

FOX CHAPEL BOROUGH NEWSLETTER

Published by

Fox Chapel Borough &
Fox Chapel District Association



Spring 2010

Rain Barrels

A rain barrel is an environmentally-friendly solution that collects and stores rainwater from your roof that would otherwise be lost to runoff and diverted to storm drains and streams contributing to soil erosion. Usually a rain barrel is composed of a 55 gallon drum, a vinyl hose, PVC couplings, and a screen grate to keep debris and insects out. A rain barrel is relatively simple and inexpensive to construct and can sit conveniently under any residential gutter downspout.



What are the advantages of a rain barrel? Lawn and garden watering make up nearly 40% of total household water use during the summer. A rain barrel collects water and stores it for when you want to water plants, wash your car or to top off a swimming pool. It provides an ample supply of free “soft water” to homeowners containing no chlorine, lime or calcium making it ideal for gardens, flower pots and car and window washing. Ready-made rain barrels can be purchased from a number of companies, including hardware stores and garden supply stores. The Nine Mile Run Watershed Association has a citizen’s guide to rain barrels on its website at www.ninemilerun.org. (Please see the Lauri Ann West Library article in this newsletter for information on a rain barrel workshop.) 🐾

Flow Isolation Testing

In correlation with the Allegheny County Health Department Consent Order, the Borough awarded a contract to C & K Industrial to perform sewerage flow isolation testing inside of 210 manholes in the Borough. This testing is slated to begin in the next couple of weeks during the overnight hours and is needed to determine the amount of groundwater infiltration into the sewer system. Each work crew will include a Borough public works employee who will carry a valid Borough I.D. and drive a Borough truck. The police department will be advised on a nightly basis where the crews will be working. Many of the manholes slated to be tested are located within rights-of-way on private property. It is hoped to minimize any disturbance to residents during this testing period. 🐾

Brush Collection Change

Due to the volume of snow this winter season and the amount of snow still on the ground when this newsletter goes to press, the first round of brush pickup will most likely result in very little brush being collected. As a result, the Public Works Department will be instructed to pick up twice the amount normally permitted during the second pickup. The current standard is 4 feet wide by 6 feet high by 8 feet long. The second collection will permit two piles of this size. Your anticipated patience and cooperation is appreciated. 🐾

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Recycling update

Pennsylvania law requires residents of the Borough to recycle and mandates that municipalities update residents annually on recycling requirements and to recap the recycling efforts to date. All residents and institutions are required to separate the following materials from their household garbage and place them in a separate container for recycling: Glass containers, aluminum/bimetal cans, steel/tin food cans, plastic containers, newspapers, magazines, etc., yard waste. (Waste Management would like to remind residents to tie all garbage bags before placing in the trash cans.)

REMINDER:

Newspapers, magazines, etc. need to be placed in a separate bag and not comingled with the other items in the recycling container.

2009

Recyclables	1,050,100
Leaf Waste	4,792,500
Total Recyclables	5,842,600 lbs.

For additional details on the Borough's recycling requirements, please contact the Borough Office at 412/963-1100 or visit our website (www.fox-chapel.pa.us). 

Trail Map

The Borough has a trail map that reflects all maintained trails. This map is useful for discovering the many trails in the Borough. Color copies are available on the website (www.fox-chapel.pa.us) or at the Borough office. 

Leaf pickup

This year's spring leaf pickup will begin the week of May 3rd. As in the past, a **single** pass will be made through the Borough beginning on May 3rd. All leaves must be at the curb, **but not on the street**, on that date as there will be NO return trips made once a street is finished. However, the actual collection takes more than five days so please do not assume that if your leaves are not picked up by the end of the first week that the street has been missed. We will get there! 

In Celebration of Earth Day - Walk the Fox Chapel Trails Sunday, April 25, 2010

Join family, friends and neighbors between 1 – 2 PM meeting at Audubon Society at Beechwood Farms parking lot or Salamander Park parking circle. One of the leaders of the walk will be Mayor Harry McLaughlin. The walk from Salamander Park through McCahill Park to Riding Meadow Park is an easy, flat walk. The walk from Beechwood Farms to Riding Meadow Park is more difficult - a hilly terrain with narrower pathways. You can choose the distance you want to walk by following the Trail Map, walking the entire trail can be done in about 1 hour, 20 minutes. Guides will help get you started – there are a number of options. The trail maps and markers along the trail will help guide you on the route. If you decide to walk the entire trail, a shuttle will drive you back to your car.

Porta johns and a water fountain are available at McCahill Park. We encourage everyone to bring a bag and pick up litter along the way. 

Spring Trash Collection

The 2010 rubbish and trash collection will be made the week of April 26th on the same day that your garbage and recyclables are normally collected. Please be sure to have all rubbish *at the street* by 7 AM on the day of your regular garbage collection. (Unlike weekly garbage collection, the spring trash collection is NOT backyard).

“Rubbish” means all normal household rubbish or trash including old furniture, appliances (limited to what two men can lift onto a truck), rags, crockery, lawn debris in plastic bags (no loose materials), bicycles and other such items. Materials such as rocks, broken concrete, bricks, dirt, ashes, tree or brush trimmings and materials resulting from repairs, alterations or building construction will not be collected. Furthermore, no Freon-containing appliances such as refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners or dehumidifiers will be collected unless the appliance bears a certification that the Freon has been removed.

All rubbish must be set behind the curb or edge of street. In the event of rain during the collection period, it is possible the collection could be delayed, and your patience with the collection crews will be appreciated. One pass through the Borough will be made, and it is important that materials be set out on the day of your regular garbage collection since *there will be no return trips*. 

Garbage collection holidays

There will be no garbage collection on Memorial Day (Monday, May 31st). Garbage collection for the week of Memorial Day will be Tuesday through Saturday. 

District Association

*The District Association is a community organization for residents of Fox Chapel and Aspinwall Boroughs and O'Hara, Indiana and Harmar Townships. The District Association plans and implements many community projects that are not tax supported but nevertheless enhance and beautify the community. For membership information, please contact **Melinda Beard** at 412/781-6355.*

It's official – spring is here! After our-record breaking February snowfall, who can't wait to see green grass and sunshine again? While you're thinking of green grass, think of Earth Day and check our website for all of our Earth Day activities (www.foxchapeldistrictassociation.org).

The District Association will again host the annual Trail Mix party which will be held in May. The Trail Mix party is a time when the Association showcases all of its efforts to add to the quality of life in the Fox Chapel Area. The District Association cannot continue to do all that it does without its members and the \$35 annual fee. Why not plan to attend the Trail Mix party and join the FCDA so that you, too, can be a part of making our communities a better place to live. You can join in person or through the website. Hope to see you there! 🐾

Plant Sale

Squaw Run Garden Club will hold its annual plant sale on Saturday, May 15th, 9 AM – 1 PM, rain or shine, at the Squaw Valley Park Gazebo. A wonderful selection of annuals, perennials, herbs, hanging baskets, and planters will be available for sale as well as the ever popular perennial plants dug from members' gardens. New this year will be a wide variety of vegetable plants for sale. Proceeds from the May Sale benefit local gardening projects such as marking and enhancing the trails along Trillium Trail, the Reading Garden at Squaw Valley Park, Mary's Garden at Fox Chapel Area High School, All of Us Care Teen Clean Garden Project, Camp Gyasuta and educational projects at local schools. Come out to the park and begin your spring garden with beautiful plants purchased from the May Sale at Squaw Valley Park and watch your garden grow! 🐾

Fox Chapel Area Rotary Golf Outing

The annual Rotary golf outing supporting various Rotary charities will be held on Monday, May 24th, at River Forest Country Club. Lunch will be 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM with a shotgun start at 12:45 PM. The format is a 4-person scramble. There is a winning-team prize and a raffle. The cost is \$90/player (includes lunch, golf and cart) and, of this, \$45 will go to Rotary charities. All are welcome. You can arrange your own foursome or be placed with others by the committee. Registration forms are available at the Borough Building or by calling Mike Harter at 412/963-0851 or on-line at mharter641@aol.com. 🐾

Donations

The Borough would like to thank the Fox Chapel Garden Club for its \$1,000 gift to the Park Commission for plantings in the Trillium Trail. The Garden Club indicated that it will continue to donate money to the Borough parks for plantings. The Borough would also like to thank the Fox Chapel District Association for its continued support of \$500 to help defray newsletter costs. 🐾

Litter

Litter is waste that people unlawfully dispose of outdoors. It can be packaging or other unwanted items. Litter is a form of visual pollution. It can harm health, safety, and welfare. It adversely affects wildlife and environmental quality. Please help!

- Properly dispose of waste and recycle as much as possible.
- If you see litter on our streets, parks or trails, consider helping in the effort and properly dispose of it.
- If you witness someone littering, ask them to please use proper methods of trash disposal.

In addition to being an eyesore that degrades the appearance of the Borough, litter has a significant cost associated with it as well. The Borough's PWD spends countless hours picking up litter along the Borough's roads. While we pride ourselves on being able to maintain the Borough's parks, roads and infrastructure with a lean work staff, time spent on litter removal significantly taxes our ability to provide other needed services. Please help in this effort and together we can have a positive impact on our environment. 🐾

Invasive Species

A reminder to residents to visit www.aswp.org for information about invasive species in our area as spring approaches and gardening activities begin. 🐾

Lauri Ann West Memorial Library

1220 Powers Run Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238
Phone: 412-828-9520 • Fax: 412-828-4960 Email: lawestref@einetnetwork.net
www.lauriannwestlibrary.org

Children's Programs

Registration Required for Children's Programs

412/828-9520 x 18

Toddler Story Times

This story time features songs, stories, rhymes, counting and music for children ages 24-36 months; Mondays or Thursdays at 10:30 AM, January 11th – May.

Preschool Story Times

This story time includes a simple hands-on activity for children ages 3, 4 and 5 years old; Tuesdays at 10:30 AM or Wednesdays at 1:00 PM, January 12th – May.

Baby Lap-sit

Miss Christine shares finger plays, songs, books and rhymes with children ages 12-24 months; Fridays at 10:30 AM, January 15th – May.

Summer Reading Program

Read through the summer months and earn raffle tickets for a chance to win a prize. Register at the library the first week of June.

Special Programs: Just for Kids Book Club – Third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM.

Puppets and Peanut Butter for toddlers & preschoolers – Tuesday, April 13th, at 11:00 AM.

Earth Day Celebration for ages 4 and up; Saturday, April 24th, at 11:00 AM.

Hand-made by Me: Create Special Gifts for Mom & Dad for ages 5 and up; Wednesday, May 5th, at 4:00 PM.

For Teens:

Celebrate Earth Day on Thursday, April 22nd, at 6:30 PM. For more information, call 412/828-9520 x 10.

Adult Programs

For more information send an email to lawestref@einetnetwork.net or call the Reference Dept.

412/828-9520 x 15

Summer Reading Program

Enter to win a prize in the summer reading program. You only need to read four books during the summer to qualify. Beginning in early June, sign up online or visit the library reference department.

For the Love of Murphy's – Monday, March 29th, 7:00 PM

Lecture by **Jason Togyer**, author of *For the Love of Murphy's: the Behind-the-Counter Story of a Great American Retailer*. Founded in McKeesport, PA, Mr. Togyer will talk about the history of G. C. Murphy Company.

Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra String Ensemble – Monday, April 12th, 7:00 PM

The ensemble plus bassoonist will provide an unusually fun program of chamber music. This family-friendly program for all ages includes performance and discussion.

UPMC Physicians Series – Wednesday, April 14th, 7:00 PM

Various health topics will be discussed by UPMC physicians. The first presenter, **Dr. Ryan Smith**, will address "What is Cancer?"

Creating a Healthy Environment – Thursday, April 15th, 7:00 PM

This program will detail how you can make yourself healthier using natural products and your home environmentally safe.

Food for Life: Nutrition and Cooking Classes – Mondays beginning April 19th, 10:00 AM or 7:00 PM

Board certified holistic health counselor Janet McKee will present a valuable program of information and cooking demonstrations with light meals designed to show how a healthy diet can cut down your risk of cancer.

Saving Money with Alternative Energy Solutions – Thursday, April 22nd, at 7:00 PM

Vox Energy Solutions will provide an overview of alternative energy options which use green technology to reduce or eliminate the carbon footprint and/or the electric bill. Rebates as well as tax credits currently are available and will be discussed.

Dulce de Leche Cooking Class

Learn how to make delicious sweet and savory dishes with dulce de leche, a milk, spread or jam that can be described as a creamy delicacy that is sweet, not sugary, with a golden flavor that is further enhanced with a hint of vanilla bean. Owners of La Dorita and O'Hara Township residents, **Gastón and Josephine Oría**, handcraft dulce de leche in copper kettles with fresh-from-the-farm milk provided by local creameries that only produce antibiotic-free milk. Dulce de leche has steadily been gaining popularity in the United States; however, consumers are not sure how to use it or even where to get it. The class will show you how you can use this ingredient in several recipes.

Pet Behavior Strategies – Monday, May 3rd, 7:00 PM

Getting a puppy? Have a dog or cat that has some behavior issues? Come to the library for a free presentation by a pet behavior specialist, **Judith Levy**, owner of Peace of Mind Pet Behavior Consulting. She addresses raising a puppy, separation anxiety, jumping, chewing, digging, aggression and other pet behavior problems. She has conducted more than 900 pet consultations. Please do not bring pets to the presentation.

Handwriting expert Michelle Dresbold – Thursday, May 6th, 7:00 PM

Michelle Dresbold has been called the Sherlock Holmes of handwriting. For the past 10 years, she has been helping law enforcement agencies around the country put away the “bad guys.” She is considered one of the top experts in the nation on handwriting identification, including anonymous letters and suspected forgeries, personality profiling, and threat analysis. She is the author of *Sex, Lies and Handwriting* and writes a weekly syndicated column, *The Handwriting Doctor*, which in newspapers throughout the United States.

Rain Barrel Workshop – Wednesday, June 2nd, 7:00 PM

Learn how to retrieve water from your roof, store it and use it in your landscape. The Pennsylvania Resources Council will demonstrate how to assemble and install a 55-gallon drum/rain barrel and offer other rainwater harvesting options. The cost is \$30/person, \$40/couple. Participants will receive the necessary hardware, except for the barrel, to assemble and install a rain barrel.

Computer Classes

Year around, the library offers classes on Microsoft Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Basic Digital Photography and beginning computer classes.

Book Discussion Groups

Our Booked for Lunch group meets the second Friday of each month at noon. The Evening Book Discussion Group meets the fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 PM. Both groups read and discuss general fiction and non-fiction. New members are welcome.

Book Group Services

For a small donation, the reference department will customize a packet of information for your next book discussion. The library has 18 different Book Club To Go Kits available for checkout.

Good Reads on our Website

Are you looking for a Good Read? Please visit the Good Reads section of our website. You will find recommended readings lists for adults, teens, and children. Sign-up is available for email reading lists.

Library Delivery to Homebound Residents

The library has begun a new outreach program specifically designed for homebound patrons within the Fox Chapel Area School District. 🐾

Love the Library

“We’re Just Wild about Harry”

FUNDRAISING EVENT HONORS MAYOR HARRY McLAUGHLIN

Fox Chapel Mayor Harry W. McLaughlin, Jr., will be honored at Lauri Ann West Memorial Library’s fundraising gala at the Pittsburgh Field Club on Thursday, April 29th, at 6:30 p.m. The name of the event is ***Love the Library*** which is hoped to become an annual event and subtitled ***We’re Just Wild about Harry*** in honor of Harry McLaughlin who is the board president of the Community Center and Library Association which operates the library.

Funds from the event will benefit the operating budget for the library which suffered a 20% cut in state funding this year.

The event committee, led by Fox Chapel resident Marylinda Maddi, has an entertaining evening planned. A fun-filled program in Harry’s honor includes good humored remarks by Fox Chapel council president Nate Parker and retired St. Scholastica Pastor Father Robert Duch. Stephanie Veenis will sing an original adaptation of the 1921 Broadway hit “I’m Just Wild about Harry.” Andrew Stockey from WTAE will serve as Master of Ceremonies.

Tickets to the event are \$75.00 which includes a sit-down dinner. Tickets can be purchased through the library’s website at www.lauriannwestlibrary.org or by sending a check to Lauri Ann West Memorial Library 1220 Powers Run Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15238. Please help support the library by attending this memorable evening.

Is your roof flushing raw sewage into our rivers?

Whenever it rains, water flows off hundreds of thousands of roofs, into downspouts and down our storm drains. If our downspouts are connected to the underground sewer lines, storm water can overload the lines. Causing sewage to overflow into our rivers —the source of the water we use everyday.

Fortunately, there's a solution. Many dedicated people and municipalities are working on it.

You can help too. Check with your local community about whether you need to



disconnect your downspouts from the sewer system.

Connect a rain barrel to your home's downspout so the water can be captured, conserved and used later on your yard or garden. Plant trees and other vegetation to reduce storm water runoff from your yard.

To find out more, visit our website. Because the only thing that should flow into our rivers is clean water.



Clean water starts in our own backyard. Go to 3Riverswetweather.org for a free guide on how you can help.

Foxwall

DID YOU KNOW... You stand a 1 in 10 chance of needing emergency response from Foxwall?*

It is that time of year again and Foxwall is asking you to renew your annual subscription, or to subscribe for the first time and become a member of the Foxwall family. As a resident of Fox Chapel, you should know a few important facts about Foxwall:

- we are the areas only volunteer EMS service
- we have a crew of highly qualified EMTs and Licensed Paramedics
- we receive no municipal funding
- we rely on your subscriptions and donations to cover more than 25% of our operating budget
- a modest annual subscription could save you money

For Life Savings, Invest In EMS

\$30 – Individual Subscription (annual)

\$50 – Family Subscription (annual – covers family members and visitors)

Why Subscribe?

- Ambulance service is not free and many insurance policies do not cover, or only partially cover, emergency transport. With a Foxwall subscription, you could save up to \$700, or the difference in your insurance copay per ambulance service call.
- Your support helps us to upgrade equipment, allow ongoing training, and help defray day-to-day operational costs.
- You are making a tax deductible investment in your community and your family.

When you receive your mailer, please take a moment to complete and return it with your subscription or donation, or visit us at www.foxwall.org and make your payment online.

Sincerely, The Men and Women and proud volunteers of Foxwall EMS.

**(based on 2008 emergency response calls per capita)*

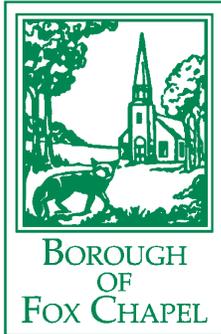
BOROUGH OF FOX CHAPEL

401 FOX CHAPEL ROAD

PITTSBURGH, PA 15238

(412) 963-1100

www.fox-chapel.pa.us



**BOROUGH OF FOX CHAPEL
ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

**ENVIRONMENTAL
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Kathleen Toole, *Chair*
David C. Cannon, Jr.
Thomas D. Cramer
Bruce H. Laswell
Walter A. Scott, III
Peggy G. Jayme

Meets each month on the 2nd Monday
at 7:30 P.M.

**BOROUGH
COUNCIL**

Nathan K. Parker, Jr., *President*
Andrew C. Bennett, *V. President*
Louis P. Greulich
Harrison S. Lauer
Jay S. Troutman
Walter A. Scott, III
Kathleen Toole

Harry W. McLaughlin, *Mayor*
Edward L. McGrath, *Treasurer*
Gary J. Koehler, *Manager*

Meets each month on the 3rd Monday at
7:30 P.M.

**PLANNING
COMMISSION**

Louis P. Greulich, *Chairman*
Betty E. Butler
Lane D. Dively
George S. Hill
Harrison S. Lauer
James M. Royston
Jeffrey B. Todd

Meets each month on the Wednesday fol-
lowing the 2nd Monday at 7:30 P.M.

PARK COMMISSION

Nancy Fales, *Chair*
Dottie Beckwith
Jay Troutman
Brian Shema
Ferd J. Sauereisen
James W. Pashek
Maria Harrington

Meets the 2nd Monday in March, June,
September and December at 9:00 A.M.

**ZONING
HEARING BOARD**

Richard E. Jaynes, *Chairman*
Elizabeth C. Kampmeinert
John B. Montgomery

Meets as needed each month on the
Wednesday following the 3rd Monday
at 7:00 P.M.

**TELEPHONE NUMBERS
Office 412-963-1100**

Extensions:

Administration0
Building Permits/Zoning13
Public Works19
Sewer Department.....26

Police Dept. 412-963-7220

**MEETINGS ARE HELD IN THE BOROUGH BUILDING AND ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.
ALL RESIDENTS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND.**