



Crossroads

The Newsletter of Benner Township

Fall 2024

2025 Centre Co. Hazard Mitigation Plan

Calling all Centre County residents! Have you experienced issues with flooding, winter storms, transportation incidents, and other hazards? Learn more and provide feedback on how to handle risks in your community.

Attend the Open House on Thursday, October 17, 2024, from 5:00 – 7:00pm at the Centre County Emergency Operations Center to discuss the 2025 Centre County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) Update!

For more information, visit the plan website at: <https://www.pennsylvaniiahmp.com/centre-hmp>

Slow Down—Save a Life

School is back in session. Harvest Season is upon us. Warm enough weather for motorcycles. Please slow down, use caution and save a life.



PFAS Update

Since June 2024 and promulgation of EPA’s federal MCLs (maximum contaminant levels), DEP has sampled 3 additional residential wells in the investigation area with results from the BOL pending. Seven previously sampled private residential wells have been identified as exceeding the EPA MCLs. One resident had a pre-existing POETs, which they have been reimbursed for. The others were provided with bottled water until POETs installation could be arranged. Five of the 6 responded favorably to having POETs installed, and the pre-installation home inspections were scheduled for September 6, 2024.

Communication with the local water authority continued as the engineering feasibility study is anticipated to be completed at any time. Any water line extension must be technically feasible, with its operation and maintenance manageable by the local authority, before further consideration can occur.

As always, the most up to date information on PFAS in Benner Township can be found on DEP’s website by searching [Benner Township HSCA Investigation \(pa.gov\)](#)

Updated Township Website Launching Soon

A much needed update is on its way for the township’s website. We are looking to make the site more user friendly and easier to locate the information that you seek. Is there something that you went looking for on the site and couldn’t find and think others would be looking for it too? We would love to hear from you! One improvement that the new site will have is a Township calendar with all meetings and agendas to view with a simple click. Please give us a call with your ideas at (814)355-1419 or by email at bennertwp@aol.com Do you have any photos that you feel is a good representation of the Township that you would like to share for possible inclusion on the website? We would love to see them. Email addresses will be changing soon too. Stay tuned for details.



Monthly Meetings

Supervisors—1st Monday at 7 p.m.
Water Authority—3rd Tuesday 6:30 p.m.
Planning Commission—2nd & 4th Thursday when needed at 7 p.m. Check the website to confirm a meeting.
Zoning Hearing Board—when there is an application.
SBWJA—2nd & 4th Mondays at 4:00 p.m. (170 Irish Hollow Rd., Bellefonte)

Inside this issue

- Fall Bulk Pick Up Dates.....2
- Fall Brush Collection2
- Fall Leaf Collection2
- Trash Holidays.....2
- New Trash Contract3
- Trick or Treating.....4
- Authorities, Boards & Commissions .4
- Real Estate Tax Reminders.....4



Election day is Tuesday, November 5th

2024 Fall Bulk Pick Up

2024 fall bulk pick up will be held on the week of:

October 14th

on your normal garbage day. Please follow the guidelines provided in your trash bill or a copy of the guidelines may be viewed at :

www.crcog.net/refuse

If you have questions about what will and will not be collected after viewing this list, please call COG at (814)234-7198.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS—

If your collection day occurs on or after the holiday, collection will be delayed one day.

Thanksgiving—November 28

Christmas—December 25

New Year's Day—January 1, 2025

Want Garbage and Recycling Alerts?

You can sign up for alerts at

www.crcog.net/refuse

Look for the button on the right side of that page. Stay in the know when it comes to broken equipment, weather delays, etc.



Fall Leaf Collection

Benner Township will be conducting its Fall **residential** leaf collection starting on **October 28th** weather permitting. Crews will collect leaves on a street by street basis. (No need to call for an appointment.) You may see crews collecting leaves prior to October 28th, however, this will not affect the pick up schedule. We will continue to collect leaves as long as snow/ weather conditions permit.

Guidelines for leaf pick up are:

- *Place leaves curbside.
- *Do **NOT** pile leaves on roadway, in drainage ways or near fire hydrants.
- *Leaves more than 8 feet from roadway or near obstructions (trees, shrubbery, mailboxes, etc.) will **NOT** be collected due to machine limitations.
- *Grass or other yard waste (sticks, flowers, shrubs, etc.) will **NOT** be collected. If grass or yard waste is mixed with your leaves, your pile will **NOT** be collected.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Please note that the Township no longer permits the burning of leaves as per Ordinance 138.



Fall Brush Collection— Call 355-1419 by October 18th to get on the list.

The Township will be conducting its Fall “On Call” brush collection. To schedule a brush pick up, please call the office at 355-1419 no later than October 18th. **Brush will need to be at the street ready for pick up on October 21st by 7 a.m.**

Guidelines for brush collection are:

- *Brush must be piled with cut ends of limbs in the same direction towards the street.
- *Limbs must be cut to be able to be fed into the chipper. Limbs larger than 4 inches in diameter will not be collected.
- *Do not tie brush in bundles.
- *Stumps, old firewood, construction material, thorn bushes, grasses, vines and plant waste will not be picked up.
- *Maintenance crews will not enter private property.
- *Crews will spend no more than 20 minutes at one property. If your piles is too large to be chipped in 20 minutes, please make other arrangements.
- *Do not pile brush in front of or block fire hydrants or storm drains.
- *This collection is for trimming of bushes and trees, not for tree removal or site clearing.

2025-2030 Refuse and Recycling Residential Curbside Collection Contract

New Hauler and New Contracts starting

April 1, 2025

Burgmeier’s Hauling, a family-owned refuse company out of Altoona, will provide weekly curbside collection of refuse, bulk waste collection, and Christmas tree collection.

The Centre County Recycling and Refuse Authority (CCRRA)

will continue to provide curbside recycling collection, and will also provide all billing, payments, and invoice-related customer service.

Basics

Automated collection of refuse using hauler-owned carts:

- ✦ Choose your size.
- ✦ No cost to get a cart and the hauler will maintain them.
- ✦ We will collect old trash cans for free and recycle them once the contract begins.
- No change in recycling collection at all.
- Billing will be Quarterly (3-month period).

Additional refuse services are available.

Changes in Bulk Waste Collection

- ✦ Items that fit in the refuse cart can be placed in there at any time.
- ✦ First four large bulk items (furniture, rugs, etc.) collected from each residence each year are included in costs.
- ✦ First four bulk recyclable items (appliances, televisions, computers, printers, 4 car tires) collected from each residence each year are included in costs.
- ✦ Residents register their items at any time all year, and they will be scheduled for collection within 2 weeks.
- ✦ Collection of large items beyond the annual household limit can be scheduled; the account holder will be charged according to a price sheet and will be billed on the next invoice.

All Collection Services (Curbside weekly collection of refuse and recycling and annual curbside collection of bulk waste, bulk recyclables, and Christmas trees)	Monthly fee per Residence for YEAR 1
95-gallon Cart Service	\$31.09
65-gallon Cart Service	\$29.83
35-gallon Cart Service	\$28.01

Why are we changing haulers and services?

- ✦ Our current contract is 2020-2025. Pennsylvania law allows 2nd Class Townships to have a contract with a trash hauler for a maximum of 5 years, so we had to seek a new contract.
- ✦ We received 2 proposals through a competitive bid process.
- ✦ Both proposals included similar services (automated cart collection, bulk waste limited to 4 items per year).
- ✦ Only Burgmeier’s proposal included the collection of bulk recyclables (appliances, electronics, and tires), Christmas tree collection, and the collection of extra items or excess trash.
- ✦ The other proposal was 25% higher per month for fewer services.

Additional Services for Residents who choose these	Cost
Extra Cart 95-gallon cart	\$19.24 /month
Extra Cart 65-gallon cart	\$17.98 /month
Extra Cart 35-gallon cart	\$16.16 /month
Cart Exchange	\$25.00 each time
Excess Refuse: cart overfull	\$4.00 per incident
Excess Refuse: items or bags next to cart	\$4.00 per item or bag

Remember to Select your Cart Size by September 30th!

CART SELECTION
<https://burgmeiers.com/cogcarts>
814-943-8975



October 31st

6 to 8 p.m.

**Greater Buffalo Run Valley United Methodist Church
102 Trinity Ct., Bellefonte, PA 16823**

Sponsored by the
Greater Buffalo Run Valley United Methodist Church
Please check social media for updates.

Church Facebook: gbrvumc

Trick or Treating for the area (Bellefonte Borough,
Spring, Walker and Benner Townships) has been
scheduled for October 31st from 6 to 8.

Authorities, Boards and Commissions

Want to get involved in the community that you live in? Why not volunteer for one of our many Authorities, Boards or Commissions. Go to the web page Bennertownship.org and look for the ABC application. We currently have vacancies on the Nittany Valley Rec. Authority and on the Planning Commission.

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Benner Township
1224 Buffalo Run Road
Bellefonte, PA 16823

Real Estate Tax Reminders

County and Township real estate tax bills:

These bills are now due at the penalty rate. You have until December 31st to pay them before they are turned over for collection.

School District real estate bills:

The Bellefonte School District Real Estate tax bills are at the discount rate until September 30th. They will be due at face value starting 10/1 through November 30th. Amounts due will move to the penalty rate on December 1st and will be turned over for collection on December 31st.

How and where do you pay?

*You may mail payments to: Benner Township Tax Collector, 152 Willowbend Drive, Bellefonte, PA 16823.

Please remember to include a self addressed stamped envelope if you wish to have a receipt mailed back to you.

*You may drop off your payments at 152 Willowbend Drive at the drop off box provided.

*You may call Jessica at (814)574-5087 to schedule an appointment.

PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
STATE COLLEGE, PA
PERMIT NO. 213