

DECEMBER 1, 2016

HEIDELBERG HAPPENINGS

HOLIDAY EVENTS IN HEIDELBERG TOWNSHIP

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:
December 9
December 26—Christmas Day Observed
January 2—New Year’s Day Observed

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Come out and support local organizations that have planned several opportunities for residents to participate in seasonal festivities. Enjoy the well-wishes of the members and support these wonderful local groups.

Heidelberg Township Lioness Santa Bazaar

Saturday, December 3rd 8AM - 1PM, St. Paul’s UCC Social Hall, 115 N. Carpenter Street

Community Advent Service

Sunday, December 4th, 7PM
Zion UMC, 1279 Heidelberg Ave.

Enjoy the sounds of the season from local church choirs and representatives.

Historic Schaefferstown Christkindlemarket & Bake Sale

Saturday, December 10th 9AM-3PM

Brendle Museum 111 N. Market Street

Free admission.

Tavern Lunch

Saturday, December 10th 10AM-2PM

Gemberling-Rex House 106 N. Market Street

Enjoy Tavern Keepers and period-dressed servers supplying traditional food and victuals of the time.

Cost is \$14.00/person
Reservations are required!
Please call 717-949-2244.

Schaefferstown Fire Company AYCE Breakfast

Saturday, December 10th 7AM-10 AM (Look for more dates on the township website!),

Fire Company Banquet Hall, 200 N. Locust Street

Adults- \$9.00, Kids- 5 to 14 \$4.00

Full Range Buffet with MTO Pancakes and Omelets!



DROUGHT WATCH FOR LEBANON COUNTY

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has declared a drought warning for Lebanon County following a meeting of the Commonwealth Drought Task Force which took place the beginning of November.

Data from the Commonwealth drought monitoring network show that dry conditions persist in the middle of the state and a lack of precipitation in the eastern part of the state has resulted in extremely low stream flow and groundwater levels, particularly in the Lehigh Valley and surrounding areas in the Delaware River Basin. Citizens are encouraged to reduce their non-essential water use by 5 percent.

Through a cooperative program

with the U.S. Geological Survey, DEP helps fund a statewide network of gauges to monitor groundwater levels and stream flows. This network provides the state’s drought coordinator with data that is used to determine drought classifications. In addition to precipitation, groundwater and stream flow levels, DEP monitors soil moisture and water supply storage.

DEP encourages all citizens to take steps to reduce their water use:

- Run water only when necessary. Avoid running the faucet while brushing your teeth or shaving, or letting the shower run for several minutes before use.
- Check for household leaks. A leaking toilet can waste up to 200

gallons of water each day.

- Run dishwashers and washing machines only with full loads.
- Replace older appliances with high-efficiency, front-loading models that use about 30 percent less water and 40 to 50 percent less energy.
- Install low-flow plumbing fixtures and aerators on faucets.

DEP also offers other water conservation recommendations and water audit procedures for commercial and industrial users, such as food processors, hotels and educational institutions. These recommendations and additional drought monitoring information are available on the [DEP Drought Information website](#).

**Christmas
Tree Drop
Off at the
township
building
stone lot
will begin
December
27th!!**



PA RESIDENTS URGED TO TEST HOMES FOR RADON

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) urges all Pennsylvanians to test their homes for radon, a deadly radioactive gas that's the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers in the United States. DEP also urged residents to take action to reduce radon levels in their homes if they are high.

"Due to our geology, radon is found everywhere in Pennsylvania. For that reason, we urge residents to test their homes to protect themselves and their family's health," said DEP Secretary John Quigley. "Winter is the best time to test your home for radon because doors and windows are typically closed and tightly sealed, producing the most accurate results."

January is Radon Action Month, and a great time to test. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sets the "action level" for radon at 4 picocuries per liter (pCi/L) of air. Residents with levels at or above that figure should take steps to lower them.

Testing for radon is the only way to know if a home, school, workplace or other structure has elevated concentrations of radon. Test kits can be purchased at most hardware or home improvement stores at an average cost of \$15 to \$25 per test. If you are uncomfortable doing the testing yourself you can hire a state-certified radon tester, or if you are selling your home and want a radon test, it is best to hire a certified tester. The cost of a mitigation system typically ranges around \$1,000.

Pennsylvania law requires all radon service providers, such as

radon testers, radon mitigators and radon laboratories to be certified by DEP. The list of Pennsylvania-certified radon service providers is updated monthly and available on DEP's website. You can also obtain a hard copy of the directory or verify a company's certification by calling 800-23RADON.

In 2014, the highest radon level ever recorded in the U.S. was found in a home in Lehigh County. The concentration measured was 3,715 pCi/L, more than 900 times EPA's action level of 4 pCi/L. DEP recommended the owners vacate their home until it could be remediated to safe levels.

"Approximately 20,000 lung cancer deaths per year are attributable to radon exposure so the threat is very real," said Secretary of Health Dr. Karen Murphy. "Radon exposure combined with smoking is a particularly lethal combination so we encourage everyone to take steps to reduce their risk."

If you are building a new home, DEP recommends installing a passive radon system during construction. If high radon levels are found when the home is completed, a fan can be readily installed. There are good reasons to install a radon system during construction:

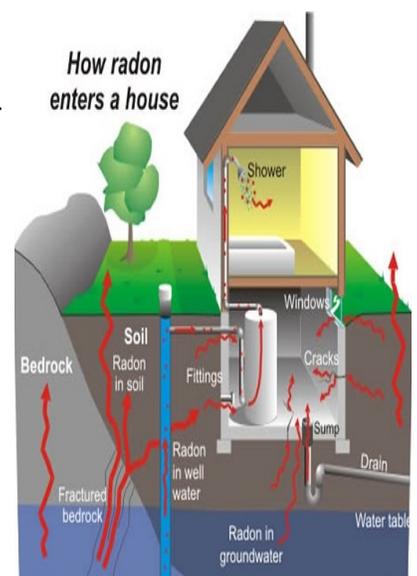
- There is no reliable way to test the ground in advance for radon.
- The average residential radon level in Pennsylvania is 7-8 picocuries per liter.
- The cost of installing the radon system during construction should be less than installing one after the fact.

Building the radon system internally should keep aesthetics of the home intact. If radon is not addressed during construction, an outside radon system may be required if the radon test comes back greater than 4 picocuries per liter.

For people buying or selling a home, Pennsylvania's Real Estate Seller Disclosure Act requires sellers to disclose the results of any known radon testing. DEP's website lists radon testing options for real estate transactions

DEP, in cooperation with Commonwealth Media Services, has produced a public service announcement about the importance of radon testing. The PSA is currently airing on Pennsylvania, television and radio stations during January. The PSA is available on [DEP's YouTube Channel](#).

For more information about radon testing and radon resistant construction, visit DEP's website at www.dep.pa.gov/radon.



RECYCLING PROGRAM UPDATE

Some updates have taken place within the recycling programs throughout the Lebanon County, including our own. To follow are some changes and reminders to continue to keep the Heidelberg Township recycling program running as well as it has been.

1. THERE IS TO BE NO DUMPING OF RECYCLING ANY TIME PRIOR TO THE FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH. Volunteers are on hand those Saturday mornings to help and direct individuals where to place their recyclables. No one should be bringing items to the dumpsters on Friday evening.

2. Please ensure that all containers are rinsed clean.

3. Any paper or cardboard goods brought for recycling may not be in plastic bags. They may be placed in paper bags only.

4. Electronics are not accepted at the Heidelberg Township recycling area. Eligible items must be taken to the Greater Lebanon Refuse Authority. Many small appliances are now considered garbage and should be thrown away with your household trash. Should you have questions about

an item, please call GLRA at (717)867-5790.

5. The following is a list of items that are NOT considered recyclable and should not be brought to the recycling area:

Ceramics, dishes, coffee cups, drinking glasses

Glass cookware/bake ware (Pyrex, Vision Ware, etc.)

Window glass, mirrors, light bulbs

Plastic bags, Styrofoam containers, packaging peanuts

Takeout containers, plastic cups, and plastic table ware

No Aluminum foil or foil plates, etc.

Containers of hazardous or toxic materials

Tissue or paper towels, books

Tyvek envelopes, carbon paper

Paper cartons for milk or juice

Wax coated boxes

Toys, household appliances, coat hangers

Food waste, garbage

Food- soiled material

Construction Debris

Scrap Metal

Heidelberg Township wishes to thank Eleanor Sweeney for her continued efforts in coordinating and participating in the recycling program in the Township. We also wish to thank Boy Scout Troop 417 for manning the recycling area the majority of the months of the year. Other volunteers that deserve thanks include the Schaefferstown Combined Youth Group, Brownie Troop 70379 and a variety of other resident who give their time to help in the Township recycling efforts. Through volunteer hard work and resident participation, Heidelberg Township household recycling amounts have continued to increase over the years. Let us all continue to use the resource wisely, follow the rules given and work together to keep the program a lasting success.



“Tomorrow is the first blank page of a 365 page book. Write a good one.”

- Brad Paisley

The Heidelberg Township Board of Supervisors and staff want to wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

HEIDELBERG HAPPENINGS

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PRESORTED STANDARD

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MEETING SCHEDULE 2017

If you wish to attend a Township meeting, please see below for the scheduled dates for 2017 meetings.

Board of Supervisors: Second and Fourth Tuesday of the Month - 7:00pm

(Reorganization and regular meeting January 3rd)

(No second meeting in November)

Board of Auditors: January 4th—7:00pm

Planning Commission: Third Monday of the Month - 7:00pm

Zoning Hearing Board: Fourth Wednesday of the Month - 7:00pm
(if necessary)

Please note that any necessary meeting date changes will be advertised in the Lebanon Daily News. Cancellations will be posted on the website and the door of the Township Building.