

FOX CHAPEL BOROUGH NEWSLETTER

Published by
Fox Chapel Borough



Winter 2021

Mayor's Memo

October 17 marked a day to remember in Fox Chapel when we opened the new Hardie Valley Park! We can't underestimate the need for this expansion of outdoor green space for all, and it could not have come at a better time as we see much-increased use in the parks and on the trails. Many lent a hand in this story:

- With no land fund, the Borough Council stepped up on short notice and agreed that the Borough should not miss the opportunity to purchase the property, making a sound judgment that the funds could be raised.
- The Fox Chapel Area Land Trust was our partner in a fundraising effort required with the acquisition process.
- The Public Works and Police helped to get the site ready for opening and coordinate traffic at the event. There was a lot of last-minute work needed, and our crew found a way to get it done!
- Our office staff worked tirelessly on extra correspondence and handling the finances. Thanks, Shawn and Jeanine! Many thanks to Gary Koehler for successfully taking on complex grant funding requests.
- Our Parks Commission, Park Stewards, and Trail Stewards are a valuable group of volunteers whose role has become more needed than ever with the increased importance residents have placed on these green spaces. The talent in our group is unmatched.
- Our friends in the Borough stepped up to support this. We could not have done it without you! You allowed us to reach our goal without fanfare or public fundraising, and happily, no need for taxpayer dollars. Many of you came to us and asked what you could do to help, so this is your park; you did it for all to enjoy.
- The usual groups stepped up to help, including Fox Chapel Rotary, Fox Chapel District Association, and Fox Chapel Garden Club. They continue to reach out where they can be of assistance locally. Other garden clubs have expressed interest in native tree planting and other projects in our new park.

The other ingredient that led to our success here is family. It takes a family like the Hardies who cared about conservation above all. They followed other families with similar interests in Fox Chapel, although it has been 30 years since we have added a parcel this size to the parks. Previous families, including the Boyles, McCahill, McKelvey, and Lockhart families, have made a point to see that some or all of their property became parkland.

We wish we could have had the entire Borough at the opening but were restricted in numbers by COVID. If you have not already, please get out and see this new treasure. We have plans to improve further and enhance it, as you will hear.

We have formed the Fox Chapel Parks Conservancy to improve and enhance ALL of our parks in the future. We will keep residents informed about our progress.

-Alex Scott-

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2021 Budget

2020 has been a year, unlike anything we have experienced in the past due to COVID and the resulting impact this has had on our 2021 budget. We continue our commitment to strategic planning and long-term financial sustainability. This positions us to respond to emergencies as we have experienced in the past and the future economic pressures we may face. This approach maintains the Borough's financial stewardship practices that have earned us an exemplary rating of AA+ (Stable Outlook) by the Bond Rating Agency.

This budget reflects the Borough's mission to serve residents by meeting the Borough's goals of:

- Protecting property values, sense of place, and way of life of the Borough
- Maintaining and upgrading the Borough infrastructure
- Providing effective and efficient services to the residents of the Borough at the best value
- Providing an excellent place for employees to work with a professional staff
- Providing for efficient management of financial assets into the future

The 2021 Budget, as presented, has a projected deficit of \$793,700, which will result in an ending fund balance of \$1,648,766. We recommend this budget for a few reasons:

- Over the past four years, the Borough experienced large surpluses in two of those years (2017 and 2019) and smaller deficits in the other two (2018 and 2020). Looking at the Borough's performance over the five years from 2017 through 2021, the projected 2021 deficit of \$793,700 combined with net revenues over the prior four years yields an approximate break-even over the five years.
- The Borough has established an Infrastructure Emergency Fund, which will have a balance of \$180,000 in 2021. This gives the Borough the flexibility to meet unexpected expenditures (such as bridge repair or erosion refurbishment) without reducing the general fund balance.
- The Government Finance Officers Association and the International City Management Association issued cash solvency guidelines of 10% to 25% of annual revenue in reserves to handle short-term crises. The budget projects the fund balance at the end of 2021 to be \$1,648,766 and 2021 revenues of \$7,831,600, which results in a cash solvency of 21%.

Our road rebuilding program began in 2012 and included installing catch basins and underdrains as well as paving. It will continue in 2021 with the following roads scheduled to be paved: Chapel Ridge Court, Chapel Ridge Place, Chapel Ridge Road, Old Chapel Trail, Foxhurst, Westchester Drive, Windsor Road, West Chapel Ridge, Haverford Road, Staffordshire Place, West Waldheim, and Glenhaven.

In 2020 Capital Equipment was purchased for the various departments, including a new Chevy Tahoe for the Police Chief and new handguns. An excavator and two trucks were needed, one for the Public Works and one for the Sewer Department. A new copy machine was purchased for Administration and a rescue fire tool for the Fire Department. In 2021 purchases are budgeted to be a new server backup system and a new dump truck for the Public Works Department.

Since Fox Chapel Borough is an entirely residential community, our revenue sources are limited compared to other municipalities because we have no commercial business district. The Borough has no business privilege tax, a significant revenue source compared to communities with large business districts. Fox Chapel is almost a fully-developed community, limiting revenue growth from new residential houses. In addition, our population of 5,274 (based on 2018 statistics) is significantly lower than a community such as Hampton at 18,235 residents. Fox Chapel Borough provides \$390,000 (.33 mills of real estate tax) in support annually to the Cooper-Siegel Community Library and \$46,000 to Foxwall EMS. The Borough has been exceptionally busy these past few years applying for and receiving grants. We have brought in 1.4 million dollars since 2018, with another \$990,900 still to be received. That is an impressive \$2,453,382 awarded to the Borough! The entire grant process is quite time-consuming, but the additional revenue obtained is well worth it as it has allowed the Borough to keep taxes from increasing.

The Truth about Taxes

The Borough's two primary sources of annual revenue are property tax and earned income (wage) tax amounting to 83% of general operating revenue. Let's take a closer look at these taxes.

Where does your property tax dollar go?

- Many people do not realize that there are three different property taxes: School District, County and Borough
- The Borough has no control over the County and School District taxes
- The current 2021 rates for each taxing body is as follows:

<u>Taxing Body</u>	<u>Millage Rate</u>	<u>Portion of Each Tax Dollar</u>
Fox Chapel Area School District	19.8686 mills	\$0.72
Allegheny County	4.7300 mills	\$0.17
Borough of Fox Chapel	2.9500 mills	\$0.11

For each one dollar in property taxes you pay, the School District gets seventy-two cents, the County receives seventeen cents, and the Borough gets eleven cents. With the 11-cent Borough share, the Borough provides police and fire protection, road paving, snow/ice removal, leaf and brush removal, trash collection, code enforcement, parks, communications, library, and other services. These services are highly visible and vital to your everyday well-being. Do you know what services you receive from Allegheny County and the School District?



– Property Taxes – Dates to Remember

Allegheny County Taxes

Due at discount March 31st

Due at face April 1st – April 30th

Penalty after April 30th

Fox Chapel Borough Taxes

Due at discount July 31st

Due at face August 1st –
September 30th

Penalty after September 30th

Fox Chapel School Taxes

Due at discount August 31st

Due at face September 1st –
October 31st

Penalty after October 31st

Tax Collectors

All self-employed persons whose primary business is Fox Chapel Borough must pay a \$52 Local Services Tax for emergency services and road maintenance. Each employer in the Borough, including residents with home occupations, is charged with the duty of deducting the tax from each of his employees and remitting payment to **Keystone Collections Group**, 546 Wendell Road, Irwin, PA 15642 (724/978-0300), within thirty days after the end of each calendar quarter. Keystone also collects earned income tax (EIT) for the Borough. All tax forms are available online at www.keystonecollects.com. (Reminder that the Borough's PSD Code is 710403.)

Jordan Tax Service collects Real Estate taxes. Jordan is located at 102 Rahway Road, McMurray, PA 15317, 412/345-7962, www.jordantax.com. Questions regarding tax payments, refunds, or tax receipts should be directed to **Jordan Tax Service**. If your mortgage has been paid off, please be sure to contact Jordan with the new mailing address to send tax statements to avoid delinquency.

Wage Tax Payments

The Borough encourages residents to verify with Keystone Collections Group (724/978-0300) that wage tax payments are current to avoid interest and penalties. Often when wage tax payments are verified due to a home sale or refinancing, a large sum of money is due plus penalty and interest, which could delay the closing. Renters of property in the Borough must also pay wage taxes and are required by ordinance to register with the Borough.

2021-2024 Garbage Contract Awarded

The Residential Municipal Waste and Recycling Collection, Disposal and Processing, e-Waste and Household Hazardous Waste Collection Contract for years 2021-2024 was awarded to Vogel Disposal Services Inc., at the base collection cost of \$2,532,578.40, at the November 2020 Council meeting. This equates to \$35.24 per household per month versus \$36.38 per household per month that the Borough currently pays. More information on e-Waste and Household Hazardous Waste Collection will be provided to residents on the Borough website when it becomes available.

Brush Collection

The Borough will provide spring brush collection beginning March 8, 2021. The schedule is included in the newsletter. Please inform your landscapers of the collection schedule. Weather conditions or other emergencies could cause delays in the collection. It can take 2-3 days to complete the route.

All brush must be placed at the roadside with the cut end toward the street. No tree limbs larger than five inches in diameter or eight feet in length will be collected. Hedges, vines, rose bushes, shrubs, multi-flora hedges, etc., must be securely tied in bundles not exceeding 16 inches in diameter. Christmas trees with all ornaments removed can also be placed at the curb. Items not collected as part of the brush program include leaves, grass clippings, loose hedges, vines, bushes, firewood, rotten wood, ornamental grass, or other similar debris. For our Public Works employees' safety, please make certain no metal objects are in the branches. Borough personnel is not permitted to enter onto private property for the collection of brush or trimmings. The volume of material collected by the Borough must be limited to a single pile per property. The pile is to not exceed four feet in width by six feet in height by eight feet in length.



2021 Garbage Collection Schedule

Vogel Disposal is closed in observance of the following holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. If your scheduled collection day falls ON or AFTER a weekday holiday, your collection will be 1 DAY LATER that week.

Vogel Disposal reminds residents to please place trash in large garbage bags – not small grocery bags. Loose garbage will not be collected. Please note that it is not the collector's responsibility to clean garbage strewn in the driveway resulting from an animal. Large items such as lamps, large toys, vacuum cleaners, small household appliances, and aluminum/resin lawn furniture 45 pounds or less can be picked up by Vogel Disposal on your scheduled garbage day, eliminating the need to bring it to the rubbish bins. Garbage calls should be directed to Vogel Disposal at 855/494-3345.



2021 Office/Rubbish Bin Closings

The Borough office will be closed on the following holidays in 2021: Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day (July 5 in observance of), Labor Day, Veterans' Day, Thanksgiving and the day after, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day 2022.

The rubbish bins will be closed on Easter, April 4, 2021, and Independence Day, July 4, 2021.



2021 BRUSH COLLECTION SCHEDULE

<u>MARCH 8 & APRIL 5</u>	<u>MARCH 11 & APRIL 8</u>	<u>MARCH 15 & APRIL 12</u>	<u>MARCH 18 & APRIL 15</u>	<u>MARCH 22 & APRIL 19</u>
Dorseyville Road	Alpine Circle	Berkshire Drive	Catalpa Ridge Road	Autumn Path Lane
Fair Oaks Drive	Colbert Lane	Buckingham Road	Chapel Knoll Drive	Chapel Hill Drive
Fairview Manor/Road	Delafield Road	Buckingham Place	Deer Spring Lane	Chapel Oak Road
Flower Hill Road	E. Waldheim Road	Fieldvue Lane	Dogwood Lane	Chapel Ridge Court
Hallsborough Drive	Edgewood Road	Grandview Drive N.	Evergreen Road	Chapel Ridge Place
Haverford Road	Elmhurst Road	Guyasuta Road	Fairway Lane	Chapel Ridge Road
Hidden Falls Court	Glendale Road	Hunt Club Lane	Fawn Meadow Ct.	Easton Road
Hill 'n' Dale Lane	Glenover Place	Hunt Road	Field Club Road	Forest Drive
Jamesborough Drive	Hampton Road	James Ross Place	Fox Chapel Road	Foxhurst Drive/Road
Lakeside Drive	LaTourelle Lane	Longfellow Road	Foxtop Drive	Foxwood Drive
Mayflower Drive	The Maples	Marvelwood Lane	Glenhaven Lane	Greenwood Road
Millstone Drive	Meadowood Drive	Marvelwood Place	Hawthorne Road	Hidden Spring Lane
Millview Drive	Notre Dame Place	Nottingham Circle	Hickory Hill Road	Highland Road
Nantucket Drive	The Oaks	Oakhurst Road	Hillcrest Road	Long Meadow Drive
Old Mill Road	Pasadena Drive	Riding Trail Lane	Indian Hill Road	Old Indian Trail Court
Settler's Ridge Road	Pasadena Drive S.	Twin Pine Court	Long Shadow Court	Old Timber Trail
Shannon Drive	Riverview Terrace	Twin Pine Road	North Drive	Powers Run Road
Spring Forest Drive	Rutledge Drive	Wedgewood Lane	Olde Chapel Trail	Quail Hill Road
Staffordshire Place	St. James Place	Westchester Drive	Pheasant Drive	Shadow Ridge Drive
Stoney Camp Lane	Shady Lane	West Farms Lane	Poplar Drive	Silent Run Road
Sweet Water Court	Valley Drive	Woodbrook Drive	Ridgedale Lane	Sweet Gum Road
Sweet Water Lane	Waldheim Road	Woodcock Drive	Rockwood Drive	Tree Farm Road
Trillium Lane	Warwick Place	Wynnwood Drive	Royston Road	W. Chapel Ridge Rd.
Twin Stream Drive	West Drive		Shirl Drive	White Fawn Lane
Wesport Drive	West Waldheim Road		South Drive	Wildberry Road
Whispering Pines Drive	Windsor Road		Springhouse Lane	Windmere Drive
Willow Farms Lane			Squaw Run Road	Wise Hill Road
Willow Run Road			Squaw Run Road E.	Woodland Farms Rd.
Wilmar Drive			Woodcliff Road	

Department Spotlight: Police Department

The Fox Chapel Borough Police Department consists of 11 full-time officers. The Department is structured around three shifts per day, with at least two officers working each shift. The existing structure provides coverage for Fox Chapel residents 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

In 2020 the police department responded to 1,545 calls for service. Some of the types of calls that the Department responded to were alarms, ambulance calls, traffic complaints, and various other calls that required officers to respond to assist the residents. Officers in the police department assist the zoning officer, the road department, and the administrative staff when situations require.

The command staff within the police department consists of one Sergeant and the Chief of Police. Sergeant Stevens is cross-trained to run the police department in the absence of the Chief. Sergeant Stevens is a certified instructor at the Allegheny County Police Academy. Sergeant Stevens is also a sharpshooter for the Deer Management program. Chief Laux handles administrative and patrol duties. Chief Laux serves as the Borough's Emergency Management Coordinator, is a sharpshooter and spotter for the Deer Management Program, and sits on the Allegheny County Police Academy Advisory Board.

The police department's mission is to provide prompt, courteous, and professional service to all they encounter.

Parks Commission Vacancy

The Fox Chapel Park Commission has a vacancy due to the resignation of one of its members who has become a part-time resident.

Borough Residents interested in serving on the Park Commission are invited to apply for this opening. The Park Commission meets four times per year per statute, but special meetings and communications often occur between statutory meetings. Current Park Commission Members bring diverse skillsets, knowledge, and experience, but all share a love for our Green Spaces and our Community. Accordingly, if you feel you have something to offer our community and its Parks, please send a CV with a cover letter to speterson@fox-chapel.pa.us by February 1, 2021.



Construction Board of Appeals

The Borough of Fox Chapel is seeking individuals who would like to serve on the Construction Board of Appeals Committee. This is a five-year term position that meets only when needed. Individuals who are experienced in the building industry, architects, and engineers are most wanted. Interested residents of the Borough should send their request and resume to Shawn Marie Peterson, speterson@fox-chapel.pa.us, by end-of-day Friday, February 5, 2021. The three positions will be appointed at the February 15, 2021, Council meeting.



Shady Side Academy News

ADMISSIONS INTERVIEWS AND TESTING:

Families interested in applying to any of Shady Side Academy's four campuses for the 2021-2022 school year are encouraged to email the SSA Admissions Office at admissions@shadysideacademy.org to schedule an interview and testing as soon as possible. Learn more at www.ShadySideAcademy.org/Admissions.

2021 SSA SUMMER CAMPS

Shady Side Academy plans to host in-person, outdoor summer day camps for kids entering grades PK-9 on its three campuses in Fox Chapel. These safe, fun, and affordable camps will have limited enrollment with health and safety protocols informed by public health guidance. Registration opens in early February. For more information, visit www.ShadySideAcademy.org/Summer.

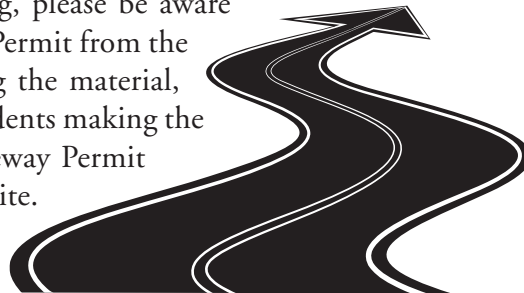
2021 HILLMAN PERFORMING ARTS SERIES

The Hillman Performing Arts Series plans to offer four family-friendly, live musical performances in spring 2021. All shows will have limited, socially distant seating and health and safety protocols informed by public health guidance. Shows will be held Saturdays at 7:30 PM either in the Hillman Center's 660-seat theater or at an outdoor venue on the SSA Senior School campus. Learn more and buy tickets at www.thehillman.org. Shows include:

Saturday, March 13 **Dom Flemons**, *folk solo artist*
Saturday, March 27 **The Honey Dewdrops**, *Americana duo*
Saturday, April 17 **Sonia De Los Santos**, *Latin American family music*
Saturday, May 8 **Robin Spielberg**, *Steinway piano artist*

Driveway Improvement Permit Protects Motorists from Water Runoff and Ice on Borough Roads

While planning property improvement projects for the spring, please be aware that driveway modifications require a Driveway Improvement Permit from the Borough before starting any work such as repaving, changing the material, grade, or drainage pattern. The Borough would appreciate residents making the contractor aware of the requirement for a permit. The Driveway Permit Application and information is available on the Borough's website. The permit fee is \$100. If you have any questions, please contact Chuck Smith at 412/850-5030.



Parking Permits

The Copper-Siegel Library has not stopped selling Parking Permits for the Borough of Fox Chapel Parks throughout COVID-19. The application is online. Library staff will contact those who need to pay and how to do so. The library will then mail the permit to the requestor. You can also utilize curbside pickup and get everything done at once. When you arrive at the library, please call 412/828-9520 ext. 5010 and let the staff member know you are there for a parking permit. The library is only accepting payment in cash for the exact amount, or by check, made out to Cooper-Siegel Community Library. Please visit <https://coopersiegelcommunitylibrary.org/> for more information.

Park Information

As the parks in the Borough are being utilized more now than ever, we would like to remind residents that our goal is to keep the parks clean and beautiful, as nature intended. Please ensure that all trash and pet waste is disposed of properly in a trash receptacle. If a receptacle is not available, please take the garbage or waste with you. If we all work together, we can keep our parks pristine for all visitors to enjoy!

Name the Trail

The Fox Chapel Park Commission has decided to celebrate the Borough's new continuous North-South trail connection by combining the existing Old Squaw and Salamander Trails into one trail. This connection was made possible with the addition of a trail through our new Hardie Valley Park. With future links through Beechwood Farms and Hartwood Acres to the North and O'Hara Community Park to the South, our trail will be a lynchpin in the only continuous access from the Rachel Carson Trail to the Allegheny River! What an essential asset to our Region!

Now we need to name Fox Chapel's North-South Trail with the public's help! Please, children and grownups alike, think of names that reflect the trail's importance or the area's history or whatever you feel is essential. Please send your favorite trail name to FoxChapel@fox-chapel.pa.us by February 15, 2021. The Park Commission will review the submissions and select one for recommendation to the Borough Council, which will approve the final name selection.

While this isn't a contest, we will announce the "winning" name and its "sponsor(s)" in a future Newsletter.

Latex Paint Disposal Tips



To dispose of latex paint, solidify and place it in your trash...

- Latex paint can be solidified by mixing in an equal amount of absorbent material (such as cat litter, sawdust, plaster of Paris, or oil dry) and allowed to dry
- Pour thin layers (about 1") into a cardboard box lined with plastic; allow the paint to dry one layer at a time until all paint has hardened
- For faster results, use "Waste Paint Hardener" available at hardware stores

DO NOT

- Do not pour the paint on the ground or down storm drains where it will pollute the surface and/or groundwater (also an MS4 violation)
- Do not pour it down the drain or throw liquid paint into weekly trash

Residential Recycling Information

Did you know that nine-tenths of all solid waste in the United States does not get recycled? Landfills are among the most significant contributors to soil pollution. Roughly eighty percent of the items buried in landfills could be recycled. Let's take a closer look at what can be recycled here in Fox Chapel.

INCLUDE THESE:

- Cardboard: flattened cardboard boxes, dry food boxes, clean pizza boxes
- Paper: newspaper, junk mail, office paper, and magazines
- Plastic: water and soda bottles, milk and water jugs, plastics #1, #2, and #5
- Metal: empty aluminum cans, steel and bi-metal cans, clean aluminum foil



A reminder to residents that there are cardboard, metal recycling, and glass recycling containers located at the Borough Building's rubbish bins can be accessed during regular bin hours Saturday and Sunday, 10 AM to 4 PM. Please note that electronics cannot be brought to the rubbish bins. State law requires all electronics to be recycled. Please see the Borough's website for extensive e-cycling and other recycling information as well as paint disposal tips.

When It Rains, It Drains

What is stormwater? Stormwater is water from precipitation that flows across the ground and pavement when it rains or snow and ice melt. The water seeps into the ground or drains into what we call storm sewers. These are the drains you see at street corners or low points on the sides of the streets. Collectively, the draining water is called stormwater runoff.

Why is stormwater "good rain gone wrong?" Stormwater becomes a problem when it picks up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants as it flows or when it causes flooding and erosion of stream banks. Stormwater makes up storm sewer systems. It eventually flows directly to a lake, river, stream, wetland, or coastal water. All of the pollutants stormwater carries along the way empty into our waters, too, because stormwater does not get treated!

The Borough of Fox Chapel prevents stormwater pollution through a stormwater management program to continue the information flow. This program addresses stormwater pollution from construction, new development, illegal dumping to the storm sewer system, pollution prevention, and acceptable housekeeping practices in municipal operations. The Borough will also continue to educate the community and get everyone involved in making sure the only thing that stormwater contributes to our water is... water!

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection www.dep.state.pa.us

Insurance Reporting

All volunteer fire departments in Pennsylvania receive distributions from the Commonwealth as a percentage of the premiums paid by residents of a municipality for homeowner's insurance. However, for the distribution to be made properly, the correct municipality must be indicated on your homeowner's insurance policy. It is essential that you check your insurance policy and/or contact your agent to ensure that your home is listed in Fox Chapel, not Pittsburgh, 15215 or 15238.

Borough Website

The Borough encourages residents to visit the Borough's website www.fox-chapel.pa.us for general information and get answers to frequently asked questions such as garbage collection holidays, bin hours, and office closings. Please see the General Information tab for current information.

Be Informed – Sign Up for Nixle!

Residents are reminded that the Borough uses Nixle Communications Service that allows important Borough information to be sent directly to residents. Nixle allows the Borough to deliver messages to those who subscribe via cell phone, text message, and email. Notifications may include road closures, public safety issues, garbage collection holidays, and other relevant Borough information. The service is free, reliable, and has no hidden costs. Visit www.nixle.com for additional information on this service. You can also visit your App store and search for Everbridge.

Helping Our Streams with Thoughtful Lawn Care

Despite the cold weather, it's never too soon to think about spring. Lawn care should be near the top of your list. An expert EPA panel reports that a healthy lawn contributes to clean water while adding oxygen to the air. A healthy lawn can better compete against weeds, insects, and diseases and require fewer or no pesticides. Here's what you need to know to get started.

Established turf with its many blades of grass provides an excellent filter to capture sediments that may be carried in water from bare soil and hard surfaces, such as driveways. Lawns tend to slow the flow of water during rain, allowing water to permeate the soil.

In this article, we will address nutrients, an essential element. However, in future installments, we will address other components of a healthy lawn. Nutrients, especially phosphorus and nitrogen, are essential to healthy turf, but misusing them can cause harm to our streams and environment. The goal is to provide the nutrients that the lawn can utilize and no more.

For example, in Pennsylvania, our clay-based topsoil usually has enough phosphorus to maintain a healthy lawn. Phosphorus has been removed from lawn fertilizer as it is an unnecessary additive (except fertilizers used for new yards that require it only to become established).

However, nitrogen is a crucial nutrient for a healthy lawn but is a problem for our streams if it is not used entirely by the plant as the excess may migrate to our waterways. There are three primary contributors to this migration. The most obvious is that the fertilizer is over-applied, and the plant cannot utilize it, allowing the excess to flow to our streams. To avoid this, calibrate your spreader and only apply at the rate directed on the package...more is not better! The second is that the plant cannot absorb the nutrients. This occurs when the soil's acidity or pH keeps the fertilizer from attaching to the plant roots. The pH of a healthy lawn in our Region is 6.0 to 7.0. You should do a soil test about every three years that includes pH. The third contributor, fertilizer that, after application, ends up on hard surfaces such as driveways, is not removed, and then gets washed by the next rain to a stormwater pipe and carried directly to a stream. That's why careful application and cleanup is essential.

More lawn information is available at the Penn State Extension website: www.extension.psu.edu. You can also get soil test kits from them to give information about your soil's makeup, including the pH.

The other solution is to hire a PA Registered pesticide applicator. Their knowledge is certified by the state and acknowledge by a "BU" identification number on their vehicles. You often get the best value from them while protecting our waterways because they will deliver a healthy lawn with a minimal amount of product and environmental impact.

You can have a healthy lawn, save money, reduce pesticide use, and protect our streams if you do lawn care right!



Animal Control

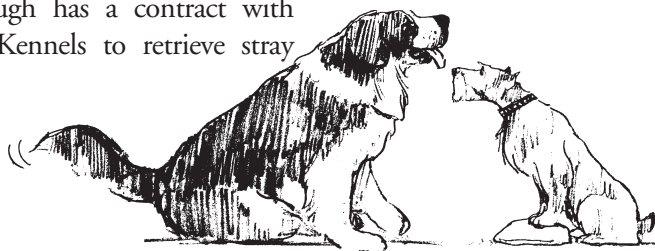
The Borough often gets calls to trap animals or remove dead deer from private property. The Borough does not provide animal control services, and the Police Department does not remove dead deer from personal property. Residents should contact an animal control service to trap or remove a dead animal from their property. Big Daddy Wildlife Removal (412/734-3425) will remove dead deer from private property.

Dogs Running Loose

State law prohibits any dog from running at large. All dogs must be under control. This includes in the off-leash park zones. The Borough receives complaints about dogs running loose. The Borough has a contract with Hoffman Kennels to retrieve stray dogs.

Dog License Applications

State law requires dogs to be licensed. A license application can be purchased from Allegheny County online at www.alleghenycounty.us/treasurer/dog.aspx.



BOROUGH OF FOX CHAPEL

401 FOX CHAPEL ROAD

PITTSBURGH, PA 15238

(412) 963-1100

www.fox-chapel.pa.us



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BOROUGH OF FOX CHAPEL ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Andrew C. Bennett, *President*
Jay S. Troutman, *Vice President*
Harrison S. Lauer
Thomas A. Karet
Frederick C. Leech
Mandy Steele
Betsy Monroe
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*
Walter A. Scott, III
Thomas J. Murphy
Peggy G. Jayme
Jay S. Troutman
Nanette Bennett
Donald H. Newman

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

PLANNING COMMISSION

Harrison S. Lauer, *Chairman*
Nanette Bennett
Wesley W. Posvar
James M. Royston
Jeffrey B. Todd

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

PARK COMMISSION

Wesley W. Posvar, *Chairman*
Jay Troutman
Liz Nelson
Susan Crookston
James W. Pashek
Michael J. Schiller
Jessica Demoise
Carrie Casey Leemhuis

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

ZONING HEARING BOARD

Donald F. Smith, Jr.
J. Christian Hart
Kyra Tucker

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

TELEPHONE NUMBERS Office 412-963-1100

Building Permits/
Zoning.....412-850-5023
Public Works412-850-5026
Sewer Department ...412-850-5030

Police Dept. 412-963-7220
(Office/non-emergency)