

## Welcome Warm Weather & New Faces!



Along with welcoming the warm weather of spring, we also would like to welcome our newly elected officials to the Steelton family. Ciera Dent was elected Mayor, Willie Slade was elected to the Steelton Borough Council, and Mary J. Carricato was elected as the Borough's new tax collector.

Ciera Dent moved to Steelton at age 11 and graduated from Steelton-Highspire High School in 2005. She has self-published three books and created The Resource Center for Hope, a non-profit organization that helps low-income families by offering everyday life essentials. See Mayor Dent's 'Minute with the Mayor' letter on Page 10 of this newsletter. Willie Slade is a Steelton native, 1988 graduate of Steelton-Highspire High School, and current full-time faculty member in the Steelton-Highspire School District. Mary J. Carricato was raised in Steelton and is a graduate of Steelton-Highspire High School. She previously served as a member of the Steelton-Highspire School District Board of Directors for 12 years and currently works full-time with Novitas Solutions, Inc.



**Street Sweeper Reminder:** Street sweeping will begin this year on Monday, April 4th. Please be aware of all posted signs when parking your vehicle. Also, please note that all other parking violations will continue to be enforced during the months the street sweeper is running. Any questions regarding street sweeping or parking violations can be directed to Interim Chief Shaub at [wshaub@steeltonpa.com](mailto:wshaub@steeltonpa.com) or 717-439-5882.

### Storm Water Fee Meetings

We encourage all property owners to attend the two (2) public meetings regarding the new storm water fee that is being implemented. Please join us to learn more about this program:

- **May 11 - 6PM at Prince of Peace Church (815 South 2nd Street)**
- **May 25 - 6PM at the Abel Hall (200 Gibson Street)**



## Upcoming Meeting

# Water Main Construction - East End & Cottage Hill

Pennsylvania American Water will be repairing water mains in East End and Cottage Hill. In order to improve reliability for customers, reduce service interruptions, and increase water flow for firefighting, 4,200 feet of water main in the Borough will be replaced. Work will be done between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays on:

- **South 2nd Street from McKinley Street to R Street**
- **Q Street from South 2nd Street to South 4th Street**
- **South 7th Street from Spruce Street to Marshall Street**
- **South 6th Street from Spruce Street to Marshall Street**

Traffic restrictions will be in place during construction. PA American Water said that during construction, customers “might experience temporary service interruptions, discolored water, and/or lower than normal water pressure. Crews will work as quickly as possible to shorten the length of these temporary inconveniences.”

**Please contact [Pennsylvania American Water](tel:800-565-7292) at [800-565-7292](tel:800-565-7292) for more information**



# Steelton Borough Council Members



*Brian D. Proctor, President*



*Michael Segina, Vice President*



*Denae House, Pro Tem*



*Keontay Hodge, Member*



*Willie Slade, Member*



*William "Yogi" Jones, Member*



*Natasha Woods, Member*

## Upcoming Meetings:

### Council:

- 1st & 3rd Monday of Every Month - 6:30PM at Municipal Building

### Storm Water:

- Wednesday, May 11 - 6PM at Prince of Peace (815 South 2nd Street)
- Wednesday, May 25 - 6PM at the Abel Hall (200 Gibson Street)

## Upcoming Event:

- Easter Egg Hunt  
Saturday, April 9th  
1P - 3P @ Mohn Street Park (South 3rd & Mohn Streets)



# STORMWATER PROGRAM FEE BEING DEVELOPED



you're  
INVITED

Property owners are invited to join us in May for two in-person informational meetings.

More information on back.

*Steelton Borough has established a steering committee to evaluate and consider how the Borough should pay for its stormwater management program costs, including necessary improvements created by unfunded mandates in addition to short- and long-term maintenance needs.* Like other communities, Steelton Borough manages stormwater through a series of pipes, inlets, and swales that convey water when it rains. In addition to the costs of maintaining infrastructure and continuing to address flooding concerns, Steelton Borough is faced with requirements from the state and federal governments through the MS4 program. Steelton Borough is providing information to the public in an effort to be transparent in the process and approach and to aid in public awareness and understanding of the issues. The steering committee has found that the costs of the stormwater program are most equitably met through a stormwater fee which is billed based on the amount of impervious area on each property. If stormwater program costs continued to be covered by property taxes, taxes would increase and residential property owners would pay substantially more than covering costs through a fee.

## HOW DOES OUR STORMWATER SYSTEM WORK?

When it rains, much of the water does not soak into the ground. If it lands on a roof, driveway or other impervious surface, the water runs along the surface, across paved areas, along curbs and into ditches. Often it then runs into stormwater inlets which are covered with a grate. These inlets are connected by buried pipes.



**12**  
MILES  
OF PIPE

that is over the distance from  
Steelton to Hershey



**600**  
INLETS

Stormwater runoff and associated flooding can cause public safety hazards, health risks, property damage, and environmental threats. Stormwater runoff also picks up dirt, trash, oil, grease, pesticides, fertilizers, pet waste, and other pollutants and carries them into our waterways. These pollutants coupled with stream bank erosion threaten stream health and water quality.

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) requires Steelton Borough to manage its stormwater as part of a permit through its Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) program. Steelton Borough has various operational requirements as part of the MS4 program. The Borough is also required to develop and implement a pollutant reduction plan, essentially a program of projects that will help to mitigate the impacts of stormwater.

If the Borough does not address stormwater concerns, including reducing pollutants, in the next five years, PADEP and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) may impose fines. Steelton Borough has to determine **how to fund the costs associated with this required program.**

## DO WE HAVE PROBLEMS WITH OUR STORMWATER FACILITIES?

Unfortunately, yes, we do. There are stormwater needs throughout the Borough that will need to be addressed in coming years, regardless of the work required by the MS4 permit. **Various areas of the Borough are in need of infrastructure improvements. Projects to address these improvements and flooding concerns will require millions of dollars.** In addition, much of the stormwater infrastructure is in need of assessment and repair in the coming years. **When pipes fail, the road above the pipe can experience degradation and sinkholes, leading to the need for more repairs.** Like a leaky roof, maintenance needs that are ignored cost more in the long term.

**\$\$\$**  
**~\$10**  
**MILLION**  
NEEDED FOR STORMWATER  
INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS  
& POLLUTION REDUCTION  
PROJECTS

Una versión de este volante está disponible en español en el sitio web del Municipio.

## HOW DO WE PAY TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF THE STORMWATER FACILITIES?

Currently, Steelton Borough property owners pay to maintain and improve the stormwater system through property taxes. The problem with using taxes is that a property's assessed value does not correlate to the amount of stormwater it sends into the system. In addition, tax-exempt properties, like churches and government buildings, benefit from the stormwater program but do not pay towards the stormwater program since they are exempt from taxes.

Steelton Borough chose to develop aerial imagery of all properties in the Borough. From this information, the amount of impervious surface on each property is being measured. With the impervious area amounts, we can determine **how to distribute costs more equitably.**

Stormwater fees are expected to be about  
**\$10 PER MONTH**

Pennsylvania recently passed a law allowing Authorities to charge a stormwater fee. The Borough plans to use the impervious area data to determine what the fee should be for each property. In communities similar to Steelton Borough that have recently enacted a fee, the average residential customer

rates are typically \$5 to \$15 per month. Properties that are not subject to taxes will contribute financially to the community's stormwater needs based on the amount of impervious area on their property. Steelton Borough has appointed a steering committee to explore the development of a utility to fund the stormwater program.

## COULD WE JUST PAY FOR STORMWATER NEEDS FROM TAXES?

We could, but it isn't equitable. For example, **if stormwater needs are paid from taxes, residential properties pay more than they should** since they have a large share of the taxable assessed property values, but not as large a share in the total impervious area in Steelton Borough. In addition, tax revenue may be spread across the municipal budget; however, fees collected through a utility will be used for that specific service. A fee presents a more equitable approach to paying for stormwater management costs.

### Property Taxes vs. Stormwater Fee Why paying from taxes is not equitable

*If a tax is used to pay for stormwater costs, the single family homeowner on the left would have to pay for stormwater, but the tax-exempt post office on the right would not pay anything, even though the property generates significantly more runoff.*



Single Family Residences



United States Postal Service

Paying from taxes is not equitable, because property value does not impact runoff. Tax exempt properties pay no taxes but make up a significant amount of the Impervious Area.

The average residential property would pay  
**TWICE AS MUCH BY TAX**  
compared to a fee



Front St. & Washington St. flooding during a storm

## HOW CAN I LEARN MORE?

Property owners are invited to join us in May for two meetings occurring on:

- May 11 from 6-8pm at Prince of Peace (815 S 2nd St, Steelton, PA 171130)
- May 25 from 6-8pm at Able Hall (200 Gibson St, Steelton, PA 17113)

Additional information can be found on the Borough website.

<http://www.steeltonpa.com/>

# Spring Reminders from the Codes Department

Here are some suggestions to keep your property beautiful during the warmer months:

**1. Keep your property free of litter and debris. Sweep porches and sidewalks regularly. Power washing can make your sidewalks look like new.**

**2. Keep your lawn & weeds below 8 inches as required by Steelton Borough Code**

**3. Set one (1) large bulk item out for pickup each week (see below for a list of items that are accepted).**

**4. Make your front porch pleasant by using outdoor furniture, decorations & plants.**

**Bulk Items Accepted: Appliances, Carpets, Furniture, Mattresses & Box Springs, Car Tires, Scrap Metal, Lawn Mowers (gas/oil emptied), Sinks & Toilets, Washers & Dryers**

**The Dauphin County Recycling Center (located at 1625 South Cameron Street in Harrisburg) disposes of old electronics for free.**

## Save the Dates! Golf Outing 7/15 & Steelton Fest 8/27

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Borough's annual Steelton Fest event was not held the past two years, but we look forward to bringing the event back this August!

On Saturday, August 27th, Steelton Fest will be held across from the Municipal Building in the 100 block of North Front Street and at Club XL in Harrisburg. More details to follow...

In support of Steelton Fest, The Borough's 2nd Annual Golf Outing will be held Friday, July 15th, 2022 at Dauphin Highlands Golf Course. The tournament will be an early morning start with raffles, contests and more. Look for additional details regarding player and/or sponsorships on the Borough's website and in your mail.

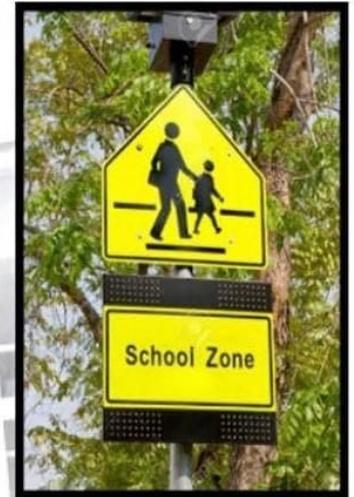
**Visit [steeltonpa.com](http://steeltonpa.com) or follow the Steelton Borough Facebook page for future announcements!**



# Safety Tips for Walking to & from School

## Guide for Parents

- Teach your child how to cross the street.
- Ensure your child has identification and emergency numbers in their backpacks.
- Practice with your child. Choose the safest route to school with the least amount of crossings.
- Practice what each street sign means on the route to school.
- Observe what it is like to cross at the eye level of your child.
- Walk where there is good visibility for your child to see traffic and to be sure the drivers can see your child.
- Don't let your child walk alone until you feel they are ready.
- Pre-identify places of refuge should your child need immediate shelter.



## Safety Tips for Kids

- Cross at a cross walk and follow the instructions of the crossing guard or the walk/don't walk signal while preparing to cross the street.
- Always look left, right, left before crossing.
- Always wait until there is no oncoming traffic before crossing.
- Walk, don't run across the street.
- Wear bright colored clothes with reflective tape.
- Don't walk while using ear buds, texting, or doing anything else that may prevent you from hearing traffic or distract your attention.
- Pay close attention to your surroundings.
- Always walk with a buddy.
- Avoid using secluded shortcuts.
- If a car stops to ask for directions or for help finding a lost pet, never approach the vehicle.
- Never take rides from strangers, or even people you know, without permission from your parents.
- If someone calls out to you, approaches you, or makes you feel uncomfortable, quickly get to the nearest adult you trust and tell them what happened.



# Protect the Susquehanna River: Follow These Spring Cleaning Tips

## Watershed Friendly Spring Cleaning Tips

### MS4 Corner

Stormwater from roofs, yards, driveways, and streets that flows into storm drains is transported via the municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4), and discharged untreated into our local waterways. Because so much stormwater runoff originates from residential areas, you and your family play an important role in preventing water pollution!

Here are some easy and inexpensive tips to keep pollutants from entering the MS4 and out of our streams and rivers.

- ❖ **Never clean brushes or pour paint in a storm drain**  
Rinse brushes used for water-based paint in the sink. For oil-based paints use and reuse paint thinner. Properly dispose of paints, cleaners, and solvents through hazardous waste collection programs.
- ❖ **Prevent trash/litter from getting washed into storm drains**  
Pick up trash and litter around your yard and street. Pick up pet waste and dispose of it with the trash.
- ❖ **Use Non-Toxic Cleaning Agents**  
Use only non-toxic, biodegradable cleaners when pressure washing, or try using just water.
- ❖ **Maintain your Septic System**  
Inspect your septic system and drain field annually. Pump out the tank every 3 years or as required by local/State regulations.
- ❖ **Minimize Stormwater Runoff**  
Direct rainwater from your down spouts to vegetated areas or collect rainwater in a rain barrel.

# 2022 Spring/Summer Building Closures

Friday, April 15	Good Friday
Monday, May 30	Memorial Day
Monday, June 20	Juneteenth National Independence Day
Monday, July 4	Independence Day
Monday, September 5	Labor Day

## Register Your Home Surveillance Cameras

The Steelton Borough Police Department is seeking residents and businesses to register their home surveillance cameras. The goal of the camera registry program is to deter crime and promote public safety through collaboration between the Steelton Borough Police and the community we serve. Accordingly, all camera registrants agree to the following terms and conditions:

1. Any footage containing to/or related to criminal activity may be collected for use by the Steelton Borough Police Department as evidence during any stage of a criminal proceeding.
2. Relevant information is reserved for official use by the Steelton Borough Police Department and will not be released to any member of the general public or press.
3. If necessary, the Steelton Borough Police Department will contact you directly using the information provided to request the appropriate video surveillance footage.
4. Under no circumstances shall registrants construe that they are acting as an agent or employee of the Steelton Borough Police Department through the camera registry program.
5. Under no circumstances shall the Steelton Borough Police Department utilize any information obtained to view footage/feeds directly from cameras owned by registrants.

To register, please visit our Crimewatch website at [dauphin.crimewatchpa.com/steeltonpd](https://dauphin.crimewatchpa.com/steeltonpd) or contact Detective Sergeant Shaub at [wshaub@steeltonpa.com](mailto:wshaub@steeltonpa.com) or [717-439-5882](tel:717-439-5882)

# Minute with the Mayor



Hey family! It is my absolute honor to share my first 'Minute with the Mayor' with you. Since being sworn in on January 3rd, there have been some swift transitions that I want to make sure everyone is up to date on.

A major change is that of the Police Chief. Chief Anthony Minium retired from the Borough on March 13th and we will greatly miss him. He has laid a strong foundation for the police department that we intend to continue building on. With this change, Detective Sergeant William Shaub is our Interim Chief. He will assume the responsibilities and tasks of Police Chief. Det. Sgt. Shaub has been with our department for over 20 years and I am confident that he will be able to lead the department effectively and efficiently.

The police department now has a substation located in Cole Crest. This is a partnership between The Housing Authority and the Borough. We plan to have an officer present throughout the day, along with our new Mental Health Co-Responder that will begin working with our officers on March 20th, 2022. This new position will help our officers with calls that may warrant mental health resources.

Along with new faces in the Borough, we are happy to announce Tyrai Anderson as our newest Police Officer. Mr. Anderson was sworn in on February 22nd and fits perfectly with the department. I look forward to witnessing the positive impact he will have on our community. Please welcome him as you see him throughout the Borough!

As I campaigned and even more now, I have heard many concerns and suggestions from you, the residents. I am happy to announce that we will be creating a Civilian Review Board. This will serve as a means to hear the concerns of residents, increase community engagement, and build relationships between residents and officers. The Board will consist of 6-7 individuals, including officers and residents. If you are interested in being a part of this board, please send an email with your information to [cdent@steeltonpa.com](mailto:cdent@steeltonpa.com) with the subject line "Civilian Review Board".

I am excited to take this journey with you all! The weather is warming up and I cannot wait to see your faces at some of our community events or on a nice stroll. If you have Facebook, I encourage you to follow my official page, "Mayor Ciera Dent", to stay up to date on events, news, and emergencies. I can always be reached by email at [cdent@steeltonpa.com](mailto:cdent@steeltonpa.com) or by phone at 717-585-3205. Happy Spring! Stay blessed!

- Mayor Ciera Dent

**WE NEED YOUR HELP! If you or a family member has special needs that Steelton's first-responders should be aware of during an emergency**

**Please fill out the form below**

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## **2022 Steelton Borough EMA Special Needs List**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**HOME PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CELL PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NEED: (Please circle those that apply to you.)**

HEARING IMPAIRED AND REQUIRES SPECIAL ATTENTION

PHYSICALLY DISABLED AND NEED AMBULANCE OR SPECIAL ATTENTION

WITHOUT PERSONAL MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION, CAN NOT RIDE WITH SOMEONE ELSE

NO RADIO OR TV AND WOULD NEED SOMEONE TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY MESSAGES IN ANOTHER WAY

OTHER SPECIAL NEEDS

**COMMENTS ON YOUR NEEDS:** \_\_\_\_\_

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If you are a landlord, please have any tenants with special needs complete this form.

**THIS COMPLETED FORM MAY BE ENCLOSED AND RETURNED WITH YOUR WATER BILL OR MAILED TO THE STEELTON FIRE DEPARTMENT AT 185 North Front Street, Steelton, PA 17113**