

East Cocalico Township

Address: 100 Hill Road, Denver, PA 17517
Phone: 717-336-1720 Fax: 717-336-1724

Website: www.eastcocalicotownship.com E-Mail: Township@eastcocalicotownship.com

TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY WE EXTEND OUR
BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!

Special Points of Interest:

- Fire Companies and Ambulance Association are looking for volunteers and donation support. Thank you!
- Drop off your “paper” and “cardboard” in the dumpsters located at the Township building, 100 Hill Rd., Denver.
- Are you looking to volunteer your time? Then we are looking for you. Volunteers are needed for the Recreation Board. Please contact the Township if this interests you.

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SNOW AND ICE

Snow and ice must be cleared from the sidewalks within 24 hours after a snow/ice storm to a pathway width of 24 inches.

Throwing, tossing, blowing, or depositing snow/ice onto any public road is prohibited.

Please keep the fire hydrants cleared of snow and ice.

SNOW CLEARING TIPS

Residents are asked to remove vehicles from the street when a snowstorm is occurring. It makes plowing safer and more efficient if the plow drivers do not have to maneuver around parked vehicles. To avoid snow from ending up in your driveway, wait until the road has been completely plowed to the curb before shoveling the last 5-10 feet of your driveway. This way less snow from the road will end up in your driveway. Please remove cars from the roads. When the roads are plowed curb to curb, there will be room to park your cars after the storm. We say “thank you” to those who do park their cars in the driveways and off of the streets.

Thank you, The Road Crew

FIREPLACE SAFETY

Make sure your chimney is cleaned at least once a year or more. Use only dried wood (causes less smoke and dirt) and never use flammable liquids to start a fire. Dispense of the cool ashes in a metal container with a lid away from the house; *not on the porch*. Never leave a fire unattended. When burning, keep the damper open, flammable material away, and the glass door/screen closed. Have a safe and happy wood-burning season.

Breakdown of the Dollar

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015

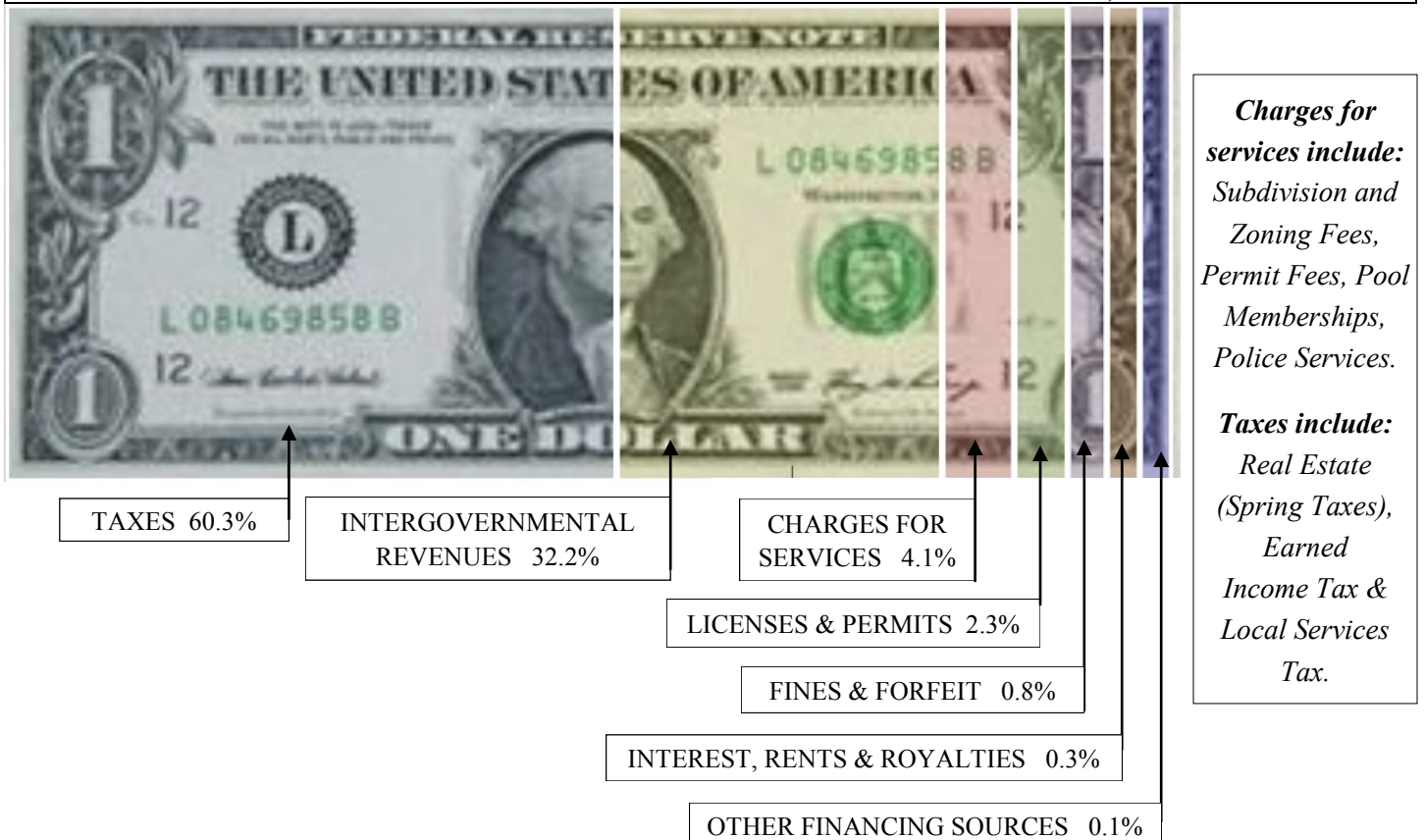


Public Safety:
Police Dept., Fire & Amb. contributions, Planning & Zoning, Sewage Enforc. Officer.

General Government:
Wages, Advertising, Auditors, Tax Collector Comm., Professional Services, Supplies, Building (utilities, maint., etc.).

Public Works:
Highway Dept. (wages, equipment), Supplies, Traffic Signals & Signs, Constr. Projects.

GENERAL FUND REVENUES YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015



TAX TIPS

There are a few aspects of real estate tax payments that occasionally cause confusion among township residents. The four most common sources of confusion regard (1) the payment of Hydrant and Street Light Taxes, which are listed on the same bill with the Lancaster County and East Cocalico Township Real Estate Taxes in the spring, (2) the payment of School District Real Estate Taxes in the fall, (3) the application of the Homestead/Farmstead Exclusion, and (4) the Pennsylvania Property Tax and Rent Rebate Program.

- (1) On your spring tax bill are listed four included taxes: East Cocalico Township Real Estate Tax, Lancaster County Real Estate Tax, East Cocalico Township Hydrant Tax, and East Cocalico Township Street Light Tax. The discount (if paid by April 30th), face (if paid by June 30th) and penalty (if paid after June 30th) amounts for each of those taxes follow those headings.

Not all East Cocalico Township properties are assessed a Hydrant and/or Street Light Tax. Properties, any portion of which lies within 750 feet of a hydrant, are assessed a Hydrant Tax. And properties, any portion of which lies within 250 feet of an activated Street Light, are assessed a Street Light Tax. If there are zeros in the columns after the Hydrant and/or Street Light Tax headings, your property is not included in those parameters and you are not paying any taxes for those entities.

Lancaster County and East Cocalico Township Real Estate Tax Notice			
East Cocalico Township Hydrant and Street Light Tax Notice			
	March / April (2% Discount)	May / June (Face Value)	After June 30 (10% Penalty)
Township	---	---	---
County	---	---	---
Hydrant	---	---	---
Street Light	---	---	---
Total Due:	---	---	---

**TAXES DUE
APPEAR HERE**

This tax is due and payable to:
Joan K. Fischer, Tax Collector
East Cocalico Township
500 Mohns Hill Road
Reinholds, PA 17569

Parcel No. _____
 Location: _____

Assessment:
 Tax Rates: Township _____
 County _____
 Hydrant _____
 Street Light _____

(See back of bill for office hours and payment instructions.)

**GENERAL
TAX RATES
APPEAR HERE**

In the lower right corner of your spring tax bill are listed the rates for all four taxes included in the bill. The East Cocalico Township and Lancaster County Real Estate Tax rates and the East Cocalico Township Hydrant Tax rates are listed in millages (.001 of your property assessment). The East Cocalico Township Street Light Tax rate is listed in cents assessed per foot of property road frontage.

Residents sometimes confuse those rates listed as a tax amounts due for hydrant and/or Street Light Tax. That rate listing is simply informational regarding the method of calculating the taxes that are included on the general bill. Because there are Hydrant and Street Light Tax rates written on your bill, that does not necessarily mean that you are being taxed for either or both. If there is a zero listed next to the tax description for either or both on the upper portion of your bill, then you are not being billed for that tax.

- (2) Cocalico School District taxes are mailed in July and collected in the fall. East Cocalico Township does not collect School District Taxes. They are collected by the Cocalico School District itself and must be mailed to the address listed on the bill. All questions regarding Cocalico School District (fall) taxes must be addressed to Ausma Buffenmyer at the school district tax office, at 717-336-1406.
- (3) The Pennsylvania Homestead/Farmstead Exclusion for Tax Relief applies only to a reduction in your (fall) School District Taxes, not your (spring) County, Township, Hydrant or Street Light Taxes. East Cocalico Township has nothing to do with that Exclusion. If you have any questions regarding the Homestead/Farmstead Exclusion, you should visit the H/F Pennsylvania CDED website for answers and information: http://dcde.pa.gov/local-government/property-tax-relief-homestead-exclusion/#.V_PT5v8VAdU.
- (4) The Pennsylvania Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program is a state-run program that offers relief to senior and disabled residents. There are age, income and/or disability requirements that must be met in order to qualify for the program. Any questions or concerns regarding the program should be addressed at the following website or by calling 1-888-222-9190 (http://www.revenue.pa.gov/FormsandPublications/FormsforIndividuals/Pages/Property-Tax-Rent-Rebate.aspx#.V_PXA-TD8dU).

Joan Fischer, Tax Collector - East Cocalico Township 717-484-4975

E-Mail: Tax_Collector@EastCocalicoTownship.com

TOWNSHIP NEWS

www.eastcocalicotownship.com

Need more information? Please visit the Township website for recent Township news, draft agendas, approved meeting minutes, tax information, voting information, Water and Sewer Authority information, building permit applications, subdivision applications, ordinances, resolutions, recycling and trash haulers information, on-lot sewer, plus a lot more!

LIFEGUARD APPLICATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE 2017 POOL SEASON

Applications for the Reamstown Pool will be accepted for the months of December 2016 through February 2017. Applications can be picked up at the Township Office, 100 Hill Rd., Denver, or downloaded at: www.eastcocalicotownship.com by clicking on Departments then Reamstown Pool).

We wrapped up a *successful season* at the Reamstown Swimming Pool with the attendance being the best it ever has. A big “thank you” to everybody for helping make this past season a great and incident-free summer season. We hope you were able to create some ‘warm’ memories to hold you over in the upcoming cold winter months. *See you next summer!*

AED SAVE

On September 25, 2016 at 4:07 pm Cpl. Progin and Officer Eric Fisher were dispatched to a cardiac arrest in the 300 block of Stevens Road, East Cocalico Township. CPR and an AED were utilized to revive a 63 year old male. The police vehicle was used to transport the male from a hole on the golf course to the ambulance. The male was transported to Wellspan Ephrata Community Hospital for treatment. He was released from the hospital approximately 1 week later.

INDUSTRIAL RESCUE

On October 10, 2016 at 3:10 am Cpl. Progin and Officer Sola responded to a business in the 1st block of Stevens Road, East Cocalico Township for an Industrial Rescue. The first officer was on scene in 3 minutes. A 42 year old male had his foot caught in an auger inside a silo. Officer Sola made entrance to the silo and remained with the male until Fire and EMS arrived. The male was extricated by Stevens, Reamstown and Denver Fire Companies and Medic 12. He was transported to Lancaster General Hospital by Reamstown Ambulance.

RECYCLING FORMS TO TOWNSHIP AREA BUSINESSES

As done annually, recycling forms will be mailed to the township’s area businesses in late December 2016 to early January 2017. These forms are generated from Lancaster County Solid Waste Mgmt. Authority for the purpose of logging your recycling efforts for the year. Please call the Township if you have not received the form by late January 2017.

CHRISTMAS TREE DROP OFF



Trees can be dropped off after the holidays behind the municipal building, 100 Hill Rd., from 12/26/16 to 1/31/17 dawn to dusk. A designated area is located behind the Township building, follow the signs (100 Hill Road, Denver). Please remove all decorations including the tree bags for transporting.

TOWNSHIP NEWS

From the desk of the Zoning and Code Enforcement Officer

CONTROL OF ANIMALS

It is the duty of the owner of any animal to keep the animal securely tied or confined in an enclosure in such a manner that the animal cannot break loose and run at large over the streets, alleys, or public grounds of the Township, or upon the property of anyone other than the owner of such animal. The continuous or excessive making of noise for a time period of more than 15 minutes by animals in the Township, the running at large of animals, and animals defecating on other persons' or Township properties are public nuisances that adversely impact the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the Township and cause annoyance, inconvenience, possible injury, and are unlawful.

PERMITS NOT REQUIRED

For sealing driveways, painting, wallpapering, new flooring, sidewalks, swings and replacement of siding or roofs. If in question, please call the Zoning Officer at (717) 336-1720.

PERMITS REQUIRED

For all construction projects as well as a fence, pond, or a change in use of the property.

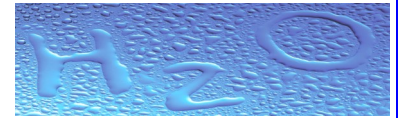
PERMIT/ZONING COMPARISONS FOR 2014, 2015, 2016 THRU OCTOBER 31 OF EACH YEAR

	2016	2015	2014
APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	241	226	252
PERMITS ISSUED	224	216	246
SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING UNITS	13	14	10
MODULAR/MOBILE HOMES	4	5	8
ADDITIONS/RENOVATIONS	30	20	40
FENCES	25	28	24
DECKS/PATIOS	22	22	16
ACCESSORY STRUCTURES/SHEDS	31	33	40
POOLS – IN GROUND	0	3	8
NEW COMMERCIAL	0	1	3
COMMERCIAL ADDITIONS/RENOVATIONS	19	17	23
AGRICULTURAL	3	2	3
TIMBER HARVESTS	6	3	2
OTHERS	71	68	69
VALUE/COST	\$8,465,188	\$6,862,802	\$20,447,798

ZONING HEARINGS HELD	9	6	7
GRANTED	8	6	6

BEST WISHES TO ALL FOR A SAFE, WARM, AND TROUBLE-FREE WINTER AND NEW YEAR! Tony Luongo

ARE YOU RESPONSIBLE FOR ← STORMWATER FACILITY MAINTENANCE?



As we have discussed in many of the previous issues of this newsletter, management of stormwater quantity and quality is of utmost importance in East Cocalico Township and Pennsylvania as a whole. We all generate stormwater and have the potential to impact the quality of the water within our waterways, so Township residents, businesses, property owners, as well as the Township, have key roles to play in managing stormwater, preventing pollution and meeting state and federal water quality and MS4 stormwater management regulations. Let me explain:

Proper maintenance of all stormwater conveyance and management facilities, whether they were installed recently or in years prior, is important to ensure those facilities function properly to meet their design purpose, prevent adverse impacts to downstream properties and satisfy applicable requirements of the state and federal MS4 regulations. Maintenance of those facilities must be performed by the appropriate responsible party as identified on the governing legal documents such as the approved recorded subdivision plan and/or land development plan, stormwater easement agreements, deed, etc. In most cases, the owner of the property on which the stormwater management facility is located is likely the party responsible. For stormwater facilities located on Township property or within dedicated Township road right-of-ways, maintenance of the facility is the responsibility of the Township. However, stormwater management facilities located on private property must be maintained by the individual private property owner(s), or Homeowners Association as identified in the governing legal document. Typically the recorded subdivision plans show drainage or stormwater easements in the area of key stormwater facilities in order to clarify the Township's ability to conduct subsequent inspections of these features. Anyone considering purchasing a property should fully investigate their obligations and responsibilities related to all stormwater facilities prior to proceeding.

Types of maintenance activities that are required and often identified by inspections include items such as cutting grass and removing large vegetation from around key structures, addressing groundhog or vermin holes, removing obstructions/debris from within swales, pipes, outlet structures or at pipe outlets, repairing and stabilizing all eroded areas, replacing/repairing rip-rap dispersions that have washed out or become silted in, verifying proper restrictive orifice plates are in place and sealed, verifying pipe connections are grouted, and inspecting and repairing/replacing any conveyance piping or related structures that are damaged, rusted or undermined. As noted above, generally property owners who have a stormwater basin, swale, pond, pipe or other stormwater conveyance or management facility on their property are those responsible to maintain it. If you are unsure if you are responsible, review key related documents, such as the recorded plan, stormwater maintenance agreement, deed and/or homeowner's association documents. Most recorded plans and deeds can be viewed through the Lancaster County Recorder of Deeds website or you can contact the Township for further assistance in understanding your stormwater management facility maintenance obligations. The Township wants to encourage people to take proactive steps now to avoid future enforcement actions.

Like all municipalities who must meet the state and federal MS4 Stormwater Management regulations, East Cocalico Township is responsible for inspecting stormwater management facilities, even those that are privately owned and maintained, to ensure that the required maintenance takes place. The Township faces fines and penalties if it is found that stormwater management facilities within the Township are in disrepair and not functioning properly. Please take this maintenance responsibility seriously. Since many of the streams and tributaries within East Cocalico Township originate within the Township or near the Township limits, we collectively have the ability to take steps to ensure they meet appropriate water quality standards. If everyone routinely keeps up with necessary maintenance, the costs to do so will remain modest, the potential for serious adverse impacts minimized, and we will all help to prevent flooding of our neighbors and continue to protect the quality of our groundwater and waterways.

Quality water starts with you!

WATER & SEWER AUTHORITY

Address: 102 Hill Road, Denver, PA 17517 Phone: 336-1731 Fax: 336-1735

E-Mail: water@ecocalicotwpauth.com

Website: www.eastcocalicotownshipauthority.com



DROUGHT WATCH IN EFFECT FOR LANCASTER COUNTY, PA

The Department of Environmental Protection announced revised drought declarations on November 3, 2016. As of this date, all municipalities located within Lancaster County are under a DROUGHT WATCH. According to data from the Commonwealth drought monitoring network, dry conditions persisting in the middle of the state combined with a lack of precipitation in the eastern part of the state have deepened precipitation deficits resulting in extremely low stream flow and groundwater levels. **During a Drought Watch the DEP is seeking a 5 percent reduction in water consumption through voluntary conservation measures.** The drought watch and recommended voluntary reductions apply to all of the Authority's residential, commercial, and industrial customers as well as those properties utilizing private wells. For more information and ways to reduce your water consumption please refer to our website at www.eastcocalicotownshipauthority.com for updated information and a link to the DEP's Drought Information Center.



Cold weather is right around the corner and this is normally the time of year the Authority experiences breaks in our water lines. The Authority's public works staff makes every effort to keep our water lines in good repair in order to provide you with uninterrupted service. However, repeated freeze and thaw cycles will sometimes cause the ground around our pipes to shift or move resulting in unavoidable

ARE YOU READY FOR COLD WEATHER?

breaks. If you see water coming to the surface or standing in the street or experience a sudden decrease in water pressure at your home or business, please report it to us. Calls to report possible water breaks are appreciated and can be made 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by calling the East Cocalico Township Authority at (717) 336-1731.

While we're on the subject of cold weather, don't forget to winterize your

home or business. Make sure that any outside taps or hose connections are turned off and drained and not vulnerable to freezing. Also, please attend to any water pipes that are in unheated areas of your house or business. Pipes can freeze and break if proper insulation is not in place causing a great deal of damage and a huge water bill. If you have specific questions, we suggest you contact a plumber of your choice to evaluate your situation.

Many people may be surprised to learn that in addition to the water and sanitary sewer services provided by the East Cocalico Township Authority we also maintain the fire hydrants located throughout the Township. Authority employees regularly paint, repair, and flush the hydrants to make sure they are working and ready in case of a fire emergency.

The Authority would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have helped us by trimming the vegetation around the hydrants near your property during this past growing season. Your assistance is very much appreciated!

WHERE'S THE FIRE HYDRANT?



As we move into the winter months we would like to encourage those living near a fire hydrant to please help us keep those hydrants accessible by removing any accumulated snow that may block them. Snow should be removed a minimum of three feet completely around the hydrant in order to provide for unobstructed operation. We currently have 326 fire hydrants to maintain and with the additional work load associated with winter storms, it can take some time before Authority employees can get to all of them. Please assist us wherever you can. Your neighborhood and fire company will benefit from hydrants that are readily visible and easily accessible.

EAST COCALICO TOWNSHIP
100 HILL ROAD
DENVER, PA 17517

PR SRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
DENVER, PA
PERMIT NO. 35

EAST COCALICO TOWNSHIP OFFICE 100 Hill Road, Denver, PA 17517. Hours M-F 8am to 4:30pm. **P:** 717-336-1720 **F:** 717-336-1724
W: www.eastcocalicotownship.com **E:** township@eastcocalicotownship.com

EAST COCALICO TOWNSHIP POLICE 100 Hill Road, Denver, PA 17517. Hours M-F 8am to 4:30pm **EMERG: 911** **P:** 717-336-1725 **F:** 717-336-1737
W: www.eastcocalicopolice.com

WATER & SEWER AUTHORITY OFFICE 102 Hill Road, Denver, PA 17517. Hours M-F 8am to 4:30pm. **P:** 717-336-1731 **F:** 717-336-1735
W: www.eastcocalicotownshipauthority.com **E:** water@ecocalicotwpauth.com

ZONING OFFICER Tony Luongo, 100 Hill Rd, Denver, PA 17517 Hours: M-F 8am to 4:30pm 717-336-1720(*call ahead*) **W:** www.eastcocalicotownship.com/Zoning
(*Please call ahead before stopping in or to schedule an appointment with the Zoning Officer*) **E:** zoning_officer@eastcocalicotownship.com

TAXES Joan Fischer, 500 Mohns Hill Rd., Reinholds, 17569. During office hours call 717-336-1721. During non-office hours 717-484-4975.
Mar. through Apr. Hours: Tues. & Fri. 10am to noon, and Fri. 8pm to 10pm, April 30th 8pm to 10pm **W:** www.eastcocalicotownship.com
May through Feb. Hours: First Fri. of month 8pm to 10pm, and first Sat. of month 10am to 12 noon **E:** tax_collector@eastcocalicotownship.com

REAMSTOWN POOL 68 Ream Road, Stevens, PA 17578 **P:** 717-336-3537 (*only in operation when the pool is open*)

REAMSTOWN FIRE COMPANY 12 W Church St, Reamstown 17567 **P:** 336-3958 **W:** www.reastownfirecompany.com

SMOKESTOWN FIRE COMPANY 860 Smokestown Rd, Denver 17517 **P:** 336-3311 **W:** www.smokestownfire.com

STEVENS FIRE COMPANY 91 Stevens Rd, Denver 17517 **P:** 336-4200 **W:** www.stevensfire.net



2017 MONTH	BOARD OF SUPERVISORS 7:30 PM	PLANNING COMMISSION 7:30 PM	PLANNING COMMISSION WORKSHOP 7:30 PM	ZONING HEARING BOARD 7:30 PM	RECREATION BOARD 7:00 PM	AUTHORITY 7:00 PM
JANUARY	3*, 19	30	25	11	17	12
FEBRUARY	2, 16	27	22	8	21	9
MARCH	2**, 16	27	22	8	21	9
APRIL	6, 20	24	19	12	18	13
MAY	4, 18	22	17	10	16	11
JUNE	1***, 15	26	21	14	20	8
JULY	6, 20	31	26	12	18	13
AUGUST	3, 17	28	23	9	15	10
SEPTEMBER	7****, 21	25	20	13	19	14
OCTOBER	5, 19	30	25	11	17	12
NOVEMBER	2, 17	20	15	8	21	9
DECEMBER	7, 21	18	13	13	19	14

*January 3rd: Held on a Tuesday, Organization Mtg. **March 2nd: Held at the Stevens Fire Hall, 91 Stevens Rd., Stevens. ***June 1st: Held at the Reamstown Fire Hall, 12 W. Church St., Reamstown. ****September 7th: Held at the Smokestown Fire Hall, 860 Smokestown Rd., Denver.

Thoughts, comments, suggestions are always welcome!

Thank you!

Lisa A. Kashner, Township Newsletter Editor

