

TOWNSHIP OF
—MIDDLETOWN—
B U C K S C O U N T Y

PennDOT Seeks Input for US 1 Improvements in Middletown Township

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) officials are planning Phase 3 (RC3) improvements on US 1, spanning from the area near Neshaminy High School to the interchange at SR 413 (Pine Street/Bellevue Avenue). On Monday, June

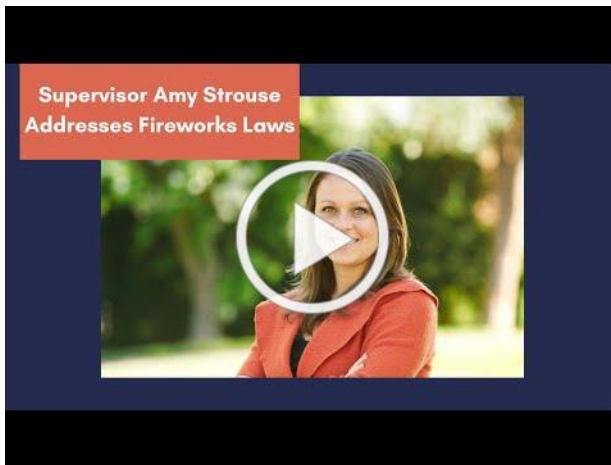
7, 2021, PennDOT published a [Public Design Alternative Presentation video](#), detailing several options for improvements on and around US 1.



PennDOT wants to hear from you! Residents are encouraged to review the Public Design Alternative Presentation and provide feedback using the [online comment form](#). To submit comments to PennDOT by mail or email to PennDOT, [please click here](#). Comments are due by July 2, 2021.

PennDOT is hard at work making significant improvements to US 1 in our area. Phase 1 of the three-phased project in Bensalem Township is wrapping up, with Phase 2 in Middletown Township beginning now. Phases 1 and 2 are expected to bring an investment of more than \$200 million to our local infrastructure. For more information about the entire US 1 Improvement Project, please visit the [US 1 Improvement Project website](#).

Supervisor Amy Strouse Addresses Fireworks Laws Ahead of Independence Day



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As we gear up to celebrate Independence Day, Supervisor Amy Strouse is reminding everyone about the important laws regulating fireworks so we can have a safe and fun holiday.

In Pennsylvania, fireworks cannot be discharged within 150 feet (about half of a football field) of any structure, regardless of if there are people inside or not. Discharging fireworks is prohibited on all public property, including streets, parks, schools, and open spaces; plus, they cannot be discharged from or toward a motor vehicle or building. Fireworks can only be discharged on private property with permission of the property owner. Fireworks cannot be used by anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

All of these laws mean that discharging fireworks is illegal from nearly all parts of Middletown Township and the majority of suburban Philadelphia. Even though it is legal to purchase them, there are far more restrictions against discharging fireworks.

Although fireworks seem fun and harmless, they can be very dangerous to yourself and others. If not used properly they can even be fatal. Please be respectful of your neighbors and the rest of the community. Do your part to make this holiday one we can all enjoy safely.

As you plan your holiday celebrations, please be mindful of these laws and regulations. We appreciate you taking the time to review the laws so you can be informed of all restrictions surrounding fireworks. We hope you have a great Independence Day!

County to Host Vaccine Clinics at Pennel Fire Company, Foxwood Manor Apartments

The Bucks County Health Department is offering two free COVID-19 vaccination clinics in our area. The first will be held at the Penndel Fire Company on June 30th; the second will be held at the Foxwood Manor Apartments on July 1st. Both clinics will run from 5 PM until 7 PM. Both clinics will have the two-dose Pfizer and one-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccines available.

FREE COVID-19 VACCINE
POP-UP CLINICS

Penndel Fire Company
Wednesday 6/30
5:00pm-7:00pm

Foxwood Manor Apartments
Thursday 7/1
5:00pm-7:00pm

"We encourage all residents who have not received their vaccine; if you have not done so already, this is a great opportunity to do so," said Middletown Township Board of Supervisors Chairperson Tom Tosti. He added, "Receiving your vaccine is the first step of getting back to normal."

The Penndel Fire Company is located at 220 Centre Street in Penndel Borough. The Foxwood Manor Apartments are located at 2180 Veterans Highway in Levittown.

Both vaccine clinics do not require appointments or insurance to participate. For questions and additional information regarding these free clinics, please contact the Bucks County Health Department at 215-343-3318 or covid19@buckscounty.org.

Board of Supervisors Recognizes June as Pride Month, Raises Pride Flag at Municipal Center



Middletown Township has raised the Pride Flag for the first time at the Municipal Center during the month of June. The month of June is widely considered Pride Month, and serves as an opportunity to celebrate sexual diversity, promote equal rights, and build awareness of the challenges faced by the LGBTQ2S+ community. The Pride Flag is a widely used symbol of LGBTQ2S+ rights.

The Middletown Township Board of

Supervisors passed a resolution to formally proclaim June as Pride Month and affirm the raising of the Pride Flag at the Municipal Center on Monday, June 14.

We have flown the Pride Flag in front of the Municipal Center for the month of June to express our support for inclusion, safety, and acceptance of all members of LGBTQ2S+ community. We encourage all communities to join us in celebrating the month of June as Pride Month.

Juneteenth Recognized as Township Holiday

On June 14, 2021, the Middletown Township Board of Supervisors proclaimed June 19th as an official Township holiday.

Juneteenth, commonly referred to as Freedom Day, Jubilee Day, Liberation Day, and Emancipation Day, commemorates the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation, declaring that

"all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of any State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free." On June 19, 1865, Union forces were dispatched to Galveston, Texas, to assure the freedom of slaves held in human bondage.



Middletown Township is proud to join the federal government, 47 states, and countless other municipal jurisdictions and private businesses in recognizing Juneteenth as a holiday. The Middletown Township Municipal Center was closed on Friday, June 18th, 2021, in observance of Juneteenth.

Get Plugged in About Our Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

Middletown Township's Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations are available to the public at



Municipal Center (3 Municipal Way) located in the parking lot outside of the Police Department and at the Public Works Building (700 Veterans Highway) located at the main entrance. Each location has two plugs available.

Both charging stations are open for public use at the rate of \$0.18/kWh. Most vehicles can be fully charged for less than \$12. Great news, the cost of the charging station is

enough to cover the cost of the electric provided. To make charging your battery easier, [set up an account with ChargePoint](#) before plugging in.

The charging stations were funded in part through the Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Rebate Program, which is one of the Driving PA Forward financial incentive programs that the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has developed to fund Eligible Mitigation Actions (EMAs) from Pennsylvania's \$118.5 million allocation from the State Mitigation Trust, resulting from the emissions cheating lawsuit settlement. The goal of the Governor's initiative is to permanently reduce NOx emissions by as much as 27,700 tons.

We are looking for feedback! Do you have a suggested charging station location? To submit your suggestion, please send an email to nvalla@middletownbucks.org.

LED Field Lights Coming to Twin Oaks Park

At 18 acres, Twin Oaks Park is Middletown Township's second-largest park, making it a major destination and serving as home to the Middletown Athletic Association (MAA). Starting out as Levittown Western in the 1950's and becoming MAA in the late 1960's, they have offered baseball, softball, soccer, and adult softball to our community for decades.

For over 30 years, Twin Oaks Park had a high-pressure sodium lighting system; currently, about 25% of the bulbs are inoperable. The new Musco LED Lighting system will properly light and rejuvenate field number 3, known locally as the "Babe Ruth Field". In April

2021, Middletown's Board of Supervisors awarded the work to Armour & Son's.

The project will include new poles, which will allow for lighting on the MAA batting cage and the parking lot. "This project is a huge improvement; this field is currently not lit for nighttime baseball. This lighting upgrade will make the players and the community very happy: more players will be using the field more often and the businesses in the area will also benefit from more people being in the area," said Paul Kopera, Parks & Recreation Director.

The biggest benefit of the new LED lighting system is the community will be able to have multi sporting events all year long. This will also allow the community and MAA an opportunity to host state-wide and national Little League events, if they chose.

The new LED light system will require minimal maintenance, use less electricity, and provide remote access to control the lighting, allowing the Parks & Recreation Department to access the system 24/7. Currently, none of the lights at Twin Oaks Park are controlled remotely. Each field has to be turned on and off manually. The new lighting system comes with a 25-year warranty.

Despite increased usage in the future and improved lighting coverage, the efficiency of LEDs will keep utility costs at or below current levels. The total cost of the project was \$470,000, which over the 25-year warranty of the equipment averages out to an annual cost of \$18,800 per year.

"This project is huge improvement for the community and is yet another step forward toward reducing our footprint in the Township," said Middletown Township Board of Supervisors Vice-Chairperson Anna Payne. Ms. Payne thanked the staff for all the efforts that are being done for the MMA.

The project is expected to be completed by August 1st. At that time, the field will be lit properly for both baseball and soccer to be played.



Washing Your Car & Our Storm Sewer System: What You Need to Know



Did you know that vehicle washing can contribute pollutants to our rivers and streams - depending on where your vehicle is cleaned? However, soap suds and water run-off from vehicle washing on driveways, parking lots and streets typically flows along the gutter

and into a storm drain before it empties into a creek or river. Soap is only one part of the discharge problem. Even if only water is used, oils, grease, heavy metals, particulates from vehicle exhaust emissions, brake dust, and rust are being washed into the stormwater system.

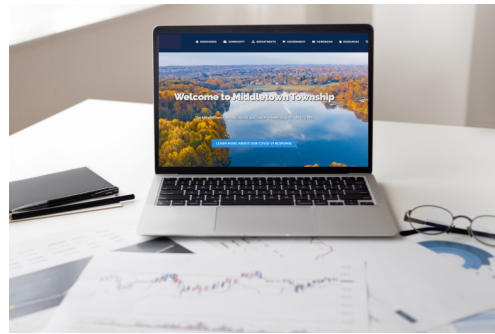
Whenever possible, wash your vehicle at a commercial car wash facility. Dirty water from commercial car washes goes into the Township's sanitary system and is treated at the regional wastewater treatment plant or is recycled on-site, preventing pollutants from entering the stormwater system.

If you do plan to wash your vehicle at home, here are some earth-friendly tips.

- Choose soaps, cleaners or detergents labeled phosphate-free and biodegradable. Vegetable or citrus-based soaps are the safest products.
- Before you get started, sweep driveways to prevent leaves and trash from being carried to the storm drain.
- Control water volume by using a spray nozzle and wash your car in an area where runoff won't flow to the street. Divert runoff to the lawn.
- When you are done, discard dirty wash water onto your grass, flower bed or into the sink.

2020 Audited Financial Statement Now Available

Middletown Township's 2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report is [now available on our website](#). The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report is a detailed, audited summary of the Township's financial activity in the prior fiscal year.



The Township prepares its financial reports commensurate to the standards established in the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting award program. The Township has earned this award 16 times. The 2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report was prepared to meet the criteria of this award again.

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Thank you for reading this edition of the Middletown Township E-News. Feel free to share with friends, family, and neighbors!

We'd like to hear from you! If you have an idea for something that we can cover in the E-News, please let us know by emailing Nick Valla at nvalla@middletownbucks.org.

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Middletown Township Board of Supervisors

Tom Tosti, Chairperson
Anna Payne, Vice Chairperson
Dawn Quirple, Secretary
Mike Ksiazek
Amy Strouse

