

❖ ST. LAWRENCE BOROUGH ❖

Volume 15 Issue 3

September 2009

Warren Lubenow
Mayor
610-779-3632

Borough Council

Robert J. May
President
610-370-1236

David W. Eggert
Vice-President
610-779-6855

Mike Bennethum
610-779-9645

Joan Eshelman
610-779-7543

Ronald Ivison
610-779-7654

Jim Simmons
610-779-7612

Cary G. Whitman
610-779-0442

Borough Council
meets the second
Thursday of each
month @ 7:30 p.m.

Allison A. Leinbach
Borough Manager

Borough Office:
610-779-1430
Home:
610-779-0112

BURN BAN ORDINANCE

As a reminder to all Borough Residents in 2008 Council passed an Ordinance BANNING ALL BURNING in the Borough, except for Agricultural Maintenance (Farms Only). THIS INCLUDES BRUSH, LEAVES, TRASH, ETC. This was done for numerous reasons including the ability to apply for recycling grants from the state. The ordinance does permit the use of grills, chimineas, indoor fireplaces, wood stoves and coal stoves. The ordinance does not allow for the burning of brush, leaves, trash, etc. All brush, leaves and grass clippings may be taken to the Trout Run Recycling Center which is located off of Neversink Road. If you have any questions please contact Borough Hall.

SKUNK PROBLEMS ?

Helpful hints to remove or
significantly reduce the problem

1. Always store trash and garbage in a lidded trash can
2. Place trash or garbage for pick-up in a lidded trash can
3. Do not feed stray cats, the food draws skunks
4. If your lawn contains grubs (larvae), which skunks love, you might consider treating your lawn to control the problem

LANDLORD, RENTAL UNIT AND TENANT REGISTRATION ORDINANCE 398 ADOPTED APRIL 8, 2009

All Landlords of commercial and residential rental property are required to register themselves, their rental units and all tenants. The registrations are free of charge, forms may be obtained by contacting Borough Hall or on the Borough website: www.stlawrenceboro.com. Landlords have until October 31, 2009 to comply with the Ordinance.

Any Landlord failing to comply with the Ordinance may be subject to the penalties expressed in the Ordinance. Please contact Borough Hall with any questions.

ST LAWRENCE
BOROUGH HALL
3540 St. Lawrence Av.
Reading PA 19606

Telephone
610-779-1430

Fax
610-779-9148

Email
stlawrence.boro@verizon.net

OFFICE HOURS:

MON - THUR
8:30 A.M.
to 2:30 P.M.
&
FRI
8:30 A.M.
To 12:00 P.M.

AN ANSWERING
MACHINE IS
AVAILABLE WHEN
THE BOROUGH
HALL IS CLOSED
OR WE ARE ON
THE TELEPHONE.

PLEASE LEAVE A
MESSAGE AND
YOUR CALL WILL
BE RETURNED AS
SOON AS
POSSIBLE.

THE HALL IS
CLOSED ON ALL
LEGAL
HOLIDAYS.

**EMERGENCIES
ONLY:**

WATER
MT. PENN BMA
610-779-4900
PA-AMERICAN
WATER CO.
610-678-4545
SEWER
Kevin Conrad
610-621-2000
If no contact at
above numbers,
call
Allison Leinbach
610-779-0112

**TRASH INFORMATION
EAGLE DISPOSAL
717-355-9560
WEEKLY TRASH PICK UP ON THURSDAY
RECYCLING EVERY OTHER THURSDAY
TRASH - LIMIT OF 3 30-GALLON CONTAINERS
RECYCLING - UNLIMITED
CONTACT BOROUGH HALL WITH ANY TRASH OR
RECYCLING ISSUES**

**TRASH SCHEDULE CHANGE
THANKSGIVING WEEK
TRASH PICK UP
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28
REMEMBER TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

**CURB SIDE LEAF PICK UP
NOVEMBER 9, 16, 23, & 30 and DECEMBER 7 & 14
BAGS MAY BE PLACED AT THE CURB THE DAY BEFORE PICK UP.
PICK UPS WILL BE AFTER 4:00 PM.
ALL LEAVES MUST BE IN PAPER BAGS,
NO EXCEPTIONS!**

**BRUSH PICK UP
OCTOBER 5, NOVEMBER 9 & DECEMBER 7
FOR PICK UP, YOU MUST CALL BORO HALL
BY THE 9:30 AM OF PICK UP DAY
REMEMBER NO PLASTIC BAGS!!!**

CHRISTMAS TREE PICK UP - MON. JAN 4

BASIC PROTECTIVE MEASURES FOR INDIVIDUALS DURING A PANDEMIC

A Pandemic is a worldwide outbreak of a highly contagious, infectious disease, usually respiratory in nature, in which humans have no immunity and which cause serious illness and death. The better prepared you are, the greater your chances of survival. The following are easy steps you can take to protect yourself and your family.

BASIC PROTECTIVE MEASURES FOR INDIVIDUALS DURING A PANDEMIC

1. Avoid all crowds and public places (restaurants, malls, churches, movie theaters, sporting events, etc)
2. Avoid hand contact with people and objects in public places
3. Cough or sneeze in facial tissues and dispose of appropriately
4. Cough or sneeze in your upper sleeve, not your hand, if tissues are not available.
5. Wash hands frequently, especially after being in public places
6. When washing hands remove all rings and do so for 15 seconds (sing happy birthday 2x) with liquid soap or 60% + alcohol-based hand sanitizer
7. Wear protective clothing like masks and goggles.
8. Avoid touching your mouth, nose and eyes.
9. Stay at home when sick and wear a mask to protect people around you.

SUPPLIES TO KEEP ON HAND

- ◆ Windup or battery-powered (extra batteries) flashlight and radio
- ◆ Manual can opener
- ◆ N95 Masks and surgical masks
- ◆ Eye protectors or eyeglasses
- ◆ Tissues, toilet paper, paper towels, disposable diapers
- ◆ Garbage bags
- ◆ Bleach, disinfectant surface wipes
- ◆ Soap & alcohol-based hand sanitizer (60%+ alcohol)
- ◆ Cash

MEDICAL SUPPLIES TO HAVE ON HAND

Prescription drugs
Glucose monitors
Fever reducers and pain relievers
Anti-diarrheal medication
Cough and flu medication
Thermometer
Electrolyte drink (water, sugar, baking soda, salt)
Pedialyte

WATER & FOOD SUPPLIES

Water
Ready to eat canned meats, veg, fruit
High energy foods (protein or fruit bar)
Dry cereal or granola
Dried milk
Nuts & dried fruits
Peanut butter, crackers, canned juices
Baby food and pet food if appropriate

HELPFUL RESOURCES

BERKS COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT WEBSITE: www.emaberks.com

COMMONWEALTH OF PA PANDEMIC FLU WEBSITE: www.pandemicflu.state.pa.us

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL & PREVENTION PANDEMIC FLU WEBSITE: www.pandemicflu.gov or the CBC Hotline 1-800-232-4636

AMERICAN RED CROSS: 1-800-RED-CROSS (733-2767) OR 610-375-4383 OR www.redcross.org

BERKS COUNTY PANDEMIC ADVISORY COUNCIL: www.flutoolbox.com

SEWER RATES INCREASE

The Borough Council plans to pass Ordinance #401 Sewer Rate Increase 2009 at a Special Meeting on September 24, 2009. Six years ago, sewer rates increased dramatically (approximately 63%) in response to increased costs for sewer processing. Since that time, the Borough developed a review plan of the entire Sanitary Sewer collection system (the majority of which is 50 years old) in order to assess the condition and plan for repairs. The necessary repairs have been identified and a sewer rehabilitation project designed. The Borough needs to raise rates to pay for these repairs.

Below is a comparison of the old and new quarterly sewer rates as billed based on water consumption. The new rate will be \$35 for the first one thousand gallons of water consumed and \$6.35/thousand gallons for each one thousand gallons. This rate reflects a 17.8% increase.

Sewer billing for one quarter based on using 10,000 gallons of water in a quarter:

Old sewer charge:

\$30.00 (first 2,000 gallons) + 8 times \$5.90 (each additional thousand) = \$ 77.20

New sewer charge:

\$35.00 (first 1,000 gallons) + 9 times \$6.35 (each additional thousand) = \$ 92.15

This increase is less than \$5.00 per month for the household.

BOROUGH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY

8:30 AM TO 2:30 PM

&

FRIDAYS

8:30 AM TO 12:00 PM

LIMITED OFFICE HOURS

Dec 24 & Dec 31: 8:30 AM - 12 PM

**THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
ON ALL LEGAL HOLIDAYS**

Oct 12 - Columbus Day

Nov 3 & 11 - Election/Veterans Day

Nov 26 & 27 - Thanksgiving

Dec 25 & Jan 1 - Christmas/New Years

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

***If you see any street lights that are out please call Borough Hall with the Pole Number.**

If you don't report it, it won't be fixed.

***Old eyeglasses may be dropped off at Borough Hall for recycling by the Antietam Valley Lion's Club**

***Toner and ink jet cartridges may be dropped at Boro Hall for Recycling by Schwarzwald UCC Pre-School.**

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW)

Household Hazardous Wastes (HHW) are those wastes produced in our households that are hazardous in nature, but are not regulated as hazardous waste, under federal and state laws. Each person in Pennsylvania produces an average of four pound of HHW each year or about 25,000 tons/yr. statewide. Included are such items as old paints, paint related products, pesticides, pool chemicals, drain cleaners, degreasers and many car care products. Such consumer waste products, if carelessly managed can, and frequently do, create environmental and public health hazards.

~ Courtesy of PA Department of Environmental Protection

RECYCLE YOUR HHW

OCTOBER 3 8AM - 2PM

Hazardous Waste Collection—First Energy Stadium RT 61—Rain or Shine
Oil paints, turpentine, wood preservatives, weed killers, pesticides, asphalt and driveway sealants, pool chemicals, herbicides & fungicides, antifreeze, gasoline, transmission oil, motor oil, disinfectants, photographic chemicals, lithium & NiCad batteries

OCTOBER 16 & 17 8 AM - 2 PM

Electronic Recycling—First Energy Stadium RT 61—Rain or Shine
Computers, monitors, laptops, radios, stereos, televisions, VCRs, fax machines, copiers, telephones, answering machines, mobile phones, microwaves, fluorescent bulbs, Freon containing items. There is a fee of \$1 for all electronic items except TVs, which are \$18. There is a 75 cents per pound charge for batteries. Freon containing items are free of charge.

OCTOBER 24 10 AM - 2 PM

Pharmaceutical Collection - Giant Food Stores - Exeter or Spring Township
Unwanted and expired medications only. No sharps, syringes, needles, thermometers, bandages, gauze pads, sun block, lipstick, deodorant, skin creams or similar products

OCTOBER 31 8 AM - 2 PM

Tire Recycling—First Energy Stadium RT 61—Rain or Shine.
All tires must be free of mud and debris. Standard tires \$2 each and standard tires with rims \$3 each. Cash or checks only. Checks to be made payable to BCSWA

SUSAN D. EGGERT, TAX COLLECTOR
610-779-1430

OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY—THURSDAY
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
SUSAN D. EGGERT, TAX COLLECTOR

TAX PAYMENTS MAY BE MAILED TO:
SUSAN D. EGGERT
ST. LAWRENCE BOROUGH HALL
3540 ST. LAWRENCE AVE.
READING PA 19606-2372
OR DROP IN THE LOCKED MAIL BOX AT BOROUGH HALL

COUNTY/BOROUGH TAXES

PAID AFTER JUNE	⇒ FLAT RATE & INTEREST & PENALTIES
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SCHOOL TAXES

PAID AFTER END OF OCT	⇒ FLAT RATE & INTEREST & PENALTIES
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School District and Per Capita taxes are mailed directly to the homeowner and not the mortgage company. Please forward the school district tax ASAP!!

New Web Tool Allows Pennsylvanians to Check Status of Property Tax/Rent Rebates

Eligible older adults and residents with disabilities can now check the status of Property Tax/Rent Rebate applications online at www.papropertytaxrelief.com "Our commitment to property tax relief is unwavering, and this new Web tool enhances customer service for the older adults and people with disabilities who rely on these annual checks," Governor Edward G. Rendell said, introducing the new tool in late April.

Six weeks after submitting a Property Tax/Rent Rebate application, the applicant may visit www.papropertytaxrelief.com and check the status of the rebate by entering his/her Social Security number, anticipated rebate amount and birth date. Applicants may use the Web site to confirm claim status, rebate amount and the date a rebate is expected to be mailed or direct-deposited. Rebate checks will begin being distributed to early applicants on July 1.

Through a similar automated phone service, Property Tax/Rent Rebate applicants can check rebate status by calling, toll-free, 1-888-PATAxes. The new online tool to check rebate status has the potential to reduce administrative costs for the Revenue Department. The online service is maintained at a minimal cost, while each toll-free phone call from taxpayers costs the department about 3.1 cents in phone charges, plus costs associated with staffing.

The rebate program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians age 65 and older; widows and widowers age 50 and older; and people with disabilities age 18 and older. A 2006 program expansion increased the income limit from \$15,000 to \$35,000 (which excludes half of Social Security income) for homeowners and raises the maximum standard rebate for both homeowners and renters from \$500 to \$650. The income limit for renters is \$15,000.

The program expansion also provided for supplemental property tax rebates of up to \$325 – on top of the standard rebates – to homeowners in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Scranton and to those in other parts of the state who pay more than 15 percent of income on property taxes.

Property Tax/Rent Rebate claim forms (PA-1000) and information are available online at www.papropertytaxrelief.com and by calling 1-888-222-9190. Forms and assistance also are available at Department of Revenue district offices (listed in the government section of local telephone directories), local Area Agencies on Aging, senior centers and state legislators' offices.

RECYCLING REMINDERS

RECYCLING NOW SINGLE STREAM
YOU DO NOT NEED TO SORT
ITEMS, JUST PLACE INTO
ANY CONTAINER AS LONG AS IT IS
INDELIBLY MARKED

RECYCLE or RECYCLING

[Maximum Weight of Filled Container 40 lbs]

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE
RECYCLABLE

1. NEWSPAPERS
2. NEWSPAPER INSERTS
3. MAGAZINES
4. CATALOGS
5. FLYERS
6. THIS NEWSLETTER
7. JUNK MAIL
8. TELEPHONE BOOKS
9. ENVELOPES
10. OFFICE PAPER
11. CORRUGATED BOXES
12. CORRUGATED CARDBOARD
13. CEREAL BOXES
14. GLASS BOTTLES
15. ALUMINUM CANS
16. SODA CANS
17. CAT & DOG FOOD CANS
18. STEEL CANS
19. BI-METAL CANS
20. SODA CANS
21. BEER BOTTLES
22. MILK JUGS
23. JUICE CONTAINERS
24. PLASTIC #1 & #2 (SEE TRIANGLE ON BOTTOM OF THE CONTAINER)

PLEASE REMEMBER TO RINSE
CONTAINERS AND THROW BOTTLE
LIDS AWAY

ANY QUESTIONS:
CALL BOROUGH HALL

C-L-I-P & S-A-V-E RECYCLING SCHEDULE

2009-2010 SCHEDULE

September 24
 October 8, 22
 November 5, 19
 December 3, 17, 31
 January 14, 28
 February 11, 25
 March 11, 25
 April 8, 22
 May 6, 20
 June 3, 17
 July 1, 15, 29
 August 12, 26

If you have any problems
or questions regarding
recycling please call the
Borough office at
610-779-1430.

RECREATION NEWS



TRICK OR TREAT NIGHTS

FRI. OCT 30 & SAT. OCT 31

5:00 PM TO 9:00 PM



HALLOWEEN CURFEW

Friday October 23rd through
Saturday November 7th

9 PM - 5 AM

FOR ALL PERSONS UNDER THE AGE OF 18 NOT ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN OR OTHER RESPONSIBLE ADULT, EXCEPT THOSE GOING TO OR COMING FROM A PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR A BONAFIDE SCHOOL ACTIVITY.



**PATRIOTIC ORDER SONS OF AMERICA (POS of A)
Camp 230 - Borough of St. Lawrence**

Any male 18 years of age or older interested in becoming a member contact Bobby Rivers @ 610-779-8659. The POS of A meets on the first and fourth Tuesday of the month @ 7:30 PM on the 2nd Floor of the St. Lawrence Borough Municipal Building.

ST. LAWRENCE WOMAN'S CLUB

Any female 18 years of age or older interested in becoming a member should contact Borough Hall @ 610-779-1430. The Woman's Club meets on the 1st Thursday of the month @ 7:30 pm on the 2nd Floor of the St. Lawrence Borough Municipal Building.

**ELECTION DAY
TUESDAY NOVEMBER 3
Polls open at 7 AM and close at 8 PM.**

There is a parking lot in the back of the building with elevator access to the first floor, where voting takes place in council chambers.

Other important dates:

Application Deadline for Voter Registration - October 5
(Available at Borough Hall)

Application Deadline for Absentee Ballot - October 27

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION GO TO:
<http://www.countyofberks.com/elections/>**

This is the County's website, which links you to the PA Dept. of State's web site by clicking on **VOTES PA WEB SITE.**

By selecting Applications and Forms, you will find an absentee ballot request form, voter registration application and other election documents that you may download, fill in and submit to the County Election Board.

**ZONING OFFICER/
BOROUGH
CODES
ENFORCEMENT
OFFICER**
William C. Daniels
610-779-7364

**UCC PLUMBING/
UCC MECHANICAL
INSPECTOR**
Brian R. Sands
610-374-8397

EMERGENCIES
911

FIRE
911

POLICE
911

**CALL BEFORE
YOU DIG**
811

**PLEASE FEEL
FREE TO CALL
THE BOROUGH
HALL WITH ANY
CONCERNS OR
QUESTIONS
REGARDING
RECREATION
AND/OR THE
PLAYGROUND
PROGRAM.**

**IF YOU WOULD
LIKE TO
VOLUNTEER
AT THE
PLAYGROUND
OR FOR ANY OF
THE SPECIAL
EVENTS, PLEASE
CALL THE
BOROUGH HALL**

IMPORTANT DATES

September 23	Planning Commission Mtg—7:30 PM
September 24	Special Council Mtg—7:30 PM
September 24	Recycling
October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	Trash pick up
October 5, 19, 26 & Nov 9	Budget Mtgs—7:30 PM
October 8, 22	Recycling
October 8	Borough Council Mtg—7:30 PM
October 12	Borough Office Closed—Columbus Day
October 21	Planning Commission
October 30 & 31	Treat or Treat Nights—5:00PM—9:00PM
November 3	Election Day—Polls open at 7:00 AM
November 5, 12, 19, 28	Trash Pick up
November 5, 19	Recycling
November 11	Borough Office Closed—Veteran's Day
November 12	Borough Council Mtg—7:30 PM
November 18	Planning Commission—7:30 PM
Nov 26, 27	Borough Office Closed—Thanksgiving
December 3, 10, 17, 24, 31	Trash Pick up
December 3, 17	Recycling

Borough of St Lawrence

3540 St. Lawrence Avenue
Reading PA 19606-2372

NEWSLETTER

<p style="text-align: center;">PRESORTED STANDARD U.S. POSTAGE PAID READING, PA PERMIT No. 718</p>
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