

AROUND TOWN

Established 1859

Winter 2024



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MOVING FORWARD TO 2025

The Borough of Emmaus has had quite a year! Streets were torn up and construction seemed to be everywhere. The Borough was able to pave more streets this year than we have in nearly two decades. We were able to finish the design and have applied for Grant funding to mitigate the PFAS in our water system. We finally received an ambulance that we ordered over 3 years ago. We have had several personnel changes, including the retirement of our Director of Emergency Services as well as the hiring of a new Assistant Borough Manager, and several key promotions within our operations. We lost several community leaders this year, and perhaps gained some new future leaders. We have three newly elected officials this year as well and saw quite a bit of progress in the community. We completely renovated two parks, opened our first pickleball court, and are excited to announce the renovations of the Veterans Memorial Triangle. We've had many great celebrations throughout the community this year and look forward to many more. While we could continue to reflect on 2024, we are looking forward to the new year. As we look forward to 2025, we know we have many things that need to be accomplished, and we look forward to continuing to serve our great community.

There are many ways you can be involved in the new year, as we have numerous volunteer opportunities in the community. Volunteers, whether for the Borough or in our many great civic organizations, are what truly make our community so special. Many of the events in our community are organized and driven by volunteers. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please visit the Borough's website for more information.

We hope that this upcoming holiday season is a time when you can relax and enjoy your friends and family and that you are able to celebrate the holidays with your loved ones. We encourage you to come out and celebrate the many different events going on in the community and spend time with your neighbors during the holiday season. We continue to look forward to serving you and wish you good health and happiness as we close out this year and march into 2025.



Borough of Emmaus

28 South 4th St. • Emmaus, PA 18049

610-965-9292 • Fax: 610-965-0705



www.emmauspa.gov

Borough Contact Information

Town Hall (Main #)	610-965-9292
Borough Manager	610-966-6357
Asst. Borough Manager	610-421-6950
Borough Manager Admin. Asst.	610-965-0701
Pavilion Rentals	610-965-0702
Public Works	610-965-9288
Refuse/Recycling	610-965-0702
Tax Collector	610-967-4598
Treasurer	610-965-5865
Water/Sewer Billing	610-965-9231
Zoning	610-967-1322
Ambulance Corps	610-967-5615
Fire Department	610-967-5630
Fire Inspector	610-965-0719
Mayor	610-965-9255
Police Non-Emergency	610-967-3113
Emergency 911	911

www.emmauspa.gov

Other Important Phone Numbers

Berkheimer (per capita tax)	610-599-3139
PA One Call	1-800-242-1776
Streetlights – Repair and Maintenance, PPL	1-800-342-5775
Trash/Recycling – Whitetail Disposal	610-936-9967;
emmaus@whitetaildisposal.com	

BOROUGH HALL HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Borough Offices will be closed
in observance of the following holidays:

November 28, 2024 – Thanksgiving Day

November 29, 2024 – Black Friday

December 25, 2024 – Christmas Day

January 1, 2025 – New Year's Day

February 17, 2025 – for Presidents' Day

Please note that the Borough Council Meeting that would normally be scheduled for Monday, February 17, 2025, will be held on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, due to the Presidents' Day holiday.

The Borough of Emmaus employees wish everyone a very safe and Happy Holiday Season!

We look forward to continuing to serve you in 2025.

A Special Thank You to Our Business Sponsors

The Borough of Emmaus would like to thank the businesses that supported this newsletter through their very generous advertising sponsorship and to recognize them as supporters of our community. It is because of their contributions that this newsletter has been produced at no charge to our residents. We would like to encourage our residents to patronize local businesses first when given a choice as they play a substantial role in the economic vitality of our community.



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A Way to Remember - Year-round beauty can be found at the Emmaus Remembrance Garden



The holiday season is almost here! If you are looking for a creative gift for someone special, the Emmaus Remembrance Garden is selling engraved bricks to be placed at the lovely Remembrance Garden next to the Knauss Homestead. There are many options to choose from – wedding, anniversary, birthday, retirement, Eagle Scout, veteran's service, community heroes, graduation – the possibilities are endless for brick-giving!

Bricks offered are 4x8 and 8x8. Symbols are available for an additional charge. Cedar benches are also available for purchase. This is a unique way to enhance the beauty at the Remembrance Garden while honoring a loved one. Ordering available online.

Come Visit! Winter days are some of the loveliest at the Remembrance Garden. We are located at 164 E. Main Street, Emmaus. A sign to the garden is located at the driveway of Cintas, and the Garden entrance is on the right side of the parking lot next to Knauss Homestead. We have beautiful space set aside in a unique place for a time of reflection. The Garden offers an area to honor those we love, those we have lost, or to pay homage to a person, a time or a place.

If you are a veteran, Emmaus Church or Emmaus Emergency Services (Community Hero), contact us for a special discount.

Honoring our memories, one brick at a time. www.emmausremembers.org; remgarden1@gmail.com



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Books are only the Start at the Emmaus Public Library

Emmaus Public Library - 11 E. Main Street, Emmaus, PA 18049

www.emmauspl.org 610-965-9284

Hours: Monday-Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Friday & Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Winter 2024

All Events are FREE and open to the public.

11/27, Library closing at 5:00 p.m.

Library closed, 11/28, 11/29, 12/24, 12/25, 12/31 & 1/1/25

Monthly Events:

Unless otherwise noted, sign up at the circulation desk, call 610-965-9284, or email the library at emmauspl@cliu.org.

December

- December 3rd—**Daytime Book Club** at 2:00 p.m. Join us to discuss the book *The Good Sister* by Sally Hepworth. For adults.
- December 4th, 11th, and 18th—Join us at 6 p.m. for **Crochet Club**. All skill levels are welcome. All ages. Drop in.
- December 4th-18th – **Fall Storytime!** Seasonal story time for all ages! There will be singing, stories, and art! Drop in.
- December 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th—**Notary Service** by appointment only for residents of Emmaus Borough, Upper Milford Township, and Macungie Borough. Please call 610-965-9284 to check availability.
- December 7th – all day. **Old Fashioned Christmas!** The Emmaus Public Library celebrates the holiday season with crafts, displays, a scavenger hunt, and all sorts of seasonal fun from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For all ages. Drop in.
- December 10th—**Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group** at 10:30 a.m. Meets every 2nd Tuesday. RSVP to Careen Steele at 610-965-7662 or csteele@southmountainmemorycare.com. For adults.
- December 10th—**Evening Book Club** at 6:45 p.m. Join us to discuss the book, *Exit West* by Mohsin Hamid. For adults.
- December 11th – **December Library Read In!** 2:30 p.m. – come in and read wherever you like in the library! Bring a stuffy, a pillow and blanket, and find space on the Stadium Steps, in the Children's Wing, or in the Margaret Knoll Gardner Lecture Room! Miss Sue will have books on display for readers, or you can bring your own favorite. Read out loud, or to yourself! Don't forget, Reading is Fun! For all ages.
- December 17th—**Creative Writing Group** at 2 p.m. Meet up with other people interested in creative writing under the guidance of long-time creative writer, Pat Johnson. For adults.
- December 17th – **"Painting the Path of My Life"**. Author and artist Lisa MacDonald presents this book discussion event for teens from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.
- December 17th—**Movie Group** at 5:30 p.m. Monthly on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Watch the movie *Barbie* at home, then come discuss with us. Ideas and discussion welcome. Refreshments served. For adults.

- December 20th—**Find Your Ancestors**. A free 30-minute appointment with our volunteer genealogist. By appointment only. Please call 610-965-9284 for availability.

January

- January 4th—**Daytime Book Club** at 2:00 p.m. Free month! Bring a list of your favorite books to share or talk about what you're currently reading. For adults.
- January 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th—**Crochet Club** on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. All skill levels are welcome. For all ages. Drop in!
- January 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th—**Notary Service** by appointment only for residents of Emmaus Borough, Upper Milford Township, and Macungie Borough. Please call 610-965-9284 to check availability.
- January 8th—**Early Wednesday Afternoon Event: Family Trees!** What is a family tree, and how do you make one? For all ages. Drop in!
- January 10th—**Winter Storytime** begins! Every Wednesday in January and February, the library will offer seasonal stories, songs, and art! For all ages. Drop in!
- January 15th—**Find Your Ancestors**. A free 30-minute appointment with our volunteer genealogist. By appointment only. Please call 610-965-9284 for availability.
- January 18th—**Movie Group** at 5:30 p.m. On the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Watch the movie *Barbie* at home, then come discuss with us. Ideas and discussion welcome. Refreshments served. For adults.
- January 21st—**Creative Writing Group** at 2:00 p.m. Meet up with other people interested in creative writing under the guidance of long-time creative writer, Pat Johnson. For adults.
- January 28th—**Memoir Writing** at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom. On the 4th Tuesday of the month. For adults.
- January 29th—**Wednesday Afternoon Event: Lunar New Year Celebration: The Year of the Earth Snake!** Join us to craft a rainbow snake for the library and learn about the year of the earth snake! For all ages.



- January 21st, 2025—**Creative Play with the Family Place!** A 5-week session of creative play for children, ages 1 to 3 years with their caretakers and older siblings! A different Community Resource will be at the library each week to answer caretaker questions. Registration starts December 1st, 2024, for the Winter session.

February

- February 3rd—**Daytime Book Club** at 2:00 p.m. Check the library's calendar for details.
- February 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th—**Crochet Club** on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. All skill levels are welcome. For all ages. Drop in!
- February 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th—**Notary Service** by appointment only for residents of Emmaus Borough, Upper Milford Township, and Macungie Borough. Call 610-965-9284 to check availability.
- February 15th—**A Saturday Storyteller** – Lehigh Valley Storyteller Guildmember Denise McCormack will be at the Emmaus Public Library to tell Spooky and Silly tales! For all ages.
- February 18th—**Movie Group** at 5:30 p.m. On the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Watch the movie at home, then come discuss with us. Ideas and discussion are welcome. Refreshments will be served. For adults. (Please check the library calendar for movie selection.)
- February 18th—**Creative Writing Group** at 2:00 p.m. Meet up with other people interested in creative writing under the guidance of long-time creative writer, Pat Johnson. For adults.
- February 19th—**Find Your Ancestors.** A free 30-minute appointment with our volunteer genealogist. By appointment only. Please call 610-965-9284 for availability.

Our Early Wednesday Afternoon Events for February are still in the planning stages, but keep checking the library's calendar for updates!

All year round!

- **Block Party!** A creative community play event held on the first Saturday of every month! (12/06, 01/04, 02/01, 03/01) from 11:00 a.m. to noon in the Children's Wing.
- **Facebook Writing Prompts**—prompts are posted on the library's Facebook page on the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. and continue every fifteen minutes after until 8:30 p.m. If you can't make it on Thursday night, check out the folder for our prompts and past prompts in the Photo albums on the page. Sharing your writing is entirely voluntary, but we'd love to see what you come up with! For ALL ages! Join us as a family, or just on your own!
- **Teen Writers Group**—meets on the second Thursday of each month all year round! 6th through 12th graders are invited to join us for writing to prompts, and then discussions of the writing! Sharing is entirely voluntary – There is NO pressure! 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Drop in!
- **Books and Barks!** Join us on the fourth Thursday of each month in the Margaret Knoll Gardner Lecture Room (DECEMBER's event will take place on Thursday, December 19th due to the Christmas Holiday.). All ages can come and read to the Lehigh Valley Therapy Dogs from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Drop in!





Emmaus Kiwanis Club

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

The Emmaus Kiwanis Club, serving the East Penn community for over 70 years, continued its active community involvement over recent months by volunteering at IronPigs games and cleaning up at the Emmaus Remembrance Garden. We also made a donation for a new footbridge to be installed at Kiwanis Park, participated in Emmaus National Night Out & The Kindness Project's mini golf event, and contributed to the annual Kiwanis statewide Rose Sale fundraiser which helps support our community endeavors.

The Emmaus Kiwanis Club inducted new members and continuously looks forward to welcoming those who believe in its mission. A business meeting is held on the 1st Wednesday of each month, a program meeting on the 3rd Wednesday, and service or social activities at other scheduled times during the month.

The Emmaus Kiwanis Club is pleased to announce its New Club officers for the 2024-2025 term- Alex Hubickey (President), Jennifer Anders (Immediate Past President), Elaine Ruch (Secretary), and Nadine Hohe (Treasurer).

The Emmaus Kiwanis Club is proud to bring our mission to life in the community. **We ACT, We HELP, and We CONTRIBUTE**, participating in and sponsoring service projects that benefit children in our community and throughout the world.

Upcoming Events:

- Emmaus Old Fashioned Christmas
- Kiwanis Club's Annual Charles Rhoads Special Needs Holiday Party
- Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Kiwanis contributes to the community and our children in the following ways:

- Key Clubs – Emmaus and Parkland High Schools
- Builder's Clubs – Lower Macungie and Orefield Middle Schools
- Six Scholarships to Emmaus High Seniors
- Childhood Reading and Literacy Programs
- Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt
- Annual Community Pancake Festival
- Little Free Library at Emaus Fire Co 1
- Emmaus Halloween Parade
- Participation in Miracle League Activities
- Participation in The Kindness Project Activities
- Participation in Emmaus Library Activities
- Emmaus National Night Out
- Remembrance Garden Clean-Up
- Buckeye Road Clean-Up
- Little Lehigh Stream Clean-Up
- Founding Member of East Penn Food Alliance

We invite YOU to join the Emmaus Kiwanis Club! The rewards in fellowship, service, and personal satisfaction are great. We would love to have you join us in our dedication to serving children and our community.

Follow us on Facebook and visit our website at emmauskiwanis.org for contact information.





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Kiwanis Club Continues to Donate to the Community

The Borough wishes to express its sincere thanks to the Emmaus Kiwanis Club for their contributions to our community. The Kiwanis Club recently donated \$2,800 to the Borough to repair a bridge at the Williams Street / Kiwanis Park. The Public Works Department completely renovated the bridge, rebuilding it from the braces. The project was led by newly promoted group leader, Robert Leanch and Public Works employee, Dakota DeLong. Together, they helped redesign and reconstruct the bridge with a group of employees, saving several thousand dollars by not having to contract out the work. The bridge is approximately named the Kiwanis Bridge. Many thanks to our Public Works team, and especially thanks to the Kiwanis Club, and to in particular to outgoing Kiwanis Club President, Jen Anders, for her generous support and donations towards this project.

Additionally, the organization also recently funded several new picnic tables for the pavilion, as well as several new park benches to be placed in the park.



THE EMMAUS VETERANS COMMITTEE

News from the Emmaus Veterans Committee

The project to transform the Emmaus Memorial Park into the Emmaus Veteran's Memorial Triangle has begun, with hopes to be completed in time for the Memorial Day Parade in 2025. **Thank you to those who have already donated generously to this project.** Donations are still being requested from residents and businesses to help fund this project, which is estimated to cost approximately \$125,000. Any donation in any amount is greatly appreciated. The Emmaus Veteran's Committee is a 501(c)(3) organization and donations are fully deductible to the extent allowed by law.



All checks for donations should be made payable to the Emmaus Veterans Committee and mailed to:

EMMAUS VETERANS COMMITTEE

PO Box 161

Emmaus, PA 18049

The Emmaus Veterans Committee works very hard for veterans' causes, and are grateful for any donations made to help us achieve our goal.

Any questions can be directed to: emmausveteranscommittee@gmail.com.





EMMAUS RECREATION AND ENTERTAINMENT COMMISSION

Recreation and Entertainment Commission – Planning 2025

The Recreation and Entertainment Commission would like to thank everyone who attended the summer concert series and other events last summer! A complete list of next year's events will be published in the summer newsletter.

Do you have an idea for an event you would like to see in the Borough?

The Commission would love to hear from you! Please send us an email at emmausrec@gmail.com, or attend one of our monthly meetings. The meeting date/time can be found on the borough's website at www.emmauspa.gov

Would you like to volunteer and help plan our events?

The Recreation and Entertainment Commission needs more volunteers to assist us in making these events happen. Visit our website at <https://www.emmausent.com>, for more information on how to become a member, or contact us at emmausrec@gmail.com.

Sponsorships:

If you or someone you know would like to support us to continue to provide free community events, please email us at emmausrec@gmail.com. **All donations are tax deductible. **

Park Survey – Help Us to Make Your Parks Better

The Borough of Emmaus would like to hear from you.... And we appreciate your feedback!

Please take a few minutes and participate in our Borough Pocket Parks Upgrade Feedback Survey. Every year the Borough includes money in the budget to upgrade a couple pieces of playground equipment across all our parks. Also included in the budget each year is a 5-year plan to address improvements across the Borough. We have a few ideas but would love to hear directly from the people who use our parks! We need help to determine what equipment would get the most use to help determine what equipment would get the most use and enjoyment.

Please scan the QR code to participate, it only takes a few minutes:



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Volunteer Opportunities

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



Emmaus Arts Commission – 8 vacancies. 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 Commission - 2 vacancies: 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. Preferred Experience / Qualifications: environmentalist, knowledge of environmental concerns and issues, event planning.

Time Commitment: One meeting per month in either Emmaus Borough or Upper Milford Township.

Recreation and Entertainment Commission - 8 vacancies. 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 finds beneficial throughout the year. Preferred Experience / Qualifications: event planning, parks and recreational professional, attends community events, fundraising experience.


Time Commitment: minimum of one 1-hour meeting per month. During spring, summer, and early fall, time commitment will be more.

To apply to volunteer, simply download the form at this link, fill it out, send it, and we will be in touch. <https://www.borough.emmaus.pa.us/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Board-and-Commission-Information-Sheet-2020.pdf>







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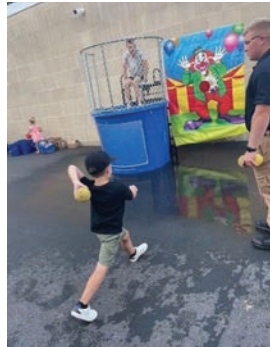
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Police News:

Emmaus Police – National Night Out

On Wednesday, August 14th the Emmaus Police Department held their annual National Night Out. National Night Out is a community building event to promote neighborhood relationships with officers and promote safer communities. The Emmaus Police Department takes pride in this event designed to create an evening of fun and community involvement. This year, the Emmaus Police Department expanded the event to include food trucks, more vendors, businesses, local organizations, emergency vehicles, K-9 demonstrations, and Percy the Camel. We were also excited to be able to open our department doors again and offer tours to see our newly renovated facility. The attendance at this year's event was larger than we have ever seen so far and continues to grow each year. We thank all that attended, participated, and sponsored this year's event. Please look for more information regarding our next National Night Out in August 2025.



Cold Weather = Hot Opportunities for Thieves

With the weather turning colder, many of us warm up our vehicles in the driveway before heading out in the morning. We all prefer a nice and toasty vehicle to take off in. So do thieves! Use common sense. It is best to NOT leave a vehicle unattended while running! It is illegal while on a street or highway!

Pa Vehicle Code 3701. Unattended motor vehicle.

(a) General rule.--No person driving or in charge of a motor vehicle shall permit the vehicle to stand unattended without placing the gear shift lever in a position which under the circumstances impedes the movement of the vehicle, stopping the engine, locking the ignition in vehicles so equipped, removing the key from the ignition and, when standing upon any grade, turning the front wheels to the curb or side of the highway and effectively setting the brake.

Sitting inside your vehicle is the only way to ensure that it isn't taken from your driveway while it's warming up. But if you insist on warming it up, keep a constant watch from a window or doorway. Don't open the door of opportunity to become a victim!

Parking Lot Prowlers

With shorter daylight comes an increase in people walking through parking lots looking for an opportunity to steal. Take the following precautions to help ensure that this does not happen.

- Never leave valuables in plain view.
- Hide chargers and accessories that could indicate electronics are inside.
- Remove garage door openers, key cards, or other keys.
- Park in well-lit areas at night. Always keep your head up and be aware of people around you, and
- If You See Something, Say Something!

Porch Pirates Can Steal Your Joy

We hear about them often around the holiday season. Let's not give them a chance to make you their victim! "Porch Pirates" follow delivery trucks around and when they see an opportunity - they strike!

Take steps to protect your delivered packages:

- Ensure you are home when a delivery is scheduled.
- Have packages delivered to a trusted neighbor who is at home.
- Have packages delivered to your work.
- If available, use store pickup.

Holiday Refuse and Recycling Schedule 2024

THANKSGIVING DAY – November 28th:

Whitetail Disposal will be closed Thanksgiving. Thursday and Friday service days will be delayed by one day. Normal Thursday service will occur on Friday, and normal Friday service will occur on Saturday. * **Wednesday service day will remain unaffected.**

CHRISTMAS DAY – December 25th:

Whitetail will be closed on Christmas. Normal Wednesday service will occur on Thursday. Normal Thursday service will occur on Friday. Normal Friday service will occur on Saturday.

NEW YEAR'S DAY – January 1st:

Due to the New Year's Holiday and the change in refuse and recycling pick up for 2025, all refuse and recycling will be collected on Friday, January 3rd.



Want to Become a Citizen Scientist in your Borough or Township?

The Joint Environmental Advisory Council is interested in knowing the types of volunteering opportunities and projects that you would like to see happen in the Borough of Emmaus or Upper Milford Township? Is there something that you are passionate about and would like to see the Council address? We need your help to decide! Please take a moment to scan the QR code below to help us decide what our next volunteering opportunities and projects will be.



Call Before You Dig

If you are planning on digging, call Pennsylvania One Call System, Inc. (POCS) three business days before you dig at 1-800-242-1776 or 8-1-1. The call center is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, every day of the year. PA Act 287 as amended requires excavators as well as private landowners to call POCS three days prior to any type of digging occurring with powered equipment. Mark your excavation area in white paint before calling with a dig notification.

By calling, you allow the facility owners the opportunity to locate and mark their underground facility in advance of the planned excavation (gas and liquid pipelines will mark underground facilities using yellow stakes, flags, or paint).



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

Sewer Lateral Inspection Program

In January 2019, Emmaus Borough Council adopted an Ordinance to require building sewer and lateral inspections any time a house is transferred or sold within the Borough. This was because of the PA DEP and EPA mandates requiring the community to eliminate the stormwater that is hitting the Allentown sewer plant. The Borough continues to invest millions of dollars into improving and removing stormwater from the main system, however, this is a key component of the infiltration and inflow that is hitting the system. The Ordinance took effect April 2019.

Ordinance No. 1185 requires anyone that is selling or transferring their property to have their sewer lateral inspected via a camera. Any licensed plumber who has the capability to conduct camera inspections may be used, or the property owner can contract the Borough to conduct the inspection. An electronic copy of the camera inspection as well as a report with the findings must be submitted to the Zoning Officer at Town Hall. If the result of the inspection demonstrates that water is infiltrating the system through deficiencies such as cracks or breaks in the line, or via root intrusions or other systematic failures, the property owner must fix or replace the building sewer or lateral prior to the sale of the property. The Borough monitors property transfers through data submitted by Lehigh County each month. If an individual fails to have the inspection completed, and the Borough receives the property transfer information, penalties are applied including fines.

The average inspection costs approximately \$225 - \$300. If there are serious issues with the sewer lines, it could cost much more, however, it is important to note that if there are issues with your lines, it means that pollutants are seeping into the ground and leaching into our potable water systems and / or rain water is hitting the sewer system, helping to cause overflows during heavy rains into the Lehigh River, meaning raw sewage is hitting the river as well. For these reasons, as well as due to the state and federal mandates, we need to ensure that the entire sewer system is working as it is designed and we are doing our part to eliminate these issues.

To read more about the Sewer Lateral requirements, please visit <https://ecode360.com/34893481>

Refuse and Recycling Changes for 2025

Bidding our services such as refuse, and recycling are requirements under Pennsylvania law for municipalities. For the past six years, the Borough has had the opportunity to remain with the same refuse hauler, Whitetail Disposal, as we had a 3-year contract with (3) 1-year renewals. Because we saw huge increases in the prices for refuse in our surrounding municipalities, the Borough continued to exercise our 1-year clauses, keeping a lower fixed rate year after year. For 5 years, our residents have not seen an increase in our refuse rates. However, after the exhaustion of our final contract extension, we were required to put the contract back out to bid.



Out of four perspective bidders, only two decided to bid on the contract. The two bidders were Whitetail Disposal and J.P. Mascaro.

There were several options to bid on, however, ultimately, the Borough Council decided to keep our services the same, with a few exceptions, which will be discussed. The Borough was aware that our rates would increase considerably, due to the increase in the marketplace, the increase in fuel costs over five years, and the exponential increase to haulers at the waste sites, not to mention their internal operating increases. We were advised, based on what we were seeing in the marketplace, to expect at least a 60% increase. The bids were drastically different, as Whitetail Disposal won the bid by a considerable amount. In year one, their bid was \$419,741 less than the JP Mascaro bid. Over the 3-year contract, the bid difference was \$1,267,905. Over 6 years, assuming the Borough would opt into each of the 1-year extensions, the bid difference was \$2,610,925.

Based on the costs of the new contract, as well as the overall costs to do leaf collection, E-Waste Recycling, Dumpster Day, Household Hazardous Waste Day, brush collection, operate the compost site, collection of holiday trees, and curbside yard waste collection, the Borough calculates the cost of the refuse and recycling bill, as all of these are considered refuse and recycling operations. Those costs are not included in property tax bills, but rather the collection bill. While it is not official until Emmaus Borough Council adopts the 2025 budget, based on preliminary calculations, it is estimated that refuse bills will increase from the discount rate of \$375 to between \$490 and \$495 per year. If paying in quarterly installments, the rate is projected to increase from \$440 to between \$540 and \$545 per year. With that said, based on the J.P. Mascaro bid, rates would have increased by another estimated \$100 per year. We believe that the rates can be held for up to 4 years, as we designed the bid to go up and down each year, as we incorporated Dumpster Day and the Household Hazardous Waste Day to be done every other year. While we are disappointed that rates are increasing, unfortunately it is not surprising. We feel that the new rate is extremely competitive based on other rates in the Lehigh Valley that we have seen.

There is a significant change to the collection schedule as well as a few changes and reminders listed below:

- Borough-wide trash and recycling collection will be done on **ONE NIGHT. Everyone** in the Borough will now put their garbage and recycling out on **WEDNESDAY night for THURSDAY** morning collection, as the hauler's bid was for a single day collection.
- **EVERYONE** is required to have all of their refuse in **cans** and recycling in **bins**. This is NOT new, but it is something that will be enforced with the new contract. Please make sure to have your refuse in a separate can from recyclables and have them appropriately marked. Trash bags lying on the ground are not acceptable. This may result in refusal to collect the refuse or recycling and enforcement from the Codes Department.
- E-Waste Collection will continue to occur on the 2nd Monday of the month from March through November.
- Dumpster Day will occur every other year. The Borough's next Dumpster Day event will occur in Fall 2025.
- Household Hazardous Waste drop-off will also occur every other year, with the next event to be held in Fall 2025.
- Bulk collection, such as couches and chairs, will continue to be scheduled directly through the hauler. If you need to dispose of a large item, you must call Whitetail Disposal to schedule it.



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Curbside Leaf Collection

The Borough of Emmaus will continue its 2024 Curbside Leaf Collection through Friday, December 6th. The Borough is unable to set specific pickup dates for leaf collection 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 pick up. 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 2nd through December 6th, please have your leaves out by Monday morning (December 2nd). Once we have made our final pass on your street, we will not return.



- 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 any other building materials will not be picked up.
- 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.
- 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 collection of 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.

Thank you for your cooperation. For additional leaf/yard waste disposal, the Compost Site is also open for drop-off Monday, December 9th through Friday, December 13th from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Compost Site Hours of Operation

Closed in observance of Holidays, November 11, November 27th & 29th

Compost Site Hours through Saturday, November 30th

Monday and Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (No Loading)

Wednesday, 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m./or dusk. (No Loading)

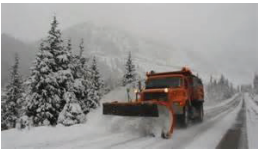
Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Loading until 3:30 p.m.)

The Compost Site will close for the season on Saturday, November 30th but will reopen on Monday, December 9th through Friday, December 13th from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for additional leaf and yard waste drop-off (no loading). The Compost Site will also reopen daily, January 13th – 17th from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for disposal of Christmas trees and other yard waste (no loading).

Christmas Tree Collection

The Public Works Department will collect Christmas trees placed at the curblane on Friday, January 3rd, 2025 through Friday, January 10th, 2025. Please place your natural tree at the curb, WITHOUT A BAG, ORNAMENTS, TINSEL/GARLAND, LIGHTS, or TREE STANDS. The Public Works Department will not collect artificial trees placed at the curb. The Borough's refuse collection company, Whitetail Disposal, does not collect trees placed at the curb. Trees discarded after January 10th, 2025 will not be picked up. After January 10th, residents must take their tree to the Compost Site for Disposal. The Compost Site will be open January 13th – 17th from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for disposal of Christmas trees and other yard waste (no loading)

Snow Plowing Tips and Reminders



The Public Works Department of the Borough of Emmaus is dedicated to the safety of its residents. At times, snow removal can be a monumental task and our Department of Public Works employees work around the clock to keep the State and Borough routes open. To prepare our residents for impending snowstorms, the Public Works Department wants you to know more about snow removal and answer your most frequently asked questions.

- 1. When will my street be plowed?** Depending on the severity of the snowstorm, roads that will be plowed first are: the roads with the highest traffic volume, steep hills, state roads, snow emergency routes, roads near emergency service facilities, and roads near public institutions. While the storm is occurring, one pass is made in each direction of every street. After this is complete, or it is determined that the storm is coming to an end, the pushing back phase of the excess snow will begin. This is when all streets are cleaned curb-to-curb or to the shoulder of the road.
- 2. Should we move our cars from the street?** When a storm is forecasted, move vehicles to off-street parking when possible and keep vehicles off the street until plowing is completed. Parked cars can cause both a hazard and hindrance to snow removal efforts. This allows plows to clear the entire roadway the first time through, making return trips unnecessary.
- 3. What about driveways and sidewalks?** When cleaning your street, the crews have no place to push the snow except to the side of the road. This creates the unavoidable problem of already cleaned sidewalks and driveways to be covered with snow. Residents and business owners should wait until the Borough trucks and equipment have completed their work before cleaning driveways, sidewalks, and vehicles. Snow from vehicles and sidewalks should not be deposited back into that portion of the street where snow has already been removed. Do not shovel snow from your driveways into the roadway. This practice is illegal under the state motor vehicle code and Borough Ordinance 303 and is also hazardous. Fines for violations range from \$25.00 to \$100.00. **Please do not shovel snow into the street!** Residents are responsible for the actions of anyone they may hire for removal.
- 4. If the Borough pushes snow back onto my sidewalk, who is responsible?** Sidewalks are the responsibility of the property owner. Borough Ordinance 302 requires that all sidewalks must be cleared of snow or ice accumulations within twenty-four (24) hours after each precipitation ends. Failure to do so may result in fines for violations of the Ordinance. School bus stops must also be kept clear of snow and ice on the sidewalks.
- 5. What if my mailbox becomes covered with snow?** Your mailbox and the access to it, for the U.S. Postal Service, is the responsibility of the resident. Again, because the crews have no place to put the snow, roadside mailboxes may become blocked. Heavy snow may damage mailboxes. This is not intentional but may occur. Please make sure your mailbox is sturdy and in good repair. The Borough will not be responsible for repairs to mailboxes placed within the legally defined rights-of-ways of its roads unless they are struck by the snow removal equipment.
- 6. What should I do if my lawn or landscaping was damaged by the snowplow?** Any objects that are placed within the right-of-way by the property owner, including trees, shrubs or lawns are not the responsibility of the Borough in the case of plow damage. If there are low hanging branches overhanging the roadway, the Borough's plows or emergency vehicles will not be able to make a clear pass through. Those areas may not be plowed, and emergency vehicles may not have access. Please make sure that all overhanging branches are trimmed prior to winter.

Weather and snowstorms require patience. Neighborhoods and businesses should work together. If practical, develop plans ahead of time in relation to where snow and ice will be stored. Contractors with plow equipment and residents with snow blowers should remain mindful of the direction snow and ice is removed from properties. Remember, we are all trying to achieve the same goal of keeping our roadways safe and traffic moving. During snowstorms, SAFETY is the Borough's main concern.

PLEASE HAVE PATIENCE! Snow removal is tedious and a very time-consuming job. The Borough of Emmaus Public Works snow removal operators are human and work many hours under very difficult conditions to keep Borough residents safe. Please do not abuse them or threaten them or the Borough of Emmaus Police Department may be contacted. Travel should be limited during a snowfall and immediately after, unless absolutely necessary. Please do not call unless it is urgent! When crews are removed from normal routes, it slows down the overall efforts. If a call warrants attention, the information will be dispatched, and the crew will take care of the problem as soon as possible.



Adopt A Fire Hydrant

Do you live near a fire hydrant? If yes, would you like to consider adopting it this winter?

If you have a hydrant in your neighborhood, please adopt it this winter by keeping it clear of snow and ice so that it is readily accessible in an emergency.

Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Go Paperless! with Express Bill Pay

Not sure if you received this quarter's water/sewer or refuse bill? Are you worried about mailing your bills and having them get to their destination by the due date? To offer you more choices in how you pay your bills, the Borough of Emmaus offers paperless billing, online bill payment, and credit card payments to pay your utility bills.

All you need is an Internet connection through a web browser and an email address. Once you sign up for your account and start using the service, you will wonder why you ever waited so long to sign up!

It's simple to use. Every quarter we will send you a reminder email to let you know when your bill is available online. Then, just log in to your account at XpressBillPay.com and view your bill. It's formatted like your paper statement so it will look familiar to you. When you are ready to pay your bill, select a payment type. You can pay with a credit card, debit card, or electric funds transfer. Then enter the information and you're done. It's that easy, and it only takes a few minutes each quarter.

It's free to sign up, but there is a \$3.50 convenience fee to use the single payment, as we are charged transaction fees by the credit card companies, however, automatic reoccurring payments are FREE.

We offered this service at your request. You asked and we delivered! To sign up, just go to www.emmauspa.gov. On the home page, click Utility Bill Pay.

Q&A About Online Bill Payment

Q: Does it cost anything to sign up for online bill payment or paperless billing?

A: No. It's free to sign up for paperless billing and online bill payment and to use the service.

There is a \$3.50 convenience fee for one-time payments to help cover the costs from the credit card companies.

Xpress Bill Pay

Q: What is Xpress Bill Pay?

A: Xpress Bill Pay is the company that the Borough has partnered with to handle paperless and online bill payment.

Q: What payment choices do I have using Xpress Bill Pay?

A: You can pay your utility bills with a credit or debit card, or you can transfer funds directly from your checking account.

Q: What will my paperless bill look like online?

A: It is formatted like your paper statement, so it will look familiar to you.

Q: What other information is available?

A: You can view up to a year's history of your account online, so you can compare your current bill to a year ago.

Q: Do I need to pay my bills from my computer?

A: Not at all. You can continue to pay your bill via mail or in person.

Q: How do I know my payment went through?

A: Once the transaction is complete, you will receive an email or text receipt to confirm that your payment went through.

Q: Is my information safe?

A: All of the transactions are held on secure servers. If you don't give out your password, only you will be able to access your account. Plus, your personal information or email address will not be sold or rented to third parties for marketing purposes without your permission.



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New Ambulance Finally Received

Over three years ago, the Borough ordered a new ambulance. In the past, it would have taken approximately 6 months to deliver. On September 25th, after many delays, and over 3 years later, the Borough is proud to announce that the new ambulance was delivered. The ambulance replaced Unit 6391, which had been in service since 2011.



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email, phone number and address.

2 Enter the info that matters most

Enter valuable information
that can help us assist more
effectively during an emergency.

3 Help your Fire Department when seconds count

That's it. Just keep us updated
when things change overtime
so we can always be prepared.

WHAT KINDS OF INFORMATION CAN I PROVIDE?

Any information you provide through Community
Connect is completely voluntary and based on what you
are comfortable sharing. We have made it easy for you to
know what may be important by organizing your secure
portal into buckets of information you can enter.



Your Property



Your People



Your Needs



Your Pets

HOW SECURE IS MY DATA AND HOW IS IT USED?

Data that you provide Community Connect is
secure and is used only for the purpose of better
serving you during emergency situations. Your
information is never used for any other purpose. All
logins are password protected with bank level
encryption and security. If you're comfortable
logging in to your online bank you'll be
comfortable logging in to Community Connect.



Community Connect is
Safe & Secure

THE KNAUSS HOUSE

152 E. Main St. (rear), Emmaus, PA 18049 • www.knaushomestead.org

Knauss Homestead Preservation Society

We are Grateful for Your Support!



The Knauss Homestead
PRESERVATION SOCIETY
WWW.KNAUSHOMESTEAD.ORG

The Knauss Homestead has had another incredible year, with both the Strawberry and Harvest Festivals as a huge success and more of our local neighbors and partners visiting the Homestead to learn about and love our beautiful landmark. We can't do anything without your support. For those who have given this year, we thank you, and for those considering an end-of-year tax-deductible contribution to the preservation of the Knauss Homestead, we'd be so grateful for your partnership in helping us work to protect our history.

There is one more event left this year at the Knauss Homestead! Join us on Saturday, December 7th from noon-4:00 p.m. for some old-fashioned Christmas fun before heading to the tree lighting ceremony! There will be beautiful music, festive treats, and fun for the whole family. Some of our very favorite artists and crafters will be on hand so you can start shopping for those special, unique gifts right at the Homestead. Or take a scenic ride through the gardens on our horse drawn carriage (weather permitting). We hope to see you there!

Please visit KnaussHomestead.org for more information!

Historical Commission Takes Shape

The Borough's Historical Commission has begun to take shape, as the Borough has recently appointed numerous members to the new commission. After years of planning and over a year of writing the Ordinance to form the Commission, the time finally arrived to create the new Commission. Representatives from the Boards of Directors of the Shelter House, Knauss Homestead, and the 1803 House all sit on the Commission, as do several at-large members of the community. The Commission's goals are to ensure the proper preservation of the community's three Borough owned historical properties, but also preservation of all of our historical assets in the community. Additionally, the Commission's goal is to help provide guidance to members in the community that have historical assets and properties, and to educate the community regarding our rich history. The Commission will be examining community design standards as well. However, the first project on the Commission's agenda is to plan for our community's America 250 Celebration in 2026! If you'd like to be part of this new and exciting commission, or if you'd like to be a member of any of our three historical homes, please don't hesitate to reach out to us at Borough Hall.



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- ✓ **Unmatched expertise.** We have the most experienced team, providing specialized pediatric emergency care since 2011 and the region's only pediatric trauma and burn center.
- ✓ **Dedicated space, built for kids.** We are the largest Children's ER with 27 beds, a separate entrance and sensory-friendly spaces.



Breidegam Family Children's ER | Lehigh Valley Hospital-Cedar Crest, Allentown | LVHN.org/childrensER

Sundays at the Emmaus Farmers' Market



The Emmaus Farmers' Market regular season is in full force and runs every Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to noon, through the end of December. It's starting to get too cold for instruments, but, weather permitting, Live Music will continue until the end of December. We are looking for singers for December. If you are Interested in volunteering to sing in December at the Market, please Email Market Coordinator, Jen Schuster at info@emmausmarket.com for details.



The Winter Market shifts to the 2nd & 4th Sunday, 10:00 a.m.-noon, starting in January and continues through April. Stop by the Market Merchandise & Information Tent to get a 2025 calendar and don't miss a market! The vendor tents will remain the same as in the regular season, and Fourth

Street will remain closed for the market on Sundays, December-April.

Visit your farmers and vendors at the Emmaus Triangle on Sundays throughout the winter for your produce and meats, bundle up for the weather and enjoy food & coffee, and meet up with friends. With 25+ vendors during the winter at the Triangle - Rain, Snow or Shine! Thanks to our wonderful customers, the Emmaus Farmers' market vendors continue to bring you local fruits & vegetables (storage and greenhouse crops), a variety of dairy products, bread & baked goods, raw honey, kombucha, coffee, herbs, locally grown teas, mushrooms, pasture raised meats & eggs, and more. Meet us at the market!



Follow us and visit our website at emmausmarket.com to stay up to date on the market this winter! Please remember to follow the Emmaus Farmers' Market on Facebook and Instagram.



EMMAUS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

218 Main St., Emmaus, PA 18049, 610-966-6591, www.emmaushistoricalsociety.org

Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. every Saturday as well as extended hours during special events.



'Tis the season.... whichever is your favorite! Whether it's the beautiful fall with its cooler weather and vibrant colors or the Christmas Holidays, there's a lot to enjoy in Emmaus.

The Emmaus Historical Society is open for business on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. After the completion of renovations, including the installation of HVAC, we were pleased to be able to open and host the Emmaus Heritage Festival on September 21st. Organized by the Emmaus Heritage Alliance, the community enjoyed many displays, demonstrations, music and of course food!

Because of the generosity of members and visitors and donations to the annual Capital Campaign Fund, the completion of the installation of the new HVAC system makes it possible to control the climate in the museum which will make it more comfortable for visitors and help to protect our collections.

This year's Capital Campaign is around the corner. Work has begun on renovations of the garage, starting with new windows which are being funded through a grant. The plan

to turn the garage into a satellite museum for larger items will hopefully become a reality. Your generous support will assist us in continuing to provide the appropriate environment to preserve the larger memorabilia so graciously donated by many of you.



Upcoming Events at the Emmaus Historical Society will celebrate the Emmaus community and holidays.

Celebrate Old Fashioned Christmas weekend:

Friday, December 6th – Historical Society Members-only Wine and Cheese Evening. (If you are not currently a member, it's easy to join through our website.)

Saturday, December 7th – we join the festivities with the Emmaus Main Street Partners! The museum will be open from 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. and will be aglow with vintage Christmas décor and our Christmas Putz - Enjoyed by all, everyone is a child at heart!

- Participation in the Cheers Trail (12 p.m. to 5 p.m.) for adults, 21-year-old and older.

- Candy Cane Lane (12 p.m. to 4 p.m.) for children's crafts and fun.

The holiday celebration continues with the Society's annual Christmas Dinner:



Wednesday, December 18th - starting at 5:30 p.m. Join us at St. John's Lutheran Church, 501 Chestnut Street, Emmaus - attendees are asked to bring an appetizer, side dish, or dessert. Members and non-members welcome. Non-member guests are asked to contribute \$15 for individuals or \$25 for a family, which pays for 2024 membership dues. Main course and drinks will be provided. All who attend will enjoy sharing a meal and continue the celebration with special holiday entertainment.

The Emmaus Historical Society is a great organization for those in the community interested in learning about and preserving the history of Emmaus. To help keep the Emmaus Historical Society relevant to you and your family, the society's museum committee appreciates all donations of memorabilia that came from, was used, or enjoyed by those in Emmaus/Emmaus.

We are so grateful for the support the Emmaus community has shown us this year. We look forward to seeing you at upcoming meetings and events. To learn more about item donations, volunteer opportunities or to become a member visit the Historical Society website at www.emmaushistoricalsociety.org or call the office at 610-966-6591.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram!

Shelter House News

601 South 4th Street, Emmaus, PA • <https://shelterhouseemmaus.org/>

LEHIGH COUNTY LOG CABIN TRAIL REVISITED



known log structures in Lehigh County.

Chris directed his associates and together they created a website outlining the log structures. It was a slow process, but eventually there were twenty-two log cabins identified. Some had been renovated to look totally different; others had been restored to the original exposed logs and authentic trim. Some allowed visitors to take photographs and some did not, but most of the residents of 18th and 19th century log houses were enthusiastic about the project as it progressed.

Among those advising the scout group were the late Donald Heintzelman and the late Steve Long, both Shelter House members and Board members respectively. There were also others whose interests were keen to advise on the project, including Bruce Mordant of The Hivel and Dahl Historic Society.

Chris' project may have been, in part, inspired by the ever-popular Covered Bridge Trail launched several years before. At any rate, The Log Cabin Trail project came to completion, which included a website,

a printed detailed self-guiding brochure with map, and a description of each log structure. The project received some regional press and, of course, local press.

Remarkably the group of volunteers and Chris and his crew did it all with no budget. It was all produced by volunteers. As the project advanced, the Shelter House found itself as the Flagship Log Cabin, being built in © 1734 and the oldest known continually inhabited log structure in Lehigh County. The Shelter House promoted the Log Cabin Trail at various gatherings and fairs and especially when we hosted visitors. It was very special to be such an integral part of log cabin history.

Then one beautiful and sylvan fall Sunday when resident curator, Dean Bortz, was giving an architectural tour of the Shelter House, there were suddenly loud roaring noises which sounded like it could be thunder. Soon the noises ceased, and a new noise came closer to Shelter House. It was the clanking of motorcycle boots and chains. In walked about a dozen individuals who had ridden their Harley Davidson's and decided to pay the log cabin structures a visit. A dozen motorcycle riders, along with a variety of tattoos, chains and studded leather jackets in the Shelter House great room was a wonderful sight to see! We love that people of all ages and backgrounds visit the Log Cabin Trail.

Consider visiting the Shelter House yourself at 601 S. 4th Street Emmaus, PA. Please call 610-965-9258 for a guided Log on to Log Cabin Trail at lehighcountylogcabintrail.org



The Emmaus Community Foundation is a nonprofit organization established in 2022 by likeminded individuals working to enhance the beauty and quality of life in Emmaus.

The Emmaus Community Foundation, also known as ECF, is a private independent 501(c)(3) foundation created for the sole purpose of addressing the unmet needs in our community. The underlying goal is to empower individuals and organizations to create lasting legacies through their donations. The Foundation will succeed by encouraging philanthropy to fund initiatives such as our parks and green spaces, our vital arts community, and the preservation of our rich history.

ECF is not affiliated with the municipality, the local school district or other governing body. Its members are Emmaus residents, community and business leaders working together to improve and retain the

valuable character of Emmaus. The understanding of what makes Emmaus special and the autonomy the foundation enjoys allows for a streamlined effort to identify and support projects which could otherwise not be completed.

Details about the Emmaus Community Foundation along with donation opportunities can be found online at www.emmauscommunityfoundation.org.

The members of the Emmaus Community Foundation include Chairman John W. Hart, Treasurer Chris Defrain and Board Members Peter J. Adams, Chad Balliet, Dustin Grim, Michael Koch, Evan Walters, Janie Slamon, and honorary member, Shane Pepe. ECF meets monthly and takes pride in a productive agenda facilitating donors married with vision resulting in measurable success for Emmaus.

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A Message from the Emmaus Board of Health

SEASONAL AFFECTIVE DISORDER (SAD)

SAD is a type of depression that occurs during specific seasons, usually fall or winter and it goes away in spring and summer. A risk factor exists for people who live in a climate that has long winter nights and less sun. However, there is a summer-pattern of SAD that is less common. SAD is not to be confused with, "Holiday Blues," which is feelings of sadness or anxiety brought on by stresses at certain times of the year.

SYMPTOMS INCLUDE:

- A persistent low mood, irritability, feelings of guilt, pessimism, worthlessness, or despair.
- Decreased energy, fatigue, feeling slowed down.
- Loss of interest and pleasure in activities that were formerly enjoyed.
- Sleeping longer than normal, finding it hard to get up in the morning, daytime drowsiness.
- Increased appetite, especially sweets and carbohydrates.
- Difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions.
- Social withdrawal and increased sensitivity to rejection.
- Physical aches or pains, headaches, cramps, or digestive problems that do not go away when treated.
- Decreased sex drive.
- Thoughts of death or suicide. (If you know someone who is struggling or having suicidal thoughts, call or text 988, the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline or chat at 988lifeline.org. In life threatening situations call 911.)

If you have any symptoms, such as those above, please contact your Primary Care Doctor, as they may be from another condition.

WHAT CAUSES IT?

Reduced levels of the brain chemical, Serotonin which helps regulate mood. Research suggests that sunlight affects levels of molecules that help maintain normal Serotonin levels. Shorter daylight hours may prevent these molecules from functioning properly, thereby decreasing Serotonin levels in winter. Vitamin D deficiency may exacerbate this problem because it is believed that Vitamin D promotes Serotonin activity. In addition, altered levels of Melatonin - a hormone important in maintaining the normal sleep-wake cycle can also contribute to the condition. Both Serotonin and Melatonin help maintain the body's daily rhythm tied to the seasonal night - day cycle. In people with SAD, changes in Serotonin and Melatonin disrupt normal daily rhythms. As a result, they can no longer adjust to seasonal changes in day length, leading to sleep, mood, and behavior changes.

Biological clock changes: When there's less sunlight, your biological clock shifts. This internal clock regulates your mood and sleep.



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WHO GETS IT?

SAD is more common in people who suffer from depression or bipolar disorder. SAD sometimes runs in families and may be more prevalent in people who have relatives with other mental illnesses, such as depression or schizophrenia. Also, it is often found in people with ADHD (attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder), eating, anxiety, or panic disorders and it is more prevalent in women).

WHAT CAN YOU DO ABOUT IT?

SAD can be treated with light therapy (Phototherapy) and Vitamin D. Psychotherapy and Antidepressant Medications can be used while they are mostly used for depression in general. It is important to seek advice from your healthcare provider to help you determine your Vitamin D level. That will help them decide your best treatment options and when to begin.

- Phototherapy - light therapy has been around since the 1980's, a main-stay in treating SAD. For this treatment, the person sits in front of a very bright light box (10,000 lux) every day for about 30-45 minutes, usually first thing in the morning perhaps while reading. The light box, which is about 20 times brighter than ordinary indoor light, filters out the potentially damaging UV light, making this a safe treatment for most. Check out light boxes on the internet, they are typically not larger than a computer screen. People with certain eye diseases or people taking certain medications that increase sensitivity to sunlight may need to use alternative treatments or use light therapy under medical supervision.
- Psychotherapy or counseling can help people with SAD by teaching them new ways of thinking and behaving and changing habits that contribute to depression.
- Cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) is a type of psychotherapy aimed at helping people learn to challenge and change unhelpful thoughts and behaviors to improve their depressive and anxious feelings. CBT has been adapted for people with SAD (known as CBT-SAD). CBT-SAD is typically conducted in two weekly group sessions for 6 weeks that focus on replacing negative thoughts related to the season, such as thoughts about the darkness of winter or the heat of summer, with more positive thoughts. CBT-SAD also uses a process called behavioral activation, which helps people identify and schedule pleasant, engaging indoor or outdoor activities to offset the loss of interest they typically experience in the winter or summer.
- When researchers directly compared CBT-SAD with light therapy, both treatments were equally effective in improving SAD symptoms - although some symptoms got better slightly faster with light therapy than CBT. However, a long-term study that followed SAD patients for two winters found that the positive effects of CBT seemed to last longer.
- Vitamin D - Because many people with winter-pattern SAD have vitamin D deficiency, vitamin D supplements may help improve symptoms. However, studies testing vitamin D as a treatment for SAD have produced mixed results, with some studies indicating that it is as effective as light therapy and other studies finding no effect.
- Talk to a health care provider about any dietary supplements, prescription, or over-the-counter medications you are taking. Vitamin D can interact with some medications.

Resources: National Institute of Health, Mayo Clinic, Cleveland Clinic

Submitted by Georgine Snyder for the Emmaus Board of Health

Permits are Required

Do you need a building or zoning permit? Applications are available online! Download applications for permits right off our website at: www.emmauspa.gov

**PERMIT
REQUIRED**

On the website home page, under the Government drop down menu, click on the Zoning page and then click on Permit Forms/Applications and choose which application you need. Simply fill it out and return the completed application to Borough Hall at 28 S. 4th Street, so we can begin processing your permit. If you have any questions about permits, please call Eric Fuhrmann at 610-928-1132 or Brent Reedt at 610-967-1332 or email efuhrmann@emmauspa.gov or breedt@emmauspa.gov.

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

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.emmauspa.gov. The permit and the \$1.00 fee are filed with the Cashier at Borough Hall. If you have any questions, please call Yashira at 610-965-0702.

At this time of year, we are experiencing the heightened awareness that “something frigid this way comes”. We are ending our outdoor activities and turning inward, huddling under blankets and thinking about the first snowfall.

The Emmaus Garden Club members will be working indoors to create arrangements for the windowsills of the 1803 House to be seen during Emmaus’ Old Fashioned Christmas celebration on Saturday, December 7, 2024. The arrangements will be for sale that day and then the remainder of the arrangements will spend the rest of the holidays at the Emmaus Public Library. The decorations are made from materials that would have been available in 1803.

Handmade crafts have a special place at this time of the year. If you like the look of strung popcorn, here’s a hint. Freshly popped corn is very tender and breakable. Let that popcorn get stale. Let it sit out for several days before you try to string it. It will be tougher and easier to handle!

A fun family inside project is making cinnamon ornaments. The recipe is simple: 1 cup of unsweetened applesauce, 1 1/2 cups of ground cinnamon (store brand), and 2 T white glue. Mix until a dryish dough forms. Roll out between 2 sheets of waxed paper. Remove the top sheet and cut out about 1/3” thick. Don’t roll out too thin or the ornaments will curl as they dry. To hang, use a straw to poke a hole at the top. Bake on a rack on a cookie sheet at 200 degrees for about 2 hours. The ornaments can be air dried for several days. Use Puff Paint and plenty of glitter or whatever you like to decorate.

As a reminder, don’t let rock salt get plowed or shoveled onto your flower borders. Salt in/on the ground kills plants.

The Emmaus Garden Club meets on the first Tuesday of the month, March through December, at Bethel Bible Fellowship Church, 418 Elm Street, Emmaus, PA 18049. Doors open at 11:30 a.m., with light refreshments at noon. The meeting and a program follow. You do not need to live in Emmaus to be a member and guests are always welcome. If you have any questions or would like more information about the Emmaus Garden Club, please call Ellen at 484-532-0175.

PFAS Update

While there isn’t a lot to update regarding the PFAS remediation project, the Borough continues to make progress. An application was recently submitted to Penn Vest, a funding arm of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the federal government, to seek a grant for the project. The cost of the project is anticipated to cost anywhere from \$12 - \$16 million to mitigate Well #1 and Well #2 from PFAS chemicals. Penn Vest has informed us that we will most likely receive a large grant, however, there are at least 6 other communities that are also applying for similar funding, meaning we will most likely receive a low-interest loan for the balance of the project. We will not know until late winter as to the exact numbers. We hope to have the project completed and online by the end of 2025, however, the timeline is very much dependent on the lead times for the equipment to be manufactured and delivered. The Borough recently ordered the \$1 million tanks that will hold the carbon for the system. The lead time on the tanks is approximately one year to be delivered. The remainder of the project will include completely overhauling both wells off Klines Lane, demolition of several buildings, and the construction of all new plumbing and piping, as well as a new building that must be built high enough to house the tanks that are over 30 feet tall. There remain some complications, as well, as the Borough must receive clearance from PA DEP for more different facets of the project. Because the system requires a backwashing process, there is a chemical load that goes into the wastewater stream. This wastewater must be appropriately treated at or before it goes to the Allentown Sewer plant. There are several meetings and permit processes to receive authorization to be able to move forward in this process.

We encourage you to continue to do research and review our past newsletters for more information regarding PFAS and our efforts to mitigate the issues at Wells #1 and #2.

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Woman's Club of Emmaus

The Woman's Club of Emmaus, which has been in existence since 1940, is a community service Club with a primary focus on supporting education and community activities. We sponsor The Girls of the Month program which honors outstanding senior girl students in specific academic fields at Emmaus High School, awarding an academic scholarship for a graduating senior, and two senior awards. The Woman's Club of Emmaus also contributes to the Emmaus Halloween Parade, area food banks, and the Emmaus summer concert series. Our most recent fundraiser was our Annual Fall Dessert Card Party attended by 56 card players on September 26, 2024. The funds raised during the card party were applied to our scholarship program.

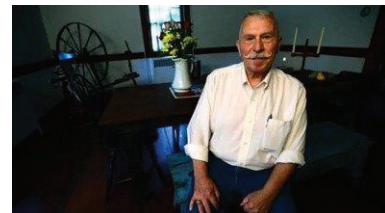
The Woman's Club of Emmaus is always looking for additional service minded community women to join our club. If you are interested in joining, please contact Colette Walbert at cew629@ptd.net.

A Loss of Two Great Community Leaders



It is with great sadness that we lost two of our great long-time community leaders this year. Richard "Dick" Farmer passed away in late September. Dick was a retired architect who dedicated many years to bettering our community. He was a charter member and president of The Friends of the 1803 House. He was a passionate artist and one of the founding members of the Emmaus Arts Commission, Parkland Art League, and the Bethlehem Palette Club. The Borough continues to work on one of his passion projects, as we are in the final design stages of a sculpture garden on the grounds of the Emmaus Public Library. Dick was an active member of Faith Presbyterian Church, serving as an Elder and on various committees. Active all his life, he enjoyed skiing, golfing, running, playing tennis, and Masters swimming. Dick could be seen all over town, attending events with his wife of 58 years, Zona Gail. He was also the Emmaus Volunteer of the year several years ago, an honor that could have been bestowed upon him year after year. Dick was respected by his colleagues, friends, and our entire community. His impact on our community will be felt for many years to come. Rest in peace, Mr. Farmer, and thank you for all that you have done for our community.

John Schmoyer was a steadfast believer in the importance of the history of the Knauss family in Emmaus, in the Lehigh Valley, and in the very formation of our country itself. Both John and his wife Ann could be counted on to always be at the house and in the barn, making sure all our historic treasures were well taken care of and in their rightful historic place for the public to enjoy. John spent an incredible amount of time painstakingly restoring many parts of the Knauss House, and then creating a genealogy research and education center that we hope to open in his honor in the coming weeks. At one point, John was the only remaining member of The Knauss Homestead Preservation Society. However, through his perseverance, even when battling health issues, he helped rebuild the organization to the thriving group that it is today. The Knauss Homestead Preservation Society will never be the same without him, but we take comfort in knowing how strong he made their organization and the commitment he had to our community, and that he has now joined our ancestors and will be assisting our efforts in spirit as always.




Rest in peace, John, and thank you for everything you've done.

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The Emmaus Arts Commission

Gnome Sweet Gnome: Sweatin' to the 80s Edition

This year we reintroduced our *Gnome Sweet Gnome* auction. Our theme was inspired by the 1980s. Thank you to all of the local artists who painted and designed garden gnomes inspired by their favorite characters or 80s themes. All the money raised from the sale of the sixteen 80's inspired garden gnomes will go directly back into the community. Our gnomes were on display at a few local shops throughout the auction season. They also visited the **Emmaus Farmers' Market** as part of the community table the First Sunday of the month from May-October. EAC hosted free art engagement including painting rocks, printing bags with stamps and linocuts, and making wooden gnome bookmarks.



This gnome was inspired by Beetlejuice and was created by our own, Rachel Peters. .



20th Year Anniversary EAC Student Film Festival



Stay up-to-date on our event and registration information on our improved website emmausarts.org. This year the theme will be inspired by Edgar Allan Poe. Stay tuned for information about registration and the kick off party, and the premiere which will be shown at the Emmaus Theater in mid-late January. The Student Film Festival is open to all students in 6-12th grade located in the greater Lehigh Valley area. Student teams may be comprised of students from different schools, home school, cyber school, or any other type of educational setting. Let's get creative and celebrate the innovation of our local youth! Please reach out if you would like to participate on the SFF committee, be a presenter, sponsor, or give time and talents in another way. Reach out via Facebook/Instagram @Emmausarts contact us through our newly updated website, or email at info.emmausarts@gmail.com

We are offering volunteer hours for many of our artistic initiatives in the community. We have been partnering with many local groups including the *EPL, EFM, EHS, JuxtaHub, and the Knauss Homestead*. If you are looking to give some time and talent to the EAC, we are always looking for new friendly faces for our events. Venmo donations can be made @EmmausArts-commission. Check out Saturday workshops at *JuxtaHub* where some EAC members will offer artistic opportunities and engagement. We have some community mural painting opportunities coming up in the Spring, keep in touch so we can work together to beautify the community.

Our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Richard Farmer, who served in the EAC for several terms. In honor of his time and service to Emmaus, we will be dedicating a sculpture created by Schmidt Ironworks at the EPL.



The EAC, a group of appointed volunteers, was created by the Emmaus Borough Council to encourage civic participation in the arts through the promotion of the arts and culture within our community. Find out more information on upcoming events and what's happening with the EAC by liking us on Facebook/Instagram or by visiting emmausarts.org

Thank you to Shane Pepe, Borough Manager, and his IT team for fixing our website! We are extremely grateful.

Share your creativity! We would love to see how you have been staying creative, use #emmausartseverywhere on your social media posts. Please like and share Emmaus Arts on Facebook or follow on Instagram @emmausarts



The EAC is excited about the recently completed hydrants that were given colorful and creative new looks this past season! Thank you to all the artists who designed and painted hydrants in our most recent round. Local artists and community members applied and submitted designs to participate in the **EAC's Paint-A-Hydrant Program**! Of those applicants, 20 were selected this round to paint hydrants throughout the Borough. As a part of this program the EAC and the Emmaus Fire Department worked together to select the hydrants that need a little TLC. The hydrants are prepped and primed. Artists are provided with a specific approved paint by the EAC to use for the hydrants. The EAC is so excited to have so much interest in the **Paint-A-Hydrant** program, we have received many inquiries recently with people interested in participating! *All interested community members and artists must apply and submit a design at emmausarts.org if they would like to paint a hydrant. (We kindly ask you to not paint any hydrants if you are not a selected and approved participant). Applications are accepted year round and selected artists will be notified in March 2025 of approval. Please check the website for up-to-date info.*

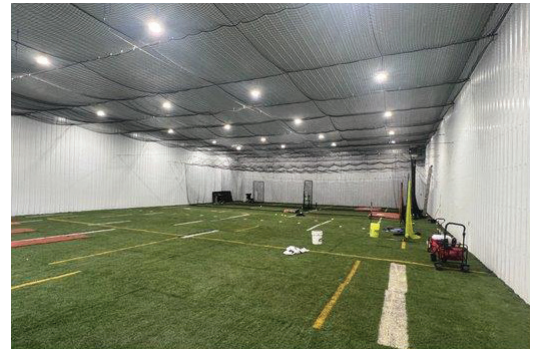
EYA Building an Indoor Practice Facility at the S. 4th Street Ballfields

We are extremely excited to announce a partnership with the Emmaus Youth Association (EYA), as they are beginning the process to construct a new indoor training facility for our recreational sports teams.

From the EYA Website: Since 1957, the Emmaus Youth Association (EYA) has sought to foster the ideals of good sportsmanship, social interaction, and community involvement for the youth of Emmaus and the surrounding community. We currently provide opportunities in softball, baseball, and basketball for ages 5-18. As players, these young people learn basic athletic skills and the merits of teamwork while cultivating close bonds with others, fostering in them the life skills necessary to tackle future responsibilities with enthusiasm and cooperation.

One important component of our sports programs is off-season conditioning, which necessarily takes place indoors during the winter. Historically, this has required EYA to rent indoor space at a limited number of facilities throughout the Lehigh Valley, at an additional cost and inconvenience to participating families. In addition, inclement weather year-round often requires the cancellation of practices during the sports seasons. To eliminate the cost of renting third-party facilities and the cancellation of practices occasioned by inclement weather, EYA is constructing an indoor facility that will allow our program youth the opportunity to engage in indoor workouts year-round. The facility will be a 60' x 80' pole building located at the South 4th Street Recreation Area.

Here are some photos of a facility that is very similar to the building we are constructing.



*Real People, Real Lives, Changed by **God**.*



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Happy Holiday Season from the Emmaus Main Street Partners! It's been a wonderful and busy 2024, and we look forward to finishing the year off strong with our community!

Farewell to Summer Festival On September 21st the streets of Emmaus were alive and thriving as the Emmaus Historical Society hosted their Heritage Festival and we hosted our annual Farewell to Summer Festival. This year's event included an expanded foot print which provided the space for a new food truck alley and the opportunity to host a Touch-A-Truck activity with the Emmaus Fire and Police departments. We want to give a huge thank you to everyone who made this year's event possible!



As we head into the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, we remain fixated on our mission: 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, and other partners. Our hope is that you will use this time to connect with our local organizations, whether it's shopping local on Small Business Saturday or joining us for our annual Old Fashioned Christmas on December 7th. We look forward to continuing to bring our community together through this holiday season, and into the New Year.



Old Fashioned Christmas featuring the Cheers Trail*

Saturday December 7th from 12-7pm, Tree Lighting at 6:30pm
Join the Emmaus Main Street Partners as we spread some Holiday cheer! Bundle up and come out for our Annual Old Fashioned Christmas in the Emmaus Triangle! From 12 to 5, passport holders can sip their way around Emmaus visiting local businesses and starting some holiday shopping! Then from 4 to 7, all are invited to enjoy a magical evening with vendors, yummy food, toasty drinks, holiday characters, and so much more! Mark your calendars- you won't want to miss the best tree-lighting event in the Lehigh Valley

*For this event, South 4th Street will be closed in addition to the Main portion of the Triangle

2025 Soup Crawl | Saturday February 8th from 12-4pm

Nothing says winter better than a warm cup of soup! The Emmaus Main Street Partners Annual Soup Crawl is a fun family friendly event that invites guests to experience the wonderful shops that make up the community while sipping on all different kinds of soups! Passports for this event will go on sale at the beginning of January 2025!

We hope to see you and your family at these upcoming community events! To learn more about them visit our website at www.lehighvalleychamber.org/events or find us on Facebook @EmmausMSP!



Laura Street Playground Reopens

On September 30th, the Borough held a ribbon cutting ceremony at the Laura Street Playground. After approximately a year without playground equipment, this was a great day for the entire neighborhood! Last summer, after a reported vandalism at the park, our Borough Public Works staff determined that the equipment was no longer safe for children to use, thus removing the equipment before anyone could get hurt.

As a result of the removal of the equipment, several families in the neighborhood immediately reached out to the Borough in hopes of replacing the equipment as soon as possible.

Our Borough Manager held numerous meetings with the neighborhood to design an appropriate size and age playground system for the neighborhood kids. Jason and Erin Parrish, as well as their neighbors, Jason and Laura Kemmerer, were especially crucial in designing the playground. While working within a budget, the families identified the key features needed for the neighborhood children and assisted our playground designer in identifying the appropriate system to be installed at the playground. After several months of delays and back orders, the equipment finally arrived. Rather than paying over \$10,000 to have the playground installed, our Public Works team successfully installed their very first playground. Led by newly appointed Group Leader, Robert Leanch, and DPW Class 4 employee, Dakota DeLong, the team tactfully installed the new playground and regraded the entire area to ensure the safety and enjoyment of the neighborhood children. Additionally, we installed several surveillance cameras in the area, as almost immediately, someone tried to vandalize the playground again.

Many thanks to our DPW team, the Parrish family, the Kemmerer family, and Steve Hill from Boyce Recreation for your partnership and leadership in ensuring that this playground is once again being enjoyed by our children.





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Put
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on Winter Fires

Home fires occur more in winter than in any other season. As you stay cozy and warm this winter season, be fire smart!



Half of all home heating fires occur in the months of December, January and February.



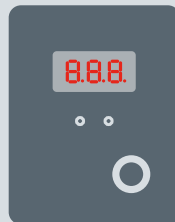
Heating equipment is involved in **1 in every 7** reported home fires and **1 in every 5** home fire deaths.



Keep anything that can burn **at least 3 feet** from any heat source like fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators or space heaters.



Keep portable generators **outside, away from windows, and as far away as possible** from your home.



Install and test carbon monoxide alarms **at least once a month**.



Plug only **1 heat-producing appliance** (such as a space heater) into an electrical outlet at a time.



Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney and vents **every year**.



Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container, and keep it **outside at least 10 feet** from your home and any nearby buildings.



For more information on how to prevent winter fires, visit www.usfa.fema.gov/winter and www.nfpa.org/winter.

Smoke Alarm

Safety at Home

Smoke alarms are an important part of a home fire escape plan. When there is a fire, smoke spreads fast. Working smoke alarms give you early warning so you can get outside quickly.



SAFETY TIPS

- **INSTALL** smoke alarms inside every bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement.
- Larger homes may need **ADDITIONAL** smoke alarms to provide enough protection.
- For the best protection, **INTERCONNECT** all smoke alarms so when one sounds, they all sound.
- An **IONIZATION** smoke alarm is generally more responsive

to flaming fires and a **PHOTOELECTRIC** smoke alarm is generally more responsive to smoldering fires. For the best protection, both types of alarms or a combination ionization and photoelectric alarms (also known as dual sensor alarms) are recommended.

- Smoke alarms should be **INSTALLED** away from the kitchen to prevent false alarms. Generally, they should be at least 10 feet (3 meters) from a cooking appliance.
- **REPLACE** all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.

FACTS

- ! Roughly **two thirds** of home fire deaths happen in homes with no smoke alarms or working smoke alarms.
- ! Working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in **half**.

AND DON'T FORGET...

All smoke alarms should be tested at least once a month using the test button.



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Alexis Deputy

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