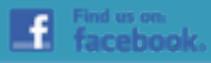




www.latownship.org



610-779-6400

Lower Alsace Township
1200 Carsonia Avenue
Reading, PA 19606

Township Office hours

Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
except holidays

Phone -610-779-6400

Fax - 610 370-0797

Web Site - www.latownship.org

Facebook - www.facebook.com/loweralsace.township

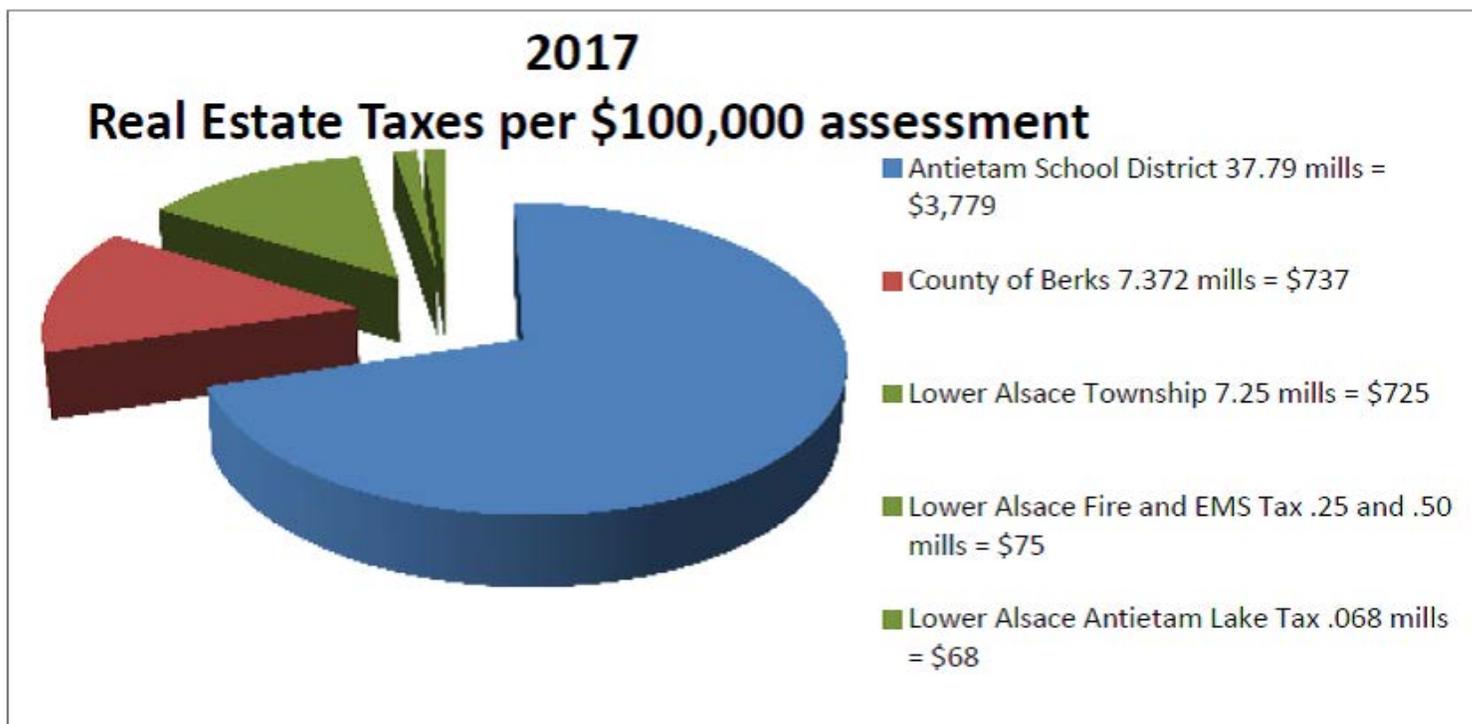
Board of Supervisors meetings are held the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. please see the Township web site for the posted agendas and meeting minutes

Planning Commission meetings are advertised for the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. and held as needed.

See page nineteen (19) for additional phone numbers and information regarding municipal officials and agencies

- Page 2..... 2017 Township Budget information
- Page 3..... Tax Collection Dates
- Page 4..... AVCP Activities
- Page 5..... Recreation Commission Updates
- Page 6..... Playground Program Information
- Page 7..... Antietam Pool and Recreation Center
- Page 8..... Lower Alsace Ambulance Association
- Page 9..... Lower Alsace Police and Fire information
- Page 10..... Central Berks Codes Department
- Page 11..... Rental Requirements
- Page 12..... Township Permit requirements
- Page 13..... Snow, Pothole reporting and Roadwork
- Page 14..... Snow Emergency Routes
- Page 15..... Recycling Information
- Page 16..... Spring Clean Up, Tree maint. and Leaf Collection
- Page 17..... Stormwater Management for Homeowners
- Page 18..... Skyline Drive Reconstruction
- Page 19..... Township contact information
- Page 20..... Message from the Supervisors

The cost of local government services



Often times most people do not fully understand that the smallest portion of their real estate tax burden is what actually funds your basic township services. In 2017 the annual Township real estate tax bill for a home assessed at \$100,000 will be \$868.00. For that annual tax bill your family receives 24 hour police protection from the Central Berks Police Department and fire protection from the Lower Alsace Fire Company; snow removal and road construction improvements for the 24 miles of township roads, leaf and brush collection for the densely populated neighborhoods; building, zoning and property maintenance code enforcement, a free recycling drop off facility and spring and fall clean-up programs; and a summer playground program. Starting in 2016 with the new EMS Tax, the Lower Alsace Ambulance Service became an automatic membership to all Township residents.

Real Estate Taxes will continue to be the largest source of revenue for the Township. The 2017 budget proposes to draw down approximately \$489,000 from the fund reserve balance. As in prior years, the township will pursue other sources of funding through grant programs and will review permit fee schedules to assure that they are designed to cover the cost of those municipal services. If the Township's Earned Income Tax revenue increases sufficiently to cover increasing costs, the future budgets may avoid additional property taxes, but absent any significant increase in that tax revenue derived from the W-2 earnings of the residents, the Board of Supervisors will be faced with the decision of cutting services or increasing property taxes. The current board believes that the incremental increases will be less of a burden than putting off the inevitable larger tax increase, so the 2017 budget was approved with a ½ mill increase for the General Fund. That one half mill equates to \$50 per home assessed at \$100,000. Additionally the Board of Supervisors also approved an Ambulance Tax increase up to the maximum amount of .50 mill from the current .27 mills to help keep this vital service financial stable.

2017 Tax Notices

Attention all Lower Alsace Township Residents and Property Owners:

The Township and County 2017 Real Estate Taxes and the Township Per Capita Taxes are in the mail.



Please note that to avoid waiting in line to pay your Real Estate Taxes, we encourage you to send your payment together with a self-addressed, stamped envelope (to receive your receipt of payment) to the address on your tax bill:

Patrick Duggan, Tax Collector
624 Angora Road
Reading, PA 19606



If you still wish to pay your real estate taxes in person at the Lower Alsace Township Office, please note that the following schedule will be the only dates and times reserved by The Tax Collector for you to pay in person.

APRIL 18TH 9AM-12PM

APRIL 20TH 9AM-12PM

APRIL 24TH 9AM-12PM

APRIL 26TH 9AM-12PM

APRIL 22ND 8AM-10AM

APRIL 29TH 8AM-10AM

After these dates you have to pay the Tax Collector by mail

Please note the following changes that were implemented in 2016

FOR ALL Residents 18 and older, please make sure you have received your Per Capita Tax Bill. Your Lower Alsace Township Per Capita Tax will be collected by the **Berks Earned Income Tax Bureau.**

Please note that any Per Capita Tax bill not paid in 2017 will be turned over to a delinquent tax collection agency for collection and you may be liable for a penalty much larger than the \$10.00 tax!

If you have not received your Per Capita Tax Bill by March 5th, please phone the township office (610- 779-6400) and leave your name and address for a duplicate bill to be mailed to you. Thank you.

The Antietam Valley Community Partnership (AVCP) was founded to improve the quality of life in the Antietam Valley, which includes the Boroughs of Mount Penn and Saint Lawrence, the Township of Lower Alsace, and the immediately surrounding area. One of AVCP's main objectives is to build pride in the Antietam Valley through the development of community events. As an all-volunteer non-profit organization, they have been outstanding stewards of this community's financial generosity!

In 2016, the Antietam Valley Community Partnership (AVCP) placed great emphasis on the community's youth and education. AVCP formally created a Scholarship Committee to identify, evaluate, interview and ultimately provide post-secondary scholarships to qualifying high school seniors residing in the Antietam Valley. The board provided financial support for the advancement of Antietam High School's notable theater program, and they offered underwriting support for the first-ever "Teachers in the Pool" initiative for elementary-age students in our community.

The members of the AVCP are especially proud and eager to build on these efforts in 2017 and beyond! The AVCP continues to present the community with events and programming such as the annual community dinner, movie nights at the A-field, a 5K run, a street fair, Tree Lighting in the Park every December, Carsonia Craft Beer event, and this year, An Evening with Poe. The Antietam Valley Farmers' & Artists' Market unites vendors, shoppers, and volunteers in a community gathering in the park in both summer and winter.

Amazingly, this robust annual agenda of events is orchestrated and run by a passionate community of volunteer-minded folks. As community members, you are invited to join AVCP's monthly board meetings, foster new ideas, enlist on a committee, or just introduce a new friend. To learn more about AVCP, the board, past and future planned events, or to simply make a tax-deductible financial gift to help continue our mission to improve the quality of life in the Antietam Valley;

Please visit us at www.antietamvalley.org . Our mailing address is PO Box 3616, Reading, PA 19606.



Antietam Valley Community Partnership
Many neighborhoods, one community

2017 Schedule of Events

January - April; 1st & 3rd Saturdays
Winter Farmers Market in Rec Center

March 5
Community Dinner: Golumpkis & Chili

May 20
Community Yard Sale & Flea Market

May 20 - Oct 7 Saturdays
Summer Farmers Market in Carsonia Park

June 17
Movie Night at the A-Field

June 24
Street Fair in Stony Creek

July 15
Movie Night at the A-Field

August 12
Movie Night at the A-Field

September 16
Community Yard Sale & Flea Market
Movie Night at the A-Field

October 14
Carsonia Craft Beer & Wine Amusement
Antietam Valley Fun Run & Walk

November - Dec; 1st & 3rd Saturdays
Winter Farmers Market in Rec Center

December 2
Tree Lighting in the Park

www.antietamvalley.org

Recreation Commission of Antietam Valley



The Recreation Commission has had a successful year and they are pleased to inform our residents that the following Grants have been awarded for the implementation of Phase I of the Carsonia Park Master Plan that includes new basketball courts, volleyball court, baseball field and parking along Harvey Avenue. Those grants include:

- DCNR Conservation and Community Partnerships Program: \$250,000
- DCED Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program: \$150,000
- DCED Watershed Protection: \$65,000 In addition a grant was approved for the future acquisition of additional land from the Conservation and Community Partnerships Program: \$27,500. These grants were secured with matching funds of \$75,000 from Mt. Penn, Lower Alsace, Water Authority and Antietam Valley Partnership

For Phase II the following grants are pending:

- Phase 2 of Master Plan (Enlarged and Renovated Tot Lot, new Pavilion and Parking lot along Byram)
- DCNR Conservation and Community Partnerships Program: \$250,000
- DCED Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program: \$250,000

Matching Funds of \$65,000 from Mt Penn, Lower Alsace and AVCP

SEEKING PHOTOS OF CARSONIA PARK

Local Historians George Meiser IX, Michelle N. Lynch, Joel Styer and Corrie Crupi are creating a "Coffee Table Book" of Carsonia Park to raise funds to make improvements to the Park. We are looking for photos that may appear in the book!

Bring your photos or Carsonia souvenirs to the Lower Alsace Township office
Mon.-Fri. 8am-4pm

Photos scanned and souvenirs photographed and returned immediately...or email them to: secretary@latownship.org





Proceeds from this project will benefit Carsonia Park improvement projects through the Recreation Commission of the Antietam Valley. This project is also supported by Lower Alsace Township.

Antietam Valley Summer Playground Program



The success of the joint playground program which involves the cooperation with Antietam Valley Community Partnership, the Antietam Valley Recreation and Community Center, Lower Alsace Township and Mount Penn Borough continued in 2016 with increasing attendance of more than 1400 program attendees.

The 2016 Playground Leaders, Jenna M Martorana, Lydia Faro and Andy Wrobel created a Face Book page for the information to get to the campers families each day and can be found at www.facebook.com/Antietam-Valley-Playground-Program. Please watch for sign up forms this spring on the Township and the AVCP Web Sites.

As in prior years, the campers took part in a program to learn about stormwater pollution that included the causes, the effects and ways we can all prevent it in our backyards. Representatives from Lower Alsace Township, Mount Penn Borough and Mount Penn Water Authority presented this valuable lesson to these eager campers. Following the hands on demonstration, the campers were asked to help us design the storm drain stencil.

The creative picture below depicts the winning design which is a combination of art work created by Ava Adamczyk and the logo idea from Lyndsey Kline. Debbie and Gary Rowland, owners of the The Little Old German Signmaker, made the storm water inlet stencils based on the art work of these two campers

The creative picture below depicts the winning design which is a combination of art work created by Ava Adamczyk and the logo idea from Lyndsey Kline.

Debbie and Gary Rowland, owners of the The Little Old German Signmaker, made the storm water inlet stencils based on the art work of these two campers



Any resident of Exeter Township, Lower Alsace Township, St. Lawrence Borough and Mt. Penn Borough are welcome to join the Antietam Pool. Opening day is Saturday, May 27. Hours for the main pool are 12:00 noon - 7:45 p.m., weather permitting. Hours for the Olympic Pool will be posted.



Good Clean Fun at Antietam Pool!

Open May 27--Join the Biggest and Best Pool in Berks!

Three swimming pools – new game room – free wi-fi – swim lessons – community moonlight swims – senior citizen discount rates – basketball court – concession stand – pavillion for party rentals – fun for all ages!

Season passes will be available in April. Visit www.antietampool.org for more info.

email: office@antietampool.org facebook: Antietam Pool phone: 610-779-5240

2017 rates

1ST, 2ND AND 3RD YEAR MEMBERS

FAMILY (1 or 2 adults and 1 or 2 children living at the same address)

On or before May 13, 2017	\$315.00
After May 13, 2017	\$325.00
plus - additional children, each	\$20.00
Plus assessment	\$20.00/adult

TWO ADULTS (consists of 2 adults living at the same address)

On or before May 13, 2017	\$225.00
After May 13, 2017	\$235.00
Plus assessment	\$20.00/adult

SINGLE (1 adult)

On or before May 13, 2017	\$160.00
After May 13, 2017	\$170.00
plus - assessment	\$20.00/adult

SENIOR MEMBERSHIP (60+)

Per person	\$100.00
------------	----------

MISCELLANEOUS

Babysitter	\$150.00
Parent living at the same address	\$105.00

4TH YEAR AND BEYOND MEMBERS

FAMILY (consists of 1 or 2 adults and 1 or 2 children living at the same address)

On or before May 13, 2017	\$315.00
After May 13, 2017	\$325.00
plus - additional children, each	\$20.00

TWO ADULTS (consists of 2 adults living at the same address)

On or before May 13, 2017	\$225.00
After May 13, 2017	\$235.00

SINGLE (1 adult)

On or before May 13, 2017	\$160.00
After May 13, 2017	\$170.00

SENIOR MEMBERSHIP (60+)

Per person	\$100.00
------------	----------

MISCELLANEOUS

Babysitter	\$150.00
Parent living at the same address	\$105.00

RENTAL OF THE REC CENTER

The rec center is available to rent for your party, shower or event. We offer a full kitchen, dance floor and chairs/tables to seat 100. We now have heat, so the rec center is available year round for your event! Rec center rental applications may be downloaded from the link on the events page of the website <http://www.antietampool.org/index.asp>. If you would like to rent the rec center or need more information please email us at office@antietampool.org

Lower Alsace Ambulance Association 2017 Subscription Membership

Last year was a very active and exciting time at Lower Alsace Ambulance Association (LAEMS). The LAEMS has had continued growth in the number of EMS calls received. Due to this increased demand for service and continuing innovations in medications and technology used to treat our patients in their time of need, costs to provide service continued to rise and unfortunately insurance reimbursements have decreased, not increased to offset this cost.

- LAEMS provides first due Basic (BLS) and Advanced (ALS) Life Support emergency medical services to the residents of Lower Alsace Township, Mount Penn Borough, St. Lawrence Borough and Alsace Township. Additionally we provide second due (back-up) coverage to all of our neighboring municipalities. LAEMS Maintains a highly trained team of Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics ready to respond to any medical emergency you may experience, with the latest in lifesaving EMS medication and technology.
- These changes and improvements come at a cost which is defrayed by contributions from our municipalities, soliciting subscription memberships, donations from the citizens we serve, billing patient insurance, and when insurance does not cover the cost of services billing the patient out of pocket. **Please note regardless of membership status your insurance provider will be billed for services provided and you are REQUIRED to remit any payment made directly to you, the patient, to LAEMS immediately.
- The Lower Alsace Township Supervisors have for 2017 enacted a 0.5 mill EMS tax to support the life-saving EMS services to the residents we serve. Due to this decision by the Board of supervisors, as a resident of Lower Alsace you will have the benefit of PREMIUM subscription Membership in Lower Alsace Ambulance.

PREMIUM Subscription Membership includes;

- Unlimited EMERGENCY ambulance treatment and transportation to a Berks County hospital. No out of pocket cost is incurred. (this does not include routine transportation services) Up to 6 – non-transport emergency incidents (lift assist or refusal of service) Any calls for service over this amount will be charged to the patient out of pocket



If you have an emergency please call 9-1-1



Central Berks Regional Police Department
 2147 Perkiomen Avenue, Reading, PA 19606
Emergencies call - 9-1-1 for non emergency calls use 610-655-4911

Established in 1993, The Central Berks Regional Police Department serves the Township of Lower Alsace and the Borough of Mount Penn, and is currently contracted to provide police service to St. Lawrence Borough. The Department is staffed by a Police Chief an Administrative Assistant, a Detective, Four Sergeants and eight patrol officers. The Police Commission is overseen by a six-member board of local officials who meet once a month. Those meetings are open to the public, and residents are encouraged to attend.

Did you know that Central Berks is on Face Book and are you aware of the following additional services they provide ??

- **Vacation Check-** The Department will provide a courtesy patrol by your home while you are on vacation. Just fill out the Vacation Notice from the Forms page of their website, and submit it to them within three (3) days of your departure date. Please note, they will not accept a vacation notice if someone will be staying in your home while you are away.
- **Fingerprinting-** Fingerprinting service is provided at a cost of \$25. Please call the office to schedule an appointment.
- **Tours-** Individual or group tours of the police station are given by appointment only. Please call the office at least seven (7) days in advance to schedule a tour.
- **Security Services-** A request for security services by a police officer must be in writing and submitted at least two (2) weeks in advance of the event. Please visit the Forms page of their website for a request form.
- **Report Requests-** Requests for a police report can be submitted to their office in person during office hours, by mail, fax, or e-mail. The cost of each report is \$15, payable by cash, check, or money order. Please note that certain reports will not be available for release due to criminal history laws. Visit the Forms page of their website for a request form.
- **Medication Drop Box-** Any unused, unwanted, or expired medications can be dropped off in their lobby during office hours. Medications should remain in their original containers. Personal information should be crossed out, but information about the medication should be legible. Be sure check on their web site to determine what is not accepted.



www.centralberks.org



Lower Alsace Fire Company
 1206 Roosevelt Avenue, Reading PA 19606 -
emergencies call 9-1-1 - non emergencies call



2017 marks the 90th year for the Lower Alsace Fire Company's Service to the community! During 2016 this volunteer staffed agency provided service on 224 fire calls. Please show them your continued support with your donations, participation in their Community Breakfasts and their annual Chicken BBQ which will be held on July 30 this year. In addition, the Fire Company continues to seek volunteers including Firefighters; training meetings are held every Tuesday evening at 6:30.

Please contact Chief Mark Faust if you are interested.

CENTRAL BERKS CODES DEPARTMENT

CENTRAL BERKS REGIONAL CODES ENFORCEMENT
Serving Mt. Penn Borough and Lower Alsace Township
 2147 Perkiomen Avenue
 Reading PA, 19606
 Phone (610)898-0780 / Fax (610)779-7135



1/1/2017 Ticket#: **12117** RE: Blight Ordinance Violation

VIOLATION TICKET

Dear Bad Resident ,

The Central Berks Regional Codes Enforcement Division has determined that you are in violation of the Antietam Valley Blight Prevention Program, Ordinance 244. Listed below is the section that defines the violation:

1. Accumulation of Rubbish or Garbage. It shall be unlawful to fail to maintain the exterior of all properties and premises, and the interior of every structure, free from any accumulation of waste, trash, rubbish, or garbage.

Remove lower portion of ticket at dotted line and make Remittance to the Central Berks Regional Police Dept. 2147 Perkiomen Ave. Reading PA, 19606

DATE: 1/1/2017	TIME: 12:00	AMT DUE: \$25.00
NAME: Bad Resident		*** If mailing, DO NOT SEND CASH, your cancelled check or money order will be your only receipt.
LOCATION:		
VIOLATION: 1. Accumulation of Rubbish or Garbage.		
OFFICER: Richard Gerhart Jr.	MUNICIPALITY: LA	

TAKE NOTICE: Failure of the person to pay a Violation Ticket or to abate a violation of this Ordinance within forty-eight (48) hours of issuance of a Violation Ticket may result in the issuance of a Notice of Violation and a non-traffic citation under any other Ordinance of the Township that has been violated, including the Township's Property Maintenance or Building Code Ordinances. Any person to whom the Township issues a Violation Ticket who desires to challenge the procedural or substantive validity thereof, may file an appeal of the issuance of such Violation Ticket by filing a written notice of appeal with the Township Secretary within five (5) days of the issuance of such Violation Ticket.

Efforts to maintain property values will continue in 2017.

With the goal of enhancing the Central Berks Police Codes Department, Lower Alsace Township enacted a new Blight Prevention Ordinance modeled after property maintenance efforts other municipalities across the Commonwealth. This expedited process will enable the Codes Officer (s) to react a bit more quickly to the “nuisance” type of property issues such as grass, weeds and rubbish issues thereby allowing the Codes Officers more time to address the more complex and time consuming property maintenance enforcement actions through the Property Maintenance Code summary citation process with the Magisterial District Court. Following that enactment, the board of Supervisors also approved the Bank Foreclosure Registration Ordinance which requires banks to register and provide contact

information to the Township regarding the Property Maintenance firms they will be contracting with to make sure these properties are kept up to standards. It is the belief of this Board of Supervisors that blight is the single most threatening issue facing communities with aging urbanized neighborhoods and it will not go away on its own. The costs of dealing with blight are far outweighed by the costs of not dealing with it because poverty follows blight and crime follows poverty. If communities with aging urbanized neighborhoods don't exercise every tool at their disposal to combat blight, poverty and crime will follow. With that, there will be a need for more police at a great expense. Then, taxes will increase to pay for the cops and people will have even less resources to care for their homes and properties.

While the board understands that this Blight Prevention Ordinance is not the “savior” of the community, they believe that it is a piece of the puzzle with rental unit inspections, home transfer inspections, joint Borough/Township Codes enforcement and other initiatives that Lower Alsace has worked to institute. As other tools to eliminate blight become available or developed, this Board of Township Supervisors will be considering them all.



RENTAL LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

A rental license must be obtained prior to the residential or commercial rental of any non-owner occupied property in the township. Zoning approval is required for any kind of physical conversions. The fee for the rental license is listed on the Lower Alsace Township Fee Schedule and is dependent on the type of structure. These Rental Licenses will only be issued following a successful inspection by a Township Code Official. In addition to the license, the township also requires a tenant listing for all occupants over 18 years of age in any rental unit as well as updates to that list when tenants change. Failure to obtain a rental license or to report any change in tenancy could result in fines and penalties.



Rental Property Address:

List the names and phone numbers for all persons over the age of 18 who are authorized by the property owner to reside or occupy the property:

Lower Alsace Township Ordinance No. 154 requires every owner of a rental dwelling unit to submit to the Township a list of all tenants or lessees 18 years of age or older, and shall notify the Township on this form of any change in the occupancy of such rental dwelling unit or units by providing the name or names of all such tenants or lessees who have vacated such unit or units within thirty (30) days after the date of vacancy and the names and addresses of all new tenants or lessees eighteen (18) year of age or older.

Please send this tenant update form to the Lower Alsace Township Office
1200 Carsonia Avenue, Reading PA 19606

Failure to submit this information to the township upon conviction in a summary proceeding shall subject the property owner to a fine of \$500.00

Do I need a permit?

The various codes adopted by this community are intended to protect the health and safety of the citizens. Permits are required to assure that the contractors working for you have the knowledge and expertise to do the work properly and in compliance with the statewide codes. Managed effectively, these regulations can help to foster home ownership, ensure the maintenance of the building stock and stabilize the property value of your neighborhoods.

Call before you dig! Performing a free pre-plan PA one call can save you countless hours of frustration and needless expense.



Know what's below.
Call 8-1-1 before you dig.

Building Permits - The International Building code requires that any owner or authorized agent who intends to construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move, demolish or change the occupancy of a building or structure, or to erect, install, enlarge, alter, repair, remove, convert or replace any electrical, gas, mechanical or plumbing system, shall first make application to the Lower Alsace Township's Codes Official and obtain the required permit for the work.

Property Settlement Inspections - Since the adoption of the Property Settlement Inspection Ordinance in the fall of 2011 there have been over 275 inspections performed as houses are transferred to new owners. The majority of the inspections revealed serious building code violations relating to important safety issues such as the installation of smoke detectors and ground-fault circuit interrupter electric outlets (GFCI) which help to prevent electrical shocks. These relatively inexpensive items help to ensure that all future residents of these homes enjoy a dwelling unit in compliance with the latest safety requirements and hopefully enjoy some peace of mind. In addition to the safety benefits, this process helps to stabilize your neighborhood's property values.

Plumbing permits may only be acquired by a Master Plumber with an approved plumbing license filed in the Township of Lower Alsace. Section 106.1 of the International Plumbing Code: Any owner, authorized agent or contractor who desires to construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move, demolish or change the occupancy of a building or structure, or to erect, install, enlarge, alter, repair, remove, convert or replace any plumbing system, the installation of which is regulated by this code, or to cause any such work to be done, shall first make application to the Lower Alsace Township Code Official and obtain the required permit for the work.

Residential Electrical permits may be acquired by the property owner or by an electrician who is registered with the PA Office of the Attorney General as a Home Improvement Contractor. Electrical permits are required for any new work to erect, install, enlarge, alter, convert or replace any electrical system. The applicant shall first make application to Lower Alsace Township and obtain the required permit for the work prior to the start of the work. Work such as repairing or replacing an individual electrical device, such as a switch or receptacle, does not require a permit. Any work that requires new wiring or devices / fixtures to be installed does require a permit. Commercial electrical permits may be acquired by the property owner or by a licensed electrician. Commercial electrical permits are required for any new work to erect, install, enlarge, repair, alter, convert or replace any commercial electrical system. The applicant shall first make application to the Lower Alsace Township Code Official and obtain the required permit for the work prior to the start of the work.

Dumpsters If you need need to arrange for a dumpster to be delivered to your property but have no room, you may be permitted to temporarily park it on the public street. Prior to doing so, please arrange for a Township Dumpster permit first. The township will ensure property safety measures are taken for its placement as well as assurances in place to protect the road surface.

**Not sure? please call 610-779-6400, we are here to help you and
we thank you for your anticipated cooperation**

Spring Street Sweeping in Lower Alsace Township

Our annual Spring Street Sweeping program is planned for April 18th and April 19th

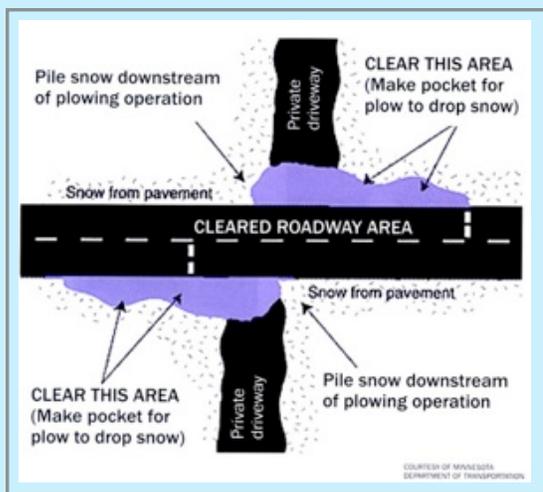
from 7 AM to 5 PM each day (weather permitting.)

Please watch for no parking signs at the end of your streets in advance of the sweeping crews. Residents are advised to move their cars when signs are posted for this purpose and we appreciate your cooperation.



Please help our Road Crew locate and repair any potholes that you discover as soon as possible. For any potholes on Carsonia Avenue, Friedensburg or Antietam Roads please call Penndot at 1-800-fix-ROAD. For all other roads in Lower Alsace Township, please call the township office at (610) 779-6400. Thank you for your assistance.

Winter Activities - Please help us help you



We would like to remind homeowners and those in the snow removal business to avoid depositing snow, ice or slush on any roadway or highway when plowing out driveways. This happens frequently when plow operators push snow across the road or along the shoulder adjacent to driveways and it can cause hazardous driving conditions on our roadways.

Our plows sometimes push snow onto driveways as the snow leaves the plow and we really don't have a way to control how the snow falls off the plow. We know that it's frustrating to shovel your driveway and then have the plow come by and push snow back at the base. Although we'd

like to minimize the problem, there is no "efficient" way to plow the roadway so that your driveway remains snow free.

One way to assure that minimal snow will be piled in your driveway entrance is to follow the diagram provided above. Remember you could create a hazardous condition when you plow or blow snow back on the roadway after the road has been plowed. All shoveled or blown snow should be piled in your yard. Please follow the suggestion below to minimize windrows in your driveway opening.

What NOT to do with Snow

Do not shovel, plow, push or throw your driveway snow onto the public (or private) roadway and do not try to push it all the way to the other side of the road. This practice will create a hazardous surface when traffic passes over it. Please be sure your plowing contractors honor these restrictions too; you are responsible for their actions on your property.

A note of caution is in order. Please be extremely careful when working next to the roadway especially when snowplowing operations are in progress.

In the interest of assisting the township road crew with effective curb to curb snow removal on the Township's emergency routes, please don't wait for a snow emergency to be declared to move your vehicle from the street. **Help us help you by not leaving your vehicle parked on the following roads during a snow storm.**

If a snow emergency is declared, the information will be posted as an announcement on the home page of the Township's web site, Face Book page and also on and TV 69 News.

Remember, during a declared emergency, any cars parked on an emergency route are subject to being ticketed and towed.

The following roads are designated Township Snow Emergency Routes:

- **Harvey Avenue** – from Carsonia Avenue to Exeter Township line.
- **Columbia Avenue** – from Carsonia Avenue to Roosevelt Avenue
- **Marshall Avenue** (Stony Creek) – from Antietam Road to Logan Street
- **Prospect Street** – from Carsonia Avenue to its intersection with North 26th Street
- **Cherrydale Avenue** – from Friedensburg Road to its intersection with Carsonia Avenue



BERKS COUNTY RESIDENTS

The following special waste collection is provided by the Berks County Solid Waste Authority

OPEN EVERY TUESDAY, THURSDAY & SATURDAY 8:00 AM – NOON

1316 Hilltop Rd., Leesport, Bern Twp (Near the Reading Fairgrounds – Off Rt. 183)

Please call 610-478-6362 or go to <http://www.co.berks.pa.us/Dept/SWA> for questions regarding the following:

2017 Special Collection Schedule

Electronic Items

Free for County residents - Commercial and Institutional - by appointment only

Computers, Monitors, Laptops, Keyboards, Modems, Printers, Copier, etc. Microwaves, Stereos, VCRs, Telephones, Answering Machines, etc. CD's, DVD's, VCR Tapes, etc. Television (Maximum of two per resident/vehicle per day) Fluorescent bulbs Rechargeable and Lead Acid Batteries (ONLY) – NO

ALKALINE BATTERIES ACCEPTED Air Conditioners & Dehumidifiers

Paper Shredding

April 22, 2017 (Governor Mifflin Intermediate School.)

October 14, 2017 (Berks County Ag Center

Household Hazardous Waste 8 AM TO 2 PM

April 15, 2017 (Governor Mifflin Intermediate School.)

October 21, 2017 (Berks County Ag. Center)

Pharmaceuticals

drop off box at Central Berks Police Department

2147 Perkiomen Ave. Mt. Penn

Tires - Please call 610-478-6362

LOWER ALSACE TWP RESIDENTS



LOWER ALSACE TOWNSHIP RESIDENTIAL RECYCLING PROGRAM RULES

PLEASE HELP US KEEP THIS COMMUNITY SERVICE SAFE AND SANITARY BY ADHERING TO THE FOLLOWING RULES:

- ✓ Material may not be contaminated with food
- ✓ Be sure to fill the recycling bins from the back to the front
- ✓ Flatten large plastic jugs and cardboard boxes
- ✓ DO NOT THROW BAGS of recyclables into the bins, OPEN bags first and pour your items into the recycling bins



The following paper may be mixed together:

- cardboard
- newspapers
- magazines
- envelopes
- junk mail
- office paper



The following comingled material may be mixed together:

- Clear Glass
- Amber Glass
- Brown Glass
- Green Glass
- Aluminum Cans
- Tin Cans
- Steel
- Plastics PET and HDPE # 1 - #7 provided it is no bigger than a laundry bottle

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE NOT ALLOWED IN RECYCLING CONTAINERS:

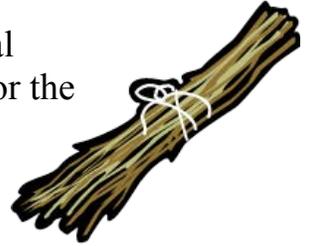
- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> appliances lawn chairs yard waste flammables fluorescent tubes styrofoam any type of container containing hazardous materials pots and pans | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> plate glass window glass mirrors any type of oil or oil rags miscellaneous plastic light bulbs anything containing food or restroom waste oil cans wood, particle board or plywood |
|--|--|

**2017 Spring Clean up Day will be scheduled for Saturday April 22nd - Earth Day!
8 am to 3 PM at the Lower Alsace Township Building -
1200 Carsonia Avenue**



Please plan ahead to take advantage of this day to conduct your neighborhood clean up programs or just to bring junk you've been hoping to get rid of for some time. You may even want to drop in and volunteer your time to help the Township Supervisors with this community clean-up effort.

The Township will be arranging for several dumpsters; the purpose of which will be for the easy disposal of your unwanted items including but not limited to furniture, appliances, (NO ELECTRONIC WASTE) unmounted car and truck tires – 2 per household @ \$2.00 piece. In addition to the disposal of junk, we will also have our dump truck available for you to dispose of your brush and tree trimmings.



ABSOLUTELY NO GARBAGE, ELECTRONIC WASTE (NO TV'S OR COMPUTERS) AND NO HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Please maintain your street trees:

Lower Alsace Township Ordinance No. 37 requires that “trees shall not be permitted to grow on any property with limbs extending over the sidewalks of the Township at a height of less than 8 feet from the surface of the said sidewalk or over the Township streets, roads or alleys at a height of less than 12 feet from the surface of such streets, roads or alleys.”

Leaves – For the residents in Pennside and Stony Creek, please be informed that the Township Fall leaf collection will begin on Tuesday, October 24th, 2017 (weather permitting) and will continue until the first significant snow fall or the first Friday in December - which ever comes first. Remember that leaves (and only leaves) should be placed in such a manner that they will not pose a traffic hazard but will enable the leaf vacuum to easily collect.

IMPORTANT It is critical that the leaf piles do not contain yard debris and or brush. Please see the instructions above for the brush collection procedures and date and Thank you for the cooperation we receive each year.



Why is Stormwater Runoff a Problem?

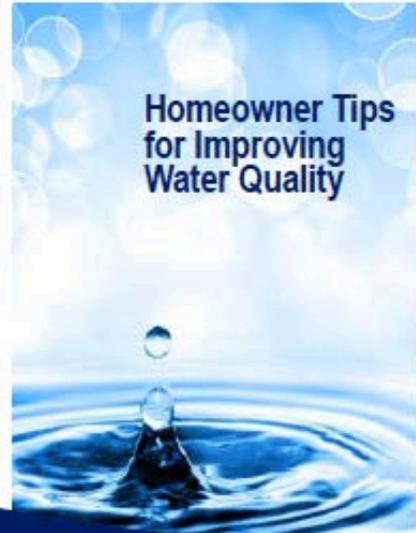
Stormwater can pick up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants and flow into a storm sewer system or directly to a lake, stream, river, wetland, or coastal water. Anything that enters a storm sewer system is discharged untreated into the waterbodies we use for swimming, fishing and providing drinking water.

Polluted stormwater runoff can have many adverse effects on plants, fish, animals and people such as:

- Sediment can cloud the water and make it difficult or impossible for aquatic plants to grow.
- Debris such as plastic bags, bottles, and cigarette butts washed into waterbodies can suffocate and disable aquatic life like ducks, fish, turtles, and birds.
- Household hazardous wastes like insecticides, pesticides, paint, solvents, used motor oil, and other auto fluids can poison aquatic life. Land animals and people can become sick from eating diseased fish and shellfish or ingesting polluted water.

What is Stormwater Runoff?

Stormwater runoff occurs when precipitation from rain or snowmelt flows over the ground. Impervious surfaces like driveways, sidewalks, and streets prevent stormwater runoff from naturally soaking into the ground.



Homeowner Tips for Improving Water Quality

Stormwater Management for the Homeowner

Learn what you can do on your property and in your community to improve the health of your watershed.

LOWER ALSACE TOWNSHIP

REDUCE POLLUTION

PROTECT DRINKING WATER

PROTECT FISH AND WILDLIFE

Lawn and Garden

Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly. Avoid applications with heavy rain in the forecast and do not apply on frozen ground. Keep fertilizer off impervious surfaces like driveways and pavements. These chemicals can be washed into the storm water system or local streams. Use organic products.

Sweep up yard debris and compost it instead of hosing down dirty areas into the street and storm water drains. Utilize the Spring Township facilities for yard debris composting.

Do not blow grass clippings into the street which can block storm water drains. Let lawn clippings lay to fertilize the lawn or compost.

Maintain a buffer strip of unmowed natural vegetation bordering waterways to trap excess nutrients and sediment entering into those water bodies.

Install a rain barrel at the bottom of your gutter downspout to collect rainwater for watering your garden and plants.

Pet Care

Pick up your pet waste – leaving pet waste on the ground can pose a health risk from their bacteria which can come in direct contact with people or enter into the stormwater system and the local water supply.

Flush your pet waste down the toilet, so that it can be treated at the sewage treatment plant.

Vehicle Maintenance

Wash your vehicle on the lawn or unpaved surface; use low phosphate detergent; dump soapy water bucket down the toilet.

Check your vehicle for leaks and drips- these drips can be picked up in rain water and can enter stormwater drains and/or streams. Clean up any spilled fluids to avoid contamination of water.

Recycle used motor oil and other fluids at a participating service station. NEVER pour these fluids down the toilet, into stormdrains, on the ground, or into streams.

Home Improvement

Sweep up debris before it enter storm drains or waterbodies; prevent obstruction of storm drains and water contamination.

Use paints and solvents sparingly; clean up spills; recycle leftover materials. Purchase non-toxic and biodegradable products. Check the County of Berks at www.co.berks.pa.us/swa for recycling events for household products.

Plant trees and increase vegetated yard area to increase rain water infiltration into the ground for recharge.

Get Involved in Your Community

Organize a clean up – litter and other trash can clog up stormwater drains and can pollute stormwater entering streams.

Contact your township office officials to inquire about participation in activities that improve water quality of our streams, our water recreation, and the water supplies.



Skyline Drive Reconstruction



Skyline Drive Multi Modal Grant Award Granted!!

Funds totaling \$232,202 have been set aside by the Township as the 30% match required for the Multi Modal Grant application filed by Lower Alsace Township on behalf of Alsace Township and the City of Reading. The grant will assist these municipalities in reconstructing Skyline Drive and providing safer biking and hiking facilities on this scenic route. The entire \$969,000 was approved by the PA DCED in grant funds that will be used to improve and enhance the use of this historic roadway during the spring and summer of 2017. The roadway was originally constructed in 1932 as an unemployment relief project that provided jobs to 1,200 men. The original building of the “Skyline Drive wall” was funded and constructed by the Federal government under the Administration of President Franklin D.

Roosevelt and his creation of the W.P.A. The workers constructed the magnificent wall in 1939 that extends the length of Skyline Drive. The wall begins at Reading's most famous landmark, the world-famous Pagoda, and past the equally prominent landmark, the William Penn Memorial Fire Tower in Lower Alsace Township. The wall extends to McKnight's Gap Road in Alsace Township, where it curves around Oak Lane for a total of 2.55 miles.

This project will develop a clearer separation of bike, pedestrian and vehicular travel lanes to enable the safe passage of all three forms of transportation while providing greater access to those forms of transportation to one the area’s most scenic views.

Improvements to the storm water management system of the existing roadway will also help to preserve and protect the structural integrity of the historic wall as well as to the roadway itself.

Construction is planned to begin in the Spring of 2017.

**Township office located at 1200 Carsonia Avenue, Reading PA 19606
Hours 8 AM to 4 PM Monday through Friday except holidays
Phone 610-779-6400 – Fax – 610-370-0797**

Administrative Staff - Terry L. Styer, Manager/Secretary-Treasurer and Corrie Crupi, Assistant Secretary
Solicitor – Michael A. Setley, Esq. Georgeadis || Setley
Road Crew - Tyler Neiswender and Richard Bitting, Road Foreman,

Tax Collector – Patrick Duggan – 484-797-5009

Antietam Valley Municipal (Sewer) Authority - 502 Butter Lane, 610-779-0150
Mount Penn Borough Municipal Authority (Water) - 200 N. 25th Street, 610-779-4900

Building/Zoning Inspector – Terry Naugle, Great Valley Consultants – 610-375-8822
Plumbing and Property Settlement Inspector – Brian Sands, 610-374-8397
Property Maintenance Code Inspector and Fire Marshall – Rick Gerhart, Jr. 610-898-0780
Sewage Enforcement Officer - Quinn Haller, Technicon Enterprises -610-286-1622

Engineer – Joseph Rogosky, Great Valley Consultants – 610-375-8822
Planning Commission - Thomas Watcke, Matt McGough, Homer Williams, Joel Reber and Tracey Larish
Zoning Hearing Board - Michael Farrara, Charles Snyder and John Eisenhard
Board of Auditors - Barry Groebel, Linda Orth and Jean L. Dierolf

Be sure to make your voice count!
2017 Primary Election day is May 16
2017 General Election day is November 7



**For information on registration and voting
please call the Berks County Elections Department at
610-478-6490 or go to www.co.berks.pa.us/elections.**

Your polling locations in Lower Alsace Township

Precinct 01 - Lower Alsace Ambulance Bldg. 750 N. 25th Street - 25th and Harvey Streets

Precinct 02 - Lower Alsace Township Building 1200 Carsonia Avenue

Cable TV Questions????? Please call 1-800 COMCAST

Lower Alsace Township
1200 Carsonia Avenue
Reading PA 19607

Lower Alsace Township Board of Supervisors

Todd Weikel, Chairman James Oswald and Vice Chairman John Theodossiou

The dedication shown by the many volunteers who are working hard to make this community a better place to live, makes the job of Township Supervisor a much more rewarding task. To continue in that tradition we ask each of you to consider being a valuable part of the community simply by getting to know your neighbors. Polite calls to your neighbors to work out (non-emergency) problems or issues that are concerning you are often more successful than getting your government agencies involved. Taking that first step makes for a better neighbor and a better neighborhood which is a tradition that so many of our citizens have followed. We realize there are always difficult situations that will call for our intervention and we are here to provide that service. During 2017 one of our long overdue tasks will be to improve the Township House numbering system so that in the event of an emergency, when precious seconds matter, the emergency service responders will be better able to find your home. Additionally we intend to complete the Fire Services Study conducted on our behalf by the PA

Department of Community Development. When complete, the data will help all involved to assess and plan for the future financial impact of providing those vital services. Please be sure to check our web site and face book pages for additional information on current Township events and special activities planned for the residents of our community. We thank you for your continued support.

