

O'HARA NEWSLETTER

Township of O'Hara—A Council Manager Community
Township Office: 412-782-1400
Spring Edition 2024
www.ohara.pa.us



New Faces and New Positions

There are two new faces on the Township of O'Hara Council. Shamus Petrucelli and Paul L. Cullen were sworn in as the At-Large members of Council at the January 3rd Reorganization meeting by District Magistrate Matthew Rudzki. Please join Council and staff in welcoming O'Hara Township's newest Council Members.

Also, at the Reorganization meeting Michael F. Hammill was elected Vice President of Council and Cassandra R. Eccles was elected President of Council. Please join Council and staff in congratulating Cassie and Mike on their new positions. □

Bulk Waste Collection

Waste Management will collect one bulk item once a month at no additional charge on Thursday of the first full week of each month. The remaining collection dates for 2024 are: April 4; May 9; June 6; Friday, July 5; August 8; Friday, September 6; October 10; November 7 and December 5. Additional items can be collected for a fee by calling Waste Management at 800-451-3060.

What is a bulk item? A bulk item is an appliance (washer, dryer, etc.), piece of furniture (chair, table, mattress, etc.), carpeting (cut and taped in 4-foot bundles), an unassembled swing set, basketball board, a pool (less than 6' in height) or other residential items that are too large for a container.

Construction debris such as concrete, brick, asphalt, roofing, dry wall, wood, plaster, vehicles and parts, electronics and hazardous waste are not permitted as bulk items. □

Road Improvement Program

Bids were opened on Monday, March 18 for the milling and resurfacing portion of the Township's 2024 annual road improvement program. The Township will once again bid with Fox Chapel Borough.

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

Alpha Drive (Delta to Kappa)	Glengary Drive
Field Club Ridge Road	Orchard Hill Drive
Ravine Street	Woodland Drive

Alternates:

Boyd Avenue (Freeport Road to River Road)	
Greyfriar Drive	Kerrwood Drive West
Kirkwall Drive	River Road
Pickleball courts at Meadow Park	

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.



Saturday, October 5

Monsters, Inc. (G) - Join the fun when Boo, a human girl, accidentally enters the land of monsters, where she befriends two creatures who work at the largest "scare factory" in the monster world.

Saturday, October 19

Haunted Mansion 2023 (PG-13) - Mansion owners Gabbie and her son, Travis enlist a motley crew of so-called spiritual experts to help rid their home of supernatural squatters including the reclusive Hatbox Ghost.

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

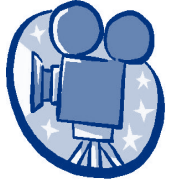
Find a sitter for the kiddos, grab a bottle of your favorite wine and come out for the "Date Night" showing of **The Wedding Singer (PG-13)** on Thursday, July 18.

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 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 unless otherwise noted and start at dusk, weather permitting. If necessary, the rain date will be the following Thursday.

*****Special SATURDAY Showing*****

June 1 - **Barbie (PG-13)**

June 25 - **Trolls - Band Together (PG)**

July 9 - **Mission Impossible-Dead Reckoning Part One (PG-13)**

July 23 - Christmas in July - **Fred Claus (PG)**

August 6 - **Migration (PG)**

August 20 - **Wonka (PG-13)**

Throwback Thursday Movie - June 20

This year's Throwback Thursday Movie is **E.T. (PG)**. Elliott befriends a homesick alien and tries to help him find a way home while avoiding capture by a group of government scientists.

Mystery Movie - Saturday, September 7

Rodent supersleuth Basil and his bumbling partner must thwart evil Ratigan's plot to depose the Mouse Queen in **The Great Mouse Detective (G)**

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 2024. There is no fee for this permit. The form is available at 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 April - August and October and November.

The following Wednesdays are scheduled as collection days for 2024 - **May 22, June 19, July 17, August 21, October 23 and November 20.**

Residents **must** call 412-784-1784, ext 203 or email 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 Leaf and Brush Collection. For more information on the Fall 2024 leaf and brush collection, please check the Summer Newsletter or the Township website at www.ohara.pa.us. □

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 5 starting at 9:00 am at the Northside Sportsman’s Association in Warrendale, PA.

If interested in becoming a hunter, you **must** call the Police Department at 412-782-1403 for further information and mandatory program requirements.

Residents who have problems with deer and own more than one (1) acre may be eligible to have a hunter on their property. If you would like to request a hunter for your property, please contact the Police Department at 412-782-1403. □

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 at <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. □

2024 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 or on the regular trash/recycling collection day (Thursday), collection will be one day later (Friday). Collection days will not be affected by any other Holiday or when the Holiday falls on a Saturday or Sunday.

*Bulk item collection will also be delayed when a Holiday falls before or on bulk collection day, which is Thursday of the first full week (must include a Monday) of each month.

Listed below are the remaining 2024 Holidays and the rescheduled collection days.

Holiday		Collection Day
Memorial Day	May 27	Friday, May 31
Independence Day*	July 4	Friday, July 5
Labor Day*	Sept. 2	Friday, Sept. 6
Thanksgiving	Nov. 28	Friday, Nov. 29
Christmas	Dec. 25	Friday, Dec. 27

Thank you for your cooperation!

Spring Stormwater Tips

Lawn Watering

A lawn needs just one inch of water per week to be green. If you are watering more than that, a lot of that water is running off into the nearest waterway, taking your fertilizer with it. Adjust your sprinklers so they don't water the driveway or sidewalk. Even better, use drip irrigation or soaker hoses.

Lawn Chemicals and Fertilizer

Read the label before you apply fertilizer or chemicals to your lawn. If you use too much fertilizer, the excess will just wash away in the next rain, polluting our local waterways. Use fertilizers and chemicals sparingly and sweep up excess on driveways, sidewalks, walkways and roads.

Soak Up the Rain!

Rainwater won't become stormwater pollution if you keep it on your property! You can do that by connecting rain barrels to your gutters and using the water they capture in your lawn or garden later. If you are renovating, consider a rain garden or modern "pervious" pavers that allow water to soak through into the soil below. You may be able to get a discount on your Stormwater Utility fee by using these methods. Visit www.ohara.pa.us and click the Stormwater button to learn about how to receive a credit or call 412 782-1400 and ask to speak to Township Engineer Chuck Steinert, P.E. □

Calling on Interested Residents

The Township has openings on Boards and Commissions and is looking for volunteers. Currently there are two vacancies on the Parks and Recreation Commission, one alternate on the Zoning Hearing Board and one on the Uniform Construction Code Board of Appeals.

If you would like information on any of the boards and what they do, please call 412 -782-1400. Interested residents should submit a letter of interest to the Township Manager by April 15. This can be e-mailed to JJakubec@ohara.pa.us, faxed to 412-782-4530, dropped off or mailed to: Township of O'Hara, Attention: Julie A. Jakubec, CPA, 325 Fox Chapel Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238. □

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.

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

Spring Safety Tips

With Punxsutawney Phil predicting an early spring this year, many of us will be out enjoying the warmer weather. Please be considerate of your neighbors and keep your speed at or under the posted speed limit to protect your neighbors. Remember, residential speed limits are set by the state. The Police Department routinely sees an uptick in speeding complaints in the spring. Please remember residential speed limits are 25 mph unless officially posted otherwise.

When enjoying the nice weather ahead, make sure you are keeping safety in mind. Please make sure when you are out and about whether enjoying our beautiful parks, bike trails or shopping that you are locking your vehicle doors and hiding any valuables such as purses, computer bags or brief cases in the trunk of the vehicle where the items cannot be seen.

Always be mindful of your surroundings. If something does not feel right, listen to your instincts, and quickly react to ensure your safety. When possible, consider walking, running or biking in groups, especially when in secluded areas.

As we begin opening windows and doors to enjoy the fresh air, be mindful of securing your residence whether you are home or not. Keep first floor windows and screen doors locked.

The O'Hara Township Police Department takes safety seriously. Please report anything suspicious by calling 911. We count on your assistance to address criminal activity. O'Hara Township Police Department wishes everyone a safe start to spring. □

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 under Hometown Heroes. □

Recycling at the Township Building

Along with our robust curbside recycling program and our household hazardous waste recycling program offered by Waste Management, there are recycling opportunities at the municipal building. The Township offers both glass and corrugated cardboard recycling in our parking lot. Even though both items can be recycled with curbside pickup, you can also use the bins in our lot.

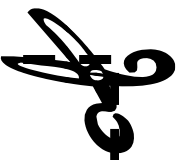
During business hours (8:00 am - 4:30 pm), you can recycle batteries in our lobby. The batteries must have all poles (ends) taped using clear packing tape and be deposited in the appropriately labeled battery bucket.

Also available is a bin where you can deposit American flags to be properly retired by Etna Cub Scout Pack #678.

We are planning to bring back our popular holiday light recycling program in the Fall.

Together we can make a difference!! □

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 888-393-7100

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

Sara Innamorato 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 412-803-3501

U.S. Representative

Chris Deluzio 412-344-5583

Magisterial District 05-2-04

Matthew Rudzki - Magistrate 412-784-8555

Why Pay a Stormwater Utility Fee

We frequently get asked why do we pay a Stormwater Utility fee. This fee covers maintenance costs and capital projects related to our stormwater system. Since the institution of the fee in Fall of 2020 the Township has constructed:

1. Gamma Drive Stormwater Pond
2. Epsilon Drive Stormwater Pond
3. Greyfriar Drive Stormwater Pond

The existing Alpha Drive stormwater pond was retrofitted to hold back more water than it did previously.

Gamma, Epsilon and Alpha Drive stormwater ponds help hold back approximately six inches of water from Sycamore Run in a large rain event.

Scheduled for construction in 2024 is a stormwater pond on Grove Street. Also scheduled for construction is a stormwater pond in Woodland Park. These ponds coupled with the Greyfriar Drive stormwater pond will help reduce stormwater that runs down Kittanning Pike in large rain events.

Other stormwater pond locations are being reviewed and designs started to continue to reduce flooding in large rain events.

By paying the utility fee our existing stormwater system is maintained and new stormwater ponds can be constructed. □

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, Fox Chapel Authority at 412-963-0212 or Hampton Shaler Water at 412-486-4867 for more information on the installation of the deduct meter. □

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:

Household Hazardous Waste - North Park Swimming Pool from 9 am to 1 pm on Saturday, May 4.

Hard to Recycle Collection - Pittsburgh Mills Mall from 9 am to 1 pm on Saturday, May 11.

Electronics Recycling - for info visit <https://prc.org/programs/collectionevents/allegheynewaste/>.

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 12, 2023 O'Hara Township Council adopted Ordinance No. 1418 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 2024, you may be eligible for a real estate tax rebate. The rebate equals 25% of the increase in 2024 Township real estate taxes over 2023 Township real estate taxes.

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

Community News

Cooper-Siegel Community Library

Cooper-Siegel Community Library's Summer Reading Challenge starts June 1 and goes through August 3. This all-ages challenge encourages everyone to read, learn, and explore over the summer! Our theme this year is Adventure Starts at Your Library.

Please check out our library calendar to find out more about the programs we have planned for all ages and to register for our Summer Reading Challenge.

ADULTS:

Open Mah Jong Play, Fridays, 1:30 - 3:30 pm
Mid-Week Knitters, Wednesdays, 1:00 - 3:00 pm
Papermaking Workshop, Saturday, May 18, 1:00 pm
Comedy Night Fundraiser, Sunday, June 16, 7:00 pm
Author Talk: Zach Brodt, Thursday, June 20, 6:30 pm

TEENS/TWEENS:

Crochet N Things (Teens/Adults) Thursdays, 6:00 - 7:00 pm
Teen After Hours: 3rd Fridays, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

CHILDREN:

Regular Storytimes and Make-n-Take Workshops
Wiggle Storytime: Tuesdays, 10:30 - 11:00 am (Under 2)
Make-n-Take: Tuesdays, 4:30 - 5:30 pm (K - 6)
Preschool/Spanish & English Storytime (Alternates weekly):
Fridays, 10:30 - 11:00 am (3 - 5 years)
Chinese & English Storytime: 2nd Saturdays, 10:30 - 11:30 am (Infants - 5 years)
Chess Club, 1st Saturdays, 1:00 - 3:00 pm (Ages 6 - 11)
Pokemon Club, 3rd Saturdays, 1:00 pm
Read to Grey the Therapy Dog: 3rd Saturday, 10:30-11:00 am
Reading Rockets K-2 Book Club: 3rd Sunday, 3:30-4:30 pm
FCAHS Orchestra Pop-Up Disney Concert: Saturday, April 6, 11:00 am
Explore the Solar Eclipse, Saturday April 6, 2:00 pm
Storytime with Corri Lynne: Sunday, May 5, 2:30 pm

KIDS SUMMER CAMP

Los Zorritos Spanish Mini Camp: June 24 - 28, 10:00 - 12:00 pm (Ages 6 - 11; \$120 for the week)

BOOK CLUBS (YEAR-ROUND)

Leamos Juntos (We Read Together) Spanish/English Book Club: 1st Mondays, 7:00 pm
Booked for Lunch: 2nd Fridays, Noon - 1:00 pm
Memory (Memoir + History): 3rd Mondays, 2:00 - 3:00 pm
Evening: 4th Mondays, 7:00 - 8:00 pm

For more information or to register for a program please visit: www.coopersiegelcommunitylibrary.org or call the Library at 412-828-9520. □

Trillium Garden Club Plant Sale

The Trillium Garden Club is pleased to announce it's annual fundraiser plant sale on Saturday, May 4, 2024 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at O'Hara Township Community Park. On sale will be a selection of annuals, perennials, hanging baskets and multi-plant patio pots. Plants for your herb garden will be offered this year. The third annual Members Raffle will showcase items crafted by our talented members.

Proceeds from the sale benefit many community projects including O'Hara Township Community Park, the Community Gardens of Blawnox, Aspinwall, Sharpsburg, Camp Guyasuta and Beechwood Farms to name a few. □

American Association of University Women

Join the American Association of University Women (AAUW) for a presentation on the Electoral College: Pros and Cons by Susan B. Hansen, PhD., Professor Emerita, University of Pittsburgh.

The Electoral College was established in Article II, Section 1, of the U.S. Constitution, as a means of solving the problem of how to elect a president and vice president. Things have changed dramatically since the Constitution's adoption in 1788, and U.S. citizens are questioning the continued need for and the value of the Electoral College.

The presentation will be held on Tuesday, April 9 at 10:00 am at the Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church. It is free and open to the public. □

Save the Date

GARDENFEST

Presented by

Fox Chapel Garden Club

Saturday, May 11th
9:30 - 3:00

O'Hara Township
Community Park

www.foxchapelgardenclub.org



TOWNSHIP OF O'HARA
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www.ohara.pa.us

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TOWNSHIP OF O'HARA MEETING SCHEDULE

Township Council

Cassandra R. Eccles, Ward 5, President Michael Hammill, Ward 3, Vice President
 Richard S. Hughes, Ward 1 George H. Stewart, Ward 2
 Olivia T. Payne, Ward 4 Paul L. Cullen, At-Large Shamus Petrucelli, 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: 3rd Monday, 7:00 pm

Zoning Hearing Board

Scott Duffy, Chairperson
 Thomas Gray Richard Lockwood
 Emily Glick, Alternate Judy Lai, Alternate
 Vacancy, Alternate
 Meetings: 1st Monday, 7:00 pm

Parks and Recreation Commission

Mark Yon, Chairperson
 Matthew DiGirolamo S. Joseph Jablonski
 Mary E. Lasher Michael J. Veltri
 Vacancy Vacancy
 Meetings: 4th Wednesday, 7:00 pm

Civil Service Commission

David R. Schaffner, Jr., Chairperson
 Judy Bossart Jeffrey Reese
 Jason J. Riley Robert R. Ward
 Meetings: 2nd 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.