

### EBENSBURG BULLETIN

Official Publication of Ebensburg Borough



January 2011

## Winter Sidewalk Maintenance

Keeping our sidewalks free of ice and snow is the neighborly thing to do, and it's the law. For your own benefit and to help your neighbors, people pushing strollers or using wheelchairs, and the many people in Ebensburg who walk, please do your part.

#### EBENSBURG BOROUGH ORDINANCE REQUIRES THAT PROPERTY OWNERS CLEAR SIDEWALKS AFTER THE END OF A SNOWFALL WITHIN 24 HOURS.

When you shovel snow and clear ice:

• Shovel sidewalks on all sides of your property, the full width of the sidewalk down to the bare pavement.

• Remove all ice from sidewalks. After the sidewalk is cleared, sprinkling a little sand can help prevent slipping on frosty sidewalks.

• Pile snow into your yard. It's against the law to shovel snow into streets and alleys.

If you have a corner property, clear curb cuts at corners and crosswalks to the street gutter.

#### Avoid a ticket:

If the Borough receives a complaint or discovers that a sidewalk is not properly cleared, the property owner will be issued a citation with a fine.

#### Remember:

• You are as responsible for clearing ice on your sidewalk as well as snow. Ice can be more dangerous and intimidating than snow.

• The sooner and more completely you shovel, the less likely ice will form.

#### ARRANGE FOR SOMEONE TO SHOVEL WHILE YOU ARE ON VACATION.

#### Need help?

Make arrangements in advance to have a friend, neighbor or firm take care of your shoveling for you.

#### Want to go the extra mile?

Are there neighbors on your street who are elderly, have a disability or may have a hard time shoveling for any reason? Work with your neighbors to give a hand and ensure your entire block is safe and accessible to all.

# PARKING ENFORCEMENT



The Ebensburg Police Department reminds all residents to check the winter parking hours that are posted at the beginning of each block. The purpose of the ordinance is to have two lanes of traffic open for the plow trucks and one curb lane for parking. Please move your vehicle by the change-over time. When you move your vehicle, do not park directly across from your neighbor, who has not moved their vehicle yet. This will block the street and make it difficult to drive past both vehicles. Thank you for your cooperation.

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## Smoke Testing to Continue

Residents are reminded that Ebensburg Borough is continuing a DEP-required testing of residential and commercial sewage systems. The tests are intended to detect any connections that are allowing infiltration into the sewage system.

Infiltration is caused by sources of stormwater being illegally discharged into the sanitary sewer system. These sources can be downspouts, driveway drains, footer drains, and leaking service laterals. Borough crews will be smoke-testing sections of town. Smoke is pumped into the sanitary sewer system under pressure and then rises out of any illegal tap identifying the locations of any drains, downspouts and leaks. Property owners that have any such illegal sources of infiltration will be required to pay to have corrections made.

The smoke may on occasion enter buildings. That could happen if your sewage traps are empty or lacking. The smoke is non-toxic and leaves no residue. We will try our best to notify property owners in advance of any testing in your area. You will want to watch the local newspaper for any notices. The testing will occur in a specific section of town each year over the next five years.



#### Here are some important water saving tips to help you in the new year:

 Repair dripping faucets by replacing washers. If your faucet is dripping at a rate of one drop per second, you can expect to waste 2,700 gallons per year



which will add to the cost of water and sewer utilities.

- 2. Check for toilet tank leaks. Also if the toilet flush handle frequently sticks in the flush position, letting water run constantly, replace or adjust it.
- Avoid flushing the toilet unnecessarily. Dispose of tissues, insects and other such waste in the trash instead of the toilet.
- 4. Take shorter showers. Replace your showerhead with an ultra-low-flow version.
- 5. Operate automatic dishwashers and clothes washers only when they are fully loaded or properly set the water level for the size of load you are using. By washing clothes only when you have a full load you can save up to 600 gallons each month.
- 6. Store drinking water in the refrigerator rather than letting the tap run every time you want a cool glass of water.
- 7. Do not use running water to thaw meat or other frozen foods. Defrost food overnight in the refrigerator or by using the defrost setting on your microwave.
- 8. Insulate your water pipes. You'll get hot water faster plus avoid wasting water while it heats up.
- 9. Wash your produce in the sink or a pan that is partially filled with water instead of running water from the tap. Water used from rinsing your produce can then be used to water house plants.
- 10. Turn off the water while you shave and you can save more than 100 gallons a week.
- 11. Turn off the water while you brush your teeth and save 4 gallons a minute. That's 200 gallons a week for a family of four.

# **NEW BOROUGH POOL ON THE HORIZON**

Ebensburg Borough was one of only a few towns in Pennsylvania to receive a grant for a swimming pool project. The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources will contribute \$300,000 toward our \$1.1 million pool improvement project.

A local fundraising effort is underway now to raise the required match for the grant. We urge you to volunteer to assist with the fundraising effort, and to contribute in any way you can toward a successful fund drive.

Borough Council realizes that this is a lot of money to spend to improve a swimming pool; but they had little choice. At a minimum, \$600,000 was necessary just to bring the pool into compliance with current regulations. There would have been no grant available, and fundraising would have been difficult as the upgraded pool would have looked exactly like the current

pool, with no additional amenities. The



entire \$600,000 would have had to come out of borough coffers.

By agreeing to make the drastic improvements and turning the pool into a state-of-the-art facility, Borough Council was able to obtain the \$300,000 grant and show a new pool that would result in a successful \$300,000 fund drive. Under this option, the borough will spend \$500,000 making it the obvious choice. The only other alternative would have been to close the swimming pool permanently, and residents clearly did not support that option.

The pool project is expected to go out for bids in early spring. Construction will start as soon as weather permits. The project will require that the pool remain closed until at least the end of July 2011.



#### **Garbage Collection Reminder**

There are certain items that are not permitted to be placed out for collection. The garbage collector cannot accept building rubbish from building construction or reconstruction; industrial refuse; tree trimmings, hedge clippings or grass; stones, bricks or earth; plaster, concrete, paint, and general building materials; automobile parts, batteries or tires.

If you have any questions about garbage collection or recycling, or you have a problem to report, please call Hugill Sanitation direct at 814-277-6050.



## **SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS**

Ebensburg's efforts to undertake new sidewalk improvements will continue in 2011. New sidewalks and curbs will be installed along both sides of East High Street between Caroline Street and Reddinger Street. The project may extend even further toward Lake Rowena, depending on bids received this spring. We are also considering extending the Victorian streetlights along the East High Street project, again depending on bids received. An important component of this new sidewalk project will be stormwater

improvements. The project is expected to begin as soon as weather allows and be completed by the end of summer.

## **REMINDER – Property owners are required to obtain a permit BEFORE.....**

- 1. Erecting any signs
- 2. Installing a new driveway or cutting a curb
- 3. Erecting any fences
- 4. Constructing a garage or erecting a shed (even a kit)

In most cases, it will not be necessary to acquire a building permit, but make sure first! At a minimum, zoning approval IS REQUIRED! Please check with the borough office before beginning any project.



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# **WHO IS THE EABC?**

The EABC is an eleven-member board, appointed by Council, that works to improve the economic vitality of Ebensburg's business community. The Commission and Community Development Director develop programs designed to recruit new businesses, retain those established, and encourage reinvestment within the commercial district. They are also responsible for coordinating many of Ebensburg's special events.

The Ebensburg Main Street Program represents an important and unique partnership between municipal government (the Borough of Ebensburg) and private enterprise (the Ebensburg Area Business Commission). A coordinated program of promotional activities are scheduled, façade and streetscape improvements conducted and economic restructuring efforts initiated.

There are nearly 200 members of the Main Street Partnership to date! The EABC provides business support services and hosts all of the wonderful events throughout the year!



Funds raised are put right back into the community! See what we are all about at <u>www.ebensburgmainstreet.com</u> today!



www.ypccrec.com

#### Ebensburg Borough Health and Wellness Facility

\* SPECIAL \* PURCHASE 3 MONTHS & RECEIVE ONE FREE! PURCHASE 10 MONTHS AND RECEIVE 2 FREE!

#### Hours of Operation:

Monday – Saturday 9:00 A.M. – 9:00 P.M.

Sunday 12:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.

Regular exercise, proper nutrition, stress management and other good lifestyle habits are more important to you now than ever before.

At the same time, it is more difficult to find the time in today's fast-paced society to focus on your physical fitness and wellness. The Ebensburg Borough Health & Wellness Facility is ideal for those who can devote three to five hours a week to improving their physical fitness because it offers first-rate equipment in an intimate state-of-the-art facility at a fraction of the cost of other centers.

#### Monthly Gym Membership Fees:

Single/Adult	\$22.00
Seniors (55 yrs.+)	
Students	

Family Rate: 2 Adults + 1 Student: \$45 (\$10 for each additional student)

#### YPCC ANNOUNCES SPRING BASKETBALL LEAGUES



ZUMBA fuses hypnotic Latin rhythms & easy to follow moves to create a dynamic fitness program that will blow you away!!!

Beginning January 10, 2011 Mondays 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Young Peoples Community Center Gymnasium

> \$5.00 Member Drop-In Fee \$7.00 Non-Member Drop-In Fee

ZUMBA Punch Card (10 Sessions) \$40.00 Member \$60.00 Non-Member (Punch Cards are valid 6 months from purchase.)



YPCCBL is an recreational and competitive league that is an ideal way for players to improve upon their fundamentals and skills. The YPCCBL stresses the

value of team play, sportsmanship, and the importance of maintaining a positive attitude. The Young Peoples Community Center in Ebensburg is now accepting team registrations for their upcoming spring basketball leagues. The next league is listed below and will start on March 26. Each team will play a minimum of 10 games with play-offs to follow. The team registration fee is \$315.00. All teams should be registered by March 18<sup>th</sup>. Interested teams should call the Recreation Office at (814) 472-4277 or register online at <u>www.ypccrec.com</u>.

Jr. High Girls - Grades 7 through 9 Young Peoples Community Center March 26 – June 5 Fee: \$310.00 per team

Games will be held on Saturdays and/or Sundays



The winter tennis season is in full swing at the Ebensburg Tennis Center. If you are looking to tune up your game or just get started, the center offers individual and group lessons by USPTA certified professional Jamie Taylor. The tennis center offers court rental for play on the indoor and outdoor courts for members and non-members.

Tennis memberships at the Ebensburg Tennis center will provide you with 24 hour access to the facility and an online court reservation book. Listed below are memberships costs-memberships are based on an annual fee.

Single-\$150.00 Family-\$195.00 Junior-\$60.00 (17 and under) \*Out of Town Membership-\$65.00-Single \*Out of Town Membership-\$115.00-Family \*Out of town memberships are for those who live 40 miles away from the center.

Want to learn how to play tennis or need a refresher on the game? Sign up for a Free Tennis Clinic on March 5th! Clinics are for adults and juniors with little or no playing experience. Please call or visit the center to check on times for the clinics or to sign up. Visit <u>www.ebensburgtenniscenter.com</u> or call 814-471-2980 for more information.





News From Danntless Fire Company!

PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID ALTOONA, PA PERMIT #150



Please visit <u>www.ebensburgmainstreet.com</u> for more information!