Home is not just where you live, but where you love...

When you choose to invest your time in your community, great things can happen! In this issue, we’re highlighting a ton of ways to get involved in Upper Merion – from volunteering at a park or stream clean up, helping to plant trees, sponsoring a township event or program, joining a Citizen Advisory Board, or supporting the work of the Foundation, there are opportunities to be had all along the way. Plus, with great amenities such as the township pool, summer concert series, Farmers Market, and Library, Upper Merion is the best place to spend your time and energy, especially this season!

Turn the page to learn how you can get involved. Plus, you’ll find more information on upcoming events, great community programs, stormwater tips to keep your home and yard in top shape for the warmer weather, and important public safety news. We look forward to seeing you around the community!
Upper Merion Township

Government Information

Township Offices

Office Hours:
Monday - Friday
8:15AM to 5:00PM

175 W. Valley Forge Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406

www.umtownship.org

Directory

Administration . . . . 610-265-2600
Safety & Codes. . . . . 610-265-2608
Community
Center . . . . . . . . . 610-265-1071
Emergency . . . . . . . . 911
Police . . . . . . . . . . 610-265-3232
Library . . . . . . . . . . 610-265-4805
Public
Information . . . . 610-205-8544
Public Works . . . . 610-265-2606
Senior Service
Center . . . . . . . . . . 610-265-4715
Tax Collector . . . . . 610-265-5343

Stay Connected!

Subscribe to our Township Newsletter and Social Media

Sign up for our weekly email newsletter to stay in the know!
Submit your email address on our homepage:
www.umtownship.org

Follow us on social media
@umtownship

Board of Supervisors

Top, Left to Right:
Bill Jenaway, Chairperson
Greg Philips
Greg Waks

Bottom, Left to Right:
Carole Kenney, Vice Chairperson
Tina Garzillo

Anthony Hamaday
Township Manager
A TOWNSHIP OF OPPORTUNITIES

Upper Merion has developed into one of the most important activity centers of the region. The township has approximately 28,000 residents, hosts over 60,000 jobs, and offers over 9.5 million square feet of office space.

Be a Sponsor!

When you choose to partner with Upper Merion Township as a sponsor of one or more of our great programs, your business will help to enhance the overall quality of community life and our local environment, while amplifying your company’s brand and building your customer base!

For more information on each sponsorship and sponsor registration forms, visit the township’s sponsorship opportunities web page at umtownship.org.

UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP LIBRARY SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

Public libraries are more than just books. They are critical resources that are proven to change individual lives for the better and improve the community.

For more than 50 years, the Upper Merion Township Library has been here as a welcoming gathering place for the people in our community, just like you.

Every day, the Library educates, empowers and engages residents, resulting in a stronger, more engaged community. With over 120,000+ physical items including books, movies, music, audiobooks, magazines, and toys, the Library’s knowledgeable staff connects people with what they are seeking, including sourcing materials from libraries across the county and state through Inter-Library Loan. The Library is part of the Montgomery County Library and Information Network Consortium (MCLINC).

Become a sponsor and help the Library deliver programming that spans from birth to adulthood with a focus on providing educational and cultural entertainment. There’s programming for all ages and interests!

GET INVOLVED!

BECOME A SPONSOR

The community is growing and the Library’s programs are expanding to meet the demand. Businesses: the great sponsorship benefits enhance your brand!
The Upper Merion Farmers Market is an award-winning, producer-only market conveniently located in the heart of King of Prussia. As a sponsor, you will help the Market support the local economy, enrich the quality of life in Upper Merion, and promote the public health and environmental benefits of eating local.

Every Saturday 9:00AM to 1:00PM from mid-May to mid-November, the Upper Merion Farmers Market becomes the “Town Square” for our Upper Merion community.

In addition to farm fresh vegetables, locally-sourced products, and artisans, there’s also plenty of fun! Monthly special events and live music every Saturday in season make it the place to be.

It’s a truly local experience - All vendors are from within a 100-mile radius. With average crowds of approximately 1,000 people (25,000 people per season), the Upper Merion Farmers Market is a community favorite!

Various sponsorship levels are available which include a sponsor company display table at the Market!

Does your business have a strong commitment to environmental stewardship and doing business in eco-friendly ways?

Become an Upper Merion Park Partners Sponsor!

Upper Merion Park Partners provides a variety of ways for businesses, organizations, and residents to make a difference right here in Upper Merion Township! Help us protect, enhance and beautify Upper Merion’s environment – open spaces, parks, recreation spaces and trails. Sponsor benefits include social media and website sponsor acknowledgments, digital displays, and signage.

• **Volunteer events:** Stream cleanups, park cleanups, tree plantings

• **Restoration and reforestation:** Pro bono sponsorship of township projects to restore areas impacted by natural disasters (storms, insect infestation, and more)

• **Adopt-A-Park Program:** A business sponsorship with employees beautifying and enhancing a particular park

• **Renovation projects:** Outdoor basketball, tennis court, field house, pond, walkways, playground safety resurfacing, and more

• **Gifts for the Park:** Fitness and recreation items including adaptive/handicap-accessible playground and recreation equipment for children and adults with disabilities, shade and picnic structures, educational signage, etc. Memorial park bench and tree donations, and more
Upper Merion Township offers a rewarding opportunity for businesses to support the Parks and Recreation Department and the Community Center!

The Banner Sponsorship Program connects your business to the community through family-oriented, township-wide events, summer camps, and the Upper Merion Community Center – with thousands engaged throughout the year.

Digital and print ads, included at every sponsor level, will display your corporate citizenship while providing greater visibility in this expanding township.

BE SEEN EVERYWHERE!

As a Banner Program Sponsor, your company will be visible to thousands through digital and print ads, and at the township’s family-oriented events. All Banner Program Sponsors are invited to have a table at these events – with the benefit of waived event registration fees.

Banner Program Sponsors support the Community Center

The Upper Merion Community Center is the Program’s centerpiece and provides Platinum sponsors with exclusive value and visibility! The Community Center has a robust membership offering a wide array of classes, recreation and fitness activities, and youth programs – it’s brimming with activity every day of the week! This 70,000 square foot, state-of-the-art facility is equipped with an indoor track, group fitness rooms, a fitness center, multiple courts, meeting spaces, a cooking studio and three green roofs.

CONCERTS UNDER THE STARS SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

Concerts Under the Stars has provided a wonderful outdoor music experience for decades.

This iconic, free, summer concert series features great musical performances, food, and a beer garden – all nestled in the beautiful Township Building Park – thanks to our generous sponsors. The summer series delivers a variety of concerts from May through August on Sunday evenings, with a concert included as part of Upper Merion’s Fourth of July Celebration. The concert series sponsorships provide value to your business – at any level!

GREAT VISIBILITY!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sponsor Level</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title Sponsor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Event (Presenting) Sponsor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Platinum Sponsor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Silver Sponsor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bronze Sponsor</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting Sponsor</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Upper Merion Foundation was created in 1999 as a 501(c)(3) organization to serve the needs of the Upper Merion community by raising funds and securing resources to support programs that improve the quality of life for all.

Part of what makes Upper Merion a great place to call home is our commitment to each other. This is a place where people care, a place where people want every neighborhood to prosper and for all to feel that they belong.

There are lots of ways to get involved! Visit umtownship.org/donate for more information.

**T-shirts**

This custom high-performance moisture-wicking t-shirt is a great way to show your support of the Foundation.

$20 each, sizes S-XXL

**Make a Donation**

Donations are accepted on our website via PayPal, or by check payable to the Upper Merion Foundation. You can also select Upper Merion Township Foundation on Amazon Smile, and 0.5% of your eligible purchases will be donated to the Foundation.

**Steins**

This beautiful Colonial stoneware stein is custom made for UMT and makes a great gift or adds the perfect touch of history to your home. Steins can be purchased at the Upper Merion Foundation table at township-wide events, select Farmers Market Saturdays, and during business hours at the township building cashier window.

$35 individual
$24 each for bulk purchase of 25+ units

For more information about ways to get involved, contact Gerri Vattimo at 484-636-3899 or gvattimo@umtownship.org.
Retrofitting existing stormwater detention basins is one of the most effective ways we can ensure south-eastern Pennsylvania rivers and streams have enough clean water for our families. This can include removing concrete low flow channels, reducing the size or raising the elevation of the orifice on the outlet structure, extending the flow path in the basin, or naturalizing with native plants.

**Typical Detention Basin:**

Typical detention basins are designed to collect water from roads, buildings and parking lots and channel it into a nearby stream as quickly as possible.

**Retrofitted Detention Basin:**

Retrofitted detention basins can hold, absorb and filter stormwater runoff, and protect our streams and rivers.

**Benefits of a Retrofitted Basin:**

- Improve opportunities for groundwater recharge
- Native trees, shrubs, and plans utilize more runoff because of deeper roots
- Planting vegetation slows down the velocity of runoff and allows for increased filtration of pollutants
- Require less maintenance than traditional basins

Information provided by stormwaterpa.org and Montgomery County Conservation District.

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**UPPER MERION PARKS & RECREATION**

**EARTH DAY 2020**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 18 • 11:00AM-2:00PM**

**TOWNSHIP BUILDING PARK**

**LIVE MUSIC • FOOD • GREEN DEMOS • HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES**

**PONY RIDES • LIVE BEES & HONEY • FACE PAINTING • & MORE!**

**MORE INFORMATION: UMTOWNSHIP.ORG AND @UMTOWNSHIP**
Introducing the Upper Merion Police Department K-9 Program

The Upper Merion Township Police Department is raising funds to purchase a new addition to their K-9 Unit. Police K-9 Units are an integral part of law enforcement, which help make the community safer. The K-9’s keen sense of smell makes them very effective in searching for a variety of explosive materials in various places throughout the community. The dogs’ detection skills can also assist the department in locating missing people and assist in apprehending suspects. Police K-9s fill an important role in our police force’s daily work of building and maintaining strong community relations.

“"The Upper Merion Township Police has already seen the benefits from adding a K9 to our Team” states Lieutenant Jeff Maurer of the Community Oriented Policing Division. “Our goal is to maintain a high level of communication with the communities we serve. Our current K9, Anna, is more than just a police K9 officer, she is a conversation starter. When she makes her appearances at our schools, special events and public gatherings, she often receives a lot of attention. K9 Anna makes it easy for just about anyone to approach our officers.”

K-9s ASSIST POLICE OFFICERS IN MANY WAYS

- Track suspects and missing persons, perform area searches to locate suspects
- Extensively trained in conducting explosive detection
- Detect hidden firearms, expended casings, and other evidence
- Assist in locating lost or missing persons/officers
- Perform valuable educational demonstrations and programs

When the K-9’s workday is over, the dog goes home to be with their family. We believe that is best for the dog to keep them happy and healthy!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

The generosity from sponsors and donors will help cover the cost of purchasing the K-9s and securing the vital K-9 safety equipment and training that is required for the longevity of the program.

Donate!
The Upper Merion Police Department is partnering with the Hometown Foundation, Inc. to raise funds for new K-9 Officers.

Go to hometownfoundation.org/UMPD-K9-Fund and donate today!

Donations are 100% tax deductible.

Organize a Fundraiser!
Your business or organization can host a fundraiser – contact us and we’ll help you get started!

Be a Sponsor. Go to the sponsorship web page at umtownship.org to view the benefit packages.
Fire & EMS Information

Ambulance Subscription Service

Upper Merion Township EMS is pleased to offer a new ambulance subscription program, which provides peace of mind for you and your loved ones by protecting you from a potentially large out-of-pocket expense. This is a convenient and affordable solution to mitigating the risk non-subscribers may face if their insurance doesn’t cover their bill.

For questions related to ambulance billing and subscriptions, please contact:
Upper Merion Township EMS
ATTN: Ambulance Subscription Service
23 Old Depot Road
New Cumberland, PA 17070
(887) 214-6018 or (887) 214-7224

Subscriptions can also be easily completed online through Cornerstone Adminisystems, Inc. by visiting https://ambulancebillingoffice.com/memberships/uppermerion.php

Smoke Alarm Blitz 2020

After an incredibly successful run in 2019, Upper Merion Township Fire & EMS Department is once again teaming up with the American Red Cross, our local volunteer fire companies, and community partners to kick off a series of smoke alarm blitzes throughout the community in 2020. This is part of the American Red Cross “Sound the Alarm” event, which aims to reduce fire-related deaths and injuries in the US by 25%.

Every day, seven people die in home fires, most often because of faulty or missing smoke alarms. The Red Cross is aiming to change that by canvassing neighborhoods to install free smoke alarms, replace batteries in existing alarms, and educate families about fire prevention.

The first Smoke Alarm Blitz will be held in the King of Prussia Fire District on April 18, 2020.
Stay tuned for information about the other events taking place around the township in coming months.

For more information, contact Bill Daywalt, Deputy Fire Marshal, at bdaywalt@umtownship.org or 610-205-8554.
The Market’s 11th season is fast approaching!

Since 2010, the Market has grown from a small volunteer operation with a few vendors to a township entity and one of the largest and most vibrant markets in the Delaware Valley.

This year, we will continue to offer you a more diverse lineup of products and vendors that we hope you will love as much as we do!

I’ve never been to the Market before, what can I expect?

During our regular season, May 16 through November 21, you’ll find plenty of vendors, food trucks, music, and events to keep you coming back week after week. We usually have 20-25 vendors per week, and 5-6 of those vendors are farms! We also have music typically every week from 10:00AM to 12:30PM, so you can enjoy some tunes while you shop. We’re not just a great place to pick up fruits, vegetables, and artisan foods -- the Market routinely partners with the Community Center, Library, and Public Safety to promote all the health and lifestyle services available in the township. We also have six special events throughout the season, that are a great way to get involved with your community!

**FAST STATS**

An estimated $250,000-$260,000 was spent at the Market in 2019 (an almost 14% increase from 2018)

Over 25,000 customers visited in 2019 – allowing people to meet, interact, and connect with their community while shopping from local vendors

We have over 50 rotating vendors – the majority of which are based within a 25-mile radius of Upper Merion Township

Farmers receive only 15 cents of every food dollar that consumers spend at traditional food outlets. At our Market, 100% of your food dollar goes to your local farmer

Our 11th season begins on May 16 and runs until November 21
Concerts Under the Stars has provided a wonderful outdoor music experience for decades. This iconic, free, summer concert series features great musical performances, food, and a beer garden – all nestled in the beautiful Township Building Park. The summer series delivers a variety of concerts on Sunday evenings, from May through August, including Upper Merion’s Fourth of July Celebration.

2020 SCHEDULE OF PERFORMERS

May 31 . . . . The Graceland Experience featuring Bakithi Kumalo
June 7 . . . . TO BE ANNOUNCED
June 14 . . . . Stephen Kellogg
June 21 . . . . Terrance Simien and the Zydeco Experience
June 28 . . . . TO BE ANNOUNCED
July 4 . . . . Fourth of July Celebration at Heuser Park with Triple Rail Turn
July 12 . . . . TO BE ANNOUNCED
July 19 . . . . TO BE ANNOUNCED
July 26 . . . . Cheryl Wheeler with special guest Kenny White
August 2 . . . 5th Annual Craig Bickhardt Friends and Family Festival
August 9 . . . The Hillbenders and Sarah Shook & The Disarmers
August 16 . . . David Uosikkinen’s In the Pocket

We are honored to welcome Main Line Health as the 2020 Presenting Sponsor.

“Main Line Health is proud to partner with Upper Merion Township as the Presenting Sponsor of the Concerts Under the Stars series. Our dedication to providing high-quality, human care to all is matched by Upper Merion Township’s commitment to offering family-friendly events that truly bring our community together,” stated Becky Stewart, Director of Marketing.

This March, Main Line Health will cut the ribbon on its spectacular Main Line Health King of Prussia facility, featuring the Women’s Specialty Center. The center, in collaboration with Axia Women’s Health, will offer a wide range of specialty services focusing on the preventive, diagnostic and treatment needs of women.
2019 YEAR IN REVIEW
Upper Merion Township Library

224,711 items borrowed
123,180 physical items to borrow at our library, plus tens of thousands more items accessible through MCLINC and online resources.

Museum Passes
745 check outs to 17 area locations saving families hundreds of dollars and creating lasting memories.

123,483 patron visits
700 programs
26,689 program attendance

8,643 reference questions answered
1,376 patrons registered for Summer Reading
1,281 new library cards
46,767 computer and Wifi uses
FREE Passes to Museums & Cultural Attractions

Have you heard? The Upper Merion Township Library is pleased to offer you FREE admission passes to more than 15 museum and cultural attractions located nearby, in Philadelphia, and surrounding counties. There is something for everyone: vehicles, gardens, zoos, archaeology, insects, history, and the fine arts.

Why does the library offer this program?
As part of the Pennsylvania Library Association’s PA Forward Initiative, many of programs, resources, and services fall under five literacies. We value literacy of all forms, not only basic literacy, or the ability to read and write. Our museum and cultural attraction passes fall under Civic & Social Literacy, we want our patrons to understand and connect to the world around them. We want to encourage adults, families, and seniors to see history come alive by visiting a museum, stand in awe of the natural world at gardens and the zoo, and learn more about personal interests like art and artists, historical aviation, and so much more. Our popular museum and cultural attraction pass program allows us to reach beyond the libraries walls to the wider world.

How does it work?
The library partners with area attractions to offer annual passes that can be checked out to patrons. The pass allows you entrance into a museum or attraction for free! Enjoy your time and make sure to return the pass back to the library just like you would a book or movie. Our borrowing policy for museum and cultural attraction passes includes:

• Passes are available on a first-come, first-served basis. To check the status of a pass, call the library at 610-265-4805.
• If the pass you are looking for is in, we will hold it for 24 hours.
• Passes check out for 3 days on an ADULT card, are not renewable, and have a $5/day late fee.
• The replacement cost is dependent on each pass, usually between $100-$250.
• One pass may be checked out at time per household.
• All passes must be picked up and returned to the Upper Merion Township Library.

Is entrance free for just the library cardholder?
Actually, each pass is a little different, but typically the pass will allow free entrance to two adults and at least a few children! Check the library’s website or museum brochure for specific details.

What passes does the library currently offer?
For more information, pick up a brochure, visit the library online at www.umtownship.org/library, or ask a staff member.
UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP POOL 2020 SEASON

POOL OPENS
May 23 - September 7, 11am-8pm

While UM schools are in session, the pool will only be open on weekends (Saturday & Sunday).

Whether you want to cool off and relax, get some exercise, or have fun with friends, there’s no better way to enjoy a warm summer day than jumping in the township pool! It is open to residents as well as visitors of Upper Merion, from Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day. Memberships may be purchased online, or by visiting the Upper Merion Community Center.

Last year, nearly 2500 members and 2800 guests enjoyed the facility. If your child is feeling the competitive heat, join the Stingrays Swim Team – undefeated in 2019!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registration Rates after 4/15/20</th>
<th>Memberships after 4/15/20</th>
<th>Community Center Passholders after 4/15/20</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Resident</td>
<td>Non-Resident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult (18+)</td>
<td>$151</td>
<td>$189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior (60+)</td>
<td>$90</td>
<td>$113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>**Teen (14-17) - no guest privileges.</td>
<td>$90</td>
<td>$113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>**Child (3 - 13) must be accompanied by an adult pool member.</td>
<td>$61</td>
<td>$76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>** Toddler (0-2) must be accompanied by an adult pool member.</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Guest Pass, full day (guest of adult/senior pool member)</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Guest Pass, after 5pm (guest of adult/senior pool member)</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Guests must be signed in and accompanied by an adult pool member at all times.

Visit www.umtownship.org or stop by the Community Center for our summer camp guide.
311 ‘til the Job is Done

We recently launched MyUMT – a municipal customer relationship management (CRM) system, and your online connection to Upper Merion Township! You can access the portal via our website from your computer or mobile device to report non-emergency issues, submit pickup requests, ask questions, or get more information. Requests will be automatically routed to the person or department responsible for handling it, and you’ll receive updates along the way, making the process seamless!

We’re regularly adding to the system to make it even better. Use the system to send us an email with suggestions on what else you’d like to see on it.

How to Use It:
From our website, use the drop-down menu to select SUBMIT A REQUEST FOR SERVICE. You can also access the system at uppermerionpa.qscend.com/311.

Follow the steps to:
Get Your Home and Property in Tip Top Shape for Spring!

Aerate Your Lawn
- Helps to establish a deeper root system, which promotes groundwater recharge, reduces soil compaction, increases grass health, and allows it to be more tolerant to drought conditions
- Recommendations: core aerate your lawn one to two times per year when the soil is moist

Use a Rain Barrel
- A rain barrel is a rainwater collection system that stores rooftop runoff to be used for irrigating gardens and lawns

• This encompasses a wide variety of water storage techniques designed to capture precipitation, hold it for a period of time, and reuse the water
• Screen any openings to prevent mosquitoes

Build a Rain Garden
- Rain gardens are bioretention areas, slightly graded to retain water, and filled with native plants
- Gather and store runoff until it can evaporate, be used by plans, or soak into the soils
- They look great too!

Other Tips
- Plant native vegetation
- Start a compost pile
- Never fertilize before a rain storm
- Use mulch to reduce water evaporation, but never cover the base of a tree trunk
- Keep storm drains free of debris and vegetation
- Wash your car at a car wash, or do it on the grass
- Keep gutters and downspouts clean
- Use low-flow toilets and fixtures
We all have clothes and electronics we no longer use cluttering our closets, drawers, and basements. Retrievr is the only program that collects these items right from your door and then recycles them for you.

Your neighbors have already discovered the joy of decluttering their homes by recycling over 50 tons of clothing and electronics. Now you can, too!

Thanks to Montgomery County’s partnership with Retrievr, you can recycle your clothing and electronics right from your doorstep. This service is FREE for all clothing, textiles, and small electronics. Simply visit retrievr.com or text the word PICKUP to 757-70-FETCH (757-703-3824), and Retrievr will send a truck to your home. Bag up your items and leave them on your porch; or, leave them inside your door and tell Retrievr to ring your bell when they arrive.

Convenience fees apply only for certain items: $10 for each microwave, $35 for each TV under 150 lbs, and $100 for each TV 150 lbs or more.

Visit retrievr.com or text PICKUP to 757-70-FETCH to get started.

FAQ
When does the program go into effect?
Right now! Simply visit retrievr.com or text the word PICKUP to 757-70-FETCH (757-703-3824) and follow the guided scheduler to set a date.

What if I can’t send text messages?
Call our number and leave a voicemail. Someone will contact you to schedule a pickup.

What items do you accept?
Visit Retrievr.com for a full list of accepted items.

Where should I leave my items?
You can leave your items on your porch, just outside your door, or just outside your garage.

What if I have items I don’t want to leave outside, is that okay?
Yes! You might prefer to keep items like computers, phones, or tablets indoors until the driver arrives. When you schedule your pickup, you can ask Retrievr to ring your bell when they arrive.

Can I get a tax write off for items collected?
No. Just as your recycled paper, bottles and cans are not tax deductible, neither are recycled clothing and electronics.

If you have access to a local donation center and prefer to donate some or all of your items, we respect that choice. Donation keeps your items out of the landfill, which makes us happy.

Upper Merion Township Volunteer Service Day
Saturday April 25
8:45AM to 1:00PM

UM Foundation Neighbors Day:
To provide Volunteer help Upper Merion Township seniors or persons with chronic illness or disability who are in need of help with a spring yard cleanup and simple repairs.

UM Park Partners Street and Stream Cleanup:
To perform a stream and street cleanup in the township.

UM Park Partners Tree Maintenance Event
Saturday, May 9
9:00AM to 12:00PM

The hundreds of trees that have been planted need to be weeded and mulched. The trees lives depend on our care and maintenance.

Visit umtownship.org for more information
Connected in Community

The Economic & Community Development Committee (ECDC) has been hard at work examining and implementing initiatives to support economic growth and a sense of community in Upper Merion. For 2020, the ECDC has identified 18 initiatives that are being advanced by the committee. They serve the residents of Upper Merion by conducting research, advocating for various causes within the township, and executing programming with short-term, mid-term, and long-term timelines.

Here are just a few highlights from recent or current programs:

**Holiday Passport Program (2019)**
The ECDC would like to thank the participating small businesses and shoppers on a successful inaugural Holiday Passport Program! Over $1,000 in prizes were given away to local residents. If you would like your small business to participate in the 2020 program, please email UM.ECDC@gmail.com

**Block Party Contest (2020)**
The ECDC and several local neighborhood leaders are working on setting up a Block Party Contest for 2020. Thank you to those who have already volunteered to join the planning committee! If you'd like to join the ECDC and local leaders in planning and running this inaugural contest, please email UM.ECDC@gmail.com

**Advocacy in the township**
The ECDC has also provided perspectives to township leaders on various initiatives, proposed and ongoing.

If you are interested in getting involved with ECDC, or any of the township’s citizen advisory boards and commissions, visit www.umtownship.org/government/authorities-boards-commissions/.
Growth Mindset Series

A smart growth speaker series for the small or large business-minded

The ECDC is partnering with the King of Prussia Business District and Workhorse Brewery to bring professionals and entrepreneurs alike the opportunity to hear from business leaders on today’s most relevant topics. Check out the Workhorse Brewery website for dates, speakers, and registration information.

Mural Art

The ECDC is currently considering whether to start an initiative around Mural Art in the township. If you have a particular interest or expertise in this area, and/or if you are a property owner who would love to dedicate a building surface for a township mural, we would love to hear from you. Please email UM.ECDC@gmail.com

Researching Options for Affordable Housing

A key priority for ECDC over the past year has been researching various models of affordable (aka “workforce”) housing. Our goal is to identify an existing model or develop an innovative new concept that could potentially be applied in Upper Merion.
Swimming Pool Discharge Guidelines:

Water from swimming pools and hot tubs often contain high levels of chlorine. Discharging chlorinated pool/spa water into streams, (or irrigation canals, ponds, etc.) is harmful to fish and other aquatic life. The discharge of any sewage or industrial waste, including swimming pool water, to a water of this commonwealth without a permit is a violation of the Clean Streams Law, the Act of June 22, 1937, P.L. 1987, as amended.

It has been the department’s policy not to require permits for discharges from single residence pools, provided the guidelines outlined below are followed. Local municipalities should be contacted concerning local ordinances.

These guidelines shall not be construed so as to waive or impair any rights of the Department of Environmental Protection to prosecute the property (pool) owner and/or pool company for any stream damage that occurs as a result of the discharge. Penalties would be assessed under the provisions of the Clean Streams Law.

Pool Guidelines:

A. Disposal of Water to Sanitary Sewer

1. If the municipal authority grants permission, you can discharge pool backwash water, pool cleaning wastewater and standing water to the sanitary sewer system. Neutralize water before discharge by following these steps:

   a) Prior to disposal of pool water to a sanitary sewer, shut off the chlorination system if you have one, or stop adding chlorine.

   b) Hold the water in the pool or hot tub for at least two weeks to allow the chlorine to dissipate.

   d) Discharge or use the water for irrigating your property and ensure that it does not flow off your property.

   e) Discharge or use the water for irrigation in a manner that will prevent nuisance conditions (such as creation of odors, and fly and mosquito breeding conditions). Nuisance conditions occur when water is held in the pool for a prolonged period.

2. The discharge should be at a rate which prevents erosion and optimizes filtration. In no event should pool water be directly discharged to waters of this commonwealth.

3. Use small volume pump and control discharge so it does not spill out. (< 800 gallons per minute)

4. Discharge with hose into access “cap” of the private property sewer cleanout. DO NOT use public manholes or cleanouts.

5. Care should be taken in making sure the discharge is to a sanitary sewer and not a storm sewer, which would discharge to a stream. If sanitary sewers are not in the immediate area, the wastewater should be hauled off-site for disposal at an approved treatment facility.

6. Water from backwashing pool filters should not be discharged to a stream, ditch or storm sewer. Backwash from pool filters must be discharged to the sanitary sewer, on-site septic tank and drainfield system (if properly designed and adequately sized), or a seepage pit.
Swimming Pool Discharge Guidelines:

B. Discharge of Water

1. If the discharge to sanitary sewer is not feasible, then the following guidelines must be followed before discharging the water:
   
   a) Prior to disposing or using the water for irrigation, shut off the chlorination system if you have one, or stop adding chlorine.
   
   b) Hold the water in the pool or hot tub for two weeks to reduce the chlorine level.
   
   c) Discharge or use the water for irrigation in an area where the water will not flow into a stream or storm sewer.
   
   d) Discharge or use the water for irrigating your property and ensure that it does not flow off your property.
   
   e) Discharge or use the water for irrigation in a manner that will prevent nuisance conditions (such as creation of odors, and fly and mosquito breeding conditions). Nuisance conditions occur when water is held in the pool for a prolonged period.

2. The discharge should be at a rate which prevents erosion and optimizes filtration. In no event should pool water be directly discharged to waters of this commonwealth.

C. Standing water or accumulated rain and/or pool water from the previous season should be pumped from the top so as not to disturb settled solids. Solids on the pool bottom should not be discharged. After the water has been pumped, solids should be cleaned out manually.

The discharge should not raise stream temperatures by more than two degrees Fahrenheit in a one-hour period or a total of five degrees Fahrenheit. The pH should be between six and nine standard units and total chlorine residual should be 0.0 mg/l.

D. Cleaning wastewaters containing muriatic acid or chlorine that is used in cleaning pool surfaces needs to be treated prior to discharge. Muriatic acid wastewater should be neutralized to a pH between six and nine standard units. Chlorine rinses should stand for a period of 10 days to allow chlorine degradation prior to discharge. Total chlorine residual of the wastewater discharge should be less than 0.5 mg/l. Temperature should be monitored as described above (standing water). Chlorine rinse water pH should be between six and nine standard units.

*Information provided by the Department of Environmental Protection.*

Visit [www.depweb.state.pa.us](http://www.depweb.state.pa.us), keyword: wastewater.
TIRE COLLECTIONS

2020 MONTGOMERY COUNTY PA RESIDENTIAL EVENTS
9:00 am – Noon

WHEN: WHERE:
Saturday, May 9 Montgomery County Community College
340 DeKalb Pike, enter at 1313 Morris Road, Blue Bell, PA 19422
(in the Central Lot, 1D)
Saturday, May 30 Green Lane Park
2298 Green Lane Road, Morrow Pavilion, Green Lane, PA 18054
(near the tennis courts)
Saturday, June 27 Western Montgomery Career and Technology Center
77 Graterford Road, Limerick, PA 19468

The Montgomery County Commissioners authorize these FREE events to prevent tires from being improperly disposed of and to reduce breeding grounds for disease carrying mosquitoes. The tires that are collected will be shredded and repurposed by a local business into products for civil engineering and playground material.

- Montgomery County residents only
- No businesses!
- Free of charge
- 10 tires per vehicle maximum
- Rims and tires on rims accepted
- **Accepted:** passenger, light truck, motorcycle, ATV, bicycle, wheelbarrow, and lawn mower tires
- **Not accepted:** farm equipment or construction vehicle tires

For additional information and in case of severe weather:
Please visit MontcoPARecycles.org, email recycling@montcopa.org, or call the recycling line at 610.278.3618. Please do not contact the host sites, as they are not affiliated with the events.

In case of severe weather, call 610.278.3618, option 6 for event status.
Follow us on Facebook at MontgomeryCountyRecycling.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Valerie A. Arkoosh, MD, MPH, Chair • Kenneth E. Lawrence, Jr., Vice Chair • Joseph C. Gale, Commissioner
HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE
2020 MONTGOMERY COUNTY PA RESIDENTIAL EVENTS
9:00 am – 3:00 pm

DATES:
Saturday, April 25
Boyertown Middle School East
2020 Big Rd. • Gilbertsville

Saturday, May 2
Indian Valley Middle School
130 Maple Ave. • Harleysville

Saturday, May 16
Temple University–Ambler Campus
enter at 1431 E. Butler Pike • Ambler

Saturday, June 13
Norristown Area High School
1900 Eagle Dr. • Norristown

Saturday, June 20
Abington Junior High School
enter at 2056 Susquehanna Rd. • Abington

Saturday, September 26
Spring-Ford 9th Grade Center
400 South Lewis Rd. • Royersford

SUNDAY, October 25
Lower Merion Transfer Station
1300 N. Woodbine Ave. • Penn Valley

Free residential collection events are held outdoors from 9am-3pm. Residents may attend any Household Hazardous Waste event held by Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, or Philadelphia Counties.

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Follow us on Facebook at MontgomeryCountyRecycling.
THE UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT INVITES YOU TO

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4
6:00 TO 9:00PM

KING OF PRUSSIA MALL
(Plaza parking lot near Bonefish Grill and Outback Steakhouse)

MUSIC • GAMES • FOOD • PRIZES
BOUNCE HOUSES • ROCK WALL • & MORE!

UMTOWNSHIP.ORG • @UPPERMERIONPOLICE