



Pictured is Mike Messner, Greene Township Vice Chairman of Supervisors and Tracey Malcomb, who was presented with the Granger of the Year Award in May.

Greene Township  
262 Pittsburgh Grade Rd., PO Box 181, Hookstown, PA 15050 724.573.1111

**HOOKSTOWN VOLUNTEER  
FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**724.573.4111**

**[www.hookstownvfd.org](http://www.hookstownvfd.org)**

**JERRY TORRENCE,**

**Fire Chief**

**BRIAN HANNE,**

**Assistant Fire Chief**

**See you at the**

**Hookstown Fair!**

**August 24-28**

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**GREENE TOWNSHIP**  
PO BOX 181  
HOOKSTOWN, PA 15050

fertilizers and pesticides.

**Fertilizers:** Instead of using chemical fertilizers, give organic alternatives, such as compost and manure, a try. Compost, a “do-it-yourself” fertilizer that can be created from such things as vegetable scraps and garden clippings, contains the nutrients that help your vegetables grow. When using organic fertilizers, be sure to apply them directly to the ground before planting the vegetables to prevent runoff.

**Pesticides:** Many insects are harmless to people and play an important role in maintaining a healthy lawn or garden ecosystem. If one is posing a problem, however, identify the exact pest you have and research the non-chemical alternatives to controlling it. Pesticides should be a last resort because they could infiltrate groundwater, possibly contaminate drinking supplies, and hurt downstream ecosystems.

### The stormwater-friendly lawn

The following lawn-care steps will not only help to protect local streams and rivers but also result in cost savings for homeowners:

- **Set your mower height to 3 inches or higher.** Taller grass slows the runoff and produces a deeper and denser root system, which absorbs more water and prevents erosion. Deeper roots also reduce the need for watering during droughts and suppress weeds from growing up around them.

- **Keep grass clippings and chopped leaves on your property.** A mulch-mower is ideal for retaining and spreading clippings on your lawn. The clippings decompose quickly, provide important nutrients for your lawn, and settle to create an organic layer on the soil that encourages stormwater infiltration. Using this mulch may also reduce or eliminate the need for nitrogen fertilizers.

If mulching with your clippings is not possible, bag and store them in a compost area and then use the organic material that’s created as a fertilizer later.

- **Figure out if you really need to fertilize your lawn.** Foregoing fertilizer is ideal for the health of local waterways and ecosystems. However, if your lawn is thin or has bare spots, you may not have a choice since a dense, vegetated cover is the most stormwater-friendly lawn.

There are no one-size-fits-all guidelines when it comes to fertilizer. Homeowners’ needs vary drastically based on the soil texture and pH and nutrient levels. In fact, soil tests may reveal that your lawn is suffering from “micronutrient deficiency,” a problem that standard chemical fertilizers may not alleviate. Identifying your lawn’s needs first



will reduce unnecessary applications, create a healthier lawn faster, and reduce your long-term costs.

- **If fertilizer is needed, maximize the benefits of slow-release nitrogen and minimize the number of chemical applications.** Typically called “water insoluble nitrogen,” or WIN, on fertilizer bags, slow-release nitrogen limits nutrient runoff and exportation. This type of fertilizer should be applied to your lawn in the spring, instead of the fall, to provide a steady source of nutrients throughout the growing season.

Another tip: Homeowners should wait until the grass begins growing in March to fertilize and then stop fertilizing after October. Fertilizing during a lawn’s dormant season increases the risk that the chemicals will run off into streams or leach into your water table because the root systems are less active.

- **Do not fertilize or use pesticides within 15 to 20 feet of a stream.** Keeping this distance will help keep chemicals out of waterways. Also, if you live near a stream, consider establishing a natural riparian buffer there instead. To learn more about these buffers, visit [www.stormwaterallianceforthebay.org](http://www.stormwaterallianceforthebay.org) and click on “Structural BMPs.”

Also, when you’re done applying fertilizer, immediately sweep any granulated chemicals off hard surfaces and back onto your lawn. Your walkway, driveway, patio, or local road is often a quick route to the drainage pipes that discharge into local streams.

In the long run, little actions, such as taking a stormwater-friendly approach to your garden and lawn, will have a big impact as all of them work together to protect our water’s quality.

*Note: Information courtesy of StormwaterPA and the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay.*

**If mulching with your grass clippings is not possible, bag and store them in a compost area and then use the organic material that’s created as a fertilizer later.**



# TOWNSHIPS TODAY

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER  
BROUGHT TO YOU BY  
YOUR TOWNSHIP

## Reducing Runoff

### You Can Do Your Part by Creating Stormwater-Friendly Lawns, Gardens

When the amount of rain falling exceeds the land's ability to absorb it, the result is stormwater runoff.

Without treatment, stormwater that runs from the land into our waterways can be unhealthy for people and bad for the environment. Runoff can carry chemicals, metals, bacteria, viruses, organic compounds, and other pollutants directly into creeks, lakes, rivers, and streams. Runoff can also cause severe erosion and flooding — even during a typical Pennsylvania storm.

Clearly, then, what we do on the land impacts the quality of our water. That means everyone, not just government, plays a role in protecting this valuable resource by reducing runoff and the pollutants it carries.

This summer, homeowners can take steps to help with the effort by making sure their gardens and lawns are “stormwater-friendly.”

#### **The stormwater-friendly garden**

Home gardens can contribute considerable nutrients and other pollutants to waterways if not cared for responsibly. This mainly applies to



**Want to make your garden and lawn stormwater-friendly this summer? You can start by minimizing — even foregoing — the use of pesticides and fertilizers, which could contaminate drinking supplies and hurt downstream ecosystems.**

## **BRIAN HERRON Chairman of the Greene Township Board of Supervisors**

**Sending out a thank you** to our residents, their children and families who participated in the annual Memorial Day Parade. Our Road Crew did a fantastic job of polishing and decorating the township's trucks for the ride down Route 168. Thank you to our very own local South Side Athletic Association boys baseball teams who participated on the float by throwing candy to the spectators.

### **A Special Thank you....**

A special thanks goes out to Representative Jim Marshall for donating flags that were placed in the Millcreek Community Park and the cemetery. Your generosity is very much appreciated!

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## **MERRY 'MAGGIE' SMITH, Road Master for the Greene Township Board of Supervisors**

Our road crews worked hard this spring to clear the ash that was used during the winter months as anti-skid material. Summer months brings the mowing of municipality roads and parks and also brings road repair. You have probably seen our crews working together recently in cooperation with other local municipalities to complete major repairs of roads. Those efforts will continue throughout the summer and our crew will begin to prepare the park for the new Pavilion project.

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## **MESSAGE FROM MIKE MESSNER, Vice Chairman Of Greene Township's Board of Supervisors**

A 5k run is being planned for October to raise awareness for Lyme Disease.

Lyme disease is a potentially life-altering illness that is caused by bacteria transmitted from the bite of a tick. In 2003 there were close to 5000 reported cases in Pennsylvania alone. It is important to educate people about Lyme Disease because it is often misdiagnosed.

Watch for more information as we plan this fundraising event that will take place in Hookstown. The specific date and location have not yet been determined. Proceeds raised will benefit the International Lyme & Associated Disease Society (ILADS).



*Greene Twp Road Crew,*

*I want to personally thank you for taking such good care of the roads that I drive. It is wonderful to know that I can concentrate on taking a bus load of children to school and not have to worry about unkempt roads.*

*Every time I have had a concern (be it snow, pot holes, downed trees, loose gravel), it has been given the prompt attention it warranted.*

*I appreciate it more than I can express. Please know that this as a first hand account of a bus driver in your township.*

*You have made me feel that you care about the safety of our children as well. Keep up the great work!*

*Sincerely, Angela Kress*

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Greene Township often gets questions about recycling items that are not accepted at our dumpster or on the recycling truck. Brady's Run Recycling Center takes many of those materials such as used ink cartridges, antifreeze, automobile batteries, used motor oil, electronics like computers, monitors, tv's, vcr's and printers. Call their recycling center for more information on dates and times your items can be disposed of at 724-770-2064.

## DUMPSTER NEWS

Join us in welcoming our newest employee, Joyce Collins. She operates our dumpster on Fridays and Saturdays and has also agreed to clean the municipal office each week.

In addition to seeing a new face, we also recently implemented new rules at our dumpster location. Please know that the implementation of these new guidelines was driven by our desire to keep our residents and employees safe and free of harm. Being near the dumpster when heavy machinery is being operated can be very dangerous, not to mention the potential threats involved in actually being inside the dumpster (needles, shards of glass, metal, etc.)

## SUMMER DUMPSTER HOURS

Every Friday 3:00 p.m.— 9:00 p.m. • Every Saturday 9:00 a.m.— 3:00 p.m.

Please remember that users must reside in Greene Township, Hookstown or Georgetown Boroughs and must provide a photo ID with proof of residency.

## RECYCLING INFORMATION

Greene Township participates in a cooperative recycling project with the townships of Hanover, Raccoon and Independence. Recyclable items that can be deposited are Plastic, Glass, Steel, and Paper. The jointly owned recycling trailer is parked at the municipal buildings on rotating weekends as follows:

First Weekend • Independence    Second Weekend • Raccoon

Third Weekend •                      Fourth Weekend • Greene

The yellow and green PAPER recycle bins are located behind the dumpster for disposal of paper only.



PAPER RECYCLE BINS



RECYCLE TRUCK

# HOOKSTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

The Hookstown Volunteer Fire Department would like to thank everyone who supported us this year with our Sportsman Bash. Every year the event is growing and getting better and better and we have all of you to thank for that. We also have sent out our fund drive mailing this year and have received a lot of support from our community. Without the community support we have from our residences most of what we do would not be possible.

Look for our new Squad unit which was purchased in February and has been outfitted these past few months with lighting and equipment. This vehicle will replace our current squad. The new Squad is a 2500 Chevy Silverado with a crew cab which gives us the ability to carry more fire personnel to scenes. The bed of the pick up has been outfitted with a utility style cap to hold equipment and a bed slide to make accessing equipment easier. We will primarily use this unit as our medical response unit to better serve the needs of our community. In the near future we will be embarking on a new journey of enhancing our medical response. We currently operate as a basic life support unit. This allows us to provide basic medical care and life saving interventions until an ambulance arrives. In a few months we will enhance our medical response to an Advanced Life Support service. In doing this we will be able to provide: cardiac monitoring and interventions, advanced breathing assistance, treatment using medications, and advanced airway support. Currently we have four members who are trained in the advanced care as paramedics and physician extenders. This is a rare service to have as a volunteer fire department and we will be tracking data for UPMC.



We would like to congratulate Lt. John Moss of our department whom was awarded the **FATHERS HEART AWARD** through The Franklin Center and the Fatherhood Initiative of Beaver County and Project Star. John was nominated by his son for being an inspirational role model and maintaining a strong commitment and involvement with his family and community. John is a role model within our department. John is one who often takes younger members under his wing and “teaches them the ropes” and provides not only educational support but emotional support as well. John is always there when someone in the department has a question or needs advice. John is extremely dedicated to the department and its future. John has been a member for 12 years and currently serves as a Lieutenant, Paramedic, and a Training Officer. Without John our department would not be making the strides that we are making today.

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Brian Hanne, Assistant Fire

## NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING SPOTS AVAILABLE! YOU CAN ADVERTISE TO MORE THAN 1000 LOCAL HOMES!

Ads for this Greene Township quarterly newsletter are accepted from businesses within the South Side School District or owned by South Side residents. No ads of a political nature are accepted.

Business Card Size  
Advertising Rates:

One issue \$ 40.00

Two issues \$ 75.00

Three issues \$ 110.00

Four issues \$ 140.00

Proceeds help offset the cost of printing and postage for mailing the newsletter quarterly.

Contact us for more information . 724.573.1111

# INFORMATION CENTER

## SHIVLER ROAD SEALCOAT

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation is planning to perform sealcoat operations on SR 3029, Shivler Road, from Frankfort Rd SR 18 to McCleary Rd. They anticipate that this work will be performed mid-July through late August. Signs will be posted in advance of this operation.

## SHELL CHEMICALS BROCHURES AVAILABLE AT THE GREENE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL OFFICE.

The proposed petrochemical facility has developed brochures on safety, water quality, air quality and community impacts. Feel free to stop by.

## GREENE TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

Held at the Municipal Office at 262 Pittsburgh Grade Rd., Hookstown

Monthly Supervisors Meeting - first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm

Supervisors Workshop Meetings - last Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm

Planning Commission Meetings - third Monday of the month at 7:00 pm

Emergency Services Board of Hookstown, Georgetown and Greene Township - fourth Monday of every other month at 7:00 pm

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

AUGUST 8 SSHV Open 11:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

AUGUST 17-21 Beaver County Stockmen's Club Show and Sale  
Show Wed / Thurs 5:00 p.m. Sale Friday 6:00 p.m.

AUGUST 25-28 Hookstown Fair  
SSHV Open 11:00 a.m. —9:00 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 7 Labor Day—Municipal Office Closed

SEPTEMBER 12 Hookstown Grange Indoor/Outdoor Garage Sale  
9:00 —2:00 Contact Suann Johnson 724.573.9270  
SSHV A Walk through History 11:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

OCTOBER 3 LYME Disease Awareness 5K Run Location and Time TBD

OCTOBER 10 SSHV Fall Social 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

OCTOBER 12 Columbus Day—Municipal Offices Closed

NOVEMBER 11 Veteran's Day—Municipal Offices Closed

NOVEMBER 26 Thanksgiving Day—Municipal Office Closed

DECEMBER 5 SSHV Evening of Music 6:30 p.m. at the Shippingport Community Bldg

DECEMBER 24/25 Christmas Eve, Christmas Day—Municipal Offices Closed

## PAVILION RENTAL

The pavilion at Millcreek Community Park is available for rental by Greene Township residents. We offer beautiful park surroundings, picnic tables in a covered building, charcoal grills, restrooms, use of the ballfield and playground facilities and ample parking. Simply stop by or call the Township Office to reserve your spot. The fee is \$50, of which \$25 will be refunded after your event once we inspect for damages. The process is easy! You complete a simple half-page application, pay for the date you choose, and that's it! Call the office for more details. 724.573.1111





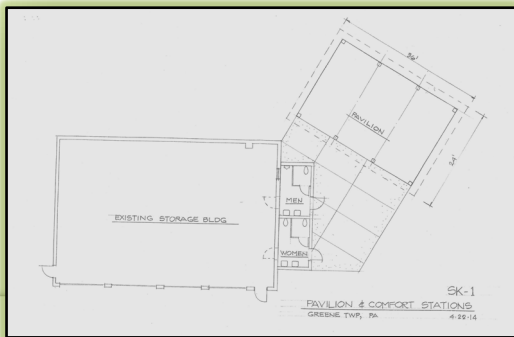
# GREENE TOWNSHIP

## EXCITING POSSIBILITIES

## For Residents!



Grants are sums of money given to an agency to address a problem or need in the community. Greene Township is currently working on four separate grants, all of which would improve areas of our community.



- **Just Transition Fund**—This \$25,000 grant was awarded to Greene Township to offset costs needed to seek funding for federal grants. Federal grant money up to \$1,000,000 is available to communities who have been affected by the closure of or impacted by coal plants. If awarded, the larger federal grant, would allow us to research ways to bring more jobs to our area.
- **Park Pavilion Grant of \$40,000 through the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources** — which will allow us to make improvements to the Millcreek Park such as replacing the outhouses with bathroom facilities and create an outdoor patio area and pavilion overlooking the ballfields. Work is scheduled to begin in September.
- **Dirt and Gravel Roads Sharon Road Project**—would allow us to address and correct issues associated with the inadequate carrying capacity of the existing storm cross pipes and culverts.
- **Dirt and Gravel Roads Long Road Project**—this \$5500 grant would allow us to replace the cross drains which have rusted out, connecting them to culvert boxes, covering them with subbase and replace the original road material with new aggregate.

*We look forward to the approval of each grant so that we can continue to provide improved roads, search for ways to increase jobs in our area and upgrade our community park for our residents.*