

# EBENSBURG BULLETIN

Official Publication of Ebensburg Borough



# WINTER PARKING REGULATIONS

Good News! The enforcement of the winter parking regulations within Ebensburg Borough has been relaxed.

The current Ordinance, in place since 1994, required alternate side parking on many streets between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., and again between 5 p.m. and 8 a.m. It also prohibited parking on many smaller streets between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. Those winter parking restrictions are in effect between December 1st and March 31st.

In the past, the Ordinance was not enforced until the first snowfall each year. After the first snowfall, the Ordinance was enforced each and every day, regardless of weather conditions. These parking restrictions are necessary to allow the public works crew to properly and safely clear the streets of snow. Unfortunately, the regulations caused great inconvenience to the residents.

Today, there are many methods of communicating current information to the residents. Borough Council believes that we can enforce the regulations when necessary, and relax enforcement when possible.

Effective immediately, the winter parking regulations will only be enforced when deemed necessary by staff. A notice will be placed on the borough's website, www.ebensburgpa.com, announcing when the regulations are or are not in force. The same notice will be on the borough's Facebook page.

For those that may not have access to the Internet, a call to the borough office at 472-8780 is all that will be necessary to verify whether vehicles parked on the street need to be moved. During business hours, staff will be able to answer the question. After hours, the recording will inform the caller if the regulations are in effect or not.

Winter parking restrictions will be placed in effect with every forecasted snowfall, and should be considered in effect with every unexpected snowfall. Depending on conditions, the restrictions will often remain in effect for several days following a snowfall. Crews often work for several days to push snow back

from the curbs, to clear intersections, and to clear slush from the streets. Residents will be required to move vehicles until such time that the announcement on the website and Facebook is again changed. It will be everyone's responsibility to verify the current enforcement status of the winter parking regulations. Remember... because it snowed two days ago and hasn't snowed since; the winter parking regulations may still be in effect. Check the website!

The relaxed winter parking regulations will require the full cooperation of everyone. It is important that the public works crews are able to maintain clear streets during winter conditions. If the relaxation of enforcement causes problems in that regard, it will be necessary to return to daily enforcement. Please work with us so that we can maintain our streets in a safe manner, while minimizing the inconvenience to you and your neighbors of moving your vehicle twice each day.



# PLEASE NOTE:

Do not park directly opposite another parked car. When permitted to park on both sides of the street, be sure to stagger cars so that plows, fire trucks, and ambulances with wide mirrors can get through.

January 2017

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# Borough Council

Doug Tusing, President Susan Barber, VP Cecilia Houser Theresa Jacoby Dave Kuhar Joe Miller John Cobaugh

Mayor Randy Datsko

**Ebensburg Borough** 300 West High Street Ebensburg, PA 15931 814-472-8780 www.ebensburgpa.com

# **COUNCIL ADOPTS 2017 BUDGET**

Borough Council has adopted a \$5,568,280 budget for 2017. The budget avoids any tax increases for the 7<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. There are several capital improvement projects and purchases planned for 2017.

- The municipal building needs a new AC'heat pump installed for the front offices, and the police office needs new flooring.
- Additional hanging flower baskets will be installed in just the four 100 blocks from the center of town.
- 3) An old backhoe will be replaced with a new excavator, and a pickup truck will be replaced in public works.
- 4) The drainage system for the small reservoir will be completed. It has been drained for several months. The reservoir is not in any danger, but when needed the drain must work properly.
- The stormwater improvement project along North Beech Street was begun in 2015, but work was suspended due to a permitting issue. That work will be completed this spring.
- 6) Patrons have asked for additional deck chairs at the swimming pool, and those will be added this summer.
- 7) New computer controls will be installed at the water treatment plant and the sewage plant.
- As soon as the DEP permit is received, aeration equipment will be installed at the Ogden Road water storage tank to eliminate the high levels of chlorination byproducts.
- New perimeter fencing will be installed around the center ward and east ward playgrounds, and the playground surfaces will be replaced.
- 10) The gym floor at the YPCC will be refinished.

# PRISON DEVELOPMENT PROIECT

Many residents have been asking the status of the prison development project. We



are happy to report that stakeholder meetings have been ongoing, and plans are now in place to relocate the county records center and sell the entire building to the developer. The records are scheduled to be moved out by the end of March of this year. after which time the redevelopment of the property can begin.

## **MASTER GARDENERS COMMUNITY GARDEN**

Master Gardeners are volunteers trained by the Penn State Extension. Once they complete their training, Master Gardeners help Extension better serve the home gardening public by speaking to groups, working with 4-H gardening projects, maintaining demonstration gardens, teaching plant sciences and horticulture and many other ways. Master Gardeners educate individuals and groups on topics such as vegetable and flower gardening, plant selection, composting, controlling pests safely, pollinator gardening, pruning, and more. There is a Master Gardener program in 62 of Pennsylvania's 67 counties, including Cambria County.

The gardeners have been given permission to use a small borough-owned parcel to establish a community garden. They wish to open gardening space to the community, give guidance and research-based education, and hold classes. If interested in helping with the gardens, or for more information about how to become a master gardener, contact the Cambria County Co-Operative Extension office at 814-472-7986.

# **LEASE A US FLAG FROM ROTARY - \$25 FOR 5 HOLIDAYS**

Join your neighbors and show patriotism by sponsoring the Ebensburg Rotary "Fly the Flag" project on the following holidays: MEMORIAL Day, FLAG Day, FOURTH OF JULY, LABOR Day and VETERAN'S Day. (also up for 9/11)

The Ebensburg Rotary Club Members will place a flag in your front yard a few days before the listed holidays. A 3'x 5' flag on a 10' staff will be placed in a plastic anchor pipe permanently buried in your front yard. The anchor will be flush with the ground with a plastic cap when not in use. The flag and staff will remain the property of the Ebensburg Rotary Club. You must live in Ebensburg Borough or Cambria Township to lease a flag. The flags will remain posted from Labor Day through 9/11.

All proceeds will be used to support Rotary projects such as:

- High school scholarships
- "One Book, One Community"
- Local food banks
- Cambria County 4H Endowment • Central Cambria inclusive playground
- Ghost Town Trail
- Dictionary Project (3rd Grade)
- Plus many other local projects

Send your name, street address, phone number, email address and \$25 check to Ebensburg Rotary, Box 231, Ebensburg, PA 15931.

# EBENSBURG WELCOMES NEW BUSINESSES



204 W. Sample Street 814-521-6543



927 W. High Street, Suite 5 814-419-8277



206 E. High Street 814-243-4254 or 659-0544

University Orthopedics Center 1100 West High Street 814-231-2101



# MAIN STREET PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS

The Ebensburg Main Street Partnership is undertaking two projects this spring to improve the downtown area. Last year, new hanging flower baskets were installed at the traffic signals in the center of town. This spring, additional baskets will be acquired and installed so that the flowers will extend for one block in every direction. The



Partnership also purchases all of the flowers each year, and members donate their own time to plant the flowers each spring.

The Partnership is also updating the wayfinding signs. These are the plain blue signs, installed about ten years ago, directing traffic to various borough and county facilities in town. The new signs are the same size, but are more aesthetic. They will contain

the borough logo, and have softer colors.



The Partnership sponsors and conducts all downtown events throughout the year. This is an example of how the funds are reinvested back into the community.

# EBENSBURG BOROUGH

POOL RATES

Pool Opening:

May 27, 2017

Open weekends only until summer break.

POOL HOURS

**MONDAY - THURSDAY** 12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

**FRIDAY - SUNDAY** 12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Daily Admission Rates	Resident	
Adult (19 yrs 64 yrs. old)	\$6.00	
Child (4 yrs 18 yrs. old)	\$4.00	
Senior (65 yrs. +)	\$4.00	
Twilight (After 6:00 PM)	\$4.00	

Resident Rates	2017 Fees
Individual (19 yrs 64 yrs. old)	\$120.00
Individual - Child (4 yrs 18 yrs. old) / Senior (65 yrs. +)	\$100.00
2 Person Pass	\$160.00
3 Person Pass	\$185.00
4 Person Pass	\$205.00
5 Person Pass	\$225.00
Additional Dependents	\$20.00
Nanny/Babysitter (must be bought in conjunction with a family membership)	\$25.00

Non-Resident Rates	2017 Fees
Individual (19 yrs 64 yrs. old)	\$150.00
Individual - Child (4 yrs 18 yrs. old) / Senior (65 yrs. +)	\$130.00
2 Person Pass	\$185.00
3 Person Pass	\$205.00
4 Person Pass	\$225.00
5 Person Pass	\$245.00
Additional Dependents	\$20.00
Nanny/Babysitter (must be bought in conjunction with a family membership)	\$25.00

# EBENSBURG BOROUGH'S RECREATIONAL FACILITIES



The borough is often asked about our recreational facilities. Other towns wonder how they were paid for, and how they do financially from year to year. Our own residents are probably wondering the same thing, so we wanted to provide you with the following information to keep you informed.



#### **YPCC**

The YPCC was constructed in 2001, part of a \$2.2 million project that included Memorial Field. A massive fundraising campaign was conducted by a group of area residents. A \$1 million grant was awarded by the State. Borough Council borrowed \$600,000. The YPCC loan will be retired in March 2019, more than three years early.

Excluding the annual debt service, the YPCC annual budget is \$232,000. Revenue generated by the YPCC is reasonably expected to cover all but \$20,000 of that expense. If the YPCC can operate with only a \$20,000 annual subsidy, that is considered acceptable, and a good investment of taxpayer dollars.

#### **Swimming Pool**

The \$1.1 million swimming pool rehabilitation project occurred in 2011. A \$300,000 grant was received from the State, and Borough Council borrowed \$750,000. The pool loan will be retired in 2020, fifteen months early.

Excluding the annual debt service, the swimming pool annual budget is \$80,220. It is reasonable to expect that revenue at the pool will be sufficient to cover its own day-to-day expenses. In 2015, the swimming pool actually had a \$19,000 surplus.

#### **Tennis Center**

The \$2,525,000 tennis center was paid for entirely by the McMahon Foundation. Opened in 2007, the tennis center never had any associated debt. The annual budget for the tennis center is \$157,300. Revenues generated by the tennis center have always met or exceeded expenditures, making the tennis center self-sufficient.

#### **Skate Park**

The skate park at Lake Rowena was constructed in 2007 at a cost of \$100,000. The entire project was paid for with a State grant. The borough's annual costs in operating the skate park are negligible.



## New Pavilion at Lake Rowena -

This past summer, the borough's public works crew completed construction of a new pavilion at Lake Rowena. The new pavilion is 20' x 50', about twice the size of the old one. The project is a great example of the diverse skills that our public works laborers have, allowing projects such as this to be completed in-house at considerable savings. Borough pavilions are available for rent to the public. There are two at the Swimming Pool and three at Lake Rowena. Contact the YPCC at 472-4277 to reserve a pavilion for your next party or reunion.

#### **SPEED BUMPS & STOP SIGNS**

Borough Council occasionally receives requests that speed bumps, stop signs or Watch Children signs be installed to help control traffic speed. In nearly all cases, those requests must be denied. We thought it might be helpful to explain to everyone why those measures are not generally used.

Speed bumps are never installed. They are expensive to install, and must be removed during the winter months for plowing. A speed bump needs to be replaced periodically to keep it in good condition and to ensure that colors remain clearly visible. A speed bump comes with the risk of vehicular damage from hitting the bump, or from veering to miss the bump, or losing control while hitting the bump. The speed bump may do more harm than good.

Stop signs are not permitted to be randomly installed, and are not permitted solely for the purpose of controlling speed. Every stop sign is supposed to be based upon an engineering study that supports the need for that particular sign. The only approved purpose for a stop sign is to regulate traffic through an intersection.

Watch Children signs could be installed on each and every block in Ebensburg. When there are that many signs with the same message, the signs become completely ineffective. There are no Watch Children signs remaining in Ebensburg. There are "Playground" signs approaching the borough's playgrounds, where a larger concentration of children playing would be expected, or where a stray ball or child is more likely to wander into the street.

Our police do enforce speeding, but the tools they have available to do so are limited. Vascar requires two lines to be painted on the street, and space for the officer to sit and view vehicles crossing those lines and measuring the time it takes to do so. Boroughs across the state have long advocated for the authority to use radar speed enforcement. Pennsylvania is the ONLY state that does not allow local police departments to use radar. The Pennsylvania Senate finally approved a bill in 2017 authorizing the use of radar, but the bill was never taken up by the House. The Borough encourages residents to contact Representative Frank Burns and urge him to support the use of radar by local police.

# SEWAGE COLLECTION PROJECT

As of the end of 2016, the preliminary design for the sewage collection system project is nearing completion. Once the preliminary design is complete, we will know specifically which areas of the system will be affected, and under which streets new pipes will be installed. As soon as final design is completed, a permit application will be submitted to DEP for project approval. Our funding application cannot be submitted to PENNVEST until DEP has approved the permit.



Borough staff feels it is unlikely that the project will be able to begin before 2018. It will be spring until a permit application can be submitted, and fall before that permit is approved by DEP. The review of the funding application will require several months. Assuming the project receives funding, bidding and award will require several more months. Construction is not likely until 2018, and that assumes that the project is funded in the initial application submission.

Once construction begins, and as new sewage mains are installed, new taps will be provided for current customers. Current customers will not be required to pay new tapping fees. All customers will be required to have their sewer lateral (the private line between the house and the main) pressure tested. In most areas, we will not require any form of under-slab testing, but we will verify that all piping outside of the building's foundation is water-tight. We will also verify that all downspouts, driveway drains, footer drains, etc. are not connected to the sanitary sewer system.

Owners of multi-story buildings in the downtown area should immediately begin to consider how they will separate their stormwater from the sanitary system. Many of those buildings have internal roof drains that connect to the sanitary sewer system. The roof drains in downtown buildings should stay connected to the old sewage collection system, and the building's sewage (i.e., bathrooms, sinks, laundry facilities, etc.) must be connected to the new sanitary sewer system. One way or another, all stormwater must be separated from the new sanitary sewage system.

The testing of private sewer laterals and any subsequent required replacement will eventually apply to ALL customers, whether connected to the new system or not. Those that are connected to the new system will of course be first. Customers in different sections of the system will be required to bring their own sewer laterals into compliance at different times, staggered so as to not overwhelm the available contractors.

Due to the age of the system, it is expected that most private sewer laterals will fail a pressure test and will require replacement up to the foundation. Property owners should begin planning for such an expense now. As main line construction is completed in areas, property owners will be notified when to initiate the repair or replacement and testing of their own sewer lateral, and will be provided with sufficient time to do so. Again, that will probably not occur until early-2018.

# **SEWER LINE TESTING**

Effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, air pressure testing of the sewer line is required for any property sold or transferred in Ebensburg Borough, and those portions of Cambria Township served by the Ebensburg system.

The sewer lateral line from the foundation wall to the property line shall be made to conform to current regulations including a cleanout near the foundation wall and a viewport at the property line. If a viewport already exists on the property, but is not visible or easily accessible, the owner must expose the viewport. If the existing sewer lateral fails the required pressure test, then the entire sewer lateral must be replaced or otherwise made to satisfy the air testing requirement. All required testing and work performed shall be inspected by the Borough while exposed.

The air pressure testing requirement applies to all components of the sewer lateral from the foundation wall to the connection stub. All components of the sewer lateral must be air tested by pressurizing with air to a minimum of five p.s.i. and thereafter held for a period of fifteen (15) minutes with no noticeable loss of pressure.

Ebensburg does not require pressure testing under the basement slab, except in those rare cases where visual examination indicates the presence of stormwater. Complete information regarding sewer testing is available on the borough's website. <a href="https://www.ebensburgpa.com">www.ebensburgpa.com</a>. A sewer test application is also available on the website.

# EBENSBURG WATER/SEWER CUSTOMERS

The Borough of Ebensburg and the Ebensburg Municipal Authority are not responsible for the backup of water or wastewater into residences. whether or not caused by blockages in the municipal system. Customers are cautioned that such backups will occur from time to time, and are advised to install a back flow prevention device to protect their personal property. Customers are further advised that homeowners insurance does not normally cover such a loss, but that additional coverage may be purchased to provide coverage for backup of water/wastewater. For additional info, contact your insurance agent.



# **Ebensburg Borough Health & Wellness Facility**

## HOURS OF OPERATION

Mon - Sat: 8 am - 9 pm & Sun: 12 pm - 9 pm **Phone:** 814-472-4277 **www.ypccrec.com** 

#### \* SPECIAL \*

PURCHASE 3 MONTHS & RECEIVE THE 4TH FREE = \$81
PURCHASE 6 MONTHS AND RECEIVE 2 MONTHS FREE = \$162
PURCHASE 9 MONTHS AND RECEIVE 3 MONTHS FREE = \$243

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:

#### Family Rate:

Single/Adult	\$27.00	2 Adults + 1 Stude	ent: \$55
Seniors (55 yrs.+)		(\$10 for each additional student)	
Students		Drop In Rate	\$8/Day or \$25/Week

Through the Ebensburg Recreation Department, members are able to use other services and facilities such as:

- 24-Hour Access to the Ebensburg Health & Wellness Center\* (Available with the minimum purchase of a 3 month membership.)
- Gymnasium
- Member Discounts on Recreation Department Programs and Activities.

# THE YPCC - FOR KIDS OR ADULTS?

The primary mission of the Young Peoples Community Center (YPCC) has always been to provide activities for our youth. But, it is necessary to also pay the bills, and that is why the adult programs are necessary.

Most activities provided at the YPCC for children are free or very inexpensive. The fees for any tournaments conducted are sufficient to pay for costs incurred, such as cleaning, tournament supplies, officiating, scorekeepers, etc. We also try to allow for as much "open gym" time as possible.

The adult programming though, and the fitness center, is what pays the bills. Ebensburg Borough could not afford to pay the building mortgage and ongoing maintenance costs if the building was used exclusively for kids. We couldn't pay even the light bill with the revenue from children's programs.

The annual budget for the YPCC is \$280,000 including \$48,000 annually for the mortgage. The Borough pays the mortgage, plus about \$20,000 to subsidize the day to day costs. The membership and program fees generated by the YPCC cover the remaining costs. The bulk of those membership fees are from the fitness center, and most of the program fees are generated from adult programs, as we can comfortably charge more for adult programs.

Our goal is to always make the YPCC available to our youth, and to provide a safe place for youth recreation. A good balance of adult and youth programming assures that we can meet that goal in an as cost-effective manner as possible.

# NEW FITNESS EQUIPMENT AT THE YPCC

In October 2015, the weight room at the YPCC received a full makeover complete with new flooring, new equipment and all new machines. As of November 2016, the Cardio room received the same upgrade! Brand new cardio machines include 3 treadmills, 3 ellipticals, 2 bicycles, 1 stair master and 1 rowing machine.

We invite you to stop by and take a look at all the improvements! The new state-of-the-art equipment is suitable for experienced and novice users. Stay tuned for even more facility updates, a new website and new programming coming soon to the YPCC!



# SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE

Ebensburg Borough Ordinance requires that property owners clear sidewalks after the end of a snowfall within 24 hours.

- Shovel the sidewalks full width to the bare pavement.
- Sprinkling a little sand to help prevent slipping on frosty sidewalks.
- DO NOT shovel snow into streets and alleys.
- Clear curb cuts at corners and crosswalks.
- Arrange for someone to shovel if you are unable or on vacation.
- 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.

# **Ebensburg Tennis Center**



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. The center is open for member and non-member play. 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 membership costs; memberships are based on an annual fee.

Need a partner to play with? Join one of our "flex" leagues. Play in a singles or doubles league. Leagues are available for players of all ages and ability levels. Play unlimited tennis with our "All You Can Play Pass". Members pay a one-time rate for unlimited play during specific hours, 7 days a week.

Visit the USPTA award winning

ebensburgtenniscenter.com or call 814-471-2980.

# Fall/Winter All You Can Play Pass

<u>Cost:</u> Single - \$340 Family - \$520

Pass runs from Sept 14 - May 23.

- \* You must be a member to have an AYCP Pass.
- \* You may reserve a max of two hours at one time.
- \* You may reserve courts one week in advance.
- \* Pass is only for the indoor courts.

# Fall/Winter Court Rates for Indoor Play

Mon - Fri 9 am - 4 pm \$22 4 pm - 9 pm \$24 9 am - 9 pm \$10 Sat - Sun 9 am - 1 pm \$21 1 pm - 7 pm \$19 7 pm - 9 am \$10

- \*All tennis rates are based on an hourly rate.
- \*You may play as a nonmember three times per year.
- \*Non-members will pay an additional court fee of \$4.



#### TENNIS LESSON RATES

Private Lessons
1 hour private lesson \$50
1/2 hour private lesson \$31

\*1 hour private lesson \$54
\*1/2 hour private lesson \$33

\*1 hour clinic \$12
1 1/2 clinic \$17

\*1 hour private lesson \$34
\*1 hour clinic \$13
\*1 1/2 hour clinic \$19

\*Prices are for students who are non-members of the tennis center.

# TENNIS MEMBERSHIP RATES

**Single** - \$150

Family - \$195 (includes immediate family members)
Junior - \$60 (17 and under)

\*Out of Town Membership - \$65 Single \*Out of Town Membership - \$115 Family

\*Out of town memberships are for anyone living outside a 40 miles radius from the center. All membership run one calendar year, unless otherwise specified.

STANDARD U.S. POSTAGE PAID Johnstown, PA PERMIT 5

# **Ebensburg Community Events**

# Wine Time in the Mainline

Sponsored by Ebensburg Rotary Club
February 25th, 2 pm - 4 pm & 5 pm - 8pm
The Crystal Hall, Ebensburg Mini Mall

# 19th Annual 'Art in Bloom' Spring Art Show\*

Saturday, April 29th, 12 pm - 6 pm & Sunday, April 30th, 11 am - 4 pm Cambria County Courthouse

## **HeartChase**

Hosted by the American Heart Association April 29th, 9:30 am - 11:30 am Young Peoples Community Center

# 13th Annual Wheels & Wings\*

Thursday, June 22nd, 5 pm - 10 pm Downtown Ebensburg

### Movie in the Park\*

Friday, July 7th, 8 pm Veteran's Memorial Park

# **Downtown Shutdown\***

Friday, July 28th, 6 pm - 11 pm Center of Downtown Ebensburg

# **Ebensburg Homecoming\***

Saturday, July 29th, ALL DAY Ebensburg Area & Lake Rowena

# Farmer's Market\*

Every Saturday, 9 am - 12 pm July 8th - September 23rd Penn Eben Park

## **Concerts in the Park\***

August 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th, 6 pm - 9 pm Penn Eben Park

# **Cambria County Fair**

Always Labor Day Week September 3rd - 9th Cambria County Fairgrounds

#### 26th Annual PotatoFest\*

Saturday, September 30th, 9 am - 5 pm Downtown Ebensburg

# Fall Foliage Bike Ride\*

Sunday, October 8th Ghost Town Trail

## **Ebensburg Turkey Trot**

Hosted by Ebensburg Area Running Club Thursday, November 23rd www.ebensburgrunners.org

#### 12th Annual Dickens of a Christmas\*

Friday, December 1st - December 3rd Downtown Ebensburg

\*Sponsored by Ebensburg Main Street Partnership

www.ebensburgmainstreet.com