

SPRING 2025

# HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP

## COMMUNITY INFORMATION GUIDE

**We love to hear from  
our residents:**

**13 West Creamery Road,  
PO Box 260  
Hilltown, PA 18927**

**215-453-6000**

**info@hilltown.org  
www.hilltown.org**

### **Emergency Contacts:**

**Emergency: 9-1-1**

**Non-Emergency:  
215-453-6011**

**Anonymous Tip Line:  
267-517-9119**

**pdadmin@hilltownpd.org**



### **A Message from your Board of Supervisors**

Dear Neighbors,

We are excited to present the Spring 2025 Hilltown Township Community Information Guide, your go-to resource for community services, local businesses, parks, and more. After receiving some great feedback from residents regarding our Fall 2024 issue, we will now be providing this resource bi-annually.

Since our last outreach in the Fall, we've passed our 2025 budget, made some new appointments to our Boards, re-launched the leafing program, started a new live Christmas tree collection for disposal, and welcomed two new employees to our staff. We've continued to live stream our Board meetings and hope you tune in Monday's to hear what's going on in the community!

As always, thank you for making Hilltown township a wonderful place to live.

Warm regards,  
Caleb Torrice, James Groff and Joseph Metzinger

### **A Message from your Zoning Officer**

When are Permits Required?

When planning a project in your home or business, it is always a good idea to ask the building official if a permit is required, and what to expect of the permitting process. Any property owner who intends to build, alter, enlarge, or replace a portion of their building, will need a building and/or zoning permit. This all includes mechanical, electrical, plumbing, fire alarm, and fire suppression systems.

All permit applications can be found on Hilltown.org. The forms include submission instructions but we always welcome inquiries. Below are lists of work that require permits for which we commonly receive applications and inquiries. Plenty of other work not listed below may require permits, so please always contact the office if you are unsure if your project will require one!

- Zoning Permit: New construction and Additions, Patios and Decks, Sheds, Accessory Family Residence, Chicken Coops, Signs, Fences, Home Occupations.
- Building Permit: Re-roof, Demolition, Decks 30" above grade, Alterations, Additions, and New Construction, New, replacement or alteration to mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems, Residential garages and sheds greater than 1000 sq. ft.

Permits are not required for residential replacement of doors, windows, and vinyl siding. Please feel free to call our office with any lingering questions regarding your personal or commercial projects!

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Wednesday Healing Service, 11am

Wednesday Bible Study, 7pm

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## New Year, New Faces at Hilltown – Part 1

Please join us in welcoming Janelle Lear, our newest Administrative Assistant, to the Hilltown Township Team! Janelle previously worked for an Accounting Firm and Financial Firm as an Administrative Assistant, and is bringing her talents to Hilltown to assist our residents! We are thrilled to have Janelle as a member of our office staff. "The fabric of Hilltown is in my heart originating from my childhood home, by attending Pennridge schools, playing soccer at Deep Run Valley Sports Association, and jogging at the Hilltown Civic field with my dog, Winnie. I sincerely hope to help Hilltown residents experience the charm of Hilltown's past, while doing my best to support their present and future goals."

## Pennridge School District Summer Camp Information



## A Message from your Township Manager

Community Members,

Still being within my first year as your Township Manager, we've been working diligently to ensure to best possible service to our community. We're proud to have not raised taxes for the fourteenth consecutive year, while still budgeting much needed improvements to our facilities, infrastructure, and equipment. Additionally, we are focusing on investments to increase revenues without burdening our residents so that we may continue to limit tax increases in the future.

The Township plans to further focus on community events and participation this year as well. We will be hosting a few events, including the second annual Trunk and Treat event on October 3rd. 2025 is going to be a great year for the Township!

Along with the Board of Supervisors, our Township's Leadership Team, and Township staff members, we continue to encourage you to reach out to us with any questions you may have.

Thank you all,

Deanna Ferry, DPA  
Hilltown Township Manager

## Hilltown Township Boards and Commissions

### Planning Commission

Meets on the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month at 7:00pm

### Zoning Hearing Board

Meets as needed on Wednesday nights

### Parks and Recreation Board

Meets on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm

### Uniform Construction Code Appeals Board (UCC)

Meets as needed on Thursday nights

## Elected Officials Contacts

### Pennsylvania State House of Representatives

Honorable Shelby Labs  
215-489-2126

### Pennsylvania State Senate

Honorable Jarrett Coleman  
215-551-3744

### County Commissioners and Row Officers

County of Bucks  
215-348-6000  
Montgomery County  
610-278-3020

### United States House of Representatives

Honorable Brian Fitzpatrick  
215-579-8102

### United States Senate

Honorable David McCormick  
215-405-9660  
Honorable John Fetterman  
215-241-1090

### Hilltown Township Tax Collector

Diane Telly  
215-257-5947



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## A Message from your Public Works Director

Our objective for Hilltown Township Public Works Department is to enhance the quality of life for our residents by providing efficient, effective, and sustainable services in infrastructure maintenance, environmental stewardship, and community services. We are committed to ensuring safe and reliable roadways, water systems, and public spaces, while promoting responsible resource management and fostering a resilient and thriving community.

2025 summer projects consist of Asphalt seal coating projects on Upper Church Road and Rickert Road along with numerous paving projects. We also have scheduled box culvert and pipe replacement projects throughout the township. There will be road closures for these projects and they will be posted on the Township Website.

We will be maintaining and upgrading our open spaces and parks throughout the upcoming months. Last Fall we planted a perennial wild flower mix in one of our open spaces, and are looking forward to seeing it bloom! If our plan mix is successful, we hope to plant it at other locations throughout the Township. We will continue to plant a variety of shade trees throughout our parks and open spaces this season as well. Also, a half mile connector for our Fairhill walking path will be completed this summer!

If you have any questions regarding these upcoming projects, please contact the Public Works Department.

## A Message from your Chief Police

When going on vacation, make sure you call the Police Office to let us know that your residence will be vacant. Please provide an emergency contact phone number for yourself and a nearby neighbor or family member. Set interior and exterior lights on timers and have someone pick up your mail and packages. Ask a trustworthy person to closely watch your property and, if possible, have them check the interior of your house periodically for any problems (water leaks, etc.).

The Police Department generally does not physically check your residence while you are away. Do not strictly rely on a vacation notice to the Police as security for your property.

## The Primary Election is May 20, 2025!

**Polls will be open from  
7:00am to 8:00pm**

If you have any questions about your voter record, voter registration, voting district, or Mail-in and Absentee Ballots, please refer to the county election office contact information at [www.buckscounty.gov](http://www.buckscounty.gov)

For Hilltown Township Voting Districts, please view the information here.



Hilltown Twp Blooming Glen #1  
Blooming Glen Mennonite Church  
[713 Blooming Glen Rd](#)

Hilltown Twp Blooming Glen #2  
Hilltown Township Municipal Building  
[13 W Creamery Rd](#)

Hilltown Twp Blooming Glen #3  
Hilltown Township Municipal Building  
[13 W Creamery Rd](#)

Hilltown Twp Fairhill #1  
Calvary Church of Souderton  
[820 Rte 113](#)

Hilltown Twp Fairhill #2  
St. Peter's Lutheran Church  
[1530 Augsburg Dr & Hilltown Pk](#)

Hilltown Twp Fairhill #2-A  
St. Peter's Lutheran Church  
[1530 Augsburg Dr. & Hilltown Pk.](#)

Hilltown Twp Hilltown  
Hilltown Baptist Church  
[26 Upper Church Road](#)

### SENIOR PROGRAMS & ASSISTANCE AT THE HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2025 10:00AM - 1:00PM



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**FIND OUT MORE  
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GOLDEN WATCH  
PROGRAM**

## Looking to Volunteer in your Community?

We currently have two positions open for the UCC Board for the Township. For more information on these availabilities, please contact our office via email or phone.

## Hilltown Township Partners With The Bucks County Tennis Association This Season!

The Bucks County Tennis Association, Inc. is a 501(c)3 nonprofit community group, that provides affordable, fun, social tennis programs in communities throughout Bucks County!

Learn, Practice & Play programs are five weeks long, conducted one hour per week, and implement the games-based approach to teaching tennis as well as modified courts and equipment as needed for success. The programs are a fast and fun way to learn tennis and/or improve your game, and are available to ages 4 to 94+ and from beginner to intermediate skill levels. The programs are held outdoors from mid-April through mid-October, and indoors from mid-November through mid-March. The atmosphere is informal, with emphasis on fun, fitness and play. Free loaner racquets are available. Program size is limited. Check out the BCTA website for details and safe, convenient online registration at [www.buckscountytennis.usta.com](http://www.buckscountytennis.usta.com).

## Join our Team!

Throughout the year, we will be posting available job opportunities with the Township, and hope to welcome an intern in the near future as well! Please access our job application form here if you are interested in being a part of the Hilltown Township team.



## The Penn Oak Tree: A Local Historic Landmark Courtesy of the Hilltown Historic Society

Around the 1680s, an acorn sprouted into an oak tree in an area known now as Hilltown Township. This occurred about 200 feet from an ancient Lenape trail. The speed limit on this Native American trail is now 45 mph. We call it Hilltown Pike. An oak tree dating back to the days of William Penn is identified as a Penn Oak. The side street of Chalfont Road connects Hilltown Pike to the Penn Oak. In May of 1683, William Penn left Philadelphia to negotiate a land treaty with some Lenape Chiefs in an area in the vicinity of the current Philadelphia Glider Council on Route 152 in Hilltown Township.

This newly sprouting oak was on the site of the original Hilltown Baptist Church, built in 1737 on land donated by pioneer Welsh Reverend William Thomas. In time, two more churches were built on this site until finally, in 1970, the Lower Hilltown Baptist Church was demolished. Services continue to this day at the Upper Hilltown Baptist Church in the old "Nace's Corner". The cemetery at the Lower Church site remains and is carefully tended to by the Hilltown Baptist Church. Burials date back to the 1700s. Some unmarked graves are said to be for Native Americans. Veterans of the Revolutionary War are also buried here.

The tree was a hardy specimen, until storms damaged the heavy branches in recent years. Finally, its long life ended. It has been cut down, providing tons of firewood. Some people felt that this was the last of Bucks County Penn Oak Trees. It also was a tree that was within yards of William Penn's journey in Hilltown. Might a fallen acorn from this behemoth extend its legacy, just as our children and grandchildren extend ours? If so, this tree does have a future.



Do you like fun, friendly competition?  
Are you 50+? **SAVE THESE DATES!**

The 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Bucks County PA  
**Senior Games**  
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March 15 - May 15

**Kick-off event:**  
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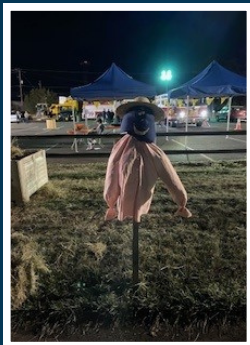
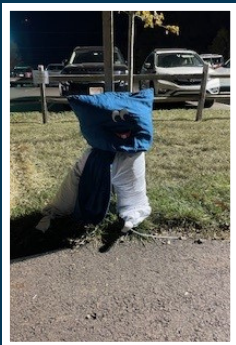
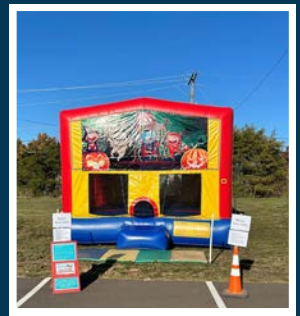
  
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# Thank you to our community for making our first annual Trunk & Treat Event a huge success!



To participate in our event  
this year, please email  
[info@hilltown.org](mailto:info@hilltown.org)





# Spring & Summer fun in Hilltown!

## We've curated some fun days and must-do's in our Town so you don't miss out this season.

### Family Fun on the Farms:

- Start your morning with some delicious breakfast pastries at Tabora Farm & Orchard before picking your own peaches
- Take a group family horseback riding lesson at Red Wing Farm.
- Stop and grab lunch at Bolton's Farm Market.
- Pick your own flowers at Blooming Glen Farm from June to September.
- Stop by Callowhill Farm Alpaca's in September for their open house.
- Grab fixings for dinner from Ken Jan Farm, Inc.
- Finish your day by stopping at Penn View Farm Ice Cream for dessert.



### For the Adventurer:

- Stop by Mr. B's at Calvary Church for a coffee and breakfast before beginning your day of adventure.
- Take flight with the Philadelphia Glider Club and soar above Hilltown on an Aeronautical Orientation Flight.
- Grab lunch at Castillo's before heading back out on our park paths.
- Take a 4 mile round trip bike ride along our trails beginning and ending at Telegraph Park (map left), and/or a two mile round-trip run at Fairhill Park's Trail.
- Head to Bishop Estate Vineyard and Winery for dinner from the food trucks with live music and local refreshments.
- Finish your day of adventure with a well deserved treat from Sunday School.



### A Day Back to Historic Hilltown:

- Start your morning by taking a Tour of the Pearl S. Buck House and Grounds, a National Historic Landmark. PSB hosts craft fairs on weekends where you can grab coffee or a smoothie for breakfast from food truck vendors.
- Stop in Pasqualina's Italian Market & Deli, an Italian shop that is in the Uneek Havana Cigar Company Building, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
- Take a guided tour through the historic Strassburger Farmstead dating back to the 1830's.
- Shop at the Factory Antiques, a cute shop that occupies the former Wismer Pants Factory.
- Grab dinner from Crossroads Tavern, which occupies an original Colonial Inn.
- For dessert, stop by Hickory Stick Ice Cream & More, located in the old Gehman School, which was operational as a single room schoolhouse through the 1950's.



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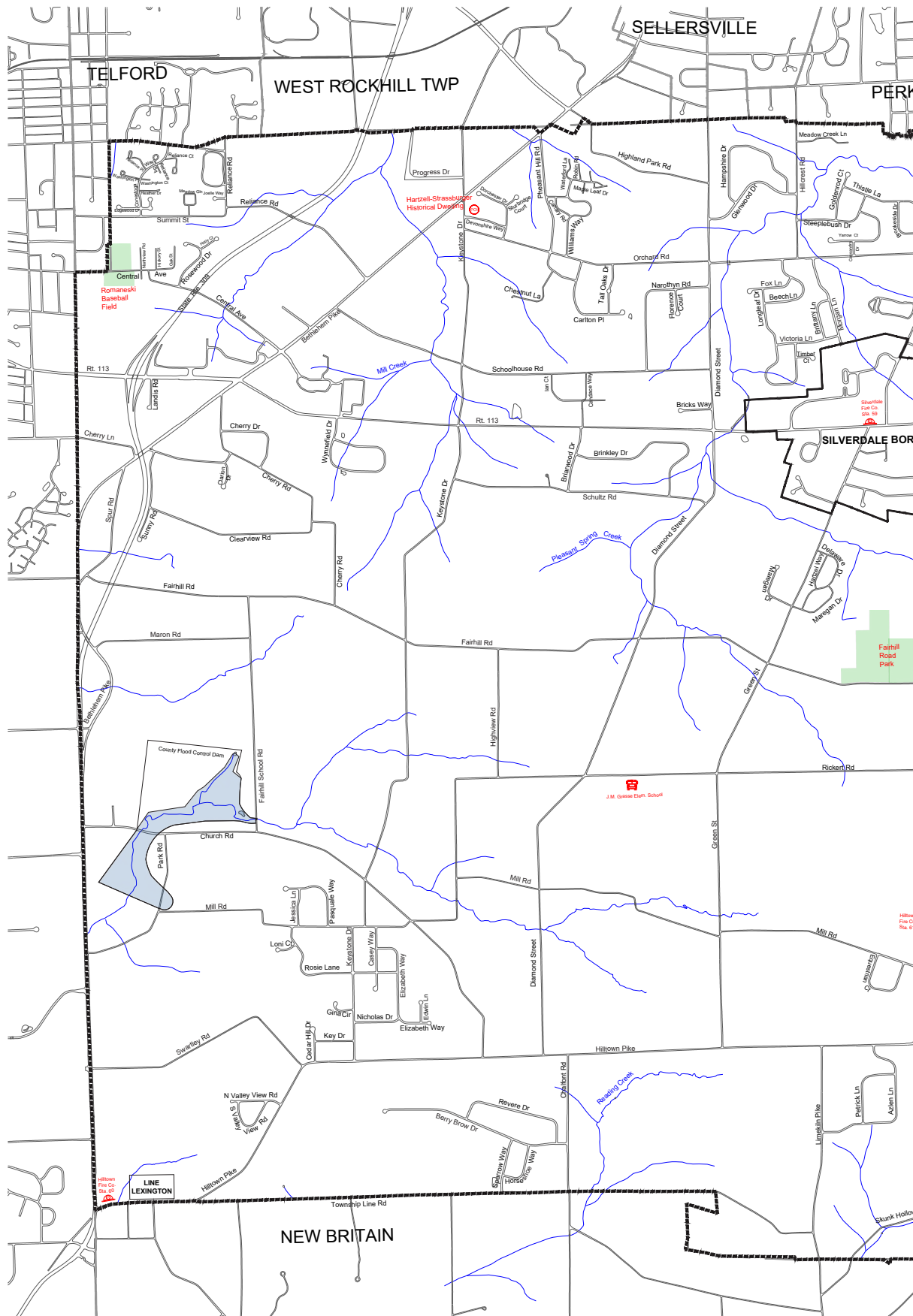
✓ **PUMP INSTALLATIONS**



# HILLTOWN

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*Township*









### Congratulations Detective Towhey!

Hilltown Township recently promoted Detective Towhey at a swearing-in ceremony held at the Board of Supervisor meeting on January 27, 2025. Detective Towhey was surrounded by family and members of the Police Department as he took his oath of office, issued by Honorable Regina Armitage. Chief of Police, Christopher Englehart, highlighted Detective Towhey's history with the Hilltown Township Police Department and shared his confidence in Detective Towhey to assist Detective Louis Bell in matters requiring their expertise throughout the Township. We would like to wish Detective Towhey the best of luck in his new, official role, and want to thank him for his dedication to Hilltown Township!



### Happy Retirement Officer Adamson!

Our heartfelt thank you to Officer Robert Adamson for your commitment and dedication to Hilltown Township over your 26 years with our Department. Congratulations on your retirement!

### Congratulations to Ken-Jan Farm!



Congratulations to the Beer Family and Ken-Jan Farm for receiving the 2024 Fred Groshens Conservation Farmer of The Year Award! With so many incredible farms within

our Township, it's wonderful to see that Ken-Jan is being recognized at the county level for conservation efforts.



### Travis Manion Foundation comes to Hilltown Township this Spring!

Hosted, again, by our Public Works Department, Hilltown Township will be holding a spring event through the Travis Manion Foundation to address needs throughout our Township. For more information and to sign up to volunteer for this event, please visit our website or social media accounts!

### Parks & Recreation Board to conduct a Township-wide survey!

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee aims to enhance and enrich the current Parks and Recreations effort in Hilltown Township. We hold public meetings on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Township Building. We encourage all residents to attend and share their ideas as to how we can strengthen community connections and improve our park facilities. We understand that everyone is busy, so if you can't make a meeting you can share your thoughts by completing our survey. To access the survey, scan the QR Code below! Any questions for the Parks and Recreation Board may be sent to [info@hilltown.org](mailto:info@hilltown.org).



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IN THE LAKE.



Rain washes pollutants into storm drains which  
flows directly into our streams, lakes,  
rivers and the ocean.  
So what can you do?

### WHAT'S THE PROBLEM WITH WASHING YOUR CAR?

Washing your car on a paved surface can allow the soapy wash water and other pollutants, like oil and grease, to run off into a storm drain. Most soap contains phosphates and other chemicals that, in large amounts can contaminate your drinking water, as well as kill fish, wildlife and plants. The soap, together with the dirt and oil washed from your car, flows into nearby storm drains, which flows directly into lakes, rivers and the ocean. The phosphates from the soap can cause excess algae to grow, which can be harmful to the water quality.

### YOU CAN HELP!

- Take your car to a car washing facility, rather than washing it yourself. Commercial car washes treat and recycle the water.
- If you can't get to a car washing facility, wash your car on an unpaved surface and use biodegradable soap.
- Organize a Car Wash Fundraiser for a local organization.

### WHY SHOULD YOU CARE ABOUT CLEAN WATER?

Stormwater pollution is one of the greatest threats to Pennsylvania's clean water supply. Clean water provides access to safe drinking water, places for recreation, commercial opportunities, healthy wildlife habitats, and adds beauty to our landscape. Rain washes pollution from streets, parking lots, and lawns into storm drains, then directly to our streams, rivers, lakes and oceans.

**Did you know more than 60 percent of water pollution comes from things like motor oil, fertilizers, pet waste, and detergents? By sharing the responsibility and making small, easy changes in our daily lives, we can keep common pollutants out of stormwater.**

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*Thank You*

Hilltown Township would like to thank the  
businesses that appear in this newsletter  
and to recognize them each as supporters  
and cornerstones of our community.

For it is with their contributions that  
this newsletter has been produced at no  
charge to our residents.



Join us for our first  
Easter Egg Scavenger  
Hunt!



Interested in learning  
more about which Fire  
Department services  
your residence? Take a  
look at our Fire District  
Map here!



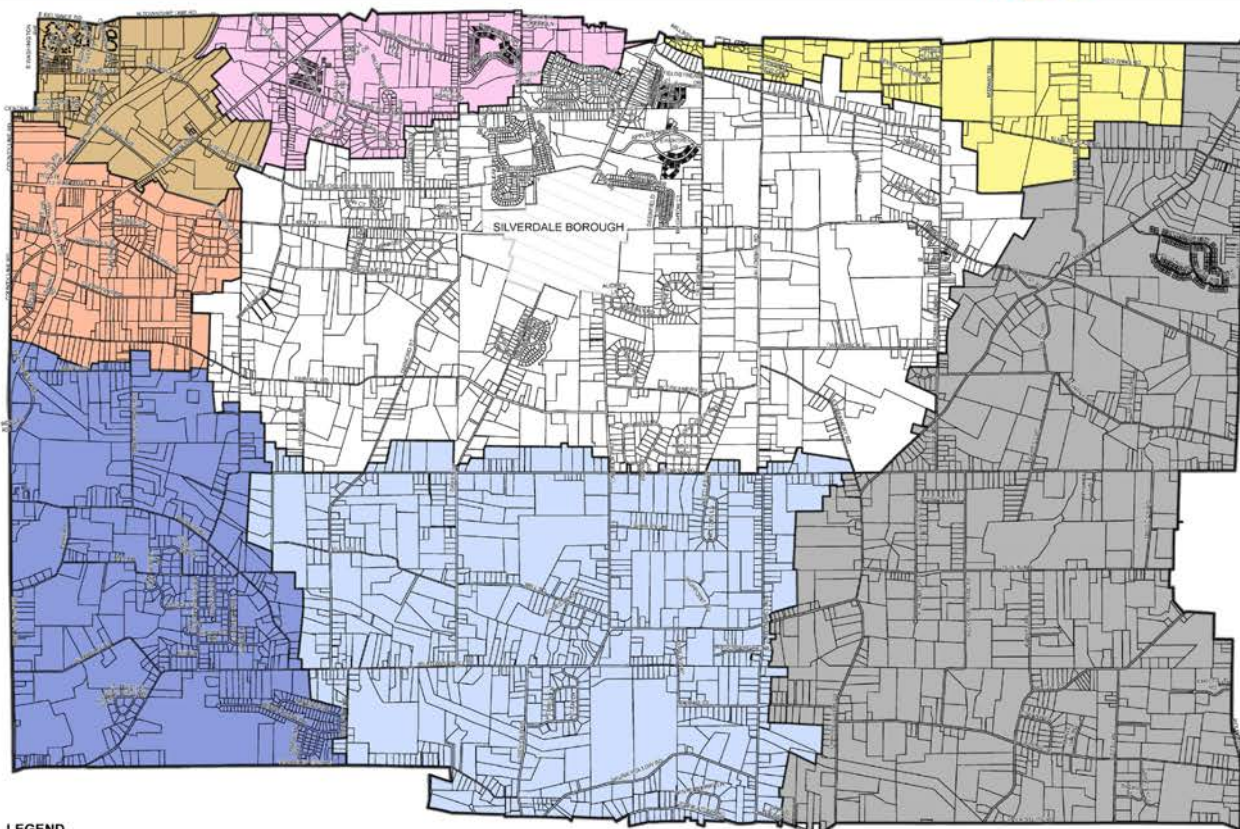
## HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP PARKS EASTER EGG SCAVENGER HUNT

HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP WILL BE HAVING AN EASTER  
EGG SCAVENGER HUNT FOR OUR COMMUNITY!

FOR TEN DAYS LEADING UP TO EASTER, WE WILL BE  
HIDING ONE EGG PER DAY AT ONE OF OUR PARKS.  
CLUES TO WHERE THE EGG IS HIDDEN WILL BE  
POSTED ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!

IF YOU LOCATE AN EGG DURING THE SCAVENGER  
HUNT, COME INTO THE OFFICE TO CLAIM YOUR PRIZE!

An additional reminder for fire safety  
to check the batteries in your  
smoke detectors annually!



### LEGEND

Dublin Station 23	Sellersville Station 27
Hilltown Station 60	Silverdale Station 59
Hilltown Station 61	Souderton Station 74 (Mont Co)
Perkasie Station 26	Telford Station 75 (Mont Co)

1,200 400 0 1,200 2,400 3,600  
SCALE IN FEET

Source: Hilltown Township, Pennsylvania Spatial Data Project, ESRI, Garmin Data

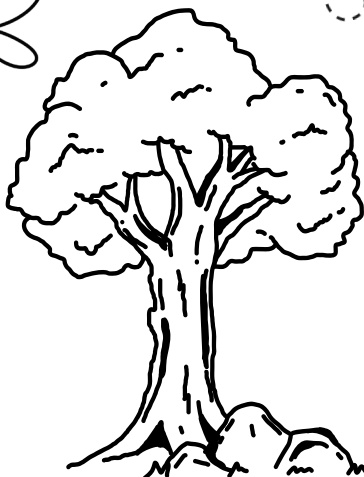
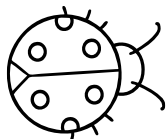
PROJECT	DESCRIPTION
HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP	FIRE DISTRICT MAP
WYNN ASSOCIATES, INC.	MUNICIPAL ENGINEERING SERVICES
DATE	DATE
BY	BY
CHECKED	CHECKED
APPROVED	APPROVED
1	1



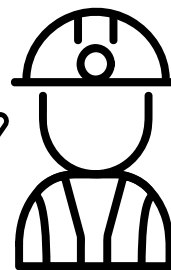
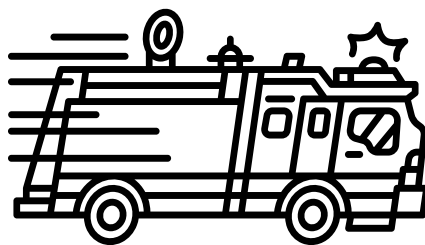
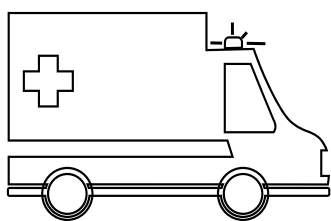
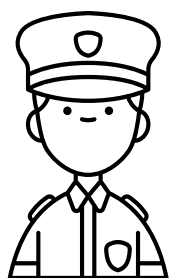
# MULTITOWN TOWNSHIP

COLORING PAGE

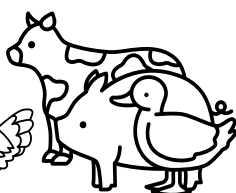
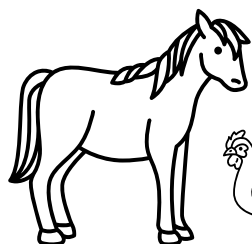
## NATURE



## LOCAL HEROES



## FARMS



# Please Don't Blow Grass in the Street!

When mowing your lawn please refrain from blowing grass into the street. Please blow it back into your yard. If blown into the street, grass clippings will find their way to storm drains and may clog them during heavy rain events that would contribute to localized flooding. The grass clippings in the street are also a hazard to motorcycles and bicycle riders.



## What Is Grasscycling

Grasscycling is the simple practice of leaving grass clippings on the lawn when mowing. Once cut, grass clippings first dehydrate, then decompose, quickly disappearing from view.

### Grasscycling —

Encourages a healthier lawn by returning nutrients to the soil beneath the lawn.

Reduces work because you don't have to bag or rake and dispose of your clippings.

Saves you money because you don't have to pay for disposal of your clippings.

Benefits the environment by naturally recycling the clippings.

Simply put, grasscycling is good for your lawn and can help you reduce waste. Learn how easy it is for you to begin grasscycling.

### How To Begin

Proper mowing is required for successful grasscycling. Cut grass when the surface is dry, and keep mower blades sharp. Follow the "1/3 Rule": mow your lawn often enough so that no more than 1/3 of the length of the grass blade is cut in any one mowing. Frequent mowing will produce short clippings that will not cover up the grass surface. You may have to cut the lawn every 7 days when the lawn is growing fast but only every 7 to 14 days when the lawn is growing slowly.

You can grasscycle with most any mower (push, electric or gas). The mower collection bag should be removed to allow clippings to drop on the lawn. However, if your mower does not have a safety flap covering the opening where the bag fits into the chute, it is important that you purchase a retrofit kit from your local retailer.

Most lawnmower manufacturers have developed "mulching" mowers which cut grass blades into small pieces and force them into the soil. These types of mowers are effective in grasscycling and have become very popular. They are sold at many yard and garden equipment retailers, nurseries, and home supply stores.

### Common Grasscycling Questions

#### ***Does grasscycling cause thatch?***

No! Research has shown that grass roots are the primary cause of thatch, not grass clippings. Thatch is composed primarily of roots, stems, rhizomes, and other plant materials. These plant materials contain large amounts of lignin (fibrous material) and decompose slowly. Grass clippings are approximately 80-85 percent water with only small amounts of lignin, and decompose rapidly.

#### ***Does grasscycling spread lawn disease?***

No. Improper watering and fertilizing are the primary cause of disease spread. If an accommodating environment for turfgrass disease is present, infestation will occur whether clippings are collected or not. Will grasscycling make my lawn look bad?

No! If a lawn is properly mowed, watered, and fertilized, grasscycling can actually produce a healthier looking lawn. It is important to cut the lawn frequently to produce small clippings that will decompose quickly. If a lawn is not cut frequently and clippings are left on the lawn, it will produce a "hay-like" look which can be unsightly.

#### ***Are there alternatives to grasscycling?***

Yes! Grasscycling does not work in every situation. Prolonged wet weather, mower breakdowns, or infrequent mowing are situations where grass clippings should probably be bagged since a large number of clippings may be generated. But don't throw the clippings away! Add clippings to your compost pile, or use them as mulch around trees, flowerbeds, and shrubs.

#### ***Does grasscycling require special equipment?***

Refer to your owner's manual or contact a local lawnmower dealer to learn if you can safely grasscycle. You may need to purchase a retrofit kit, and your mower dealer can assist you with selecting the correct one. Mulching mowers make grasscycling easy by cutting grass blades into small pieces and forcing them into the soil. Electric mulching mowers can also help reduce air pollution.





## Hilltown Township Gives Back

This past winter, our Public Works Department and our Police Department both participated in community service events to give back to our community. The Hilltown Township Public Works Department and the Police Department both participated in Wreaths across America, and the Police Department also participated in the annual Shop with a Cop event at our local Walmart. We wanted to thank all staff who participated and work to make Hilltown Township a wonderful place to live.



## Congratulations to our newly appointed Board & Commission Members!

Carol Pierce, Planning Commission

Eric Nogami, Planning Commission

John Rankin, Water and Sewer Authority

Matthew Knox, Zoning Hearing Board

Steven Kendra, Parks and Recreation

## A Message from your Tax Collector, Diane Telly

Hello and Happy Spring!

We are underway with the 2024 real estate taxes. County/Township tax bills are issued March 1st, and School tax bills are issued July 1st. Bills can be paid in person, by mail, by web banking, or by online payment.

Please visit <https://hilltowntaxcollect.wixsite.com/taxoffice> for more information or to pay online.

In-person payments are accepted at the Hilltown Township Building on the dates specified on the bills and on the website.

2024 Property Tax Rent Rebate forms are currently available. Please contact my office at 215-257-5947 or [hilltowntaxcollector@gmail.com](mailto:hilltowntaxcollector@gmail.com) for more information on this or any other questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Diane Telly, CPTC

Hilltown Real Estate Tax Collector

Any questions concerning Earned Income Tax, please contact Keystone Collections Group at 866-539-1100.





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