

# MONAGHAN TOWNSHIP NEWS

York County, PA

Spring 2022

*Township office hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.*

*Temporary office hours Memorial Day thru Labor Day are:  
9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Thur. 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Friday*

## A TALE OF TWO BRIDGES

### BISHOP BRIDGE UPDATE



Bishop Bridge, the iron bridge crossing the Yellow Breeches on Bishop Road, is owned by York and Cumberland Counties. Monaghan is on one side of the bridge and Upper Allen Township is on the other side. During a July 2021 inspection, Cumberland and York Counties closed Bishop Bridge permanently due to ongoing and significant structural deterioration. Monaghan Township Supervisors met this spring with county and Upper Allen Township officials to discuss the bridge's removal and the subsequent impact on emergency access for residents, changed traffic patterns on nearby roads, road maintenance and plowing, among other issues. There are no plans to replace Bishop Bridge at this time. **When more information about the timetable to remove the bridge is available, a public announcement will be made.**

### GRANTHAM BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

At the May 9 Board of Supervisors meeting, residents were briefed on the eventual replacement of Bridge No. 247 crossing the Yellow Breeches at Mill and N. Grantham Roads. This bridge is also co-owned by York and Cumberland Counties. York County is taking the lead on the project and serves as the project sponsor.

The project is currently in the preliminary engineering phase. At this time, the tentative construction schedule **begins in the spring 2025 and ends in the fall 2025**. This timetable could change, affected by contractor needs, adverse weather, or stream flows.

**Tentative design and detour plans can be found on the Monaghan Township website. Some minor design elements may change as the final design is completed. A detour will be utilized for approximately eight (8) months while the new bridge is constructed.**



## CARROLL TOWNSHIP POLICE CONTRACT RENEWAL

At their June meeting, the Board of Supervisors voted to **renew a three-year contract with the Carroll Township Police Department**. The cost of the first year, 2023, will be \$107,844 up from the current \$97,750. Years 2024 and 2025 are slated to cost \$112,169 and \$116,656 respectively. We appreciate the service we receive from the Carroll Township Police.

## SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENT



Monaghan Township is blessed to have a volunteer fire department to serve our residents and respond to nearby communities when they need us. **The fire department is always looking for volunteer fire fighters** so if you are interested, please contact Fire Chief Andy Gibb. Check the website ([monaghanfire.com](http://monaghanfire.com)) for a schedule of Fire Hall dinners and Tuesday night Bingo. The Fire Hall is available for banquets, parties and events. Call 717-697-8012 for rental information.

## 2021 AUDIT RESULTS

In April 2022, **Monaghan Township received satisfactory results from its 2021 Municipal Annual Audit** and Financial Report from an independent accounting and tax advisory firm.

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATED AND APPROVED

At the April 2022 Board of Supervisors meeting, the board and public were briefed by Tim Hildebrand, the township's Emergency Management Coordinator. The township has a responsibility to have an Emergency Operations Plan in place to protect lives and property in the event of a natural or human-caused disaster.

**Monaghan Township's Supervisors approved our plan in June, which includes all activities in the emergency management cycle** including prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery phases. Monaghan Township is part of the Northern York Unified Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) along with Carroll and Warrington townships, Franklintown, Dillsburg and Wellsville boroughs. A copy of the plan is available on the township website.

**Being prepared for an emergency isn't just the responsibility of government officials and first responders, it involves your whole family as well.** Resources are available to help you put together a plan and stay in contact with loved ones during an emergency. Visit [www.ready.gov/plan](http://www.ready.gov/plan) or the township site for more information.

We are interested in whether you or someone you know in the township has medical needs that might be affected in an emergency situation. Fill out a form, which can be found on our website or through the office, to **register individuals who might need special help**.

## NOT SURE WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR E-WASTE?

E-waste means those old electronics that you want to discard or recycle. For more information on the disposal of e-waste in our county, **visit the York County Solid Waste Authority Electronics recycling page** at <https://www.ycswa.com/disposal-of-household-waste/electronics/>

## WHAT'S THE ROAD CREW BEEN UP TO?



Our road crew has been busy with mowing our rights of way, cleaning culverts, repairing potholes, checking and replacing old signs, and general spring maintenance. We are all excited that **our small fleet of trucks now has a Monaghan Township logo on our side doors** so when you see our crew, slow down and give a wave.

## COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

In May, Monaghan's Planning Commission submitted to the Board initial recommendations to update the township's Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan is the township document that establishes strategic priorities related to future land use and growth, community services and transportation, and the protection of natural resources.

**The next step in the Comprehensive Planning process will be a survey asking residents for your feedback about the township** — what you like about living in Monaghan, the kinds of growth and improvements you'd like to see, and our most significant community needs. The survey will be made available this summer by mail and on the website. **When the survey arrives, please fill it out and return it to us.** Your input will ensure that we develop a plan that best meets your vision of our community.

**Thank you to the members of the Planning Commission** for their continued focus on the Comprehensive Planning process!

## WHY IS STORM WATER MANAGEMENT SO IMPORTANT?

The federal Clean Water Act, which regulates storm water management, includes specific regulations for municipalities serving populations less than 100,000. Under the Act, Monaghan's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) program requires a plan that includes:

- Public education and outreach
- Public participation and involvement
- Illicit discharge detection and elimination
- Construction site runoff control
- Post-construction storm water management in new development and redevelopment
- Pollution prevention and good housekeeping for municipal operations and maintenance

The goals of all MS4 programs are to reduce the discharge of pollutants, protect water quality, and comply with the Clean Water Act. Monaghan Township would like you to remember that water - and any other items that go into a storm sewer - go directly into our streams. This water is not cleaned in any way and does not go to a waste water treatment plant.

**Monaghan Township needs all of our residents to help us keep our storm water sewer system clean by doing the following:**

- Dispose of water properly
- Clean up after your pets
- Use fertilizers properly and prevent excess runoff
- Store materials that could pollute indoors
- Keep grass cutting off of the street

Residents can help watch for:

- Sediment leaving a construction site
- Spills (Chemical, Gas, Oil)
- Illegal dumping into streams or storm sewers (PLEASE CALL 911 FIRST)
- Dry weather flows from outfall pipes into streams (72 hours after a rain storm).

Please monitor storm water inlets near your property. **On April 4, 2022, a public meeting was held to provide information on storm water management in the township. Keep an eye out for more public meetings and visit the township's website for more information** under a tab labeled Storm Water Management.

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## **BUILDING & ZONING PERMITS**

The implementation of Monaghan Township's Comprehensive Plan is through our Zoning Ordinance, which is the land use law of the township. Zoning is a necessary balancing act between a property owner's rights and the rights of the community to protect public health, safety and welfare.

**A reminder that supervisors have a legal responsibility to uphold the Zoning Ordinance and residents have the responsibility to apply for building or zoning permits as you plan property modifications** such as replacing a roof, altering the structure of a building, or installing a pool, fence, shed or solar panels.

It's important that residents and contractors not start a project without the necessary

approvals. Once an application is submitted, the zoning/codes enforcement officer has 15 days to process your permit. If you are unsure about whether you need a permit, please contact the Township Office at 717-697-2132.

## **CHELSSEE SMITH APPOINTED ACTING TOWNSHIP TREASURER**

At the June BOS meeting, **Township Secretary Chelssee Smith was given additional duties and appointed to the role of Acting Township Treasurer.** Government Finance Solutions, a firm with 30 years of experience in municipal accounting, has been hired to work with Chelssee and the township on budgeting & forecasting, internal controls, and municipal financial management.

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Thank you, Molly S. for *Live Love Meow*. Send us your photo for inclusion in the next newsletter. Email to [monaghtownship@comcast.net](mailto:monaghtownship@comcast.net).

