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# NEW HANOVER TOWNSHIP



ESTABLISHED 1741



FALL/WINTER 2025

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Township Directory.....3
- Upcoming Public Meetings .....4
- Finance Department.....4
- Police Department.....5
- Public Works.....6
- Sewer Authority.....7
- Electronics Recycling Day –  
Community Impact Recap .....7
- Understanding Subdivision and  
Land Development..... 8,9
- Stormwater News ..... 10,11
- Parks and Recreation ..... 12
- Volunteer Fire & Rescue Services ... 13
- Pool Projects ..... 14

Dear Residents,

As the lovely autumn arrives, we hope you've enjoyed countless memories and experiences with those close to you. While the seasons change and new adventures line the horizon, we are delighted to share our latest newsletter and invite you and your families to enjoy all that New Hanover Township has to offer.

- **Land Development Overview** - We know land development is a topic that many residents care deeply about, and we care deeply too. In this issue, we're sharing a comprehensive summary of recent development requests, explanation of the process, and insight on what's currently happening in our Township.
- **Answering the Call** - Learn how New Hanover's volunteer firefighters train, respond, and support the community behind the scenes and on the front lines. From grant writing to fire rescues, there's a role for everyone to make a difference.
- **Fall and Winter Events** - You can always find something fun to do in New Hanover! Mark your calendar for Fall Frolic on September 20, the Halloween Haunt on October 25, and Pictures with Santa on Saturday, December 6. (You can even bring your pet for the last 30 minutes!)

We hope this new season greets you with positive opportunities and exciting moments to cherish now and always. So thankful that you are a part of our very special community. Please stay connected with us - we hope you enjoy all the beauty and fun of New Hanover Township.

Best Regards,

Marie Livelsberger, Chair, Board of Supervisors

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Marie Livelsberger  
Chair



Kurt Zebrowski  
Vice Chair



W. Ross Snook  
Supervisor



D. W. Boone Flint  
Supervisor



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Supervisor

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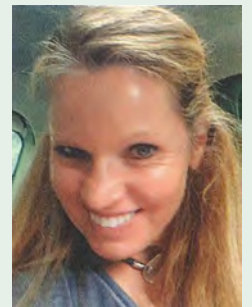
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# NEW HANOVER TOWNSHIP

New Hanover Township, Montgomery County  
2943 North Charlotte Street, Gilbertsville, Pennsylvania 19525  
Phone 610-323-1008 • Website: [www.newhanover-pa.org](http://www.newhanover-pa.org)

## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES CLOSED

President's Day – Monday, February 16  
Good Friday – Friday, April 3  
Memorial Day – Monday, May 25  
Independence Day – Saturday, July 4  
Labor Day – Monday, September 7  
Veterans Day – Wednesday, November 11  
Thanksgiving Day – Thursday, November 26  
Christmas Eve – Thursday, December 24  
Christmas Day – Friday, December 25  
New Year's Eve – Thursday, December 31

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Marie Livelsberger, Chair  
Kurt Zebrowski, Vice Chair  
W. Ross Snook  
D. W. Boone Flint  
Keith Youse

## MEETING SCHEDULE

Board of Supervisors	First Thursday and Third Thursday (as needed) of each month
Planning Commission	Second Wednesday of each month
Municipal Authority	Third Thursday of each month
Recreation Committee	First Wednesday of each month
Environmental Advisory Board	Second Monday of each month

All meetings are held at the Municipal Building, 2943 N. Charlotte Street, Gilbertsville, PA beginning at 6:30 p.m.

## STAFF DIRECTORY

Township Manager	Jamie L. Gwynn	610-323-1008 x 106	<a href="mailto:jgwynn@newhanover-pa.org">jgwynn@newhanover-pa.org</a>
Assistant to the Manager	Ashlee Frey	610-323-1008 x 104	<a href="mailto:afrey@newhanover-pa.org">afrey@newhanover-pa.org</a>
Administrative Assistant	Kate Kline	610-323-1008 x 101	<a href="mailto:kkline@newhanover-pa.org">kkline@newhanover-pa.org</a>
Planning and Zoning Director	Mark Donovan	610-323-1008 x 103	<a href="mailto:mdonovan@newhanover-pa.org">mdonovan@newhanover-pa.org</a>
Planning and Zoning Administrative Assistant	Sharon DelPorte	610-323-1008 x 102)	<a href="mailto:sdelporte@newhanover-pa.org">sdelporte@newhanover-pa.org</a>
Recreation and Communications Coordinator	Kate Van Druff	610-323-1008 x 402 (m: 610-529-1514)	<a href="mailto:kvandruff@newhanover-pa.org">kvandruff@newhanover-pa.org</a>
Chief of Police	John Ciarllo	610-323-1008 x 208	<a href="mailto:jciarllo@newhanover-pa.org">jciarllo@newhanover-pa.org</a>
Police Specialist	Joanna Vanaman	610-323-1008 x 201	<a href="mailto:jvanaman@newhanover-pa.org">jvanaman@newhanover-pa.org</a>
Public Works Director	Jay Kowal	610-323-1008 x 301	<a href="mailto:jkowal@newhanover-pa.org">jkowal@newhanover-pa.org</a>
Authority Superintendent	Kirt Michaels	610-323-1008 x 406	<a href="mailto:kmichaels@newhanover-pa.org">kmichaels@newhanover-pa.org</a>
Finance Director	Michele Smith	610-323-1008 x 105	<a href="mailto:msmith@newhanover-pa.org">msmith@newhanover-pa.org</a>

## UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

October 2, 2025  
November 6, 2025  
December 4, 2025

### PLANNING COMMISSION

October 6, 2025  
(Work Session)  
October 8, 2025  
November 10, 2025  
(Work Session)  
November 12, 2025  
December 8, 2025  
(Work Session)  
December 10, 2025

### NEW HANOVER TOWNSHIP AUTHORITY

October 21, 2025  
November 18, 2025  
December 16, 2025

### RECREATION COMMITTEE

October 1, 2025  
November 5, 2025  
December 3, 2025

### ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD

October 13, 2025  
November 10, 2025  
December 8, 2025  
*Meetings begin at 6:30 p.m.*

All meetings will be held in the New Hanover Township Municipal Building, 2943 N. Charlotte St., Gilbertsville, PA, 19525. Anyone requiring special accommodations, please call 610-323-1008.

## FINANCE DEPARTMENT

### Township Audits

#### General Audit:

The annual audit of New Hanover Township for the fiscal year ending 2024 has been completed in accordance with applicable auditing standards. The audit reviewed the township's financial records, internal controls, and compliance with relevant laws and regulations. There were no audit findings. The township's financial statements were presented fairly, in all material respects, and internal controls were found to be effective. No deficiencies or instances of noncompliance were identified. This clean audit opinion reflects the township's continued commitment to sound financial management and transparency. The annual audit is conducted by Maillie.



#### Liquid Fuels Audit:

The Liquid Fuels Audit is a financial review conducted to ensure that townships are properly managing and spending state funds received from PennDOT under the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund program. These funds are distributed from state-collected gasoline taxes and are intended to support the construction, maintenance, and repair of public roads and bridges.

The audit includes a review of receipts, disbursements, contracts, bidding processes, and recordkeeping related to road maintenance and improvements. The audit is conducted by the Pennsylvania Department of the Auditor General. The audit ensures transparency and accountability as well as identifies any mismanagement.

The Liquid Fuels Audit was for the fiscal year ending 2022 and 2023. The audit disclosed that \$2,247.22 of Liquid Fuels Tax Fund money was over expended on construction project 22-46212-002, exceeding the \$197,550.19 approved amount. The difference should have been paid from the General Fund. The township is required to reimburse the \$2,247.22 to its Liquid Fuels Tax Fund. The audit team was unable to determine the specific cause of this over expenditure.

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*John J. Monaghan, FD., Founder, Deceased  
Bridget Monaghan Wible, Esq., FD., Supervisor*



## POLICE WEEK

Police Week occurs every May, and many organizations dedicate this time to honoring their law enforcement officers. This year, New Hanover PD would like to recognize four of our officers who will reach 5, 10, and 20-year service milestones. These officers exemplify the highest standards of law enforcement professionalism and integrity. They consistently go above and beyond the call of duty, contributing significantly to the safety and well-being of our community.



### 5 YEARS OF SERVICE

**Officer Thomas Rosa** is celebrating 5 years of service in New Hanover Township. Officer Rosa joined the New Hanover Township Police Department in October of 2020 and was promoted to full time in January of 2021. He is currently assigned

to the patrol division. Officer Rosa obtained his Municipal Police Officer Education and Training certification through the Montgomery County municipal police academy and graduated in December of 2019. Prior to joining our team, Officer Rosa enlisted in the Pennsylvania Army National Guard as an infantryman. Officer Rosa is a practitioner of Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, holding the rank of purple belt and is one of our in-house use of force instructors.

Thank you for your service, Officer Rosa! We are fortunate to have you.



### 10 YEARS OF SERVICE

**Detective Colin Lawlor** is celebrating 10 years of service to New Hanover Township. He joined the New Hanover Township Police Department in January 2015 and is currently assigned to both the Patrol and Detective Divisions. Prior

to his service here, Detective Lawlor attended George Washington University, where he studied international affairs with a concentration in conflict and security. He earned his Municipal Police Officer Education and Training certification through the Montgomery County Municipal Police Academy, graduating at the top of his class.

Detective Lawlor is a graduate of the Montgomery County School of Criminal Investigations and has received training from organizations including, but not limited to, the Department of Homeland Security, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the United States Secret Service. He is cross-sworn with the Montgomery County District Attorney's Office for special assignments and serves as a member of the United States Secret Service Cyber Fraud Task Force. He continues to pursue advanced training, with a special focus on collision investigation and electronic crime.

Thank you for your service, Detective Lawlor! We are fortunate to have you.



**Officer Justin Lathrop** joined our force in 2015. Before joining our team, Officer Lathrop attended the Delaware County Municipal Police Academy. Currently assigned to the Patrol Division, his primary focus is on traffic safety enforcement, which has helped keep our roads safer.

In addition to his regular duties, Officer Lathrop holds certifications in commercial vehicle inspection and is involved in conducting many of our township's traffic studies. He is also a certified child restraint seat installation and inspection expert, ensuring our youngest citizens are safely secured on the road.

Thank you for your service, Officer Lathrop! We are fortunate to have you.



### 20 YEARS OF SERVICE

**Sergeant Dyas** began his career in law enforcement with the New Hanover Township Police Department in 2005. Sergeant Dyas worked his way up through the ranks, holding the positions of both Detective and Corporal before being promoted to his current position of Sergeant in 2021.

Prior to joining the police department, he attained a Bachelor of Science Degree in psychology from the Penn State University in 2004. After graduating from Penn State, he attended the Montgomery County Community College Municipal Police Academy. He also attained a Master of Science Degree in Criminal Justice, with a specialization in criminal behavior, from Tiffin University in 2011 and is a graduate of the FBI's Inter-County Detective School, FBI-LEEDA trilogy leadership series and the Pennsylvania State Police Leadership Development Program.

Sergeant Dyas previously served as a Negotiator and Assistant Team Leader with the Montgomery County SWAT – Western Region and is cross-sworn as a Special County Detective with the Montgomery County Municipal Police Drug Task Force. In addition to his other responsibilities, Sergeant Dyas also serves as our Accreditation Manager.

Thank you for your service, Sergeant Dyas! We are fortunate to have you.

# PUBLIC WORKS

During the summer, you'll see our Public Works team maintaining township parks and properties – mowing grass, tree trimming, repairing play equipment, and maintaining the pool at Hickory Park. Our team also provides road repair and paving of roads.

## 2025 Road Paving

- Colflesh Road – 663 to Church Road
- Ludwig Road – Middle Creek to Sassmansville Road
- Wagner Road – Faust to Fagleysville Road
- North Schaffer Road
- New Hanover Square Road – Orchard Road to Bridge
- Buchert Road – Romig Road to North Charlotte

## Stormwater Maintenance:

- Checking and monitoring all storm drains and ditches before and during storms
- Handling inlet repairs and replacement
- Roadside mowing of township roads to provide sight clearance for driver safety

**IMPORTANT** - Never dump anything into storm drains and never mow grass into the streets as it will clog drains and fill road drainage swales.

## Public Works Fun Facts:

- The first paved roads were built in Mesopotamia, "modern day Iraq," in 4000 BCE and Corduroy Roads "wooden roads" were built Glastonbury, England dating back to 3300 BCE.
- The first municipal water treatment plant opened in Paisley, Scotland in 1832.

## State Roads maintained by Penn-Dot in the Township:

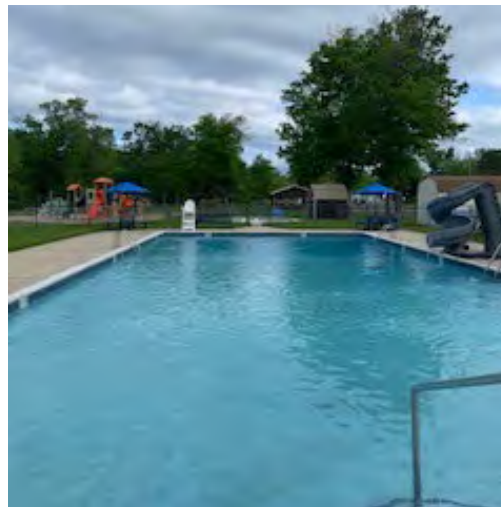
- North Charlotte Street
- Big Road "Route 73"
- Layfield Road "Route 663"

## County Roads maintained by the County Roads and Bridges department in the Township:

- Swamp Pike
- Deep Creek from Kulp Road to the township line at Fisher Road
- Kulp Road from Deep Creek to Hill Road
- Henning Road from Deep Creek to Snyder Road
- Snyder Road



Road Repairs



Pool Opening



Stormwater Ditch Cleaning



Road Paving

# MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

If you smell sewage outside your home in New Hanover Township, it's important to act promptly. This odor may signal an issue such as a broken or leaking sewer lateral, a clogged main, or a problem with your property's plumbing ventilation. Left unaddressed, these issues can lead to property damage, environmental concerns, and potential health risks due to exposure to sewer gases like hydrogen sulfide.

First, look for visible signs such as soggy patches in your yard or unusually lush grass near your sewer line. However, do not attempt to dig or fix anything yourself; sewer systems require professional handling. Homeowners should contact a licensed plumber to inspect their private lateral. If the problem appears to be affecting more than one property or is near a manhole or sewer easement, please notify the Municipal Authority immediately at (610) 323-1008 ext. 407 so we can investigate and address any potential issues in the public system.

While waiting for professional assistance, limit water use to prevent further stress on your system. To help avoid future problems, we recommend periodic sewer lateral inspections, especially in older homes. The New Hanover Township Municipal Authority is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy environment for all residents — your prompt attention and cooperation help us serve you better.



Staff explore the affected area of the pipe break with equipment late at night.



Damage to the pipe called for immediate action. Here you can see the leak.



All patched up and good as new! Big thanks to our Municipal Authority staff for their hard work.

# ELECTRONICS RECYCLING DAY – COMMUNITY IMPACT RECAP

Thanks to our residents, this year's Electronics Recycling Day was a great success!

A total of 123 vehicles came through, dropping off 343 electronic items for safe, environmentally responsible recycling. Our busiest time was 8:00–9:30 a.m., showing just how dedicated our early birds are!



- Most commonly collected items:**
- Televisions – **118 units**
  - Desktop Computers – **46**
  - Laptops – **31**
  - Printers – **27**
  - Phones – **23**
  - Tablets/iPads – **16**



We also collected a range of older and specialty electronics — including VCRs, DVD players, fax machines, stereos, speakers, and cable boxes — helping keep hazardous components out of our landfill.

A big thank you to all who participated and helped promote sustainability in our community! Stay tuned for future events and help us continue building a greener New Hanover Township!

# THANK YOU!

This publication is made available through the generous advertising sponsorship of the businesses listed throughout our newsletter. We wish to encourage your patronage of these establishments; they play a substantial role in the economic vitality of our community.

# UNDERSTANDING SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT

## Part I: How It Works and Why It Matters

If you've seen new development plans posted on our website or Facebook page, you're not alone in wondering: *Can our roads handle the traffic? Where's the open space? What about our schools? We hear you — and we want to walk you through how development really works in New Hanover Township.*



Let's start with a key point: In Pennsylvania, property owners have the legal right to develop their land as long as they follow the rules outlined in the Township Code. The Township doesn't get to pick and choose which projects come in — but we do have a strong process in place to review and shape them.

### We've Strengthened the Rules – But There's a Catch

Since 2017, the Township has worked hard to modernize and improve our land use policies. We've updated our Comprehensive Plan, overhauled our Act 209 Traffic Impact Fee Study, and amended our Subdivision & Land Development Ordinance (SALDO) and various zoning ordinances. These updates strengthen protections for the community — but they only apply to new applications submitted *after* the changes take effect.



For example: If a landowner submits a development plan on a Tuesday, and the zoning ordinance changes on Wednesday, that Tuesday plan is “vested” under the old rules. This is required by state law (the Municipalities Planning Code) and protects applicants from mid-process rule changes — even if it takes months (or years) to finalize the plan.

### Why We Post About New Applications

Each time a new or revised plan is submitted, you'll see this message on our Facebook page:

*“Please note the following announcement is being provided to inform you of what land developers have submitted to date in case you would like to attend meetings and voice your opinion. We cannot control what is submitted, but we do encourage you to be a part of the discussion.”*

Some municipalities don't post these notices at all — but we believe transparency matters. You have a right to know what's happening and when you can get involved.

### How the Review Process Works

Once a plan is submitted, here's what happens behind the scenes:

1. The Township receives the application and checks it for completeness.
2. It's distributed to our professional consultants (engineers, planners, legal) for review based on the code in place *at the time of submission*.
3. Within 30–90 days, those reviewers issue letters back to the developer noting any concerns, required changes, or code compliance issues.



4. The developer is then invited to a Planning Commission (PC) meeting, where our PC (an all-volunteer group) reviews the plan and residents can speak, ask questions, or express concerns.
5. If the plan doesn't meet code or seeks substantial waivers, the PC will likely not recommend approval. The developer must then revise and resubmit.
6. If the plan receives a positive recommendation, it goes to the Board of Supervisors for public discussion and, eventually, a vote.
7. If approved, that's just the preliminary plan. The final plan, construction, and project close-out stages follow — often taking years from start to finish.

### So... Why Does It Feel Like So Much Development?

You're not imagining the activity — but it's worth noting that only one major subdivision has been approved since 2016. Many proposals don't make it through. That means our ordinances are doing their job: holding developers accountable and protecting the long-term vision for New Hanover.

### Development Snapshot: 2017–2025 Applications

Here's a quick look at active plans submitted *after* 2017:



- 169,400 SF commercial on 203 acres
- Hanover Meadows (2025-02) – 359 age-restricted homes + amenities, 39.5% open space
- 2481 Romig Road #778 – 52 homes on 21.9 acres
- Westwood-Maguire #782 – 52 homes on 22.9 acres

**A Big Thank You to Our Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors**

Our Planning Commission volunteers and Board of Supervisors put in serious work to ensure every development meets the standards you expect. They balance legal requirements with community concerns, and their decisions help shape the future of our Township.

**How You Can Stay Involved**

- Attend Planning Commission and Board of Supervisor meetings.
- Follow us on Facebook or check our website for new plan postings.
- Voice your thoughts — they matter!



**We're All in This Together**

Land development can feel complicated — because it is. But by staying informed and engaged, you help ensure New Hanover remains a vibrant, welcoming community for generations to come.

**Newer Applications (2017–2025)**

- Laurel Field – 44 homes on 32 acres at 2339 Swamp Pike
- East Wind Farm #813 – 4-lot subdivision on 30.3 acres at 947 Layfield Road
- Greens at Gilbertsville #812 – 177 homes on 166 acres at Lutheran Road (Gilbertsville Golf Course)
- Hanover Glen #800 – 98 mixed units on 23 acres at North Charlotte Street
- McGee Tract #807 – 51 homes on 13.8 acres at Swamp Pike and Dotterer Road
- The Village at New Hanover #809 – 19 townhomes + commercial lot on 7.2 acres at Swamp Pike
- Town Center #811 – 644 homes + 316,700 SF commercial on 195 acres at North Charlotte & Swamp Pike
- Trotter's Gait #792 – 29 homes on 13.9 acres at Dotterer Road

**Older Plans with Vested Rights (Pre-2017 Submissions)**

These plans were submitted long ago but are protected by previous ordinances and legal agreements:

**Vested Applications (Before 2017)**

- New Hanover Town Center (2025-01) – 754 total units +

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# Stormwater News

*Fall Edition: Bringing Biodiversity Back to Your Yard!*



## The Environmental Cost of Lawns



Despite looking lush and green, traditional turf grass lawns provide little to no environmental benefits. In fact, they often have detrimental effects on the quality of local waterways, wildlife habitat, and the air that we breathe. Here are some of the ways that lawns can harm the environment:

- **Lack of Biodiversity** - lawns are typically made up of a single, non-native grass species that does not provide shelter or food for wildlife.
- **Increased Water Usage** - lawns consume more water than native landscapes leading to water waste and increased runoff.
- **Increased Carbon Footprint** - the maintenance of lawns requires the use of gas powered lawn equipment that contributes to air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Use of Harmful Pesticides / Fertilizer** - these chemicals can harm local wildlife, contaminate water resources, and lead to the growth of algae that can be harmful to humans and pets.

learn more at: [www.perkiomenwatershed.org](http://www.perkiomenwatershed.org)



## Swapping Turf Grass for Native Gardens

Want to swap your high maintenance lawn for something more colorful, environmentally friendly, and easy to manage? Here are some ways to add biodiversity back into your yard:

- **Decrease your lawn area** - smothering grass with cardboard is an easy way to kill turf and add garden area to your yard. Late summer / fall is the perfect time to remove turf and add native plants!
- **Reduce / eliminate your household pesticide / herbicide use** - use environmentally friendly alternatives or eliminate lawn care products all together!
- **Plant with a variety of native species** - native plants are vital to the survival of pollinators, birds and other wildlife. When planting your garden, aim to use species that bloom throughout the year as well as a mix of perennials, shrubs and trees!
- **Add a bird, bat or pollinator house** - providing safe areas for wildlife to rest and raise their young is a great way to increase the diversity of wildlife that call your yard home!



# STORMWATER NEWS

## Winter Edition: Snow is Stormwater Too!



### PREVENTING STORMWATER POLLUTION

Winter is here, and with colder temps comes snow and ice that we need to remove from our sidewalks and driveways. To make this chore easier, many of us use deicers, like salt, at our homes. However, these chemical deicers often have harmful impacts on aquatic life and the water quality of local streams and creeks. Here are some tips to reduce salt use and prevent pollution this winter:



- **Reduce your salt use!** More salt does not mean less ice. Use deicing products sparingly and follow the label instructions. Sweep up any remaining salt before it is washed away.
- **Shovel first.** Shoveling early will prevent ice from forming, reducing the amount of salt you will need to use.
- **Plant natives that are salt tolerant!** This spring, plant salt tolerant, native perennials where stormwater runoff from your driveway or sidewalks accumulates. Butterfly milkweed is a great example of a salt tolerant PA native plant!



LEARN MORE AT:

[www.perkiomenwatershed.org](http://www.perkiomenwatershed.org)



### SUPPORTING WILDLIFE THROUGH THE WINTER MONTHS

Colder temps and shorter days can make a lot of wildlife less active and harder for us to spot. However, many of our local critters will appreciate a helping hand during the chilly months. Here are some ways to help wildlife this winter:

- **Leave seedheads standing.** Seeds provide food for birds and small mammals and hollow stems are valuable shelter for insects. Wait until early spring to cut back seedheads and perennial tops.
- **Provide a water source.** During freezing temps, make sure to thaw bird baths and other water sources for wildlife to utilize.
- **Feed the birds.** Food can become difficult to find in the winter months, keep bird feeders clean and full to provide important energy sources during temperature extremes and migration periods.
- **Build a bird, bat or pollinator house.** Prep for spring by building and installing safe places for wildlife to raise their young. Cleanout existing houses to make way for incoming residents!



# PARKS AND RECREATION

Bringing people together continues to be a key focus for New Hanover Township. Stay tuned to our Upcoming Events on our website and follow New Hanover Township Parks & Recreation on Facebook so you never miss an exciting opportunity to make memories in our community.

## 2026 PARKS & RECREATION EVENTS CALENDAR



**Saturday,  
January 31, 2026  
Frosty Frolic,  
Adults Only**

- 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.
- La Massaria at Bella Vista
- Visit our website to buy tickets.



**Saturday,  
May 2, 2026  
Fishing Derby**

- 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
- Hickory Park
- Please refer to our website to preregister.



**Saturday,  
June 6, 2026  
Touch-A-Truck**

- 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Hickory Park



**Saturday,  
September 19, 2026  
Fall Frolic**

- Rain Date 9/21/26
- 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.
- Hickory Park



**Saturday,  
October 24, 2026  
Halloween Haunt**

- 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- Community Park



**Saturday,  
December 5, 2026  
Pictures with  
Santa**

- 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (Pets permitted last 30 minutes.)
- Township Building

## PARKS AND FIELDS

### Community Parks:

- **Briar Ridge Park:** Magnolia Drive, Gilbertsville – Amenities: Small Playground
- **Hickory Park:** 2140 Big Road, Gilbertsville – Amenities: Swimming Pool, Concession Stand, Pavilion Rentals, Grills, Playground, Fishing & Gaga Ball Pit
- **Swamp Creek Park:** 3179 Reifsnyder Road, Gilbertsville – Amenities: Model Airplane Flying, Walking Trail (.8 miles), Historical School House, Small Playground & Dog Friendly
- **NHT Community Park:** 2766 Gail Drive, Gilbertsville – Amenities: Barn Rental, Childrens' Traffic Garden, Baseball/Softball Field, Basketball Court, Disk Golf, Hockey Rink, Walking Trail, Pavilion Rental, Picnic Tables, Grills, Playground & Dog Friendly
- **Pleasant Run Park:** 600 Schultz Road, Perkiomenville – Amenities: Fishing Pond & Park Benches

- **Deep Creek Park:** Deep Creek Road (North of Pleasant Run Park), Perkiomenville – Amenities: Trails, Bird Watching & Picnic Tables
- **Windlestrae Park:** 132 Chalet Road, Gilbertsville – Amenities: Small Playground

### Athletic Fields:

- **Gambone Complex:** 132 Chalet Road, Gilbertsville – Amenities: Two Football Fields
- **Middle Creek:** Dotterer Road, Gilbertsville – Amenities: Baseball Field & Two Soccer Fields
- **Layfield Park:** Dotterer Road, Gilbertsville – Amenities: Three Soccer Fields
- **The Rink at Community Park:** 2766 Gail Drive, Gilbertsville - Amenities: Dek Hockey Roller Hockey Rink
- **Recreation Center Fields:** 2373 Hoffmansville Road, Frederick – Amenities: Three Lacrosse Fields



Lilly and Natalie continue what they started, growing the game on the rink! They joined many volunteer coaches as well as Flyers alumni Chris Therien, Riley Cote, and Todd Fedoruk in making fun hockey memories with our community.



Former Philadelphia Flyers player Chris Therien joined in the fun in our community's first season of the Flyers Learn to Play Ball Hockey program. We had 48 kids (ages 4-9) signed up to play hockey!



Former Flyer Todd Fedoruk joins our Flyers Learn to Play huddle. He was the best "dragon" in our fun game where all the kids stole the hockey balls away from him.

# NEW HANOVER VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES

## Behind the Sirens: What It Really Means to Be a Volunteer Firefighter

When you see a fire truck rolling out in New Hanover Township, it's not coming from a paid department - it's your neighbors answering the call. New Hanover Volunteer Fire & Rescue Services, an all-volunteer organization, is staffed by residents who dedicate their time, energy, and expertise to protecting the lives and property of our community.

Operating from two strategically located stations, including the North Station, built in 2019 after relocating from the Sassamansville Social Club, this department has made significant strides in both training and performance. Recently, the Fire Company received official ISO (Insurance Services Office) recognition, improving the Township's overall fire protection rating to a Class 4, which may even help lower homeowners' insurance rates.

**President Matt Barnes** says, "While performing fire and rescue duties is a major part of what we do, there is also a lot that goes on behind the scenes to keep the organization running. We have a lot of great members who perform both firefighting and administration duties. It is a privilege to work with every one of them, to support our mission of protecting lives and property."

With 33 active responders and an additional 18 administrative support members, New Hanover's volunteer firefighters train continuously to be prepared for any emergency. Over 75% of the active firefighters have achieved Firefighter I Pro Board certification, and more than 30% hold Firefighter II certification, totaling over 200 hours of formal training. All responders are also certified in Hazardous Materials Operations to meet federal standards.

"Becoming a Volunteer Firefighter is an opportunity to give back to your community, and make a difference in it," says **Phil Smith, Fire Chief**. The most rewarding part is being able to help people and knowing you're making a difference during a difficult and often tragic moment."

And we're always looking for more people to join the team.

**What does it take to volunteer?** Just your time. We provide all training, equipment, and protective gear at no cost to you. Volunteers receive workers' compensation, a life insurance policy, and are eligible for a financial incentive program designed to recognize consistent service. Plus, if you're a Montgomery County property owner, you qualify for a Property Tax Rebate just by serving.

Not everyone needs to run into a burning building to make an impact. Our administrative members support fundraising, community events, grant writing, and operational logistics. We also offer a Junior Firefighter Program for youth under 18 who are interested in preparing for full membership.

The commitment is real, but so are the rewards. The pride. The purpose. The team. And the knowledge that, when someone in New Hanover calls 911, it might be you who makes the difference.

Want to learn more? Stop by the station during one of our weekly drills or visit us at 2154 Swamp Pike to get started. You don't need experience, just heart.



**Ordinary People**  
Trained for the  
**Extraordinary.**

There are many ways for you to get involved with New Hanover Fire & Rescue Services based off YOUR interest. Regardless of how you volunteer, you'll be a key part in keeping our community safe.

**VOLUNTEER AS A:**

- FIREFIGHTER**  
Protect property and help save lives during an emergency. Learn to advance a hose line, how to position a ladder dependent on the situation, and perform search-and-rescue duties.
- EMT**  
Administer pre-hospital medical care. Transport the sick and injured to the hospitals.
- FIRE POLICE**  
Keep community members and responders safe by directing traffic and controlling crowds.
- JUNIOR FIREFIGHTER**  
Gain experience by assisting with groundwork at the scene of fires. Begin fire training to prepare to become an active firefighter at 18 years old.
- ADMINISTRATIVE MEMBER**  
Assist with vehicle maintenance, fundraising, organizing community events and more.

Fill out an inquiry form at [www.MONTCOFIREFIGHTERS.org](http://www.MONTCOFIREFIGHTERS.org) to take the next steps toward volunteering. A member of New Hanover Fire & Rescue will contact you asap.



# POOL PROJECTS

Dreaming of relaxing by a pool, spa, or hot tub next summer? If that's on your project list, now is the perfect time to start planning for the 2026 season. Submitting your permit applications this fall or winter (up to six months in advance of anticipated construction) helps you beat the spring permitting rush and keeps your project on track for warm-weather enjoyment.

## What Permits Will You Need?

To get started, you'll need to apply for permits for **building and electrical work**. A **mechanical** permit is required if the structure is heated with natural gas. Depending on the size of the project and the extent of prior work on the property (since 2007), a **grading and stormwater permit** may also be required.

You can find all applications online at the "Documents and Forms" page on our website or stop by the township office for printed copies. Whether you or your contractor submits the application, be sure to include all necessary supporting documents—such as drawings, equipment specifications, and contractor details. Residential permit review may take up to 15 business days.

## Important Regulations to Know

These structures are currently regulated under the 2018 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (ISPSC) and the New Hanover Township Zoning Ordinance (ZO). Key requirements include:

- Minimum fence or barrier height of 48 inches
- Self-latching gate mechanisms
- Alarms for windows (sills under 48 inches) or doors that lead directly to the pool
- 36-inch clear zone between pool equipment and the fence/barrier
- 10-foot setback from other on-site structures
- 12-foot setback from side and rear property lines (including equipment)
- Additional spacing and dimensional requirements per ISPSC

You can read the full 2018 ISPSC at <https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/ISPSC2018>; see Section 305 for barrier details. Before submitting your application, we recommend contacting the Zoning Officer to discuss grading and stormwater management requirements as well as zoning for your specific property.

**NEW HANOVER TOWNSHIP**

# FALL FROLIC 2025

September 20, 2025 | Noon - 5 p.m.  
Hickory Park (Rain Date September 21)

ROCK WALL 🎃 LIVE MUSIC 🎃 ZIP LINE 🎃 FOOD 🎃  
MINI GOLF 🎃 PONY RIDES 🎃 PETTING ZOO 🎃  
TRAIN 🎃 MOON BOUNCES 🎃 INFLATABLE SLIDE  
🎃 OBSTACLE COURSE 🎃 VENDORS 🎃 LOCAL  
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Save \$1 on Fall Frolic Wristbands!  
Prepay for your Fall Frolic Wristband at the Township Building and Save \$1 per Band!  
9/8/25 - 9/18/25, Monday - Thursday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**BEAT THE LINE!!**  
Purchase wristbands at the  
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from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Monday - Thursday  
9/8/25-9/18/25.

## FACILITY RENTAL FOR EVENTS

Get more info about facility rental for our outdoor pavilions and seasonal indoor barn (available May - early Autumn).

Follow New Hanover Township Parks & Rec on Facebook!



More options.  
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FALL/WINTER 2025

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