

# Baldwin Township Newsletter



With winter quickly approaching, here are a few reminders to keep the Township as safe as possible:

Parking on township streets at any time during a winter storm is prohibited. Parking on the street during a winter storm prevents the Township's Public Works Department from safely and adequately removing snow from streets. This prohibition remains in place until the storm is over and no further accumulation is predicted in forecasts issued by local radio or TV broadcasts. **The penalty for violating is a fine up to \$600 plus costs.**

Additionally, throwing or placing snow or ice on township streets **is illegal and carries a \$1,000 fine.** Obeying these ordinances make the job of clearing our streets much easier and much safer for all residents.

## Start thinking about...SNOW

Like grass clippings and leaves, residents are reminded that shoveling snow into the public street is illegal and subject to enforcement. Placing snow in the street creates a hazardous situation for motorists and emergency vehicles. Lastly, please refrain from parking on the street when snow is forecast and when crews are plowing. Navigating around parked vehicles slows down snow removal operations and creates hazards for emergency vehicles.

*SHOVELLING TIP: stand facing your house and shovel snow to the LEFT. This keeps your freshly shoveled snow from being pushed back into your driveway by the Township plow and passing vehicles.*



## Sump Pumps

Throughout cold winter months, sump-pumps have been known to discharge water out into the street. During cold winter conditions, that water quickly freezes and forms extensive ice patches which obviously pose a danger to passing motorists, pedestrians, and township employees. In the past the Township has received many complaints about the dangerous conditions caused by these discharges and has had to expend considerable time and attention to dealing with those conditions throughout the winter.

The township has been advised by its code officials and legal counsel that the discharge of water out onto the public streets in a manner which creates a public nuisance is unlawful and actionable under the International Property Maintenance Code and by way of a legal enforcement action to abate such a public nuisance.

Before even considering such a course of action, the township wishes to bring this matter to residents' attention and advise them of the necessity of eliminating the problem. Please refrain from discharging water onto the public street during the winter months when the temperature drops below 40 degrees for more than 48 hours. Ultimately, the goal is to avoid an icing situation which creates dangerous road conditions.

**Write a Letter to Santa**

Due to the exceptionally positive response to Santa’s mailbox, Baldwin Township will be bringing back the “Write a Letter to Santa” program this year. Beginning November 26 through December 20, Santa’s mailbox will be displayed at the Township Administration Building. Children can now drop off their letters to Santa in a special mailbox and even receive a letter back from Santa himself!

We are also lucky to have one of Santa’s elves joining us this year! Be on the lookout for our Township Elf – he could be riding around in one of the police cars, a public works truck or just hanging around the Administration building. You will be able to follow his adventures on Facebook from November 26-December 23!



**Play it Forward Pittsburgh**

This year Baldwin Township will be participating in the “Play it Forward Pittsburgh” Toy Drive. Beginning Monday, November 1 donations can be dropped off at the Township Administration Building Monday - Friday, 9:00AM - 4:00PM. Someone will also be available to accept donations on Saturday, December 4 from 10:00AM – 2:00PM. Please have all donations dropped off by Friday, December 12.



Drop Off Location

**NO STUFFED ANIMALS OR BOOKS PLEASE**

**Book Bingo**

From NOW until the end of the year, kids in grades K-12 are invited to participate in Baldwin Township Book BINGO. Check the Township website and Facebook page for age/grade appropriate bingo games. Hard copies will also be available in the Baldwin Township Municipal Building. Every (new) BINGO earns a prize. Contact Charla at the Township office for more info!



**2022 Township Meeting Schedule**

All meetings will take place at the Baldwin Township Municipal Building; 10 Community Park Drive Pgh, PA 15234, at 7:00pm

The 2022 regular monthly meetings will be held on the following dates:

January 4	July 5
February 8	August 2
March 8	September 6
April 5	October 4
May 3	November 1
June 7	December 6

2022 Pre-Agenda meetings will be held at 7pm on the following dates:

January 31	July 25
February 28	August 29
March 28	September 26
April 25	October 24
May 31	November 28
June 27	December 27

**Help for Residents with PENNSYLVANIA 211**

Residents can dial 2-1-1 for assistance with everything from paying utility bills to health care, substance abuse and job placement. This one-stop health and human services resource can assist you with everyday needs and in crisis situations. Dial 211 or 1-888-553-5778 or text your zip code to 898-211 for immediate assistance day and night.



## A Message about Fraud from Baldwin Township Police Department

It's "OPEN ENROLLMENT" season for Medicare and Medicare supplement plans. From October 15 through December 7, 2021, we are all encouraged to look at our current Medicare plan and decide if it is working for us and if we want to change to another plan. Criminals are opportunistic and use this time to try to contact us to offer 'deals.' Their intent is to steal our Medicare number, personal information, and money. Here's how to avoid becoming a victim.



- DON'T give your Medicare card number to anyone offering free testing, treatment, equipment, or medications. **Remember**, protect your Medicare number as you protect your Social Security number.
- NEVER give personal information to a caller claiming to be from Medicare. **Remember**, Medicare will never contact you for your Medicare number or other personal information.
- LEARN how to BLOCK numbers leaving messages that offer Medicare deals or other opportunities that sound too good to be true. **Also**, don't be surprised if you receive the same message again from a different number. KEEP BLOCKING!
- **DON'T ANSWER YOUR PHONE** unless you recognize the number! It's best to let the call go to your answering machine or voicemail. If the criminals can't talk directly to you, they can't scam you. **Remember**, criminals can fake the phone number to look like it is coming from Medicare (spoofing).

Visit [Medicare.gov/fraud](https://www.Medicare.gov/fraud) for more information and tips on preventing Medicare scams and fraud.

To report Medicare fraud: 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)

### RED FLAGS - HOW TO RECOGNIZE A SCAM

Imposter scams are on the rise again. The criminals trying to convince you they are someone they cannot be very convincing. Covid vaccine appointment scams, Covid vaccine survey scams, and stimulus check scams are among the most common. If you become familiar with what to listen and look for (RED FLAGS), you can avoid becoming a victim.

#### PHONE RED FLAGS

1. If you don't recognize the phone number, it could be a scam. DON'T ANSWER!
2. If caller ID says, "Social Security, Internal Revenue, Medicare, UPMC, Duquesne Light," it is most likely a scam. DON'T ANSWER!
3. If the caller asks for personal information, it's a scam. DON'T GIVE IT.
4. If the caller threatens you, it's a scam. HANG UP!
5. If the caller pressures you, they're trying to take advantage of you. HANG UP!
6. If what the caller is offering is 'too good to be true,' IT IS!

#### EMAIL RED FLAGS

1. If the sender's email address includes a series of letters & numbers or doesn't match the message, it's probably a scam.
2. If there are misspellings, grammar errors, or other odd symbols in the message, it's most likely a scam.
3. If the message wants you to "CLICK HERE," beware! There are often many places in scam messages to "CLICK HERE," including 'unsubscribe.' DON'T click on any links unless you are absolutely sure that the message is not a scam.
4. If the message asks for personal information, it's a scam!
5. If the message is pushing an offer that sounds 'too good to be true,' IT IS!

#### BEST PRACTICES

1. DON'T ANSWER YOUR PHONE unless you recognize the phone number. Program important numbers (family, friends, medical professionals, etc.) into your phone. Let all unfamiliar calls go to voicemail. For emails, DON'T CLICK HERE!
2. Don't trust your caller ID. Criminals can "spoof" the number to look any way they want.
3. Look up the number or email address before responding.
4. NEVER GIVE PERSONAL INFORMATION to caller, email sender or texter.
5. Report scam to the FTC. (Optional but recommended) 1-877-382-4357 or [ftc.gov](https://www.ftc.gov)
6. Call someone reliable if you're not sure of what to do.

Questions? Contact one of your District Attorney's SENIOR JUSTICE ADVOCATES:

" Cyndie Carioli (412) 983-0729 [CyndieatDA@gmail.com](mailto:CyndieatDA@gmail.com) " Joe Giuffre (412) 427-3770 [JoeatDA@gmail.com](mailto:JoeatDA@gmail.com) " Dick Skrinjar (412) 512-3491 [DickatDA@gmail.com](mailto:DickatDA@gmail.com)

**Baldwin Township**  
**10 Community Park Drive**  
**Pittsburgh, PA 15234**

**USEFUL CONTACTS AND PHONE NUMBERS**

**Non-Emergency Phone Numbers:**

Baldwin Twp. Police	(412) 341-5937
Overnight Parking Request:	(412) 341-5937
Castle Shannon VFD	(412) 884-7913
MRTSA	(412) 343-5111
Baldwin Twp. Office	(412) 341-9597
Jordan Tax Service	(412) 835-5243
Waste Management	(800) 866-4460

**State Officials:**

Sen. Wayne D. Fontana	(412) 344-2551
Rep. Dan Miller	(412) 343-3870

**Federal Officials:**

Sen. Robert Casey	(412) 803-7370
Sen. Pat Toomey	(412) 803-3501

**TOWNSHIP OFFICE HOURS: 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM M-F**

Building permits and code enforcement issues are handled  
by the Building Inspector on  
Thursdays 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM