

Upper Paxton Township Newsletter

Spring, 2025



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The COG Study and the Future of EMS

For the past two years COG (The Council of Government) in the upper county region has been emersed in a study involving all aspects of the ambulance service north of Peters Mountain. Our own MAA (Millersburg Ambulance Association) has been included in the study, as have both township and borough officials. Not all local municipalities have agreed to join in seeking solutions which is an item of concern moving forward. At the writing of this article, the study is being finalized with the intention of its presentation early this spring. We do not know if the findings will offer us a new approach to regional EMS coverage, or if we will seek to maintain our MAA services as they currently stand. With all that behind us, the township supervisors have planned for 2025 to be the "critical year of decision". The American Rescue Plan Funds were federal dollars made available during the Covid era to all municipalities and non-profit organizations. Municipalities were allowed to apply for aid to help them with expenses during the challenges of the pandemic. UPT received a total of \$448,000 in two installments during 2021 and 2022. The money was placed into the township's general fund for specific use, saving us from dipping into township reserves. These expenditures are available for review, in the township office. The ARPF money will be fully depleted by the end of this year. During

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this time, UPT gave \$345,000 of that money directly to the Millersburg Ambulance Association, delaying the need for an EMS tax.

We now face a new era, where the township will need to implement an EMS tax to continue to fund ambulance/emergency services. The maximum rate for this tax, as regulated by state law, is .5 mills of the total assessed value of the township \$209,671,000. This would generate \$104,835 if everyone paid their tax in a timely manner. (*Note, that there were 132 uncollected tax bills in 2024, resulting in delayed revenue.) Fire tax and EMS tax rate limits are regulated by PA State law. Additionally, EMS services are entitled to seek reimbursement by billing a patient's private health insurance and Medicare. We agree, this system is flawed, but we are constrained to work within it. Our fall newsletter will further unfold our plan for funding ambulance service, a responsibility of local government.

Spring Cleanup

Spring Cleanup Day for Upper Paxton Township residents is scheduled for Saturday, April 26, 2025, from 7:00 a.m. until 12 noon. There is a \$25 fee for items containing refrigerant. There is also a \$4 charge for car & light truck tires and \$6 for tires on wheels. There will be an additional charge for larger tires. The intent of cleanup is to accept items that cannot be put out with your weekly trash. No hazardous waste or construction waste will be accepted. There will also be a repurposed area. Please pack your vehicle so that electronics can be removed first, then items containing refrigerant, tires and lastly junk. 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 State Route 209. If you are interested in volunteering to help with cleanup day, please call the township office at 717-692-4655.



Compost Lot Cards

It is time to renew your entrance cards for the compost lot located on Isle of Q Road. Those not renewed will be made inactive after April 30th. The fee again this year is \$20.00. 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 volunteering their service to the township on clean-up day for at least three hours. Those renewing their card for another year **will not receive a new card**. If you have not purchased a card and would like to do so, new cards are available. By contacting the township office.

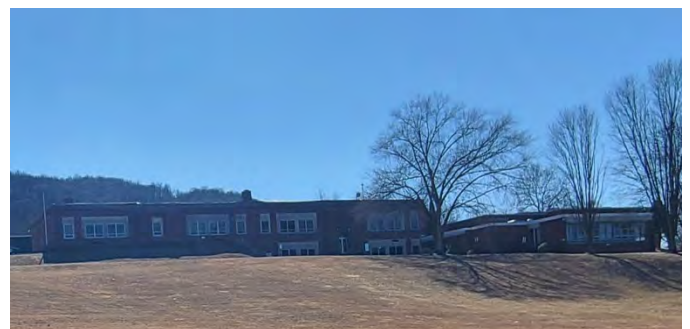
Memories on the Hill

The new school year brought lots of excitement for the young students of Millersburg and Upper Paxton Township. The new elementary school that now brings all district students to the same location within the borough, has left a strange solitude to the Lenkerville hillside. What will become of this once thriving structure where many of you

learned your ABC's and struggled to reduce your fractions to the lowest common denominator?

The school district owns the property and is investigating all options. They are working hard to find solutions. The township does have some say in the future of this beautiful property, due to zoning restrictions. Time will tell. We have reason to believe some options will be made available soon, as the district will surely benefit when the property is dutifully repurposed.

Until that time, let your memories bring a smile to your face, as you reflect on decades of playground laughter and classroom challenges, as you remember those formative years. Cherish those memories that were forged in her halls; those memories that occurred at the school on the hill. The school we fondly remember as Lenkerville Elementary!



Information from the Township Roadcrew

- Street sweeping will take place the week of May 6th.
- Various roads in UPT will be seal coated during the spring/summer months.
- Do not blow your grass clippings out on the roadway. This can make the road very slick!



- Do not blow snow out on the roadway.
- In the winter, during snowplowing season, please remove basketball hoops and other items from the township right of way.