#### **TOWNSHIP OF ABINGTON**

1176 Old York Rd., Abington, PA 19001 267-536-1000 • www.abingtonpa.gov



October 2022 Edition

## SUBMIT NON-EMERGENCY REQUESTS OR ISSUES THROUGH OUR NEW ONLINE CITIZEN SERVICE REQUEST TOOL!



Submitting a non-emergency service request or reporting an issue to the Township has never been easier through our new online Citizen Service Request tool. You can now conveniently alert Township staff about non-emergency needs in your neighborhood, make a request for service, or view submitted reports by your fellow neighbors from your phone, tablet or computer, at any time. Visit <a href="www.abingtonpa.gov/servicerequest">www.abingtonpa.gov/servicerequest</a> to submit an issue or request. For more information including a step-by-step guide on how to submit a request, visit <a href="www.abingtonpa.gov/servicerequesttool">www.abingtonpa.gov/servicerequesttool</a>.

Click here or the image above to watch a brief video on how it works.

#### **Step by Step Guides**

• Video: How to submit a request

Video: <u>How to create a Hub Account</u>

PDF: <u>Instructional guide on how to submit a service request</u>

• PDF: <u>Instructional guide on how to create a HUB account</u>

Submit a request!

#### **OCTOBER MEETINGS**

10/6 Infrastructure Committee, 7 PM

10/11 Shade Tree Commission, 7:30 PM

10/12 Environmental Advisory Council, 7 PM

10/12 Human Relations Commission, 7 PM

10/13 Board of Commissioners, 7 PM

10/13 Board of Commissioners Working Session, 7:30 PM

10/18 Zoning Hearing Board, 7 PM

10/19 Recreation, Park, and Open Space Plan Public Meeting #1, 7 PM

> 10/20 Finance Committee, 7 PM

> > 10/24 Library Board, 7 PM

10/25 Economic Development Committee, CANCELLED

10/25 Comprehensive Plan Development Team, 6 PM

10/25 Planning Commission, 7:30 PM

10/27 Vacant Property Review Board, 6:30 PM

#### **NEWS & UPDATES**

#### FIRE PREVENTION WEEK, 10/9 - 10/15

This year, Fire Prevention Week takes place from October 9 through October 15. During Fire Prevention Week, everyone should review their home fire escape plans and make sure that you have working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in your home. Below are some tips:

• **Home fire escape planning and practice:** It is important for everyone to plan and practice a home fire escape. Everyone needs to be prepared in advance, so that they know what to do when the smoke alarm sounds. Given that every home is different, every home fire escape plan will also be different. Have a plan for everyone in the home. Children, older adults, and people with disabilities may need assistance to wake up and get out. Make sure that someone will help them!

• **Smoke alarms:** Smoke alarms sense smoke well before you can, alerting you to danger. Smoke alarms need to be in every bedroom, outside of the sleeping areas (like a hallway), and on each level (including the basement) of your home. Do not put smoke alarms in your kitchen or bathrooms. Choose an alarm that is listed with a testing laboratory, meaning it has met certain standards for protection. For the best protection, use combination smoke and carbon monoxide alarms that are interconnected throughout the home. These can be installed by a qualified electrician, so that when one sounds, they all sound. This ensures you can hear the alarm no matter where in your home the alarm originates. If you need a smoke detector or assistance with creating a home fire escape plan, please reach out to your local fire company or call the Abington Township Fire Marshal's Office at 267-536-1057.

#### Abington Township Fire Department Open Houses, October 10 through October 14

Come visit the Abington Township Fire Department during Fire Prevention Week at one of our open houses held at each of our five fire stations. Visitors will be able to meet neighbors who volunteer as firefighters with the ATFD, see our equipment and fire trucks, and learn about fire safety and prevention. For our youngest residents, there is always plenty of fun giveaways to reinforce the safety messages that they get from the firefighters they meet. Below is the schedule for the open houses that take place from 6 - 8 PM:

- Monday, October 10, 2022 Abington Fire Company
- Tuesday, October 11, 2022 McKinley Fire Company
- Wednesday, October 12, 2022 Roslyn Fire Company
- Thursday, October 13, 2022 Weldon Fire Company
- Friday, October 14, 2022 Edge Hill Fire Company





#### **TOWNSHIP OFFICES CLOSED ON 10/10**

Township offices will be closed on Monday, October 10, 2022, in observance of Columbus Day. There will be no trash, recyclables, or yard debris collections. Trash and recyclables collections for Monday, October 10, and Tuesday, October 11, will occur on Tuesday, October 11. There will be no yard debris collection on Tuesday, October 11. Yard debris collection will resume on Wednesday, October 12.

#### **TRASH CLEAN OUT WEEK, 10/17 - 10/21**

Trash Clean-Out Week is Monday, October 17 through Friday, October 21, 2022. During this week, the Township will collect everything you place in your trash cans **PLUS** any additional normal trash placed in store bought refuse bags you put out with your regular trash on your **SCHEDULED** trash collection day. The bags must weigh under 30 lbs.

#### NO electronics, hazardous waste, construction material or large items will be accepted.

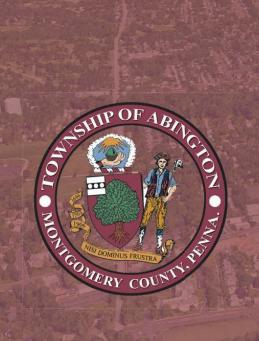
Click here or the image below to watch an informational video on Trash Clean-Out Week.



#### RECREATION, PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN PUBLIC MEETING #1 ON 10/19

Abington Township is working on a Recreation, Park and Open Space Plan and would like to know where you want to see open space and recreation improvements. Please join us to share your ideas and help shape the future of your township.

- Public Meeting #1 on October 19 at 7 PM: Click here to participate.
- Take an online survey by clicking here.



## Abington Township Recreation, Park & Open Space Plan

#### Public Meeting #1

Abington Township is working on a Recreation, Park & Open Space Plan and would like to know where you want to see open space and recreation improvements. Please join us to share your ideas and help shape the future of your township.

## PARTICIPATE VIRTUALLY HERE





## TAKE THE SURVEY HERE







#### Wednesday, October 19th, @ 7:00 - 9:00 PM Hybrid: In person + Virtual

All attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and provide input at the meeting.

Participate In person at Abington Township Building 1176 Old York Rd, Abington, PA 19001.

**Participate Virtually** by scanning the QR code, or go to the following link:

https://qrco.de/ATRPOS\_Meetings

Information can be found through the Abington Township website: https://www.abingtonpa.gov



#### Online Survey

An online survey has been created to collect detailed data from the residents of Abington Township. To take the survey, scan the QR code or visit: https://qrco.de/ATRPOS



#### **Future Public Meeting Dates:**

#2 - Thursday, January 26th, 2023 @ 7PM

#3 - Wednesday, April 19th, 2023 @ 7PM



#### For additional information, please contact:

Emma Haley ehaley@simonecollins.com (610) 239-7601
Sarah Leeper sleeper@simonecollins.com (610) 239-7601

#### FREE TREE GIVEAWAY TO ABINGTON RESIDENTS ON 10/22

With generous support from the TC Energy Foundation, the Abington Shade Tree Commission, in partnership with the Willow Grove NAACP, has purchased 300 native trees to give away for free to Abington Township residents to help strengthen our urban canopy.

WHEN: Saturday, October 22, 2022

**TIME:** 9 AM - 12 PM

LOCATION: Crestmont Park, 2595 Rubicam Ave., Willow Grove, PA 19090

Tree species include Red Sunset Red Maple; Heritage River Birch; Black Tupelo; Black Cherry; White Oak; Swamp White Oak; Flowering Dogwood; American Hornbeam; Redbud; and Pagoda Dogwood. All trees will be available on a first-come first-serve basis, with no pre-registration. Each household may take up to two trees, but if you take two trees, one must be a shade tree.

More information about the event, about each species, and about why you should plant a native tree (or two!) at your home is available at <a href="www.abingtonpa.gov/treegiveaway">www.abingtonpa.gov/treegiveaway</a>. Questions? Contact <a href="stc@abingtonpa.gov">stc@abingtonpa.gov</a>.



#### LIBRARY NEWS

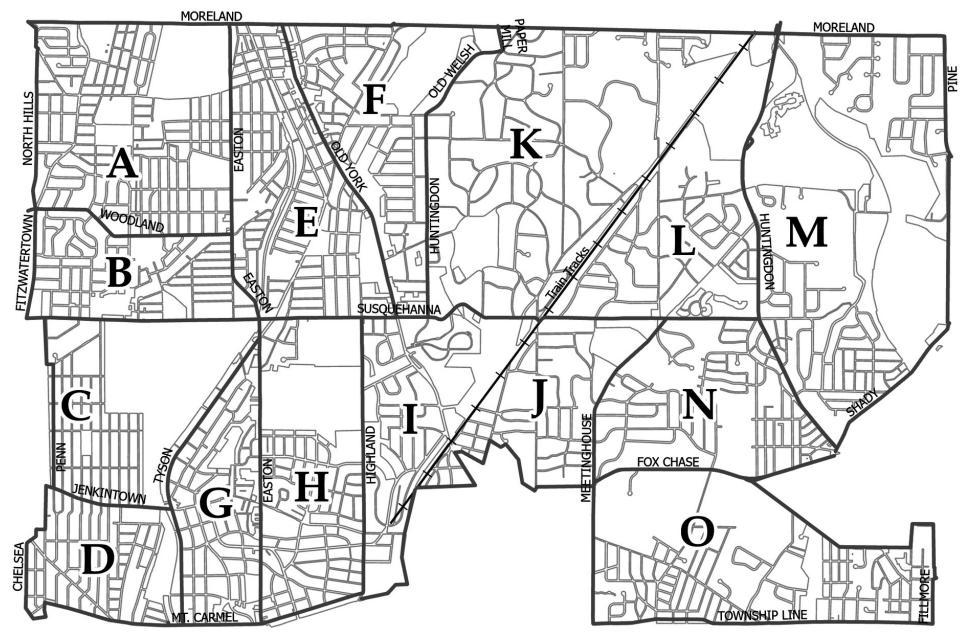
• The Roslyn Library is celebrating 50 years on Avondale Avenue! Stop by the library this month to join in on the celebrations by signing a card, viewing a display about the branch's history, or helping to complete an art project.

#### **Events and Programs:**

- Trunk or Treat: October 22, 2 4 PM at Abington Free Library, North Parking Lot
  - Come dressed in costumes for candy, crafts, games, music, and vote for your favorite trunk! There will
    be a fire truck and police car at the event! Interested in participating as a decorated trunk? <u>Fill out a</u>
    registration form by clicking here.
- A Taste of African Heritage: Thursdays, beginning October 6, 6 PM via Zoom
  - Join us for a six-week course from Oldways that focuses on traditional vegan meals from the African Diaspora. Cook along from home with food educator Claire Richardson as we make our way through heart-healthy African meals. <u>Click here to register</u>.

See <u>www.abingtonfreelibrary.org</u> for more details.

LEAF COLLECTION BEGINS WEEK OF 10/24



Abington Township Public Works Department will begin its annual leaf pick up the week of October 24, 2022. Leaves should be placed curbside by each Monday of the designated week of pickup. The Department will make every attempt to maintain the schedule, but residents should be prepared for delays due to inclement weather. Conversely, there will be times when the collection runs smoothly thereby enabling a jump start on the next area. If this is the case, the vacuum machines will return on Monday for the scheduled collection. To find your collection area, please use the map above or visit this page.

#### FIRST COLLECTION AREAS

October 24 - October 28: Areas A, B, E, G, H, I October 31 - November 4: Areas C, D, F, M, N, O November 7 - November 11: Areas J, K, L

#### **SECOND COLLECTION AREAS**

November 14 - November 18: Areas G, H, I November 21 - November 25: Areas A, B, E November 28 - December 2: Areas C, D, F, J December 5 - December 9: Areas M, N, O December 12 - December 16: Areas K, L

#### VISION2035, ABINGTON'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

The comprehensive plan is a document that guides future initiatives, policies, projects and growth within the Township including land use, transportation of people and goods, housing, township facilities and utilities, and natural and historical resources and is enabled under the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, Act of 1968. Your participation is critical in helping develop the plan and ensuring it is reflective of our community's needs and wants; not only for the Township as a whole but the individual communities that comprise it. Explore the Vision2035 webpage, an update to the Township's Comprehensive Plan, at <a href="https://www.abingtonpa.gov/vision2035">www.abingtonpa.gov/vision2035</a>.

There are several ways to participate and stay engaged in the development of the plan:

- Attend a Comprehensive Plan Development Team (CPDT) meeting
  - Meeting: <u>October 25 at 6 PM</u>
    - Please note, this is the **final** meeting of the CPDT.
- Submit a question or comment by clicking here or emailing <u>vision2035@abingtonpa.gov</u>
- Review and provide feedback on draft plan chapters

Click here to register.



## **Benefits Abington's Youth!**

Eat, Drink & Be Scary at Abington Greatest Halloween Party!!! **Silent/Live Auctions Honoring:** Jon Waxman & & Entertainment Lee's Hoagie House • Sgt. Roger Costumes encouraged Gillispie but not required Philmont Country Club 301 Tomlinson Rd. Huntingdon Valley **Tickets available on Eventbrite -\$50** Info: 267-536-1083 or PAL@abingtonpa.gov

#### REMINDER FROM OUR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT



#### PARKS & RECREATION UPDATES

Alverthorpe Park winter hours will go into effect beginning Monday, October 3, 2022. The operating hours will be 8 AM - 5 PM.

- Adventures in Game Design: Explore different programming concepts as you create various arcade style games.
  - Date: Wednesday, October 5, 2022
  - Time: 1/2 day, 9 AM 12 PM, full day, 9 AM 3 PM
  - Location: Crestmont Clubhouse
  - Ages: 7 years and older
  - Cost: 1/2 day, \$55, full day, \$110
- **Pumpkin Decorating:** You and your little one can bring your pumpkin to life! Assist your child in decorating their own pumpkin.
  - Date: Thursday, October 6, 2022
  - Time: 10 AM 11 AM
  - Location: Ardsley Community Center, Room 14
  - Ages: 2 5 yearsCost: \$8 per child
- **Kids Pottery**: In this 4 week session, children will learn about hand building, textures and glazing.

Date: Thursdays, October 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2022

• Time: 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

• Location: Ardsley Community Center, Room 14

• Ages: 5 years and older

- Cost: \$120 per person (additional \$20 material fee is due to instructor at the 1st class)
- **Adult Pottery:** In this 4 week session, each class will begin with a pottery technique. You will use what you have learned to create and glaze 3 unique pieces.

Date: Thursdays, October 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2022

• Time: 7 PM - 8:30 PM

• Location: Ardsley Community Center, Room 14

• Ages: 18 years and older

• Cost: \$120 per person (additional \$20 material fee is due to instructor at the 1st class)

For more information or to register online, visit <a href="www.abingtonpa.gov/PRregistration">www.abingtonpa.gov/PRregistration</a>.

#### **BRIAR BUSH FALL 2022 PROGRAMS**

Click here to register for programs.



# Fall 2022 Programs

# Briar Bush offers a wide variety of nature-based programs for all ages throughout the year.

- ➤ <u>Magic Mornings</u> Children ages 2-5 are invited to bring their favorite adult to Briar Bush for walks, crafts, games, animal encounters, and more!
- ➤ <u>Nature Pioneers</u> 4-6 year-olds are invited to join us on their own for age-appropriate activities, stories, walks, animal encounters, and more!
- ➤ <u>Woodland Explorers</u> Students in grades K-6 will connect with fellow nature lovers in our Woodland Explorers After-School Club.
- > School's Out, Get Outside! When school is not in session, students in grades K-6 can spend a day at Briar Bush exploring the outdoors.
- Nature Playdates Families are invited for unstructured nature play at our Nature Playscape. Sponsored by BLBB Charitable
- Family Nature Night Children with sensory processing disorders and families enjoy a night in nature. Sponsored by Child Development Foundation
- ➤ <u>Weekend Walks</u> Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month, join Briar Bush educators and trail guides on interpretive hikes around Briar Bush.
- > <u>SAGE Sessions</u> Adults are invited to join the Briar Bush staff for an afternoon discussion of interesting and relatable environmental topics.
- ➤ <u>Adventures in the Field</u> Time spent in nature can be both relaxing and stimulating. Adults can join us for enriching nature experiences.

### **Register Here!**

Visit our website or call Briar Bush for more information.

www.briarbush.org • 215-887-6603

#### DRUG TAKE BACK DAY ON 10/29

The DEA National Drug Take Back Day is Saturday, October 29, 2022. Between 10 AM and 2 PM, the Abington Township Police Department will be collecting unwanted, unused and expired prescription and over-the-counter (OTC) medications. The Department will dispose of them in a safe, environmentally friendly way. We look forward to seeing you!





#### **MEMORIAL DONATION PROGRAM**

Our Parks and Recreation Department has developed a Memorial Donation Program. If you or your family enjoy a particular park and wish to place a lasting memorial to a family member, friend, or pet, consider donating a bench or tree to the community. Learn more at <a href="https://www.abingtonpa.gov/memorialprogram">www.abingtonpa.gov/memorialprogram</a>.



# WANTED CONTRACTORS ABINGTON TOWNSHIP OWNER-OCCUPIED HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM CARN THROUGH GOVERNMENT-FUNDED HOME IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

- ✓ Program-guaranteed payment for compliant work
- √ Fully-funded projects are ready to bid
- ✓ Bids are sent directly to you at no cost
- ✓ Detailed list of work items provided to you
- **✓ Expand your client base**





CGP&H, LLC manages home improvement programs throughout Eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Our company awards over two-million dollars in home improvement projects each year. Each construction project generally ranges in value between \$10,000 and \$60,000+.

Many projects throughout up to 57 municipalities in Montgomery County, including Abington Township.

Minority,
women-owned,
and HUD Section 3
businesses strongly
encouraged to
participate.



#### For additional information:

e-mail contractorswanted@cgph.net or call 609.580.0285 or 609.664-2783

#### OWNER OCCUPIED HOME REHABILITATION PROGRAM

The Township's Owner Occupied Home Rehabilitation Program is active and accepting residents to join the waiting list. More details are available at <a href="https://www.abingtonpa.gov/cd">www.abingtonpa.gov/cd</a> or by calling Community Development Director, Kimberly Hamm at (267) 536-1019.

## DOES YOUR HOME NEED REPAIRS?

# THE TOWNSHIP OF ABINGTON OWNER-OCCUPIED HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM IS UNDERWAY







# FUNDS INCLUDE









If you live in the Township of Abington, own and occupy your single family home, and your total gross annual household income falls below the income limit for your household size, you may qualify to participate in the program.

Household size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Maximum Income	\$59,050	\$67,450	\$75,900	\$84,300	\$91,050	\$97,800	\$104,550	\$111,300



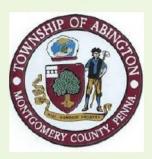
- ✓ There is no cost to apply and it does not affect your credit score.
- ▼ Funds are provided as a

  \$25,000 grant, with a no interest (0%) forgivable loan
  for the remaining balance of funds needed for repairs.

  ▼ Funds are provided as a

  \*\*Provided as a

  \*\*Prov
- A professional inspector oversees the process.
- ▼ There is no monthly payment.



This program is sponsored by the Township of Abington

# FOR MORE INFORMATION/ TO PLACE YOUR NAME ON THE WAITING LIST

(income limits updated annually)

VISIT www.hip.cgph.net





Program Contact: Brittany Sanchez of CGP&H
Email: bsanchez@cgph.net
Call: 609.642.4992

#### REMINDER FROM OUR WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT

Sanitary sewer pipes are sized for water flow. Prevent clogs by placing any foreign object in the trash and not in the toilet or down a drain. These items easily clog the pipes and may cause a backup into your basement or first floor sinks and toilets or even your neighbors. Please respect your neighbors by not flushing these objects into the sewers to prevent blockages in the sewer mains. Most common sources of clogs include:

- Cleaning or baby wipes
  - · Although the package says the wipes are flushable, they often cause blockages by clogging your

home's main drain pipe which is only 3" or 4" in diameter. Please throw all wipes in the trash.

- Paper towels, rags or cloths
  - Many cloths are made to be durable and often do not breakdown easily resulting in blockages. On the contrary, toilet paper is designed to quickly break down and dissolve into very small shreds so it can easily flow through a pipe. Please throw all paper towels, rags or cloths in the trash.
- Garbage from kitchen disposal
  - Items such as coffee grounds and seeds will not degrade in a sewer pipe and will collect and fill the bottom of the pipe, eventually creating a blockage. Please throw away or compost food rather than putting it down the garbage disposal.
- Cooking oils and grease
  - Even though the oils may be hot and some garbage disposal instructions say to run hot water, the oils will quickly cool and form a gel in the sewer pipes. Over time the gel gets thicker and thicker and will eventually create a blockage. Please throw away cooled oils in the trash.
- Plastic items
  - Plastic should not be flushed down the drain as it creates a blockage. Please throw away all plastic.

REMEMBER: Once something is put into a drain and sewer it is very difficult and very expensive to remove it later, especially when your drains are not draining at all and you have an emergency! In an emergency, it is recommended to ask a plumber to power flush the pipes, which thoroughly cleans them, rather than just snaking or cabling the sewer.

For more news, please visit our website at www.abingtonpa.gov.

#### PROGRAMS & EVENTS



**RIDE WITH C.A.P.T.** 

#### **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9 9 AM**

Join C.A.P.T on Sunday, October 9 at 9 AM for their annual D.A.R.E. to Ride With C.A.P.T. 60-mile police led bike run through Montgomery County. Proceeds benefit Abington's DARE Program. Click here to register.

More Info



#### **2022 FIRE COMPANY OPEN HOUSES**

OCTOBER 10 - 14 6 PM - 8 PM

Come visit the Abington Township Fire Department (ATFD) during Fire Prevention Week at one of our open houses held at our five fire stations, where you will be able to meet your neighbors who volunteer as firefighters with the ATFD, see our equipment and fire trucks, and learn about fire safety and prevention. Below is the schedule for the open houses that take place from 6 - 8 PM:

- Monday, October 10, 2022: Abington Fire Company
- Tuesday, October 11, 2022: McKinley Fire Company
- Wednesday, October 12, 2022: Roslyn Fire Company
- Thursday, October 13, 2022: Weldon Fire Company
- Friday, October 14, 2022:

Edge Hill Fire Company

More Info



FREE SHREDDING EVENT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15 9 AM - 12 PM Public Works Yard

Residents are encouraged to bring any confidential or personal documents that they would like to discard to the Public Works Yard located at 2201 Florey Lane, Abington, PA 19001. There is a limit of 4 boxes/bags per car and each box/bag cannot exceed 30 lbs. No businesses!

Additionally, the EAC will be holding a food drive and accepting cash donations for local food banks.

More Info

For a full list of programs and events, please visit our calendar at <a href="www.abingtonpa.gov/calendar">www.abingtonpa.gov/calendar</a>.

#### **SPOTLIGHT**



#### **ABINGTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT**

The all-volunteer Abington Township Fire Department (ATFD) has served our township from five individual fire companies for more than 100 years - Abington Fire Company (founded 1889), McKinley Fire Company (founded 1906), Weldon Fire Company (founded 1904), Edge Hill Fire Company (founded 1908), and Roslyn Fire Company (founded 1922). Our ATFD Firefighters may be volunteers, but they are well-trained professional firefighters whose mission is to provide excellent fire, rescue, fire prevention, and public education services to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the community. The ATFD is accredited by the Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE) and is the only allvolunteer fire department in the United States to hold this distinction. Worldwide there are only 301 fire departments accredited by CPSE, and across the United States, only 12% of the population are protected by an accredited fire department. This is a credit to every volunteer who gives their time to the ATFD to protect the residents and businesses of Abington Township every day of the year. In 2021, the volunteers of the ATFD responded to 1,773 calls for service, seventeen of which were serious working structure fires. Our volunteers spent a combined 8,401 hours on location at these emergency incidents at all hours of the day or night, in all weather conditions, on weekends and holidays. Additionally, these same volunteers spent a combined total of 6,572 hours in training during 2021 to ensure that they were ready to respond to any incident that may present itself in Abington Township. Finally, our volunteers spent 7,030 hours administering the daily business of the fire companies, attending community events, conducting public education and maintaining the fire stations, equipment, and apparatus. This amounts to a combined total of 22,004 hours of service donated by the volunteers of the ATFD to the residents of Abington Township in 2021. The volunteers of the ATFD save the taxpayers of Abington Township millions of dollars every year over the cost of a fulltime career fire department which is normal for communities of our size in most other parts of the United States.

#### TIP OF THE MONTH

Did you know that you can access Consumer Reports and Delaware Valley Consumer Checkbook for **free** with your library card? Use Consumer Reports before you make a big—or little—purchase and look to Delaware Valley Consumer Checkbook for ratings of local service providers...all from the comfort of your home. The Abington Township Public Library has something for everyone, wherever you are. Learn more at <u>abingtonfreelibrary.org/eresources</u> or sign up for a library card by <u>clicking here</u>.

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

CATEGORY	EMAIL	PHONE NO.
General Info	publicinfo@abingtonpa.gov	267.536.1000
Abington Police	AbingtonPolice@abingtonpa.gov	267.536.1100
Refuse Division	publicworks@abingtonpa.gov	267.536.1034
Wastewater	AbingtonWWUD@abingtonpa.gov	215.886.0934
Code Enforcement	codeenforcement@abingtonpa.gov	267.536.1000 ext. 4
Tax Office	jblumenthal@abingtonpa.gov	267.536.1024
Traffic Safety	trafficsafety@abingtonpa.gov	267.536.1100
Pot Holes	potholes@abingtonpa.gov	267.536.1034
Fire Services	firemarshal@abingtonpa.gov	267.536.1055
Parks & Recreation	parksinfo@abingtonpa.gov	215.576.5213

#### **IMPORTANT LINKS**

Township Website Applications & Forms Police Department

<u>Employment Opportunities</u> <u>Trash Collection & Recycling</u> <u>Fire Department</u>

<u>Parks & Recreation</u> <u>Large Item Pick Up</u> <u>Contact Us & Location</u>

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