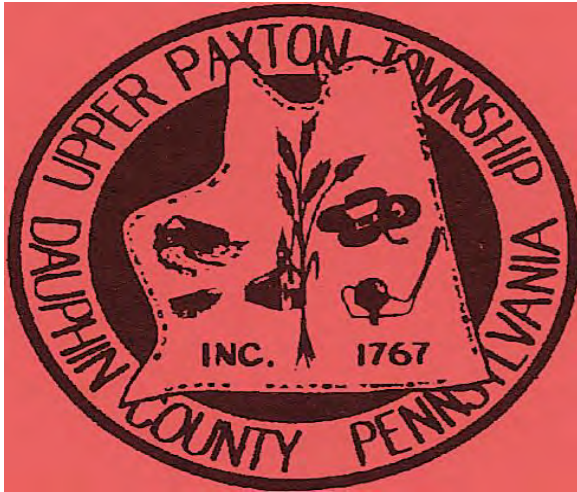


# Upper Paxton Township Newsletter



Spring, 2023

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## State of the Township Report:

Every year the President and the Governor give their State of the Government Reports. They are often filled with dreams and a lot of deficit spending. Even our County Commissioners give a State of the County report and continue to hold the line on taxes. The national debt continues to climb as the Federal Government reports all they have accomplished! More money is printed, as needed, and taxpayers both now, and in future generations will foot the bill!

As Supervisors, we have the responsibility to create a budget, live by it as our guideline, and be sure it is balanced on December 31<sup>st</sup>. We are pleased to report, in Upper Paxton Township, that our Township has a \$1,671,726 budget that is fully funded with no need for a tax increase in sight! Local governments have a HALLOWED RESPONSIBILITY to live within their means, and we do!

Over the past several years, we have been able to upgrade equipment to allow our road crew to be more efficient and productive. The Township has good employees that serve you well. Their efforts often prevent us from entering into expensive contracts. This year you will see some roads that are in bad condition being repaired. You will also see some roads that you may think are in reasonably good shape receive a new surface treatment. It is more economical to keep a road in good condition than to be forced to reconstruct a badly deteriorated road.

On the horizon, a new salt shed will replace our existing one that has seen better days. The Township Supervisors thank you for your trust and we invite you to our meetings.

Robert Stoner

John Orr

Robert Coleman

## What Do You Do with All That Money?



Your tax bills arrive in the spring and fall mail, and someone inevitably says, “with all that money you get, why **don’t you pave this road or that road?**” **The truth is,** approximately 6%

of those taxes actually come into **Township and it is all “pass through”** money. The taxes that come to the township are a Municipal Fire Protection

tax, of which 100% goes directly to the Millersburg/Upper Paxton Fire Company, and a Municipal Street Light fee that is based on the length of your street frontage and is directly passed on to PPL. (You should not have a Street Light fee if you are in an area that does not have streetlights.) A close look at your tax bill will show that nearly all of it goes to the school district and the county. In a future newsletter, we can provide an understanding of the taxes and income, and creative investments that allows the township to operate.

## Mahantango Creek Bank Project



The creekbank project to protect drivers on Snyder Mill Road in the north end of our township has been completed by our contractors. There will be road improvements that are forthcoming.

High waters over the years had created a dangerous undercutting of the south bank, creating significant cause for alarm. Fearing that there could be a collapse of the ground if someone pulled off the north side road, **demanding the township’s** attention. Because the problem was generated by high waters, FEMA dollars were sought, and were approved for the project.

## Compost Lot Cards

**Remember, it's time** to renew your entrance cards for the Compost Lot. The fee for 2023 is \$20.00. This renewal fee is due in April. At payment, your card will be renewed for the year (you will not need a new card). If you have not purchased a card and would like to do so, new cards are available. Cards that are not renewed will be made inactive after April 30<sup>th</sup>. Please make your check payable to Upper Paxton Township and mail it to 506 Berrysburg Rd, Millersburg, PA, 17061. We are offering a free year for anyone contributing their service, for at least three hours, to the township on our clean-up day! We do need volunteers!

## FIRE COMPANY UPDATE

The Millersburg Fire Company #1 responded to a total of 198 Calls accounting for a total of 1240 manhours for assistance in 2022. Members also spent an additional 2180 manhours training, performing maintenance, and conducting other company operation business.

The company replaced the 17-year-old Self Contained Breathing Apparatus with 22 new Draeger Self Contained Breathing Apparatus which were purchased thru **the Millersburg Fireman's Relief Association**. The Company also purchased two new portable radios with

funds received from the Office of the State Fire Commissioner grant program.

The Upper Paxton Township Supervisors sponsored the Millersburg Fire Company for our 2023 Dauphin County Gaming Grant application to begin replacing communications equipment. On February 23, 2023, we were awarded \$62,450 to replace mobile radios on the apparatus, fire station radio and two portable radios. The fire company was also awarded \$15,000 from the Office of the State Fire Commissioner to replace two portable radios.



The Apparatus Committee began meeting to explore options to replace the 1997 Sutphen Ladder Truck. More news will follow in the future as we move forward.

If you are interested in volunteer opportunities to serve your community in the capacity of a first responder, please reach out. We can be reached at 717-692-2121. Leave a message and we will get back to you.



## Ordinance Updates:



### Feral Cats Creating Problems

Many of our residents enjoy their domestic house cats. However, the growing invasion of feral (wild) cats especially in our residential developments is demanding our attention. A new ordinance governing the feeding and luring of feral cats is soon to make its way into our Township legislation. Please keep yourself up to date with this recent development and realize the importance and respect to fellow taxpayers to not contribute to the drawing of wild cats, especially into our residential communities. They invade the privacy of other homeowners and leave litter and odor in their path. In addition, they are drawing wild animals (coyotes and foxes) into our yards, thus creating safety issues for humans, and endangering other domesticated animals. Because free roaming cats are a valuable part to rodent control on our farms, the ordinance will focus on our

areas zoned residential. We encourage you can keep up to date with this developing ordinance by referring to the Township website.

### Fireworks Ordinance Now in Place

We remind our Township residents that a fireworks ordinance was initiated in December 2021 to regulate the use of ariel displays of fireworks and noisemakers. There is now a curfew for launching these displays which should help keep neighbors happy, while helping to protect animals, both domestic and farm, from unnecessary trauma.



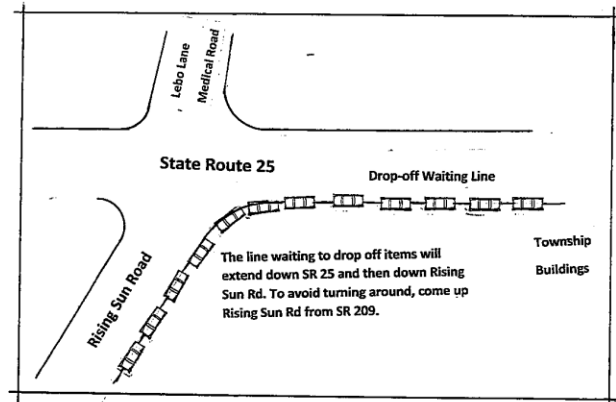
Check the Township website for the full ordinance, and thank-you for helping to keep our community safe.

**HAVE A SAFE SUMMER**

## Spring Clean-up Day

Saturday Morning, April 22, 7:00 – 12:00

For safety and better traffic control, professional flaggers will be directing traffic. The waiting line will extend down Rising Sun Road. To avoid turning around, travel up Rising Sun Road from Route 209.



### Dos, Don'ts and Guidelines for Clean-up Day

- This Clean-up Event is for residents of **Upper Paxton Township** only. Proof of identification required.
- **The intent of this clean-up is to accept items that cannot be put out with your regular weekly trash.**
- **Electronics** such as televisions, computers, cell phones, printers, DVD players, etc. will be received.
- **Items that contain refrigerant** such as refrigerators, freezers, dehumidifiers, and air conditioners will be required to pay a **\$25 fee**.
- There will be a **\$4 charge for car & light truck tires**, (\$6 for tires on wheels) larger tires will be more.
- Pack so electronics can be removed first, then refrigeration items and tires and then bulk junk items.
- A **Repurposed Area** will be available for items that **still have a useful life**. Items placed in this area can be taken by others free.
- **Items must be able to be easily unloaded. Do not bring items such as shingles, tiles, significant amounts of construction demolition, etc.** Small amounts of wood, dry wall, etc. will be accepted.

**Volunteers are needed!** The more volunteers we have, the faster the line will move. For volunteering for 3 hours, you will be entitled to a free compost lot card for either 2023 or 2024. Call the township to register as a volunteer. (717) 692- 4665

## AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION



Your Township officials continue to work with the Millersburg Ambulance Association, to address the growing list of challenges that face EMS organizations throughout Pennsylvania. We, along with Millersburg Borough leadership, are attempting to enlarge the discussion to include all the municipalities north of Peters Mountain. The issues are greater than any one borough or township can solve, therefore we are attempting to gain the support of Dauphin County. Timely, trustworthy coverage, with employees receiving satisfactory wages for the lifesaving work they do, is the common goal. There are many factors that enter into the equation as answers are sought. You will be kept posted as discussions continue. In the meantime, every household joining the ambulance association is a goal that will help keep our services working for you!

**CONGRATULATIONS  
MILLERSBURG LADY INDIAN'S  
BASKETBALL AA CHAMPIONS  
FOR 2023!**

