

Strasburg Borough News

Phone: 717-687-7732

Website: www.strasburgboro.org

Spring 2022



Welcome to Strasburg Borough's Spring 2022 newsletter! This is a digital publication that will be provided online, emailed to the email addresses we have on file, and available at the Borough Office. Please call the Borough Office at (717) 687-7732 or email cdshipman@strasburgboro.org to add, change, or delete your information from our email list.

Please help us welcome our new full-time Strasburg Police Officers!

Officer Matthew Neidinger became a full-time Strasburg Police Officer in February 2022. Officer Neidinger has been a part-time officer with our Department since 2007.

Officer Neidinger and his family have lived in Strasburg Borough since 2001.

He enjoys hunting, camping, riding his motorcycle, and spending time with family.



Officer Brandon Remington became a full-time Strasburg Police Officer in March 2022 and previously worked for Harrisburg City Police Department. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice.

Officer Remington and his wife moved to Strasburg Borough in March.

In his free time he enjoys fishing, hiking, camping, trains, golf, and spending time with family.



Volunteers Wanted!

Strasburg Borough is looking for a few good people who are interested in serving their community on various boards and committees. If interested, please complete the **Prospective Board Member Information Sheet** found on our website at <https://strasburgboro.org/boards-and-commission/vacancies-and-appointments/>

When Do I Need a Permit?



Generally speaking, a **Zoning Permit** is needed for projects including, but not limited to additions, fences, sheds, driveway widening, hot tubs and pools (including "bladder" pools).

A **Building Permit** is needed for any project that involves electric, plumbing, structural changes, or any project involving a commercial property including commercial tenant changes.

A **Historic Architectural Review Board (HARB) Permit** is needed for any changes to the exterior of a property that is visible from the street on Miller Street, East and West Main Streets, or the first two blocks of South Decatur Street.

The best answer to this question is to call the Borough Office at (717) 687-7732, explain your project, and a Borough representative will answer your questions.

BUDGET



2022 Budget

Strasburg Borough's 2022 Budget is available for review on our website at <https://strasburgboro.org/boards-and-commission/budgets/>

Strasburg Borough PD
www.strasburgpd.org

Subscribe today to receive community updates straight to your inbox!



A New Way of Thinking About Stormwater Management

Sometimes what we don't see can fool us. With stormwater, what we don't see are miles of underground storm sewer pipes, some old and crumbling, and some causing damage to structures and streets.

It is an expensive system to operate. Most municipalities have delayed making stormwater improvements because their general fund budgets cannot support projects that can cost millions of dollars. In addition, aging infrastructure often needs updated to handle heavier runoff loads from new development and more frequently occurring rainstorms as a result of a changing climate.

In most cases, communities need a combination of replacing failing pipes – sometimes referred to as “gray” infrastructure – and installing practices that infiltrate and cleanse runoff – known as “green” infrastructure. Such an approach helps communities meet new requirements to reduce pollution levels in stormwater that is discharged into local creeks and rivers. (In 2018, permitted communities faced a new requirement to reduce sediment by 10%, phosphorus by 5% and nitrogen by 3% within their 5-year permit cycle.) Those mandates begin with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and are passed through the state to local municipalities.



In built-up areas like boroughs, there are a lot of impervious surfaces – rooftops, parking lots, roads, driveways and sidewalks – that generate runoff. A one-acre parking lot results in 16 times more run-off than from a one-acre meadow. That runoff picks up pollutants and greatly increases the volume of water scouring stream banks.

To meet these new pollutant reduction requirements, municipalities adopt Pollution Reduction Plans (PRPs). PRPs identify projects where traditional stormwater practices (e.g., detention basins) and green infrastructure (e.g., rain gardens, stream restoration, pervious pavement) will be implemented to meet pollutant reduction goals. Over 1,000 communities across Pennsylvania must now address water quality as well as the amount and rate of stormwater that is discharged to streams and rivers.

Even without these mandates, stormwater systems must be operated and maintained over time. It requires local, long-term investment. But investments in green infrastructure also offer valuable local benefits: less severe flooding, greener landscapes, healthier streams, stronger recharge of local groundwater, and cleaner sources of drinking water.

Stormwater: A Utility Service

To help pay for the effective management of stormwater, Pennsylvania's Municipalities Authorities Act was amended in 2013 to allow for the creation of Stormwater Authorities and for existing sanitary sewer/water authorities to take on additional stormwater management responsibilities. The adoption of stormwater fees was authorized one year later. In short, stormwater management can now be administered as a utility, just as authorities have overseen water and wastewater matters for years.

A separate utility fee is used to help an Authority administer, operate, and maintain storm management systems. A fee schedule assesses all property owners based on the amount of a property's impervious surfaces – rooftops, parking lots, roads, driveways, and sidewalks. In built-up areas like boroughs, there are a lot of impervious areas that generate runoff.

Because of its direct connection to impervious surface area, a stormwater fee is considered the most equitable approach to raising needed revenue. Whether governmental, commercial, residential, or non-profit, a property is assessed a monthly fee. Roughly 40 municipalities across Pennsylvania have adopted stormwater fees ranging from less than \$5 to \$15 per month. Set up as a dedicated funding source, fees are used *only* for stormwater management expenses. In addition, most fee programs offer opportunities for property owners to reduce their fees by implementing stormwater management practices on their own properties that reduce runoff or improve water quality.

More information will be available as we move through this process. The Borough will hold a town hall type meeting that will be scheduled in May 2022. The Borough's plan is to create working groups based on our anticipation of projects throughout the community.

The Center for Water Quality Excellence (CWQE) provides guidance on leveraging available grants and loans, helping local governments select cost-effective stormwater practices, and sharing information on creative financial strategies and local partnerships. The Center is funded by the Pennsylvania Investment Infrastructure Authority (PENNVEST) and administered by Land Logics Group, a geospatial and environmental consulting firm.

Ordinance Reminders

Residents are reminded of the following Borough Ordinances which are enforced by the Police Department. Questions regarding these ordinances should be directed to the Police Department by calling (717) 687-7128 (complete copies of these ordinances are available on the Borough's website at <https://strasburgboro.org/documents/ordinances/>)

Grass & weeds are here again!



Please remember to keep your property properly mowed and maintained over the next few months to avoid receiving an unwanted violation notice!

Grass and weeds are not permitted to exceed six (6) inches in height, bushes should not block sidewalks, and you should not blow grass into the street. If you need assistance with your yard, consider reaching out to a neighbor or one of the many lawn care companies in the area.



Street Storage & Dumpsters - Any street storage or dumpster placement on the street requires a permit. Examples of street storage include trailers not connected to a vehicle, and mulch piles.



Burning - Outdoor burning, including all types of waste, trash, and rubbish, is prohibited in Strasburg Borough, with limited exception. Cooking of food on a grill or food smoker is allowed; for other burning, check with the Police Department to see if a permit is needed.



Control and Maintenance of Animals (Dog Barking) - Dogs barking for more than 10 minutes continuously or 30 minutes intermittently are considered to be in violation. The complainant cannot, by Ordinance, be anonymous and an officer must witness the dog barking. The Ordinance requires a written notice/warning of the violation before prosecution may commence. Violations of this Ordinance are punishable by a fine up to \$600.



Fireworks - Despite recent changes in Pennsylvania law, very few fireworks are Strasburg-legal. As a general rule, any firework display that leaves the ground needs to be licensed or is considered to be illegal. Please see the Borough website for our full Ordinance.



Curfew - Parents are reminded that persons under the age of 18 are restricted by a curfew Sunday through Thursday 10:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. and Friday and Saturday from midnight to 5:00 a.m. During these hours, juveniles must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. The ordinance makes the *parent* responsible for this misconduct.

Garage & Yard Sales

Summer is here, and so are garage and yard sales. While garage and yard sales are permitted in any zoning district in the Borough, there are some rules:



1. No garage/yard sale shall be conducted for a period longer than two consecutive days, **and only two garage/yard sales are permitted per property each year.**
2. Garage/yard sales may offer personal possessions for sale; no import or stocking of inventory is permitted.
3. No garage/yard sale is permitted to be conducted within the street right-of-way.

Please remember to remove any garage/yard sale signs IMMEDIATELY at the end of your sale!

When it Rains, it Drains

What is stormwater? Stormwater is water from precipitation that flows across the ground and pavement when it rains, or when snow and ice melt. The water seeps into the ground or drains into what we call storm sewers. These are the drains you see at street corners or low points on the sides of the streets. Collectively, the draining water is called stormwater runoff.

Stormwater becomes a problem when it picks up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants as it flows, or when it causes flooding and erosion of stream banks. All of the pollutants stormwater carries along the way empty into our waters too, because stormwater does not get treated.

Strasburg Borough prevents stormwater pollution through a stormwater management program but we NEED YOUR HELP to protect this vital resource by doing the following:

- **Plant trees and other vegetation because they intercept rainfall and help reduce runoff.**

- **Keep leaves and sticks out of storm inlets before and during rain events.**

- **Don't dump or blow grass or leaves in the street, swales or streams because they travel straight into local streams where they kill aquatic life and disrupt the ecosystem.**

- **Don't dump chemicals down your drain, in your yard, or in storm inlets.**

- Use pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers carefully and only when needed.

- Get involved with a local organization that helps to take care of our streams and waterways, such as the Pequea Creek Watershed Association or the Lancaster County Clean Water Consortium.

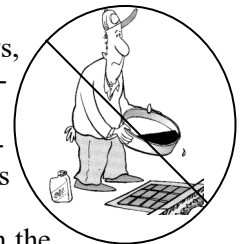
- Dispose of household hazardous waste (HHW) such as old computers, paints, batteries, fluorescent bulbs, old gas or oil at the Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority's HHW facility.

- If you wash cars at home, use a low or no phosphate biodegradable car wash soap and wash the car on the lawn.

- Contact the Strasburg Boro Shade Tree Committee to plant a street tree and/or volunteer to help plant the trees.

- Install innovative stormwater practices on residential property, such as rain barrels or rain gardens, that capture stormwater and keep it on site instead of letting it drain away into the storm sewer system.

- Pick up after pets and dispose of their waste properly. No matter where pets make a mess, in a backyard or at the park, stormwater runoff can carry pet waste from the land to the storm sewer system to a stream.






Shade Tree Committee


To keep our community beautiful, **FREE** street trees are provided and planted by the Strasburg Borough Shade Tree Committee!

For more information, visit
<https://strasburgboro.org/boards-and-commission/tree-committee/>



Water Consumer Confidence Report

The Department of Environmental Protection requires us to provide this report to our customers each year. The water quality continues to be good. The entire report can be found online at <https://strasburgboro.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/2021-CCR.pdf>



Emergency Notification System

If you haven't already signed up to receive notifications, which include emergency water system notifications as well as non-emergency reminders for street sweeping and water flushing, please sign up today on the Borough's website or call the Borough Office at (717) 687-7732. You can choose to be notified by voice message, text message, e-mail, or all three.

Community Organizations

Listed below are names and contact information for our local organizations for you to check with them directly regarding upcoming events and schedules. We encourage you to continue supporting and consider joining our local organizations - they are always looking for new members and volunteers!



Strasburg Fire Company #1

203 Franklin Street, PO Box 64, Strasburg PA 17579 Dial 911 for Emergencies
Non-emergencies (717) 687-7232
Website: www.strasburgfire.com Facebook: Strasburg Fire Company #1



Lancaster EMS Association (LEMSA)

20 Lancaster Avenue, Strasburg PA 17579 Dial 911 for Emergencies
Non-emergencies (717) 481-4841, Billing/subscription info (717) 872-4688
Website: www.lemsa.com Facebook: Lancaster EMS



Strasburg-Heisler Library

143 Precision Avenue, Strasburg PA 17579
Phone: (717) 687-8969 Email: staff@strasburglibrary.org
Website: www.strasburglibrary.org Facebook: Strasburg-Heisler Library

Lampeter Strasburg Area Woman's Club

Email: lswomansclub@gmail.com
Facebook: Lampeter-Strasburg Area Woman's Club

Lancaster County Art Association

149 Precision Avenue, Strasburg PA 17579
Phone: (717) 687-7061
Website: www.lcaaonline.org
Facebook: Lancaster County Art Association

Scout House Association

109-A South Jackson Street, Strasburg PA 17579
Contact Bruce Ryder (717) 687-8984

Strasburg Area Sertoma Club

Contact Lynda Houck (717) 687-6408 or
email: houckl@att.net



Strasburg Heritage Society

P.O. Box 81, Strasburg, PA 17579
Phone: (717) 687-3534
Email: strasburgheritagesociety@gmail.com
Website: strasburgheritagesociety.org
Facebook: Strasburg Heritage Society



Strasburg Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.)

9A East Main Street, Strasburg PA 17579
Contact Jim Rice (717) 687-0819 or Noble Grand
Brian Barr (717) 687-8970



Strasburg Lions Club

P.O. Box 281, Strasburg PA 17579
Website: www.lionsclubs.org
Contact Jim Rice (717) 575-7462 or
jim@strasburgrailroad.com
Facebook: Strasburg Lions Club



Strasburg Scouts

Boy Scouts, Troop 56 (ages 11-18)
Contact Bob Holmberg (717) 687-4213

Strasburg Sportsmen's Association

316 Weaver Road, Strasburg PA 17579
Phone: (717) 687-6921
Facebook: Strasburg Sportsman Association

Strasburg Senior Citizens Club (for our age 50+ friends)

Open to Strasburg and surrounding area community members. Contact Bill Geier (717) 687-9072

FREE Disposal of Household Hazardous Waste

Lancaster County residents may drop off household hazardous waste materials for **FREE** at LCSWMA's drive-through HHW Facility at 1299 Harrisburg Pike in Lancaster. For more information on the hours and what can be disposed, please visit their website at www.lcswma.org or call (717) 397-9968.



Local Legislators



Senator Scott Martin - 13th Senatorial District

We are happy to announce that Senator Martin now has an office at 135 East Main Street, Suite 1-A here in Strasburg! His office can also be reached by Phone: (717) 397-1309
Email: smartin@pasen.gov, or Website: www.SenatorScottMartinPA.com
Facebook: [SenatorScottMartinPA](https://www.facebook.com/SenatorScottMartinPA), Twitter: [@SenatorMartinPA](https://twitter.com/SenatorMartinPA)

Representative Keith J. Greiner - 43rd Legislative District

Rep. Greiner is Strasburg Borough's Representative through 11/30/22
(Starting 12/1/22 Strasburg Borough will be represented by the 100th Legislative District)

Lampeter physical address: 852 Village Rd, Lancaster PA 17602, Phone: (717) 464-5285
Email: kgreiner@pahousegop.com website: www.RepGreiner.com, Facebook: [RepGreiner](https://www.facebook.com/RepGreiner)



Parks and Recreation

Strasburg Community Parks Foundation

The park is located at 151 Precision Avenue, Strasburg

Website: www.strasburgpark.org, Facebook: [Strasburg Community Park](https://www.facebook.com/StrasburgCommunityPark)

Rentals: Lynda Houck (717) 687-6408 or email StrasburgCommunityPark@gmail.com

Memorials, educational programs, and volunteer opportunities: Barbara Rathbone-Frank (717) 572-6830

Strasburg Jaycee Park

The park is located at 218B Miller Street, Strasburg.

Pavilion and barn can be rented through the park's website at www.strasburgjayceepark.com

Strasburg Senior Softball Squad (60+)

Contact Dave Zerbe at dzerbe@comcast.net



Strasburg Swimming and Recreation Association

Website: www.strasburgpool.com, Phone: (717) 687-9180

Email: Strasburg.Pool@gmail.com, Facebook: [Strasburg Pool](https://www.facebook.com/StrasburgPool)

Tinney Pavilion

The pavilion, located at 133 Funk Street, is available for rent from May to September and can be rented by calling the Borough Office at (717) 687-7732.



YMCA Lampeter-Strasburg

800 Village Road, Lancaster PA 17602, Phone: (717) 464-4000

Website: www.rosesymca.org



Financial Assistance Resources

Strasburg Restoration & Preservation, Inc. (SRPI) Exterior Home Repair Program

All residences and commercial properties in the Borough built before World War II are eligible for a 1.5% simple interest loan for a 7-year, \$7,500 maximum loan and all work must be completed within 12 months. Informational brochures may be obtained from the Borough Office or by calling Tony D'Alessandro at (717) 672-1887.

Lancaster County Housing Redevelopment Authority Home Repair Program



The Lancaster County Redevelopment Authority offers 0% interest loans to low to moderate income homeowners who reside in Lancaster County outside the Lancaster City limits. **Loans are for addressing hazardous situations within the home. Loans are not for cosmetic work.** Applicants can receive up to \$24,999 in home repairs made by a qualified contractor. A lien is placed on the homeowner's property and no monthly payments are required. Loans are not due until the home is sold, the deed is transferred, or if the home is no longer the owner's primary residence. Interested homeowners may call the Redevelopment Authority of the County of Lancaster at (717) 394-0793, extension 3 or on their website at www.lchra.com.

Homeowner Assistance Program

Lancaster County Redevelopment Authority's Homeowner Assistance Program assists Borough homeowners with mandated installation, replacement, or repair of sidewalks, and sewer laterals and waterlines. In order to qualify for financial assistance homeowners must meet income and other eligibility criteria. Financial assistance is provided in the form of a grant which covers up to 50% of the project cost, with a maximum of \$3,500. Contact the Redevelopment Authority at (717) 394-0793 for more information.



Food Bank

The Food Bank at First Presbyterian Strasburg is open to families and individuals who have insufficient resources to meet their nutritional needs, with particular emphasis on persons in Southeastern Lancaster County. For more information call 717-687-6030.

Outdated Medications

The Strasburg Borough Police Department is part of a program sponsored by the Lancaster County District Attorney's Office to help residents get rid of expired or unwanted medications in a safe and secure manner. Please condense the contents of unwanted medication bottles into unmarked Ziplock style baggies or plastic containers with no personal information on them.



Bring your unwanted items to the Strasburg Borough Office, 145 Precision Avenue, Strasburg, Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. If a police officer is in station when you visit, they will take medicines from you, or you may leave them with the front office staff for proper disposal.

Pennsylvania One-Call System CALL BEFORE YOU DIG! 1-800-242-1776

Please remember, any time you are going to dig, you should call the Pennsylvania One-Call System to make sure there are no underground wires. If you do not call and you damage a line, the underground utilities can impose a fine.



Borough of Strasburg

145 Precision Avenue
Strasburg, PA 17579

Phone: (717) 687-7732

Regular Office Hours: Monday-Friday 7:30 am - 4:00 pm

Strasburg Borough on the web - www.strasburgboro.org

Don't forget to check the Borough's website for items such as agendas, approved minutes, permit applications and meeting schedules. Residents are encouraged to attend meetings!

Thank you to the following volunteers who serve on our Boards and Committees:

Strasburg Borough Council Members



Michael Chiodo, President (2025)
Ray Garraffa, Vice President (2023)
James F. Rice, Pro Tem (2023)
Robert Bennethum (2025)

Dave Carson (2025)
David Felpel (2025)
H. Dale Spaulding (2023)
Bruce L. Ryder, Mayor (2025)



Council meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Strasburg Borough Planning Commission Members

Ken Johnson, Chair Mary Dresser
Bob Marshall, Vice Chair David Felpel
Murl Clark

Planning Commission meets the first
Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Strasburg Borough Authority Members

Ken Johnson, Chair John Mroz
Ray Garraffa, Vice Chair Michael Wolgemuth
Ray Reeder, Treasurer

Borough Authority meets the third Thursday of
each month at 8:00 a.m.

Strasburg Borough Zoning Hearing Board Members

Keith Kauffman, Chair
Maureen Wagner, Vice Chair
David Esh
Beth Gunnion
Robert Ham
John Mroz, Alternate

Zoning Hearing Board meets the third
Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Strasburg Borough Historical Architectural Review Board Members

Chris Lainhoff, Chair Lori Troiano
Len Ferber, Vice Chair Steve VanOrmer
H. Dale Kaufman Ryan Weaver
Tom Lainhoff

Historical Architectural Review Board meets the
first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Strasburg Borough Civil Service Commission Members

H. Dale Spaulding, Chair
J.R. Johnson, Vice Chair
John Imhof

Strasburg Borough Tree Committee Members

Brad Botchlet, Chair H. Dale Kaufman
Gil Pratt, Vice Chair Curt Reynolds
Mary Dresser

Tree Committee meets the third Thursday of each
month at 7:30 p.m.