

# O'HARA NEWSLETTER

Township of O'Hara—A Council Manager Community  
Township Office: 412-782-1400  
Spring Edition 2023  
[www.ohara.pa.us](http://www.ohara.pa.us)



## Talking Trash FAQ's

**Which can is for trash?** The black can with the green lid is your new trash container. Bag all trash placed in the can.

**Which can is for recycling?** The green can with the yellow lid is still your recycling container. **DO NOT** bag recyclables placed in the can.

**Can I get additional trash/recycling cans?** Additional cans can be ordered for a fee by calling WM at 800-451-3060.

**What is a bulk item?** Bulk items are furniture, appliances or other items too large for a container.

**When is bulk waste collected?** ONE bulk item will be collected on your trash collection day during the first full week of each month. Additional items can be collected for a fee by contacting WM at 800-451-3060.

**Did the Backdoor, Yard Waste or Household Hazardous Waste program change?** No, there have been no changes to any of these programs.

Visit the Township's website [www.ohara.pa.us](http://www.ohara.pa.us) or call WM at 800-451-3060 for more information. □

## Designation of Distinction

Township of O'Hara Council is pleased to announce that the Township has once again been named a Banner Community by the Allegheny League of Municipalities (ALOM). This indicates that O'Hara Township implements the best practices in all aspects of their operations and that it is governed in an inclusive, collaborative manner. O'Hara, along with over 45 other municipalities in Allegheny County have received this designation.

Please join us in congratulating Council and Staff on a job well done. □

## Road Improvement Program

Bids will be opened on Thursday, April 6 for the milling and resurfacing portion of the Township's 2023 annual road improvement program. The Township will once again bid with Fox Chapel Borough.

Roads scheduled for **milling and resurfacing** are:

Alpha Drive	Camberwell Drive
Orchard Drive	Ravine Street
W Marshall Drive	Whitegate Road

Alternates:

Eton Drive	Joanne Street (North)
Maurers Lane	Meadow Park
Rodgers Drive	Yorkshire Drive

During construction season, residents should keep in mind the following:

- ☺ Obey posted speed limits and keep alert for temporary barricades and equipment.
- ☺ Do not remove signs, barricades, covers or cones that are in use in construction areas.
- ☺ When driving past workers or equipment, please follow the directions of the traffic control personnel.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation. □

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## Halloween Movies



Put on your favorite Halloween costume and come out for a **HAUNTINGLY** fun Saturday evening at the movies.

Saturday, October 7

**Trick or Treat Scooby Doo (G)** - Menacing doppelgänger ghosts of the Scooby crew show up in Coolsville to threaten Halloween. With trick-or-treat on the line Shaggy, Scooby-Doo and the gang spring into action to save Halloween!

Saturday, October 21

**Hotel Transylvania-Transformania (PG)** - Drac and the pack are back! Reunite with your favorite monsters. When Van Helsing's "Monsterfication Ray," goes haywire Drac and his monster pals are all transformed into humans and Johnny becomes a monster!

Both movies will be shown at dusk at the O'Hara Township Community Park.

**Come out and have a  
"HAUNTINGLY"  
fun evening!**

## \*SPECIAL\* Date Night Movie

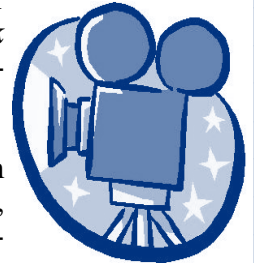
Find a sitter for the kiddos, grab a bottle of your favorite wine and come out for the "Date Night" showing of **Elvis (PG-13)** on Thursday, June 29.

This special showing will be held on the patio at the Lauri Ann West Community Center. The Café will be open and a selection of food will be available.

Registration is required for this event. Please go to [www.lauriannwestcc.org](http://www.lauriannwestcc.org) or call 412-828-8566 to register or for more information. □

## Movies in the Park

Everyone is invited to another season of **Movies in the Park** at O'Hara Township Community Park.



The free movies are held on Tuesday and start at dusk, weather permitting. If necessary, the rain date will be the following Thursday.

June 6 - **Puss in Boots - Last Wish (PG)**

June 20 - **Black Panther - Wakanda Forever (PG-13)**

\*\*\*\*\*Special THURSDAY Showing\*\*\*\*\*

July 6 - **Minions - Rise of Gru (PG)**

\*\*\*\*\*

July 18 - **Top Gun - Maverick (PG-13)**

August 1 - **Lightyear (Disney) (PG)**

August 15 - **Dungeons & Dragons (PG-13)**

### Throwback Thursday Movie - June 15

Join Indiana Jones in his search for the Ark of the Covenant in **Raiders of the Lost Ark (PG)** with Harrison Ford and Karen Allen.

### Mystery Movie - Saturday, September 9

Kermit the Frog & Fozzie Bear investigate a major jewel theft in **The Great Muppet Caper (G)**. Can you figure out "Whodunit" before they do?

**Come and Join the Fun!**

## Recreational Fire Permits



This is a reminder to all residents who like to sit around the campfire roasting marshmallows and telling ghost stories. Don't forget to get your recreational fire permit from the Township for 2023. There is no fee for this permit. The form is available at [www.ohara.pa.us](http://www.ohara.pa.us) under Documents & Forms or at the Township office. □

## WM Yard Waste Collection

The Township's trash collection contract with Waste Management provides for curbside collection of yard waste on one Wednesday each month from May - August and October and November.

The following Wednesdays are scheduled as collection days for 2023 - **May 17, June 21, July 19, August 23, October 18 and November 22.**

Residents **must** call 412-784-1784, ext 203 or email [WMYardWaste@ohara.pa.us](mailto:WMYardWaste@ohara.pa.us) at least **ten (10) days** prior to each scheduled date to request collection. Anyone who fails to notify the Township in time to be put on the list will not qualify for collection that month.

Yard waste includes leaves in biodegradable bags, garden residue, shrubbery trimmings, limbs, twigs, brush, tree trimmings and similar material, but **NOT** grass clippings. All tree trimmings and limbs must be cut in lengths less than 48" and limbs must be less than 3" in diameter. All material must be securely bundled and each bundle must weigh less than 40 lbs.

The Township continues to provide Spring and Fall Brush Collection. For information on the Fall 2023 collection, check the Summer Newsletter or our website at [www.ohara.pa.us](http://www.ohara.pa.us). □

## Restoration of O'Hara Community Park Hiking Trail



The Township of O'Hara Council is pleased to announce the receipt of two grants to restore the foot bridge over Sycamore Run Creek, part of the hiking trail at O'Hara Township Community Park.

A \$62,500 grant was received from The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and a \$117,014 grant was received from the Department of Community and Economic Development.

Plans are underway to create a better hiking experience for all! □

## Recreational Vehicles

Township Code Chapter 455, Article XIV, Section 14.6.C addresses recreational vehicles in residential areas. The Code allows for one recreational vehicle 25' or less in length to be parked in a driveway with a permit issued by the Township. The permit is valid from the Sunday before Memorial Day to the Saturday after Labor Day.

Please see Township Code Chapter 455, Article XIV, Section 14.6.C at e-code 360 (<https://ecode360.com/38032155>) for further details and conditions. The application can be found under Zoning or Building Official/Code Enforcement in Documents & Forms or by typing Recreational Vehicles in the search box at [www.ohara.pa.us](http://www.ohara.pa.us). □

## Social Media

"Like" us on Facebook or "Follow" us on Twitter at the Township of O'Hara to learn about Township news and events. □

## 2023 Trash/Recycling Holidays

Waste Management, the Township's trash and recycling contractor, observes the following **major** Holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. If one of these Holidays falls before the regular trash/recycling collection day (Thursday), collection will be one day later (Friday). Collection is not affected by any other Holiday or when the Holiday falls on a Saturday or Sunday.

Listed below are the remaining 2023 Holidays and the rescheduled collection days.

<u>Holiday</u>		<u>Collection Day</u>
Memorial Day	May 29	Friday, June 2
Independence Day	July 4	Friday, July 7
Labor Day	Sept. 4	Friday, Sept. 8
Thanksgiving	Nov. 23	Friday, Nov. 24
Christmas	Dec. 25	Friday, Dec. 29

**Thank you for your cooperation!**

## Spring Stormwater Tips

With the arrival of spring, many of us are looking forward to warmer temperatures, blooming flowers and longer days. But with the change in seasons also comes an increased risk of stormwater runoff. As snow and ice melt and spring rain arrives, it's important to take steps to manage stormwater and prevent flooding and erosion in our community.

Here are some spring stormwater management tips:

**Clean out gutters and downspouts.** Clear any debris from gutters and downspouts to ensure that rainwater can flow freely away from your home.

**Inspect your yard for erosion.** As the ground thaws and rain falls, it's important to look for any signs of erosion in your yard. If you notice any areas where soil is washing away, consider installing a rain garden or other form of erosion control to prevent further damage.

**Plant native vegetation.** Consider adding native trees, shrubs and flowers to your yard to help soak up excess water and prevent runoff.

**Limit the use of pesticides and fertilizers.** Chemicals used to fertilize lawns and gardens can be carried by rainwater into nearby streams and waterways, causing pollution. Limit the use of these products or consider using organic alternatives.

By taking these simple steps, you can help to manage stormwater and prevent flooding and erosion in our community. Remember, we all have a role to play in protecting our local waterways, and by working together, we can keep our community clean, safe, and healthy. □

## Water Deduct Meters

Summer is coming and if you are planning the installation of a swimming pool or a new irrigation system, you may want to consider installing a water deduct meter. This meter will deduct any water usage for these items from the sewer portion of your water and sewer bill. Without a deduct meter, you will be charged sewage fees on all of the water used even if it doesn't go down the sewer.

Contact your water company for more information on the installation of the deduct meter. □

## License Your Dog

In Pennsylvania all dogs three months or older must be licensed by Jan. 1 of each year. Violators can be cited with a maximum fine of \$300 per violation plus court costs.

Dog license applications are available from the Allegheny County Treasurer, John Weinstein. Please visit <https://alleghenycountytreasurer.us/dog-license/> for more information or call 412-350-4111. □

## Going Greener

The Township of O'Hara Council has undertaken initiatives to make the Township greener.

The Township is installing three new Level 2 EV car charging stations. One will be at the Municipal Building and two will be in O'Hara Township Community Park. This will make three Level 2 charging stations available for use at the park. The Township also has one Level 2 car charging station at the Lauri Ann West Community Center. A rebate from Driving PA Forward was used to pay in part for the new stations.

Soon you will see Township of O'Hara Chevrolet Bolts being driven by the Township Engineer and Building Inspector. These vehicles will replace two Ford SUV's.

The Township Municipal Building is being converted to all LED lighting through a program from Duquesne Light where we were able to obtain LED fixtures at a much-reduced rate.

With everyone doing their part we can make a difference! □

## Attention Archery Hunters

Tryouts for the deer management program in O'Hara Township, run in conjunction with Whitetail Management Associates, will be held on Sunday, May 7 starting at 9:00 a.m. at the Northside Sportsman's Association in Warrendale, PA. If interested, you *must* call the Police Department at 412-782-1403 for further information and mandatory program requirements. □



## Hometown Hero Program

The Township of O'Hara is pleased to honor our proud service personnel by facilitating the Hometown Heroes Banner Program.

This program is a banner tribute created for communities to recognize and honor current or previous residents who are serving or have served in the United States Armed Forces.

Each banner will honor a specific service person and will include their name, branch of service, medals of valor and a photo (if provided). Banners will be displayed along Township roads to honor and celebrate their dedication to our country.

O'Hara's Hometown Hero applications are processed on a "first come, first served" basis. Applications will be closed upon reaching the space limitations that the Township has available.

More information and applications are available at the Township office or on the Township's website at [www.ohara.pa.us](http://www.ohara.pa.us) under Hometown Heroes. □

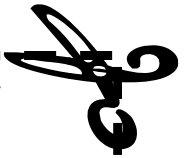
## Veterans' Real Estate Tax Exemption

Pennsylvania residents who are honorably discharged veterans with qualifying disabilities may be exempt from paying real estate taxes "on any building" that serves as the veteran's principal residence with a five-acre land limit where the building stands. Qualifying disabilities include but may not be limited to the following:

- You must be a 100% service-connected disabled veteran.
- The disability should have occurred during a *war service period*.
- The disabled veteran must also demonstrate the financial need for tax exemption.

To apply for the Veteran's Real Estate Tax exemption, contact Allegheny County Veterans' Services at 412-621-4357. For more information on this program or other Veterans' Services available to Allegheny County residents visit: <https://www.alleghenycounty.us/Veterans/index.aspx>. □

## Important Phone Numbers



### Animal Control

Hoffman Kennels..... 724-468-5505

### Community Center / Library

Lauri Ann West Community Ctr ... 412-828-8566

Cooper-Siegel Community Library 412-828-9520

### EMS/ Fire Departments (Non-Emergency)

Parkview EMS..... 412-449-1080

Parkview VFD..... 412-781-9728

Pleasant Valley VFC..... 412-781-8108

### Fox Chapel Area School District

Fox Chapel High School..... 412-963-9600

Dorseyville Middle School..... 412-767-5343

Fairview Elementary..... 412-963-9315

Hartwood Elementary..... 412-767-5396

Kerr Elementary..... 412-781-4105

O'Hara Elementary..... 412-963-0333

### Road Maintenance / Snow Removal

Allegheny County Public Works... 412-350-4636

PA Department of Transportation . 412-781-3260

### Tax Collection

Keystone Collection Group (EIT). 866-539-1100

Jordan Tax Service (Real Estate) . 412-345-7962

### Trash / Recycle Collection

Waste Management ..... 800-451-3060

WM "At Your Door" Service..... 800-449-7587

### Utilities

Comcast / Xfinity..... 800-266-2278

Verizon FIOS..... 800-837-4966

Duquesne Light - Emergency ..... 888-393-7000

Duquesne Light - Customer Svc.... 412-393-7100

Peoples' Natural Gas ..... 800-764-0111

Fox Chapel Authority (Water)..... 412-963-0212

Hampton Shaler Water Authority.. 412-486-4867

### County, State and Federal Elected Officials

Allegheny County Chief Executive

Rich Fitzgerald..... 412-350-6500

County Council

Anita Prizio - District 3 Rep ..... 412-350-6490

PA State Senator

Lindsey Williams..... 412-364-0469

PA State Representative

Mandy Steele ..... 724-826-5151

U.S. Senators

Robert P. Casey, Jr. - Senator..... 412-803-7370

John Fetterman - Senator ..... 202-224-4254

U.S. Representative

Chris Deluzio ..... 412-344-5583

Magisterial District 05-2-04

Matthew Rudzki - Magistrate ..... 412-784-8555

## Selling Your Home?



While your real estate agent and closing company will handle many of the matters related to selling your home, there are some things you can do to make the process easier.

Unpaid taxes can hold up your closing. This includes both real estate tax and earned income tax. If you are not sure if you owe taxes, contact Jordan Tax Services, Inc. at 412-345-7962 for real estate tax information and Keystone Collections Group at 866-539-1100 for earned income tax information.

Make sure all utility bills (phone, water, sewer, electricity, cable, etc.) are current.

Backflow prevention devices must be installed on all waterlines prior to final reading. Depending on where you live in the Township you should contact either Fox Chapel Authority at 412-963-0212 or Hampton Shaler Water Authority at 412-486-4867 for further details.

Township Code Chapter 358, Article V requires that a Sanitary Sewer Certificate be obtained prior to the sale or transfer of property.

A Sanitary Sewer Certificate is issued after the Township and a registered plumber perform an inspection verifying that no storm, ground or surface water is directed into the sanitary sewer system. Property owners arrange and pay for a registered plumber to attend the test. The Township witnesses, inspects and certifies the test at a cost of \$100 for residential buildings and \$200 - \$400 for commercial buildings based on square footage.

Once issued, the Certificate is valid for one year from the date of the initial inspection. It is advisable to have the test done early in the sale process, since repairs **must** be made prior to closing.

For more information on the Sanitary Sewer Certification process or to review Township Code, visit our website [www.ohara.pa.us](http://www.ohara.pa.us) or contact the Township at 412-782-1400. □

## Pennsylvania Resources Council

Pennsylvania Resources Council (PRC) is Pennsylvania's oldest grassroots environmental organization working to protect the Commonwealth's resources for future generations through environmental education, recycling, waste diversion programs, anti-litter campaigns and much more.



PRC hosts many recycling collection events including the following:

**Hard to Recycle Collection** - Pittsburgh Mills Mall from 9 am to 1 pm on Saturday, June 3.

**Household Hazardous Waste** - North Park Swimming Pool from 9 am to 1 pm on Saturday, May 6.

**Electronics Recycling** - To Be Announced at <https://prc.org/programs/collectionevents/allegHENYEWaste/>.

Pre-registration is required for all PRC recycling collection events. For more information on the items that will be collected at each event and any associated fees, or to register online please visit <https://prc.org/programs/collectionevents/>. You can also register by calling 412-488-7490 x1. □

## Real Estate Tax Rebates

On December 13, 2022 O'Hara Township Council adopted Ordinance No. 1405 establishing a real estate tax rebate program for senior citizens.

If you are age 60 or older, have lived in the Township for ten years or more, have an annual income of less than \$30,000 and your Township real estate taxes increased in 2023, you may be eligible for a real estate tax rebate. The rebate equals 25% of the increase in 2023 Township real estate taxes over 2022 Township real estate taxes.

Forms are available at the Township office or on our website [www.ohara.pa.us](http://www.ohara.pa.us) by searching for Real Estate Tax Rebate Application. For more information call the Township at 412-782-1400. □

# Community News

## **Lauri Ann West Community Center**

Summer camp registration for full day camps and half day preschool camps is now open! Space is limited so don't wait to register!

The Summer camps at the Lauri Ann West Community Center feature a mixture of sports, STEAM discovery, activities in the gym and outdoor time in the sunshine. With new adventures each day and new themes weekly, your child will never be bored!

Our top priority is the health and safety of our campers, their families, our staff and the community. We closely follow local, state and national guidelines to ensure all recommended COVID-19 safety measures are met.

**Need help or have questions?** Please call 412-828-8566 or send an email to [questions@lauriannwestcc.org](mailto:questions@lauriannwestcc.org). ☐

## **American Association of University Women**

Join the American Association of University Women (AAUW) on Tuesday, April 11 for an excursion to Lawrenceville, where you'll learn some amazing facts about trees and the benefits they bring to urban communities. Meet at the Tree Pittsburgh's Education Center located at 32 62<sup>nd</sup> Street, Lawrenceville for coffee and conversation prior to Executive Director Danielle Crumrine's presentation at 10:00 am.

Following the program, members and guests who wish to see the Heritage Nursery are invited to join Tree Pittsburgh staff members on a half-hour tour of their tree growing operation. The presentation is free and open to the public. ☐

## **Trillium Garden Club Plant Sale**



The **Trillium Garden Club** is pleased to announce its annual fundraiser plant sale **Saturday, May 6, 2023 at O'Hara Township Community Park, from 9 am to 2 pm**. On sale will be a selection of annuals, perennials, hanging baskets, unique selections, multi-plant patio pots. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Members Raffle will showcase crafted items of Members Talents.

Proceeds from the sale benefit community projects such as O'Hara Township Community Park, the Community Gardens of Blawnox / Aspinwall / Sharpsburg, Camp Guyasuta, Beechwood farms and more. ☐

## **Cooper-Siegel Community Library**

### **STORYTIME FOR CHILDREN**

Wiggle: Tuesdays - 10:30 – 11:00 am (2 and under)  
Age 2 - 5:  
Spanish & English: Mondays - 10:30 am – 11:00 am  
Chinese & English: Thursdays - 10:30 am – 11:00 am  
Ages 3 - 5:  
Preschool: Fridays 10:30 am – 11:00 am

### **TWEENS/TEENS**

Sharpsburg Tweenstastic: Thursdays 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm  
Teen After Hours: Third Friday - 6:30 – 8:30 pm

### **ADULTS**

Evening Book Club: Fourth Monday - 7:00 – 8:00 pm  
Booked for Lunch: Second Friday - 12:00 – 1:00 pm  
Cookbook Club – First Thursday - 7:00 – 8:00 pm

For more program information, to register for a program or for Library locations and hours, please visit [www.coopersiegelcommunitylibrary.org](http://www.coopersiegelcommunitylibrary.org) or call the Library at 412-828-9520. ☐

*Save the Date*

## **GARDENFEST**

Presented by

**Fox Chapel Garden Club**

*Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup>*  
*9:30 – 3:00*

*O'Hara Township*  
*Community Park*

[www.foxchapelgardenclub.org](http://www.foxchapelgardenclub.org)



TOWNSHIP OF O'HARA  
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## TOWNSHIP OF O'HARA MEETING SCHEDULE

### Township Council

Robert John Smith, At-Large, President      Cassandra R. Eccles, Ward 5, Vice President  
Richard S. Hughes, Ward 1      George H. Stewart, Ward 2  
Michael Hammill, Ward 3      Olivia T. Payne, Ward 4      John R. Denny, At-Large

Workshop meeting: First Tuesday of each month, 7:00 pm  
Regular meeting: Second Tuesday of each month, 7:00 pm

### Planning Commission

Edward M. Crates, Chairperson  
Charles F. Bleil      Richard Citrin  
Joseph M. Kelly      Giovanni Scolieri  
Jerry Nist      Joseph Zgurzynski  
Meetings: 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, 7:00 pm

### Zoning Hearing Board

Scott Duffy, Chairperson  
Karl Kline      Richard Lockwood  
Emily Glick, Alternate      Thomas Gray, Alternate  
Vacancy, Alternate  
Meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> Monday, 7:00 pm

### Parks and Recreation Commission

Mark Yon, Chairperson  
Matthew DiGirolamo      S. Joseph Jablonski  
Mary E. Lasher      Mary Lee Mahon  
Shamus Petrucelli      Michael J. Veltri  
Meetings: 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday, 7:00 pm

### Civil Service Commission

David R. Schaffner, Jr., Chairperson  
Judy Bossart      Jeffrey Reese  
Jason J. Riley      Robert R. Ward  
Meetings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, 6:00 pm

All meetings are open to the public. See our website for further details.  
All Township citizens are cordially invited to attend.