

BOROUGH OF CHURCHILL

2300 William Penn Highway • Pittsburgh, PA 15235
Telephone: 412-241-7113 • office@churchillborough.com • Fax: 412-241-0503

March 2015

NEW CODE ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

Starting March 9th Churchill Borough will engage the Turtle Creek Valley Council of Governments (TCVCOG) to conduct code enforcement on behalf of the borough. This code enforcement program will be a joint service program managed by the TCVCOG between Churchill Borough and Wilkins Township. The Code Enforcement department at the TCVCOG will be driven by data, using advanced in-the-field technologies that will allow for more efficient and effective enforcement capabilities.

Homeowners will be notified of minor, infrequent violations by way of a "Warning" hangers placed on the front door of the property. More severe or frequent violations will receive a "Notice of Violation Letter" issued by the code enforcement officer. In the event that a violation has not been abated by the time frame indicated on the violation, a citation will be filed with the Magisterial District Judge and daily fines may be imposed. The code enforcement officer will also be conducting occupancy inspections and issuing occupancy permits.

Effective code enforcement is important not only for maintaining healthy and safe communities for our residents, but it is also a proven tool to reverse the damaging effects brought on by negligent property owners. We are committed to taking proactive steps to ensure Churchill remains a safe and welcoming community.

Please report any complaints to the: Turtle Creek Valley Council of Governments Code Enforcement Department (Active March 9th): 412-858-3831 Address: 2700 Monroeville Blvd, Monroeville, PA 15146

2015 REAL ESTATE TAX MILLAGE RATE

The millage rate for the Borough will remain the same as last year at 5.48. Real estate tax statements were mailed and should have been received early in March. A 2% discount period will be applied through April 30, face amount will be due June 30 and a 10% penalty will be

added thereafter. Remember to contact the Borough Office to obtain a duplicate tax bill if you paid off your mortgage recently or refinanced and did not have the real estate taxes escrowed.



Annual Bunny Parade: SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2015

The Bunny is back! Don't miss the Churchill Bunny welcoming the arrival of spring! The Bunny will be visiting the following streets: (The times are approximate - listen for the police sirens.)

- 10:00 AM Leave Borough Building
- 10:05 Forest Dr
- 10:15 Williamsburg Pl - upper
- 10:20 Hollywood Dr
- 10:30 Collins Rd
- 10:35 Williamsburg Pl - lower
- 10:45 Greensburg Pike
- 10:50 Marbury Rd
- 11:15 Garden Terrace
- 11:25 Henley Dr
- 11:35 Thornberry Dr
- 11:40 Garrick Dr
- 12:00 Fenwick Dr
- 12:10 Beulah/Old Beulah Rd
- 12:20 Kings Dale Rd
- 12:25 Woodland Hills Dr
- 12:35 Homer Dr
- 12:40 Hampstead Dr
- 1:00 Holland Rd
- 1:10 Churchill Rd
- 1:30 - Bunny returns to Borough Building



Community Day and Picnic at Bullock-Pens Park

Join your neighbors on Saturday, May 16, 2015 at Bullock-Pens Park. We are honoring one of our own Churchill Residents, Ben Krings. Krings' Eagle Scout project was to design and create picnic tables and bridge handrails for Bullock-Pens Park. Come and celebrate his work and enjoy the park with your neighbors!

Schedule for the day:

10:30 Dedication of Eagle Scout project by Ben Krings

11:00 Weeding (bring your gloves and weeding tools!)

11:30 Guided Tour of Trail (1.1 miles)

11- 1 pm Nature Activities for kids

12:30 Picnic Lunch. Bring a side dish and a blanket or chairs

In case of rain, the dedication will still be held at scheduled time and place, but all other activities will be moved to the Yagle Room at the Borough Building.

Calling All Artists!

Do you have a specific art talent that you would like to share with your community? Metal working? Painting? Flower arranging? Quilting? Caricature art? We want you all! This premiere event will be held on Saturday, June 20 from 10am to 2pm in the Yagle room. Please contact us at churchillrecboard@gmail.com if you are interested in participating! All residents and friends of Churchill, please 'save the date' to join us to enjoy and celebrate the artists in our community!

Annual Table and Vine Dinner

Churchill Residents gathered on a snowy Sunday night at Mitchell's Fish Market to share a meal expertly paired with wine. This was the most successful dinner yet! Want to be included? Send an email to churchillrecboard@gmail.com to make sure you don't miss out on future event reminders!

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK:



Great News! It's the trifecta of health benefits: Gardening is great exercise, doing good is good for you, and getting dirt on your hands can directly improve your physical and mental health. Do the planting in

a neighborhood plot, and you'll be even healthier; data shows that people who participate in community gardening have significantly lower BMIs.

So please join THE CHURCHILL GARDEN BRIGADE! We are a fun group who meet at 9 AM on Saturday mornings at the CHURCHILL COMMONS (corner of Beulah and Churchill Roads) to beautify various garden locations in the borough. So come on...GET INVOLVED! Enter the following dates on your calendar so you don't miss even one opportunity! Our first meeting will be on March 21...general clean-up and planning, depending on Spring's arrival! Our April dates are the 4th & 18th and May 2nd, 16th & 30th. Any questions please call me, Paul McKenna at 412-371-8552.



CHURCHILL GARDEN CLUB

Please join us on St. Patrick's Day, Tuesday, March 17 for a "STROLL THRU THE GARDENS OF THE UK". Social & refreshments at 7:30 pm in the Yagle room at the borough building. Program at 8 sharp. We'd love for you to join us, but reservations are required. Any questions or to make a reservation please call Penny McKenna at 412-371-8552. Remember THE CHURCHILL GARDEN CLUB isn't just about gardening....but SO MUCH MORE!

2015 Spring Leaf and Yard Waste Program

Leaves Only

- Dates: April 13th, 20th, 27th, May 4th.
- Managed by Allied Republic, Churchill waste hauler.
 - No appointment necessary.
- Place leaves in paper biodegradable bags on evening prior to pick-up at the curb
 - No plastic bags.
 - No taping or stapling bag shut.
 - No other yard waste except for leaves.

Leaf and Yard Waste

- Dates: May 18th, June 1st, 15th, 29th
- By appointment only- via phone or email.
 - Call in to Borough Office at 412-241-7113 by Friday afternoon prior to pick-up.
 - Email to Borough Office, office@churchillborough.com, by 8 AM on day of pick-up.
- Leaves and yard waste placed into paper biodegradable bags and place at the curb.
 - **Acceptable items**
 - Leaves
 - Trimmings, cuttings and clippings from trees.
 - Small bushes and other plants, garden residue.
 - Longer branches-less than 3 feet in length-bundled together.
 - No dirt, stones, or grass clippings. No heavy tree trunks, stumps, excessively large items.
 - Please place in paper biodegradable bags.
 - Please do not staple or use tape to close bags
 - **Non-acceptable items**
 - Dirt, stones, or grass clippings not accepted. No heavy tree trunks, stumps, excessively large items accepted.
- Managed by Churchill Public Works
 - Public works crew needs to be able to lift bag into truck and then toss from truck to a dumpster.
 - Public works crew will have discretion. Heavy, large, or excessive amount of material will not be accepted.

NEW ORDINANCE - DUMPSTER, PORTABLE STORAGE & OTHER REFUSE CONTAINERS



Council recently adopted an ordinance establishing regulations for the use of portable storage containers, temporary dumpsters, and other refuse containers within the Borough. A full and complete copy of the ordinance can be viewed on the Borough's website.

STREET SWEEPING

Street sweeping will be conducted throughout the Borough on April 15, 16 and 17. Please assist by not parking your vehicle on the street during the hours of 7am – 3:30pm on these dates. Your cooperation will be appreciated.



YOU CAN'T BEAT OUR OWN "BLACK GOLD"

We call it "black gold" because of its rich, dark color and its great value in the garden. It's a finished, fibrous compost that the borough makes over the winter and spring from autumn leaves that residents rake into special, biodegradable, paper bags.

Pick up a supply from the Joint Compost site located at the corner of Business Route 22 and Rodi Road on Saturday, June 13 and 20 between the hours of 8AM-1PM. Bring your own containers and there is a suggested donation of \$2/vehicle. Delivery is available at a cost of \$10/ bucket of mulch (2 buckets equals 4 cubic yards), plus \$30 for delivery. Please contact the Borough Office for delivery arrangements. **ALL ORDERS MUST BE PRE-PAID AT THE BOROUGH OFFICE BEFORE DELIVERY CAN BE MADE.**



COMPUTER AND ELECTRONICS COLLECTION DAY

Sponsored by Goodwill

Saturday, June 13

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Forest Hills/Westinghouse Lodge Parking Lot

Bring your unwanted computers, monitors, printers, fax machines, cell phones, digital cameras, chargers, adapters, microwaves, stereo systems, VCRs—and any other hard-to-recycle electronic waste. TV's will no longer be accepted.

They will also collect clothing and household goods, such as: baby items, dishes, baking dishes, pots and pans, curtains and rods, bedding, silverware, toys and decorative items. They will NOT collect furniture.



FINANCIAL STRESS AT WOODLAND HILLS EMS

Woodland Hills EMS, the community based ambulance service for Brad-dock Hills, Chalfant, Churchill, Forest Hills and Wilkins Township, has been hit hard in recent years by a combination of factors: high deductible plans engendered by the Affordable Care Act, lowered insurance payments overall, and patients that simply fail to pay their invoices for services received. At a recent meeting with community leaders on February 18, 2015, the pressures felt by the ambulance company were outlined by Operations Manager Keith Morse and Board President Paul Palko. They are asking for the community to help them maintain operations as well as creative ways to enlist better financial support for this important area asset. With annual operating expenses of over one million dollars, it is expensive to run an ambulance service. Employee payroll, insurances, equipment and the ambu-



lances themselves cost a great deal to buy and maintain. The Board of Directors at WHEMS has instituted cost cutting measures, but without increased revenues, the service is threatened.

One of the problems with high deductible plans is that in the beginning of every year, the insurance companies pay little or nothing for a service billing, leaving the patient themselves responsible for a bill that can be \$1000.00 or more. Coupled with that, the actual amount the insurance companies pay is seldom equal to the amount billed. The remainder must be billed to the patient. Subscribing to WHEMS during their annual drive can alleviate a lot of that bill, but not all of it. Unfortunately, over half of eligible citizens and families do not even subscribe to the service. Many do not pay their bill when it is received. The service is always willing to work out a payment plan, or help those who are truly needy, but WHEMS must still pay its bills. Insurance companies sometimes send the billed amount in a check made out to the patient, who then uses the money for themselves instead of paying WHEMS. These and other factors, lie at the heart of the financial stressors now felt at the non-profit organization.

What can you do to help this valuable community asset? First of all, subscribe to the service annually. This provides a much needed source of basic revenue to WHEMS, and helps you by reducing your financial responsibility if WHEM's has to help you. Secondly, if you need our services, please understand that we need that billing revenue to sustain operations. WHEMS has cut its budget as much as it can without sacrificing patient quality of care. If you can't pay the bill all at once, please make payments. Understand that those high deductible plans may cause early years bills to be large, so budget for that, remembering the lower overall insurance premiums you pay for those plans.

Finally, if you are able, make an additional donation to WHEMS. Look for upcoming fundraisers in local community periodicals and support these efforts to sustain WHEMS in our communities. Help us help you. For many years WHEMS has been a great asset supporting the quality of life in our communities. With your continued support, we will always be there for you 24 hours a day, every day.



CC Mellor Memorial Library

1 Pennwood Avenue Edgewood
412-731-0909
Mon-Thurs 10am-8pm
Fri 10am-5pm
Sat 9am-4pm

444 Avenue D Forest Hills
412-824-3567
Mon, Fri, Sat 10am-2pm
Tues Weds 4-8pm

www.ccmellorlibrary.org

Library Book Sale

This is our biggest fundraising weekend with at least 10,000 items for sale—books, movies, music CDs, books on CD for all ages. Come and get some great items at great prices! We're still accepting books and looking for volunteers.

Ballroom Edgewood Community House, 1 Pennwood Avenue Edgewood. Friday, March 20 6:30-9:30pm. Preview Party \$20 a person. No scanners.

Saturday, March 21 & Sunday March 22 9am-4pm
Monday March 23 9am-8pm and Tuesday March 18 9am-noon. Bag sale.

Check website www.ccmellorlibrary.org for more details

Events for Children:

Story Times

Forest Hills Library: Mondays @ 10:30 Children birth-5

Fred Rogers Children's Room Edgewood Tuesdays @ 10:30 Children birth-5

Fred Rogers Children's Room Edgewood Wednesdays @10:30 Children birth-5

Churchill Borough Building Fridays @ 10:30 birth-5

Baby Lap Sit Fred Rogers Children's Room Edgewood Fridays at 11:30am

Growing Readers

A new program for children learning their first reading skills. Supported by a Target grant, Growing Readers fo-

cuses on beginning reader skills through the lens of play. We have scoured current best practices to bring you a story time based on early reading skills, followed by several activities to put it to practice. Recommended for children ages 3-5.

Fred Rogers Children's Room Thursdays @10:30am.

Wilkins Township Recreation Building 2nd Monday each month at 6:30pm.

Programs in the Fred Rogers Children's Room Edgewood - Please Register

Eco-Geeks. 5-8 year olds explore the world of nature with local experts on Saturdays March 14, April 11, and May 9 @11:00 AM.

Crazy 8's. A math club for K-2 graders who build stuff, make music, run and jump and more on Saturdays March 14, April 11, and May 9 at 10:00 AM.

Books and Brunch. A book club for 8 – 12 year old girls and their special grownup who come together to share books on Saturdays March 21, April 18, and May 16 at 11:00 am. Pick your book up at the children's desk.

Block Parties! 2–5 year olds can construct and build with our new collection of blocks on Saturdays March 21, April, 18, and May 16 at 10:00am. This play session builds math, language and cooperative skills.

Art Party! Kids grades K-5 can experiment with different art mediums—clay, mosaics, sand art and more on Saturday March 7 at 10:00 am.

Home Work Help for elementary students every Wednesday from 4-8pm

Science Fridays for elementary students second Friday of the month at 10:30am. (March 13, April 10, May 8

The **Pennsylvania One Book Every Young Child** selection for 2015 is *Number One Sam* by Greg Pizzoli. The book strikes a bargain between empathy, competition and sportsmanship as Sam races to the finish. Number One Sam also emphasizes the importance of reading early and often to children as well as engaging in conversations and activities around books.

Children's Choice Awards Children grades 3-6 all across Allegheny County are coming together to choose their favorite book. You can find a complete list of the titles through the library's website. Sponsored by the AIU this is a cooperative program between schools and public



libraries. If you have a 3rd-6th grader in your family and want to read along or you are looking for a book gift check out these great titles. Students read February to April and the awards ceremony is in early May. Check our website for more information.

Summer Reading!

Come kick off your Summer Reading on June 15th at 6:30 PM at CC Mellor Library. Program to be announced. Please register.

Activities for Adults:

One Book One Community

Join us as we celebrate the thirteenth year of **One Book, One Community** with this year's featured book *Five Days at Memorial* by Sherri Fink.

The 4th Tuesday Book Club will discuss *Five Days at Memorial* on Tuesday March 24 at 1pm in the library. Or you can join the discussion in Edgewood on Wednesday, April 22 at 7pm in the Board Room. Copies of the book in a variety of formats will be available for check out. Book clubs that want to discuss the book can reserve kits of 10 books by calling the library.

Author Visit

Pittsburgh author J J Hensley will talk about his books *Resolve* and *Measure Twice* on Tuesday, March 10 at 7pm in the Edgewood Community House Living. Hensley a former policeman and Secret Service agent draws on his experience to write suspenseful insightful crime novels and thrillers. Both books are set in Pittsburgh.

Wise Walk

Join us at 9am on Tuesdays and Thursdays for an hour long walk on the trails of Frick Park. We'll meet in the parking lot at the bottom of Lancaster Avenue. Walkers go that their own pace.

Drop Dead Book Club meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm in the Edgewood Board Room to discuss current mysteries. Upcoming titles are;

March 4 *Visitation Street* by Ivy Pochoda

April 1 *The Dinosaur Feather* by Sissel-Jo Gazan

May 6 *The Maltese Falcon* by Dashiell Hammett

Knitting and Crocheting Club meets on the third Wednesday of the month (March 18, April 15, and May 20 at 6:30pm in the Edgewood Board Room. The group shares project ideas, gives informal instruction and tips, and has great discussions. They are also working on items to donate to local non-profits. Bring your unfinished projects and join the group.

4th Tuesday Book Club Join the conversation of recent fiction and non-fiction at 1:30pm. All are welcome!

March 24 *Five Days at Memorial: Life and Death at a Storm Ravaged Hospital* by Sheri Fink

April 28 *The Light in the Ruins* by Chris Bohjalian

May 26 *The Elegance of the Hedgehog* by Muriel Barbery

The Churchill Area Environmental Council

CAEC has a new advisory for the spring of 2015. Titled "Sewage Overload Solutions (S.O.S.) - Part II: Now It's ALCOSAN's Turn."

This flier emphasizes the increasing cost of sewage conveyance and treatment. It outlines ALCOSAN's plans for compliance with the EPA Consent Agreement now that the municipalities have carried out their roles and met their goals for the past decade. ALCOSAN plans to spend over two billion dollars expanding its capacity to mitigate the sewage overloads that occur during wet weather sending untreated water directly into our rivers. Rates for sewage service have been rising by 11% per year and this will continue for at least two more years. If you have wondered about these increases this flier will explain it and suggest ways in which we can all help reduce the amount of water that flows from our property into ALCOSAN's lines.

Pick up a free copy from your municipal office anytime after mid April or download it from the CAEC website at churchillborough.com - Select "Around Town" and then "Churchill Area Environmental Council".



Revisions to Allegheny County Open Burning Regulations Took Effect January 1, 2015

"These revisions will better protect public health and the environment, because wood smoke emissions from open burning contain fine particle pollution and air toxics that can aggravate respiratory and cardiovascular health issues," said Health Director Dr. Karen Hacker.

The regulation in place since 1970, will be broadened to apply to any fire or combustion which occurs in a

chiminea, fire pit, outdoor fireplace or grill as well as its longstanding application to any fire or combustion from which air contaminants pass directly into the open air without passing through a flue.

Other revisions include giving inspectors greater discretion to prohibit or reduce fires that are unhealthy or causing a nuisance; limiting the size of a wood fire to no more than 3 feet wide, 3 feet long and 2 feet high; establishing a setback requirement of at least 15 feet from the nearest neighbor's dwelling or inhabited area; and limiting material that may be burned to clean wood, propane or natural gas, with exceptions for charcoal in outdoor fireplaces or grills used for cooking and for fire logs, paraffin logs or wood pellets used in outdoor fireplaces.

In addition, the regulation will restrict recreational open burning, except for commercial preparation of food, on air quality action days, which occur when the Air Quality Index (AQI) indicates pollution levels are unhealthy. The AQI is available at www.achd.net, www.airnow.gov or by calling 412-578-8179. In 2013, there were 15 air quality action days in the region.

The Health Department encourages residents to subscribe to Allegheny Alerts, a community notification system that can let them know when there is an air quality action day and open burning would be prohibited. To sign up for Allegheny Alerts, please visit www.alleghenycounty.us/alerts. The alerts are free and can be delivered via phone, email, text or an app to your mobile device.

Stricter federal standards for controlling fine particulate pollution, greater knowledge of the health effects of wood smoke and continuing public complaints about open burning led the Health Department and its Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee to work with stakeholders to revise the open burning regulation. Complaints about open burning account for 25% of all air quality complaints and residential wood burning contributes an estimated 19% to fine particulate pollution levels in Allegheny County.

The revised open burning regulation and other information related to wood burning are posted on the Health Department's web site at www.achd.net/air/.

Vacancies Available for Churchill Residents Interested on the Following Committees:

There are available vacancies respectively as an alternate member for the Zoning Hearing Board, and two members on the Recreation Board. Any interested residents must submit a letter of interest with a resume to office@churchillborough.com or send via mail to the Borough of Churchill at 2300 William Penn Highway, Pittsburgh, PA 15235.

Street Address Numbers

In the event of a medical or security emergency, it is important that responders are able to locate your home. Address numbers should be placed in a position visible from the street fronting the property. Numbers should contrast with their background, be a minimum of 4 inches in height and 1/2" wide.

Door-to-Door Soliciting

There is a list of addresses in the Borough Office that do not want to be disturbed by solicitors. The solicitors are given a list when they notify us that they will be in the Borough. If you would like to be added to the list or to determine if your address is already on it, please contact the Borough Office by phone or e-mail.

Building Permit for Swimming Pool, Deck, Shed, Room Additions, etc.

Permits are required for some of these items. Please visit the Borough Office to obtain the necessary paperwork and to ascertain that you are in compliance with the Zoning Ordinance for side and rear yard variances. Any inside alterations changing the structure also require a permit. Citations will be issued for persons violating the ordinance.

Speeding and Stop Signs:

Churchill is a residential community. Please respect the traffic laws.





The Borough of Churchill
2300 William Penn Highway
Pittsburgh, PA 15235

PRSR STD
US Postage
PAID
Pittsburgh PA
Permit No 1180



Churchill Volunteer Fire Company

The Fire Company is a totally volunteer organization and these individuals respond 24/7, 52 weeks per year. Some calls for example include carbon monoxide alarms, vehicle accidents, and others involve life-threatening, structure fires. This year a home on Kings Dale Road was totally destroyed and, fortunately, the homeowner was able to exit the home without harm.

Volunteers are always needed and welcome. Besides firefighting, many other positions are available such as administration and equipment maintenance and cleaning. Please call the Fire Company's non-emergency number at 412-241-3449 and leave a message or e-mail Fire Chief Ralph Zatlin at ralph@churchillborough.com.

The Fire Company has their annual fund drive underway. Last year, only 42% of our households responded with a contribution. These funds are used for purchasing up to date, state-of-the art equipment and materials, saving toward the future purchase of a new fire truck and the everyday operation of the company. Your contribution, no matter how small or large, is greatly appreciated.