

THE WATER GAP TIMES

A Quarterly Newsletter

Issue Number 64 - Fall 2026



Stay connected with community happenings by following us on Facebook at Borough of Delaware Water Gap.



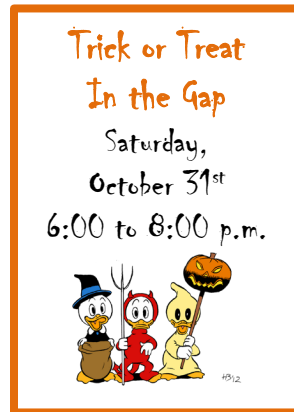
Connecting You to Your Community - Savvy Citizen

Get real time updates of what's happening in your neighborhood by simply downloading our free app today. Not ready for the app? You can sign up for notifications via text and email instead.

<https://savvycitizenapp.com> › Citizen



Tuesday,
November 3, 2026
Polls are open from
7:00AM to 8:00PM



Borough Office

49 Main Street
PO Box 218
Delaware Water Gap, PA 18327
Phone: 570-476-0331 Fax: 570-476-0380

boro@dwgpa.gov
www.dwgpa.gov

Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
After 1:00 p.m., by appointment.

Borough Manager – Allisen Trotter
Municipal Authority Manager – Lauren Hoglund
Borough Superintendent – Tim Snow

Delaware Water Gap Police Department
570-476-4674
police@dwgpa.gov

Chief of Police, Jim Fisher
Police Officers Austin Jackson & Randy Schlatter
State Police – 570-619-6800

Borough Council

Charles Bickart, President
Bruno Hennings, Vice President
Ian Foster
Wayne MacWilliams
Robert Palmer
Jeff Plotnik
Desiree Siena
Larry Freshcorn, Mayor

*Council meetings are held on the 1st Monday
of the month at 6:00 p.m.
Council work sessions are held on 3rd
Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m.*

Municipal Authority

Harry Darlington, Chair
Jeff Higbee, Vice Chair
Marty Wilson, Secretary
Jim Reynolds
Nickolai Snytkine

*Municipal Authority meetings are held the
3rd Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m.*

Planning Commission

Derek Anspach, Chair
Ann Biffen
Gary Schubert

*Planning Commission meetings are held as
needed.*

Zoning Hearing Board

Carol Penna, Chair
Nefertiti Campbell
Frank Davis

*Zoning Hearing Board meetings are held as
needed.*

Zoning Officer Building Inspector/Code Enforcement

Michael Manter

Floodplain Administrator

Walter Conway



Shade Tree News

The Delaware Water Gap Shade Tree Committee shared in the spring newsletter that our members applied for a Fall, 2026 grant from the TreePennsylvania Bare Root Tree Grant Program. We are pleased to announce that the Borough of Delaware Gap has been approved for 10 trees to be planted in early November of this year.

We are looking forward to having continued volunteer support for planting these trees. This is a project that cannot be completed without the help of our community. As we get closer to the tree planting date, information will be posted on Savvy Citizen, the Post Office door and Borough Hall.

If you are interested in acquiring a tree for a future planting, please contact the Shade Tree Committee. Keep in mind that these trees can only go in spaces that involve the Borough right of way. We hope to see many of you at the fall planting and thank you in advance of your continued support of this community project.



Delaware Water Gap Gives Back to the Community

Let's face it.

Being stuck at home due to illness, injury, frailty, or mental health issues is difficult on the best of days.

Meals on Wheels of Monroe County knows how much pets can help ease the burden and make each day brighter.



We will gladly be accepting donations of wet or dry cat & dog food at the borough office during regular business hours September through November, 2026.



Wreaths Across America

Saturday, December 19th at Noon

Forms are available at
the borough office if you
would like to purchase a wreath.

The Borough of Delaware Water Gap
AN APPALACHIAN TRAIL COMMUNITY

Mayor's Corner
Fall 2026

Happy Autumn fellow residents! With all the rain we had this year I'm hopeful our Gap will be full of color this fall. I'll start by talking about some of the events we have to close out the 2026 season. As you know Jazz Fest finished up on Sept.13th and judging from the size of the crowd, it was a successful year. We had a little rain on Sunday but it cleared out and the rest of the day was actually nice. We have a couple of trains scheduled from Steamtown for this year. On Saturday Sept.26th the "Water Gap Limited" will be leaving the East Stroudsburg Pickle Festival at 12:45 for a quick round trip through the Gap and on Oct. 24th the "Delaware Water Gap Fall Foliage" run will stop in the Gap where passengers can disembark and visit our town or take an optional waterfall hike with a Park Ranger along the tracks. Any info on these and many other train tours can be found on Steamtown's website. The DWG Cemetery Association will have its annual Lantern Walk this year with dates to be announced soon. They will also be discussing outdoor movies again for October and November with dates to be determined as well. Most importantly is our Wreaths Across America Ceremony which will take place on Saturday Dec.19th at noon. Please consider purchasing a wreath for one of our veterans and help us lay that wreath at their grave at the ceremony. We have 145 veterans and we need a wreath to cover each one. If interested you can contact me or stop by the Boro Hall to purchase one. The price is \$17.00 and I hope to see you at the ceremony.

The Delaware Water Gap Police Department welcomes two new officers! Please welcome Officer Austin Jackson and Officer Randy Schlatter to our Department when you see them out patrolling. These two gentlemen come to us with a lot of experience and military service. We are glad to have them aboard!

Lastly, I'd like to mention the closing of one of our long-time businesses in the Gap. Aurorium Chemicals closed its doors August 28th. Many of you have known this chemical plant as the old Hieco plant that started in our town 75 years ago. Hieco started its business by making film development chemicals and grew to a plant that made multiple products for the pharmaceutical industry, paints, rust prohibitors, and much more. It truly is sad to see this long-term plant close and we wish the best for all the employees that have been displaced.

I wish everyone a wonderful Fall season and I hope to see you out and about in our beautiful little Borough!

Mayor Larry Freshcorn

Rental Residential Property Registration Ordinance No. 281

All rental residential properties within the **Borough** of Delaware Water Gap shall have a property manager residing within a thirty-mile radius of Delaware Water Gap. By October 1st of each year the owner of each rental residential property shall provide to the Borough on a form prescribed by the Borough the name, address and contact phone number(s) of the individual or firm who will act as the property manager. The owner of the rental residential property may be the property manager. Please note: The Borough of Delaware Water Gap only invoices the property owners for water, garbage & sewer. The Borough does not invoice property managers or tenants.

All owners of rental residential property(s) must register all tenants and change of tenants within 30 days of a change in tenant occupancy with the Borough. Forms can be found on the borough website at www.dwgboro.gov or at the borough office.

Local History Spot

By Marty Wilson

Time Capsule, Episode II

It seemed like half of the borough's residents showed up at the Dutot Museum this past July 4th to see the opening of a time capsule buried fifty years ago next to the museum by a group calling themselves "The Dutotsburg 76ers," the Delaware Water Gap chapter of the Bicentennial Committee. Luckily, three of us, Terry, Jeff, and I, had dug it up a few days beforehand, thus avoiding the embarrassing scene of the three of us struggling to find the capsule. We eventually found it inside a metal cylinder about two feet down. When we finally located it, it was bobbing up and down in the water-filled cylinder. We assumed that the capsule's contents would be ruined, but we could see that the capsule itself was sealed, so we were optimistic that its contents were intact.

As it turns out, however, we failed to avoid an embarrassing scene. At the appointed hour on the 4th we showed the capsule to the crowd, only to realize that it had been welded shut and we couldn't open it. Mayor Larry Freshcorn came to the rescue, however, opening the capsule using a grinding wheel at his house. By that time the crowd had gathered inside the museum where the air conditioner struggled against the 90-some degree weather outside. When the mayor carried the freshly opened capsule into the Dutot, a strong, unpleasant odor permeated the room. Somehow, maybe through microscopic leaks or condensation, moisture had gotten into the capsule permeating its contents and encouraging the growth of bad smelling micro-organisms. Nevertheless, most of the contents survived, although everything was wet and the smell was nauseating.

The first item to be pulled out of the capsule was a note written by the "76ers," reading, "It is a request of the Dutotsburg Bicentennial Committee for this time capsule to be opened every 50 years and then resealed." Next came a two-sheet scroll listing the signatures of every person who lived in Delaware Water Gap in 1976. Luckily Jeanette Buzzard was with us that day and she told us that she had gone door-to-door with the scroll collecting the signatures. Other items included two American flags, a set of 1976 coins, a medallion from the park service, a mug, a post card, some Bicentennial postage stamps, some photographs of the town from 1976, and three issues of the Pocono Record. The newspapers were so swollen from the moisture that we only succeeded in extracting them at the beginning of September. One of the newspapers announced Jimmy Carter's presidential election win. In addition to Jeanette, other people who had participated in assembling the time capsule were in attendance including Leroy Kaiser and Connie Walck.

Now it falls upon the Dutot Museum to decide what to do with the time capsule. Many of its contents are ruined so it makes no sense to reseat them in a new capsule. The History Committee at the museum thinks we should buy a commercially available time capsule, one that won't admit moisture, and reseat the original items that are still intact. They feel we should also include items that represent Water Gap today, in 2026. This raises the question of what new items to include. If we include some kind of media—a CD or a thumb drive, for example—will the future generation have the technology to access information on the media? Will documents or photographs printed on regular paper survive fifty years underground? What kinds of things would give people fifty years from now a notion of what life is like here and now?

The committee will be meeting over the new few weeks to tackle these issues. If you are interested in helping by serving on the committee or by suggesting items to include, please contact me at mwilson8@ptd.net.