

Greene TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

Fall 2025

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Photo: Submitted to Capture Greene Township by John MItchell

FALL ROADWORK HIGHLIGHTS

Greene Township crews have been hard at work improving our roads before winter sets in. This season, we:

- Milled and paved Lower Kirsch Road
- Tarred and chipped 9.67 miles of roadway
- Spot paved 10+ roads using 349 tons of asphalt
- Mowed roadsides for over 200 hours

These efforts help keep our roads safe, smooth, and ready for the changing seasons. Thanks to our road crew for their dedication!

INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

We've made key upgrades to drainage and piping this fall:

- Installed a 4ft x 6ft x 40ft cross pipe on Jones Road
- Added 725 feet of new road drainage

These improvements help prevent flooding and protect roadways from seasonal wear. We appreciate your patience as we wrap up the final stretch!

SEASONAL REMINDERS FROM THE ROAD CREW

As leaves begin to fall, please help keep ditches clear to ensure proper water flow. Blocked drainage can lead to flooding and road damage.

Also, take a moment to check the base of your mailbox—make sure it's sturdy enough to withstand the snowplow season. And remember: never shovel or blow snow into the roadways. It creates hazards for drivers and plow operators alike.

ELECTION DAY INFO

General Election Tuesday November 4, 2025 -
Polls open from 7am to 8pm

Greene Township Municipal Building. 9333 Tate Rd.

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Meeting Dates and Times

Work Sessions:
Monday preceding regular meeting at 3:30 pm

Regular Supervisor Meetings:
2nd Tuesday at 6:00 pm

Parks and Recreation Meetings:
1st Tuesday at 6:00 pm

Planning Commission Meetings:
3rd Monday at 6:00 pm

Zoning Hearing Board Meetings:
Mondays as needed at 7:00 pm

November's work session will be held at 2:30 pm on November 10th with the monthly regular supervisors meeting immediately following at 3:30pm. This is due to Veterans day being on Tuesday the 11th.



GREENE TOWNSHIP

9333 Tate Road, Erie, PA 16509 • 814-825-3347
Township Office Hours: Monday-Friday 7:00 am to 3:00 pm
www.mygreenetownship.com • greenetwp@mygreenetownship.com

Zoning E-mail: **zoning@mygreenetownship.com**
Treasurer E-mail: **treasurer@mygreenetownship.com**

Board of Supervisors
Tracey Fugagli-*Chair*
Joy Biebel-*Vice-Chair*
John Bartnicki

Zoning Administrator & Treasurer:
Nikole Lorman

Road Crew:
Alan Austin-*Road Foreman*
Hayden Lewis
Chris Nies
Russ Zimmer

Building Maintenance and Grounds :
Mark Srnka-*Water Inspector*
Stephen Evan

Sewer Department:
Eric Biby-*Sewer Inspector*
Jesse Magee-*Water Inspector*

Auditors:
Jim Kennerkenecht-*Chair*
Shawn Matson-*Vice-Chair*
Molly Johnson-*Secretary*

Planning Commission Members:
Randy Biebel-*Chair*
Terry Giles-*Vice-Chair*
Glenn Huggler-*Secretary*
Jim Petrone
Lisa Petrone
Alternate:
Stan Williams

Zoning Hearing Board:
Karen Omniewski-*Chair*
Debbie Chapman
Pamela Murdock
Alternates:
Joy Armbruster
Robert Hart
David Pring

District Justice:
Susan Strohmeyer

Tax Collector:
Mark Husted

Parks & Recreation Commission Members:
Angela Long-*Chair*
Paula Krawczyk-*Secretary*
Jean Conn
Nick Kosobucki
Paula Patton
Lisa Robie
Aaron Stankiewiz

Emergency Management:
Donald Erbin, Jr. - *Kuhl Hose Fire Chief*

Vacancy Board:
Miles Sonney

Office Closed Dates

Veterans Day-Tuesday, November 11, 2025
Thanksgiving-Thursday, November 27, 2025, and Friday, November 28, 2025
Christmas-Thursday, December 25, 2025 and Friday, December 26, 2025

TAX COLLECTOR

What a summer we had! Beautiful clear skies and hot days are being replaced with changing leaves and cool crisp nights. Fall is in the air and snowflakes aren't too far away.

Homeowners who are not enrolled in Homestead may want to consider doing so. Generally, most owner-occupied homes and farms are eligible for property tax reduction. Only a primary residence is eligible for property tax relief.

2025 School bill had a reduction of $257.45 for those enrolled. If you are enrolled, this information is on the right side of your School bill.

Enrollment forms and qualifying information are available on Erie County website: eriecountypa.gov/departments/assessment/documentsandforms/. Deadline to file is March 1, 2026.

Other forms available at that website location are:

- Clean & Green applications - enrollment dates March 1 – June 1
- Address Correction forms (these cannot be changed by your local Tax Collectors office)

Pennsylvania Property Tax and Rent Rebate Program

Qualifying income limits have increased for eligibility of Pennsylvania Property Tax and Rent Rebate Program, check to see if you qualify.

This rebate applies to the previous year taxes paid. PAID RECEIPTS ARE REQUIRED.

For those that have not filed yet or may be unaware, rebates for seniors, widows, and people with disabilities are available. Applications for the Pennsylvania Property Tax and Rent Rebate Program are still being accepted. The filing deadline has been extended to December 31, 2025. Applications postmarked by that date will be accepted for processing.

The Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program supports homeowners and renters across Pennsylvania. This program provides a rebate ranging from $380 to $1,000 to eligible older adults and people with disabilities age 18 and older.

This program is supported by funds from the Pennsylvania Lottery and Gaming.

Forms are available at my office or online at myPATH.pa.gov. One-on-one assistance is also available at State Representative Bob Merski's Greene Township's Office located in the township building Room 102 from 9a.m. – 1 p.m. Mondays ONLY or by appointment.

September 30 ended the collection of School Tax at 2% discount. Face amount is being collected through November 30. Please proofread your checks before submitting. Incorrect checks and those with errors cannot be processed by the bank and will be returned.

On December 1, 10% penalty is imposed and final notices for School bills are mailed.

Payment received after December 15 must be bank cashier check or certified check. Personal and business checks are not accepted after this date. Non-certified checks will be returned, delaying payment. This information can also be found on the reverse side of final notices. This is to ensure clear remittances are given to the Taxing Bodies when reports are submitted in the first week of January.

Online payments made after December 15 must be credit cards only, as e-checks are not accepted after Dec. 15. E-check payments made online have the same risk of NSF as regular paper checks do.

Collection of unpaid School and County/Twp bills will conclude on December 31. Payment must be postmarked by this date, paid online, or dropped in office door mail slot. Online payments will not be accepted after Dec 31.

Unpaid taxes are turned over to Erie County Tax Claim in the first week of January. These properties are then entered into the County system as unpaid. Additional fees are added for each (County, Twp, School) unpaid tax on a property, notifications are sent to property owners via registered mail, which also results in additional fees, as well as monthly interest accrued on the unpaid balance. Erie County Tax Claim collects delinquent taxes, as your local collector only collects current year's taxes. 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday – Friday.

Mark



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Kuhl Hose News

Ordinance Passed: Tax Rebate Program Honors Kuhl Hose Volunteers

Greene Township is proud to announce the official adoption of **Ordinance 2025-5**, establishing the **Volunteer Emergency Services Tax Rebate Program**. This initiative is more than policy—it's a heartfelt thank-you to the brave individuals who serve with Kuhl Hose Company, often without fanfare and always with unwavering commitment.

The program offers a local earned income tax rebate to qualifying volunteers, recognizing their service and encouraging continued participation in our emergency response efforts. It's a step toward **retaining experienced volunteers, recruiting new members**, and **celebrating the everyday heroes** who keep our community safe.


Photo: Jacob Panciera



To our Kuhl Hose volunteers: your dedication inspires us. This ordinance is one way we say, "We see you. We value you. We're with you."

Interested in joining the ranks of Kuhl Hose? Stop by the station and chat with them!



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Senator Dan Laughlin (R-49)

Delivering Results for Pennsylvanians in 2025

As your State Senator, I have always believed that leadership is about listening, building consensus, and delivering real results. 2025 has been a year of progress on several important issues that matter to families, sportsmen, and communities across Pennsylvania. I am proud to share a few of the key accomplishments and initiatives that I've been working on this year.

Expanded Sunday Hunting Now Law

After nearly 10 years of fighting for Sunday hunting, I'm proud to report that it has finally passed the General Assembly and was signed into law. For years, hunters have asked for expanded access to Sundays, and now families and sportsmen will finally be able to enjoy more time in the woods and fields. Hunting is not only a time-honored tradition but also a critical part of wildlife management and rural economies. With this change, working families will have greater opportunities to participate, and local businesses that rely on outdoor recreation will see a boost.

Recognized as Legislator of the Year

In September, I was humbled to be named Legislator of the Year by the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen and Conservationists, Inc. This organization represents tens of thousands of hunters, anglers, and conservationists who care deeply about Pennsylvania's natural resources. To be recognized by them is an honor and a reminder of the importance of balancing strong conservation practices with preserving our sporting traditions. This award reflects not only my work in Harrisburg but also the input I receive from dedicated sportsmen here at home.

Working for Fair Wages

Another issue I continue to hear about is Pennsylvania's outdated minimum wage. At $7.25 per hour, our state is long overdue for an update. This year, I announced plans to re-introduce legislation that would gradually raise Pennsylvania's minimum wage to $11 per hour by 2028. This legislation is about catching up. Most employers in Pennsylvania are already paying above minimum wage because they have to in order to attract workers. It's time the law reflects that reality. My proposal is balanced, providing workers with better pay while giving small businesses time to adjust. Raising the minimum wage in a responsible way helps working families make ends meet.

Protecting Consumers with a Cannabis Control Board

Finally, I introduced legislation to create the Pennsylvania Cannabis Control Board (CCB). This new board would oversee the state's Medical Marijuana Program and provide much-needed regulation for unmonitored, intoxicating cannabis-related products being sold in stores. Currently, these products are often marketed without proper age checks or safety standards, leaving consumers, especially young people at risk. The PACCB would ensure transparency, consistency, and accountability in cannabis oversight, protecting both patients and the public.

Looking Ahead



These efforts reflect my ongoing commitment to practical, commonsense solutions that benefit Pennsylvania families. Whether it's giving hunters more opportunities to pass down traditions, ensuring fair wages for hardworking people, or protecting consumers from unsafe products, I believe in working across the aisle to get things done.

I am deeply grateful for the trust you've placed in me to represent the 49th District in the State Senate. My office is always available to assist you with state-related services, answer your questions, or listen to your concerns.

Thank you for allowing me to serve you.

Senator Dan Laughlin (R-49)

State Representative Bob Merski, D-Erie

Securing Resources, Uplifting Teachers, and Defending Our Frontline Heroes

As the vibrant hues of autumn settle over Erie County and winter's chill draws near, I'm thrilled to unveil initiatives that will keep our communities strong and resilient. We're injecting fresh grant dollars into local wellness projects, equipping our teachers with the classroom tools they need and bolstering health safeguards for our brave first responders. These practical victories demonstrate our commitment to commonsense solutions that deliver real results for you.

Earlier this year, Greene Township secured a $50,000 state grant—administered through the Department of Community and Economic Development—to establish a warming center and enhance our emergency management response unit. This funding will provide safe shelter during severe winter weather and strengthen our ability to respond quickly to any crisis, ensuring that our most vulnerable neighbors have the support they need when it matters most.

With schools nationwide still feeling the strain of a teacher shortage, I was thrilled to team up with state Rep. Lisa Borowski to spearhead H.B. 1403—a truly bipartisan solution that earned unanimous support in the Pennsylvania House this June!

This bill lays out a welcome mat for veteran educators returning to the classroom. Teachers who place their certificates on voluntary inactive status can hit "pause" on continuing-education requirements—without paying a single fee. When they're ready to come back, they'll rack up professional-development credits right in their own districts during in-service days, instead of shelling out for costly outside workshops.

By tearing down these financial and bureaucratic hurdles, H.B. 1403 invites our most experienced teachers—so vital to student success—to step back into our schools with the mentorship, flexibility, and respect they've earned.

We also advanced H.B. 1261, a sweeping plan to tackle PFAS—the persistent "forever chemicals" still found in some firefighting foams and gear. This new law raises the bar on safety by enforcing tougher standards for protective equipment, directing funding so fire departments and EMS units can replace PFAS-laden gear with safer alternatives, and holding polluters accountable for any contamination. By outfitting our courageous first responders with modern, non-toxic equipment, we're safeguarding their health and preserving our waterways and wildlife from these long-lasting pollutants.

Our recent successes prove that when government moves with urgency and creativity, emerging challenges don't stand a chance. By investing in community-based projects, reinforcing our pipeline of outstanding educators, and protecting the health of our courageous first responders, Harrisburg is producing tangible benefits for every resident of Erie County.

Apply for the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program

I encourage anyone who meets the criteria to take advantage of the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program—an important benefit for eligible older adults and people with disabilities age 18 and older. This year's income cap has increased to $46,520, so more Pennsylvanians can qualify for relief on last year's property taxes or rent payments.

Rebate amounts range from $380 up to $1,000, calculated according to your income and what you paid in taxes or rent. Applicants with the greatest financial need may receive an extra supplemental rebate, boosting their total benefit to $1,500.

You can apply online through the myPATH portal, mail in a paper application, or visit one of the program's in-person locations around the state. Don't wait—the deadline to submit your application for the 2025 program is December 31, 2025.

We'd love to welcome you into our offices anytime you have a question or just want to say hello! Swing by our Erie district office at 3921 Buffalo Road Monday–Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or catch us at the Greene Township Building on Mondays between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Can't make it in person? No problem—give us a call at (814) 455-6319 or explore news and resources at RepMerski.com. Our friendly team is always ready to connect you with the information you need. Together, we'll keep making Erie County and Pennsylvania stronger as we move into the cooler months of the year.



State Rep. Bob Merski, D-Erie, represents the 2nd Legislative District.

Erie Water Works

Erie Water Works and the Greene Township Supervisors collectively applied for and successfully received $1,817,000 in grant funding in 2023 and 2024 to support the infrastructure needed to extend public water into Greene Township. This funding supported the construction of approximately 1.5 miles (approx. 7,600 feet) of 12-inch diameter water main into Greene Township, otherwise known as "Phase 1". Phase 1 included the construction of a 12-inch water main from Kane Hill Road, down Morehouse Road, Hartman Road, and ending on Kirsch Road. This stretch of 12-inch water main supports 8 fire hydrants, 16 main line valves, and 44 customer service connections in both Greene Township and Millcreek Township. The new water main went into service in late 2024. Greene Township residents are currently utilizing approximately 162,000 gallons per month from this new 12-inch water main.

This water main installation helped to facilitate water system expansion and consolidation of the previously existing Kirsch Road Well System. The well system used to support several properties on the northern end of Kirsch Road and was previously owned and operated by Greene Township that required a Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) licensed water system operator to be on staff. The consolidation of this well system with the Erie Water Works public water system allows for Greene Township to focus on other areas of community interest and benefit.

Additionally, this water main extension supports potential population growth and improves the quality of life for residents and visitors in accordance with established comprehensive plans by providing potable drinking water sourced from Lake Erie. In 2021, the community of Greene Township updated its Comprehensive Plan which identifies the goal to expand public water service in the community to support desired growth and development in specific areas. The local fire department water demands are decreased by providing fire hydrants throughout this area, and greater water quantity and improved water quality is supplied to homeowners.

The Erie Water Works, Greene Township, and Millcreek Township are in the application process to pursue additional grant funding to support additional future expansion into Greene and Millcreek Townships, specifically along the Interstate-90 and Pennsylvania Route 8 Interchange area.

If you are interested in connecting to this existing portion of new water main for public water service, please feel free to reach out to Erie Water Works at 814-870-8000.







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WHICH PLAN IS BEST FOR ME?

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LIGHT UP GREENE TOWNSHIP

DECEMBER 6, 2025
FROM 6PM TO 8PM
TREE LIGHTING AT 730 PM
@ Greene Township Municipal Building
9333 Tate Rd. Erie PA 16509

OUR EMCEE FOR THE NIGHT:

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LIONS CLUB NEWS

To the Greene Township Community, it is with mixed feelings that I want to report that after 73 years of providing philanthropic services locally, regionally, statewide, nationally and internationally, our Club has ceased its services and any remaining assets have been voted to be absorbed by the North East Lions Club which was sponsored by our club a few years ago. The few remaining members had been invited to join any other club in our region. In 1925, Helen Keller implored a Chicago business leader, Melvin Jones, and other business associates to be "The Knights of The Blind in the Crusade against Darkness" at the International Convention that year.

In 1952, our club began with Cousin Wilbur "Bill" Allgeier, an insurance agent, as its first president, 73 years ago. Over these years, 195 men and women joined to provide many services and monies for the needs from the local to the international levels with up to 69 members at the Club's hayday-and one of the largest in the district at that time. Many pancake breakfasts were provided including last year's benefit for Jonah Allgeier's heart transplant expenses with support of the Greene Township Giving Circle which raised nearly $20,000. Many wheelchair ramps were built and reused for local citizens. Many White Cane days raised thousands of dollars which supported monies for the Leader Dog programs, camps for the blind and sight impaired children. Used glasses have been collected to be sent to underprivileged countries. The local Sight Center was supported by providing eye screenings along with collecting donated corneas for transplant needs of sight impaired patients. Car parking at the Wattsburg Community Fair over the years raised many dollars while selling motorcycle raffle tickets during those events. Car parking services were provided at the Albion Fair and Harborcreek's Harborfest. Monies were raised to provide funds to help create the rescue trailer that supports fire victims as well as the volunteers of our Kuhl Hose Fire Department. Car shows were held to raise funds as well as fish dinners. Lions parked cars for the Crop Walks at Presque Isle Peninsula for multiple years. Lions collected used medical health aids such as canes, walkers, crutches, hospital beds, and even a donated stair climber which were stored in a room at the Greene Township Municipal Building. The Lioness Club was sponsored and supported by our Lions Club along with a Leo Club which was active for a time with high school students at Wattsburg High School while also sponsoring the Students of the Month with plaques for their achievements. We sponsored the Halloween Parties for many years at the St. Boniface Coleman Center to have a safe and friendly celebration with games and prizes for the families in our township and beyond. And since Covid, partnered with the Greene Township Parks and Recreation group to provide treats for the Trail of Treats. Many recent disasters have found Lions International first on the scene to support the victims affected. For the last 17 years, our Club has sponsored the Football 100/100 Club Raffle. With the goal of selling 100 tickets at $100 each the monies were distributed as such: Per each raffle-20 ticket holder winners of $250 each (while witnessing some very fantastic Seneca Varsity Football games!), 3 scholarships of $1,000 each given to graduating High School Seniors living in the Wattsburg Area School District regardless of school attended, and $1,000 to $2,000 used to purchase health and beauty aids to donate to patrons of the St. Boniface Food Pantry's Christmas distribution. These items were purchased from the Waterford Pharmacy at cost to stretch those dollars. With some support of the St. Boniface Ushers Club, nearly $200,000 were raised and about 82 scholarships distributed to highly motivated students!

Many members have been in the military of our country. They have been referred to as "The Greatest Generation" and our Club had been blessed with three Past District Governors who were responsible for District 14F which reaches from Erie to Greenville, Kane and Bradford. These men and their families served a full year as PDG's for all of us: Mr. Tom Feeney (Air Force), Mr. Karoll Eugene Shelhamer (Army) and Mr. Frank Smith (Marines). As you can see, much great service was achieved, thousands of dollars raised, and all must be celebrated for all that has been accomplished. Also, this work has been done relatively quietly without fanfare for no benefit directly to the members other than shared camaraderie and putting the FUN in "FUNdraisers" and knowing that every bit of effort was given with shared "PRIDE" IN THE LIONS! The acronym for "LIONS" is "Liberty, Intelligence. Our Nations Safety". Saying our Nation's "Pledge of Allegiance" and singing the first verse of "God Bless America" to start each meeting is sorely missed but will remain a cherished memory among so many others!

Finally, the Lions' toast is " Not above you, not below you, but with YOU"! We will always be with you in spirit and support of our great community! Thank you to all who have served directly and indirectly to have this proud group do so much for so many! May God Bless Us All!

With humble respect,

Lion at Heart Always, Mike Allgeier, Sr., R.Ph. (Member nearly 25 years)

PS-A huge plaque commemorating the above mentioned Past District Governor's (with their pictures) as well as the names of the presidents who served each of those 73 years (some more than one year) and created by our very own sight impaired Lion, Lion Jack Warmbrod, is to be mounted in the Greene Township Municpal Building for all to view into perpetuity. Thank you all again! Enjoy!



FIRST-EVER "RUCK THE TRAIL"

Honors Veterans and Builds Community

On Sunday, July 20th, Greene Township Parks and Recreation hosted its inaugural **Ruck the Trail event at Paradise Trail**—and what a powerful morning it was. In partnership with **EUMA (Erie United Methodist Alliance)**, the event brought together neighbors, veterans, and volunteers for a one-mile walk with purpose: to support homeless veterans and raise awareness for the vital work being done at Liberty House.

Participants arrived early, backpacks filled with donated essentials like hygiene products, non-perishable food, towels, and clothing. These items were collected for Liberty House, a transitional housing program operated by EUMA that serves honorably discharged homeless male veterans in Erie County. With just ten beds and an average stay of 3–6 months, Liberty House provides not only shelter, but also advocacy and community support to help veterans regain independence and secure permanent housing.

Before the walk began, attendees were moved by remarks from **Marine Veteran Brian Miller**, who shared his story and emphasized the importance of community support for those who've served. **Seneca High School's ROTC** presented the Colors, and the **Seneca Chorus** delivered a stirring rendition of the National Anthem. DJ Brian Shank kept spirits high with music throughout the morning.

One of the most touching elements of the event was the display of **custom garden flags**, each honoring a past or present service member. These flags lined the trail, creating a visual tribute to the sacrifices made by so many. Participants were invited to take their flags home after the walk—a keepsake of gratitude and remembrance.

Greene Township Parks and Recreation hopes to make Ruck the Trail an annual tradition, continuing to uplift veterans and strengthen community bonds. Special thanks to the many sponsors and volunteers who made this event possible, and to everyone who showed up with full hearts and full backpacks.

Together, we rucked. Together, we remembered. And together, we made a difference.

Enjoy the Greene Township Walking Trail This Fall—With Winter Caution Ahead

As the leaves turn and crisp air settles in, our walking trail at Greene Township remains a favorite spot for fresh air, scenic strolls, and tail-wagging adventures. Whether you're out for a brisk walk, a peaceful jog, or a moment of reflection, we're glad this space continues to bring joy to so many.

As we head into the colder months, please note: the trail will not be plowed this winter. That means conditions may vary depending on weather, and use is at your own risk. Be especially cautious of icy patches, particularly in shaded or low-lying areas. Good footwear, a watchful eye, and a little extra care go a long way.

Dog owners, we love seeing your four-legged companions enjoying the trail too! Just a friendly reminder to **pick up after your pet**—even in winter. Keeping the trail clean ensures everyone can enjoy it safely and comfortably.

Thank you for helping us maintain this beautiful community space.



TRICK OR TREATING: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2025 FROM 6-8 PM



Greene Township Parks & Recreation

Light Up Greene Township: A Sparkling Celebration of Community

Greene Township Parks & Recreation is thrilled to announce our first-ever **Light Up Greene Township** event—a magical evening of lights, laughter, and local cheer! Join us on Saturday, December 6th at the Greene Township Municipal Building for a heartwarming celebration that brings our community together in true holiday spirit.

Tree Lighting Ceremony

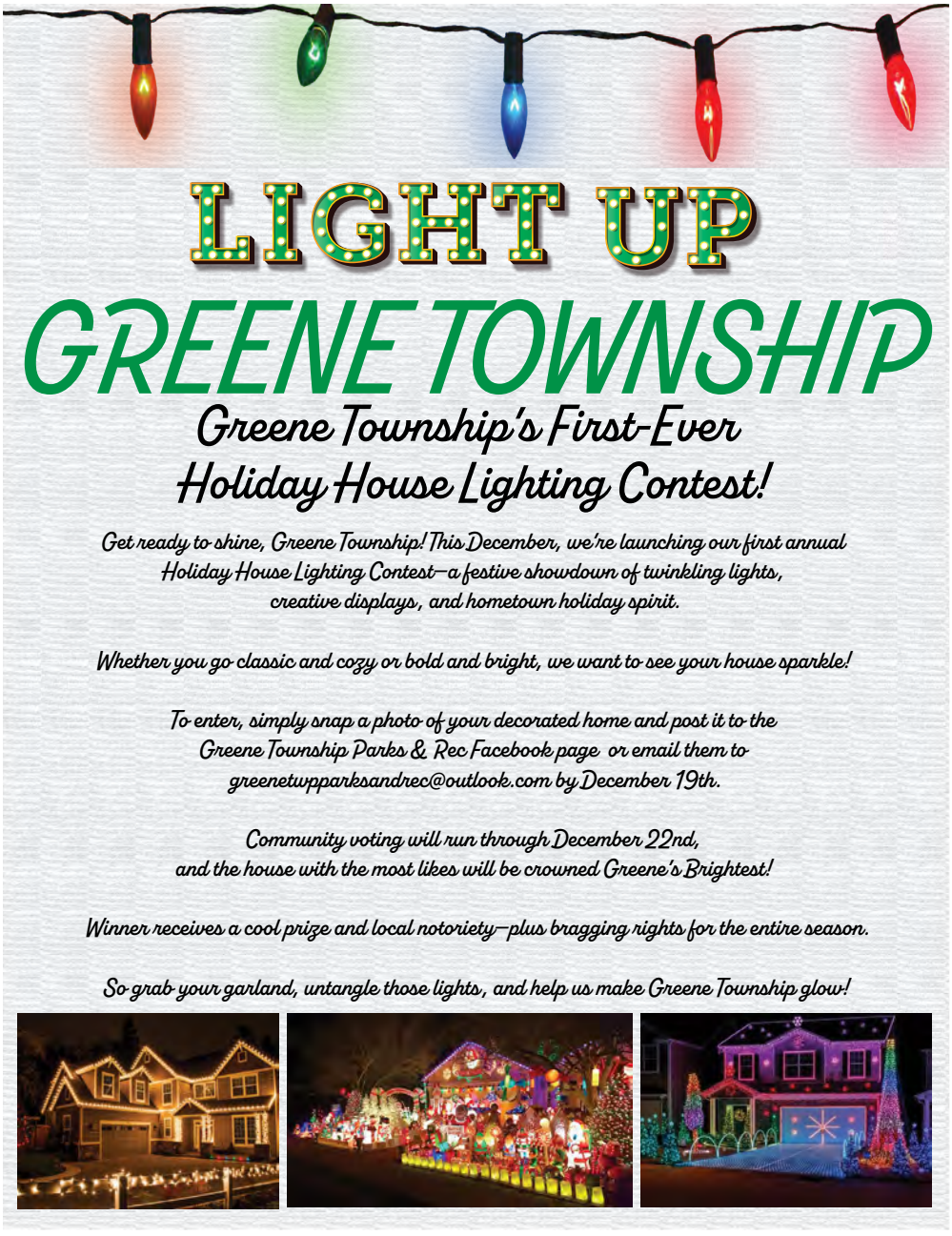
The evening kicks off with a dazzling tree lighting, hosted by none other than **Representative Bob Merski**, who will serve as our Master of Ceremonies. Gather outside as we count down to the moment our township tree bursts into light—symbolizing the warmth and unity of our community.

Special Guests: Mr. & Mrs. Claus

Straight from the North Pole, Mr. and Mrs. Claus will be making a joyful appearance! Bring your cameras and your wish lists—there will be plenty of photo ops and holiday magic to go around.

Games & Giggles with the Jolly Jesters Elves

Inside the municipal building, the **Jolly Jesters Elves** will be hosting festive games and activities for kids of all ages. Expect laughter, prizes, and maybe even a little elf mischief!



Hot Chocolate Station by the Women's Giving Circle

Warm up with a cup of delicious hot chocolate, lovingly served by the **Women's Giving Circle**. It's the perfect way to toast the season and connect with neighbors.

Whether you're young or young at heart, this event promises something for everyone. Bundle up, bring your holiday spirit, and help us **Light Up Greene Township** with joy, gratitude, and glowing community pride.

Thank You, A&J's, Inc.

Greene Township Parks and Recreation extends heartfelt thanks to A&J's, Inc. for their generous donation of a 25-foot evergreen tree for our inaugural Light Up Greene Township celebration on December 6th.

This towering tree will serve as the centerpiece of our holiday event, bringing joy, light, and community spirit to residents of all ages. A&J's thoughtful contribution helps make this new tradition possible.

We're grateful for their support and proud to partner with local businesses that believe in the magic of community.

Let the countdown to December 6th begin!



Winter Holiday Safety

Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.

HOLIDAY DECORATING

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Connect no more than three strands of mini light sets and maximum of 50 bulbs for screw-in bulbs. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of LED strands to connect.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.

HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING

- Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stove top.
- Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.

Before Heading Out or to Bed

Blow out lit candles when you leave or go to bed. **Turn off** all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.

FACTS

- **Two of every five** home decoration fires are started by candles.
- **Nearly half** of holiday decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to an heat source.

Your Source for SAFETY Information
NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169
www.nfpa.org/education

SEWER DEPARTMENT

One Year Later, Greene Township Sewer Department Update

October marks one year since the Greene Township Sewer Authority (GTSA) was dissolved and sewer operations were brought under Township management. We know this change sparked conversation, and we want to share how it's impacted operations, finances, and service delivery.

2024 vs. 2025: What's Changed?

2024 was GTSA's final year. In 2025, the Township took full responsibility for sewer operations.

Streamlined Management = Real Savings

We've cut several recurring costs without affecting or reducing service:

-**Legal Fees**: GTSA paid $175/hour for legal support. Now, Township Supervisors handle these duties at no extra cost.
-**Accounting Services**: We've eliminated the $600/month ($7,200/year) fee for outside accounting.
-**Engineering Attendance**: HRG no longer attends monthly meetings, reducing overhead.
-**Insurance**: GTSA paid $14,076/year for separate coverage. That's now folded into the Township's broader policy —no added cost.



Greene Township Municipal Sewer

2024 /2025 Actual Comparison

	Total Sewer 2024 Actual Jan - Oct	Greene Township 2025 Actual Jan - Oct
Wages and Fringes	$ 91,546.19	$ 99,567.57
Office Supplies	1,442.04	2,695.38
Millcreek Operations Charges	9,959.42	11,461.93
Monthly Rental Agreement	4,500.00	0.00
Fuel - Gasoline	1,570.89	1,974.43
Erie Water Works Billing	8,459.62	8,475.11
Accounting	7,200.00	0.00
Audit	7,500.00	0.00
Erie Sewer Treatment Billing	44,859.41	42,854.51
Legal Fees	17,656.51	1,222.08
Insurance	14,076.00	0.00
Engineering Costs	17,923.04	6,839.00
Utilities - Electric	10,106.32	12,527.79
Repairs and Maintenance	66,857.00	56,688.95
PennVest Loan Payments	612,898.20	612,898.20
Other Expenses	1,110.84	1,420.29
Total Expenses	**$ 800,187.32**	**$ 734,450.82**

SEWER DEPARTMENT

Staffing, Repairs & Grinder Pump Planning
Staffing remains steady, with one new hire added to prepare for a planned retirement in 2026. Maintenance costs are stable, but we expect more repairs as the system ages. To get ahead of this:

Services Added In 2025
- One staff member is certifed for Level 1 & 2 grinder pump repairs.
- Level 3 (motor repair) training is planned.
- This shift helps us avoid $120/hour service fees and 8-hour travel charges.
- In-house repairs mean lower costs and less inventory needed.

The recommended inventory standard is one pump per ten units, at a cost of approximately $3,700. We currently have 300 grinder pumps in service. With being able to perform the repairs in-house, we are able to keep this number much lower.

Sewer Billing: Clearing Up Misconceptions
As of August 31, 2025:
- Total sewer receivables: $235,814.16
- Accounts over 120 days past due: 79 out of 973 (8.12%), totaling $223,687.35
- Accounts current on payments: 848 (87.15%) out of 973

Most residents are paying on time. Thank you for your continued responsibility and support.

Looking Ahead: Budget & Rates
As we build the 2026 budget, we've reviewed all sewer expenses and debt. Current fees cover both operations and debt service. While we can't lower rates yet, we're proud to confirm: No rate increase for 2026.

We remain committed to financial responsibility, transparency, and reliable service.

If you have questions, please contact the Township office at 814-825-3347.



THANK YOU TO THE BUSINESSES

Greene Township would like to thank the businesses and organizations that appear in this newsletter and to recognize them each as supporters and cornerstones of our community. It is with their contributions that this newsletter has been produced at little charge to our residents.

LOCAL PHONE NUMBERS

Emergency Services

- **Police, Fire, Ambulance:** 911
- **Non-Emergency Police:** (814) 898-1641
- **Kuhl Hose Fire Department (Non-Emergency):** (814) 825-3349
- **Poison Control Center:** (800)-222-1222

Township Contacts

- **Greene Township Office:** (814) 825-3347
- **Road Maintenance Department (Al Austin):** (814) 460-1418
- **Sewer and Wastewater Issues (Jesse Magee):** (814) 403-3573

Utility Services

- **Erie Water Works (Customer Service):** (814) 870-8000
- **First Energy Outage Line:** (800)-545-7741
- **National Fuel Emergency Line:** (800)-444-3130
- **Waste Management Odor Complaints (Rainie Smith):** (814) 414-5352
- **Call Before You Dig:** 811

Community Resources

- **Wattsburg Area School District:** (814) 824-3400
- **Resource Navigation for Social Services (United Way):** 211
- **Crisis Services (24/7 Helpline):** Dial 988 or (814) 456-2014
- **Traffic and Road Conditions (PennDOT):** 511

Animal-Related Concerns

- **Cruelty to Animals:** ANNA Shelter Cruelty Officer at (814) 451-0230 or Erie Humane Society at (814) 881-0220
- **Dog Warden (Jacob Bennett):** (814) 934-2983

Greene TOWNSHIP




Photo: Mary Vantassel

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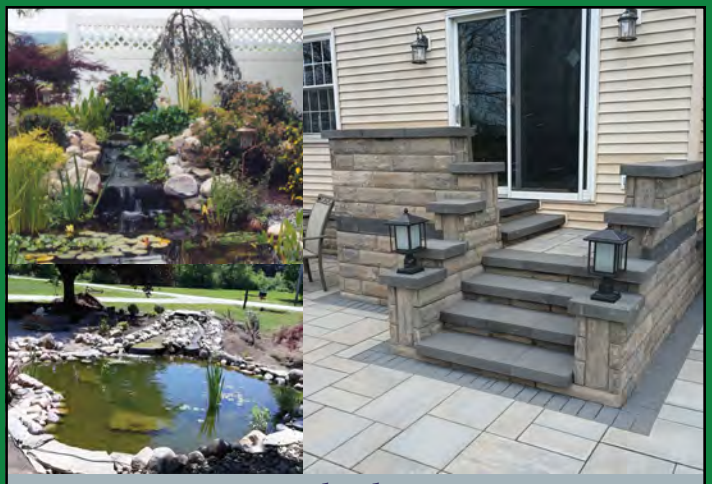
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