E-Pathways Important Information from Schwenksville Borough



## E-Pathways: Your direct source for information

## Dear Residents & Friends,

We hope this E-newsletter finds you and your family doing well. We have a few reminders and announcements for you.

Reminder – Please complete the US Census Form on-line, by telephone or through the mail. The link to information on how to complete your census is included below. This census is for anyone living in Schwenksville, regardless of where your live or legal status. It is critical that an accurate census is taken because it effects how much federal funding the Borough is eligible for and how much state allocations

## COVID-19 REOPENING PHASES

#### • LIFE-SUSTAINING BUSINESSES ONLY • RESTRICTIONS IN PLACE FOR

- PRISON + CONGREGATE CARE • SCHOOLS CLOSED
- FOR IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION
- TELEWORK MUST CONTINUE
  WHERE FEASIBLE
- BUSINESSES WITH IN-PERSON OPERATIONS MUST FOLLOW SAFETY ORDERS
- CHILD CARE OPEN WITH WORKER + BUILDING SAFETY ORDERS
- RESTRICTIONS IN PLACE FOR
  PRISON + CONGREGATE CARE
- SCHOOLS CLOSED
  FOR IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION
- ALL BUSINESSES MUST FOLLOW CDC AND PA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH GUIDELINES

#### SOCIAL

- · STAY AT HOME ORDERED
- · LARGE GATHERINGS PROHIBITED
- RESTAURANTS/BARS LIMITED TO CARRY-OUT + DELIVERY
- ONLY TRAVEL FOR LIFE-SUSTAINING PURPOSES
- STAY AT HOME RESTRICTIONS LIFTED IN FAVOR OF ACCRESSIVE MITIGATION
- · LARGE GATHERINGS PROHIBITED
- IN-PERSON RETAIL ALLOWED
  CURBSIDE/DELIVERY PREFERRED

 INDOOR RECREATION, HEALTH AND WELLNESS FACILITIES (SUCH AS GYMS, SPAS), AND ALL ENTERTAINMENT (SUCH AS CASINOS, THEATERS) REMAIN CLOSED

- RESTAURANTS/BARS LIMITED
  TO CARRY-OUT + DELIVERY
- AGGRESSIVE MITIGATION ORDERS LIFTED
   INDIVIDUALS MUST FOLLOW
- INDIVIDUALS MUST FOLLOW CDC AND PA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH GUIDELINES

such as Liquid Fuels tax funds we receive. This funding is critical to Schwenksville's efforts to keep up with road improvements, storm water management (What's below the ground!!) and community development projects. It is in the community's best interest that everyone be counted.

**Announcements** –Governor Wolf announced that Montgomery County will transition to the Commonwealth's "Yellow" alert emergency stage on June 5th along with the rest of southeastern Pennsylvania. Under the yellow designation, stay–at–home orders will be lifted and gatherings of up to 25 people will be allowed. Currently, the statewide red designation bans all gatherings or outside trips that are not related to health, safety or going to work at an essential job.

Gyms, casinos, theaters and other indoor recreational, wellness and entertainment venues will stay closed. **Restaurants and bars will still be limited to carryout or delivery.** Child care is open, although businesses must follow federal and state guidance for safety, social distancing and cleaning. This is good news.

Thank you to all of our residents and businesses who have followed Governor Wolf's directives and who are taking the Coronavirus seriously and understand how easily it can spread and how easily other people who may or may not be at higher risk can be impacted. Schwenksville's confirmed positive cases remain low and we appreciate the efforts being taken to keep it that way. We look forward to the time when we are again in the green zone and are again able to schedule events that help strengthen our sense of community. Unfortunately, this will not be for some time and we have more cancellations and changes to procedures to announce.



The Borough's population and income statistics help determine eligibility for grant funds. It is critical that all residents of Schwenksville Borough complete their census.

Schwenksville Borough applies for many grants to help us implement our capital improvement plans that include highly visible projects such as Main Street streetscaping and Meadow Park improvements as well as low visibility projects such as improvements to both what's in the ground (stormwater management infrastructure) as well as what's above ground - repairs to the road surface. The grants are a critical means of stretching our limited tax dollars to address the much needed maintenance. Please help us by completing your US Census. You can follow this link for information on how to submit your census either electronically, by phone or through the mail. Or, you can call one of these numbers:

English and Spanish Language Hours of Operation: Customer Service Representatives are available every day from 7am to 2am Eastern Time on the following phone lines:

- English: 844-330-2020
- Spanish: 844-468-202

#### **Borough Meetings**

#### Public Meetings will continue to be hosted on Zoom

Due to the size of Borough Hall and the construction at both 300 Main Street and the Public Library, all Schwenksville Borough monthly Public Meetings will be conducted via Zoom. It is not possible to practice social distancing at this time and we cannot limit attendance to 25 people. The meetings will be hosted at their regularly scheduled and advertised date and times but instead of being physical meetings they will be Zoom meetings. Meeting information will be posted on <u>www.schwenksville-pa.org</u> at least one week in advance.

<u>June Planning Commission Meeting</u> June 4th, PC Zoom Info <u>Draft Agenda</u> <u>June Borough Council Meeting</u> June 11, Borough Council Zoom Information.

#### **Meadow Park & the Perkiomen Trail**

Neither Meadow Park or the Perkiomen Trail closed during the Pandemic except for the normal rules about closing from Dusk to Dawn. Please practice social distancing and use common sense and come back later if it seems too crowded. Also, please use trash and recycling cans and report to us if they are full or over flowing at 610-287-7442. They are on a weekly schedule to be emptied but the increased use has created problems. We are adding new trash cans to help alleviate this problem.

It is unfortunate that the shared parking for the park and the trail is temporarily blocked by construction. We encourage visitors to use the boat ramp parking in the Meadow and to use on-street parking. Please be advised that the vacant former Gas Station property is private property not approved for parking of any sort and the vacant lot adjacent to the Park Entrance is private property as well. Contractors for the construction project have permission to park there.

## **Music in the Meadow Summer Concert Series is Cancelled for 2020**

Due to concerns for everyone's health, including members of the band as well as the public, we have cancelled the 2020 Summer Concert Series "Music in the Meadow". We cannot enforce attendance limits to groups of less than 25 and cannot enforce social distancing. We hope to have the bands and you back in 2021.

#### **On-line sources of Information**

Montgomery County has daily press briefings usually at 3 PM or 3:30 PM.

https://www.montcopa.org/3468/Coronavirus-Disease-2019-COVID-19

https://data-montcopa.opendata.arcgis.com/pages/covid-19

Senator Robert Mensch also is providing his constituents updates and & Info and his website provides many links and helpful information.

https://www.senatormensch.com/

Pennsylvania State Representative Marcy Toepel's office is also providing much needed information and assistance.

http://www.reptoepel.com/

### **Road Work Scheduled**

**Pleasantview Avenue, portions of Clearfield Avenue and Highland Ave** Road Reconstruction on Pleasantview Avenue, Clearfield Avenue to the Culvert and Highland Avenue between Pleasantview and Mine Hill Road will begin **June 9th, weather permitting.** All of the milling of the road surface will be completed in one day and the paving will be completed afterwards. Improvements include repairs to the below the surface stormwater management system as well as road resurfacing. Residents will be given access to their homes but are asked not park on the roadway during construction. The entire project should be completed very quickly. The contractor is responsible for placing door knockers for community notification. Should you have any questions or concerns please contact Borough Hall at 610-287-7442.

This project is an example of a project funded with federal dollars that is affected by the Census Count. Please complete your census form. It is also a prime example of how the Borough is obtaining funding to maintain both what is below the surface of the road as well as repair of the road surface. We can't afford to dig up a stormwater system for replacement and repairs unless we have the funding to repair the roadway afterwards. This is why we do projects one roadway at a time. Every year, or at least every other year, we attempt to reconstruct a local roadway. These repairs go beyond patching and pothole filling and include repairs and upgrades to the stormwater managements system "below the surface" as well as milling and restoring the road surface afterwards.

#### Centennial Street Water Line Repair Trench Restoration

The Borough Authority recently repaired a water line leak on Centennial Street. **On Tuesday, June 2nd,** the Authority will begin around 8:30 with milling the cut back and will start paving by 1030- 1100 am. Times are approximate and the work is weather sensitive. Please avoid Centennial Street most of the day.

#### **Public Nuisance Complaints**



We have received a complaint that someone is riding dirt bikes are ATV's on public roadways during early morning hours and late evening hours. It is illegal to ride these vehicles on public roadways and the State Police should be notified at the time of the occurrence. Their response will depend on what higher priority calls they have and where their patrol cars are.

We have also received complaints about pet owners who are not picking up after their pets and disposing of the pet waste properly - in their own neighborhoods and on public property. Please be a responsible pet owner and be considerate of your neighbors and the public. There are pet waste bag dispensers at the County Information Kiosk by the park entrance and the Borough installed one in Meadow Park recently. Additional waste and recycling bins are also being installed at Meadow Park.

# Want to get involved? Want make a difference in your community?

The Borough is looking to add new members to the Revitalization Task Force, the Park and Recreation Board and the Activities Committee. If you would like to get involved please submit a <u>Volunteer Application</u>, to Info@schwenksville-

pa.org.

**Revitalization Task Force** -- A committee not limited to residents that includes business owners and residents of surrounding municipalities and is tasked with updating the Revitalization Plan, helping to implement the Main Street Plan and Design Guidelines, and making recommendations for economic and community development planning and other initiatives.

**Park & Recreation Board** - A Board assembled to assist Borough Council with maintaining Meadow Park and other natural and recreation areas in the Borough. The Board also acts as an advisory board to recommend improvements for the Borough's Facilities . It involves physical labor and active volunteerism.

**Activities Committee** - A committee assembled to plan community events and activities. Currently, the primary events are Community Day, and the Summer Concert Series. However, the Borough is interested in planning and scheduling new events and activities to benefit the community and welcomes fresh ideas and volunteers willing to see their idea through from concept to implementation.

### Message from your Tax Collector

During the Pandemic State of Emergency June and July office hours

As of 4/9/2020, Schwenksville Borough Council <u>voted</u> to extend the Face Value County/Borough Tax Due Date to July 31, 2020 (from June 30) to account for current pandemic personal hardships. Payments can either be dropped off at 140 Main St. Borough Hall in the front door mail slot or taken to the counter at the Schwenksville Post Office free of charge located on Centennial St. Payments dropped in any other mail receptacle must have postage.

Free drop off at the Post Office only applies to Counter Services during normal business hours. If you require a "Paid" Receipt, please include a SASE with your payment and the complete tax bill.

June and July office hours have been set. County/Borough Tax Collection Sitting Dates: (\* Sat or Eve hours) ONLY ONE PERSON AT A TIME WILL BE ADMITTED AND EVERYONE MUST WEAR A MASK. ENTRY IS LIMITED TO THE RECEPTION AREA INSIDE THE DOOR. \* 6/25 – 5 to 7 PM \* 6/27 – 10 AM to Noon \*6/30 – Noon to 2 PM Sat 7/26 10 Am to Noon Thursday 7/30 5Pm to 7 PM Friday 7/31 – Noon to 2 PM

### New Borough Website Scheduled to Launch

The Borough hired ReviZe,Inc., a website consultant specializing in government websites, to provide a new design and updated website for the Borough. The new website will be mobile friendly, be easier to navigate, keep updated, easier for residents to sign up for Alerts and Newsletters, Pay for Permits, Registrations and Applications on-line and find information or documents they are looking for.

The project was delayed due to the Pandemic but is anticipated to be completed in early June. We are looking forward to using the new website as a tool for increased transparency and communication with residents and people

## Learn More About Stormwater Management

Stormwater Management is the responsibility of everyone. The Borough is responsible to manage its Municipal Storm System - by cleaning out the stormwater pipes, repairing them when they fail and inspecting them in accordance with the MS4 permit. The Borough is also responsible for public outreach and education. <u>Attached</u> is a document that helps explain stormwater Management and why it's important. Please help us keep our water clean and safe by preventing contamination from entering the storm system, by keeping storm drains free of obstructions and by <u>reporting concerns.</u>

Should you have questions or concerns about information contained in this e-newsletter; about projects being undertaken by Schwenksville Borough or about Borough operations please contact us at <u>info@schwenksville-pa.org</u> or call 610-287-7442. Residents are also welcomed to attend a Council Meeting on the 2nd Thursday of each Month at 7 PM --except for January of even years when the Borough conducts a reorganization meeting the first Monday or day after a Monday holiday in January.

#### **Hours of Operation**

M- Thursday 9 AM - 5PM [closed 12PM to 1PM] Friday 9AM - 2PM 140 Main Street Schwenksville, PA 19473 Phone (610) 287-7442 Fax (610)287-8098



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#### **BUSINESSES & AGENCIES**