



THE GATEWAY NEWS!

MARCH



With the official start of spring on March 20th, 2026, it was the perfect time to welcome longer days, warmer weather, and the promise of new beginnings. March was a month of renewal, offering the chance to shake off winter, enjoy the outdoors, and spend time with family and friends. Whether it was exploring local trails, planning spring activities, or simply taking a moment to appreciate the beauty of our community, the arrival of spring reminded us that fresh opportunities are all around us. We hope this newsletter inspires you to get out, explore, and make the most of the season!

Hop Into Fun: Our Very Own Easter Egg Hunt

The Township's Parks & Recreation Commission is excited to host an Easter Egg Hunt on **Saturday, March 28th, 2026, from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM at 5 Dug Road.**

Families are invited to enjoy a fun-filled afternoon with activities for all ages, including:

- Firetrucks from the Trucksville Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association
- K9 Dilly with Officer Carter
- The Easter Bunny for photos and memories

The Easter Egg Hunt will begin at 1:00 PM, so be sure to arrive early to enjoy all the festivities and grab your eggs. Don't forget to bring baskets for the hunt!

For additional details, residents can refer to the event flyer. This is a great way to celebrate the season, have fun with the community, and make lasting memories!



FREE Community Event

Hop Over to the Kingston Twp. Parks and Recreation Commission

EASTER EGG HUNT

Join Us!
Saturday, March 28
12:00 - 2:00 pm

Rain or Shine! This event will proceed unless the weather is unsafe.

5 Dug Road
Shavertown, PA 18708

Kingston Township residents and families from surrounding communities are welcome to join in the fun!

Egg Hunt Start Time - 1 PM

A traditional Easter Egg Hunt!
Field 1 - Children 5 & Under
Field 2 - Children 6 & Up

Have a food allergy?

Visit our Allergy Swap Table after the hunt for alternative treats.

Questions? Email mblewitt@kingstontownship.com

Supported by:
Trucksville Vol. Fire & Rescue

Additional Entertainment

- Take your own photo with the Easter Bunny
- Fire Truck Visit
- Special Appearance by K-9 Dilly with Officer Jeffrey Carter of the Kingston Twp. Police Department

Note: Fire and police appearances are subject to availability.



February Meeting Minutes Now Available

The meeting minutes from the February 9th, 2026, Public Work Session and the February 11th, 2026, Regular Supervisors' Meeting were officially approved at the March 11th, 2026, Board of Supervisors' Regular Meeting.

We encourage residents to stay informed and up to date on the latest Township news, projects, and decisions by reviewing approved meeting minutes, which are available to the public.

www.ecode360.com/KI2368/documents/Minutes

New Truck on the Job

The Township recently purchased a 2026 Ford Maverick AWD through the PA COSTARS program from Koch 33 Ford for \$29,388.00. This vehicle was included in the 2026 Capital Plan with a budget of \$31,000.00, and the final purchase came in under budget as an outright buy with delivery expected in May.

The new vehicle will be used by the Building Maintenance Department to efficiently manage daily operations, transport equipment, and respond quickly to maintenance needs throughout Township facilities. This investment ensures staff have the tools needed to maintain safe, well-functioning public buildings for residents and community groups.

By carefully planning and purchasing within the budget, the Township continues to make smart, cost-effective investments that directly support quality services for the community.

Center Street Park Closure for Upgrades

Center Street Park will be temporarily closed for the 2026 season to allow Phases 3 and 4 of the Park Improvement Project to be completed. **The closure will begin once construction commences.**

This closure may last for the entire season, but it ensures that residents will be able to enjoy a fully upgraded, beautiful, and fully operational park next year. To protect the safety of residents and construction crews, no one is permitted in the park during this time. Unauthorized access will be subject to enforcement under local authorities in accordance with Township regulations.

This closure is authorized under Resolution 2026-4, passed and signed at the February 11th, 2026 Board of Supervisors' Regular Meeting. Residents are encouraged to follow Township updates for progress and reopening information.

Park Contract Awarded

The Township has officially awarded the contract for Phases 3 and 4 of the Center Street Park Improvement Project to Pioneer Construction Company, Inc., following the completion of the public bidding process.

These phases represent a significant step forward in the continued transformation of Center Street Park, with improvements focused on enhancing accessibility, safety, and overall usability. A key component of this work will ensure that park features are ADA compliant, providing inclusive access for individuals of all abilities.

Pioneer Construction Company, Inc. will be responsible for completing the construction in accordance with the project specifications and established timeline.

This investment reflects the Township's ongoing commitment to maintaining and improving high-quality recreational facilities for the community. Upon completion, residents can look forward to a more modern, accessible, and fully functional park with ADA accessibility, walking trails, and a dog park.

Appreciating Our Trustee

Please join us in congratulating William "Bill" Runner on his resignation from the Police Pension Fund Board of Trustees. Bill began his term on February 12th, 2020, and has served with dedication, integrity, and a strong commitment to supporting the Township's police officers and their retirement benefits.

During his time on the Board, Bill played an important role in overseeing the fund's management and ensuring that it remains strong and secure for current and future members. His knowledge, guidance, and steady leadership have been greatly appreciated by colleagues and the community alike.

We sincerely thank Bill for his years of service and dedication to the Police Pension Fund. We wish him continued success and all the best in his next endeavors. His contributions will not be forgotten, and he leaves a lasting positive impact on the Township.

Road Salt Contract Application

The Township applied for the Department of General Services (DGS) Statewide Contract for Sodium Chloride (road salt) for the upcoming 2026–2027 season, covering August 2026 through July 2027.

This contract allows the Township to secure road salt at competitive pricing to ensure safe and well-maintained roadways during winter weather. Participation in the DGS Statewide Contract helps the Township plan efficiently for snow and ice operations while maintaining safety for residents and commuters.

2026 Spring Clean-Up

Kingston Township's 2026 Spring Clean-Up is scheduled for:

- **Thursday, May 7th, 2026 – 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM**
- **Friday, May 8th, 2026 – 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM**
- **Saturday, May 9th, 2026 – 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM**

Residents can drop off items at the Kingston Township Public Works Facility, located at: **225 East Center Street, Shavertown, PA 18708**

Clean-Up Coupons & Fees:

- Proof of Township residency is required to obtain a coupon. Coupons can also be purchased in advance at the Municipal Building Administrative Office during normal business hours.
- All residents must obtain a clean-up coupon prior to dropping off materials.

Fee Schedule:

- Cars/Small SUVs: \$10 per coupon (limit 2 trips) or \$15 unlimited
- Vans/Mid-SUVs/Small Trucks: \$15 per coupon (limit 2 trips) or \$30 unlimited
- Large Trucks/Trailers/Cargo Vans/Large SUVs (Under 1 ton): \$40 per coupon (limit 2 trips)
- Vehicles Over 1 ton: \$100 per coupon (limit 1 trip)
- Tire Coupons: \$6 per tire (separate from vehicle coupon fees)

Cash or checks only:

- Coupons are issued to occupants of rental units, not property owners. All items must be from Township residents only.
- Proper ID and a clean-up coupon are required for site admission. On-site coupon purchases should be made from the left lane by the Public Works Building. Staff will not leave the building due to vehicle traffic.
- The Township reserves the right to determine residency and classify vehicles as needed.

Items Not Accepted:

- Household trash, garbage, recyclables, tree stumps, rocks, construction debris, paints, solvents, automotive fluids, fertilizers, medical waste, or chemicals
- Electronics such as TVs, computers, etc.
- Refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, and dehumidifiers without a certified freon removal sticker
- Propane tanks
- Tattered American Flags should be presented to staff for proper disposal

This annual event provides a safe, organized way for residents to dispose of items responsibly and keep the Township clean.

For more information, visit: www.kingstontownship.com/clean-up-and-shred-event

Request for Proposals: 2026-1

Kingston Township is currently accepting proposals for the 2026 Spring Clean-Up Transfer Containers. The proposals are for the rental of approximately thirty (30) transfer containers, each with a capacity of 30 cubic yards, to support the Township's annual Spring Clean-Up program.

Specifications are available at the Township Manager's Office, Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, or online at: www.kingstontownship.com/rfp-bids

Sealed proposals will be accepted until **3:00 PM on Thursday, April 2nd, 2026**, at the Kingston Township Municipal Building:

180 East Center Street

Shavertown, PA 18708

Attn: RFP 2026-1 – Spring Clean-Up Transfer Containers

For questions, please contact the Township Manager at 570-696-3809 during normal business hours, Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

Regional Police Initiative Underway

Kingston Township is taking a proactive step to explore ways to enhance public safety services for its residents. The Township has approved participation in the Governor's Center for Local Government Services Technical-Assistance Program, which provides professional guidance, data analysis, and access to peer consultants.

Through this program, Kingston Township will collaborate with Dallas Township, Dallas Borough, Jackson Township, and Lehman Township to explore the feasibility of creating a regional police department. This effort aims to evaluate opportunities for improved operational efficiency, shared resources, and strengthened public safety services across the participating municipalities.

The Township's Board of Supervisors has also authorized the Board Chair to sign and execute a Letter of Understanding to formalize participation in the technical-assistance program.

This initiative reflects the Township's commitment to providing efficient, effective, and sustainable public safety services while exploring innovative solutions in partnership with neighboring communities.

Community Shred Day – May 9th, 2026

Kingston Township will host a Community Shred Day on **Saturday, May 9th, 2026, from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM** at the Public Works Facility, **225 East Center Street, Shavertown, PA 18708.**

This event provides residents with a secure way to dispose of personal documents containing sensitive or confidential information at no cost.

Event Details:

- Proof of Kingston Township residency is required
- Limit of two boxes per household
- Personal documents only – no magazines, newspapers, 3-ring binders, plastics, heavy metals, trash, batteries, cell phones, CDs, or cardboard
- Non-residents, non-profits, community groups, churches, and businesses are not permitted

Give Back While You Shred:

Residents are encouraged to consider donating non-perishable food items. All donations will benefit the Back Mountain Food Pantry.

Take advantage of this opportunity to protect your personal information while supporting a local cause!

For more information, visit: www.kingstontownship.com/clean-up-and-shred-event



COMMUNITY SHRED DAY



Proof of Kingston Township residency is required

Limit of two boxes per household

Personal documents containing sensitive or confidential information only

Please consider donating non-perishable food items – all donations will benefit the Back Mountain Food Pantry

SATURDAY, MAY 9TH, 2026

8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

**225 EAST CENTER STREET
SHAVERTOWN PA 18708**

570-696-3809

Non-profits, community groups, churches, and businesses are not permitted

The following items will not be accepted:
magazines, newspapers, 3-ring binders, plastics, heavy metals, trash, batteries, cell phones, CDs, or cardboard



Compost Site –2026 Schedule

The Kingston Township Compost Site will open for the 2026 season with the following schedule:

- Saturday, April 4th: 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- Sunday, April 5th: CLOSED (Easter)
- Saturday, April 11th: 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- Sunday, April 12th: 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- Saturday, April 18th: 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- Sunday, April 19th: 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Beginning Monday, April 20th, the Compost Site will be open 7 days a week through November 30th, 2026 (weather permitting) with the following hours:

- Monday, Tuesday & Friday: 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM
- Wednesday & Thursday: 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM
- Saturday & Sunday: 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Residents are encouraged to plan visits accordingly and follow weather updates, as hours may be adjusted in the event of inclement conditions. For more information please visit the Township's website at: www.kingstontownship.com/compost-site

Spring Yard Waste & Bagged Leaf Pick-Up

The Spring Yard Waste/Bagged Leaf Pick-Up is scheduled for **Monday, April 13th through Friday, April 17th, 2026**, weather permitting. Township crews will conduct curbside pick-up **between 7:00 AM and 3:00 PM**.

Residents are asked to place yard waste and bagged leaves at the curbside for collection. Please follow these guidelines:

- Yard waste: Sticks and twigs bundled up to 3 feet long, 1 foot high, and 1 foot wide; limit two (2) bundles per household. Large limbs will not be accepted.
- Bagged leaves: Bags must contain leaves only; no grass clippings.
- Safety and ordinance compliance: Sweeping leaves into gutters or roadways is prohibited, as it can block storm drains and create maintenance issues. Ordinance 2004-4 also prohibits burning leaves.

Your cooperation ensures a safe, efficient pick-up and helps keep our Township clean and storm drains clear.

For questions, please contact the Public Works Department at 570-696-3650, or visit the Township's website for more information at: www.kingstontownship.com/compost-site

Harris Hill Road Bridge Replacement Update

Luzerne County has awarded the contract for the Harris Hill Road Bridge Replacement Project to Fabcor, Inc. Construction activity is currently underway with the relocation of the UGI gas line, a necessary step before bridge work can begin.


Bridge construction is scheduled to start in April of this year, weather permitting. Updates on the project timeline and any traffic impacts will be shared as they become available.

It's time to apply for the property tax rent rebate!

PROPERTY TAX & RENT REBATE

Applications for 2025 Property Tax/Rent Rebates are now being accepted.
THE FILING DEADLINE IS JUNE 30, 2026.

HIGHER INCOME LIMITS



The Pennsylvania Property Tax/Rent Rebate program is open to state residents 65 and older, widows and widowers 50 and older, or anyone age 18 and over who is permanently disabled.

To qualify for the Property Tax/Rent Rebate, your household income must be \$48,110 or less annually.

NOTE: only half of your Social Security income is included in calculations.

| If your income is: | Your maximum rebate is: |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| \$0 - \$8,550 | \$1,000 |
| \$8,551 - \$16,040 | \$770 |
| \$16,041 - \$19,240 | \$460 |
| \$19,241 - \$48,110 | \$380 |

ATTENTION

You MUST bring the following 2025 documents with you to complete the process:

- Total Social Security/Railroad Retirement
- Proof of SSI or Disability
- Proof of Age First Time Filer Driver's License or Photo ID
- 1099 Pension Statement(s)
- 1099 Interest Statement(s)
- 1099 Dividend Statement(s)
- Proof of W-2 or Other Income If received
- Voided check showing Routing Number & Account Number if you wish to have payment received by direct deposit

These 2025 documents are necessary if appropriate:

- Property Owners** - Proof of taxes paid either stamped or signed by tax collector
- Renters** - Rent certificate filled out and signed by landlord

My office can help you fill out your application, completely free of charge!

No appointment necessary!

State Rep. **Brenda Pugh**
120th Legislative District

DISTRICT OFFICE:
161 Main St., Luzerne, PA 18709
570-283-1001 | Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

YOU CAN VISIT ME ONLINE AT: RepPugh.com [/RepBrendaPugh](https://www.facebook.com/RepBrendaPugh)

FREE PAPER SHREDDING AND TIRE RECYCLING

HOSTED BY STATE REPRESENTATIVE BRENDA PUGH

SATURDAY, MAY 9
10 A.M. TO 1 P.M.

West Side Career and Technology Center
75 Evans St., Pringle

This free event provides an opportunity to securely dispose of personal documents that may put you at risk for identity theft.

Limits per car load:

- Paper - 3 boxes
- Tires - 4 tires
- Prescription Drop off - Luzerne County District Attorney
- Damaged / Old Flags - American Legion Post 395
- Non-perishable Canned Goods - Sara's Table



You can visit me online at: RepPugh.com [/RepBrendaPugh](https://www.facebook.com/RepBrendaPugh)

DISTRICT OFFICE: 161 Main St., Luzerne, PA 18709 | 570-283-1001 | Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

April 2026 Events

www.kingstontownship.com/events

Administration & Public Works Offices Closed for Easter Weekend

April 3rd & April 6th

Board of Supervisors' Public Work Session

April 7th

7:00 PM

Planning Commission Meeting - POSTPONED

April 7th

| | | |
|---|------------|---------|
| Board of Supervisors' Regular Meeting | April 8th | 7:00 PM |
| Zoning Hearing Board | April 9th | 7:00 PM |
| Back Mountain Community Partnership Meeting | April 16th | 3:00 PM |
| D.A.M.A. Board Meeting | April 16th | 7:00 PM |
| Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting | April 29th | 7:00 PM |



180 E Center St. Shavertown | (570) 696-3809 | info@kingstontownship.com

Monday - Friday from 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

TAX OFFICE HOURS: TUESDAY & THURSDAY 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM



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