



FOX CHAPEL

BOROUGH

NEWSLETTER

Published by Fox Chapel Borough



2024 BUDGET

WINTER 2024

We are pleased to report that there will be no tax increase for residents again this year. The millage rate for Fox Chapel Borough has remained at 2.95 mills since 2019 and includes garage door garbage collection service unique to Fox Chapel. In addition, there are no increases to the Sanitary Sewer rates for the Borough. Of the 130 municipalities in Allegheny County, Fox Chapel is proud to be the 16th lowest compared to other municipal millage rates.

2024 General Fund operating revenue is budgeted at \$9,250,400 and expenditures are budgeted at \$9,233,600. The 2024 budget has a minor surplus of \$16,800.

Our revenue sources are limited compared to other municipalities because we have no commercial business district. Most of Fox Chapel is developed; therefore, there is limited income growth from additional residents. As a result, our primary sources of revenue are Real Estate Tax and Earned Income Tax. Of the budgeted revenue, \$7.4M is from these two income sources. Real Estate Tax is expected to bring in \$3.6M and Earned Income Tax \$3.8M.

Our most significant expenditure is the Contracted Road Paving Program at \$1.6M.

The Borough bids its road paving jointly with O'Hara Township, enabling both communities to receive lower bids due to the economies of scale.

The tentative 2024 road paving schedule is as follows:

Windmere Drive - Powers Run Road to Cul De Sac
Foxwood Drive - Highland Road to Cul De Sac
Silent Run Road - Highland Road to Cul De Sac
Autumn Path Lane - Silent Run Road to Cul De Sac
Hickory Hill Road - Field Club Road to Cul De Sac

Marvelwood Place - Marvelwood Lane to Cul De Sac
Marvelwood Lane - Buckingham Road to Marvelwood Place
Hemlock Hollow Road - Hunt Road to Old Mill Road
Fieldvue Lane - Guyusuta Road to Cul De Sac
Shadow Ridge Drive - Field Club Road to Cul De Sac

This schedule may change due to the actual bid amount received and other variables.

Fox Chapel Borough supports the Cooper-Siegel Community Library, Foxwall EMS, and the Fox Chapel Volunteer Fire Department. \$380,000 is given annually to the Cooper-Siegel Community Library and \$56,100 to Foxwall EMS, including a \$10,000 donation towards a new ambulance.

The Borough helps support the Fox Chapel Volunteer Fire Department with the annual Volunteer Fire Department Fund Drive, where resident donations assist in purchasing new equipment for the Department. These donations are greatly appreciated, and 100% of donations from the current Fund Drive will go towards purchasing a \$1.2M Rescue Truck to be received in 2025.

2024 will be the first of a ten-year implementation of the Comprehensive Plan; specific future projects will include additional trails, a park wayfinding system, expanding green corridors, and communication with residents about community assets and efforts.

McCahill Park upgrades were delayed in 2023 as the Borough awaited DEP permits. The park renovations include new backstops, a walking trail, innovative stormwater controls, and a seasonal multi-use pad allowing pickleball courts, basketball, and an ice rink. This project is anticipated to be completed by the end of 2024.

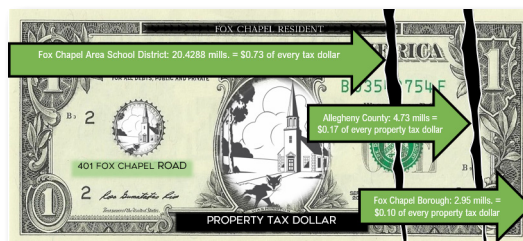
Work on the sewer line interceptor will be done in Hardie Valley Park in 2024, after which the Borough will begin work on a detention facility for stormwater runoff and the development of trails. The work is scheduled to be completed by Spring of 2025.

Capital Equipment purchases planned for 2024 will total \$344,000 and will include two trucks, an electric utility vehicle for use in the parks, and two leaf boxes for the Public Works Department; a heat pump and a cradle point router for improved connectivity for the Police Department; new fire hoses for the Volunteer Fire Department; an upgraded fire alarm system for the Borough Building; and a new computer server for the Borough Building, Police and Public Works.

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 2024 rates for each taxing body are as follows:

For each dollar in property taxes you pay, the School District gets seventy-three cents, the County receives seventeen cents, and the Borough gets ten cents. With the 10-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.



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MAYOR'S MEMO

The Borough recently revived a tradition dating back to the 1950s by lighting the pine tree next to the Borough building for the Light Up Fox Chapel event. The successful event was made possible thanks to the efforts of our staff, the Police Department, and the Cooper-Siegel Community Library. Santa Claus visited, delicious mini donuts from DonutNV were served, and fun activities were enjoyed by all. This year, there will be more opportunities to come together as a community with events such as the Bicycle Rodeo, Coffee with Cops, Fox Chapel Community Day, and Paint Pumpkins with Police. Be sure to check out the Fox Chapel Community Relations vehicle, a 1970 VW Bug, when you attend!

The Cooper-Siegel Community Library plans to renovate the lower level to add meeting space, work areas, and other facilities for residents to enjoy and use. The library hosts a growing number of programs and events each year.

We want to extend our gratitude to outgoing Council member Tom Karet for his years of dedicated service to the Borough and his valuable contributions. He will be missed, but we hope to have him around to offer advice during Borough finance discussions.

We also welcome Jonathan Colton, the newest Council member!

One of the key discussion topics in the Fox Chapel/O'Hara Comprehensive Plan has been trail connections within the two communities and beyond. Over the past decade, we have connected some of our Borough park trails and are now exploring ways to connect neighborhoods to parks via trail easements. We will provide more information on this in the future.

Residents often ask how they can assist those in need, particularly those requiring food. Below are reliable places to donate in the greater Fox Chapel Area School District communities:

- Aspinwall Meals on Wheels, 450 Walnut Street, Pittsburgh, 15238
- Christ the King Parish (Mark the envelope for the Sharpsburg Food Pantry, payable to St. Vincent De Paul), 342 Dorseyville Road, Pittsburgh, 15215
- Blawnox Borough (Mark the envelope for the Blawnox Food Pantry), 376 Freeport Road, Pittsburgh, 15238
- Backpack for Hunger, PO Box 11266, Pittsburgh, 15238

-Alex Scott-

2024 RUBBISH BIN CLOSINGS

The Borough rubbish bins will be closed on Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024.

A NOTE FROM DUQUESNE LIGHT COMPANY



Duquesne Light Company (DLC) has contracted qualified line clearance professionals from Wright Tree Service to perform routine vegetation management along 120 miles of distribution circuits in and around Fox Chapel Borough. The work will take place throughout the Borough from Guys Run Road south to Powers Run Road, progressing west, ending in the Borough along Guyasuta Road. From Guyasuta Road, the work will go north, ending at the Indiana Township line. Any properties in the work zones can expect to have pruning performed on an as-needed basis. Environmental Consultant work planners (ECI) notified residents concerning the work to be performed on their property. Tree work will begin following the notification process and is expected to last until mid to late November. Representatives of DLC and Wright Tree reviewed its line clearance activities with the Borough.

Wright Tree will perform line clearance using industry practice approved by the International Society of Arboriculture. This work will occur in trees adjacent to or on the distribution right-of-ways using herbicide to prevent future maintenance and interruptions. Hazardous trees will also be identified and dealt with when encountered.

If work is to be done on your property, ECI will provide contact information for the work planning representatives during the notification process. Property owners can also contact DLC's Customer Service at 888/393-7000 or review vegetation practices on the DLC website, www.duquesnelight.com.



FROM THE DESK OF CHIEF OF POLICE

I hope your holiday celebrations were filled with fun family times and good memories. As the first snowfall for 2024 happens, I see a beautiful holiday tree and state-of-the-art menorah through the office window. These reflections prompt consideration of community relations events supported by the Police Department in the past year.

The joy and celebration of the holidays were tempered by criminal activity. The Borough experienced several burglaries, frauds, and vehicle break-ins. I ask all residents to lock their homes and vehicles and remove valuables from their cars when left unattended. Service and update all home security or camera systems and activate them even if leaving briefly. Update all alarm and keyholder contacts so our police officers have someone to speak with if your alarm is set off. If your home will be unattended, call (412)963-7220 to be put on the vacation away list.

If you or your family members receive phone calls or emails asking for personal information, credit card numbers, and account numbers or for you to purchase gift cards, it is a scam. If you receive a phone call from a police department or sheriff's office demanding money to pay for a warrant, or you will be arrested, it is a scam. If you receive a phone call from a hostage taker who demands money to release a loved one, it is a scam. If you receive a phone call from a bail bonds company demanding money because a loved one was arrested or was in an accident and is in a coma, it is a scam. PLEASE call the Police Department regarding these unusual and urgent requests, and we can assist you in determining their legitimacy.

Most importantly, neighbors must watch out for each other. If you see a vehicle, person, or anything that looks out of place, call 911 immediately to report it. If safe to do so, obtain a good description, license plate number and direction of travel and report it to the 911 dispatcher. The Fox Chapel Police Department is always on duty and here to serve the community.

I hope you have a safe, healthy, and prosperous 2024.

-Chief Michael J. Stevens-

FOX CHAPEL POLICE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE

Join the Fox Chapel Police Department on Saturday, February 10, 2024, from 11 AM until 1 PM for an Open House event at 401 Fox Chapel Road, Pittsburgh, 15238. Bring the family and tour the Police Department, meet your Police Officers, and sit in some Police vehicles. Light refreshments will be provided. We hope to see you there!



COUNCIL REORGANIZES

On January 2, 2024, Borough Council held its Organization and regular January meetings. Mayor Alex Scott administered the Oath of Office to reelected members Frederick C. Leech and Betsy Monroe and newly elected member Jonathan Colton.



Andrew C. Bennett and Harrison S. Lauer were appointed President and Vice President, respectively, and Frederick C. Leech as President Pro-Tem. Other members of Council include Betsy Monroe, Bradley D. Harrison, Sarah Hanna, and Jonathan Colton. Borough Council meets at 6 PM on the third Monday of the month at the Borough Building. Residents may attend the public meetings either in person or via Zoom. The link is posted 24 hours before each meeting on the Borough website.

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.



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 their 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.)

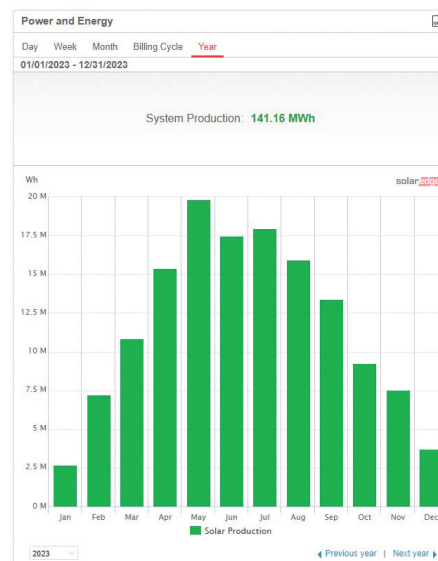
Jordan Tax Service collects Real Estate taxes for the Borough. Jordan Tax is located at 102 Rahway Road, McMurray, PA 15317, 412/345-7962, www.jordantax.com. Questions regarding tax payments, refunds, or tax receipts should be directed to Jordan Tax Service. If your mortgage has been paid off, please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

PUBLIC WORKS GARAGE SOLAR PANELS FIRST YEAR SUMMARY

In January 2023, the Solar Panel array on the new 10,800-square-foot public works garage was activated. The cost of the panels was \$249,000, and the related transformer upgrade was \$5,320, funded by the Federal American Rescue Plan grant to municipalities. The Federal grant funds were required to be expended in 2021 and 2022. The solar panels are warranted for 30 years to produce at least 80% of current production. If not, the panel(s) will be replaced, or the lost production will be paid for by the manufacturer.

In one year, the system produced 141.47 MWh of electricity while saving 219,065.78 pounds of CO2 emissions, the equivalent of 1,655 trees planted. The Borough electricity cost paid to Duquesne Light Company (DLC) was reduced by approximately \$13,400 compared to the 2022 cost, even though the 10,800 square foot garage increased the Borough's facility space. In addition, the excess electricity produced is estimated to provide a reimbursement of \$3,000 from DLC, and the Borough will receive Solar Renewable Energy Credits of about \$4,110 for energy produced in 2023. The total savings and reimbursements will be greater than \$19,000 for 2023.

As electricity costs rise in the future, anticipated savings will be more pronounced in addition to the reduced environmental impacts achieved.



GREEN BRIDGE 412



Last year, the Borough Manager and Secretary met with resident Gauri Kapoor and her son Kabeer Chopra to discuss ways that Kabeer could help the Borough become more environmentally sustainable. Kabeer noticed many people didn't know Vogel does not recycle items like glass, plastic packaging, or batteries. Or even if they knew, they don't have the time to go to different recycling facilities. So, these items get thrown in the regular trash and end up in our ever-growing landfills.

Kabeer, a tenth grader at Shady Side Academy, with the help of his mother, launched Green Bridge 412 - a community service initiative whose mission is to close the recycling gap in our community. Kabeer collects hard-to-recycle items like plastic packaging, glass, and used batteries from residents' homes and drops them off at various facilities dedicated to recycling these items - including the glass collection bin located at the Borough Building. He offers this monthly service at no charge to those who sign up. All people need to do is separate their trash, and Green Bridge 412 takes care of the rest.

Since its launch in the fall of 2023, Green Bridge 412 has saved over 110 pounds of plastic and 500 glass bottles from entering our landfills.

Green Bridge 412 collects the following types of plastic materials (must be clean and dry): grocery and shopping bags, bread loaf and produce bags, Amazon shipping envelopes, bubble wrap, bulk water bottles, paper towel and toilet paper case wraps, air pillows, newspaper sleeves, ice bags, and cereal liners. They also collect unbroken glass bottles and jars, and used household batteries.

For more information and how to sign up, please visit <https://greenbridge412.com/> or scan the QR Code. You can also follow them on Instagram and Facebook. (Green Bridge 412). Every little step we take together can make a huge difference in reducing waste in our community and building a cleaner planet for future generations.



SIGN UP TODAY

SNOW REMOVAL/ STREET PARKING

Residents are reminded that street parking is prohibited during snowfall, ice accumulation, and inclement weather. Vehicles parked on public roads during the deposit or accumulation of snow or ice present a traffic hazard and impair the Borough's ability to effectively remove all snow or ice from the roads safely and sensibly. The Police Department will tow any vehicle parked along any public roadway during inclement weather. In a related matter, it is also unlawful for residents to shovel any snow from any driveway/sidewalk/private road onto any public road. Your cooperation is much appreciated.



BRUSH COLLECTION



The Borough will provide a spring brush collection beginning Monday, March 25, 2024. 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 during the brush program include leaves, grass clippings, loose hedges, vines, bushes, firewood, rotten wood, ornamental grass, or similar debris. Please ensure no metal objects are in the branches for our Public Works employees' safety. Borough personnel cannot enter private property to collect brush or trimmings. The volume of material collected by the Borough must be limited to a single pile per property. The pile is not to exceed four feet in width by six feet in height by eight feet in length.

2024 BRUSH COLLECTION SCHEDULE

MARCH 25 & APRIL 10	MARCH 27 & APRIL 15	APRIL 1 & APRIL 17	APRIL 3 & APRIL 22	APRIL 8 & APRIL 24
Catalpa Ridge Road Chapel Knoll Drive Deer Spring Lane Dogwood Lane Evergreen Road Fairway Lane Fawn Meadow Court Field Club Road Fox Chapel Road Foxtop Drive Glenhaven Lane Hawthorne Road Hickory Hill Road Hillcrest Road Indian Hill Road Long Shadow Court North Drive Olde Chapel Trail Pheasant Drive Poplar Drive Ridgedale Lane Rockwood Drive Royston Road Shirl Drive South Drive Springhouse Lane Hemlock Hollow Road Riding Meadow Road Woodcliff Road	Autumn Path Lane Chapel Hill Drive Chapel Oak Road Chapel Ridge Court Chapel Ridge Place Chapel Ridge Road Easton Road Forest Drive Foxhurst Drive/Road Foxwood Drive Greenwood Road Hidden Spring Lane Highland Road Long Meadow Drive Old Indian Trail Old Timber Trail Powers Run Road Quail Hill Road Shadow Ridge Drive Silent Run Road Sweet Gum Road Tree Farm Road W. Chapel Ridge Road White Fawn Lane Wildberry Road Windmere Drive Wise Hill Road Woodland Farms Road	Dorseyville Road Fair Oaks Drive Fairview Manor/Road Flower Hill Road Hallsborough Drive Haverford Road Hidden Falls Court Spruce Hollow Ln. Jamesborough Drive Lakeside Drive Mayflower Drive Millstone Drive Millview Drive Nantucket Drive Old Mill Road Settler's Ridge Road Shannon Drive Spring Forest Drive Staffordshire Place Stoney Camp Lane Sweet Water Court Sweet Water Lane Trillium Lane Twin Stream Drive Wesport Drive Whispering Pines Drive Willow Farms Lane Willow Run Road Wilmar Drive	Alpine Circle Colbert Lane Delafield Road E. Waldheim Road Edgewood Road Elmhurst Road Glendale Road Glenover Place Hampton Road LaTourelle Lane The Maples Meadowood Drive Notre Dame Place The Oaks Pasadena Drive Pasadena Drive S Riverview Terrace Rutledge Drive St. James Place Shady Lane Valley Drive Waldheim Road Warwick Place West Drive West Waldheim Road Windsor Road	Berkshire Drive Buckingham Road Buckingham Place Fieldvue Lane Grandview Drive N Guyasuta Road Hunt Club Lane Hunt Road James Ross Place Longfellow Road Marvelwood Lane Marvelwood Place Nottingham Circle Oakhurst Road Riding Trail Lane Twin Pine Court Twin Pine Road Wedgewood Lane Westchester Drive Westmoreland Farms Ln. Woodbrook Drive Woodcock Drive Wynnwood Drive

STORMWATER RUNOFF POLLUTION AND HOW TO REDUCE IT

Pennsylvania Urban Nutrient Management – Be Green While Protecting Our Streams

Turfgrass has become a major component of Pennsylvania's flora. In fact, according to DCNR, Pennsylvania now contains over 2 million acres of lawn. Selecting a proper turfgrass management program, whether it is on a private lawn, sports field, public park, or golf course, is essential to protecting our local waterways.

The Pennsylvania Fertilizer Law

In July 2022, Pennsylvania adopted a new fertilizer law designed to minimize the movement of nutrients into our waterways. When applying fertilizer, applicators must follow specific environmental conditions to prevent direct movement of fertilizer nutrients into our streams.

- Do not apply if heavy rain is expected.
- Keep fertilizers away from drainage ditches, storm drains, or water.
- Maintain a 15-foot buffer from the banks of all waterways.
- Remove fertilizer that lands on impervious surfaces (i.e., driveways, sidewalks, roads) back onto the application area.
- Do not use it as snow or ice melt.
- Do not spread fertilizer on snow-covered or frozen ground.

Lawn Care Considerations

Nutrient management is not the only tool that can be used for limiting nutrient loss. Many additional lawn care considerations can be used to promote a healthy lawn while protecting our local waterways.

Fertilizer may not be the solution. If your lawn is not as healthy and green as you would like, sometimes fertilizer is not the answer. Applying fertilizer without understanding the underlying soil can result in a waste of money and nutrients. Many soil health factors play a critical role in maintaining your lawn. Reducing soil compaction can improve root growth and water infiltration. Maintaining an appropriate soil pH is essential to promoting proper nutrient availability. Soil texture and organic matter content influence water movement, nutrient availability, and soil microbial ecosystem. A healthy soil supports a healthy lawn.

Raise your mower deck. Set your mower deck to 3 inches or higher. A taller lawn provides shade that discourages weed growth and promotes strong root development, helping lawns to withstand environmental stress. Alternatively, you can use low-mow turf species, such as fine fescue blends, that do best when mowing is limited. A taller, healthier lawn slows water movement and increases infiltration, keeping moisture, soil, and nutrients where needed most.

Mulch your grass clippings. Keeping your clippings in place returns valuable organic matter and nutrients to your lawn.

Convert your lawn. Replacing turf with native vegetation increases water infiltration, promotes biodiversity, and creates habitats for pollinators and other wildlife. For more information, visit DCNR's website.

Environmental stewardship requires teamwork. Help protect Pennsylvania's waterways by being wise when you fertilize!



DCNR

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW) AND E-WASTE COLLECTION

Household Hazardous Waste and Electronic Waste Collection are by appointment only, with the following dates for collection in 2023:

- **Monday, March 25th**, scheduling cut-off will be **Monday, March 11, 2024**
- **Monday, September 23rd**, scheduling cut-off will be **Monday, September 9, 2024**

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 to 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 scan the QR Code.



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.

SYCAMORE RUN STREAM RESTORATION PROJECT 2023

The Sycamore Run Stream Restoration Project included approximately 1500 linear feet of stream bank repair over six segments of Sycamore Run between Scott Park and the pedestrian bridge at the Fox Chapel Racquet Club completed by the Public Works Department. The scope of work included the removal of woody flood debris from the stream valley, grading the stream bank to repair eroded slopes along the stream edge, removing invasive species, and re-planting a riparian buffer. The newly created slopes were treated with jute matting and seeded with a riparian buffer seed mix and erosion control seed mixes. Seeding and jute mat stabilization were completed immediately following excavation.

Excavation was completed in two phases to allow the first phase to stabilize and for the seed to take hold before the second phase was started. Phase one began on May 25, 2023, and was completed on May 31, 2023. The second phase started on July 12, 2023, and was completed on August 1, 2023. Only one significant storm affected the completed work between these periods, requiring minor grading repair and replacing approximately one hundred feet of jute matting. Flooding debris removal was needed before the start of excavation. About 150 storm-damaged and natural felled trees were removed from the site, relocated out of the flood area, or chipped on-site.

Riparian buffer planting began on September 14, 2023, and was completed on November 8, 2023. New plantings focused on the distributed areas and included the buffers immediately adjacent to the work sites. The total planting incorporated into the project was 3,165.



PROPERTY TAXES – DATES TO REMEMBER

Allegheny County Taxes	Due at discount	March 31
	Due at face	April 1 - April 30
		Penalty after April 30
Fox Chapel Borough Taxes	Due at discount	July 31
	Due at face	August 1 - September 30
		Penalty after September 30
Fox Chapel School Taxes	Due at discount	August 31
	Due at face	September 1 - October 31
		Penalty after October 31



FALL 2023 PLANTING AT HARDIE VALLEY PARK

On Wednesday, October 11, 2023, Mayor Alex Scott had the honor of greeting a team of 35 students and chaperones from Shady Side Academy at Hardie Valley Park. Every year, Shady Side Academy (SSA) encourages its students to participate in a volunteer activity. This year, faculty member J.A. MacDougall coordinated with the Fox Chapel Borough Park Commission. As a result, a plan was created so the students could plant several hundred seedlings at the park. The seedlings included spicebush, buttonbush, sweet bay magnolia, and gray dogwood. The trees were made available through The Ten Million Tree Program. Larry Korpakus, Public Works Director, coordinated the delivery of the seedlings.



The students learned the importance of removing invasive plants like privet and replacing them with native plants that provide a good food source for our birds and pollinators. The privet berries are similar to sugar, so they do not provide the birds with the nutritional requirements they need to migrate. Their planting efforts were led by volunteers, including Park Commission members Carrie Casey, Jeff Cohen, Susan Crookston, Jeff Beyer, and Wes Posvar.

The students enjoyed their outdoor experience, eating donuts, planting trees, and exploring the park. Their efforts and enthusiasm were greatly appreciated. We have nearly 500 new seedlings growing in our parks thanks to them. If you're walking at Hardie Valley, you can view the results! Green tubes were used to protect the seedlings from deer and rabbits. The tubes will help the seedlings survive the winds and cold weather.

If you want to help in the parks, please email your information to FoxChapel@fox-chapel.pa.us. Your information will be passed along to a member of the Park Commission. Volunteers will be contacted when planting opportunities occur.

DRIVEWAY IMPROVEMENT PERMIT PROTECTS MOTORISTS FROM WATER RUNOFF AND ICE 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 the property, as digging without a One Call risks damaging one of the buried utilities and can disrupt you or your neighbor's service.

The Borough regulates driveways because water from the gutter line or the driveway may be directed onto the asphalt road's surface and freeze. This can create a hazardous condition for motorists or walkers. The Borough's permit process protects residents from accidents and reduces residents' liability by not allowing the driveway to create a dangerous situation.

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 or 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 Dante Moretti at 412/ 850-5023.

ADDITION TO THE FOX CHAPEL POLICE DEPARTMENT

Officer Nicholas Posa is the latest addition to the Fox Chapel Police Department. Nick brings ten years of law enforcement experience and joins us from the Northern Regional Police Department. He is a member of the North Hills Special Response Team, a Field Training Officer, and is trained in Crisis Intervention. Outside of work, Nick enjoys spending quality time with his family, playing hockey, and participating in outdoor activities, especially golf. We encourage all borough residents to visit the station to meet and welcome Nick to our community.



ALLEGHENY COUNTY SANITARY AUTHORITY RATE INCREASE

The Allegheny County Sanitary Authority's (ALCOSAN) Board of Directors approved a rate structure on October 28, 2021. The rate structure enables ratepayers to plan for future expenses strategically. The increases, effective for water used beginning January 1 of each year, will be 7% for 2024, 2025, and 2026. The increases will be used to pay for infrastructure changes and to implement the authority's Clean Water Plan. The plan is intended to keep raw sewage from spilling into local waterways during heavy rains.

Effective January 1, 2024, the wastewater treatment charge will increase by \$0.73 from \$10.41 to \$11.14 for every thousand gallons used, and the customer service charge will increase by \$1.53 from \$21.88 to \$23.41 per bill issued. The rates for effluent surcharges, commercial disposals, and auxiliary meters will remain the same.

Residents of the Borough of Fox Chapel will see a 7% increase on their Fox Chapel Authority bill in the new year.

2024 GARBAGE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Vogel Disposal is closed in observance of the following holidays each year: 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 that **all garbage must be in a tied bag** before placing it in the garbage container.

- Bags must be 33 gallons or less and cannot weigh more than 45 pounds.
- **NO CONTRACTOR BAGS**
- Do not place waste in individual grocery store plastic bags.
- Loose garbage will not be collected. (Please note that it is not the collector's responsibility to clean debris strewn in the driveway resulting from an animal.)
- Cardboard needs to be broken down into pieces no larger than four feet. Place cardboard loose in the recycling bin.



Vogel Disposal also reminds residents to keep driveways clear of snow and ice. Garbage will not be collected if the driveway is inaccessible due to dangerous/slippery conditions. If bad weather is predicted on collection day, it is recommended that the garbage cans be placed at the curb to ensure pickup.

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 Borough rubbish bins. Garbage calls should be directed to Vogel Disposal at 855/494-3345.

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 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 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 (e-waste) cannot be brought to the rubbish bins. State law requires all electronics to be recycled.

COUNTY AND STATE ROAD REPAIRS

The Borough receives pothole complaints and other calls for roads that the Borough does not maintain. The Borough cannot repair a State or County road. Potholes on County roads should be reported to Hotline 412/350-2513 and include Fox Chapel Road (from Freeport Road in O'Hara Township) to Guys Run Road; Delafield Road (from Fox Chapel Road to Borough/ Aspinwall line), and Dorseyville Road.

Potholes on State roads should be reported to Hotline 412/781-3260 and include Fox Chapel Road (Guys Run Road to Dorseyville Road) and Powers Run Road. As a service to our residents, and as allowed by the County and State, the Borough does provide winter maintenance (salt/plow service) on County and State roads and is reimbursed for salt.

WHAT ARE THE REGULATIONS FOR...?

The Borough receives many calls questioning regulations for signs, lighting, grass height, etc. You can get an answer by scanning the QR Code. All Borough ordinances are available under the Regulations/Borough Ordinances. Type a keyword in Search to find the desired information.



SCAN ME

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*
Jonathan Colton
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*
Wesley W. Posvar
James M. Royston
Jeffrey B. Todd
Donald F. Smith, Jr.

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

ZONING HEARING BOARD

Jeremy Callaway Sphar
Kento Ohmori
Nina Gusmar
James Killeen *Alternate*

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
Susan Crookston
Carrie Casey Leemhuis
Steve Whittingham
Nicholas Z. Muller
Jeffrey Cohen
Melinda Guinn
Jeffrey Beyer

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*
Andrew C. Bennett
Bradley D. Harrison
Thomas A. Karet
Enzo J. Santilli
Carolyn C. Sanford

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