

**** THE RICHMOND TOWNSHIP INFORMER ****

RICHMOND TOWNSHIP 30348 State Hwy 408 Townville, PA 16360

FALL 2018

Greetings Richmond Township Residents,

We hope everyone had an enjoyable summer. It was a productive season for the township. Roads were graded and ditched, berms mowed and culvert pipes replaced in troublesome areas. In addition, the grant project on Carpenter Road was recently completed. We also had some issues to contend with, the biggest one being unable to use brine for dust control. Because of a lawsuit filed in Warren County against the DEP, DEP did not issue any brine spreading permits this year pending the permit process being rewritten and vetted. These things take time and, to date, the issue has not been resolved. Fortunately, we were able to find another source of brine – from a salt water well as opposed to brine from local conventional gas wells. We purchased a limited amount and tried it out on township roads that get the most traffic. And it worked well, better than what we've been using. We are planning to expand use of this well brine next year. We have new brine tanks at the township building which will be used to store the brine for future use.

As mentioned, the Carpenter Road grant project has been completed. A new 5 foot cross pipe was installed to replace the old one which was plugged with debris and badly rusted. In addition, the grade of the road was increased by approximately 2 feet. These improvements will facilitate better drainage and prevent future washouts and flooding across the road.

Winter will be here sooner than we'd like it to be. That being said, please remember that roads must be kept clear to allow snow plows to pass. Do not park along the side of the road during the winter months. This has been a problem, especially in hunting season. Please find off-road parking. Keeping the roads plowed is in everyone's best interest and safety. Cars or trucks blocking the road will be towed at the owner's expense.

The supervisors have had their first meeting to discuss and plan for the 2019 budget. All looks good and no tax increase is expected for 2019. Two more planning sessions are scheduled, then the preliminary budget will be advertised and made available for review. Final approval is scheduled for December 2018.

We have qualified for grants to assist us with upgrades to the Rec building and related facilities. This summer we were able to upgrade the electrical wiring and lighting at the picnic shelters. We have also replaced the picnic tables with new ones constructed by students in the Maplewood woodshop class. We will continue to apply for grants to make additional upgrades to the Rec

building, playground and picnic areas. Anyone interested in renting the building or picnic shelters can do so by calling township secretary Rhonda Phillips at (814) 967-3822.

Halloween is quickly approaching. Richmond Township will once again be hosting “Trunk or Treat” on Thursday, October 25, 2018, in the parking lot at the township Rec building, 30031 State Hwy 408 from 6 until 8 pm. Residents are invited to participate by handing out candy to trick or treaters from the trunk of their car. In the spirit of the season, participants are also encouraged to decorate their vehicles and to dress up in Halloween costumes. This is a fun event for both trick-or-treaters and for those giving out candy. The event will be held rain or shine. Please consider joining us!

Don't forget that November 6 is Election Day. Exercise your constitutional rights and get out to vote! The polls will be open from 7 am until 8 pm at the township Rec building, 30031 State Hwy 408.

This is our first web-only newsletter. Posting the newsletter on the website and sending it out via e-mail enables the Township to save money previously spent on printing and postage twice a year. Please tell your friends and neighbors to sign up to receive the newsletter via email. They can do so by going to the township website at www.richmondtownshipcc.com, click on “More,” “Newsletter,” and follow instructions on the “Contact” form.

In closing, we want to thank you for making Richmond Township a great place to live. The closeness of our community and willingness to help our neighbors in need was front and center after the October 2 tornado that damaged numerous trees, blocking roads, damaging some buildings and disrupting electric service. Residents were quick to respond to help open those roads and to cut up downed trees in yards, along roadways and to help make repairs. We thank everyone who responded –residents, Township workers and Northwest Rural Electric Cooperative crews – for their assistance and hard work.

We are honored to serve as your supervisors.

Bryan Morton

Chairman

Glenn Sharpe

Supervisor

Don James

Supervisor