

Borough of Ephrata Newsletter

Published by the Borough of Ephrata to Communicate With and To Inform Residents About Ephrata Borough News and Events

Ephrata Community Calendar of Events

89th Annual
Ephrata Street Fair
September 25th to 29th

Ephrata Fair Parade
Wednesday, September 26th

Apple Dumpling Day
Ephrata Cloister
October 6th
9:30 AM to 2:30 PM

Jack Frost Parade
October 24th at 7:00 PM
(Rain date October 25th)

Halloween
Trick or Treat Night
October 31st
6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Borough Offices
will be closed
November 22nd & 23rd

Ephrata Community Reaps Benefits from Grants



In 2007 Ephrata Borough Council awarded \$14,000 in Cultural Arts Grants. These grants are provided to non-profit Borough organizations which offer performing, educational and recreational cultural arts programs. A few of the programs the Ephrata community enjoyed that were enhanced or made possible by a cultural art grant, were various summer reading programs at the Ephrata Library and free concerts in the Park by the Ephrata Concert Band.

As seen in the above pictures receiving their 2007 Cultural Arts Grants are Karen Hummel for the Ephrata Recreation Center and Melissa Palmero-Spero for the Ephrata Area Community Theater.

Other grant recipients included the Eicher Arts Center, Ephrata Cloister Associates and the Ephrata Performing Arts Center.

EHS Investigates Impact of the Community on the Cocalico Creek

In the spring of 2007 the Environmental Science classes, led by Mr. Joshua R. Shortuse, of Ephrata High School, conducted an ongoing investigation to evaluate the impacts the community of Ephrata has on the Cocalico Creek. During this investigative learning process various assessments, presentations, and assignments were conducted by the students in order to educate not only the students but the community. Throughout this time various water parameters were established and the collecting of water samples began every two weeks from late spring through the summer.



What the students discovered was that the water quality of the Cocalico Creek is acceptable, but improvements could be made to improve the overall water quality of the Cocalico Creek.

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In-car Cameras Added to Police Vehicles

We have all seen it on television, those World's Scariest Police Pursuits videos and wonder where do they all come from. They actually come from police departments throughout the nation as more and more law enforcement agencies move to in-car camera systems. Now those cameras have hit the streets of Ephrata. The real purpose of in-car cameras is not to provide the latest cable show with crazy video, but rather to gather better evidence, documentation and reduce liability and unwarranted complaints.

The Ephrata Police Department has recently outfitted eight patrol cars with Digital Patroller® in-car camera systems. The systems include two cameras in each vehicle. One faces forward out the windshield area and one captures the prisoner compartment of the vehicle.



Police assigned to these vehicles have been trained in the operation and effectiveness to maximize the system from the angle of the camera to the audio device each officer carries while on duty.

The systems begin to record when the officer turns it on manually, when the sirens or lights are activated or when a collision of the police vehicle occurs. "New technology, described as 'video spooling' also allows the cameras to capture events that occur within its view up to one minute before they are activated," stated Patrol Services Lieutenant Chris McKim.

When using the in-car camera system the police department adheres to strict statutory regulations. If a motorist's voice is captured by the device, he or she will be notified by the officer.

"The system will be used in most traffic and DUI contacts, however, not every encounter with the public will be recorded during police interactions. The addition of the in-car camera system has been an efficient means to improve the investigation process both for the officer and citizen," said Lieutenant McKim.

Seven of the camera systems were purchased through a cooperative partnership bid with West Lampeter Township. One unit was purchased through a safety grant from the Borough's liability and workers compensation carrier, Delaware Valley Insurance Trust.

So although you may not be seeing Ephrata's police videos on your local channels in the future, you can be sure that the cameras will be helping to keep Ephrata safe.

County Offers Home Improvement Program

The Lancaster County Redevelopment Authority offers financial assistance to low and moderate income homeowners who reside in Lancaster County outside the Lancaster City limits. Applicants can receive up to \$40,000 in home repairs made by a qualified contractor, which will help in addressing safety issues and comply with local building codes.

Benefits to You.....

Free Home Analysis – Trained housing project coordinators will analyze your property and work with you to determine what needs to be repaired.

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Daylight Saving Time ends on November 4th ~ Remember to turn back clocks one hour

Impact of the Community on the Cocalico Creek - Continued

The students also concluded that those improvements can start at our own homes. As an example, nitrates can be reduced by not adding excess fertilizer to lawns, gardens, and more importantly, agricultural land. Furthermore, excess nitrates can enter water bodies through improper working septic tanks or wastewater treatment facilities. The study found that the Ephrata wastewater treatment plants were not found to be a significant source of excess nitrates in the Cocalico Creek.

The temperature of the creek should also be reduced. This can be accomplished by planting trees along stream banks in order to provide more shade for the water. The lower the water temperature - the higher amounts of dissolved oxygen, which would greatly benefit aquatic organisms.

The final parameter addressed was turbidity (how murky the water is). This can be accomplished through a reduction of runoff that is entering the Cocalico Creek from residential properties and larger sources such as agricultural lands and construction sites. As a resident you can help with this matter by adding a rain barrel, installing pervious pavement, and directing downspouts to a grass or stone infiltration area or rain garden rather than directly to the street. If best management practices (BMP's) are employed, much of the sediment that enters the Cocalico Creek can be reduced. Overall, the impact of the community on the health of the Cocalico Creek does not deteriorate the creek as it flows through the Borough. This is a positive result as urban environments can have detrimental effects to the quality of a creek. In Ephrata Borough this is not the case.



This investigation by Mr. Shortuse's class was made possible through several Meaningful Watershed Grants totaling \$10,000 from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The data obtained through this study will hopefully raise awareness of the effects of the Ephrata Community on the Cocalico Creek. Due to the widespread success of this project, the DEP will be continuing the funding of this research for years to come for the students at Ephrata High School. For further information on this study please contact Mr. Joshua Shortuse at J_Shortuse@easdpa.org

County Offers Home Improvement Program - Continued

Free Monitoring of the Construction Work – Skilled housing project coordinators will work with you to monitor the construction work being done and help you solve any problems during the construction process.

You Choose the Contractor – Use a contractor you already know or choose a contractor from our list of qualified contractors who have completed projects similar to yours.

No Monthly Payments – No monthly payments are required while you own and reside in your home and you do not need to repay the loan until you sell your property or transfer ownership to someone else.

No Interest, Forgivable Loan – You do not have to pay any interest on the loan and up to 50% of the loan may be forgiven over a 10-year period.

For more information about the Home Improvement Program, please contact the Redevelopment Authority of the County of Lancaster at 717-394-0793, extension 208.

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124 South State Street
Ephrata, PA 17522
www.ephrataboro.org

Borough Office Hours
Monday-Friday 8:00 AM—5:00 PM

Phone: 717-738-9222
Fax: 717-733-4062
After Hours: 717-733-1277
Email: custserv@ephrataboro.org

Borough Manager
Gary A. Nace

Ephrata Borough Council meets for its Work Session on the first Monday each month at 7:00 PM and for its Regular Meeting on the second Monday each month at 7:30 PM at the Borough Hall, 124 South State Street.

Ephrata Borough Council

Bryan J. Foard	1st Ward	721-6345
Daryl L. Horning	1st Ward	733-6226
Mary E. Schurr, President	2nd Ward	733-6411
Brian N. Rohrbaugh	2nd Ward	733-1029
Anthony Kilkuskie	3rd Ward	733-7607
Fred M. Thomas	3rd Ward	733-0421
Robert J. Good, Vice President	4th Ward	733-2520
Victor E. Richard	4th Ward	733-8242
Mayor		
Ralph E. Mowen		733-6129

REFUSE/RECYCLING & LEAF PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR EPHRATA BOROUGH RESIDENTS

Yard Waste Collection

Yard Waste Collection will continue through October 18th – after this date yard waste is placed with regular refuse as part of your three bag limit.

Tire & White Good Collection

Tire & White Good Collection
(large appliances weighing more than 50 lbs.)

Collected same day as recycling during the week of September 10th. Extra Service Tags Required: Tire Tags - \$2.00, White Goods - \$20.00

Refuse and Recycling Holiday Reminder

Service for recycling and refuse customers on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 22, 2007 will be delayed one day and collected on Friday, November 23, 2007

Please keep trash and recycling containers at the side or rear of a building except at collection time

FREE Leaf Bags

Distribution of the free biodegradable leaf bags for Borough residents will be at Grater Park on Saturday, October 6 from 8:00 AM to Noon. Residents may also pickup leaf bags at the following locations beginning October 8:

- Ephrata Borough Hall, 124 South State St.
Monday – Friday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
- Ephrata Recreation Center, 130 South Academy Drive
Monday – Friday 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM
Saturday – 8:00 AM to 10:00 PM
Sunday – 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM



Leaf Collection Dates

Leaves will be collected the same day as recycling on the following dates:

October 15 — October 18
October 29 — November 1
November 12 — November 15
November 26 — November 29

Cardboard Recycling Available to Borough Residents

A cardboard drop off site located across from the Public Works Complex on Pine Street now accepts corrugated cardboard – cardboard with a fluted lining. Residents are asked to flatten all cardboard prior to placing in recycling container at the drop off site.