items allowed for recycling pick-up are glass bottles & jars, aluminum, steel & bimetal cans, newsprint, magazines, phone books, cardboard and plastic bearing a #1 thru #5 on the container. In addition to curbside pick-up of recycling, Rush Township also has a large recycling bin located in the parking lot of the Township Building for anytime drop off for Rush Township residents only.

Attn:

Moving permits are required of everyone moving in and out of Rush Township. Moving permits can be obtained at the Municipal Building at 104 Mahanoy Ave., Hometown. There is no charge for a moving permit.



Did you know? - Recycling

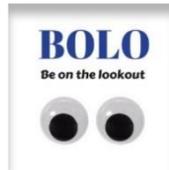
1. Recycling helps conserve our natural resources such as coal, oil and gas.
2. If all of our newspaper was recycled, we would save 250,000,000 trees a year.
3. Every month, we throw away enough glass bottles & jars to fill up a giant skyscraper, all of these are recyclable.
4. More than 20,000,000 Hershey's kisses are wrapped each day, using 133 square miles of tin foil, all of which is recyclable, most people do not know this.
5. By recycling 1 aluminum can you can save enough energy to run a TV for 3 hours or the equivalent of half a gallon of gasoline.
6. Recycling 1 plastic bottle saves enough energy to power a 60- watt light bulb for 6 hours.
7. Recycling 1 million laptops saves the energy equivalent to the electricity used by 3,675 U.S. homes in one year.
8. Each ton of recycled paper can save 17 trees, 380 gallons of oil, 3 cubic yards of landfill space, 4000 kilowatts of energy and 7000 gallons of water.
9. The amount of wood & paper that we throw away each year is enough to heat 50,000,000 for 20 years.
10. There is no limit to the amount of times that aluminum can be recycled.



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BE ON THE LOOKOUT....



Rush Township will be participating in the decennial census for 2020. You will be receiving a mailing in the first quarter of 2020 from the Census Bureau, and your participation in completing this form is essential!

Why Participate?

- * Governments that participate in LUCA (Local Update of Census Addresses) help ensure an accurate decennial census count for their communities.
- * An accurate count helps the federal government annually allocate more than \$675 billion across 26 federal agencies for tribal, state, and local government programs and services.
- * Data is used to distribute federal funds for over 1000 programs administered by 26 federal agencies to tribal, state, and local governments.
- * Provides statistical support for grant applications that fund community and regional development, education, agriculture, energy, and environmental programs, as well as other needed community improvements and enhancements.
- * To help your community plan for future needs.

Board of Supervisors

Chairman Shawn E. Gilbert
Vice-Chairman Robert J. Leibensperger
Supervisor Jeaninne Motroni

Township Zoning & Planning Contact

Arro Engineering
(570) 366-9534
www.arroconsulting.com

Arro Engineering out of Orwigsburg
handles the zoning/building permits for our
Township
Comprehensive Inspection Agency
(570-385-3010)

Don't forget to visit our website for up-to-date information on the Township. www.rushtownship.org

And like our page on Facebook:
Rush Township Board of Supervisors,
Schuylkill County