

Franc Talk

Newsletter of Franconia Township • Spring 2010



Police Department Wins Award

The Franconia Township Police Department is pleased to announce that we have been selected as a 2009 National Award Winner for our National Night Out Against Crime celebration. Our celebration was held at the Franconia Township Park on Allentown Road on Tuesday, August 4, 2009. This was the township's 13th year hosting this national anti-crime awareness celebration. The department was recognized under the "Category 5: under 15,000 population" category.

This is fantastic news for our township, as it was the dedicated support of our community members, local businesses, public safety organizations and the

township staff that helped to create such a successful event. We would like to extend our sincere appreciation and congratulations to everyone for your support of the Franconia Township Police Department's National Night Out Against Crime celebration.

Please visit www.FranconiaPolice.org for more information, a list of participants, and photos of our 2009 celebration.

SAVE THE DATE: Our 2010 NNO celebration will be held on Tuesday, August 3. Please contact Janice Froshour @ 215-723-6777 for more information or if you would like to participate. 🌹

Notice Township Mailing Address Changing

Effective immediately, the mailing address for Franconia Township has changed. The physical address remains the same. The Township's new address is as follows:

**Franconia Township
671 Allentown Road
Telford, PA 18969-2205**

Please adjust your records accordingly. 🌹

Chairman Selected by the Board of Supervisors

Supervisor Steven P. Barndt was re-elected Chairman of the Board at their annual organizational meeting on January 4, 2010. Grey R. Godshall was re-elected 1st Vice-Chairman and W. Keith Freed was re-elected 2nd Vice-Chairman with Supervisors Drew Darrah and Curtis N. Kratz completing the board's composition. 🌹

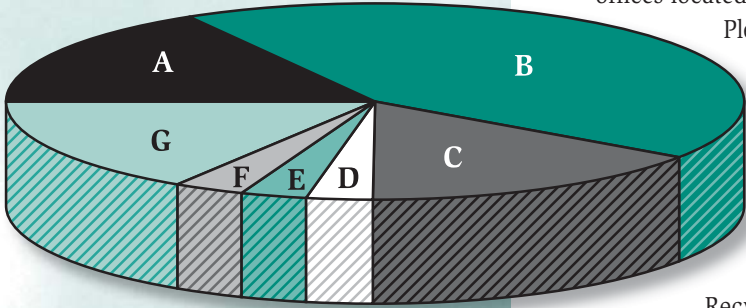
Plunging for a Good Cause

On Saturday, January 31st, 2010 the Chief of Police, Joseph Kozeniewski participated in the Polar Plunge! The Polar Plunge is a fundraising event in which people plunge into the cold waters of the Jersey shore to support the Special Olympics. All proceeds from the event are donated to this organization. To the right is a picture of the Chief decked out in an Irish costume taking the plunge in the frigid waters where the air temperature was approximately 20 degrees. 🌹



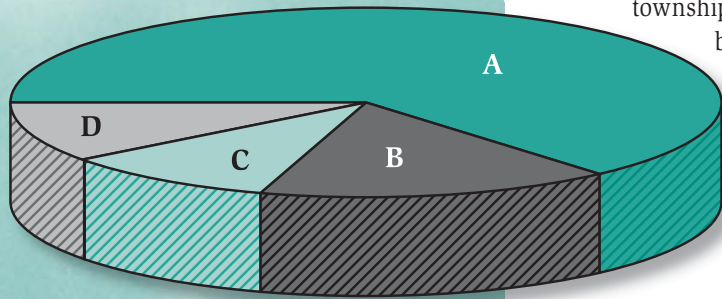
2010 Township Budget Approval

The Board of Supervisors approved a \$6.07 million 2010 General Fund budget. The general purpose millage rate (.774) was increased from the previous year (.730). The fire (.125) and library (.165) support remained unchanged. The township 2010 millage rate was set at 1.0647.



Expenses are allocated to the following departments:

- A) Administration: \$1,008,056
- B) Police/Fire Protection: \$2,610,070
- C) Public Works: \$941,367
- D) Code Enforcement: \$173,774
- E) Recreation: \$176,000
- F) Debt Service: \$190,000
- G) Interfund Transfers: \$973,400



Revenue is from the following sources:

- A) Taxes (Real Estate, EMST, EIT): \$3,861,644
- B) Intergovernmental Revenue: \$986,100
- C) General Government: \$602,420
- D) Operating Transfers: \$622,503

Franc Talk Notes

SPRING LEAF COLLECTION – Curbside leaf collection will be provided through J.P. Mascaro & Son again this Spring. Section 1 of the township will be collected on Thursday, April 23rd, 2010 and Section 2 on Friday, April 24th, 2010. Leaves must be placed in the biodegradable bags available free to township residents at the administrative offices located on Allentown Road.

Please verify your section when you pick up your leaf bags.

COMPOSTING AGREEMENT

– The Northern Montgomery County Recycling Commission reached an agreement with the Barnside Composting Facility to provide a drop-off location for residents to dispose of yard and leaf waste. Please visit the township website at www.franconiatownship.org for more information on hours of operation and location.

REMEMBER TO VOTE – Election Day is just around the corner! The Township reminds all eligible residents to vote on Tuesday, May 18, 2010. Voter registration forms are available at the township building as are absentee ballots. Listed below are the polling places within Franconia Township. If you are unsure at which polling location you should be voting or you would like additional information pertaining to the election please contact Voter's Registration at 610-278-3280.

POLLING PLACES

- Precinct 1**
Franconia Township Building
671 Allentown Road, Franconia
- Precinct 2**
Christ Reformed Church
Church & Cowpath Roads, Telford

Precinct 3
Christ Reformed Church
Church & Cowpath Roads, Telford

Precinct 4
Franconia Township Building
671 Allentown Road, Franconia

Precinct 5
Immanuel Leidy's Church
276 W. Cherry Lane, Souderton

Precinct 6
Peter Becker Community
800 Maple Avenue, Harleysville

Precinct 7
Peter Becker Community
800 Maple Avenue, Harleysville

Precinct 8
Immanuel Leidy's Church
276 W. Cherry Lane, Souderton

DISCOUNT AMUSEMENT PARK TICKETS – The Park & Recreation Board will be selling discount amusement park tickets again this summer. The tickets usually arrive around Memorial Day and can be purchased at the Township office located on Allentown Road during normal business hours (M-F 8:00AM-4:30PM). Tickets must be purchased with cash or money order, no checks please!

VOLUNTEER APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE – Residents of Franconia Township that have an interest in serving on a committee or other volunteer commission should submit a Volunteer Application form to the Township Manager. The township retains applications for a two-year period to fill vacancies as they occur. The township relies on volunteer residents to be part of the legislative committees that assist the Board of Supervisors in their decision making process. Support your township by being a volunteer!

NOTICE – Any illicit discharge as defined in the Franconia Township Stormwater Ordinance is a violation of the code, and those who dump will be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine. 🌿

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle


Recycling is something every resident can do to help keep Franconia Township “green”. Did you know?

- Each of us generates on average 4.4 pounds of waste per day per person.
- Recycling one glass bottle saves enough energy to light a 100-watt bulb for four hours.
- Recycling one six-pack of aluminum cans saves the same amount of energy needed to drive a car five miles.

GENERAL RECYCLING TIPS

- Cans and bottles should be washed out
- Remove all caps and lids and discard them with all your regular trash
- Only plastic items marked with a number 1 or 2 symbol may be recycled
- Keep paper items separate from other recyclables
- Paper including phone books, magazines, junk mail, and newspapers is recyclable


Curbside recycling is mandatory in Franconia Township so all waste haulers operating within our township must offer this service. Recycle bins are available for township residents for free at the administrative office located on Allentown Road.

Additional Recycling: Additional recycling can be done at Franconia Township Highway Maintenance Department located at 480 Indian Creek Road. There is a dumpster for glass (clear, brown and green) and a second dumpster for aluminum cans only. Cardboard may be placed in the third dumpster. Please crush boxes, etc. before placing in the dumpster. 

2010 Township Road Construction Projects

Good news, there will be a limited number of road projects this year. The following is a list of scheduled road projects for the upcoming season.

- Overlay Project – Overlay **Rising Sun Road**
- Chip Seal Projects – **Long Mill Road, Ruth Road, Hunsicker Road, Greenhill Road, Hollow Road,** and also **Laurel Lane** and **Juniper Circle.**
- Trail Installation – Installing a trail to connect the existing trail at **Harrington Village to West Broad Street** through the elementary school property.
- **Fall 2010** – Installing new playground equipment at **Franconia Community Park along Allentown Road.**

Please be advised there will be a series of road closures and construction in the area of Wambold Road in conjunction with the 309 Connector Project. For more information on road closures please contact Charles Metzger, PennDot Community Relations Coordinator at 610-205-6801. You can also view a list of the planned closures on the Township Website at www.franconiatownship.org under the “new” section of the homepage. 

What is a Rain Garden


It is a depression (about 6 inches deep) that collects runoff from a roof, driveway or yard and allows it to infiltrate into the ground. Rain gardens are typically planted with shrubs or perennials, and can be colorful, landscaped areas in your yard that will also provide important environmental benefits.

Rain Gardens are beneficial to our environment in several ways. They:

- Reduce the amount of pollutants that wash into lakes, streams, ponds and wetlands.
- Help sustain adequate stream flow during dry spells through infiltration and recharge.
- Enhance the beauty of your yard and the neighborhood.
- Help protect communities from flooding and drainage problems.
- Reduce the need for costly municipal storm water treatment structures.

Adapted from University of Wisconsin Extension, Rain Gardens: A How-to Manual for Homeowners.

Consider a Rain Garden: Why build a rain garden at our home?

You can make a difference! Every time it rains, water runs off impervious surfaces such as roofs, driveways, roads and parking lots, collecting pollutants along the way. This runoff has been cited by the United States Environmental Protection Agency as a major source of pollution to our nation’s waterways. By building a rain garden at your home, you can reduce the amount of pollutants that leave your yard and enter nearby lakes, streams and ponds. As more rain gardens are installed, the amount of pollutants that reach the local waterways will be lessened. We can all play a role in preserving the health of our waterways! 

Public Sewer Update 2010Q1

Franconia Sewer Authority (FSA) continues to work on a number of projects. Following is a listing of projects currently underway or planned for 2010 and their status.

FSA TREATMENT PLANT ON THE SKIPPACK CREEK

Construction started on the FSA Skippack Creek Treatment Plant in July 2009. Construction was to start about eight months earlier, but on opening the bids in the first round, the cost was determined to be excessive (about 35% higher than was hoped for) and FSA chose to reject all bids. Some re-engineering was done and the project was rebid in March 2009. This time the numbers came in right on target and contracts were awarded to the lowest qualified bidders. Preparations had been made well in advance to assure that the new Souderton Area High School would have sewer service using pump and haul. In fact, FSA has been providing sewer service for the new high school since May 2008. Completion and start up will occur this year.

EARLINGTON/SALFORD TOWNSHIP

Construction of all sewer mains in the Earlington area has been completed. Those properties not relying on the Earlington pump station have already been allowed to connect. The remainder of the Earlington residents will be able to connect this year. FSA is still targeting June/July for completion of the Earlington pump station to be located near the Branch Creek and Allentown Road. The pump station project will be a joint construction with North Penn Water Authority (NPWA). NPWA will be constructing a booster station on the same property as the FSA pump station. These two facilities will allow public water and sewer service to be provided to Salford Township, as well as sewer service for the remaining Earlington residents. Recent newspaper articles suggest a slight possibility that the WB Homes development may not come to fruition. Regard-

less of the status of that development, FSA and NPWA are committed to move forward on these needed projects and in line with our original timeline. Once the pump station is ready, all remaining Earlington residents will receive notice of their ability to connect, and to take advantage of discounts if done so within 90 days of receipt of the letter.

MORWOOD AREA

Following completion of the treatment plant and Earlington pump station, final engineering will begin on the Morwood piping design and pump stations. Aside from the engineering, numerous permits need to be secured from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The permit review process by DEP can only be completed after all engineering designs are completed. Therefore, with all of the engineering, reviews, other administration, and finally, construction, we are looking at two- to three-years for public sewers in Morwood.

RELIANCE/GODSHALL/SMOKEPIPE/COWPATH ROAD

Most of this project has been completed for some time. A small segment of sewers along Godshall Road was being scrutinized by DEP but all permits are now in hand. We will begin final construction on this project in the very near future. The notice of service availability letter will be sent as soon as the entire project is complete. If you need public sewer and live in this area, contact FSA to see if the line is currently available for connection. As was already stated, most of the lines are installed, and residents can already connect their properties to them.

LOWER ROAD

Much of Lower Road around the new High School has public sewer lines installed. When the Skippack Creek treatment plant is in operation residents with access to public sewer on Lower Road will be notified of their ability to connect, and how to take advantage of discounts for early connection and/or providing full payment upfront.

ALLENTOWN/DELP ROAD AREA

A portion of sewer line was installed

in Allentown Road in anticipation of public sewer service availability due to the construction of the Skippack Creek treatment plant. Since construction of the treatment plant was delayed (see above), the timing of the Allentown/Delp Road public sewers has also been delayed. We plan to begin working on Delp and Halteman Roads toward the end of 2010 or early in 2011. We do not anticipate any connections being made in this area until all sewer lines are installed.

MOYER ROAD


A segment of Moyer Road between Lower and Halteman will be getting public sewer at about the same time as the Allentown/Delp Road project. See that project description above for timing.

LESLIE LANE

With the collapse of THP (who was going to construct the Leslie Lane sewer), this project was put on hold. FSA is planning to put this project out to bid in the next couple of months. This project should be completed in 2010.

Other projects that are on the FSA radar screen, but will not likely be worked on this year (unless major health problems are identified or money becomes readily available) include:

- *Allentown Road*
(near the Township Building)
- *Forrest Road*
– between Cowpath and Fourth
- *County Line Road* – between Forrest and the Branch Creek
- *Schoolhouse Road*
– between Souder and Wambold
- *Schoolhouse Road*
– between 113 and Yoder

Note that the above projects likely include some side streets attached to the main sewer. For a complete listing of projects and considerations visit the FSA website at www.franconiasewer.org. Click on the “Sewer Locations and Planning” link on the left-hand side. If you have any questions or would like FSA to look at potential sewer needs in your area, please contact us via email (at the link above) or at the Township Building. 

EventsCalendar

Summer Session

Jun. (TBD), Jul. 12 - 15,
Aug. 9 - 12, 2010

Fall Session

Saturdays, Sept. 11 - Oct. 9, 2010

Youth Tennis Clinic

WHEN: 9:30AM - 11:00AM

**WHERE: Franconia Community
Park Tennis Court**

The Franconia Park & Recreation Board will offer youth tennis clinics this summer! The clinics will be for children age 6-12 years old. Skilled instruction will be provided by Monica Bach. The cost of the clinic is \$75.00 per person. If you are interested in developing your tennis skills this is the clinic for you! Just bring a tennis racket and join in on the fun! Pre-registration required, please do so at the Township Building.

Saturday, May 8, 2010

Fishing Derby

WHEN: 9:00AM - 11:30AM

**WHERE: Branchwood Park, Camp
Road (Morwood, PA)**

State Representative Robert W. Godshall and the Franconia Park & Recreation Commission will be sponsoring the 19th Annual Youth Fishing Derby this spring. All youths up to age 12 may come out and join the fishing contest. There will be refreshments and prizes!

Saturday, May 15, 2010

Franconia Township Clean-Up Day

WHEN: 7:00AM - 12:00PM

**WHERE: J.P. Mascaro & Sons
Transfer Station
Lower & Wile Roads**

Franconia Township has designated Saturday, May 15th, 2010 as Clean Up Day. Any Franconia resident may dispose of normal household trash at the J.P. Mascaro and Sons Inc. Transfer Station located on Lower and Wile Roads. Prior registration is required and can be done beginning May 1st in person

at the Franconia Township Municipal Building located at 671 Allentown Road between the hours of 8:00AM to 4:30PM. Registration is first come first served and spaces will be limited. Normal household trash may include:

- Old appliances and "white goods" (i.e. old dishwasher, washing machine)
- Refrigerators or freezers (only with condenser and coils removed)

Construction debris, grass clippings, motor oil, tires, paint and hazardous materials and car parts will not be accepted!

Saturday, May 15, 2010

Community Yard Sale

WHERE: Franconia

Community Park

Details not yet available. Contact the Township office to follow up.

Wednesday, July 14, 2010

Mango Men

WHEN: 7:00PM - 9:00PM

WHERE: Franconia

Community Park

(Rain Date: Thurs., July 15, 2010)

The Franconia Park & Recreation Board is pleased to announce that the Mango Men will be back for their 8th annual concert in the park this summer. Please come out and join us on the lawn of the Franconia Community Park. There will be plenty of music, food, and fun!

Summer 2010 (Dates & Times TBD)

Adult Tennis Tournament

WHEN: TBD

**WHERE: Franconia Community
Park Tennis Court**

The Park & Recreation Committee is planning an adult summer tennis tournament. The tournament will be held at the courts located at both Franconia Community Park on Allentown Road and Branchwood Park located on Camp Road. Board member John Neves is organizing the event and additional

information will be forthcoming. Please check the township website for additional information at www.franconiatownship.org

Tuesday, August 3, 2010

National Night Out Against Crime

WHEN: 6:00PM - 9:00PM

WHERE: Franconia

Community Park

(Rain Date: Wed., August 4, 2010)

The Franconia Township Police Department will be hosting its 14th Annual Night Out Against Crime celebration. This is an annual worldwide event in which law enforcement agencies, local officials, local businesses, and citizens get together to increase anti-crime awareness and strengthen community partnerships. It will be a fun filled family night with emergency equipment demonstrations, car show, give-aways, basket raffle, food and refreshments. For more information visit the police website. If your organization would like to participate, please contact Janice Froshour at 215-723-6777.

Stormwater Survey

Franconia Township's MS4 Stormwater Committee is interested in knowing how members of the community think and act in relation to stormwater management and how green our community has become. Please log onto the township website and take our survey! Those of you who complete the survey will have your name entered in a random drawing and be eligible to win a "green" prize. Log onto www.franconiatownship.org under the "new" section on the homepage and click on "stormwater survey", then complete the survey and submit! 

Stormwater Discharges from Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s)


Polluted stormwater runoff is commonly transported through Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s), from which it is often discharged untreated into local waterbodies. To prevent harmful pollutants from being washed or dumped into an MS4, operators must obtain a NPDES permit and develop a stormwater management program.

- Phase I, issued in 1990, requires medium and large cities or certain counties with populations of 100,000 or more to obtain NPDES permit coverage for their stormwater discharges.
- Phase II, issued in 1999, requires regulated small MS4s in urbanized areas, as well as small MS4s outside the urbanized areas that are designated by the permitting authority, to obtain NPDES permit coverage for their stormwater discharges.

Generally, Phase I MS4s are covered by individual permits and Phase II MS4s are covered by a general permit. Each regulated MS4 is required to develop and implement a stormwater management program (SWMP) to reduce the contamination of stormwater runoff and prohibit illicit discharges.

WHAT IS AN MS4?

An MS4 is a conveyance or system of conveyances that is:

- Owned by a state, city, town, village, or other public entity that discharges to waters of the U.S.;
- Designed or used to collect or convey stormwater (including storm drains, pipes, ditches, etc.);
- Not a combined sewer; and
- Not part of a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (sewage treatment plant). 

Land Development/ Subdivisions

The following land developments/subdivisions have received final approval:

- **402 Morwood Road Minor Subdivision:** Herb's Landscaping, 1-lot subdivision - Morwood Road

The following land developments have received preliminary approval:

- **Martin Subdivision:** Andrew & Elizabeth Martin, 3-lot subdivision - Church Road

The Following land developments/subdivisions are currently under review by the

FRANCONIA TOWNSHIP
671 Allentown Road, P.O. Box 128
Franconia PA 18924
(215) 723-1137
www.franconiatownship.org

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Steven P. Barndt, *Chairman*
Grey R. Godshall, *1st Vice Chairman*
W. Keith Freed, *2nd Vice Chairman*
Drew Darrah
Curtis N. Kratz

TOWNSHIP MANAGER
Kevin D. Bayer

POLICE DEPARTMENT
Administration (215) 723-6777
Emergency 9-1-1 or (215) 723-6777

Joseph S. Kozeniewski, *Chief*
Jeffrey C. Gower, *Sergeant / Patrol*
David A. Klepfer, *D.A.R.E. / School Resource Officer*

BUILDING / PLUMBING INSPECTION
(215) 723-1137
Roger M. Koffel, *Code Enforcement Officer*
Jerry Rittenhouse, *Building Inspector / Code Enforcement Officer*

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
(215) 723-1153
Paul R. Nice, *Public Works Director*

Planning Commission:

- **Leidy's Church Land Development:** Leidy's Church, new church and recreational areas - Leidy Road & W. Cherry Lane
- **Kapusta Lot Line Adjustment:** Richard Kapusta, minor lot line adjustment - Landis Road
- **The Pizza Box Land Development:** Joe Genova, village commercial redevelopment of dwelling into a restaurant and apartment use - Morwood Road 

If you would like to receive your newsletter via email or view it on the township website rather than receive a paper copy please contact the township office to sign-up and remove your name from the mailing list.

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U.S. Postage
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Telford, PA
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Franconia Township
671 Allentown Road
Telford PA 18969-2205

