PUBLIC NOTICE
COOLSPRING TOWNSHIP
MERCER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

Notice is hereby given that Coolspring Township, Mercer County, Pennsylvania, will hold a public hearing on October 29, 2026 at 5:30 p.m., prevailing local time, at the Coolspring Township Municipal Building, 852 N. Perry Highway, Mercer, PA 16137. At that time, Coolspring Township will consider and take comment and testimony relative to a proposed ordinance amending certain sections and adding certain sections to the Coolspring Township Zoning Ordinance to regulate mining, mineral extraction and surface excavation activities within the agricultural district and to provide definitions, conditional use standards, operational requirements, reclamation requirements and enforcement provisions. The title of the proposed ordinance is stated below and the contents of the proposed ordinance are summarized thereafter (references in the summary are to sections of the proposed ordinance and sections of the existing Coolspring Township Zoning Ordinance).

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF COOLSPRING, MERCER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING THE COOLSPRING TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE TO REGULATE MINING, MINERAL EXTRACTION, AND SURFACE EXCAVATION ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT; PROVIDING DEFINITIONS, CONDITIONAL USE STANDARDS, OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS, RECLAMATION REQUIREMENTS, ENFORCEMENT PROVISIONS, REPEALER, SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Section 200 of the Coolspring Township Zoning Ordinance is amended to include definitions of the following: Mineral Extraction, Oil and Gas Extraction and Overburden.

Section 500 of the Coolspring Township Zoning Ordinance is amended to include surface mining and mineral excavation only as a Conditional Use and only within the Agricultural District, subject to standards contained in the zoning ordinance amendment.

Section 614.01 further clarifies what is included in mining/mineral excavation.

Section 614.02 describes the requirements for application for conditional use approval.

Section 614.03 requires that the excavator comply with all applicable regulations of the Township.

Section 614.04 provides that there shall be no landfill or dumps for garbage or other refuse or byproducts.

Section 614.05 provides operational requirements for the excavation project.

Section 614.06 provides for a bond requirement for use of township roads.

Section 614.07 restricts mining operations within any setback limits and further lists setback requirements from certain uses.

Section 614.08 further restricts mining from any side or rear setback area and limits the height of any Overburden.

Section 614.09 provides for minimum lot areas for the mining of sand and gravel and for other minerals.

Section 614.10 restricts the hours of operation.

Section 614.11 requires the applicant to furnish copies of all required federal and state permits and compliance with all state and federal laws.

Section 614.12 requires fencing around the entirety of the property, as well as additional landscaping.

Section 614.13 requires a buffer or screening and describes the nature of the buffer or screening.

Section 614.14 requires a Reclamation Plan to accompany the application.

Section 614.15 includes conditions for blasting, if to be undertaken during the mining operation.

Section 614.16 requires that any suspension or revocation of state or federal required permitting shall constitute a zoning violation and will result in suspension or revocation of zoning approval.

Section 614.17 requires the Applicant to demonstrate compliance with all DEP permitting requirements.

Section 614.18 limits conveyor usage.

Section 614.19 describes Minor Excavation, lists exemptions and limited activity that constitutes Minor Excavation and lists maximum acreage to qualify as Minor Excavation.

Section C of the proposed Ordinance repeals all ordinances or parts of ordinances which are inconsistent with the Ordinance.

Section D of the proposed Ordinance provides a saving clause.

Section E of the proposed Ordinance provides that the Ordinance shall become effective five days after enactment.

Be further advised that at their regular meeting scheduled for November 2, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. prevailing time, at the Coolspring Township Municipal Building, 852 N. Perry Highway, Mercer, Pennsylvania 16137, the Coolspring Township Board of Supervisors will consider the proposed ordinance for adoption and enactment.

A copy of the full text of the proposed ordinance may be examined at no charge at the Coolspring Township Municipal Building, 852 N. Perry Highway, Mercer, Pennsylvania 16137, each weekday from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., or by special appointment by contacting the Township Secretary at (724) 475-2010. The ordinance is also available to be examined at the Mercer County Law Library and the Record Argus during regular business hours.

Board of Supervisors
Coolspring Township, Mercer County, PA