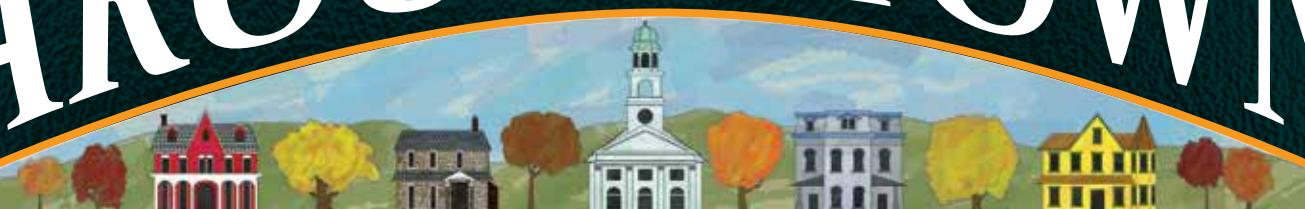


# AROUND TOWN



Established 1859

Fall 2020



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## How Our Community is Dealing with COVID-19

### A Message from the Borough Manager

We have spent the better part of this year navigating through uncharted territory, and we believe we speak for everyone when we say we can't wait until we're through this. We certainly have had our challenges in 2020, with much uncertainty and fear in our lives. There is civil unrest, an upcoming presidential election, and a pandemic that has torn through our nation for the majority of this year. We certainly are in the midst of what, in many cases, is the start of many permanent changes to the lives of Americans and nations across the world. We could spend our entire newsletter writing about these different challenges and all of the details we are working on as a Borough and community. However, for purposes of brevity and allowing other articles in this newsletter, we would like to focus this particular article on what the Borough of Emmaus has been doing to work through the pandemic, while trying to continue to deliver the services that you deserve and expect.

COVID-19 has taken many casualties, as many people have fallen ill, and many have died as a result of the virus and its complications. There is no known cure and we don't know when a vaccine will be available. Businesses have also suffered, as the economic shutdown has greatly impacted our local businesses and has resulted in the permanent closure of some. Local economists are telling us that it will take up to two years for business to completely recover. In addition to this, the shutdown has also resulted in changes in the way many businesses are conducting their business. Many people have been able to work from home during the shutdown, while unfortunately others have either been furloughed or lost their jobs. For those businesses that have allowed employees to work at home, many are discovering that there is a great savings in overhead by doing this. Many offices are switching to this new model as a permanent way of doing business. The cost savings have helped offset some of the severe financial impacts these businesses are facing.

So, what has been happening with the Borough's operations? Like many businesses and organizations, the Borough of Emmaus has felt deep impacts from the pandemic. Many of our events have been canceled, including our much-loved upcoming Halloween Parade. With that said, the Halloween Committee is working very hard already to deliver our much anticipated 100-year Anniversary Halloween Parade next year! Our June Community Yard Sale, most of our Summer Concerts, different summertime events that our many different organizations host, and many business events have been cancelled due to the health concerns and risks that these events could cause to members of the community. The Borough has also experienced deep financial impacts from the economic shutdown. Revenue in the Borough has been greatly impacted. The Borough receives approximately \$1.7 million in revenue from wage taxes. Our tax collectors are estimating approximately a 20% loss in revenue in those taxes for the year. We have also experienced deep losses in recreational revenue, as we did not open the pool this year, and pavilion rental revenue as well as field rental revenue is down. The pool revenue is offset by the greater cost savings of not opening the pool, however, the rental revenue covers

*continued on page 2*

## Borough of Emmaus

28 South 4th St.  
Emmaus, PA 18049  
610-965-9292 • Fax: 610-965-0705  
[www.borough.emmaus.pa.us](http://www.borough.emmaus.pa.us)

### Borough Contact Information

Town Hall (Main #)	610-965-9292
Borough Manager	610-966-6357
Pavilion Rentals	610-965-0702
Public Works 24/7	610-965-9288
Refuse/Recycling	610-965-0702
Tax Collector	610-967-4598
Water/Sewer Billing	610-965-9231
Zoning/Permits	610-967-1322
Ambulance Corps	610-967-5615
Fire Department	610-967-5630
Fire Inspector	610-965-0719
Police Non-Emergency	610-967-3113
Emergency	911

Town Hall will be closed on Monday, Nov.11, 2020 in observance of Veterans' Day.

Find us on 

### Other Important Phone Numbers

PA One Call	1-800-242-1776
Sanctuary at Haafsville	484-285-5445
Street Lights – Repair and Maintenance, PPL	1-800-342-5775
Trash/Recycling Whitetail Disposal	610-754-0103

## COVID-19

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many of our maintenance costs at our parks. Business Privilege Tax is down, as are permit fees and other user-type fees. In an area we would have expected revenue to increase, it has actually fallen sharply. Our ambulance call volume has decreased by nearly 60% during the pandemic. Our overall financial impact is expected to be approximately \$750,000 in lost revenue this year. As of the writing of this article, it is extremely difficult to completely know what the actual losses will be, as many of them are projected based on current numbers and predictions. The losses could be less than our estimates or upwards of \$1 million dollars.

Fortunately, the Borough did not wait around to see what the fiscal impacts will be at the end of the year. We began making adjustments in March to address the losses we felt we would experience, and have been experiencing. We created a 3-phase fiscal plan to address our finances based on the severity of the impact as well as the length of the pandemic. At the beginning of the pandemic, many of us felt that perhaps things were overblown and that it would be a short-lived hysteria, sort of like the killer hornet conspiracy. Admittedly, those of us with that philosophy quickly realized that we were in error, as the virus has caused serious illness and death across the world and in our community. Nonetheless, in the first phase of the fiscal plan, we examined areas of our budget and operations that would not necessarily have an impact on services or manpower. We would delay some services, cut some needed, but not crucial projects and purchases, and cut some overhead to scale back our expenses. We were in Phase 2 of our plan within several weeks. In this phase, we began to furlough employees, cut out capital projects from our budgets, and began to discuss the delay of opening the swimming pool, our compost site, and other operations. At this point, there were many unknowns and the Governor's orders were not clear. There was definitely some confusion and anger in the community regarding some of the decisions we were making at the time. However, many of the decisions that were being made weren't simply based on fiscal challenges, but also based on community health as well. By the end of April, we were full-swing into phase 3, as our financial situation worsened, many people in the community were out of work, and there were severe concerns with community health. The Borough furloughed approximately 1/3 of our Public Works Department, cut our 2nd ambulance during



***Thank you to all of our loyal customers for your support through these tough times. We look forward to continuing to serve you!***

the day, cut our paratransit service in the ambulance, cut all capital projects and road work, furloughed several clerical staff members, and laid off all part-time employees that were not in our emergency services departments. We also reduced staffing levels in our other emergency services departments. In total, approximately 85 employees were either laid off or furloughed. We canceled our Dumpster Day and Household Hazardous Waste events this year, closed the swimming pool, temporarily closed the compost site, and shut down all of the Borough buildings to the public. We made numerous other cuts as well. In total, the Borough, in conjunction with each of our Department Managers and their teams, cut approximately \$1 million from our collective budgets to try to offset our potential financial losses.

Sure, saving money is great, but what about the services we provide the community? While we have a fiscal responsibility to our community, we also have a responsibility to provide you with many services. Our primary job is to focus our attention on providing for the health, safety, and general welfare of our community. We were able to get out ahead of the mass demand of purchasing masks and PPE for our employees, as we began making those purchases back in February, thanks to some great foresight from our emergency services management team. This allowed us to get enough inventory to protect our employees as much as possible for a short period of time, while we waited on additional supplies and orders to come. We equipped one of our ambulances specifically for patients displaying COVID-related symptoms. We also purchased anesthetic fog machines for each of our facilities and our vehicles to make sure that they are continuously disinfected. This is of particular important for vehicles that members of the public would be transported in or areas of our buildings where the public may be in. While we temporarily closed some of our services, including the compost site and electronic waste drop-off, we created a plan to reopen many of those services, but with restricted hours or manpower. Many of our inspection services had also been put on hold, including sewer lateral inspections and fire inspections. Those services have begun again. Our buildings reopened to the public; however, numerous precautions have been put into place. Masks are required for entry, social distancing requirements are in place, and sanitizer is available in any office or common area that the public may visit. Our office staff has an hourly cleaning and sanitizing schedule and our buildings close at 3 p.m. to allow staff to deep clean one more time before they leave for the day.

Borough Council has been very active in trying to assist the members of our community as well. Knowing that our community members are sharing in the struggles, Borough Council voted to extend the Business Privilege Tax Deadline. In addition, Borough Council laid out a plan that allowed our restaurants to have outdoor seating and our small businesses to have more regular sidewalk sales if they wished. In addition, Council authorized the placement of several picnic tables at Triangle Park for individuals to enjoy their takeout and sit and relax. Council also voted to extend the deadline for payment of property taxes for the face value payment, meaning you will not be responsible for paying the penalty period during this time. The deadline has been extended from July 31st until October 31st. Council has also tried to put a few things in place to try to create some normalcy in our lives as well. We did host a Summer Concert mini-series. The concerts, per the Governor's Order, were limited to 250 people and had social-distancing requirements, allowing patrons to enjoy at least some of the summer they were used to. We also live-streamed each of the concerts. Council also voted to host the Community Yard Sale again in early September, after we canceled our June yard sales. Council provided numerous social distancing precautions and guidelines for this event.

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## COVID-19 continued from previous page

are other upcoming events that we are unsure of at this point. We will keep you posted regarding Trick-or-Treat and other annual events that we traditionally have had in the fall season. Additionally, as soon as the shutdown started, Council worked with the Borough Manager to create an online platform for all of our public meetings, to ensure that Borough business continued. We did not miss a single Committee meeting or Council meeting, as we have utilized Zoom as our online platform for our public meetings. Although Council has begun physically meeting at Borough Hall again, with a capacity of only 25 people being allowed in the room, we are continuing to offer all of our meetings live through the Zoom platform, as we have discovered that we have truly increased the amount of public participation we are seeing at our meetings. Our plan, for now, is to permanently utilize a platform such as Zoom for all of our meetings in the future. If you are interested in being part of any of our meetings, visit our website or Facebook Page to find the links for each.

The Emmaus Farmers' Market has been operating as well throughout most of the pandemic, with significant social distancing restrictions and safety precautions being put in place.

Our primary focus continues to be the health and safety of the members of our community. We have learned a lot of valuable lessons throughout this unprecedented time and we continue to learn, as this is something none of us has ever faced in our lifetime. It goes without question to say we have made some mistakes, but we continue to try to strike the balance of continuing our lives with caution, while at the same time making sure that we are taking the proper safety measures to protect our community. We have created and allowed some smaller events in compliance with CDC guidelines and the Governor's Orders, while we have had to cancel others. At the same time, we continue to make sure that our employees have the proper PPE when dealing with the public, that we are sanitizing our vehicles and buildings, and we are taking as many precautions as we can to try to do our part. While we continue to work on the fiscal fallout from the pandemic, we continue to focus on providing the great services you deserve, of course, with modifications.

We encourage each member of our community to continue to follow the Governor's Orders. While sometimes they may not seem to make sense to some of you, they are needed. We also encourage you to follow all CDC guidelines as well as the PA Department of Health guidelines. Visit our Borough website and click on the top banner to go to a page with links to many of these resources. In addition, we encourage you to visit [www.lvpc.org](http://www.lvpc.org) for up to date information related to the pandemic in our county.

There are still many unknowns and concerns for all of us. As of the writing of this article, we still don't know if our schools can safely return, if businesses will reopen, how much longer this crisis will last, and what the financial impact to our local government, our community businesses, and each of our community members will be. We don't know where the light is at the end of the tunnel, but we know it's there. As a community and as a nation, we must each continue to do our part to work together in these trying times. We know stress is high, money is tight, and fear is a part of most of our lives more than ever. We can promise you that we will continue to do everything we can to continue providing the services you expect and deserve. We will continue to do everything we can to continue to provide you with every resource we can. We will continue to communicate with you through the many facets of communication that we have. We will do what we can to assist you and to do our part in continuing to serve and protect the community. We encourage you to continue to help our small businesses by shopping there, using their online business, or ordering takeout if you don't feel safe going inside. We encourage each of you to take your own safety precautions as well. Please continue to use social distancing and continue to be as safe as possible. We are all individuals, but we are all in this together. And together, we will get through this.

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## Groceries PLUS – Emergency Food Pantry

**Groceries PLUS** is an Emergency Food Pantry serving the Emmaus community and hosted by Bethel Bible Fellowship Church. It is operated under the direction of Second Harvest Food Bank of the Lehigh Valley and Northeast Pennsylvania. Our shelves are stocked with food from Second Harvest via government programs as well as grants. Also, many area churches, businesses, service organizations, schools and individuals contribute to this vital ministry.

Folks are eligible to participate based on their income. This year a family of four qualifies if their annual income is below \$39,300. Families meeting the income qualifications can then visit Groceries PLUS once a month to receive several bags of shelf-stable food, frozen meats, toiletries/paper products, bread, and miscellaneous other items.

Currently about 90 families visit the Food Bank each month. We have the capacity to serve many more families. If you or someone you know would like more information on receiving food to help get through each month, please call the Bethel Church office at 610-965-2682. We'd be happy to help you.

Visit us on facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/emmausfoodbank>

# Mayor Gilbert Issues Proclamation on Behalf of the Borough Denouncing Racism

Mayor Lee Ann Gilbert, at the June 15, 2020 Borough Council Meeting, read a Proclamation denouncing racism and discrimination of all forms. Below is the text of the Proclamation.

## PROCLAMATION 2020 – 490

### ANTI-DISCRIMINATION

The Borough of Emmaus is a growing diverse and multi-cultural community. The Borough endeavors to treat all groups and individuals in our community with dignity and respect.

**WHEREAS**, democracy cannot exist without protecting their citizens from persecution and discrimination because of race, religion, national origin, gender, or sexual orientation; and the basis of democracy is the right of all people to dignity and self-respect; and

**WHEREAS**, welcoming and embracing diversity is essential for a decent and democratic society; and

**WHEREAS**, all people have the right to live free from bigotry, violence and fear, in the workplace, the family, places of worship, schools and on the streets of the Borough of Emmaus; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor, Borough Council, and all of our Departments work hard to ensure that all members of our community are protected, treated properly and with respect, and are served with the utmost professionalism and dignity; and

**WHEREAS**, the Emmaus Police Department is a highly trained, accredited Police Department held to the highest standards by their members as well as our community; and

**WHEREAS**, the Emmaus Police Department, through the

Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission, has enacted and enforces, and actively reforms its policies to ensure the respectful, fair and equal treatment of all members of our community; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Lee Ann Gilbert, Mayor, Borough of Emmaus, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania hereby proclaim that the Borough of Emmaus stands against racism and discrimination in all forms and denounces and will not tolerate any acts of racism, intolerance and unlawful discrimination of any kind. We stand with all who raise their voices to condemn inequality. We encourage everyone to listen, learn, respect, and stand alongside those who are standing for equality for everyone within our community, our nation, and our world.

**BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED** that we stand together against violence of all persons and vow to hold the members of our community as well as our government accountable for any such acts of violence, discrimination, or racism.

**BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED** that we encourage all residents to treat each other with respect and kindness in partnership and inclusion of all members of our community, embracing and welcoming citizens of all diverse backgrounds, as it is a critical part of fostering a loving, vibrant, and successful community. The Borough of Emmaus is committed to ensuring the right of every citizen to enjoy life, to experience equality, and to live free from discrimination in a more inclusive and just society.

**DONE** this 15th day of June, 2020 at Emmaus, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania.

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# Redevelopment Efforts Continue in the Community

There is always an argument in communities such as ours regarding keeping the status quo or welcoming new development. With any development, there are challenges and concerns, ranging from neighborhood concerns to stormwater traffic. In the past several years, there have been numerous development proposals in our community. With all of the ongoing uncertainty in the economy, we felt it would be prudent to give you an update on current development in the Borough that you have most likely heard or read about.

As nearly everyone in the community is aware, Wawa is under development. The store plans to complete development and open next year. There were numerous concerns regarding the development. While PennDot controls the traffic decisions along the state route, the Borough was able to institute numerous safety precautions with the project. First, there will be no left turns authorized onto Cedar Crest Boulevard. There will be a raised median between lanes at the exit to attempt to deter people from turning left. There will also be a left-turning lane from Cedar Crest Boulevard into the store. Moreover, a new road is being constructed along the rear of the building connecting the store all the way to 10th Street, near where the traffic light at Chestnut Street is located. This will allow patrons to try to avoid the Cedar Crest intersection that is already very crowded. The developer has also installed a footbridge over the creek and will be connecting sidewalks all the way from North Street to Chestnut Street. In addition, a walking path connecting 10th Street all the way around the back of the building, connecting to Cedar Crest Boulevard, is being constructed.

In addition to the Wawa development, Turkey Hill has submitted plans to redevelop their store as well as several of the adjacent properties around the store. This includes a much larger facility, located farther back from the road with a larger driveway. As of the writing of this article, the plan reviews are in the preliminary stages

Phoebe Ministries had previously purchased the Rodale complex on 10th Street. They received plan approval from the Borough and are preparing for reconstruction to transform the buildings into senior independent living quarters. They will provide over 120 living units to individuals and couples wishing to live in this type of community. The organization's program will provide many different options to its tenants, including meal plans and other types of services. It will also serve as a gateway into other assisted living program options as residents age and need additional services.

Fiesta Ole saw its last burrito sold a number of months back. Almost instantly after learning of this closure, the Borough received construction plans from Burger King. The restaurant is currently in the planning stages with

Borough Council to tear down the old Fiesta Ole building and construct a Burger King in its place.

One of the locations that has been on the Borough's list of problem properties for many years is going to see a major change. At the old abandoned Furnace Street factory site, where vandalism was prevalent, an apartment complex called Iron Works Apartments, has been approved. The developers proposed 144 higher end apartments in 6 buildings on the location. In addition to this, a walking trail will be made connecting 2nd Street to 4th Street along the site. Ott Engineering has also purchased the adjacent property on 2nd Street and is transforming that building into their new headquarters.

The old Rodale complex at North and 6th Streets will be torn down in the very near future, as the Wesley Works Townhouses will begin construction. The developer is planning to construct approximately 22 new townhomes and a 4-unit apartment building.

The Towns at South Mountain project on Arch and Jubilee Street has received final approvals and will be under construction in the near future as well. The developer proposed the construction of 49 townhouses at the location.

The Fields at Indian Creek 55 + housing development continues. The developers recently submitted plans to add an additional 22 new homes in the Borough. In addition to the housing development, the developer also created a walking trail throughout the development and will be creating a crosswalk light across Cedar Crest Boulevard at North Street.

5G seems to be a hot topic right now. While there is a great demand for 5G services, we have also received many concerns about the potential of environmental and health issues relating to the mini towers. Council is in the process of adopting a 5G mini-tower Ordinance. In our research, our Borough Solicitors have discovered that there is not much oversight that the local government is given for regulating 5G mini-towers being built in the community. The PA Supreme Court recently issued several rulings against municipalities and there are federal lawsuits that are ongoing. Current laws state that the federal and state governments have the oversight of these services, not the communities. The communities can only provide oversight on several items, most notably, requiring building permits and aesthetic guidelines. We must allow them in all Zoning Districts and cannot tell them which PPL pole they are allowed on. We have received proposals from Verizon Wireless for 5G mini-towers in the Borough. Because the 5G technology relies on short-wave signals, they are proposing more than 20 mini-towers that would sit on top PPL poles throughout the Borough.

# Emmaus Main Street Partners

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The Emmaus Main Street Partners was officially incorporated in 1995 as a non-profit program to support and revitalize the Borough of Emmaus' historic downtown. Funding was provided by the State Department of Community and Economic Development with initial matching funds provided by the Borough of Emmaus.

In December 2012, the Emmaus Main Street Partners partnered with the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce to build and strengthen the economic vitality of the Borough of Emmaus. Through this partnership, both organizations benefitted from greater reach and greater strength. Because of this, Emmaus and other Lehigh Valley communities began to enjoy greater opportunities and benefits as well. In 2018, Emmaus Main Street Partners officially merged with the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber's non-profit arm further expanding their reach and resources to support Emmaus Borough businesses.

The mission of the Emmaus Main Street Partners is to improve the quality of life and the economic vitality of a vibrant and active Emmaus community through collaborative efforts among business owners, residents, volunteers, community organizations, and more. We are a membership-driven organization.

The Board of Directors is comprised of up to 30 professionals who live, work, or have some tie to the Emmaus community. These dedicated community leaders serve within the organization on committees, as event volunteers, and to drive events and initiatives, which benefit local businesses and organizations. Some of the events are Old Fashioned Christmas, Farewell to Summer festival, various passport trails through local businesses, monthly roundtables, the local Small Business Saturday coordination, and more! These events serve to connect, you, our local community with the hardworking business owners who help complete the hometown dynamic we all love. Local initiatives included Our Town Hero veteran banners, an Emmaus map of businesses and organizations, advocacy for picnic benches on the Triangle during Yellow Phase, and more.

We strive daily to find the best and most effective ways to serve our members. We encourage you to keep up-to-date by connecting with us on social media.

Facebook: Emmaus Main Street Partners or EmmausMSP

LinkedIn: Affiliated Chambers of the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce

Instagram: glvcc\_affiliatedchambers



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# The Knauss Homestead

164 Main St. (rear), Emmaus, PA 18049 • [www.theknausshomestead.org](http://www.theknausshomestead.org)

Despite delays due to the COVID-19 shutdown, this summer has been a time of great accomplishments at the historic Knauss Homestead.

The long-awaited repainting of the "Homestead House" started, then stopped, then finally resumed and has been completed. New period cedar shutters will have been installed by the time you read this newsletter, and all original shutter hardware meticulously repainted. A new basement entrance has been installed duplicating in exact detail the old one. Masonry repair work has been completed on the substructure of the house and a new interior basement door installed. In addition, we have added new Colonial period exterior lighting to the front, back, and side yard lamppost of the Homestead. Finally, regarding exterior improvements, we have added high resolution security cameras to all four sides.



Before



After

Restoration work continues in the interior with the removal of an added interior wall in the mid 1950's that created two rooms out of one. We now have essentially restored the upstairs to its original configuration. This newly restored space is being converted to a historical site for display of antiques, artifacts, and the Knauss Genealogy reference site.

Though much has been put on hold as we work our way through this pandemic, we hope to be able to resume activities in time for the Christmas season. Please be sure to check our new website at '[theknausshomestead.org](http://theknausshomestead.org)' for new photos and information. Be a friend on our Facebook page at '[theknausshomestead](https://www.facebook.com/theknausshomestead)' for more photos and upcoming events.

## Parks, Recreation, Greenways, Trails, and Pool Being Studied



The Borough received several large grants to assist in two significant recreation studies. The Borough has contracted Simone Collins to conduct a comprehensive study of our entire park, recreation, greenways, and trail systems throughout the Borough. The firm is working with the Borough to take a comprehensive look at every aspect of recreation that we offer. A committee of representatives of various organizations across the community are working with the consultants to prepare the study. The study is a very public process and will rely on your feedback. In the very near future, you will have an opportunity to complete a survey by the company regarding your wants and needs for recreational opportunities in the community. In addition, over the course of the next year, there will be a series of public meetings that you will be invited to participate in. Please be sure to follow our social media page, newsletters, and auto dials for more information regarding this exciting opportunity. At the conclusion of the study, the Borough will be eligible to apply for additional grant money to help improve our park and recreational offerings.

At the same time, the Borough has hired Aquatic Facility Design to conduct a swimming pool facility study. The firm is examining the structural integrity of the pool, as well as all of its offerings and amenities and our operation, as well as our concession stand operations. This is also a very public process that you will be invited to participate in. There will also be a public survey for this project as well.

Please make sure you participate in this process, as our recreational offerings are a vital part of our community.

## Over the Backyard Fence with the Emmaus Garden Club

The Emmaus Garden Club meetings are on hold due to the pandemic, but that hasn't stopped the Borough gardens from blooming their best! Be sure to visit the Triangle, the Gateway Garden, and the Veterans' Garden and views these beautiful gardens that are being cared for by dedicated club members. The Emmaus Garden Club also recognizes outstanding green thumbs and properties located in Emmaus, with Front Yard Garden Awards throughout the season.

The Garden Club presents a \$1,500.00 scholarship to a graduating Emmaus High School student who will be following a course of study relating to green growth. The Club has presented youth workshops at the Library and other locations as well as a sponsoring a monthly design workshop at Weston Senior Living facility.

Each December, the Garden Club creates windowsill designs for the 1803 House using dried materials that would have been available in 1803. These designs grace the House during Old Fashioned Christmas and are then taken to the Emmaus Public Library for the remainder of the holidays, where they are enjoyed by Library patrons.



**GUESS WHAT??** You DO NOT have to be a resident of Emmaus to be a member of the Emmaus Garden Club. Our monthly meetings (when not interrupted by the pandemic) are held at Faith Presbyterian Church, 3002 N. 2nd Street, Emmaus, PA 18049, on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, at noon, March through November. The Garden Club's monthly meetings feature speakers on a variety of garden, nature, and environmental topics as well as floral design. In addition to meetings, bus trips are occasionally planned to visit locations of interest. Specific meeting information can be found in the Morning Call and the East Penn Press.

## Working through the Pandemic

### A Message from the Borough of Emmaus Emergency Services Chief John Price

2020 will be a year to remember! With over 40-years of service with FIRE and EMS, a pandemic was never something I expected to encounter. During my years of training, Emergency Management classes have regularly focused on pre-event planning, and occasionally the instructors designed an exercise involving a flu pandemic. Most students took the subject rather nonchalant, viewing it as another exercise in keeping ourselves awake during training.

Then came 2020 and the world changed. Like everyone, the Emergency Services Departments had to rethink procedures including, how to meet, how to train our staff on new procedures, and how to provide quality personalized patient care while minimizing responder exposure? How do I? How do we? There were so many questions.



Fortunately, a plan had already been drafted as we began to increase our medical supply stock prior to the pandemic being declared. When the State of Emergency was officially declared, we were prepared and were ready to initiate the current Department of Health directives and train our staff on the new procedures. Changes ranged from increased personal protective equipment (PPE) use, regular decontamination of equipment, vehicles, and stations, reducing public interactions to minimize exposures, and staff screening for illness. Most of this training was done electronically or in small group sessions of the on-duty staff.



Through the painstaking work of the Fire and Ambulance Corps staff, we have been successful in keeping our responders safe. These efforts and the needed materials have not come easily and without cost. If not for the full support of Borough Council allowing us to purchase the additional PPE, equipment, and disinfectants, all of our efforts would have been futile.

Unfortunately, we have not seen the end of COVID-19 in Pennsylvania and need to remain vigilant. Our First Responders have stood up to this challenge, while adapting to a new reality that has tested their determination and endurance and have all proven themselves as worthy to hold the title of Public Servant.



## See. Hear. Feel. Art! - Emmaus Arts Commission

The Emmaus Arts Commission is The Emmaus Arts Commission's "Gnome Sweet Gnome 2020" auction was a great success! 15 custom painted celebrity musician themed garden gnomes all have new gnome homes. Thank you to the community for supporting our annual fundraiser and a big thank you to the 15 local artists who donated their time and talent!

The Emmaus Arts Commission is excited to still be able to host the annual Student Film Festival for 2020. This year's event will be held virtually with new guidelines so that students are still able to be creative while staying safe! The virtual Student Film Festival will be held from October 19th to October 26th. More information and details will be made available soon at [emmausarts.org](http://emmausarts.org).

The EAC is excited for the "Neighborhood Phase" of the Paint-A-Hydrant Program. Originally EAC planned on rolling out this phase in Spring 2020, however, due to postponement we have hopes to have this happen in Fall of 2020. We are offering the opportunity for volunteers to paint the hydrant of their choice within the Borough. Do you have a fire hydrant in your neighborhood or near your Emmaus business that needs some TLC? Gather some friends together, think up a design, and submit your design to our Paint-A-Hydrant Program to make a positive change in our community! Apply now at [emmausarts.org](http://emmausarts.org).

Have you seen the awesome painted tables at Triangle Park? Emmaus Arts Commission members had a great time getting creative while painting the tables in early summer to provide seating for visitors at Triangle Park. Be sure to stop by to see them!

The arts have really been an important part of our lives lately and have helped us through this uncertain time! We would love to see how Emmaus community members are being creative! Please share your artistic creations on social media #emmausartiseverywhere.

Be sure to follow Emmaus Arts on Facebook and Instagram!



# Emmaus Historical Society Events

218 Main St., Emmaus, PA 18049

610-966-6591 • [www.emmaushistoric-pa.org](http://www.emmaushistoric-pa.org) • [emmaushist@ptd.net](mailto:emmaushist@ptd.net)



At the time of this publication, the Emmaus Historical Society has been closed for six months, but is hoping to resume Saturday operations this fall if possible. Adherence with all CDC guidelines will be in place upon re-opening.

The Society is cancelling all programs planned for the fall of 2020 due to a lack of venue resulting from COVID-19 concerns. The plan will be to reschedule these programs in 2021 when a venue is available.

The annual elections, postponed since May due to the pandemic, will also be postponed until 2021.

The EHS Spring Yard Sale fundraiser for 2020 has been postponed until the spring of 2021, however, the Society is continuing to accept donations. So, when in doubt, don't throw it out! Contact the Emmaus Historical Society at 610-966-6591 for appointments for yard sale drop off.

Don't forget donations are always accepted for the Society's collection. The Society is currently gathering photographs, programs and graduation announcements from the High School's first graduating class in 1890 to the present time for future displays.

Please contact us if you have any items for the years listed below that the Historical Society is missing from its collection.

**Emmaus High School Class Photographs for the years:** 1890-1897, 1900-1917, 1925, 1929, 1931, 1935, 1943, 1969, 1980-1999, 2000, 2001, 2003, 2007, 2014, 2018, 2019 and 2020.

**Emmaus High School Commencement Programs for the years:** 1890, 1891, 1892, 1895, 1897, 1901, 1902,

1903, 1905, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1915, 1918, 1923, 1926, and 1927.

**Emmaus High School Graduation Class Announcements for the years:** 1917, 1920, 1921, 1923, 1924, 1928, 1931, 1950, 1979, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1991, 1996, 2000, 2013, 2014, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020.

**The following are also being collected for all graduating years:** Programs from the Baccalaureate Service, class plays, sporting events and dances as well as any tickets, newspaper clippings or photographs of these events from all years. The Society is also interested in any of the school newspapers including The Tattler, Hi Jeff and E Hives from all years. Class rings, jewelry, reunion photographs and other memorabilia would also be appreciated.

And, let's not forget about the elementary schools: Main Street, Sixth Street, Henningers, Keck's, Central, Stevens, Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln Buildings. We are looking for anything from class photos to paper ephemera to yearbooks and other trinkets.

Please note that NO photocopies or scans will be accepted. For any donations for the collections, please also call for an appointment at 610-966-6591.

All museum operations are subject to change or cancellation depending on the current COVID-19 concerns and government orders.

For current information, visit <https://www.emmaushistoricalsociety.org> or find us on Facebook or Instagram.

  
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# The Emmaus Public Library - Books are Just the Beginning!

11 E. Main St., Emmaus, PA 18049

610-965-9284 • [www.emmauspl.org](http://www.emmauspl.org)

Monday – Thursday, 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. • Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

## Fall Fun at the Emmaus Public Library!

Look for us at the Emmaus Farmer's Market  
on Sunday, September 27th!

**Events for Adults:** All events will be held via ZOOM online-email unless otherwise noted. Please email [eplcollection@cliu.org](mailto:eplcollection@cliu.org) for links to the events.

- **Daytime Book Group:** The first Tuesday of the month at 2:00 p.m.

**September 1:** *The Mission Walker* by Edie Sundby;

**October 6:** *In the Garden of Beasts* by Erik Larson;

**November 3:** *Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead;

**December 1:** *The Paris Architect* by Charles Belfoure

- **Coloring Club:** The fourth Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

- **Memoir Writing:** The fourth Tuesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. with author Jerry Waxler.

- **Art @ EPL Workshops:** through a grant with Lehigh Art Alliance. The event is full, please RSVP to be added to the waiting list.

- **Sculpting workshops with Laura Elmore and charcoal and chalk workshops with Barbara Greco.** The events will be held outside. Please stay tuned for dates.



**Events for Teens:** All events will be held via ZOOM online-email unless otherwise noted. Please email [eplcollection@cliu.org](mailto:eplcollection@cliu.org) for links to the events.

- **Teen Writers group.** Prompts inspire our writing, and reading the stories is entirely voluntary! For 6th grade and up! We'll be hosting our group via ZOOM, and (time willing) in the Library! The third Thursday of the month from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

- **Crafting!** To keep our hands and minds busy, once a month we'll have a creative night, either online or in person. Packets are available to go home for online creations.

**Events for Children:** All events will be held via ZOOM online-email unless otherwise noted. Please email [eplcollection@cliu.org](mailto:eplcollection@cliu.org) for links to the events.



- **Storytime** on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. in October and November (with a break for Election Day). For all ages.

- **Kids Crafts** - We're crafting - creating fun items on the third Saturday of each month from 3 to 4:00 p.m. This family time is for everyone! Check with Miss Sue for what's on the seasonal menu!

## Mark Your Calendar for these upcoming Winter Events:

Family Book Discussion group - ZOOM! We're talking about books! For parents and kids! Check out the library's calendar for the date, as they will vary from month to month during the holiday season.

Holiday Decoration of the Children's Wing! Starting at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 3rd. We will be getting the Children's wing ready for the holiday season and Old-Fashioned Christmas event! Miss Sue is asking for your help! We will be making decorations as well as hanging them! Sign up at the Circulation desk, so we have a count on who can come! For Kids, Teens, and Family!

Old Fashioned Christmas will be held at the library from Noon to 4:00 pm on Saturday, December 5th! Join us for Games, crafts, and fun!



## The Emmaus Commemorative Garden Remembers

The Emmaus Commemorative Gardens Foundation has had another great year helping our community remember the important people and events in our lives. In 2020 we installed 27 bricks. Of those, 13 bricks were for veterans, with the others celebrating weddings, families, service clubs, Knauss Homestead family, Emmaus High School graduating classes, community heroes and churches. There are now a total of 776 engraved bricks in the Remembrance Garden!

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic forced us to cancel many of our activities this year. However, we were able to hold the veterans' bricks installation ceremony on Saturday, September 5th.

This year we had an Eagle Scout project that was facilitated by Dale Fisher, Jr. and his Troop 80 scout team. They did an amazing job purchasing and installing a beautiful footbridge over the swale next to the Cintas parking lot making it easier and safer for our visitors to enter the Remembrance Garden site...many thanks to Dale and Troop 80 for their hard work, persistence and ingenuity!

To end the year, we extend an invitation for families in our community to purchase an Emmaus Remembrance Garden brick as a unique Christmas present.

A special Remembrance Garden Brick Gift Certificate is available for bricks purchased as gifts. The ordered bricks will be delivered as soon as we have them from the engraver - typically 6 to 8 weeks.

We invite you to visit the Garden and/or our website at [www.emmausremembers.org](http://www.emmausremembers.org) where bricks can be designed and purchased with a credit card. For more information about the Garden or presentations that can be done for local groups, contact Mike Waddell at [remgarden1@gmail.com](mailto:remgarden1@gmail.com) or 484-274-2089.

Hometown Press, the publisher of your Hometown Newsletter, would like to send out a heartfelt, *Stay Safe and Healthy* message to all the residents, businesses, and municipal staff during this pivotal time in history.

*"And the World Came Together as the People Stayed Apart"*

  
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## Halloween in Emmaus 5K Race

Registration is now open for the 14th Annual Halloween in Emmaus 5K Race. This year's race will be unlike others in the past but is still scheduled to be held in-person.

The race will be held on Saturday, October 17, 2020 but in a to-be-determined window-of-time to allow for extensive social distancing and eliminating crowds gathering. See Emmaus5k.com or the Halloween in Emmaus 5K Facebook Page: [facebook.com/Emmaus5k](https://facebook.com/Emmaus5k) for continual updates.



Since the time frame will be stretched out to accommodate more space between runners the course will also be altered to avoid extended road closures.

Proceeds from this race will benefit the Emmaus Halloween Parade, Emmaus Recreation and Entertainment Commission and other Emmaus community organizations. Last year's race donated over \$6000 to these groups, including the purchase of a new Speed Timing Board for the Borough Police Department.

\*\*Pictures courtesy of Wesley Works Photography



## Continuing the tradition of the Emmaus Flag Day Program

The Emmaus Flag Day Association (EFDA) was founded on November 23, 1969. This was during the time when American flags were being burned on the streets of the United States in protest of our country's involvement in the Vietnam Conflict. A group of Emmaus citizens headed by Joe Zeller, then Mayor of Emmaus, founded EFDA to "promote the observance of Flag Day and Flag Week."

Initially, the EFDA sponsored a dinner to honor veterans. A collection box for torn and worn old flags was placed in three locations, Borough Hall, the Emmaus Diner, and the home of long time Borough resident, Frank Sadrovitz. The EFDA took care of the proper disposal of the flags. Currently, the proper disposal of the flags is performed by the Catholic War Veterans.

EFDA also provided a flag installation for any storefront on Main Street or any homeowner in Emmaus. The Borough's Public Works department would bore a hole in the sidewalk (ground) and Frank Sadrovitz would imbed the flag-holder base in cement. Due to a lack of membership in the EFDA, these services are no longer being provided.

Another activity begun by the EFDA was a poetry and essay contest which remains part of the Emmaus Flag Day Program today. This contest invites fifth graders to write poems and eighth graders to write essays on the topic "What the American Flag means to Me." Their teachers select the best three to five pieces and submits them for judging. A first, second and third place is awarded in poetry and essay. These students are then invited to read their winning entries during the Flag Day program held each June 14th. The Mayor of the Borough of Emmaus presents the award to the students.

The Borough of Emmaus supports the event by making the Samuel Landis Arts pavilion available at the Emmaus Community Park, as well as providing financial support for the Emmaus Chorale who performs during the program. Veterans, Boy Scouts, and Girl Scouts escort the American flag during the program, which includes a benediction led by local clergy and a patriotic speech given by a community member.

From 2014 to 2019 the Emmaus Woman's Club assumed the responsibility for the Flag Day Program. At their invitation, in 2020, the Emmaus Rotary Club took over the arrangements for participants, facilities and judges for the contest. Sadly, due to COVID-19, the Emmaus Flag Day Program was cancelled in 2020. Next year, the Emmaus Rotary Club looks forward to continuing the tradition of the Flag Day Program on June 14, 2021 at the Emmaus Community Park.

Emmaus Rotary, a volunteer service organization, has participated in the overall health and well-being of our community since 1926. The Emmaus Rotary Club, with over 100 members, provides community resources both locally and internationally. Rotary International began in Chicago in 1905. Now Rotary exists in over 200 countries in the world with over 1.3 million members. The stated mission is "Doing Good in the World".

The Emmaus Rotary Club has initiated and supported numerous projects in our area including computers and landscaping for the Emmaus Public Library, a picnic pavilion at the Emmaus Community Park, fire and ambulance equipment, the kiosk located at the Borough's Triangle Park, playground equipment, updating the band shelter at Macungie Memorial Park, a gazebo and benches outside the Lower Macungie Township Library and many other local volunteer activities.

Currently, the Rotary Club has initiated a feeding program jointly with the East Penn School District to provide weekend food bags for many children in our school district who are hunger challenged. The program began last summer in conjunction with some of our other community service organizations providing lunches and reading opportunities to children at Lincoln School. During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic this school year, the club went from feeding 33 children a week to feeding 200 children a week. The program is currently operating through this summer and the plans are to continue through the school year. The Emmaus Rotary Club realized that the whole community needs to work together to combat hunger in our region and then work toward assisting to alleviate the root causes in our community. With that in mind, the Emmaus Rotary initiated the East Penn Food Coalition this summer comprised of many volunteer service organizations as well as faith-based organizations in our region. In order to ensure sustainability for this very much needed project a GoFundMe page has been initiated to accept donations for the food program : <https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/east-penn-food-coalition>.

The Emmaus Rotary Club welcomes all of our community to become part of our organization. We meet at Brookside Country Club at 7:30 a.m. each Thursday morning and simultaneously hold a video conferencing session. Please come and join us.

Visit [www.emmausrotary.org](http://www.emmausrotary.org) for more information

# News from the Shelter House

The Shelter House Society would like to introduce our newest Board of Directors member, Adam Smartschan. Adam is also the prime mover in creating and launching our new website located at [www.shelterhouse.org](http://www.shelterhouse.org). We encourage everyone to visit the new website.

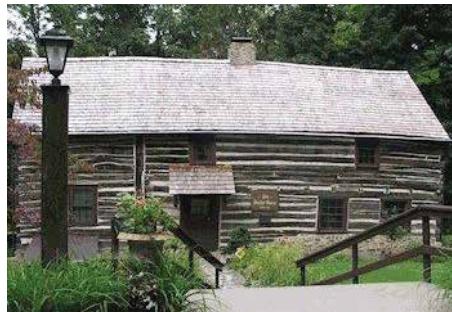
Adam combines technology and marketing expertise with a rich love of history. He graduated from Emmaus High School and Northeast University in Boston returning to his home town and settling with his family in Zionsville.

He is chief strategy officer for Altitude Marketing, noted with the 5000 list of privately held companies in America. At Altitude Marketing, Adam consults global clients on digital marketing, design, branding, and editorial. Altitude Marketing is located in Emmaus on Main Street in the former Wentz Hardware building. The Wentz building was featured in the Shelter House Hearthstone's article about historic buildings with a Mansard roof style.

The Shelter House Society welcomes Adam Smartschan to its Board of Directors.

## The Spring House at the Shelter House

In glancing over back issues of Hearthstone, we find that there has been talk of a spring house restoration for a very long time – Would you believe eight years? We are pleased to report that the "historic spring house" has now evolved from a dream to a reality.



With a thousand thanks to Shelter House board member, Dave Biles, and his very talented brother, Ken Biles, work at the spring house is almost complete.

Our architect of good will, Ken Biles is a retired educator and colonial woodsman re-enactor. Since retiring, Biles visits school groups and other groups, including Shelter House Society, with his programs about colonial life. In his studio near Douglasville, he creates replicas of colonial iron work and wood pieces.

When excavation began in 2012, the project proved bigger and more complicated than once imagined. Many hands, hours and sweat were involved as the years passed by.

We kept publishing in Hearthstone – "Any day now," with yet another year passing. Our loyal members and friends supported our effort with donations and kind words of encouragement.

Our original hall of honor of contributors include John Kirschman, Robert Nay, Joseph Zeller, Barbara Harris, Susan Aten, Clifford Warfield, Franklin, Nancy Reimert, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Alexander and Reverend and Mrs. Fred Foerster.

When the Shelter House once again opens for visitors and tours, we plan to hold a celebratory grand opening of our long-awaited Historic Spring House.

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# Curbside Leaf Collection

Barring complications with weather, equipment or emergencies, the Borough of Emmaus will begin its 2020 Curbside Leaf Collection Program on Monday, October 19, 2020, continuing through Friday, December 11, 2020. **The Borough is unable to set specific pick-up dates for leaf pick-up for individual streets.** We recommend that you have them raked out at the beginning of each week. Once the Public Works Department has made a pass through your street, they will not return until the following week. The Public Works Department will collect 2x a week for 7 weeks during the fall season. Please be advised that if the Borough encounters winter weather and must plow, any leaves in the road will be plowed. Every attempt will be made to clean the roads prior to winter. For FINAL COLLECTION the week of December 7th through December 11th, you are advised to have your leaves out on Monday morning (December 7th) of the final week. Once we have made our final pass on your street, we will not return.

- If there are low hanging branches overhanging the roadway, the Borough's leaf truck may not be able to pick up the leaves. Please make sure that all overhanging branches are trimmed prior to winter.
- Please rake all leaves to the curb into long narrow rows not more than 18" into the road. Leaves placed on the sidewalk will not be collected. The Public Works Department will not empty bags or other containers; this is the responsibility of the resident. Branches, shrubbery, grass, garbage, dog waste, and other building materials will not be picked up.
- Leaves will not be collected on private property. If leaves are not in place when the crews go by, they will be picked up on the following round through the Borough. No "return trips" will be made to pick them up.
- Residents who have areas designated as "No Parking" (yellow painted curbs) are encouraged to pile leaves at these locations for easier pick up.
- Piles with anything other than leaves will not be picked up. These objects will cause damage to the leaf pickup units and put them out of service at a great expense of time and money to the Borough and its residents.
- Do not place tarps over your leaves. The Public Works Department will bypass them and they will not be collected.
- To help facilitate the picking up of the leaves, please keep all vehicles away from the area where the leaves are piled. The Public Works Department will not rake piles of leaves out from between parked cars or from under them.
- Do not pile leaves on or around storm drains as this will cause flooding issues and create unsafe driving conditions.

**Please do not place leaves out prior to the starting date!** If you would like to remove your leaves prior to the beginning of leaf collection, you may drop your leaves off at the Emmaus Borough Compost Site located off of Klines Lane.

## Compost Site Hours of Operation

### Closed on Holidays

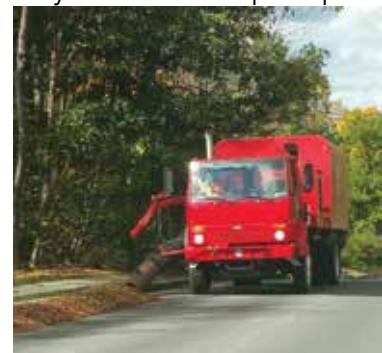
**June 29 to October 17**

Mon., Tues., Wed., 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
Sat., 8:00 a.m. to Noon

**October 19 to December 18**

Mon., Tues., Wed. & Thurs.,  
7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
Sat., 8:00 a.m. to Noon

The Compost Site will not be open in the evening and the Public Works Department will not be available to load vehicles.



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# Volunteer Positions Available

The Borough of Emmaus has openings on several Boards and Commissions. If you would like to be part of the process and volunteer for the community, we encourage you to explore one of these opportunities:

**Board of Health** - 1 opening: This Board explores restaurant inspections as well as different public health concerns that may affect our community.

**Arts Commission** - 1 opening: This Commission explores different artistic opportunities in the community, and sponsors many of our wonderful community events. Some of the recent projects include the Gnome project, painting the picnic tables at the Triangle, the fire hydrant paint project, the Student Film Festival, and the SnowBlast event in February.

**Joint Environmental Advisory Council** - 1 opening: This Advisory Council is a joint board with Upper Milford Township and the Borough of Emmaus. The Council oversees several events and projects throughout the year, including Earth Day, public education events, and different environmental projects such as stream bank restoration work along our creeks.

**Civil Service Commission** - 1 opening for an Alternate: The position is for an alternate, who would have voting rights in the absence of a regular member. The alternate would be part of all discussions. The Commission oversees the hiring, promotion, and in some cases, discipline processes for Police Officers and full-time Firefighters.



**Recreation and Entertainment Commission** - 9 openings: This Commission oversees a variety of community events and activities. The Commission oversees the Summer Concert Series, Movies in the Park, and events like car shows, Community Day, and others that the Commission decides to host throughout the year.

To apply to volunteer, simply download the form at this link, fill it out and send it and we'll be in touch.

<https://www.borough.emmaus.pa.us/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/20190115100747.pdf>

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## Emmaus Kiwanis Club

Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world – one child and community at a time.

The Emmaus Kiwanis Club, now in its 69th year, welcomes new members who believe in the mission of "Serving the Children of the World". The Emmaus Kiwanis Club typically holds its business meeting on the 1st Wednesday evening of the month, a dinner program meeting on the 2nd Wednesday, and a service project or additional activity at another scheduled time during the month. The monthly meetings begin at 6:15 p.m. at a local restaurant. Kiwanis promotes fellowship and fun while serving the community.

**Note: Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, the club is presently holding its meetings via Zoom.**

The Emmaus Kiwanis Club brings the organization's mission to life in the greater community. We are a service organization –

We ACT, We HELP and We CONTRIBUTE. Our members participate in and sponsor community service projects that benefit children, locally, nationally, and internationally.

Examples of the activities the club raises money for and sponsors are:

- Key Clubs at Emmaus and Parkland High Schools
- Builder's Clubs at Lower Macungie and Orefield Middle Schools
- Scholarships to Emmaus High School graduating seniors
- Annual Emmaus Community Easter Egg Hunt
- Annual Special Needs Christmas Party
- Childhood Reading and Literacy Programs
- Buckeye Road Cleanup
- Participation in Miracle League activities
- Participation in Emmaus Public Library Summer Kickoff
- Contribution to Food Program for East Penn

You are invited to join the Emmaus Kiwanis Club. The cost is small and the rewards in fellowship, service, and personal satisfaction are great!

For additional information please check our Facebook page or our website at [emmauskiwanis.org](http://emmauskiwanis.org)

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# Halloween Parade Cancelled

The Halloween Parade Committee regretfully announces that the Halloween Parade will be cancelled this year. With so many questions and concerns regarding public health, safety precautions, and logistics, it is impossible for the Committee to properly plan for a parade this year. Many organizations have already vowed that they would not participate, even if we did try to host a parade. With too many unknowns, and with the great concerns that we have, it is literally impossible for the Committee to be able to plan for a parade. Our parade brings as many as 20,000 people into our community each year. As of the date of this article, outdoor events are still limited to 250 people and parades are not encouraged per the Governor's Order.

The Parade Committee members do have some great news though. Next year is the 100th Anniversary Parade! The Parade Committee is already working hard to plan for next year's parade. The Committee will be posting a website in the near future regarding the 100th Anniversary Parade. So, let's look forward to a Spooktacular 100th Anniversary Halloween Parade in 2021.

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# News from the Emmaus Shade Tree Commission



## One Billion Reasons to Plant a Tree *Trees offer a generous return on investment.*

How much is a tree worth? No, it's not a trick question, but it's one that might seem impossible to answer. After all, how do you put a price tag on shade? Or a tree's ability to combat climate change? What's the dollar value of beauty, or of birdsong?

The USDA Forest Service has answered some of these questions by calculating the community benefits of street trees in towns and cities. The USDA's research relied on many data sources, including nationwide satellite imagery showing changes in the urban tree canopy from year to year. When the results were broken down by state, Pennsylvania's urban street trees were found to provide more than \$1 billion in benefits annually to Pennsylvania residents and businesses, mostly by cleaning the air and cooling our neighborhoods.

Here is a breakdown of the Pennsylvania statistics: Every year, street trees in boroughs and cities statewide provide \$441.6 million in air pollution removal; \$173.5 million in carbon sequestration, which helps to moderate climate change; \$290.2 million in energy conservation, much of it in the form of reduced air conditioning costs for homes shaded by trees; and \$164.3 million in avoided emissions from power plants due to reduced energy demand. Some of those annual savings end up in the pockets of energy consumers. And we all appreciate cleaner air. Every tree we plant in Emmaus increases the environmental benefits.

There are more advantages to trees that didn't make it into the USDA's calculations including; stormwater reduction, water quality improvements, and the increase in property values from including trees in the landscape. As for beauty and birdsong—they're priceless.

## Call Before You Cut

Healthy, well-maintained trees add to property values and the quality of our lives. Before planting, pruning, or removing any tree within the public right-of-way (within 12 feet of the curb), Emmaus property owners must request a permit from the Shade Tree Commission. For questions about street trees or the Emmaus Shade Tree Ordinance, please contact any Shade Tree Commission member: Reds Bailey, 610-967-6191; Doug Hall, 610-967-2304; Beverly Springer, 610-965-6671; Rebecca Straus, 610-741-7193; and Linda Destan, 610-704-6756.

## Permits are Required

Do you need a building or zoning permit? Applications are available online! Download applications for permits right off of our website at: [www.borough.emmaus.pa.us](http://www.borough.emmaus.pa.us).

On the website home page, under the "Residents" heading, click on "Forms and Applications" and choose which application you need. Simply fill it out and mail or bring the completed application into Borough Hall at 28 S. 4th Street, so we can begin processing your permit. If you have any questions about permits, please call the Code Enforcement Office at 610-967-1322 or 610-965-9288.

Some examples of permits that the Borough of Emmaus require are: roof repairs, building repairs or remodels (causing structural changes), footers, foundation, framing, plumbing, electrical, signs, fences, sheds, dumpsters, demolition, driveways, pools, and zoning.

Outdoor fires within the Borough are **Prohibited**. During the summer and fall months recreational fires such as fire pits or commercial fire places are a popular enjoyment to the season. As a reminder, you are required to file for an open burning permit. For more information, please contact the Fire Inspection Office at 610-965-0719.



## Moving Permits

A moving permit is required for any individual or family moving in, out, or within the Borough. The permit application can be obtained from the Cashier at Town Hall, 28 S. 4th Street, or by visiting the Borough website at: [www.borough.emmaus.pa.us](http://www.borough.emmaus.pa.us). The permit and the \$1.00 fee are filed with the Cashier at Town Hall. If you have any questions, please call 610-965-0702.



## PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

Walking is one of the healthiest ways for adults to keep in shape. Although many of us drive motor vehicles regularly, walking is something most of us do daily. The medical profession recommends walking as a means of promoting health, however, walking can be a dangerous hobby, especially throughout our Business District and on the more heavily traveled roadways in the Borough. With fall upon us, the days are shorter and the nights are longer. Please wear light colored or reflective clothing while walking and enjoying the fall weather.

The following are some life-saving tips for pedestrians:

- Always **stop** at the curb or edge of the road before entering the street or roadway.
- Watch for oncoming traffic by looking left, then right, then left again, before entering the street. In the past we were taught to "look both ways," however, recent studies have shown that the final check to our left can help us pick out vehicles that entered the roadway or pulled away from the curb that we did not notice during our first check.
- If a vehicle is approaching, wait until it has completely passed before looking again. Remember to continue searching for vehicles during the time while you are physically crossing the street.
- Remember that Pennsylvania permits right turns during a red light. When crossing at an intersection, look over your shoulder to ensure that vehicles are not turning into your path.
- Make every effort to cross at an intersection as outlined by Pennsylvania law.
- When walking at night, pedestrians should carry a lighted flashlight and wear clothing made with retro-reflective material. Avoid dark colored clothing at night.



The hazards of drinking or using medications while driving are well known, however alcohol and drugs can also impair a person's ability to walk safely.

**Christopher Boyko**  
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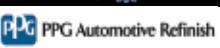
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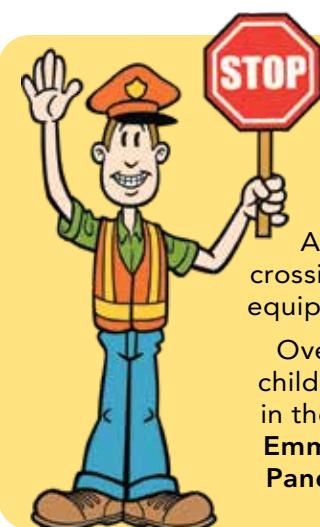
# Foliage & Fertilizer – Tips for Protecting Your Plants, Trees, and Streams

Stormwater is formed when rainwater makes its way into storm drains or runs off our properties directly into streams picking up harmful substances that pollute our waterways. This fall, help the Borough to control stormwater pollution while preparing your lawns for the weather ahead. Below are several tips to help you protect your plants, trees, and streams.

- Dispose of leaf litter and yard waste at the Compost Site and never in the street or stream. Shred yard waste to use as mulch or fertilizer. Utilize the yard waste collection program offered through the Borough.
- Do not use fertilizers immediately before a rainstorm and do not apply them in excess. Always follow the

directions on the package for application and disposal. Excess fertilizer cannot be absorbed by the soil and will wash away with the rain.

- Protect young trees on your property by covering trunks with ventilated tree tubes or tree guards. Young trees are particularly vulnerable to grazing and deer rub. Protecting the trunks will improve their chance for survival.
- Prune your summer perennials in your garden. After the first frost cut back dry stems of perennials to soil level. This will extend the life of your plants, improve the health of your garden, and showcase winter perennials.



## Crossing Guards Needed

The Emmaus Police Department and the East Penn School District are seeking additional volunteers to serve as Crossing Guards for the 2020-2021 school year. Can you spare a small fraction of your time?

Are you interested in serving among the ranks of our existing staff of dedicated crossing guards? The Emmaus Police Department will provide you with the necessary equipment and training. There are additional incentives as well!

Over the years, the Emmaus Crossing Guards have contributed to the safety of our children traveling to and from school each day. It is critical that we ensure their safety in the future. Will you help us? If you are interested, or you can help, please call the Emmaus Police Department at 610-965-0722. Ask, or leave a message, for Cindy Pandl. We will do the rest.



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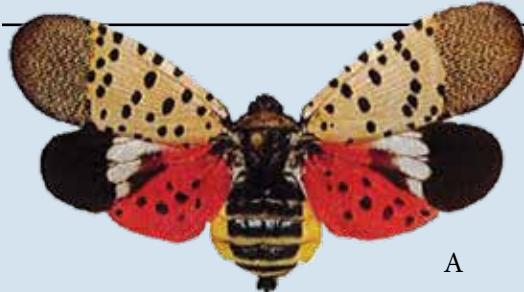
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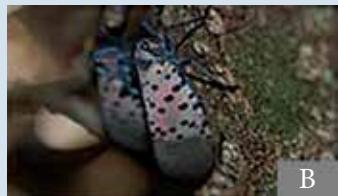


# Pest Alert

# Spotted Lanternfly



A



B



C



D\*



E\*



F



G



H



I

\*Photos courtesy of Park et al. 2009, *Biological Characteristics of Lyonna Delicatula and the Control Effects of Some Insecticides*.

(A) Spotted Lanternfly showing the fore and hind wings (B) Resting against bark (C) Lateral view (D) Early nymphs (E) Late nymphs (F) Feeding on wild *Vitis* sp. (G) Weeping sap trail on a tree (H) Egg mass covered in waxy coating (I) Old hatched egg mass on a trunk

## Identification:

The Spotted Lanternfly adult is approximately 1" long and 1/2" wide at rest. The forewing is grey with black spots and the wings tips are reticulated black blocks outlined in grey (A, B, C). The hind wings have contrasting patches of red and black with a white band (A). The legs and head are black; the abdomen is yellow with broad black bands. Immature stages are black with white spots, and develop red patches as they grow (D,E).

## Hosts:

In the fall, adults congregate on tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) (F), willows (*Salix* sp.), and other trees, in groups of up to 20. Egg masses will be laid on medium to large trees, on trunk, branches, and limb bases. After hatching in the spring, nymphs will move off the tree and search out new hosts, including several kinds of agricultural crops. In Korea, it has been reported to attack 65 different species, 25+ of which are known to grow in Pennsylvania.

## Signs and Symptoms:

Trees, such as tree of heaven and willow, will develop weeping wounds. These wounds will leave a greyish or black trail along the trunk (G). This sap will attract other insects to feed, notably wasps and ants. In late fall, adults will lay egg masses on host trees and nearby smooth surfaces like stone, outdoor furniture, vehicles, and structures. Newly laid egg masses have a grey mud-like covering which can take on a dry cracked appearance over time (H). Old egg masses appear as rows of 30-50 brownish seed-like deposits in 4-7 columns on the trunk, roughly an inch long (I).

## What to do:

**If you see egg masses, scrape them off, double bag them and throw them away.** You can also place the eggs into alcohol or hand sanitizer to kill them. Please report all destroyed egg masses on our website listed below.

**Collect a specimen:** Specimens of any life stage can be turned in to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Entomology lab for verification. Directions for submission are on the reverse side of this alert.

**Take a picture:** A photograph of any life stage (including egg masses) can be submitted to [Badbug@pa.gov](mailto:Badbug@pa.gov).

**Report a site:** If you can't take a specimen or photograph, call the Automated Invasive Species Report Line at 1-866-253-7189 and leave a message detailing your sighting and contact information.

For up to date Information, visit:  
[www.pda.state.pa.us/spottedlanternfly](http://www.pda.state.pa.us/spottedlanternfly)

By: Lawrence Barringer, Entomologist  
Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture



## Be Prepared for An Emergency

The likelihood that you and your family will survive a house fire depends on having a working smoke detector and an exit strategy. The same is true for surviving other emergencies. Plan on having the tools and plans in place if disaster should strike.

### Get a Kit of Emergency Supplies:

- Water, one gallon per person per day
- Food, at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- Battery-powered radio and extra batteries
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Filter mask or cotton t-shirt to filter air
- Moist towelettes for sanitation
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Manual can opener
- Plastic sheeting and duct tape
- Garbage bags and plastic ties
- Unique family needs, such as daily prescription medications, infant formula, important family documents



Make a plan for what you will do in an emergency.

Be informed about what might happen.

Get involved in preparing your community ([www.citizencorps.gov](http://www.citizencorps.gov))

For a more details, visit [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)

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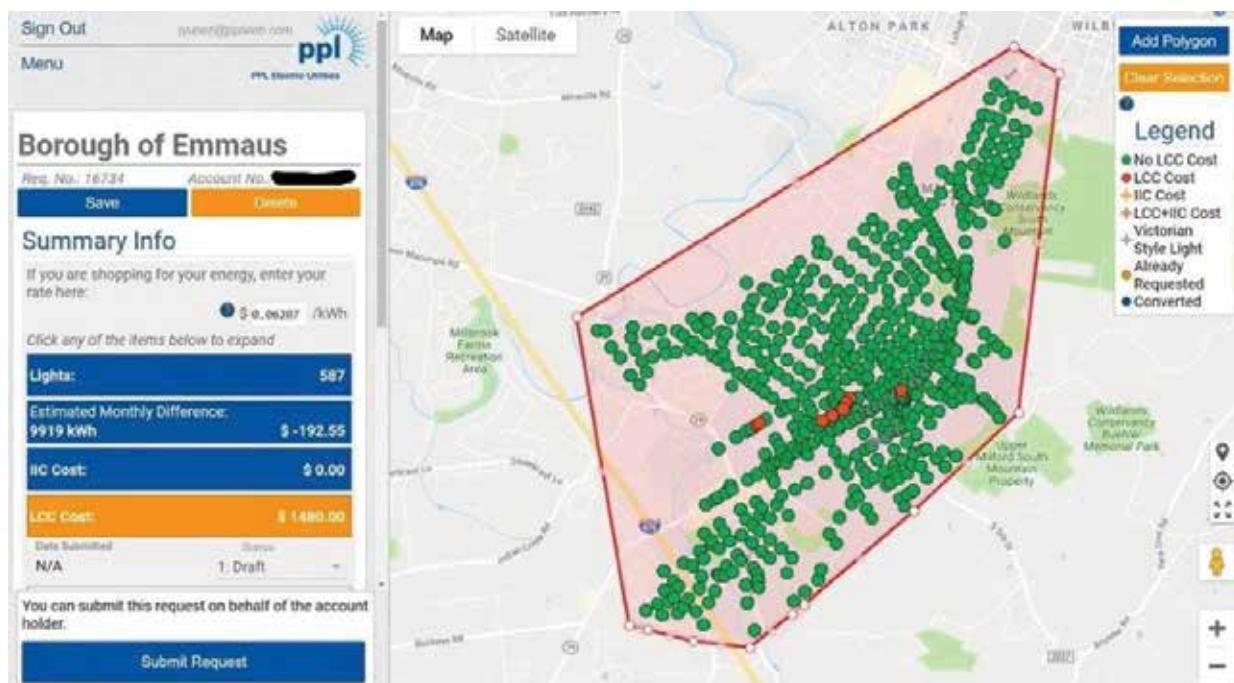
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# High-Pressure Sodium vs. LED Street Lights – Help Us Decide

The Borough of Emmaus currently has an opportunity under a new program at PPL to convert our street lights at little to no cost. We are asking for your feedback before we decide to proceed. To be clear, we have NOT entered into any negotiations, nor have we had any discussions beyond what would be considered preliminary talks. We do not want to move any further in the process or waste time and effort until we have the sentiment of the community as to how you feel we should proceed. The Borough has created an online survey for you to give us your feedback regarding this possibility. The survey will close on October 29th. We greatly encourage you to participate in the survey. If you do NOT have internet access, please contact the Borough Manager at Borough Hall and he will work with you to take a survey over the phone. The online survey link is: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HVL7ZJJ>

Some facts relating to the Borough's streetlights include:

- The Borough currently has 616 streetlights.
- Out of the 616, if we convert to LED, 29 will not be converted because they are the Victorian Style Lights. Therefore, 587 lights would be converted from high-pressure sodium to LED.
- The Borough would have to pay an upfront cost of \$1,480 total because 8 of the 587 streetlights are less than ten years old.
- The map below from PPL also shows an estimated savings of \$192.55 per month, after the full LED conversion gets completed. The saving of \$192.55 is based on PPL's Price to Compare of \$0.06207. The actual savings will be different since we have a supplier. Our current supplier rate is at \$0.0511111.
- The yearly cost savings to the Borough, after we factor in the overall electric savings, as well as the repayment cost for the light conversion, would be approximately \$2,310 per year. The monetary savings, in and of itself, is not a major factor in the decision, although it shouldn't be completely discounted. At the same time, there is very little financial investment that the Borough would have to make, therefore, on a budgetary point of view, this would be a cost-neutral venture.
- This program is completely different than the program that was proposed a number of years ago where the Borough would purchase the streetlights outright. PPL would still own and maintain the lights.



## Comparing the Types of Street Lights:

First, we will profess that we are NOT professionals. We are only going to include information that we found from different articles. We encourage you to do your own research BEFORE you take the survey. We will warn you that there certainly doesn't seem to be a lot of objective research out there, as most articles encourage LED lighting. However, we will try to give you some of the differences we have researched:

### What is a High-Pressure Sodium Light?

High pressure sodium vapor (HPS) lights, similar to LPS lights, are a specific type of gas-discharge light (also known as a high intensity discharge, HID or arc light). The principal difference between low- and high-pressure sodium lights is the operating pressure inside the lamp. As indicated by the name, "high" pressure sodium vapor lights operate at a higher internal pressure. The arc tube is made of aluminum oxide and the sodium metal is combined with several other elements like mercury which counter-balances the yellow glow with some white to light blue emissions.

#### High Pressure Sodium Lights:

- Softer, yellow light
- Light spreads farther and are less focused
- Life expectancy – 12 years or about 14,000 hours of output
- Takes about 10 minutes for light to warm up
- Gives off a hotter light than LED
- Sodium lights operate in a range where the human eye is very sensitive and so there is less power required to achieve the same lighting effect. For this reason, they are very efficient.

### What is a Light Emitting Diode (LED)?

LED stands for light emitting diode. A diode is an electrical device or component with two electrodes (an anode and a cathode) through which electricity flows - characteristically in only one direction (in through the anode and out through the cathode). Diodes are generally made from semi-conductive materials such as silicon or selenium - solid state substances that conduct electricity in some circumstances and not in others (e.g. at certain voltages, current levels, or light intensities). When current passes through the semiconductor material the device emits visible light. It is very much the opposite of a photovoltaic cell (a device that converts visible light into electrical current).

#### LED Lights:

- Cost more money upfront (see our notes above)
- Instantly at full output
- Research shows 40% - 75% less electric use than high-pressure sodium, however, costs savings are actually more in the 10% - 30% range.
- Brighter, white light
- Light is more direct downward, but doesn't spread as far
- Lower maintenance costs than high-pressure sodium
- Life Expectancy – 20 years or about 40,000 – 60,000 hours of output depending on the type
- Because the lights are brighter, they make the street look brighter. However, because the light isn't spread as far, it may result in more shadows and potential dark places. This could result in the need for additional lights in certain areas.
- Lower maintenance costs because of longer life expectancy and higher durability of lights. It costs more to replace a bulb though. (This is part of the PPL agreement – they are responsible for the bulbs).
- The claim is that there is no glare compared to the other lights, nor is their light pollution. However, we have read an article or two that claim otherwise. Most articles support the reduction of light pollution.





# Trick or Treat Safety Tips from the Emmaus Police Department

Trick or Treat is tentatively scheduled for Friday, October 30th.

**\*\* Due to COVID-19, an announcement will be made closer to the date with the final determination of whether or not Trick or Treat will be held.**

## TRICK OR TREAT NIGHT

**Friday, October 30, 2020 • 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
(Rain or Shine)**

It's the time of year for costumes, sweets, tricks and treats. While Halloween offers plenty of make-believe fun, it also brings real safety risks as children dart across dark streets with their minds more on candy than on cars. **Children are twice as likely to be hit by a car on trick or treat than on any other night of the year.** Burns and cuts are also common during Halloween. And then there's the candy: Almost two-thirds of parents think their kids eat too much of it around Halloween.

Trick or Treat can be safely enjoyed, especially when parents put extra care into planning and supervision. Talk with your children every year about safety concerns unique to this holiday and review do's and don'ts before heading out to trick or treat.

Please follow these tips to keep your family safe this spooky season.

### Get clever with costumes

From furry animals to princesses and superheroes, choosing costumes wisely is an important part of trick or treat safety. Please follow these helpful costume tips:

- **The brighter the better.** Whether you buy a costume or make one yourself, choose bright colors and flame-retardant materials. If your child will be trick or treating outdoors after dark, attach reflective tape to his or her costume or treat bag.
- **Size it right.** In case it's chilly outdoors, make sure your child's costume is loose enough for warm clothing to be worn underneath — but not long enough to cause tripping. Avoid oversized shoes and high heels.
- **Skip the masks.** A mask can obstruct your child's vision, especially if it slips out of place. Use kid-friendly, nontoxic makeup instead.
- **Limit accessories.** Pointed props — such as wands, swords and knives — might pose safety hazards. Carry flashlights or wear glowing wristbands instead.

### Trick or treat with care

Before your children start trick or treating, review these basic Halloween safety rules:

- **Get in on the fun.** Accompany trick or treaters younger than age 12. Pin a piece of paper with your child's name, address and phone number inside your child's pocket in case you get separated. Encourage older kids to trick or treat with a group of friends, parents or older siblings. Make sure someone in the group has a flashlight with fresh batteries.
- **Set ground rules.** If your child will be trick or treating without you, plan and discuss a familiar route and set a curfew. Review safety rules, including staying with the group, walking only on the sidewalk, approaching only clearly lit homes, and never going inside a home or car for a treat. Have your child carry a cellphone for the evening so that he or she can contact you.
- **Inspect treats before indulging.** Don't let your child snack while he or she is trick or treating. Feed your child an early meal before heading out, and inspect the treats before allowing your child to dive in. Discard anything that is not sealed, has torn packaging or looks questionable. If you have young children, weed out gum, peanuts, hard candies and other choking hazards. If your child has food allergies, check candy labels carefully. Even hard candies may be manufactured in facilities that process nuts, milk, soy, wheat, egg or other allergens.
- **Ration the loot.** If your child collects gobs of goodies, dole out a few pieces at a time and save the rest. You might even ask your child if he or she would like to swap some — or all — of the candy for something else, such as a special toy, book or outing.
- **Plan a party.** Consider planning a trick or treat party with a couple of neighbors instead of house-to-house door knocking. Decorate the garages, have a costume contest, or plan games and prizes. Check local schools, malls and churches to find other safe celebration options.



## Emmaus Police Department

### Stay safe and sweet on the home front

Planning to hand out treats? To make sure you're ready for trick or treaters, follow these tips:

- **Clean up.** Put away anything trick or treaters could trip over, such as garden hoses, toys, bikes and lawn decorations. Clear wet leaves, snow or other debris from the sidewalk.
- **Turn the lights on.** Replace any burned-out bulbs to ensure good visibility at the walkway and front door.
- **Control your pets.** Take no chances that your pet might be frightened and chase or bite a child at your door.
- **Consider sugar substitutes.** Instead of handing out sugar-laden treats, try stickers, fun pencils, rubber insects or colored chalk.

If you'll be driving on trick or treat, watch for children who might pop out between parked cars. Be especially careful entering or leaving driveways and alleys. Extra caution can help ensure trick or treat safety for everyone.

### Carve safely

Before you start carving pumpkins, consider these Halloween safety rules:

- **Decorate with markers, glitter glue or paint.** Let young children draw faces on pumpkins with art supplies. Leave any carving to an adult.
- **Use candles with care.** Place candlelit pumpkins on a sturdy surface away from curtains and other flammable objects. Never leave candlelit pumpkins unattended. Better yet, light pumpkins with flashlights, battery-operated flameless candles or glow sticks instead.



Credit: The Mayo Clinic

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# Generator Safety

Downed utility lines, power company blackouts, heavy snow falls or summer storms can all lead to power outages. Many people turn to their portable generator for a temporary solution without knowing the risks.

- Generators should be used in well ventilated locations away from all doors, windows and vent openings.
- Never use a generator in an attached garage, even with the door open
- Place generators so that exhaust fumes can't enter the home through windows, doors or other openings in the building.
- Make sure to install carbon monoxide (CO) alarms in your home. Follow manufacturer's instructions for correct placement and mounting height.
- Turn off generators and let them cool down before refueling. Never refuel a generator while it is running.
- Store fuel for the generator in a container that is intended for the purpose and is correctly labeled as such. Store the containers outside of living areas.



## Just Remember...

When plugging in appliances, make sure they are plugged directly into the generator or a heavy duty outdoor-rated extension cord. The cords should be checked for cuts, tears and that the plug has three prongs, especially a grounding pin.

If you must connect the generator to the house wiring to power appliances, have a qualified electrician install a properly rated transfer switch in accordance with the National Electrical Code® (NEC) and all applicable state and local electrical codes.

### FACT

! CO deaths associated with generators have spiked in recent years as generator sales have risen.



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# EVERY VOTE COUNTS!

# ELECTION DAY IS NOVEMBER 3, 2020

As you are aware, voting locations were changed for the June 2, 2020 Pennsylvania Primary election. The Borough will provide more information and locations as the General Election approaches.

If you have any questions about your voting precinct, please call Lehigh County Voters Registration at 610-782-3194. Be sure that you are registered to vote at least 30 days prior to Election Day.



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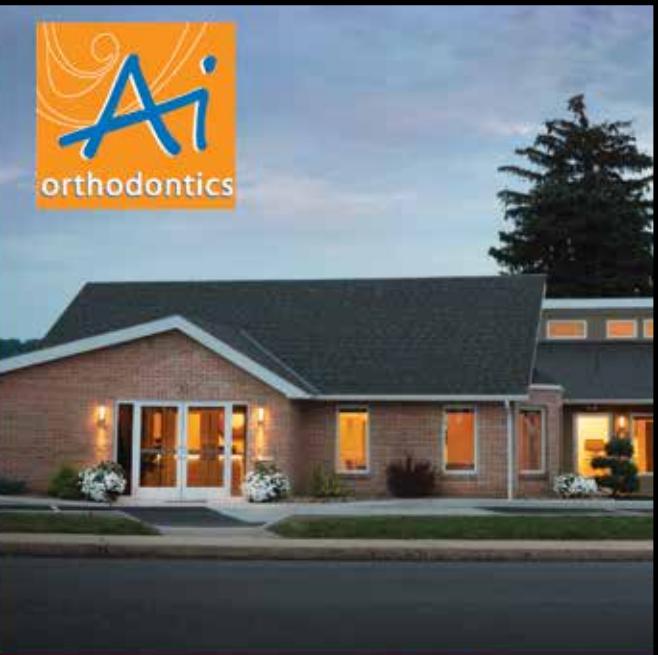
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