

Richmond Township update: Embracing Spring and Celebrating Our Legacy in 2026

RICHMOND TWP BUILDING

30348 St. Hwy 408

Townville, PA 16360

Phone: 814-967-3822

Fax: 814-967-2942

Meetings: 1st Thursday of
the month, 6 pm at the
Township Office Building

SUPERVISORS

Bob Potts, Chairman

Bryan Morton, V- Chairman

James Rankin

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Rhonda Phillips

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Mary Worley

TAX COLLECTOR

Kathleen Wheelock

814-967-4319

Call for office hours.

AUDITORS

Laura Morton – Chairman

Trisha Palmer

PLANNING COMMISSION

John Lawrence - Chairman

Gary Coburn

Luigi DeFrancesco

Mike Lokuta

Don Myers

Spring has arrived in Richmond Township, bringing blooming flowers, extended daylight, and the invigorating warmth of the sun! As we emerge from the long, harsh winter, the Board of Supervisors extends heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated road crew. John and Brian worked tirelessly to keep our roads safe and accessible through every storm. Now, they are hard at work, repairing the damage from freezing temperatures. If you spot them on the job, take a moment to stop and thank them - their commitment keeps our community moving!

Looking ahead, the Supervisors, Veterans Committee and Recreation Board are thrilled about 2026. This year marks America's monumental 250th birthday – a celebration of freedom, resilience, and innovation! Join us for an inspiring Memorial Day program on May 25th, honoring those who died in defense for freedom. Come and be a part of the meaningful ceremony! The Board thanks those who organized the event and help make it happen.

Richmond Township holds a proud place in American history. The John Brown Tannery stands as a powerful symbol of our nation's fight for justice. John Brown's unyielding efforts as an abolitionist were pivotal in ending slavery and shaping the course of freedom. Let's honor Crawford County's rich heritage – educate yourself about this landmark and visit the site rite in our backyard. It is a reminder of how local people and events can fuel national issues!

On July 4, 2026, our nation commemorates its most profound milestone: 250 years of independence.

“With a single sheet of parchment and 56 signatures, America began the greatest political journey in human history,” declared President Trump.

This anniversary calls us to reflect, renew and recommit to the ideals that built our country.

For our township, 2026 is a year of transformation. We are revitalizing our beloved recreation park with a brand-new playground and comprehensive upgrades to create a vibrant community hub. Your input matters – share your ideas on improvements and funding! We also welcome donations to make this vision a reality. Contact the township office today to get involved.

As we pursue these exciting enhancements, rest assured: the Board of Supervisors remains laser-focused on essentials. Public safety, road maintenance and fiscal responsibility come first – all without raising taxes. Together, we will build a brighter future while staying true to our roots!

Sincerely,

Bob Potts, Richmond Township Supervisor

RECREATION BOARD

Scott Wheelock
Matt Capron
Patti Capron
Dave Crago
Bill Taylor
Kathy Taylor
Melissa Dengler

ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Kyle Pratt

EMS COORDINATOR

Bill Taylor

SEO – Mike Klink

814-720-1413
klinkseo@gmail.com

BUILDING PERMITS

Prosek Inspections
724-927-2020

PICNIC SHELTER/FACILITY

BOOKINGS
Rhonda Phillips
814-720-4655

WEBSITE

www.richmondtownshipcc.com

EMAIL

richmondtp@windstream.net

A Word from Newly Elected Supervisor, James W. Rankin

I am a 1978 graduate of Maplewood High School and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in June 1980. I retired from the Marine Corps in October 2000 as a Master Sergeant and went to work at Texas Christian School (TCS), Houston and advanced to lead teacher. I earned a Masters' Degree from the University of Phoenix while working at TCS. I retired from full-time teaching in May 2021 and returned to Pennsylvania. I have been driving school bus for Krise Transportation, Inc., since 2021.

I am truly honored and thankful for this opportunity to serve as one of the township supervisors. I look forward to improving the Richmond Township area and making it one of the best places to live in Crawford County.

Sincerely, James W. Rankin, Richmond Township Supervisor

John Brown Heritage Association

The Edinger family gifted the JBHA the lot that adjoins the tannery site on John Brown Rd. Ace Excavating has done a lot of work in clearing the brush along with help from neighbor and JBHA member Gary Coburn. Hopefully we will be able to plant grass and some native seedlings to establish a peaceful extension if the tannery site.

We have also added another display case of artifacts found at the site by French Creek Archeological Society that you should check out the next time you visit the Recreation Building. The JBHA is seeking funding to make some upgrades to the museum room, such as flooring and lighting. The display would not be possible without the support of our township supervisors in highlighting the historic impact of Crawford County resident, the abolitionist John Brown.

We thank the residents of Richmond Township for their support, and if you need more information, please let us know. You can visit their website johnbrownheritagecc.com or they can be reached at (814) 720-5764.

Thank you, John Lawrence

Building and Septic Permits

Springtime is just around the corner, so please remember to get a building permit before you start construction. Please contact Prosek Inspections at (724) 927-2020 for building permits, and Mike Klink at (814) 720-1413 for septic permits.

NO TAX INCREASE FOR 2026

We are pleased to announce that there will be no need for a tax increase for the year of 2025 in Richmond Township.

Township Clean-up Day Details

We are encouraging all residents to aid in cleaning up our community by picking up road litter and bringing those items to clean-up day. Items that will NOT be accepted include chemicals, hazardous items, contractor waste, tires, paint, household garbage, shingles, barrel debris, and electronics which require recycling by state law (TVs, computers, monitors, tablets, phones). Appliances will be accepted WITHOUT freon.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Annual Easter Egg Hunt – Saturday, March 28th, 10 am – at the Township Rec building

Township Clean-up Day – Saturday, April 25th, 7 am – 1 pm at the Township office/garage

Rec Facility Clean-up Day – Saturday, 9th, 8 am at the Township Rec building

Primary Election Day – Tuesday, May 19th, 7 am – 8 pm at the Township Rec building

Memorial Day Service – Monday, May 25th, 10 am at the Township Rec building