

RALPHO TOWNSHIP

206 S. Market St., Suite 1 - Elysburg, PA 17824

Phone: 570-672-9236 - Fax: 570-672-1963

ralphotownship.org



Vanessa Major - Tax Collector

Phone: 570-486-5176

Email: ralphotaxcollector@outlook.com

Mail your payments to:

PO Box 4, Elysburg, PA 17824

Office Hours In Township Building:

Thursday 3:30 to 5:30

(During Discount Period Only)



Playground Pavilions



The pavilions in the playground behind the municipal building are for public use.

They cannot be reserved. They are on a first come/first serve basis.

Board of Supervisors

Chairman

Blaine Madara Jr.

Vice Chairman

Vince Daubert

Supervisors

Stephen Major

Daniel Williams

Blaine Madara Sr.

Secretary/Treasurer

Debra Olson

dolson@ralphotownship.org

Manager

Joseph Springer

jspringer@ralphotownship.org

Address:

206 S. Market St., Suite 1

Elysburg, PA 17824

Website: ralphotownship.org

Office Hours:

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri

8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Wednesday by phone

Roadmaster:

Damion Beagle

570-672-2040

roadmaster@ralphotownship.org

Code/Zoning Officer:

Mark Lyash

570-672-3844/570-898-0187

codeoffice@ralphotownship.org

Meeting Schedules

All meetings are open to the public and held at the Township Building

Board of Supervisors

2nd Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

Planning Commission

1st Tuesday at 6:30



RECYCLING

Acceptable items are:

Aluminum cans, bi-metal, plastics #1 and #2, newspaper/office paper, cardboard; and clear, green and blue glass.

Hours:

Tuesday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Thursday 12 noon to 6 p.m.
Saturday 8 to 11 a.m.



Please be a mindful recycler. Placing items in the wrong container or leaving garbage in the recycling can cause the program to fail. Recycling area is under continuous camera surveillance.



Bryce Turner, Boy Scout Troop #247, presented the Township with a box for the Township Residents to deposit their retired flags into as his Eagle Scout Project. The troop will dispose of the flags appropriately. The box is in the lobby of the Municipal Building by the Police Station.

Scout Dylan Kranzel completed his Eagle Scout project requirement by building and donating a Ga-Ga Ball Pit to the Township. It is located in the municipal playground.



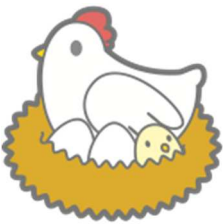


STORMWATER: What Is It?

In Pennsylvania, we get an average of 41 inches of precipitation each year. When it rains or the snow melts, where does the water go? In more natural areas, water is quickly able to infiltrate into the ground. A forested area allows for about 18 inches per hour of infiltration, where an average lawn allows for about 2 inches per hour. Impervious surfaces like pavement and rooftops, offer no infiltration at all. All of the water that doesn't infiltrate flows over the ground, over roofs and through gutters on buildings, into storm drains, and into the nearest waterway-our lakes, rivers and streams. This is stormwater.

Stormwater can be the water running out of the gutters on your home or garage and down your driveway. If a home has 2,000 square feet of impervious surfaces, that is equal to 1,246 gallons of stormwater runoff that need to be managed during a typical rainstorm. That's a lot of water that needs somewhere to go! Stormwater can also be the water rushing across a farm field, over a highway, through a parking lot or through a construction site. It's important to be aware of stormwater; where it comes from, and where it goes because it impacts water quality in your local water shed. Flooding, pollutants, erosion and property damage can all result from uncontrolled stormwater runoff.

There are local ordinances and regulations (Chapter 26 Code of Ordinances) for the control of stormwater runoff in Ralpho Township. These ordinances determine the best ways to manage stormwater for the benefit of local residents and businesses, as well as for the overall health of the watershed. Homeowners, businesses and industries can all work together with the Township to help manage stormwater and its potential impacts. Understanding stormwater is the first step to making good choices and being a good neighbor in your watershed.



Please remember that keeping of chickens or other fowl is not permitted in the Township unless the property is in the Agricultural/Forest Zone.

WEEDS AND GRASS

Weeds and grass must be maintained below 8 inches at all times. While mowing your lawn, no grass clippings or garden waste shall be deposited on any public property, sidewalk or street. This is a violation of our ordinance and is hazardous to motorcycle drivers, it is like driving on ice. In addition, the grass will flow into the storm drains when it rains and creates clogging of drains.



DOG LEASH/FECAL MATTER

All dogs must be restrained on any street or sidewalk.

All fecal matter deposited by dogs must be cleaned up immediately.

IS A PERMIT REQUIRED??

A lot of things you do around your home may or may not require a permit. Before any work is started, please check with the township office to see if a permit is required.

In most cases a permit is required for, but not limited to pools, additions, decks, sheds, fences, pools, renovations, signs, driveway paving, concrete work, roofing, electrical and plumbing work. Please call 570-672-3844.

Pool Permit Requirements



As warm weather approaches and we begin to consider summer back yard projects, please be reminded that the Uniform Construction Code states any/all prefabricated swimming pools greater than 24 inches in height require a building permit to be issued and the Township requires a zoning permit. These requirements are for all swimming pools whether they are purchased from a big box store or installed by a pool contractor. To obtain the zoning permit please call Zoning Office 570-672-3844 and then the code officer will direct you how to obtain your building permit.



Motor Vehicle Registration

The Ralpho Township Code of Ordinances, Chapter 10, Section 102, requires that all motor vehicles, including trailers, **MUST BE** properly registered and inspected. This includes all vehicles maintained on private grounds.

If you would like this newsletter
emailed to you in the future, please
email your request to:
dolson@ralphotownship.org

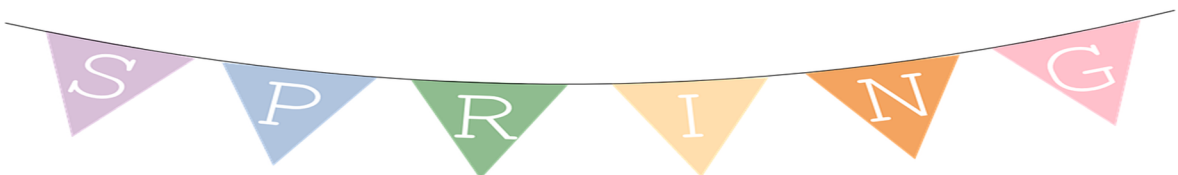


CHILD SAFETY TIPS



The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children has great resources to help parents talk to their children including the following 10 things they can do to help keep children safe this summer:

1. Make sure children know their full names, address, telephone numbers and how to use the telephone.
2. Be sure children know what to do in case of an emergency and how to reach you using cell phone or pager number. Children should have a neighbor or trusted adult they may call if they're scared or there's an emergency.
3. Review the rules with your children about whose homes they may visit and discuss the boundaries of where they may and may not go in the neighborhood.
4. Make sure children know to stay away from pools, creeks, or any body of water without adult supervision.
5. Caution children to keep the door locked and not to open the door or talk to anyone who comes to the door when they are home alone.
6. Don't drop your children off at malls, movies, video arcades or parks as these are not safe places for children to be alone. Make sure a responsible adult is supervising younger children anytime they are outside or away from home.
7. Teach your children in whose vehicle they may ride. Children should be cautioned to never approach any vehicle, occupied or not, unless accompanied by a parent or other trusted adult.
8. Be sure your children know their curfew and check in with you if they are going to be late. If children are playing outside after dark, make sure they wear reflective clothing and stay close to home.
9. Choose babysitters with care. Obtain references from family, friends, and neighbors. Many states now have registries for public access to check criminal history or sex-offender status. Observe the babysitter's interaction with your children, and ask your children how they feel about the babysitter.
10. Check out camp and other summer programs before enrolling your children. See if a background screening check is completed on the individuals working with the children. Make sure there will be adult supervision of your children at all times, and make sure you are made aware of all activities and field trips offered by the camp or program.



PROTECTING YOUR VEHICLE / KEEP YOUR VALUABLES SAFE

DOORS AND WINDOWS:

Lock all doors and close all windows and the sunroof every time you leave your car unattended – however briefly. Many cars get broken into in the few seconds that a car is out of the driver's sight.

DON'T LEAVE ANYTHING ON DISPLAY IN YOUR CAR:

Even an old coat on the back seat is a temptation for someone to “smash and grab.” Thieves steal first and think about value later. Thieves will smash a car window just to look inside a bag or box to see if it contains anything of value. Even if it contains nothing, you will be left with a broken window or door lock. Take all your belongings with you when you leave the car. If you can't, lock them in the trunk.

These items are all particularly attractive to car thieves:

Cell phones,
GPS receivers,
laptops and iPods (or any other type of easy to sell electronics)
Checkbooks, credit cards and debit cards
Cash (including loose change in the ashtray)
Vehicle registration documents
Private mail (especially if it has your address on it)
Wallets and purses



Don't make the mistake of thinking that because you live in a low crime area, you can leave items in your car or leave car doors unlocked.

Don't leave garage door activators in your parked car. Thieves will have easy access to your garage and sometimes your entire home if the door from the garage into your home interior is unsecured.

Municipal Authority of Ralpho Township

DID YOU KNOW it's illegal to have a sump pump, floor drain or downspout connected to the sewer system? Not only is it illegal to have these devices connected to the sewer system, it puts a tremendous strain on the operation of the sewer plant as well as increasing treatment costs to treat rain water. Presently, the Sewer Authority is under a sewer connection moratorium by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. We need to get our flows down. Please do your part and disconnect any sump pumps, floor drains or downspouts connected to the sewer system. In the coming months, the Authority will be doing door-to-door inspections to verify compliance in our overall efforts to reduce flows and their impacts.