

Washington

TOWNSHIP

Lehigh County • Pennsylvania

Slatedale
Friedens
Emerald



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A Message from the Emergency Management Coordinator

Wildfire season is quickly approaching. As part of your spring cleaning, consider wild fire preparedness. Creating a defensible space free of combustible materials such as mulch, plant life, and other debris can go a long way in protecting your property in the event of a wild fire. Consider replacing mulch with decorative stone, trim back grasses and shrubs away from the home. Blow leaves and other debris out of flower beds and gardens. Don't forget first responders cannot help if they can't find you. Be sure to label driveways and mailboxes with reflective letters, and trim low hanging branches to ensure fire apparatus will fit down your driveway.

Here are some other helpful emergency preparedness tips:

- **Make a plan:** Create a family communications plan and a household plan that includes everyone in your home. Check out Readypa.org for helpful tips.
- **Prepare a kit:** Put together an emergency kit with supplies you might already have, like rugged outdoor gear.
- **Stay informed:** Learn about local emergency plans, emergency alerts, and local emergency contacts. Follow Washington Township Emergency Management and Lehigh County Emergency Management on FACEBOOK.
- **Stay calm:** Stay calm and focused during an emergency, and follow directions from public safety officials.
- **Check for damage:** Check your home for damage, including the roof, chimneys, and foundation. Report any damage to the EMA coordinator.
- **Evacuate if ordered:** If you are ordered to evacuate, do so.
- **Have a Go Bag:** Prepare a Go Bag that you can easily access in case of an unplanned evacuation. Be sure to pack Clothing, food, water, medications and important paperwork for every member of your family. Don't forget the furry members too.
- **Consider financial preparedness:** Financial preparedness is an important part of disaster planning. Keep a small amount of cash on hand. Remember credit card machines won't work in a power outage.

Joe Mead

Joe Mead

Emergency Management Coordinator

Check out the Washington Township Emergency Management FACEBOOK page, www.readypa.org and pema.pa.gov for more preparedness information.



Don't forget to sign up for CODE RED, Lehigh Counties emergency alert service. Find more information at www.lehighcounty.org/Departments/Emergency-Management-9-1-1.

Thank you for taking a few minutes to look at this year's edition of our Township newsletter. Inside you will find a wealth of information relating to government services, news, and activities occurring within the Township this year. As always, we encourage you to support our many community organizations, as well as those businesses who sponsor our newsletter.



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Eagles Nest Walking Path and Park Updates

In 2024, Washington Township saw remarkable improvements that we are excited to share. One of the projects that we are most proud of is expanding the walking path at Eagles Nest Park. Residents can now enjoy this beautiful walking path lined with benches for many years to come. The path is approximately a third of a mile long, and encircles the park’s perimeter. We hope that all of our residents get a chance to use the path and enjoy it for relaxation, exercise, and enjoying the stunning views from all angles of the park.

In other updates, we have made some improvements to our dog park in Slatedale by adding picnic benches in the dog runs. Residents can relax and take a few moments while their four legged buddies blow off some steam and make new dog friends in the enclosed areas. We kindly ask all visitors to follow park rules, pick up litter and animal waste in the designated trash receptacles, and report vandalism when seen. We aim to preserve the parks for the future generations by keeping them well-maintained.

We look forward to making more positive improvements in the future, and keeping our community a safe and enjoyable place for all!

Brooke Lichtenwalter
Brooke Lichtenwalter
Secretary/Treasurer

In Remembrance

Washington Township lost two former supervisors with the passing of Abe Ahner and Roy “Smokey” Dengler in 2024.

Abe served as a supervisor twice. The first time was from 1992 to 1994 and the second time was from 2005 to 2009. Abe was integral in the development of our Slate Heritage Trail. He will be missed for his hard work and dedicated leadership of our township.

Roy was a supervisor from 1982 to 2018 and served as our roadmaster for many of those years. Roy was also a long-time member of Washington Township’s Planning Commission and was integral in farm preservation throughout Lehigh County. Roy’s leadership and love of Washington Township will be missed but never forgotten.

Washington Township

7951 Center Street, Emerald, PA 18080 • 610-767-8108 • www.washingtonlehigh.org
Check website for additional information

Township Staff

Josh Friebolin – Chairman of the Board of Supervisors: 610-248-6906

Shawn Wanamaker – Vice Chairman of the Board of Supervisors

Thomas Dengler – Member of the Board of Supervisors

Wade Marlatt – Township Manager

Duane A. Dellecker – Zoning Officer/Planning Director

Brooke Lichtenwalter – Secretary & Treasurer

Joan Jones – LST Clerk

David Wotring – Roadmaster

Keith George – Residential Building Code Inspector: 484-866-4888

Ian Stoudt – Sewage Enforcement Officer: 610-865-4555

All personnel can be reached at 610-767-8108

The Washington Township Board of Supervisors meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM in the Township Municipal Building.

Zoning Board Members

Aaron Oswald – Chairman of the Zoning Board

Timothy O’Brian – Vice Chairman of the Zoning Board

Jason Williams – Member of the Zoning Board

Scott Green – Alternate for the Zoning Board

Shane Pepe – Alternate for the Zoning Board

The Zoning Hearing Board meets on the third Wednesday of the month on an as needed basis. Hearings begin at 6:30 PM and are conducted in the Washington Township Municipal Building.

Planning Commission

David Lear – Chairman of the Planning Commission

Andrew Mack – Vice Chairman of the Planning Commission

Robert Herzog Jr

Brian Hoffman

Gary Van Norman


Todd Lichtenwalter

Planning Commission meets on the last Monday of the month at 7:00 PM in the Township Municipal Building.

The Northern Lehigh Historical Society

The mission of the Northern Lehigh Historical Society is to contribute to the conservation and preservation of the natural and historic resources of the Northern Lehigh area for the benefit and use of local families, individuals, and visitors to the region. The major project of the NLHS was the initiation, planning, and construction of the Slate Heritage Trail. As a member of the Venture Group, the NLHS participated in the development of the Slatington Trail and Slatington Trailhead. The NLHS and Venture Group meet the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Slatington Trailhead pavilion at 6:00 PM. Meetings are held March through October.

FMI: nlhs101@hotmail.com



Learn and explore at the Lehigh Gap Nature Center!

Are you a nature lover? If so, did you know that Washington Township is home to one of the region's best places to discover and explore the great outdoors? Lehigh Gap Nature Center (LGNC) invites you to visit our 756-acre wildlife refuge on the Blue Mountain, where you can walk, hike, or bike our 13 miles of trails, access the Lehigh River, and join our wide array of educational programs. The best part? Our refuge is open to the public free of charge every day of the year!

Begin your visit to LGNC at our Osprey House visitor center at 8844 Paint Mill Rd., Slatington. Alongside our classrooms, gift shop, and research library, the Osprey House includes such amenities as public restrooms, drinking water, trail maps, and information about our local history and ecology. Additional parking is available on the western end of our refuge near Bowmanstown. To learn more about upcoming programs and events on the refuge, sign up for our email list at <https://lgnc.org/newsletter-sign-up/> or visit us online:

Website: www.lgnc.org **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/lehighgap **Instagram:** www.instagram.com/lehighgapnaturecenter

LGNC is a small nonprofit organization with a big impact. Thanks to the support of our members and volunteers, we have restored life to a formerly barren and polluted stretch of mountainside, provide educational programs to over 10,000 people each year, and offer a free community resource for visitors of all ages to enjoy. If you would like to be a part of our conservation and outreach efforts, we encourage you to get involved as a member or volunteer of our organization. We are currently seeking new volunteers to help with visitor engagement, hawk migration research, education programs, and refuge maintenance. Please consider joining our conservation community.

To contact LGNC, please call us at 610-760-8889, email us mail@lgnc.org, or write us at P.O. Box 198, Slatington, PA 18080. We hope to see you on the refuge soon!

Township Clean-up

Township clean up will be held on June 7th, 2025, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM. Items that will be accepted are old furniture and trash. Items that will be recycled are white goods, metals, electronics, and tires. We also accept old batteries, which are used to offset the purchase of batteries for Township equipment. Tires are now \$2.00 each. Large truck or tractor tires are now \$10.00. Tires should not have rims. No commercial or race tires. There will be a \$15.00 charge for removal of freon. Electronics will be accepted with fees.

TV prices are \$40.00 for under 42". TV's (in wooden cabinet, Projection, Over 42", TV Tubes (broken TV's) is \$60.00. No construction material will be allowed, this would include insulation, plaster board, etc. This will be the only clean up for the year and it is not known, at this time, if there will be other fees involved with collection. There will be a charge of \$25.00 for every mattress accepted. Starting in April the Township will be open to drop off yard waste on Saturdays between the hours of 8am-12pm.

Fall Leaf pick up:

Soon after the leaves start falling, the township will start our leaf pick up. Please remember to place your leaf piles as close to the road or curb as possible. Also be sure that leaf pile only contain leaves, vacuuming up rocks, branches or debris can be harmful to our staff and equipment. The township cannot safely pick up leaves on the following state roads: PA 873, Mountain Road or Old Post Road. Before putting leaves along any state road, please call the township to see if pick up will be possible. If you prefer to drop off your leaves or brush, this can be done at the township yard on Center Street between the hours of 7:30am and 3:30pm, Monday – Friday. Please be aware that brush burning is prohibited and leaf burning is only permitted during the month of November. Leaf burning in the VC zoning district is prohibited all year. Please check our web site for a copy of the complete burn ordinance and our yard hours.

Northern Lehigh Food Bank

Submitted by: Barbara Scheirer, Director, Northern Lehigh Food Bank

The Northern Lehigh Food Bank serves the Northern Lehigh School District in Lehigh County

Office/Delivery Hours: Tuesday 9:00 am to 12:00 noon and other hours by appointment.

Food Distribution: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Thursday from 4:00 pm to 5:45pm; and Last Saturday from 9:30 to 11:15am each month. Also 2nd & 4th Mondays from 1:00 pm to 2:45 pm. New clients please call to register.

New clients please call to register.

Because of the support of the community, we have also been able to give additional food for Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. We will also be collecting school supplies and individual food items for kids packs for the summer.

The household sizes are from 1-11 people. Last year we served about 182 households per month which is about 497 people monthly. Food and cash donations are always needed and appreciated. We no longer accept clothing, books, toys, furniture, or household items.

The Northern Lehigh Food Bank is located at 7884 Center St., Emerald. The mailing address is PO Box 255, Slatington, PA 18080. The telephone number is: 610-767-9525.



Slatington Lions Club

The mission of the Lions Club International is to help those who are blind and visually impaired.

The Slatington Lions Club helps with these causes as well as helping others in the community.

- The Club does fundraisers throughout the year to raise monies to help our local 1st responders, school programs, students, and those in need.
- The Club also offers wheelchairs, crutches, walkers, bath chairs, and portable commodes for temporary use by local residents who need them. We accept donations of used equipment, clean and in good condition. Please message us on our Facebook page.
- Our fundraisers for 2025 include Comedy Night at Emerald Fire Hall, March 1; Walnutport Canal Days which is the 3rd weekend in October; and Christmas Tree sales at the Trailhead in December. We are always looking for new fundraising ideas.

We are looking for new members. Men and Women, over 18, are invited to join us.

For more details on our fundraisers, how to get tickets, or general information about our Club, message us on our Facebook page, or call Lion Steve Walden, 610-390-3275



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Fire House Activities

Emerald Fire Co. Emerald, PA

OFFICERS:

- President - Wade Marlatt
- Vice President - Brent Williams
- Secretary - Rodney Cressman
- Treasurer - Marc Chandler
- Financial Secretary - Dan Hamm
- Fire Chief - Tito Burgos
- Trustees - Dennis Scholtis, Josh Friebolin, Allen Rex, Donald Berger, Dan Riga

To Rent Emerald Picnic Woods,
call Josh Friebolin at 610-248-6906
Please visit starhosefire.com for hall
rental information.

EMERALD FIRE COMPANY 2025 UPCOMING EVENTS

July 12 (July 13 as the rain date)
Fireworks and Picnic, 4:30 pm

**August 23 - Emerald Classic Golf
Tournament**

Continue checking starhosefire.com and
Emerald Fireworks and Picnic Facebook
page for the latest updates.



Citizens Fire Company #1 Slatedale

For general questions, hall rentals, or event
information please call the fire company at
610-767-6887.

Mailing Address:

Citizens Fire Co. #1
3922 Main Street
PO Box 179
Slatedale, PA 18079
General Email: slatedalefireco@gmail.com
Hall Rental Email: slatedalehall@gmail.com
Facebook: Slatedale Fire Department
Website: www.citizensfirecoslatedale.com

REMINDERS:

- Always have your house number visible
for first responders to locate you and your
emergency.
- Clear away snow at hydrants that are
located on your property for easier access.
- If you have trees along your driveway,
please clear away any limbs for height
and width clearances for our emergency
vehicles to access your home.
- If you have an emergency, please do not call
the fire company, call 911.

To become a member, firefighter, or fire police, stop by on Wednesdays from 7:00 PM
to 9:00 PM, Thursdays from 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM, or any event that we have. Check our
Facebook page or the Town and Country Gazette for our upcoming events.

2025 LIST OF OFFICERS

- | | |
|---|--|
| • President - Michelle Schramel -
610-760-9652 or 610-248-7217 | • Deputy Chief - Brandon Danner
610-984-5404 |
| • Vice President - Tiffany Yesik -
484-866-0173 | • Assistant Chief - Timothy VanBlargan
610-762-2820 |
| • Secretary - Dave Vaillette - 484-695-0760 | • Assistant Chief - Tyler Danner
610-984-5405 |
| • Treasurer - David Delong | • Trustees - Robert Schramel Jr. 484-330-1538,
James Hegarty 610-442-2196,
Dawson Genovese 610-849-3246,
Tyler White 484-809-1165 |
| • Recording Secretary - Suzanne Zellner -
610-767-2305 | |
| • Chief - Robert Schramel 610-760-9652 or
610-248-8207 | |

SLATEDALE FIRE COMPANY EVENTS FOR 2025

April 5th - Spring Craft Show

April 16th - Dye Eggs

**April 19th - Breakfast with the
Easter Bunny and Egg Hunt**

May 11th - Mother's Day Dinner

August 9th - Community Picnic

November 15th - Winter Craft Show

**December 14th
Santa Comes to Town**

**Every Thursday from
September to May - Bingo**

BOARD

- 5 Year: Alex Scott 443-877-8084
3 Year: Tami Dimmig-610-767-0130,
Tyler Danner 610-984-5405
1 Year: Kelly Friedberg, Ricky Kistler
610-730-8901



Friedens Fire Company

FIRE OFFICERS FOR 2025

- Fire Chief - Joel Merkel 610-844-1668
- Deputy Chief - Jeremy Merkel
610-739-0145
- Asst. Chief - Bob Schmoyer 610-442-9474
- Captain - Tim Jones
- 1st Lieutenant - Brent Merkel
- 2nd Lieutenant - Calvin Deprill

FIRE CO OFFICERS FOR 2025

- President - Jeremy Merkel 610-739-0145
- Vice President - Tim Chrapowicz
610-751-5261
- Secretary - Amanda Sterner
- Treasurer - Kristin Chrapowicz
- Trustees - Tim Jones 484-764-7231
Brent Merkel - 610-597-4010,
Kyle Schmoyer - 610-509-2404

For any rentals, call Joel Merkel at
610-844-1668

Our hall has two floors to rent.

Upstairs - Can hold 75 people

Downstairs - Can hold 175 people

Throughout the year we have various
rentals you can find out on our board
on 873 across from Friedens Church or
look on our website FriedensFire9.com

THE BARKER

2025 SPRING AND SUMMER PROGRAMS AND EVENTS



BULLDOG BLAST

7 WEEKS OF GAMES, SPORTS, ARTS & CRAFTS, FIELD TRIPS, SWIMMING AND SUMMER FUN!

- June 23rd - August 8th
- 9:00 am - 1:00 pm (Monday - Friday)
 - Extended hours: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm (Monday - Thursday)
- Monday - Thursday will be at an NLSD Facility
 - Fridays will be held at Eagle's Nest Park or at the Pool (alternating)
- **Online registration only**
 - Registration opens March 3rd at 8 am
- Ages 6-12
- Free daily breakfast and lunch Monday - Thursday
- Bus trips to multiple local spots!
- \$200 for 7 weeks NLSD Residents / \$40 per week for extended day
- \$250 for 7 weeks for Non-NLSD / \$50 per week for extended day



DIVE INTO SUMMER FUN AT THE NORTHERN LEHIGH POOL!

Get ready for another exciting season at the Northern Lehigh Pool!

Whether you're looking to cool off on a hot day, spend time with family and friends, or just relax poolside, our community pool is the perfect place to make summer memories.



Memberships – On sale now! Lock in the best rates before prices increase on March 1 and May 1.

Private Pool Parties – Celebrate birthdays, special occasions, or just enjoy a private swim with friends!

Fun for All Ages – From open swim to special events, there's always something happening at the Northern Lehigh Pool!





DAY IN THE PARK

Saturday, July 19th, 2025

Victory Park

Featuring Two Bands!

Food Trucks

Local Adult Beverage Vendors

Local Craft Vendors

Local clubs / organizations

Activities

Lovers of food, the outdoors and community will be able to indulge all at the upcoming Northern Lehigh Day In The Park!



CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT



Mark your calendars for spring!

Join us at Eagle's Nest Park for a fun-filled Cornhole Tournament featuring food trucks, drink vendors, and possibly live music!

Stay tuned for more details and updates on our Facebook page. You won't want to miss this exciting event!

Wednesday UnWine'd

The Slatington Trailhead is the place to be again this summer for good wine and great music!

Presenting Winery: Stone Lake Winery

D&L Trailhead- Slatington

6 to 8 P.M.

Schedule:

- July 9: Jeni Hackett
- July 23: The Two Taboo
- August 6: Spot Available!
- August 27: Spot Available!
- September 10: Two of a Kind
- September 24: BURN Unplugged



Summer Concert Series

Victory Park | 6 - 8 P.M.

- June 20: Wonton Soups
- July 11: AM Radio Tribute Band
- August 1: Steel Creek
- August 15: Band of Brothers



Presenting Food Truck:

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RECREATION & FITNESS

SIMPLY ATHLETIC STRETCH AND STRENGTH (SASS)

Join us for this adult group of any age fitness class and discover your new favorite way to get into shape, stay fit, and have fun using a combination of stretching, light weights, resistance bands and balls.

Instructor: Erna Lake
Days: Mondays & Fridays, ongoing after 02/03/25
Times: 10:00 am - 11:00 am
Location: Slatington United Presbyterian Church
Cost: Resident:
10 class Discount Card: \$25
Drop-In: \$3
Non-Resident:
10 Class Discount Card: \$30
Drop-In: \$3.50



YOGA WITH SHARON

Whether you are brand new to yoga or yoga master, this weekly class is for you! **Online pre-registration required.**

Instructor: Sharon Schnyder
Days: Thursdays
Times: 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Location: Peters Elementary School, Music Room
Dates: Session I: January 9 - March 13
Session II: March 20 - May 29
Cost: Resident: \$45
Non-Resident: \$56.25



**individual class purchase option available.

YOGA WITH DEEPA

This class focuses on alignment, sequence, and timing with the use of props

Instructor: Deepa Savant, 200RYT
Days: Wednesdays, ongoing after 3/5/25
Times: 10:00 am - 11:00 am
Location: St. John's Lutheran Church - Day Care Room
Cost: Resident: 10 class Discount Card: \$45
Drop-In: \$5
Non-Resident: 10 Class Discount Card: \$55
Drop-In: \$6



Thank you to everyone who supported NLRA by donating to our 2025 Annual Campaign! NLRA is possible due to the support we receive from our various funders, sponsors and YOU!

Have you thanked a council member today?

Northern Lehigh Recreation was formed through a partnership between the Borough of Slatington and Washington Township to bring new programs and events to you!

Borough of Slatington:

Contact us at: 610-767-2131

David Schnaars: President
Zachari Halkias: Vice President
Ronald Kratz
Kevin Steckel
Jeffrey Hausman
Ryan Mayberry
Jeralyn Schoch: Mayor
Roy Hambrecht, Borough Manager

Washington Township:

Contact us at: 610-767-8108

Josh Friebolin: Chairman
Shawn Wanamaker: Vice Chairman
Thomas Dengler
Wade Marlatt, Township Manager

**Slatington Parks & Recreation
Commission**

Join the P&R commission on their yearly park clean up! Sign up will be at the Church Street Maintenance Building day of!
 April 19 | 9 am - 12 pm
 Lunch is provided!

New & in the works!

In addition to the events and programs we already have planned and those we are working on, we will continue to add programs, special pop-up events, and other fun surprises! If there is something you would like us to offer OR if you have a program that you would like to propose or teach, contact us!

**NORTHERN LEHIGH
RECREATION**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Josh Friebolin

Washington Twp. Supervisor
 Special Education Teacher
 NLRA Chair

Dave Schnaars

Councilperson, Borough of
 Slatington
 NLRA Vice Chair

Nicholas Sander

NLSD Teacher
 Treasurer

Jessica Mack

NL Swimming Pool
 BMSD Teacher

Zachari Halkias

Councilperson, Borough of
 Slatington

Michelle Raber

NLSD Teacher, Retired
 NL Community Center

Earlene Smyth

Washington Township

Taylor Jones

NLRA Secretary
 Interstate Batteries

Kasey Meixsell

Executive Director

Find us on 

NORTHERNLEHIGHPA.MYREC.COM

NLRECAUTHORITY@GMAIL.COM

484-633-0093

THE BARKER: 2025 SPRING & SUMMER EDITION

SLATINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

650 Main Street, Slatington • 610-767-6461 • Email: slatlib@ptd.net

"You don't know about me without you have read a book by the name of *"The Adventures of Tom Sawyer"*; but that aint no matter." Mark Twain, *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (1885). The librarians, Rosanne Pugh and Louise Bechtel at the Slatington Public Library can lead you right to Mark Twain's novels. This book and many others can be found in our historic building on 650 Main Street in Slatington.

The Mission of the Slatington Public Library is to improve and enrich the lives of the residents in our community through information, recreation, and education, using both traditional methods and emerging technologies.

- We will have Dr. Seuss' Birthday celebration on March 1.
- April is Woman's Club Program. Spring Book Sale Date to be determined.
- Donald Owens Reading Challenge Annual Reading Challenge begins February 18, and it continues till May 31.
- 1000 Books before Kindergarten is continuing in 2025.
- Pre-school story hour will continue in the spring. Start date TBA
- The library is looking forward to its 50/50 in the spring

Book Sale



Did you know? Our Inhouse Resources

- Over 40,000 books to choose from
- Online access with our computers (including several Mac Book desktops!)
- Large selection of VHS and DVD's
- Paid Copy/Print/Fax Services
- Gently Used Books for Sale
- And so much more!



1000 Books before Kindergarten and Story Hour

The Summer Reading Program, and the Wonderful World of Wildlife, Therapy Dog and Crochet Programs with dates to be determined. When dates are determined they will be placed in the *Town & Country Gazette*.

In addition to the book club, the **Genealogy Group** meets the 2nd Saturday of the Month at 11:00 am in the Library.

BOOK CLUB MEETS AT THE LIBRARY AND VIA ZOOM TO DISCUSS THE CURRENT SELECTION.

- Members will be sent an updated list of contact information for active book club members.
- Meetings will be held in Zoom format only should there be inclement weather during our meeting days in January through March.
- At the January 6 meeting, members that offered a suggested future book will provide a short overview of their suggestion. Also, members will be reading one of two "light" reads for this meeting, *The Christmas Shoes*, by Anna VanLiere, or *Santa's Little Yelpers*, by David Rosenfelt. The club will also discuss these novels at the January meeting.
- *The Bridges of Madison County*, by Robert James Waller, is the selected book for the February 3 meeting. Stacy Zellner will act as the discussion leader.
- Michelle Raber will provide further information on a possible trip to the *Founding Gardeners* gardens at our next meeting.

REMINDER: If you have applied for a library card and have not received it, please stop by the library during its open hours to pick it up. We regret they cannot be mailed.

We thank everyone who has sent in a donation. The donations are really helping as a contribution to assist with plans. We have added a PayPal link to the Library home page to provide another way to donate. Donations are always welcome. The Slatington Public Library is a non-profit 501(c)3 corporation.

LIBRARY HOURS:

Library Hours: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays
9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Tuesdays • 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Fridays
8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Saturdays

Website: www.slatingtonlibrary.org

Don't forget to check out our Facebook page -
<https://shorturl.at/qOhBQ>



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As stormwater flows over driveways, lawns, and sidewalks, it picks up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants. Stormwater can flow into a storm sewer system or directly to a lake, stream, river, wetland, or coastal water. Anything that enters a storm sewer system is discharged untreated into the waterbodies we use for swimming, fishing, and providing drinking water. Polluted runoff is the nation's greatest threat to clean water.



Make your home The **SOLUTION TO STORMWATER POLLUTION!**

A homeowner's guide to healthy habits for clean water



By practicing healthy household habits, homeowners can keep common pollutants like pesticides, pet waste, grass clippings, and automotive fluids off the ground and out of stormwater. Adopt these healthy household habits and help protect lakes, streams, rivers, wetlands, and coastal waters. Remember to share the habits with your neighbors!



Healthy Household Habits for Clean Water

Vehicle and Garage

- Use a commercial car wash or wash your car on a lawn or other unpayed surface to **minimize** the amount of dirty, soapy water flowing into the storm drain and eventually into your local waterbody.
- Check your car, boat, motorcycle, and other machinery and equipment for leaks and spills. Make repairs as soon as possible. Clean up **spilled fluids** with an absorbent material like kitty litter or sand, and don't rinse the spills into a nearby storm drain. Remember to properly dispose of the absorbent material.
- **Recycle** used oil and other automotive fluids at participating service stations. Don't dump these chemicals down the storm drain or dispose of them in your trash.



Lawn and Garden

- Use pesticides and fertilizers **sparingly**. When use is necessary, use these chemicals in the recommended amounts. Avoid application if the forecast calls for rain; otherwise, chemicals will be washed into your local stream.
- Select **native** plants and grasses that are drought- and pest-resistant. Native plants require less water, fertilizer, and pesticides.
- **Sweep up** yard debris, rather than hosing down areas. Compost or recycle yard waste when possible.
- Don't overwater your lawn. Water during the cool times of the day, and don't let water run off into the storm drain.
- Cover piles of dirt and mulch being used in landscaping projects to prevent these pollutants from blowing or washing off your yard and into local waterbodies. **Vegetate** bare spots in your yard to prevent soil erosion.

Pet Care

- When walking your pet, remember to **pick up** the waste and dispose of it properly. Flushing pet waste is the best disposal method. Leaving pet waste on the ground increases public health risks by allowing harmful bacteria and nutrients to wash into the storm drain and eventually into local waterbodies.

Swimming Pool and Spa

- **Drain** your swimming pool only when a test kit does not detect chlorine levels.
- Whenever possible, drain your pool or spa into the **sanitary** sewer system.
- Properly store pool and spa chemicals to **prevent** leaks and spills, preferably in a covered area to avoid exposure to stormwater.

Septic System Use and Maintenance

- Have your septic system **inspected** by a professional at least every 3 years, and have the septic tank **pumped** as necessary (usually every 3 to 5 years).
- Care for the septic system drainfield by **not** driving or parking vehicles on it. Plant only grass over and near the drainfield to avoid damage from roots.
- Flush responsibly. Flushing household chemicals like paint, pesticides, oil, and antifreeze can **destroy** the biological treatment taking place in the system. Other items, such as diapers, paper towels, and cat litter, can **clog** the septic system and potentially damage components.

Storm drains connect to waterbodies!



Remember: Only rain down the drain!

For more information, visit
www.epa.gov/nps/stormwater
or
www.epa.gov/nps

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Macungie PA 18062

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Property & Per Capita Taxes

Township property tax, School property tax, and Per Capita tax are issued and collected yearly. Please direct all questions regarding these taxes to the Tax Collector, Ashley Wilk. Her phone number is 610-767-8108 Ex. 6 and email address is ashleywilk@outlook.com. Office hours will be held at the Municipal Township Building (7951 Center Street, Emerald, PA 18080) on Tuesdays from 5:00 PM until 6:00 PM or by appointment.

NOTE: Mortgage companies pay township, county, & school taxes – township taxes are paid by your mortgage companies so do not pay them or duplicate payments are made. Most mortgage companies receive your tax amounts electronically without receiving the tax bill from you, but it is recommended for you to check with them. Per Capita taxes are not paid by your mortgage company – you are responsible to pay them.

- **Township Real Estate** is Issued April 1
- **School Real Estate** is Issued July 1
- **Township and School Per Capitas are on the same bill and are issued together July 1**

Delinquencies are turned over to the following companies and once turned over these companies are who need to be contacted for resolution

- Township – Elite Revenue Services
- School – Portnoff Associates
- Township Per Capita – Berkheimer Associates
- School Per Capita – Statewide Tax Recovery
- Township Street Light and Hydrant – Creditech Collection Agency – if applicable

YOUR PROPERTY TAXES



Road Maintenance

Roads for Road Maintenance this year are; Hickory, Creek and Spring Valley.

Northern Valley Emergency Medical Services, Inc.

Northern Valley Emergency Medical Services, Inc. (NOVA) is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing affordable community-based emergency medical services to Heidelberg, North Whitehall, and Washington Townships, the Boroughs of Slatington and Walnutport, and parts of Lowhill Township. Each year, NOVA raises over \$400,000 to support its operations.

Our highly trained paramedics and EMTs respond to more than 3,600 calls annually from three stations located at 2375 Levans Rd, Coplay, 524 W. Church St., Slatington, and 6272 PA Route 309, New Tripoli, dispatching the closest available unit.

In addition to emergency responses, NOVA provides standby services for sporting events at Northwestern Lehigh and Northern Lehigh School districts, including football games, as well as for churches, bike races, marathons, and various community events requiring ambulance presence.

NOVA is in the final stages of updating our ambulance fleet. We received two ambulances in 2024 and expect the delivery of

two more in the first quarter of 2025. Furthermore, we will be replacing stair chairs and mechanical chest compression devices this year.

2025 Subscriptions were mailed to households within NOVA's primary response area. Please visit our website at www.northernvalleyems.com for more information. Your vital support and donations are greatly appreciated.

NOVA's Auxiliary plays a vital role in fundraising, catering for weddings, parties, and corporate events while also hosting numerous annual events. Notable events include an apple dumpling sale in October, a bake sale on Election Day, and a Thanksgiving sale featuring fillings, bacon dressing, and nut breads in November. For inquiries or to place an order, please call 610-262-7749.

We extend our gratitude to Washington Township for its annual financial support, which is essential for meeting our fundraising goals and serving the communities we support.



THANK YOU

Washington Township would like to thank the businesses that appear in this newsletter and to recognize them each as supporters and cornerstones of our community. It is with their contributions that this newsletter has been produced at no charge to our residents.



Help Us Help You

In an emergency, can the ambulance quickly find your residence, access your driveway, and get to your house? The extra minutes emergency response teams spend searching for your address or trying to navigate your driveway can make a real difference for a loved one in need. Ordinance #63 requires all property owners to post their address on their mailbox or building face. Make sure your driveway is maintained and is clear of obstructions such as low branches so that the emergency equipment can get to your house. Excessive swales in your driveway can also be an issue for the larger emergency vehicles. Contact the NOVA 610-262-1075 if you would like a number sign for your home.

REFLECTIVE ADDRESS SIGN ORDER FORM

Cost: \$10.00 per sign

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Sign made: (Circle one) Horizontal Vertical

Mail this form to:

Northern Valley Ambulance

Attn: Address Sign Order

2375 Levans Road

Coplay, PA 18037-2202

Please do not mail money to NOVA. Payment is due when picked up.
Payment can be cash or check (Neffs Volunteer Fire Company)

The Sanctuary at Haafsville



Washington Township has a partnership with The Sanctuary of Haafsville to provide contacts for the Trap/Neuter/Return of feral/wild cats. The Sanctuary is a non-profit, no kill animal shelter located in Breiningsville, PA. Currently, The Sanctuary does not have a team to help with the trapping of feral/wild cats.

Information for No Nonsense Neutering will be provided or you can contact No Nonsense Neutering directly at and search the community cats tab. For feral cats in Washington Township, The Sanctuary

will loan traps to residents to assist in trapping feral/wild cats. Trapping will be done by citizens and trapping volunteers in the community.

If you find a friendly stray cat, please contact The Sanctuary to see if it can be accepted into the shelter as space permits. Please note, there may be a wait list. Every attempt is made to find the cat's owner prior to vetting and making them available for adoption.

The Sanctuary has great success in locating owners and returning loved pets. Contact 484-285-5445 for more information on any of the above-mentioned services.

Emergency Preparedness: POWER OUTAGES

Power outages can occur during any season and have different effects so it is helpful to be prepared at all times.

Before a power outage occurs:

- Make sure you have an emergency kit created. You can find what you should put in it at ready.pa.gov
- Always have cellular devices charged
- Have enough water in the home for 4 days along with food (that may not require electricity to heat)
- If you have a generator, always maintain enough fuel and test the generator monthly
- Keep your car's fuel level up
- If you have electric medical equipment, ensure you have a battery or manual way of handling the equipment.
- Have a working battery-operated radio so you can receive updates for shelters and evacuations if necessary

During the power outage:

- Utilize flashlights rather than candles due to the risk of fire
- Keep refrigerators/freezers closed so the temperature can

remain consistent

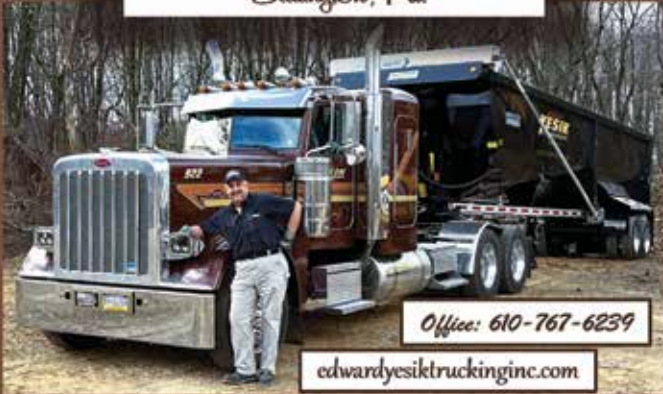
- Dress in layers according to time of year
- Disconnect appliances so that there no surges when power does return
- If using a generator, remember to not have the generator inside and away from your home so fumes do not enter your home

Once power returns:

- Throw away any food that may have dropped below approved temperatures
- Slowly turn electrical devices back on
- If you have natural gas and need someone turn it back on, have someone approved come out
- Restock any supplies you may have used out of your emergency kit or go bags.

Remember: BE PREPARED





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housing-abc.org



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7419 Saegersville Road, Germansville, PA