

SEPTEMBER 1, 2016

HEIDELBERG HAPPENINGS

Special points of interest:

- Recycling the first Saturday of the month from 8-12 at the Township Building Lower Lot

- The Township Office will be closed:

September 5-Labor Day

October 6-Lebanon County Municipal Conf.

November 24-Thanksgiving

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AN INTRO TO STORMWATER EXEMPTIONS

If anyone has applied for a zoning permit in recent months, you've noticed an additional form that needs to be completed requesting something called Stormwater Exemption. What is that? Why do I need to do this? To follow is a brief explanation to try and help answer those questions.

A stormwater management plan is a designed and implemented system that keeps rain water on your own property and allows it to filter into your own ground. It may also be designed to release the rain water from your property in a way that causes no negative impact, because of your new increased impervious area, to a downstream public or private property. The Heidelberg Township Stormwater Management Ordinance allows for an addition of up to 1,000 SF of new impervious surface to be added until a stormwater management plan is required. That means if you put anything on your land that stops rain from hitting the ground below it, it is considered impervious. Think about decks, patios, driveways (paved or stone), garages, sheds, pool walkways or additions to your home....things that require a zoning permit to be issued. In previous years, the Township only tracked these items through zoning permit issuance. With federal regulations regarding stormwater looming, the Township is now tasked with proving the exemptions were granted by a qualified means. Once the proposed federal regulations regarding

stormwater filter to Heidelberg Township, stormwater exemption will no longer be available. Prior to this occurring, the Township intends to have information sessions to help you understand what this means to you and any project you would like to complete.

Here are some examples to help you understand questions you may have:

1. You build a 400 SF shed this November and receive your exemption. You then would like to expand your driveway on each side next spring which will result in an additional surface area of 500SF. You may ask for another stormwater exemption for the driveway since the two projects combined only total 900SF of new impervious surface to your property.
2. You build a 600 SF addition to your home in October and receive your exemption. You then decide you would like to put a 600SF pole barn in your back yard next summer. Because the two projects will exceed the 1,000SF limit of new impervious, the pole barn may require a stormwater management plan to be implemented.
3. You put an in-ground pool on your property and the walkway around the pool is 200 SF. You also decide to tear down a 600SF garage but build a 1,000 SF new garage in its place. Because the net gain of new impervious is only 600 SF, you could be granted the stormwater exemption.

Please understand there are other factors that contribute to these exemptions such as size of property and the amount of impervious coverage you may already have on your property. Stormwater regulations do not supersede zoning rules and all due diligence must be observed before requesting permits or exemptions.

Township staff would like to thank you for your cooperation in preparing for the regulations handed down to us from other governing bodies. Your assistance will enable us to conduct a smooth transition to the new regulations once mandated.



*School is
back in
session
August
30th.
Be aware of
children
waiting and
walking to
bus stops!*



TOWNHOUSE DEVELOPMENT IN THE TOWNSHIP

Over the past several months, building activity on North Locust Street has peaked the curiosity of many. The activity in question is a small populous of townhouses that will be known as Linda Sue Gardens.

Blue Lake Builders of Denver, PA is developing a 5 acre tract of land on North Locust Street just behind the Schaefferstown Fire Company. The development will contain a total of 38 townhouse units of various sizes and configurations. The units will primarily have 3 bedrooms and 2 ½ baths along with a finished basement, deck and one-car garage. These Town-

houses will be serviced by a Home Owners Association that will include, but not be limited to, snow removal and grass mowing service throughout the year. The units are priced starting at \$169,900 and escalate based on the size and amenities of the unit.

The Township would like to thank Blue Lake Builders for pledging \$1,000 per townhouse unit to be used in the Park & Recreation Fund. This money, generated from new building lots and subsequent improvements, will be used for future open space and recreation projects within the Township. Although

Blue Lake was not required to pay a fee based on the project timeline, they did so to assist in creating future leisure areas for Heidelberg Township residents.

Construction is currently underway on two of the buildings within the project. Many residents have inquired as to how they can find out more information about the townhouses. Interested individuals may visit the Berkshire Hathaway website at www.berkshirehathawayhs.com and search under the 17088 zip code. Individuals may also contact realtor Tammy Sites at tsites@homesale.com directly for information.



The Lebanon County Commissioners County-Wide Burn Ban is lifted as of August 27th.

NEW TROOP IN HEIDELBERG TOWNSHIP

In 2015, Heidelberg Township saw the beginning of a new organization to aid in mentoring female youth of the area. Brownie Troop 70379 was formed by Addie Bird of Heidelberg Township to provide a civic outlet for girls in second and third grade. So far, the organization has participated in camping, hiking, roller skating and many other fun events. They are looking to add assisting with the Township recycling program to their list of service projects as well! Addie says the Troop is

about having fun and learning new activities.

Brownie Troop 70379 meetings are conducted the first and second Wednesday of the month with meetings beginning at 6:30PM. The meetings are held at the ambulance building located at 250 North Locust Street, Schaefferstown. If you have any questions about the troop or would like to enroll your daughter in the program, please call Addie Bird at (717) 949-3452.



The Heidelberg Lions Club will be holding a “roving” fund raiser on November 26th. Look for them collection donations while hanging the Christmas Lights along Heidelberg Ave!

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN SURVEY RESULTS

In 2015, Heidelberg Township began the task of updating our Comprehensive Plan. The last Comprehensive Plan completed for the Township was in January 2000. With many of the goals set at that time for our Township completed, it was time to adopt new pathway.

Comprehensive planning is a process that determines community goals and development to meet the needs of the residents and within the means of the governing body. The outcome of comprehensive planning is the Comprehensive

Plan. Surveys were mailed to property owners and residents to find out what people of our community thought about current or potential policies for the Township. Of the 1, 394 surveys mailed, 495 were returned. Of those returned, it was determined that approximately 870 adults responded within those surveys. The survey answers were used to determine demographics, longevity in Township, employment, and opinions about agriculture, leisure activities, utilities and Township services.

As one might expect, the answers to the proposed questions were as diverse as the people who live in

the Township. A full results listing is now located on the Heidelberg Township website. Feel free to view the collected responses at www.heidelbergtownship.com on the Home Page under Items of Interest.

The Township Board of Supervisors would like to thank Hanover Engineering for their efforts to put together the surveys and compile the data received. Thanks are also offered to those who participated in the survey whether it was answering one question or all of them. Your answers will assist in shaping the future of Heidelberg Township.

Happy Thanksgiving to all residents of Heidelberg Township!

“I am grateful for what I am and have. My thanksgiving is perpetual.”

- Henry David Thoreau

HEIDELBERG HAPPENINGS

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Please email
htsewer@comcast.net
with any Township
news ideas
or events.



FALL EVENTS 2016

Schaefferstown Fire Company

AYCE Breakfast

Beginning September 17, 7:00AM

(look for more dates on the Township website)

Fire Co Open House

October 10, 6:00PM-9:00PM

Historic Schaefferstown

Harvest Festival

Alexander Schaeffer Farm, 213 S Carpenter St, Schaefferstown

September 17 10:00AM-5:00PM, September 18 11:30AM-4:30PM

Lions Club Halloween Parade

October 29 7:00PM (free registration begins at 6:00PM)