

JULY - AUGUST 2023

PAXTANG POST

#PaxtangProud since 1914



CELEBRATING 1 YEAR FIRE COVERAGE AGREEMENT ANNIVERSARY

August 1st marks the one year anniversary of the Borough's inter-municipal agreement with Swatara Township Fire-Rescue to provide fire service for the Borough. The relationship between Paxtang Borough and Swatara Township has always been a good one but has grown over the past 10 years through the expansion of Public Safety Services contracted through the Township.

Throughout the past year, the Swatara Township Fire-Rescue has provided exceptional service to the Borough not only for emergency services, but in support of activities in the Paxtang Community. Members of Swatara Township Fire-Rescue have continued to embrace the hometown feel we have come to love by expanding participation and joining our current police force in Borough events such as the Memorial Day Picnic, the Halloween Parade, Trick or Treat, the Santa Runs, and more. Additionally they've engaged with the Paxtang Elementary School at various events throughout the past school year.

Swatara Township Fire and Rescue is always seeking volunteers for both uniform and non-uniform positions. If you'd like to learn more about how you can support fire protection and emergency services in the Borough, visit www.STFR91.com for information. Swatara Fire-Rescue welcomes interest in membership, and participation, from all qualified persons without regard to race, color, ancestry, national origin, or similar discriminatory factors.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

AUGUST:

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Tuesday, August 1st

NO AUGUST COUNCIL WORKSHOP

COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, August 16th | 7:00pm

Paxtang Borough Building

SEPTEMBER:

COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING

Tuesday, September 6th | 7:00pm

Paxtang Borough Building

COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, September 20th | 7:00pm

Paxtang Borough Building

COMMUNITY

YARD
SALE

PLAN AHEAD

BOROUGH YARD SALE SEPTEMBER 9TH

The last Borough-wide yard sale will take place on Saturday, September 9th starting at 7:00am. This is a great opportunity to unload some of your unwanted items, or catch some great deals from your neighbors! The Borough provides advertising for this event and no permit is required on this date.

As a reminder, all other yard sales require a permit from the Borough Office in advance. Visit the office or Paxtang.org for more details.

BAD BUGS

SPOTTED LANTERN FLY THREAT CONTINUES

PennState Extension reminds residents of the importance of mitigating the spread of this invasive pest.

Spotted lanternfly (SLF), *Lycorma delicatula*, is an invasive planthopper that was first detected in North America in 2014 in southeastern Pennsylvania. It has now spread to other eastern U.S. states. It is native to parts of Asia. SLF feeds voraciously on many economically important crops like grapevines, hops, ornamental nursery plants, and several tree species. Heavy SLF feeding has contributed to the death of grapevines, the invasive tree *Ailanthus altissima* (tree-of-heaven, or TOH), and black walnut saplings.

While SLF feeding can stress plants and cause localized branch damage, it is not known to directly kill other plants. SLF feeding is considered a plant stressor and may contribute to the long-term weakening of established plants and trees. It is currently considered to be primarily a nuisance pest in residential landscapes.

Glowing Bugs?

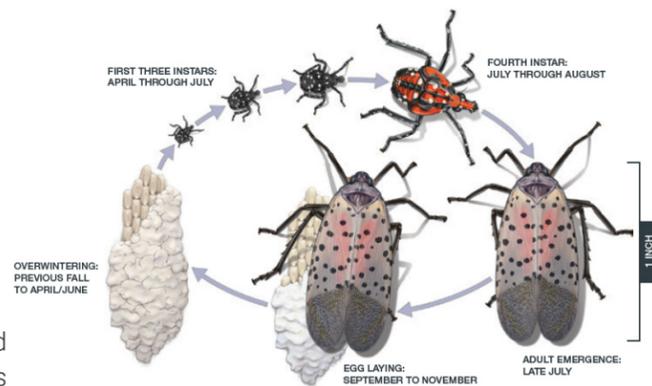
Nope. Spotted lanternfly belongs to the insect family Fulgoridae, or planthoppers. This group of insects was named after "Fulgora," the Roman goddess of lightning, because they were thought to be luminescent, like lightning bugs. In reality, they are not!

Quick facts:

SLF is an invasive pest that feeds on a large variety of plant species, including those in the agricultural, timber, and ornamental industries, and backyard plants.

SLF is currently under quarantine in 34 counties in Pennsylvania, in addition to several other states.

SLF does not bite or sting.



SLF is a plant stressor that, in combination with other stressors (e.g., other insects, diseases, weather), can cause significant damage to its host. SLF alone may not kill the tree. Some plants are at more risk than others (e.g., grapevines, maple, black walnut).

Slow the spread of SLF by checking your car and any outdoor equipment (outdoor furniture, mowers, firewood, etc.) when going in and out of the quarantine zone.

Manage SLF on your property by promoting plant health, scraping eggs, using traps, and using chemical control when appropriate. Use our management decision guide to determine which actions are best to take.

CONTRACT EXTENSION

PAXTANG BOROUGH RENEWS TRASH COLLECTION AGREEMENT WITH HARRISBURG CITY THROUGH 2024.

Paxtang Borough Council voted unanimously to extend the Borough's existing agreement for trash and recycling collection with the City of Harrisburg for an additional year, exercising one of the extension options available under the current contract.

As a result of the extension, Borough Residents will see no change in trash collection or recycling fees for 2024. The extension of the existing agreement means that Borough Residents will continue to receive curbside collection of trash and recyclable materials weekly, and yard waste collections during the spring/summer/fall on identified collection dates.

In many surrounding communities the price of trash collection has spiked significantly over the past year, a term that a recent PennLive article referred to as "trashflation". By extending the existing agreement, the Borough locks in the current rate for collection with no additional charges for Borough Residents.



Train. Grow. Serve.

Swatara Township Fire & Rescue is looking for committed citizens to join our team of dedicated volunteers in protecting lives and property in our community.

Visit us Online To Apply: www.stfrg1.com

Graphic Design | Posters & Banners | Business Cards

Get it now

4790 Derry Street
Harrisburg, PA 17111
717.564.4143
www.getitnowprint.com

Print send orders to: getitnow@getitnowprint.com

Blueprints | Wedding Invitations | Envelopes | Stamps

Paxtang Fire Company 21st Crabfest

Join us Saturday September 23, 2023

www.paxtangfire.com

Please note that Swatara Township Fire-Rescue provides fire protection services to the Borough. The "Paxtang Fire Company" does not respond to calls for service in the Borough or the Township.



GREENBELT UPDATES

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you use the Capital Area Greenbelt that makes its way through the Paxtang Parkway? Consider becoming a volunteer!

If you enjoy strolling along the Paxtang section of the Greenbelt, riding your bike on the shady, cool path or are a more adventurous type and mountain bike on the numerous trails, please consider volunteering to maintain this wonderful treasure in our midst.

Use this link to see how you can help: <http://caga.org/help/>

Find Your Voice June 1 to August 31!

The illustration shows a child reading a book, a whale, and a turtle. One child is riding on the back of a whale. A sign on the turtle says 'FIND YOUR VOICE'.

Read along with The Library this summer during the Summer Reading Challenge!
Earn points by logging, writing reviews, creating a picture review, and doing activities.



CARING FOR PAXTANG'S URBAN FOREST

Borough residents are reminded that Section 392-9 of the Borough Code requires that property owners secure written permission from the Shade Tree Commission (STC) prior to planting any trees within the tree lawn between the curb and sidewalk. This is important not only for the long term care of the tree required by the Borough, but also for the safety of the residents.

The STC is seeking volunteers to assist in ground level pruning of existing shade trees. If interested, please contact the Borough office and leave a message for the Shade Tree Commission. Pruning typically occurs during the growing season from spring to fall. STC provides the necessary training and guidance to all volunteers.

Borough residents are also requested to avoid hitting the trunks of trees with lawn mowers or string trimmers. This can cause long term damage to the trees and would ultimately lead to the tree needing to be removed prior to its' intended lifespan. Placing a thin layer of mulch in a circle around the base of the tree will help prevent needing to mow or trim around the trunk. Residents can contact the Borough with any questions regarding protection of existing trees."

PROTECT OUR WATERWAYS!



Stormwater Management

In 2016, DEP labeled approximately 19,000 miles of rivers and streams in Pennsylvania impaired for water supply, aquatic life, recreation, or fish consumption. Stormwater runoff pollution is one of the biggest reasons for this impairment.

Over the past 100 years, streets, parking lots, sidewalks, and roofs have been a steadily increasing part of our communities as we've developed more and more of the landscape. As a result, rain that would otherwise soak into the ground instead rushes over these nonporous surfaces and into storm drains, which send it directly into rivers and streams. So, what can you do as a resident to help our water ways?

Residents can do the following things to protect water quality and reduce water pollution:

- Never dump anything down storm drains.
- Use lawn and garden chemicals sparingly; sweep up any excess from driveways, sidewalks, and roads.
- Repair vehicle leaks; cover spilled fluids with kitty litter then sweep into household waste.
- Pick up after your pet and dispose of properly.
- Control soil erosion on your property by planting ground cover and stabilizing erosion-prone areas.
- Keep grass clippings, leaves, litter, and debris out of street gutters and storm drains.
- Direct downspouts onto grassy areas away from paved surfaces.
- Use a commercial car wash or wash your vehicle on the grass instead of the driveway.
- Dispose of used oil, antifreeze, paints and other household chemicals in an approved manner.

KEEP OUR WATERWAYS CLEAN



COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION OFFERS ROBUST SUMMER OFFERINGS.

As residents of Dauphin County, Paxtang Borough residents can take advantage of and enjoy all that the county has to offer you and your family. Below is a small sample of the programs and events that are offered this summer. Why not take time to check them out and make new memories!

Sunset Music & Movies - Fridays Through August 25th

This 13-week series will highlight local performing arts organizations and a summer movie series. Pack a picnic basket (or purchase from our food concessions), bring your blankets and your lawn chairs, and enjoy an evening of family fun! These events are all free for everyone to attend thanks to our event sponsor.

On Live Performance Nights, food trucks will begin serving at 6:00 p.m. On movie nights, The Friends of Fort Hunter will sell popcorn, candy, and beverages to benefit Fort Hunter Park.



Jazz and Wine Fest - September 9th and 10th at Fort Hunter Park

Join us for the 16th Annual Dauphin County Jazz & Wine Festival at beautiful Fort Hunter Park as we welcome national, 6 bands, wine tasting by PA wineries & more!



Saturday, August 26, 2023

Wildwood Park | 100 Wildwood Way | Harrisburg, PA 17110

Join Wildwood Park for the 4th annual Run Wild for Wildwood 5K & 10K.

This scenic run/walk will take you on the Wildwood Way Trail around the lake and the Towpath Trail along the Pennsylvania Canal!

Bring your friends and family to show your support for Wildwood Park and the community.

Step 1. Register to run/walk the 5K or run the 10K and invite your friends to join! Online registration begins March 1, 2023 - \$30 for the 5K | \$35 for the 10K.

Step 2. Pick up your t-shirt at the Olewine Nature Center on August 24-26, or on Race Day. Check-in will begin at 7:45 AM on Race Day.

Step 3. The 10K will start at 8:30 AM. The 5K will start at 8:45 AM on Saturday, August 27.

Step 4. Post a picture of your run to Facebook or Instagram using #runwildforwildwood.



Sponsored by:



Saturday, August 19 | 3 - 10 PM S. Riverfront Park | Harrisburg



Presented by The Dauphin County Commissioners, Dauphin County Economic Development Corporation, & Cultural Celebration Task Force

For the event details, scan the QR code!





THE LIBRARY GOES FINE-FREE

Your Library is borrowing an idea whose time has come – fine-free operations so members with overdue books don't have to avoid using our services because they can't afford late charges.

To assist our community during the pandemic and help drive recovery, The Library has operated without charging overdue fees since March 13, 2020. Going permanently fine-free underscores our new tagline: The Library is "Your Place to Belong!"

Some skeptics –especially those of us who grew up with painstakingly stamped "due date" cards that fit snugly inside the book's envelope—may think this plan will encourage a free-for-all, with patrons just taking books without limits. But rest assured, this plan has 1) key safeguards and 2) worked well in many major cities. In fact, this modification in operations has even led to the return of many books once thought to be permanently "missing."

Levying fines on overdue book holders is not exactly a high crime or a high cost. Still, it sets up an adversarial relationship between the library user and the librarian that is not the dynamic we hope to achieve.

Our goal is to support more people through our libraries, and help our locations become more accessible, forgiving sites of unfettered discovery, not a source of punitive fines. The Library endeavors to be a collection of treasured materials, not a collection agency.

This trend toward a fine-free Library is driven partly by research demonstrating that fines are inequitably assigned to children and/or the economically disadvantaged.

Library leaders realized that the cost and time utilized to administer fine payments as low as 10 cents is counterproductive. More upsetting, most people who have fines stop using the library. We hope that eliminating fines will bring these folks back into the library fold and make them feel welcome.

Evidence shows that eliminating fines has increased library card adoption and usage, according to the American Library Association – which benefits everyone.

Author Susan Orlean said libraries represent "the best about us as a society: open, exciting, rich, informative, free, inclusive, engaging." In keeping with this aspirational objective, we hope this long-overdue move, borrowed from many other successful libraries, will make us – and our guests – truly "free."

FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

THE FINAL CALL - SWATARA TOWNSHIP POLICE 5K HERO RUN!

The Swatara Township Police Department is preparing for our 10th and final 5K Hero Run/Walk. The Final 5K Hero Run will be held Sunday, November 5, 2023 at the Harrisburg Mall (3501 Paxton Street Harrisburg, PA 17111) from 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. (race starts at 9:30 am).

Proceeds from this 5K event go towards the Keystone Warriors, which aids veterans living in or with ties to Pennsylvania, Cops for K.O.P.S, which aids children left behind by fallen police officers within the state of Pennsylvania, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation which aids families of firefighters killed in the line of duty, as well as the Swatara Township Police Department's K-9 Fund, which supports the Department's K-9 program.

Participants are encouraged to come dressed in their favorite hero's outfit whether it is a member of the Armed Services, Police, Fire, EMS, Superhero or whomever their hero is. This 5K Race is a great way to get some exercise and meet others who are out supporting their heroes, while at the same time supporting our community. This unique course takes you through the Harrisburg Mall, the Tecport business district and along Paxton Street. Although we are sad that this will be our final event, our hope is to make this the best year yet with your help!

We are also currently looking for Race Sponsors! This is a great opportunity to get your business' name out there and help the community at the same time! If you own or work for a business and are interested in being a sponsor please review our sponsorship form, which can be picked up at the Swatara Township Police Department or it can be found on our web portal by visiting www.swatarapolice.org (under the Community Service tab).

Register as a walker or a runner online by visiting Swatarapolice.org and clicking on the registration link under the Community Services tab. Help us make this the BEST 5K Hero Run to date!



BOROUGH STAFF & OFFICIALS

MAYOR:

Nathan Martin (717) 579-8879

COUNCIL:

Kathy Bloss (717) 564-7605
 Chris Spackman (717) 379-2530
 Jack Thomas (717) 558-0063
 Tom Wingert (717) 307-1174
 Jennifer Britten jennifermbritten@outlook.com
 Corbin Bower (717) 712-6931
 Eric Fillman esfillman@aol.com

SWATARA PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTOR:

Darrell Reider (717) 564-2550

MANAGER/RIGHT TO KNOW OFFICER:

Keldeen Stambaugh (717) 564-4770

SECRETARY:

Faye Clark (717) 564-4770

TREASURER:

Linda Lightner (717) 564-4770

Borough Office Hours:

Monday - Friday 9:00am - 4:00pm. The first and third Tuesdays of the month, we are open until 6:00pm

POST TO GO DIGITAL

Beginning with the Q4 2023 edition, the Paxtang Post will be transitioning to a fully digital format and will cease print distribution via the mail.

The Paxtang Post will be available via the Borough Website at www.paxtang.org and on the Borough's Facebook Page and through Twitter.

The move to electronic distribution will eliminate the costs of producing and mailing the Post each quarter, as well as reduce the environmental impact of producing the newsletter monthly. A limited number of print copies will be available on request from the Borough Office for residents who require a print version.

RECYCLE RIGHT

KNOWING WHAT TO RECYCLE MATTERS



PAXTANG POST PAXTANG BOROUGH



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VISIT US ONLINE
ANY TIME AT
PAXTANG.ORG

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
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HARRISBURG, PA
PERMIT NO. 308

DATE AND DETAILS SET FOR NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2023!

The Swatara Township Police Department is hosting our annual National Night Out against crime on Tuesday August 1, 2023 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm at Vanatta Park in Swatara Township (behind 7-Eleven). Paxtang residents are encouraged to attend!

This is our department's largest community service event of the year! National Night Out is a community event that features games, FREE food and drinks as well as several law enforcement related demonstrations and vendors. NNO is also a great way for you to get your business or organization out there in the public eye.

We are currently accepting registrations for having a table at the event! For those businesses that have attended in years past you know how beneficial this event can be to your organization. It is also a great way to show support for your local police department and take a stand against crime in our neighborhoods.

If you are a business owner or part of an organization and would like to have a table at the Swatara Township



Police Department's National Night Out event please visit www.swatarapolice.org and go to the Community Services tab to download one of our Vendor Registration Forms. Please have the completed registration form forwarded to Officer Ben Stewart either via email at bstewart@swatarapolice.org OR by mailing the form to 599 Eisenhower Boulevard Harrisburg, PA 17111.

All registration forms must be received no later than July 21, 2023. THERE IS NO COST TO HAVE A TABLE AT NNO and your business or organization does not need to be located in Swatara Township in order to participate. Table spaces are limited so please do not wait to reserve yours. If you have additional questions please contact Officer Ben Stewart or Corporal Brandon Pokrop at 717-564-2550. Thank you and we hope to see you there!