



Rockledge Recycling Update

Rockledge Recycling Report/Recycling Grants

The Borough receives grant money every year from the DEP based on our annual recycling tonnages, which allows the Borough to put more money back into the community, saves money for the citizens and business owners of Rockledge and assists us in our efforts to keep the environment clean and safe for years to come. The chart below shows our tons reported for the past two years on our 904 Performance Grant and the money we received from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) based on these recycling tonnages.

	<u>Tons</u>	<u>904 Performance Grant</u>
2005	388.15	\$6,932.00
2006	370.15	\$6,377.00

We recently filed our 904 Performance Grant application for calendar year 2007 on which we reported 369.24 tons of commingled/newspaper recycling. A review of our recycling reports for the first two quarters of this year is already showing a slight decrease from 2007. It is so important that we make a concerted effort at increasing our recycling so that we can increase our yearly performance grant awards and at the same time help keep our environment clean. Recycling also saves residents and businesses money as it costs \$70.00 per ton to dispose of trash, while commingled recycling only costs \$21.00 per ton. Let's try to get back on track and finish out 2008 with an increase in our recycling numbers!

Household Hazardous Waste Collection/Computer Collection Program

Montgomery County's Household Hazardous Waste Collection/Computer Collection Program provides the opportunity to safely and properly dispose of hazardous materials and old computers. **Hazardous waste items include:** automotive products including car batteries, motor oil, transmission fluid, brake fluid, antifreeze, kerosene and gasoline; pesticides-herbicides; household products including drain and oven cleaners, spot remover, dry cleaning fluid, rug cleaner. Paint products including paint thinner or turpentine, paint remover, oil

based paint, furniture stripper and refinisher; and miscellaneous products including dyes, lighter fluids, concrete or asphalt sealers, swimming pool chemicals and mercury. They will **not** accept tires, propane tanks, items containing Freon or water base (latex) paints. Latex paints can be disposed of with your regular trash after it has been dried out and is a solid material. **Computer equipment and small electronics include:** monitors, CPUs, keyboards, printers, fax machines, copiers, cameras, scanners, cell phones, and televisions smaller than 30" (no units in consoles/cabinets). Our region's drop-off site is the Lower Merion Transfer Station, 1300 Woodbine Ave. Narberth, PA, and the day is October 25, 2008 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. For more information and directions call 610-278-3618 or visit the website www.wsaemc.org and click on the Recycling and HHW links.

Construction Materials

- The Borough reminds residents that trash collection is not intended for construction materials, and in fact creates additional cost for the residents of Rockledge. Contractors should be removing their own materials from the work site. If residents are performing the work themselves, then the materials must be hauled away separately, or a dumpster must be rented when substantial construction waste is generated.

Scheduled Pick-up Days

- Newspaper/Paper/Junk Mail - Mondays at 7 AM
- Yard Waste - Mondays at 7 AM
- Commingled Recycling - Tuesdays at 7 AM

Please Remember: Trash/recycling/yard waste should not be placed at the curb before 8:00 pm the night before the scheduled pickup day.

**Help keep Rockledge beautiful,
Promote recycling in your neighborhood.
Rockledge Borough Thanks You!**



AUTUMN GREETINGS

*From the Borough
of Rockledge*

Rockledge Borough Council

Joseph Denelsbeck, *President*
James Caffrey, *Vice-President*
Robert Beady
Fran Casey
William Kelleher
Patti Kehoe
Beth Kain
Harold Praediger, *Mayor*

Borough Manager

Grace Metzinger

Borough Clerk

Joyce Hines

Police Chief

James P. Leary

Building Inspector

Lee Denner

Fire Marshal

Russell Hellyer

Fire Chief

Gerry Morris

Public Works Foreman

Clint Snyder

Treasurer

Albert Wartman

Borough Website

www.rockledgeborough.org

PUBLIC INFORMATION

- **Fire Co. Pancake Breakfast** is Sunday, October 19th, 2008 from 8:00am. to 12:00 pm. For tickets call 215-379-8373 or purchase them at the door. **ALL YOU CAN EAT!**
- **Election Day** Tuesday November 4th, 2008 –Polls are open at the Firehouse from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. Voter registration applications and absentee ballot applications are available in the Borough Office. The voter registration deadline is October 14, 2008. Absentee ballots are due to the Board of Elections by October 28, 2008.
- **Political Signs** should not be displayed more than 30 days prior to an election and must be removed no later than two days following the election. (Rockledge Borough Sign Ordinance, Section 1204.12 adopted June, 2004).
- **Trash/Recycling/Yard Waste Reminder:** Please do not place your trash, recycling or yard waste out at the curb before 8:00 pm the night before the scheduled pickup day. If you clean up your yard in the middle of the week, please keep the yard waste bags on the side of your house or in your yard until Sunday evening.
- **Dog Walking Reminders:** Please be mindful to:
 - clean up after your dog and keep them on a leash
 - keep dogs off of private property

A message from Borough Manager Grace Metzinger

Trash/Sewer Fee Discount for Seniors: If you are over 65 years of age, you are eligible to receive a 20% discount on your sewer and trash fees. In order to apply, please contact the Borough Office at 215-379-8572. You must reside at the property in question, show proof of age, and apply by December 31, 2008.

Mercantile Tax: Any business, including property rentals, home business, and contracting, that operates out of the borough must pay mercantile tax along with the annual business privilege registration fee of \$15.00. Mercantile tax returns are due by May 1 of every year. If you have not yet filed your 2007 return, please contact the Borough Office.

Rockledge Reporter is a quarterly newsletter published for the residents, civic and business leaders of the community. If you have any comments or suggestions concerning **Rockledge Reporter**, please contact Grace Metzinger or Joyce Hines at: 121 Huntingdon Pike Rockledge, PA 19046 215-379-8572

POLICE DEPARTMENTAL BRIEFS

POLICE

A message from Chief James Leary

School Bus Safety: Children traveling to school are actually in one of the safest travel times; children traveling from school are at risk. Please be aware that our grade school students are walking to and from school, some riding their bikes, and many are standing curbside at the bus stops. The younger the children, the greater the risk of accident. Please be cautious, be courteous, be safe and share the road. Every year several residents are cited for inappropriately passing school busses. Many of these violators are heavily fined; some suffer the suspension of their license. We hold safety as our priority; voluntary compliance as our goal, and education and enforcement are our tools. Please help us make our streets safe for our children.

Halloween Safety: Nighttime October 31st means our little children and our young adults will be on foot and in our neighborhoods knocking on doors and hoping for treats. Often these kids wear masks and make-up which may limit their vision. Often they travel in groups that are more focused on fun than on caution. If you are driving our streets on Friday, October 31, please take a little extra care and expect that the excited child might dart from the curb to the street. On both Halloween and Mischief Night, the Rockledge Borough Police Department will be at full strength and on patrol. Let's all be safe. Please check the Borough Website and the local papers for the Halloween season activities.

Autumn Weather: Wet leaves serve to distract drivers and increase the stopping distances. Again, let's all be safe—slow down for the wet leaves and avoid parking atop the dry leaves.

For police emergencies, please dial 911. If you wish to meet with or speak to an officer, please dial 215-379-8800. If you wish to leave a message, dial 215-379-8801, but please be aware that 215-379-8801 is a voice-mail system. Our 911 and 215-379-8800 lines are staffed 24/7 and are always your best methods to ensure a rapid police response.

Mayor's Office

A message from Mayor Harold Praediger

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A message from Mayor Harold Praediger

On September 7, 2008 the Rockledge Police Department hosted its annual Rockledge Night Out / Car Show. The car show drew 217 cars, trucks and motorcycles, we also had an animal rescue and adoption, numerous public safety agencies and a moon bounce for the younger folks. New this year we had food vendors all along the Pike for the approximate 4000 people who attended the event. We would like to congratulate all the winners. The Rockledge Police Department would like to thank all who attended the Rockledge Night Out / Car Show, all the people and agencies who helped with the event and a special thanks to Carl Siwek and his family for all their hard work and help in planning this event.

Rockledge Night Out / Car Show Special Thanks To:

Dr. Reuter, Dr Wilkoff, Crawfs Collision, Ackers True Value Hardware, Siwek Hardware, Conrad Kraus Realty, Heads Up Hair, Barbin & O'Connell, Maribeth Blessing, Fowler Flooring, DeChristopher Brothers, J.L. Ash, Orthopedic Surgical Rehab, Dr Gastfriend, Jay Comly, Huntingdon Valley Auto Body, Givnish Funeral home, Rockledge / Fox Chase Business Association, Rockledge Veterinary Clinic, Professional Services, Lincoln Orthodontic Lab, Sussman Honda, G&C Carpentry, Huntingdon Hair Studio, Wetzel & Sons, Frank Seydel Contractor, Parissi Electric and Rita's Water Ice.

We are already planning for next years Rockledge Night Out / Car Show and Hope to see everyone there.

DEPARTMENTAL BRIEFS (cont'd.)

FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

A message from Fire Marshal Russ Hellyer

Please take this Fire Safety Quiz:

1. Have you replaced the batteries in your smoke and CO detectors?
2. Do you have a smoke detector on each floor of your home?
3. Is there one smoke detector in each sleeping area?
4. Have your smoke detectors been replaced in the last five years?
5. Did you follow the manufacturers' instructions when installing your CO detector?
6. Do you have an ABC fire extinguisher near your cooking area?
7. Has your heater been serviced?
8. Do you have two planned routes of escape in the event a fire occurs in your home or building?
9. Do you have a designated meeting place away from the building for all occupants?

If you answered **NO** to any of the questions above, you are not fire safety prepared. Please take the corrective action so that you are able to answer **YES** to all of these questions!

FIRE DEPARTMENT

A message from Fire Chief Gerry Morris

Upcoming Events

- Fire prevention week is the week of **October 5th thru October 11th.**
- Operation EDITH is **Wednesday, 10/8/08** at 8:00 pm on Fillmore at Loney Street.
- Fire Prevention Open house **Thursday, 10/9/08 beginning @ 7:00pm.**
- Pancake Breakfast is **Sunday, 10/19/08** from **8:00 am to 12:00 pm.** Please join us for breakfast.
- Don't forget, daylight savings time will end on November 2—**CHECK YOUR SMOKE DETECTORS**
- Winter is approaching, so remember to have your heating system serviced.
- Help support the fire company by registering with Genuardi's e-scrip program either on-line (e-scrip.com) or at Genuardi's and list the Rockledge Volunteer Fire Company to receive 1-3% of your total purchases!

We are always looking for new company members in addition to active firefighters. We are in need of men/women with business, accounting and computer/I.T. backgrounds as company members. Please contact me @ 267-228-7162 or stop by the firehouse any Thursday evening at 7:30 pm.

Property Tax Relief

A message from Tax Collector Al Wartman

Abington School Taxes –Rockledge Borough 2008/2009

The Taxpayer Relief Act, Act 1 of 2006, provides for property tax reduction allocations to be distributed by the Commonwealth to each school district when revenue generated from gaming reaches a certain level. This reduction only applies to your school district real estate tax and not to your local Borough or County real estate taxes. To determine the dollar amount of your tax relief please look under the Type of Tax & amount of tax listed on your tax bill. The second line under the type of tax is the Homestead reduction. This is the dollar reduction in your school tax bill. Every property that has been approved by Montgomery County to receive a homestead exception will receive the same \$315.00 reduction in the 2008-2009 school tax bill. Only an owner-occupied primary residence may receive the homestead exclusion. If you applied for the exclusion, but your tax bill does not reflect that you received the exclusion, please contact the Montgomery County Assessment Office at 610-278-3761. Office hours are 8:30 am to 4:15 pm Monday thru Friday. Please note that the Commonwealth will make a determination each year of how much gaming revenue it has available and how much it can distribute for property tax relief. You cannot assume that the homestead exclusion will remain the same in future years.

DEPARTMENTAL BRIEFS (cont'd.)

PUBLIC WORKS

A message from Streets Crew Foreman Clint Snyder

Fall weather brings rain and fallen leaves on the roadway. Wet leaves create a dangerous driving surface, which can cause braking, steering and acceleration problems to occur during a rainstorm. A hot engine or vehicle exhaust parked atop dry leaves is also dangerous and can be a formula for fire. Drive and park your car carefully - don't contribute to a tragedy.

Leaf collection in the Borough is a time consuming process. As a resident, you can help make our efforts much more efficient by bagging your leaves and placing the bags at the curb. The purpose of the leaf vacuum is to remove the leaves that fall into the street to keep the curb lines clean for rain water run-off. The practice of raking yard leaves in the street decreases the crews' productivity and causes residents to lose parking, so **please do not rake leaves in the street**. With the assistance and cooperation of the residents bagging yard waste and leaves, the streets crew can vacuum the entire borough more efficiently. We thank you in advance for your help in making this year's and future leaf collection more efficient and productive for everyone.

Reminders — The Public Works Department would like to give residents a few friendly reminders for the fall season.

- Please use the brown paper yard waste bags. Yard waste that is not in the proper bag or contains stones, dirt, trash, construction debris or weighs over 35 lbs. **WILL NOT BE PICKED UP.**
- Yard waste bags must be placed at the curb no later than 7:00 a.m. Monday morning.
- Due to the large volume of bags we collect during the fall, the streets crew may not be able to complete collection in one day. All remaining bags will be picked up the next available day.

Please be reminded, only deposit toilet tissue in the sewer system. Cleaning rags, wipes, and diapers cause costly backups in the sanitary sewer system and should not be flushed down the toilet.

PARKS & RECREATION

A message from Councilwoman Patti Kehoe

Rockledge Basketball Camp will run from **January 10th, 2009 thru March 15th, 2009**, every Saturday and Sunday afternoon from 1:00 pm. to 6:00 pm. for kids ages 6-18 at the Borough Hall gymnasium. For more information, call the Borough Office.

Summer camp ran for six weeks this summer. The children enjoyed a fun summer with trips to: a Phillies game, Brunswick Zone, miniature golf, and Rita's Water Ice. Other activities included: kickball, softball, basketball, bingo, and an ice cream party. This is the second year the program was under the leadership of our camp supervisor **Jessica Salicondro** who did an outstanding job and will be back next year. The camp counselors: **Beth Crossin, Erin Metzinger, Jess Heinz, and Kristin Hector** did a wonderful job with the children. Thank you all for a job well done. Thanks to the children who participated in camp this year.

Tennis Courts at Cegiolkowski Playground: We recently received a \$75,000 grant from the Department of Community and Economic Development to refurbish the tennis courts and install new fencing around the courts. Special thanks goes to **George Kenney** for his help in obtaining this grant for Rockledge!



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:
Recycling Update
Departmental Information
Borough News
A Letter from the Council President

Rockledge Reporter
Borough of Rockledge
121 Huntingdon Pike
Rockledge, PA 19046

A Letter from Council President Denelsbeck

Dear Neighbors,

As we head into fall I would like to update you on some projects and give a few reminders. The Borough has begun the implementation of the walking trail project on Loney Street. This trail will link Church Road to the Cegiolkowski Playground and it is a key link in our overall Trail Open Space Plan. Rockledge is full steam ahead on the completion of Huntingdon Pike and we are on schedule for spring construction; we await some action by the City. I also feel it necessary to inform you that the Borough is in need of a large adjustment in the sewer fee. Due to a metering issue in Philadelphia and Cheltenham, our bill has gone from \$60,000 dollars per year to \$130,000 per year. We run a tight ship and we do not have that amount of extra money laying around. Please rest assured we are looking into multiple ways of dealing with this issue including linking the sewer fee to water usage.

Fall is here and that means the leaves will be falling. Please remember that you are supposed to bag your leaves. You are NOT SUPPOSED TO RAKE THEM INTO THE STREET. The street vacuum is used to clean the curbs of what falls. If the crew must stop to deal with large piles they will never get done; sewer inlets get clogged and then we have bigger problems. Rockledge is not equipped for curb collection. I would like to point out to you the residents that the worst thing you can do is rake your leaves into the street after the truck has gone by. It could be another three weeks until they come back, and we will not alter the vacuuming process to go back. We look forward to your cooperation with this.

Some residents recently received a flyer about a civic organization. As President of Council I welcome such a group. A group of citizens that meets to discuss the issues that face Rockledge is a great idea. What would be even better is more citizens joining the ranks of men and women who serve our community already through the Fire Company and 4th of July Committee as they can always use another hand. We at the Borough are also always looking for people to serve on committees and boards. If you are interested please contact me at jdenelsbeck@rockledgeborough.org.

Thanks and have a great fall. I hope to see you all on Halloween and on Election Day, Tuesday, November 4th.

Respectfully,

Joseph L. Denelsbeck, President of Council

