

Greenfield Township Supervisors
11184 Rich Hill Road
North East, PA 16428

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GREENFIELD TOWNSHIP NEWS

FALL / WINTER 2023 - 2024

Supervisors - Sal Fedele 881-2316, Kevin Bartlett 725-5975, Brian Brown 882-1116
Municipal Office 725-9110 MWF 9-2 Municipal Shop 725-2044
Facebook - Greenfield Township Website - www.greenfieldtownship.info

* SNOW SEASON REMINDERS *

Do not plow snow across the road or in the road. The goal of the Township is to keep the roads safe for travel. Any snow removed from driveways must be placed on your property and must not be pushed across the road. Piles of snow along the roadside freeze and make it difficult and unsafe for the Crew. It also creates a hazard for other motorists. During early winter, push snow back far enough on your land to save space for future snow piles. Violation notices may be filed with the District Justice and fines may be imposed.

Winter Safety Tips

- Listen to weather and travel advisories
- Follow at least six car lengths behind an operating plow truck
- Turn on headlights whenever wipers are in use
- Allow for extra driving time as weather and road conditions can change quickly
- Be prepared to drive slowly and increase following distance when necessary
- Carry a phone but don't use it while driving
- Clear ice and snow from vehicles
- Carry an emergency travel kit
- Never drive impaired
- Always wear a seat belt

No Parking On The Road

In previous years, there were many vehicles parked in the roads during hunting, even though there were no vehicles parked in the game lands parking lots along those roads. Where available, please use the parking lots so that the crews can get through to cinder and plow the roads. A Township Ordinance prohibits parking on Township roads whenever there is snow on the road. This law was enacted to protect township residents, employees and township equipment. Any vehicle parked on Township roads will be towed at the owner's expense.

Plowing

The Township operates three plow trucks, which take approximately three hours to clear the roads. On weekdays, the crew is sent home after the first round of plowing if plowing will be necessary later that day. The crew is called out as needed during the evening hours and on the weekends. Although it may seem like it, the plow truck drivers do not intentionally fill driveways with snow. By clearing a path to the left of your driveway and mailbox, you create a place for the snow riding along the plow blades to drop into - instead of in your driveway! They cannot lift the plow in front of your driveway. Marking mailboxes so they are visible will help the crew avoid hitting them. Please contact the Township for mailbox installation directions if you have had problems with your mailbox in prior winters.

Office Hours & Meetings

Applications for zoning permits, driveway pipe replacements, ditch dirt release forms, pavilion rentals and dog licenses can all be handled by stopping in the office or through the mail. Please call during office hours of Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for more information. All agendas and minutes are posted on the Township website greenfieldtownship.info. The Organizational meeting of the Board of Supervisors is scheduled for Tuesday, January 2nd at 7:00 p.m. The Auditors will meet on Wednesday, January 3rd at 7:00 p.m. The 2024 meeting dates will be advertised in January. All meetings are open to the Public.



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Or check out our website!
greenfieldtownship.info

Colt Station Traffic Light

In order to activate the traffic light at Colt Station, you must stop at the "Stop Here on Red." The system is controlled by radar. If it detects a car stopped where the radar is aimed, it puts it in line to change the signal. If you go beyond the sign, it assumes you have turned right on red. The east and west Station Road lights are programmed with left turn arrows because of the limited sight distance caused by the hill approaching the signal.

The traffic light system was designed by engineers at the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT). PennDOT installed the system and then turned over ownership to the Township. The Township is responsible for the electric bill, repairs and maintenance. The system is on the Township's insurance policy. The hit and run damage caused by a personal pickup truck with a plow was repaired with insurance payments. This situation is the same throughout the commonwealth.

Road Posting

Every spring, the Township roads are posted with a 10-ton weight limit. This is done to protect the roads during the thaw cycle. All Township residents are hereby notified that the Township roads in Greenfield Township will be posted with a 10-ton weight limit, as set by a Resolution of the Board of Supervisors at one of their meetings in February, March or April of 2024. Exceptions to the posting are listed in the Ordinance (agricultural, buses, emergency). A section of Wilson Road has also been exempted in the past to accommodate deliveries to the businesses in Little Hope. During the time the roads are posted, any restricted vehicle owner will be required to post a security and obtain a permit from the Township.

Recent state legislation has made a change which allows for local deliveries. Please consider the condition of the roads when scheduling deliveries with heavy trucks. This type of traffic prolongs the thawing and firming up of the roads.

Road Surfacing

Millings were hauled in from the PennDOT reconstruction project on Route 89 and from Harborcreek Township. Traffic counts were performed on all roads in the Township in the fall of 2023. This information will be considered in deciding which roads will be surfaced. Also to be considered is the readiness of the road - if it needs drain tiles installed or pipes replaced. All surfaced roads need to be seal coated every three to five years as routine maintenance.

2023 Completed Projects

- Dougan Road, from Station Road to Prindle Road, had 2RC road material placed on it. Driving Surface Aggregate will be placed in 2024. This project will be paid for by the Dirt & Gravel Roads Program through the Erie County Conservation District.
- Three sections of Wildman Road were seal coated. They had not been sealed since 2018. Ashton Road from the North East Township Line south to Station Road was seal coated.
- The crew performed grading, ditching and mowing. Drain tile was installed in areas that are problems during the spring thaw.

Dogs Licenses

The 2024 Dog Licenses will be available the beginning of December. Licenses are required for dogs three months or older.

Vaccinations must be up to date.

Greenfield Township Volunteer Fire Company

The Fire Company is still experiencing an increase in call volumes.

The Fire Company Volunteers spend a lot of time training for and responding to emergency calls. It is much easier to attract and retain volunteers if they don't have to spend more of their time trying to raise funds to provide protection for you and your property. Fund drive mailers will be mailed soon, so please send in your fund drive donation! Donations can be made electronically.

If you are able to donate any time helping with fundraising, building maintenance or general business operations, please leave a message at the Fire Station at 725-9109 or on facebook at Greenfield Township Volunteer Fire Company.

Emergency Medical Services Authority

Creation of the Emergency Medical Services Authority is being considered by representatives of Erie County. Currently, its mission would appear to be an entity to tax (charge a fee) county wide for the purpose of paying for employees staffing "volunteer" ambulances. The issue with this is that once an authority been created, it has the capacity to become a monster that cannot be stopped, and it answers to no one. Greenfield Township Volunteer Fire Company has an excellent response history, while other areas of the County are having issues.

Greenfield Community Park

The road into the park is not maintained in the winter. The restrooms have been closed for the season. When the weather permits access, residents may still use the trail system. The park is closed after midnight. Please take all garbage with you when you leave the park, as this prevents wild animals making a habit of coming to the park looking for food. Pavilion reservations can be made by calling the office.



2024 Budget & Projects

The 2024 Budget is balanced at \$ 765,670.00. The Board of Supervisors will resolve to set the tax millage at 2.340 mills, with all mills dedicated for General Fund purposes. The tax rate has been the same since 2014.

The road projects for 2024 will focus on maintenance. General road maintenance involving ditching, grading, tiling, and adding material to the roads will be done. A Dirt & Gravel was awarded in late 2021 for the replacement of cross pipes and addition of material on a section of Dougan Road, through Erie County Conservation's Dirt & Gravel Roads Program. This project will be completed in 2024 with the placement of Driving Surface Aggregate.

Seal coating of roads will be decided in early 2024, once the amount of money available in the budget is known. During budget workshops, the section of Wildman Road from Williams to Phillippsville/New Road, and Townley Run Drive that were not sealed in 2023, the section of Rich Hill Road where the millings were placed in 2022, and the reconstruction of Tarr Road, were decided to be to be done, pending finances.

General maintenance will be performed at the park. The construction of a multi-use court for playing basketball, volleyball and pickleball will start in 2024. Grants were received from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (\$ 100,000.00) and the Orris C Hirtzel and Beatrice Dewey Hirtzel Foundation (\$ 55,000.00). Another grant has been applied for from the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority (\$25,000.00). All of these grants can be used for recreational development only - not roads. The Township provides assistance to the Greenfield Township Volunteer Fire Company throughout the year, as needed. The Township plows the area in front of the garage doors clear when there is a lot of snow. The lawn is mowed and water testing is taken care by the Township.

Likewise, the lawn maintenance at the Hornby School Museum is taken care of by the Township. The Historical Museum is operated by volunteers from Greenfield Township and surrounding areas. Loan payments will be made for the 2017 John Deere 672G Grader, purchased in 2023. This grader replaced the 1989 Dresser Grader.