



FOX CHAPEL

BOROUGH

NEWSLETTER

Published by Fox Chapel Borough



SUMMER 2023

FOX CHAPEL DAY 2023

On Saturday, June 17, 2023, the Borough of Fox Chapel hosted the third annual Fox Chapel Day event at McCahill Park. It was a beautiful day for Fox Chapel families to enjoy. There were endless activities for everyone to engage in, such as rides on Thomas the Train, games, and balloon characters made by Weird Eric. Moreover, Life Flight landed their helicopter around noon, and the children had the opportunity to view the helicopter and talk with the pilot and nurses. Several tents were set up for residents to talk with the Fox Chapel Parks Conservancy, Cooper-Siegel Community Library, Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts of America, and other wonderful organizations. The event also had vehicles from the Fox Chapel Volunteer Fire Department, Police Department, Foxwall EMS, and Public Works Department for the children to view. The Allegheny County Police Bomb Squad brought a robot and bomb suit, while food trucks from Steer and Wheel and Hummus Pittsburgh provided great treats!

However, the showstopper was a petting zoo filled with baby animals that children and adults could feed. It was a lovely experience to see a baby camel, zebra, Highland cow, puppies, goats, pot-belly pigs, and more!

We want to express our gratitude to Sergeant Craig Sorg for organizing another fantastic event for the residents of Fox Chapel. We hope you had the chance to enjoy the day, and we look forward to discovering what next year's event has in store! If you would like to make a donation towards next year's event, you can do so by mailing a check to Borough of Fox Chapel Community Events, 401 Fox Chapel Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238.



PHONE NUMBERS

The Borough receives many phone calls requesting phone numbers. Some of the most requested phone numbers are listed below for your use.

Cooper-Siegel Community Library (parking permits).....	412-828-9520
Duquesne Light Company (Customer Service)	412-393-7100
Foxwall EMS	412-963-6611
Fox Chapel Police (Non-Emergency)	412-963-7220
Fox Chapel Public Works Department (Director)	412-850-5026
Fox Chapel School District	412-963-9600
Fox Chapel Sewer Department (Superintendent).....	412-850-5030
Fox Chapel Volunteer Fire Department (Non-Emergency)	412-963-1100 ext. 9
Fox Chapel (Water) Authority (FCA).....	412-963-0212
Fox Chapel Zoning Administrator	412-850-5023
Jordan Tax Service (Real Estate Tax & School Tax).....	412-345-7962
Keystone Collections Group (Wage Tax)	724-978-2862
Lauri Ann West Community Center.....	412-828-8566
O'Hara Township (O'Hara Community Park)	412-782-1400
Vogel Disposal (Garbage Collection).....	855-494-3345



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MAYOR'S MEMO

I hope everyone is enjoying the parks this summer! It seems like they are being well utilized, and we owe a big thanks to the Park and Trail stewards for their efforts. The trails are in excellent condition, and the dry Spring season has definitely helped. Have you had the chance to check out the new trees planted by volunteers with support from the Public Works Department? Additionally, there's a beautiful wildflower meadow installed by the Fox Chapel Parks Conservancy as part of the Welcome Garden on Fox Chapel Road, near Delafield Road.



Recently, our Police Department hosted a Bike Rodeo to teach kids and families new skills. This was a collaborative effort with O'Hara and Indiana Police Departments as well. By the time you receive this message, we'll have completed another successful Fox Chapel Day! This event keeps getting bigger and better each year, thanks to Sergeant Craig Sorg and many volunteers.

Thanks to our partners in Aspinwall, we had another successful Memorial Day Parade to honor the Veterans who have served in our military. This is a solemn ceremony, followed by the rousing tradition of the parade. Fox Chapel Borough is proud to participate in this event!

-Alex Scott-



YARD MAINTENANCE AND SAFETY

The Borough would like to remind residents of yard maintenance requirements. Please note that **grass cannot exceed six (6) inches in height. Hedges and brush in the road right-of-way along any side of the property must be trimmed back six (6) feet to allow proper sight distance and pedestrian safety.** The Borough encourages residents not to plant shrubs or trees in the road right-of-way because of public safety concerns. The Borough does not maintain trees or shrubs in the right-of-way, regardless of who originally planted them. The Borough trims along the guide rails and removes tree branches that block traffic signs.

The Borough receives many complaints every year for tall grass or overgrown intersections. Overgrown vegetation at intersections not cleared by residents will be removed by the Borough's contractor using a boom mower. However, the work performed by the contractor may not be to the residents' liking, so for this reason, it is recommended that the property owner clear the intersection.

REAL ESTATE TAX DROP-OFF

Jordan Tax Service is the designated real estate tax collector. A representative from Jordan Tax will be available at the Borough Building Main Lobby to accept real estate tax payments on Friday, July 31st, from 9 AM to noon. Jordan Tax can be reached at 412/345-7962, www.jordantax.com, or 102 Rahway Road, McMurray, PA 15317.

ATTENTION HOMEOWNERS WITH SECURITY SYSTEMS

If you have a security alarm system in your home, please make sure to advise your security company of alternate phone numbers where you can be reached, as well as a secondary contact and phone number.

In the event the police and/or fire department are called to your home on an alarm call, a secondary contact is very helpful should you not be able to be reached, and entrance is needed into your home. of the date of the Tear Down Agreement.

FOX CHAPEL WATER AUTHORITY

Fox Chapel Water Authority (FCA) is a separate entity located at 255 Alpha Drive in RIDC Park that provides public water service to most residents. The Borough contracts with FCA to bill sewage for the Borough and ALCOSAN. Please call FCA for all water issues and water or sewer billing questions at 412/963-0212.



FROM THE DESK OF CHIEF OF POLICE

As the Fox Chapel Police Department, we take pride in serving and protecting all residents of the Borough. Our team offers a range of services, and I'd like to highlight a few for you.

Firstly, if you plan to be away from home for any length of time, please let us know. Each Borough home has a resident card at the Police Department containing important contact information. Our officers will patrol your home to provide extra security while you're away.

We also welcome all residents to visit our station and get to know us better. If you have a group of children who would like a tour, please call us ahead of time so we can answer all their questions. Additionally, if your child is hosting a party and would like a personal visit from one of our officers, we would be honored to oblige.

Please have a safe summer,
Chief Michael J. Stevens



POLICE DEPARTMENT NEW HIRES

On Monday, June 12th, the Fox Chapel Borough Police Department welcomed two new police officers to their team. Michael Catanzaro, Jr., who previously worked for Wilkesburg Borough, and Amanda Fedunok, the Borough's first female police officer, from Franklin Park Police Department. Both officers bring with them an immense amount of knowledge and expertise. On behalf of the Borough of Fox Chapel, we would like to welcome both Michael and Amanda!

BENEFITS OF PLANTING OAK TREES IN THE BOROUGH

It's that time of year when residents are looking to plant trees on their property. But how do you know what trees are the best for the area you live in? According to Doug Tallamy, noted Entomologist and author of *Bringing Nature Home*, *The Nature of the Oaks*, and *Nature's Best Hope* – a 2022 New York Best Seller, the best tree you can plant for the environment is an Oak tree.

Professor Tallamy teaches us that the Oak tree can host more species of caterpillars than any other tree. Caterpillars are a major source of food for many species of baby birds. With the rapidly declining bird population, they must have food available. The leaf litter from Oak trees is beneficial for many native insects. It can typically take three years for the leaves to break down. Another advantage of leaf litter is that it can keep away the invasive stilt grass that plagues many areas of the Borough.

It is true, however, that acorns from the Oak trees attract deer and small animals. If you are also looking to plant deer-resistant trees and shrubs, here is a list from Phipps Conservatory of non-invasive species resistant to most diseases so they do not require pesticides. Once these trees and shrubs are established, they require little watering. But remember, new trees like an inch of water a week to help them thrive!

Trees:

- Bald Cypress
- Cornelian Cherry Dogwood
- Eastern Redbud
- River Birch
- Sweetbay Magnolia

Shrubs:

- Bottlebrush Buckeye
- Carolina Allspice
- Summersweet (*Clethra alnifolia*)
- Witch Hazel (*Hamamelis Virginiana*)

A CALL TO VOLUNTEER

If you're looking for a way to give back, consider volunteering your talents to the Fox Chapel Volunteer Fire Department (FCVFD). Their mission is to save lives, protect property, and ensure the safety of everyone in the community. Every act of kindness and every hour



of service helps nourish our hearts and our community. The FCVFD members are well-prepared and trained to fulfill their mission but need your assistance. Join today and become a valued member of the community. It is an honor to serve.

Ways to Apply:

- Complete the online application by scanning the QR Code.
- You are also welcome to visit on Tuesdays at 7:30 PM at the main station behind the Fox Chapel Borough Building.

REMEMBER, ONLY RAIN DOWN THE DRAIN

Stormwater runoff is precipitation from rain or snowmelt that flows over the ground. As it flows, it can pick up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants and deposit them into a storm sewer system or water body. Anything that enters a storm sewer system is discharged untreated into the waterbodies we use for swimming, fishing, and drinking.

To keep the stormwater leaving your home or workplace clean, follow these simple guidelines:

- Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly.
- Repair auto leaks.
- Dispose of household hazardous waste, used auto fluids (anti-freeze, oil, etc.), and batteries at designated collection or recycling locations.
- Clean up pet waste.
- Use a commercial car wash or wash your car on a lawn or unpaved surface.
- Sweep up yard debris rather than hosing down areas—compost or recycle yard waste when possible.
- Clean paint brushes in a sink, not outdoors. Properly dispose of excess paint.
- Sweep up and properly dispose of construction debris like concrete and mortar.

HOLIDAY GARBAGE COLLECTION SCHEDULE AND BOROUGH OFFICE CLOSURES

- Independence Day - Tuesday, July 4, 2023
- Labor Day - Monday, September 4, 2023
- Garbage collection for Independence Day week will be Monday pickup as usual, with no collection on Tuesday, then the collection will resume Wednesday through Saturday.
- Garbage collection for Labor Day week will be no collection on Monday; then, the collection will be from Tuesday through Saturday.
- The Borough Office will be closed on Monday, July 3rd.
- The Borough Office and Public Works Department will be closed on Independence Day and Labor Day.

BOROUGH RIGHT-OF-WAY

A reminder to Borough residents to refrain from placing permanent structures in the Borough right-of-way adjacent to the pavement, such as pillars, mailboxes, and other items, including sprinkler heads and invisible dog fences. Should the Borough or a utility company work in the right-of-way along your property, all items will need to be removed and not replaced. This also includes landscaping. Your cooperation is appreciated.

BOROUGH WEBSITE

Residents' questions, such as garbage collection schedules, tax payment information, and permit applications, can be answered by viewing the website. Borough residents can apply online for driveway, tree removal, and dye test permits by clicking the Permit Portal button on the left side of the Home Page. Additionally, residents, contractors, and vendors can use the "Pay Online" option on our Home page. This option can be used for invoices, dye test payments, permits, or donations.

DOGS IN THE BOROUGH

Residents are asked to be respectful and responsible when walking their dogs by properly cleaning up and disposing of waste and policing others to do the same. The Borough receives complaints about waste on private property, left along roads and trails, or bags of waste thrown in trees along the trails. Animal waste pollutes streams and violates the Clean Streams Act. Please do the right thing when walking your dog. The Borough and fellow residents thank you!

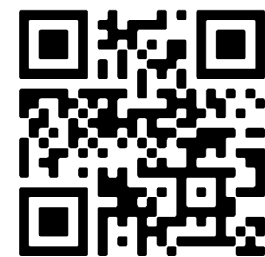
CONGRATULATIONS, 2023 GRADUATES!

On behalf of the Borough of Fox Chapel, we extend our heartfelt congratulations to the 2023 Fox Chapel High School graduates and Shady Side Academy graduates. Your hard work has paid off, and we wish you all the best as you embark on your next exciting journey.



PARKING PERMITS

Parking permits are available at the Cooper-Siegel Community Library, 403 Fox Chapel Road, 15238. The permits are required for certain parking lots located at Borough Parks. Please scan the QR Code to access the permit application and information.



PARKING PERMIT

TREE REMOVAL PROCESS

While planning property improvement projects, please be aware that removing any live tree, 6 inches or greater in diameter, as measured 4½ feet off the ground, needs to be approved by the Tree Committee. The Tree Committee has the authority to approve the removal of up to ten trees by issuing a tree removal permit. More than ten trees require the approval of the Environmental Advisory Council. A statement from a certified arborist may be required to attest to tree disease. Fox Chapel Borough encourages replacing each tree removed with a native hardwood tree.

To apply for a Tree Removal Permit, please visit the Borough's website and click the Permit Portal button on the left-hand side of the Home Page. Once the permit has been submitted, a Tree Committee member will come to your property to assess the tree(s) listed on the request form. They will then determine if the trees are permitted to be removed, and an email will be sent to the resident and contractor, as long as email addresses are provided on the form.

The trees must be marked with a ribbon and numbered. The request will be denied if the trees are not marked or identified. Permits expire one year from the date of approval.

DRIVEWAY IMPROVEMENT PERMIT PROTECTS MOTORISTS FROM WATER RUNOFF ON BOROUGH ROADS

Since 1944, the Borough of Fox Chapel has required driveway permits for anyone installing a driveway in the Borough's right-of-way. The Borough's right-of-way is fifty (50) feet in most cases. This means about twelve (12) feet from the edge of the paving in a resident's front yard.

The right-of-way is used for underground utilities such as sewer, gas, water, cable, and stormwater piping. Anyone working within the Borough's right-of-way must call PA One Call at 811 before digging or excavating in the right-of-way or on property. Digging without a One Call risks damaging one of the buried utilities and can disrupt you or your neighbor.

The Borough regulates driveways because water from the gutter line or the driveway may be directed onto the asphalt road's surface and freeze in colder temperatures. This can create a hazardous condition for motorists or walkers. The permit process is the Borough's way of protecting residents from accidents, and it reduces residents' liability by not allowing the driveway to create a hazardous condition.

Driveway modifications require a Driveway Improvement Permit from the Borough before starting work, such as repaving, changing the material, Grade, or drainage pattern. The Driveway Permit Application and information are available on the Borough's website. The permit fee is \$100. If you have any questions, please contact Dan Moretti at 412/ 850-5023.



SELLING YOUR HOME?

A dye test on the sanitary sewer system must be conducted before selling real estate in Fox Chapel Borough. A Sanitary Sewer Certification is issued after the Borough and a registered plumber perform an inspection verifying that no storm, ground, or surface water is directed into the sanitary sewer system. Property owners arrange and pay for a registered plumber to perform the test. The Borough witnesses inspects, and certifies the test at the cost of \$350. Once issued, the Certificate is valid for one year from the initial inspection date. Each time a property is sold, a new Certification is required. It is advisable to have the test done early in the process in case repairs are needed. The sewerage system shall be inspected after any corrective action has been taken to demonstrate that any defects have been eliminated and/or repaired.

A Dye Test Application can be completed online by visiting www.fox-chapel.pa.us, then clicking the Permit Portal button on the left-hand side of the Home Screen. Payments can be made online at the time of application.

Please note that any house proposed to be torn down is not required to be tested. The Buyer and Seller must sign a Tear Down Agreement and submit it to the Borough. The existing sewer will need to be capped immediately. A new sewer lateral system will be built in conjunction with the new house; however, the Buyers agree to test the existing sewer and to correct any defects found if the building permit for a new home is not issued within twelve months of the date of the Tear Down Agreement.

FOX CHAPEL PARKS CONSERVANCY

The Fox Chapel Parks Conservancy is dedicated to the care and protection of Fox Chapel's parks and trail system and the ongoing pursuit of conservation in the community.

Fox Chapel's parks are an essential component of the beauty and well-being of our communities. The conservancy was established to provide our community with an easy way to invest in continued care and protection and to help fund future park expansion.

To donate to the Fox Chapel Parks Conservancy, please visit www.FoxChapelParksConservancy.org. We appreciate your ongoing support!



FOX CHAPEL PARKS CONSERVANCY

FOX CHAPEL TREE PLANTINGS

During the Arbor Day weekend, on April 29, 2023, the Fox Chapel Park Commission and approximately 28 volunteers planted 475 seedlings at Riding Meadow and Salamander Parks. Twenty-three residents took home 155 blueberry bushes, Sycamore trees, and Dogwood tree seedlings. Volunteers have planted 955 seedlings in Borough Parks this spring so far! Keep an eye out for more planting events coming this fall!

If you would like to volunteer your time to help plant seedlings in the future, please email your information to FoxChapel@fox-chapel.pa.us.



TRAFFIC MIRRORS

The Public Works Department receives many calls yearly to replace traffic mirrors that fall or break. The Borough of Fox Chapel is not responsible for installing or maintaining convex traffic mirrors. Many private driveways have these mirrors installed for driver visibility, security, and safety for the vehicles entering the roadway.

It is the property owner's responsibility to maintain the mirrors.



THE GARDEN CLUB OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY
FOUNDED IN 1914 ~ A MEMBER OF THE GARDEN CLUB OF AMERICA

gcacpgh.org/pizzazz

A Distinctive Boutique Shopping Event
FOX CHAPEL GOLF CLUB

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2023

Preview Party
5:00 PM - 8:30 PM

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2023

Boutique Shopping
9:30 AM - 7:00 PM

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2023

Boutique Shopping
9:30 AM - 1:00 PM

For more information and tickets,
visit: gcacpgh.org/pizzazz

Other inquiries, contact: gcacpgh@gmail.com

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE AND E-WASTE COLLECTION

Household hazardous waste and electronic waste collection are by appointment only, with the following date remaining for collection in 2023; September 11, 2023. Contact Vogel Disposal Service, Inc.'s Customer Service Department, 855/494-3345, to schedule at least ten business days before the collection date. Please be prepared with detailed information about the products you request be picked up during the call. You will need the following information for Hazardous Household Waste: the brand name, container size, quantity remaining in the container, and possible information from the label. You will need the brand name, screen size, style, and approximate weight for Electronic Waste. For more information on HHW and E-Waste Collection, please visit the Borough website and click Services, then Trash.

TRASH & RECYCLING REMINDERS

Vogel and the Borough would like to remind residents of the following:

- Place used sharps in a strong puncture-resistant plastic container, and when the container is $\frac{3}{4}$ full, put the lid on, seal it with duct tape, and label **DO NOT RECYCLE**. Place the container in the household trash. Sharps should never be thrown loosely into the trash, recycling, or toilet.
- Recyclables with food waste should be rinsed before being placed in the recycling container. Materials with food contaminants, such as grease or melted cheese, are not recyclable and should be placed in the trash container.
- Cardboard must be flattened or broken into pieces no larger than four (4) feet. Packaging materials such as Styrofoam blocks, peanuts, or bubble wrap must be removed.
- If it rains on the collection day, ensure cardboard and paper materials do not become wet by placing them in the Borough issued recycling container with a lid. Wet cardboard and paper materials are not recyclable.
- Recycling should be loose, not bagged, and placed within the Borough-provided green container. Plastic bags are not recyclable. Plastic bags get tangled in recycling equipment, causing the facility to shut down to cut plastic bags free from the machinery. This reduces efficiency and endangers workers at the facility. As such, Vogel will not pick up any recyclables in plastic bags.
- **Contractor Bags are not to be used even if they weigh less than 45 pounds.**
- Garbage bags should not exceed 33 gallons and 45 pounds and must be tied shut.
- Shredded paper needs to be bagged with trash. It cannot be loose in the recycling container.
- Garbage calls should be directed to Vogel Disposal Service at 855-494-3345.



SUMMER 2023 PROGRAMS AT COOPER-SIEGEL COMMUNITY LIBRARY

ADULTS

- Lecture: History of the Strip District, Fri. July 7th, at 2 PM
- Author Talk: William Miller, Author of Steel City, Sat. July 15th, at 1 PM
- Lecture: Notorious Pittsburgh, Fri. July 21st, at 2 PM
- Author Talk: Virginia Montanez (PittGirl), Tues. July 25th, at 6:30 PM

TEENS/TWEENS

- Anime & Cosplay Club: Second Tues. 6-8 PM
- Creative Corner: Wed. 4:30 PM (Ages 11-18)
- Lavender Book Club: Second Wed. 6:30 PM (Ages 12-18)

CHILDREN

- Wiggle Storytime: Tues. 10:30 AM (Age 2 and under)
- Make and Take: Tues. 4:30 PM (Grades K-6)
- STEAM Storytime: Fri. 10:30 AM (Ages 2-5)
- Ocarina Class: (Weekly, July 12-Aug. 8) Wed. 3:30 PM (Grades K-6)
- Chess Camp: June 26-30, 10 AM-Noon, (Grades K-8) \$195
- Los Zorritos Spanish Camp: July 10-14, 10 AM-Noon, (Grades K-3) \$100
- Teddy Bear Picnic: Aug 4th, 10:30 AM (Ages 0-8)
- Summer Reading Challenge: ALL SUMMER!
- Summer Reading Party: Tues. August 8th, 5-7 PM, Allegheny River Trail Park

BOOK CLUBS FOR ADULTS (YEAR-ROUND)

- Booked for Lunch (All genres): Second Fri. Noon-1 PM
- Evening (Fiction): Fourth Mon. at 7 PM
- Memoir/History: Third Wed. at 6:30 PM



Community Library Association Open Board Position

The Community Library Association (CLA) is the governing board that oversees operations for Cooper-Siegel Community Library and its branch, the Sharpsburg Community Library. The CLA has an immediate need for a resident from Fox Chapel Borough with legal expertise to fill an open board position. Interested residents should contact Jill McConnell, Executive Director, at mcconnellj@einetwork.net or 412-828-9520 x 5016 for more information.

WILDLIFE CALLS

Residents who find themselves with a snake, deer, raccoon, or other wildlife on their property and are unsure what to do with it are asked to call the Fox Chapel Police Department at 412/963-7220 or the Pennsylvania Game Commission at 724/ 238-9523. The Police Department will respond to all animal calls and refer residents to the animal control company they use and other options available to the resident.

BOROUGH OF FOX CHAPEL

401 FOX CHAPEL ROAD

PITTSBURGH, PA 15238

(412) 963-1100

www.fox-chapel.pa.us



FOX CHAPEL
BOROUGH



PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

BOROUGH OF FOX CHAPEL ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Anyone interested in being considered for future openings should submit their resume via email to speterson@fox-chapel.pa.us

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Andrew C. Bennett, *President*
Harrison S. Lauer, *Vice President*
Thomas A. Karet
Frederick C. Leech
Betsy Monroe
Bradley D. Harrison
Sarah Hanna
Walter A. Scott, III, *Mayor*
Jeanine A. Mancuso, *Treasurer*
Gary J. Koehler, *Manager*

Meets each month on the 3rd Monday of
the month at 6:00 P.M.

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Austin Henry, *Chairman*
Thomas J. Murphy
Peggy G. Jayme
Jay S. Troutman
Nanette Bennett
Donald H. Newman
Brenda McEver

Meets as needed on the 2nd Monday of
the month at 7:00 P.M.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Harrison S. Lauer, *Chairman*
Donald F. Smith, Jr.
Wesley W. Posvar
James M. Royston
Jeffrey B. Todd

Meets as needed on the 3rd Monday of
the month at 5:30 P.M.

ZONING HEARING BOARD

Kyra Tucker
Jeremy Callaway Sphar

Meets as needed on the Wednesday
following the 3rd Monday of the month
at 7:00 P.M.

PARK COMMISSION

Wesley W. Posvar, *Chairman*
Jay Troutman
Liz Nelson
Susan Crookston
Carrie Casey Leemhuis
Steve Whittingham
Nicholas Z. Muller
Jeffrey Cohen

Meets the 2nd Monday in April, June,
September and December at 9:00 A.M.

TRAIL STEWARDS

Britton Wean
Rich Wendell
Chip Crawford
Max Wolfanger and Scott
Peterson
Scott Family
Jim and Mardi Royston
Pat Scully
Scott and Rachel (Lockhart)
Stevens

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Harrison S. Lauer- Chairperson
Carolyn C. Sanford
Andrew C. Bennett
Thomas A. Karet
Enzo J. Santilli

All meetings are open to the public. See our website for further details. All Borough shareholders are cordially invited to attend.