

# The Coopersburg Gazette

The Borough of Coopersburg

5 N MAIN STREET

COOPERSBURG, PA 18036

610-282-3307 FAX 610-282-4668

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## Water Rates to Increase Fifteen Percent

On May 5, 2009 the Coopersburg Municipal Authority passed a resolution raising water rates to its customers by approximately 15%, to \$2.91 per 1000 gallons. The last time water rates were raised was in December 2006. The increase was necessary due to the low capital reserves in the Authority's accounts due largely to the requirement to relocate a number of water lines along Route 309 in conjunction with the road widening project. Although PennDot is providing 50% of the financing for the water line work, the Authority still must contribute 50% of the costs. Additionally, there are other water lines in the Borough that will need replacement so capital reserves must be built up in order to achieve those goals in the future.

Water Authority Monthly meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month at the Borough Hall in council chambers. **The next scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 7, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.** If you have any questions or would like to attend.

## Summer 2009 Road Construction

The Borough of Coopersburg will be continuing their efforts to improve the roadways in the Borough this summer.

This year, Oxford Street from 5th Street to N. Main Street will be reconstructed.

This past spring PennDot has begun the Route 309 Widening Project which will continue through to the Fall of 2010, we have posted a section on our website just for the current updates on this project and also our FAQs-309 Project is still available.

## Creating Coopersburg's Comprehensive Plan

Over the years our town has grown and transformed, as has its population. And now, it's time for the townspeople, merchants and business owners to influence the direction of Coopersburg's continued development. To accomplish this, the Borough is beginning to compose Coopersburg first ever Comprehensive Plan. To craft this plan, a Borough Planning Committee, in coordination with a consultant planning firm, will work over the next nine months to document the existing conditions, look at development trends and community goals, and then make recommendations regarding where preservation and growth are appropriate. The resulting Comprehensive Plan will guide future evolution of the town. In the mail you will soon receive a survey asking for your opinion on many aspects of Coopersburg it will also be available online. Your input is vital to ensuring that the Plan reflects your concerns and priorities.

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# SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Information on the Three R's—Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

## Electronics Recycling for Safe Disposal

Why reuse & recycle used electronics? Obsolete electronics represent a rapidly growing waste stream with computer technology constantly changing and a continual emergence of new electronic devices. This makes reuse and recycling important as it allows electronics to be diverted from the landfill.

Many electronics contain recyclable materials, such as plastics, metals and glass as well as potentially hazardous substances that require special handling. Materials such as televisions and CRT monitors contain 4 (four) pounds of lead on average.

You can reduce the environmental impact of electronics disposal through donation, reuse and recycling. Donating electronics extends their useful life and give organizations or individuals that could not buy new equipment the opportunity to utilize secondhand equipment. Recycling electronics creates a supply of materials that can be used to refurbish older products or manufacture new ones avoiding the need to use virgin materials.

Who can Participate? All Lehigh County Residents and Businesses.

When? Typically the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month from 9 A.M. to 3 P.M. Call 610-799-4177 to verify collection costs.

What is the cost?

- \$1.00 per item (monitor, cpu, printer, etc).
- \$5.00 for TVs.

Where is it located? Call AERC at 610-797-7608 to verify the collection location.

Materials Accepted—TVs, computers, monitors, printers, laptops, keyboards, radios, stereos, modems, VCRs, copiers, telephones.

Materials Not Accepted—Countertop appliances, toasters, hair dryers, smoke detectors, large appliances.

Media shredding is also available.



Do you have old unwanted shopping catalogs, magazines, newspapers or office and school papers? Well then you are able to recycle all of the above at the Paper Recycle Bin located next to the Coopersburg EMS Station on E. State Street.

## DROP-OFF COMPOSTING SITE HOURS

The composting material drop-off site located at the Maintenance Garage at 422 Charles Street is open.

Saturday hours: 8 A.M. to Noon

Weekday hours: 7 A.M.- 3 P.M.  
(M, Tu, Th, Fr)  
7 A.M. - 7 P.M. (Wed)

The site is not for contractors. Wood Chip mulch is also available to Borough residents free of charge. It is not available for contractors.

## Grasscycling

### The Problems:

- ◆ Grass clippings account for about 20% of municipal waste deposited in landfills.
- ◆ Collection, transport and disposal of yard waste is costly.
- ◆ Bagging clippings removes valuable nutrients from the soils.

### The Solution:

◆ Grasscycle—leave grass clippings on the lawn after mowing. This reduces the time, costs and labor of bagging cut grass and returns valuable nutrients to the soil. Grass clippings decompose quickly, so they do not contribute to thatch. This method will reduce yard waste and you get a green healthy lawn.

## Borough Directory Clip and Save!

### Mayor

Jonathan J. Mack

### Borough Council

Dennis Balascak, President

Gary Hovis, Vice-President

Richard M. Nalichowski,

Elsie Bell

Harvey Greenland

John Felch

Larry Pummer

### Borough Manager

Dawn Kresge                      282-3307

### Chief of Police

Daniel Trexler                      282- 1444

### Zoning Officer

Barry Isett & Associates              391-2160

### Health Inspector

Lee Lilley                              282-3307

### Community Calendar

July 7—Municipal Authority—7:00 P.M.

July 14—Borough Council —7:00 P.M.

August 4 —Municipal Authority—7:00 P.M

August 11 - Borough Council —7:00 P.M.

Sept 1 — Municipal Authority—7:00 P.M.

Sept 8 — Borough Council—7:00 P.M.

Borough Council meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the Month except in June, July, August and December. The Municipal Authority meets the 1st Tuesday of the month.

The main Borough telephone number is 610-282-3307.

The Police Department administrative number is 610-282-1444. **FOR EMERGENCY ALWAYS CALL 911.**

Email – [coopersburg@enter.net](mailto:coopersburg@enter.net)

Website— [www.coopersburgborough.org](http://www.coopersburgborough.org)

“A big THANKS... to the Countryside Garden Club for providing flowers for the 4 barrels at the corners of State and Main Streets. The Countryside Garden Club meets on the 2nd Monday of every month at 7:30 p.m., at Hopewell Elementary School. Everyone is welcome.

### Halloween Parade News

The Parade Chairman, John Marshall, wanted to remind everyone that the 2009 Halloween Parade is scheduled for Sunday October 11th at 3:00 P.M. The rain date is the following Sunday, October 18th at 3:00 P.M.

### Business News

The Inside Scoop Ice Cream Shop has open their doors on May 10, 2009, hours are Sunday through Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., Friday & Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

### GARAGE SALE SIGNS

Having a garage sale? Come into the Borough Hall for a sign permit at no cost. The signs can only be placed outside of the right-of-way. In accordance with state and local laws, it is unlawful to post any signs on utility poles. This includes garage sales signs, signs for cheap healthcare, cellular telephone service and signs for spaghetti dinners.

The Borough prohibits signs that are placed within the right of way of any street, road or alley. However, temporary signs posted on stakes may be installed on properties outside of the right of way (past the sidewalk) **with** the permission of the property owners. They must be removed after the completion of the event.

Sharing what you have is more important than what you have.

Albert M. Wells, Jr.

### Zoning and Building Guidelines

#### Permits are required in Coopersburg when:

1. Constructing a new building.
2. Making structural alterations or repairs.
3. Adding new structures, additions or dwelling units.
4. Installing fences, sheds, swimming pools, patios, parking lots, and driveways.
5. Installing or replacing plumbing fixtures.
6. Moving, razing, or relocating a building.

**Applications** may be obtained at the Borough offices during normal business hours and should include the following information.

1. Basic information, description of proposed construction /alteration.
2. Estimated costs.
3. Type of occupancy (present and future uses).
4. Name, address and telephone number of owner, contractor and authorized agent.
5. A plot plan drawn to scale indicating lot dimensions, building setbacks and dimensions, proposed construction location, existing structures and all other impervious surfaces.
6. Two sets of building plans, showing a floor layout, structural details of proposed construction, blueprints showing footings, foundations, framing, etc. and a certificate of insurance from the contractor performing the work.

#### General Building Code Guidelines:

1. All permits must be obtained and fees paid prior to starting work. The fees are based upon type, size and cost of construction.
2. The Code Enforcement Officer requires twenty four (24) hours notice for all inspections.
3. The contractor is responsible for notifying the Code Officer for all inspections.
4. Permit Cards must be visibly displayed and visible from the street.
5. Applicant is responsible for obtaining the necessary electrical inspections and approvals.
6. Permit fees are not refundable.

ALL CONSTRUCTION MUST CONFORM TO THE REQUIREMENTS AND SPECIFICATIONS OF THE CODES ADOPTED BY THE BOROUGH OF COOPERSBURG AND ALL OTHER MUNICIPAL, STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATIONS. THESE ARE GENERAL GUIDELINES AND DO NOT COVER ALL OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE BOROUGH'S ZONING, SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCES, AND OF THE BUILDING, PLUMBING AND FIRE CODES.

### Southern Lehigh Living Memorial Community Park

Below are the telephone numbers to contact the Park:

Pool	John Newman	www.SolecoPool.org
Pool (Direct)		610-282-1074
Little League –	Web Lingle	610-346-7839
Football—	Jim my Keller	610-282-0268
Flea Market—	Roger Rebin	610-258-1996
Park Reservations	Chris Dabrowski	610-709-8646

### Stormwater Management Program

Coopersburg Borough is required to address the impacts of stormwater runoff as part of the U.S. Department of Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Phase II of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program.

Phase I of this program focused on controlling the *quantity* of stormwater reaching water resources in larger metropolitan areas. Phases II focuses on improving the *quality* of the nation's streams, rivers and lakes by managing stormwater runoff for smaller municipalities, urban areas adjacent to municipalities and construction sites over 1 acre. These programs are intended to reduce the amount of runoff generated from new development and the levels of pollutants carried by stormwater runoff. These regulations require Coopersburg Borough to develop and implement a comprehensive stormwater management program that includes six minimum control measures.

- ◆ Educate the public about the effects of stormwater runoff on water quality.
- ◆ Involve the public as an active participant in managing stormwater runoff.

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# 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Outreach Benefit Block Party

Sunday, July 26, 2009 — 1:00-7:00 PM  
St. John's UCC, East Thomas Street, Coopersburg

[www.cobcares.org](http://www.cobcares.org)

Mega Raffle (\$10 ticket, 3,000 to be sold):

1st Prize (supplied by Crossroads Harley) or \$10,000 2nd Prize

Southern California Vacation -- Palm Springs Area —Vacation Home in County Club  
Community—Prize includes One Week (May through October) — PLUS \$600 !!!

3rd Prize

8 Unrestricted Green Fees to the Center Valley Club(courtesy CV Club)

4th Prize

Crescent Professional Tool Set (courtesy Madle's Hardware)

Our sincerest thanks to all prize donors for their generosity to CO

All proceeds to benefit our 2009 Recipients:

**Michelle (Turdik) Bangham** who suffers from Ataxia/Cerebellum disease (a progressive degeneration of the cerebellum leading to loss of muscle control.)

**Keith Donnelly** who has a rare form of cancer.

**Jack Luvender** who was awaiting a liver transplant, but recently passed away. His wife and five children will receive his share of COB monies

**Benjamin Rabenold** who has interstitial lung disease and numerous other ailments. Ben is a Southern Lehigh High School freshman.

Coopersburg Borough  
5 N Main St  
Coopersburg, PA 18036

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- ◆ Identify and eliminate illegal pipes, culverts and similar conveyances carrying non-stormwater discharges into streams and lakes.
- ◆ Control stormwater runoff from new construction activities.
- ◆ Control stormwater runoff from development sites following construction.
- ◆ Implement a pollution prevention program for Coopersburg's operation including training for Borough staff.

Most water quality problems can be attributed to pollution carried by stormwater runoff.

These pollutants originate from a variety of sources: new construction, failing septic tanks, lawn care activities, car maintenance activities, vehicle washing and pet wates. As these common sources of pollution suggest, we all contribute to stormwater pollution, thus we can all choose to be part of the solution.

#### STORM DRAINS VS. SANITARY SEWERS

*It's important to understand the difference. Storm drains and sanitary sewers have two distinct functions.*

**Storm drains** collect and transport runoff from rainfall. Typically these are the drains found in streets and in parking lots. Storm drain systems do not remove pollutants from water before it is discharged into streams and rivers.

**Sanitary Sewers** collect wastewater from indoor plumbing such as toilets, sinks, washing machines and floor drains and take it to a sewage treatment plant. The treatment plant removes any pollutants from wastewater before it is discharged to the river.

The Borough invites you to participate in its stormwater program by being a good steward. Follow label directions when using fertilizers and pesticides around your home. Keep grass clippings and leaves away from stream and ditches.