

# Berwick Borough News

## News You Can Use



### BERWICK BOROUGH NEWSLETTER: FALL 2008

#### When are Council Meetings?

Council meetings are normally scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month. If there is a Special Meeting, it will be advertised at least 24 hours in advance in the legals section of the Press Enterprise. Council Workshops are scheduled for any Monday of the month. If a workshop is not scheduled for a particular Monday, a notice will be posted on the bulletin board at City Hall.

#### Fall Brush and Leaf Pick- Up, Drop-Off, and Christmas Trees: Keep These Dates in Mind!

- **Brush Pick-Up: October 20<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>**
  - Brush **MUST** be at **CURBSIDE** in front of your home. Limbs cannot be larger than 8" in diameter.
- **Leaf Pick-Up: November 3<sup>rd</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>**
  - The Borough will be picking up bagged leaves at curbside from November 3 – November 14. Leaves can also be raked out onto the curb as well. All leaves must be in front of your home no later than 7am. Pick up will be in the 1<sup>st</sup> Ward on Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward on Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward on Wednesday, and 4<sup>th</sup> Ward on Thursday.

*The Public Works department will NOT go into your yard to collect leaves or brush!*

- **Brush Drop-Off at Test Track:** From November – March: 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of Month from 1pm – 5pm.
- **Christmas Tree Pick-Up:** January 5<sup>th</sup> – January 8<sup>th</sup>: 1<sup>st</sup> Ward Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> Ward Thursday. All nails and objects must be removed from the tree. A \$50 fee will be assessed **if you fail to remove a nail** or other harmful object from the tree, as it will cause damage to machinery.

#### What is coming up in the Borough?

In a continuous effort to provide events and activities for families in the Berwick Area, we would like to inform you of the following upcoming events in Berwick:

- Berwick Chamber of Commerce Showcase: Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> Nescopeck Township Fire Hall.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Haunted Hall at City Hall: Sat, Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> from 6pm – 10pm: FREE
- Berwick Sports Hall of Fame Ceremony: Oct 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Fire Hall Bingo at Defenders and Eagles every Wednesday at 6:30pm
- Elks Halloween Parade: October 28<sup>th</sup>, rain date Oct 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Trick or Treat Night: October 30<sup>th</sup>
- National Election Day: Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>
- Wine Tasting Event at McBride Memorial Library: Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>
- Eagle Hose Company Craft Show: Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>
- Run for the Diamonds: Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>: Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Boulevard Hay Rides: We will once again be providing Hay Rides down the Boulevard from Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>: FREE

#### Remember the Snow Removal Ordinance!

In our last newsletter, we outlined the new Snow Removal Ordinance that was passed in 2007 by Council. With Winter approaching, remember to follow the Ordinance. For a copy of the Ordinance, check out our website or visit City Hall.

THERE'S A LOT GOING ON IN  
THE BOROUGH OF BERWICK.  
CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE TO  
GET UPDATES AND NEWS:

[www.berwickborough.org](http://www.berwickborough.org)

Be sure to check out the  
calendar!

#### Landlord Ordinance Update:

If you are a Landlord or if you are a Tenant that has not registered at City Hall, the Ordinance requires you to do so immediately. If this is the case, you are in direct violation of the Ordinance and will be forced pay fines for such violations. If you have questions, be sure to contact Greg Harkins, extension 13. For 2009, **ALL LANDLORDS MUST BE REGISTERED BY JANUARY 10<sup>th</sup>**. Literature will follow.

#### Be Careful Out There!

Do not feed stray animals! Do not attempt to pet stray animals! There has been a report of a rabid animal on the west end of the Borough. If you see an animal that is acting funny or is out during the day and shouldn't be, call the police immediately! They will contact animal control and deal with it accordingly.

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### Construction and Demolition!

The Berwick Hotel has finally been sold to First Columbia Bank & Trust. They will be demolishing the building in coming months to make way for a new bank in our downtown! In other news, there are several housing projects in the works in both the east and west ends of the Borough. Stay tuned for more details!

### Housing Rehab:

The Borough once again has received a \$350,000 grant to do housing rehab work in town. You must meet certain income guidelines to be eligible for this federal grant. The grant is designed to assist the elderly as well as the financially struggling homeowners in community to update their homes, such as improved bathrooms, ramps, roofs, and other codes deficiencies. Call Judy at extension 15 for details if your house needs updated codes and we will help you get on the list. You won't know unless you call!

### Other Grants:

The Borough has recently applied for or obtained the following federal and state grants to assist in our efforts to improve our Borough:

- Boat Ramp Grant: application to improve the Boat Access area at Test Track Park, through PA Fish and Boat Commission and Berwick Health and Wellness
- Penn Prime Liability and Worker's Comp Grants. Received two grants totaling \$4,000 to improve equipment for police and public works
- DEP 904 Grant: Received a \$253,000 Recycling Grant to purchase a wood chipper and other collection equipment
- Elm Street Planning Grant: Economic Rehab Planning Grant for neighborhoods
- DEP 902 Grant: \$15,000 performance grant for recycling tonnage
- PA Council of the Arts: \$2,000 concerts grant

- DEP Dumpster Day Grant: Received reimbursement for majority of costs for Dumpster Day: Total > \$5,000.
- DCED Infrastructure Grant: Applied for \$30,000 grant to help with the Bowers Lane Bridge reconstruction
- DCED \$25,000 Tactical Gear Grant: received for protective police gear
- Rails to Trails Planning Grant – DCNR
- River Towns Planning Grant – Seda Cog
- We have received over \$1.3 million in additional grants since 2006 and continue to work to save our taxpayers money through these efforts, as we are able to offset many of our costs with this funding.



### The Recycling Corner

### Major Announcement:

**Effective January 1, 2009, your garbage hauler will no longer be picking up recycling at your home. This is for residential areas only! If you are a business, your hauler is still responsible.....**

Recently, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection mandated the Borough of Berwick to either pick up recycling internally, or to contract a single recycling hauler for the entire community, due to the fact that there are large numbers of haulers and citizens in violation of PA Act 101. The Borough examined all possibilities, searching for the most cost-efficient way to do this. DEP estimated that it would cost more than \$50 per household per year to pick up recycling. Internally, we could do it for about \$45 per household, in addition to purchasing a vehicle, maintaining it, and adding additional labor. We were able to obtain a bid from JAWS Recycling

in Danville for a cost of approximately \$7 - \$9 per household per year, which is significantly less than original estimates. Therefore, as of January 1, 2009, JAWS Recycling will be collecting all curbside recycling in the Borough.

The fee will be collected with your annual tax bill. We are currently trying to pressure garbage haulers to reduce fees as a result of this; however, the law does not state that they must comply with our request. We will have an updated schedule on the Borough Website and in the Press Enterprise in December. We also plan to place a drop-off place at Test Track Park with designated times and days.

If you have questions regarding **RECYCLING**, contact:

**Andrew Holter**  
Recycling Coordinator  
andrew@berwick-pa.com  
570-752-2723 ext. 16

**J A W S Recycling**  
570-271-1080

### RECYCLING IS THE LAW!

### WHY RECYCLE?

Recycling in the Borough of Berwick is the law and like other laws carries penalties when violated. We are mandated to recycle through PA Act 101 of 1988.

In the Borough of Berwick, it is required that residents recycle at least three: at the very least, newspapers, bi-metal and aluminum cans, and plastic. Others are greatly encouraged. What you use the most is what you should recycle.

Businesses in the Borough of Berwick are required to recycle at least three as well: at the very least, cardboard, office paper, and newspapers. Again, we greatly encourage you to recycle everything you can.

**More Recycling Information can be found at Berwick Borough City Hall and on our website!**