

NEVILLE NEWS



Neville Township, 5050 Grand Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15225 *** 412-264-1977 *** www.nevilletownship.us



“EARS” TO OUR 2019 HOLIDAY EVENT VOLUNTEERS and SPONSORS

On December 14, 2019, Neville Island celebrated at the annual Light-up the Island Holiday Party.

Families traveled by trolley and horse-drawn carriage to enjoy the beautiful Neville Green luminaries and homeowners’ amazing light displays. A special thanks to all who decorated their homes and businesses for the event.

Our 2019 party featured face painting, balloon artists, a Disney photo booth, Mickey and Minnie Mouse themed gift bags, hot chocolate and cookies, and the main event - a visit with Santa Claus.

The Board of Commissioners is very grateful to the following sponsors and volunteers who helped Neville Island families celebrate the holiday in true Disney-style:

Allegheny Recycled Products
 American Made Systems, Inc.
 Causelot Farms/Mike’s Carriage Rides
 CRS Sales Rentals Services
 CWM Environmental, Inc.
 Eat N Park Restaurant
 Fairfield Inn
 Goehring, Rutter & Boehm
 Gottlieb, Inc.
 Henry Miller, Attorney-at-Law
 Lanxess
 Leo Iron and Metals, Inc.

Lennon Smith Souleret Engineering
 Lindy Paving
 Mary Ann Merriman
 McDonalds of Coraopolis
 Metalico, Inc.
 Mike the Balloon Guy
 M R Management LLC
 Neville Aggregates Co. Inc.
 Neville Chemical
 Neville Green
 Neville Island VFD & Families
 Neville Township Employees

Paradise Island Bowl
 Pena-Plas Company
 Pipelines
 Pittsburgh Trolley Works
 Randy Griffin
 SSM Industries
 Sunbelt Rentals
 The Holden Corporation /
 (Mr. John)
 Tri-State Trailer Sales



Yuknavich Bench added to Veterans’ Monument

On June 12, 2019, Mr. John Yuknavich celebrated his 100th birthday! Mr. Yuknavich and his wife moved to Neville Island in 1947, raised three daughters and are very proud to have called Neville Island home for over 72 years.

Mr. Yuknavich served in the Navy and Navy Reserves, retiring as a Master Chief. In honor of his military service, Mr. Yuknavich’ s family donated a granite bench to enhance the Memorial Park Veterans’ Monument.

Thank you for your service Mr. John Yuknavich and family!

The Neville Township Board of Commissioners would like to thank the management and employees of Waste Management of Pittsburgh for sharing the true meaning of the holidays with our community. Their 2nd annual employee food drive provided a generous donation to Island families who needed a special boost this season.



2019 NEVILLE TOWNSHIP 'I WILL' VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION AWARDS



At their December 12, 2019 Meeting, the Neville Township Board of Commissioners recognized the 2nd Annual "I Will" Volunteer Recognition Award recipients.

In 2018, the Board created the annual program to recognize the impact volunteers make in the Neville community. Each time a need arises, volunteers step forward to say "I will" serve. Most often without being asked and too often without proper thanks. This program recognizes members, sponsors or nominees from the two organizations who do so much to make Neville Island a special place to live, work and visit.

Neville Green's Sandy Lang and Sue McCoy were honored for over 25 years of volunteer service to the many Neville Green programs that improve, educate and promote Neville Island. As lifelong residents, volunteers and mentors, Sandy and Sue's service exemplifies the dedication to others that keeps the Neville community strong. Sandy and Sue are among the charter members of Neville Green, whose programs, fundraising, and beautification efforts greet each resident and guest who enters Neville Island.

The Robinson Township Swift Water Rescue Team and the Neville Island Volunteer Fire Department's Swift Water Rescue Team Technicians were nominated by the Neville Island Volunteer Fire Department. The RT-SWRT has 22 certified technicians from Groveton Station 244, Coraopolis Station 127, Forest Grove Station 243 and our own Neville Island Station 205. Their specialized training in emergency boat operations, advance line systems, ice rescue, helicopter rescue and EMS makes them an essential asset to our river communities. Their brave response is often visible, but we also salute their countless hours of training, equipment maintenance, fundraising and time away from family – an immeasurable gift to our Township, County and State.

Each organization had their names added to the permanent plaque at the Municipal Building and received a \$250.00 donation.

We ask everyone to thank our friends and neighbors who serve and promote positive participation in our Neville Island community. If you are interested in volunteering, donating or learning more visit www.nevillegreen.org, www.nevilletownship.us/fire-department or www.robinsontownship.org/swift-water-rescue.

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS TO SANDY, SUE and all the RT-SWRT MEMBERS!!!!

2019 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

On Thursday, December 12, 2019, the Board of Commissioners approved the 2020 budgets for the General, Water and Sewer funds. Highlights include:

- **No increase in the 2020 Real Estate Tax Rate** - Rate is unchanged at 4.95 mills, including 0.0158 mills dedicated towards the Neville Island Fire Company.
- **No increase in garbage rates for 2020.**
- The 2020 water and sewer budgets do not include an increase in resident rates for the initial quarter; however, the Board has authorized a rate study and residents should anticipate an increase in the coming year. The Township adopted very tight water and sewer budgets, but expenses include a 28% increase in the cost to purchase treated drinking water from the West View Water Authority and ALCOSAN sewage treatment rates that have increase approximately 7% each year since *the last Township rate increase in July 2015*.
- The 2020 Budget includes capital funds for road paving and to match various grant applications to replace aging water lines and improve our parks.



2020 BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Board of Commissioners: Bill Leon, Rick Rutter, Jim Brown, Dave Kerr and Tracy Phillips

**A WARM WELCOME TO TRACY AND DAVE AND
A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUTGOING COMMISSIONERS GIG MUNDELL AND AL WHITAKER
WE APPRECIATE YOUR SERVICE TO NEVILLE TOWNSHIP**

2020 UTILITY BILLING BASICS

- Combined water, sanitary sewage and garbage bills are mailed to all residential customers on a quarterly basis.
- **Your single bill covers the cost to purchase and distribute treated drinking water, to convey and treat sanitary sewage and for weekly household waste pick-up and special pick-ups for hard-to-recycle and dispose of bulk items and household hazardous waste.**
- You will not receive separate bills from West View Water Authority, ALCOSAN, Waste Management or any other authority or agency for these services.
- **Full payment is due 15 days after the date on your bill.**
- Failure to pay in 15 days results in a past due notice that includes a 5% penalty added to your account.
- **Accounts 30 days past due will receive a written shut-off notice.**
- Customers who fail to respond within 10 days of the date of the shut-off notice by making payment in full will have their water service shut-off.
- **Once a crew responds for shut-off, a \$75.00 fee will be assessed to restore water service and a customer must be present to reconnect service. Crews cannot accept on-site payments.**
- The Township accepts cash or check. Credit card payments can be made on-line only.
- **Monthly payments are accepted to help budget for your quarterly bill.**
- Customers whose service has been shut-off for non-payment or due to a vacant structure are still required to pay a minimum monthly charge for access to public utility services.

Need Help Paying Your Utility Bills?

The Clean Water Assistance Fund provides a \$30 credit each quarter to help low income families and individuals reduce their wastewater treatment bills. Visit [www.dollarenergy.com / need-help/Pennsylvania/alcosan](http://www.dollarenergy.com/need-help/Pennsylvania/alcosan).

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) helps families living on low incomes pay their heating bills or when facing a crisis of being without heat. A cash grant is sent directly to your utility provider. Visit [www.dhs.pa.gov/citizens/heating assistanceliheap](http://www.dhs.pa.gov/citizens/heating_assistanceliheap).

COLD WEATHER WATER TIPS

- ✓ Disconnect all outdoor hoses from faucets.
- ✓ **Close all windows and garage doors near water pipes.**
- ✓ Insulate or wrap all pipes and faucets in unheated areas; including: garages and crawl spaces, under open porches, and cabinets against an unheated outside wall.
- ✓ **Check now to find your master shut-off valve and test it to make sure you can shut-off water if a pipe leaks.**
- ✓ If you have a pipe prone to freezing during severe cold weather, let the water in the affected pipe run about half the diameter of a wooden pencil.
- ✓ **Keep the number of a reliable plumber with your emergency contacts.**



TAKING OUT YOUR TRASH!

- **Household Trash is collected on Monday mornings.**
- **Trash may be placed at the curb after 5:00 PM on Sunday evenings.**
- **Cans must be removed from the street by 6:00 PM following trash collection.**
- **Garbage must be stored to prevent the attraction and breeding of rodents and insects.**
- **Reusable garbage containers must be kept tightly sealed and covered. Waste cannot extend beyond the top and interior of the container must be kept clean.**
- **Disposable plastic bags are acceptable containers provided they have sufficient wall strength to maintain physical integrity when lifted by the top and must be securely tied.**
- **Containers must be limited to 40 gallons and 40 pounds. Bags are limited to 30 gallons and 35 pounds.**
- **Large, Bulky Items, Electronics and Household Hazardous Waste SHOULD NOT BE PLACED CURBSIDE WITH YOUR WEEKLY PICK-UP. YOU MUST CONTACT WASTEMENT FOR PICK-UP KITS AND INSTRUCTIONS.**





Snow Removal Reminders

It is the responsibility of every property owner and tenant to clear sidewalk of snow and ice within 24 hours after a snow or ice event ends.

Snow cannot be deposited on any public street or sidewalk. Do not shovel snow into the roadway!

A 3-foot minimum clear zone must be maintained around a fire hydrant.

If you live on a corner, clear a space for people crossing the street to enter the sidewalk.

Children and persons walking to bus stops, mail carriers, delivery persons, emergency responders, and your friends and neighbors need a safe place to walk.

If able, become a "Snow Angel" - volunteer to help members of our community, especially seniors, who struggle to remove snow and ice from their property.



A New Way for You to Cut Down on Robocalls

In October 2019, a new PA "Do Not Call" law was signed that allows citizens to permanently prevent unsolicited phone calls. Complete online registration at www.attorneygeneral.gov/protect-yourself/do-not-call-list, call the toll-free hotline at 888-777-3406 or mail your name, mailing address, phone number and signature to the Office of Attorney General in Harrisburg.

Registration is free and permanent. The list is updated to vendors four times per year. The list prevents most telemarketing calls. Debt collection and political candidates are exempt.

FAQ? "WHAT DO I DO IF MY NEIGHBOR'S DOG WON'T STOP BARKING?"

1. Please let your neighbor know – they may be unaware the dog barks when they are away from home.
2. File a formal complaint. Residents may contact the Ohio Township Police Department. Try to call when the dog is actively barking so an officer can witness the problem.



Use Non-Emergency # 412-473-3056 (Via Allegheny County 911).

Please provide your name and number, as the officer may need a witness to file charges if the problem persists.

Neville Township's MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM (MS4) Program

As required by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Neville Township obtains and maintains a MS4 Permit that regulates the discharge of stormwater into the waters of the Commonwealth, including the Ohio River. The MS4 permit includes storm sewers, catch basins, inlets, pipes, swales, ponds and all systems that collect, convey or manage stormwater.

Stormwater is simply rain that hits the ground and is either absorbed into the ground to replenish ground water sources or that runs off into public streets. Stormwater travels the streets and makes its way into the storm drains and pipes that carry the water to our local streams and rivers.

As stormwater travels our streets, it picks up oil, anti-freeze, detergents, paints and other harmful pollutants. Trash, dirt, grass and other debris travels with the rainwater into the streams and rivers that are our sources for drinking water and recreation.

To protect the health and safety of all those who use and enjoy our waterways, residents and businesses must do the following:

- Never dump anything besides stormwater into a storm drain, inlet, pipe or stream. Dumping is considered an "Illicit Discharge" and is a violation of Township Ordinance.
- Pick-up your pet waste immediately and dispose of it properly. Pet waste is not permitted in streets, storm drains, inlets, catch basins, pipes or streams or rivers.
- Wash water from vehicles is not permitted to enter the street or storm drains. Wash vehicles in lawn or gravel areas or at a commercial car wash.
- Pick-up litter, garbage, dirt, concrete or construction dust and all debris from yards, sidewalks and driveways so that it is not washed into the streets and storm drains.
- Recycle or properly dispose of all hazardous chemicals, including paints, used oil and chemicals.
- Use pesticides, fertilizers, herbicides, and even road salt properly to prevent excess runoff.

If you witness an Illicit Discharge, report the violation to Neville Township at 412-264-1977.

More information on the Township's storm water management program is available by contacting the Township.