



# Highspire Herald

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION FOR THE RESIDENTS OF HIGHSPIRE BOROUGH

640 Eshelman Street, Highspire, PA 17034  
Phone 717-939-3303 - www.highspire.org

Winter 2009

## Waste Water Treatment Plant Update

The Highspire Sewer Authority is currently undergoing the new construction of the waste water treatment plant expansion. This work is being done in order to comply with new Federal EPA regulations governing the cleanup of the Chesapeake Bay. The upgrades must meet tougher water pollution standards and must reduce nitrogen and phosphorus pollution that flows into the Chesapeake Bay. The expansion will include two oxidation ditches, three new clarifier tanks, several pumping stations, and a new control building. Construction of the plant expansion is expected to be completed in early 2011. Due to the mandated update, sewer rates will increase in 2010. However, since the Sewer Authority obtained a \$5 million dollar state grant towards the construction of the plant expansion, sewer rates will only increase half of what they would have, had they not received the \$5 million dollar grant.



Unfortunately, during construction the compost facility will have limited hours and will only be open on Saturday and Sundays, **for non-commercial use**, from 7:30 am to Noon (hours are subject to change without notice). In addition, the Dauphin County recycling containers, previously located on Aviation Way, have been temporarily moved to Broad Street. As a reminder, the Borough offers curbside recycling to all residents of the Borough. Through the curbside recycling program, the Borough is able to receive a recycling performance grant based on the tonnage recycled through the curbside recycling program. The Borough does not receive any compensation from the County for use of the Dauphin County Recycling Containers nor is the Borough allowed to use the tonnage received from the recycling containers towards the grant.

## Girls Softball



The Highspire Athletic Association is seeking interested players in hopes of forming a girls softball league in Highspire. Players ages 7-12 who would like to play softball are urged to contact Isaac Cole at 717-939-4666 or by email at [ICOLEX1@comcast.net](mailto:ICOLEX1@comcast.net). The

Athletic Association would like to form both a minor and majors girl softball team but teams would be dependent upon the amount of girls that are interested in playing. The formation of the girls softball teams would be for the 2010 spring season.

## Thanks

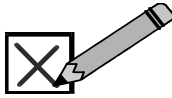
A very special thank you to the 230 Café and Champion's Sports Bar & Grill for their donations to the Community Development Committee and Recreation Fund. The Borough and Committee appreciate the support given from both of these establishments. The Recreation Fund, funded by donations, supports the Easter Egg Hunt, Memorial Day Ceremony, Community Picnic, and Tree Lighting Ceremony.

### Inside this issue:

<i>Election day</i>	2	<i>Community Watch Program</i>	2
<i>Tree Lighting Ceremony</i>	2	<i>Winter Conservation Tips</i>	2
<i>Christmas Trees for Sale</i>	2	<i>Highspire Borough's Holiday Home Decorating Contest</i>	3
<i>Christmas Tree Recycling</i>	2	<i>Winter Time Code Enforcement Reminders</i>	3
<i>Police Department Winter Weather Reminders</i>	2	<i>Upcoming Dates and Events</i>	4
<i>Highspire High School Alumni Association</i>	2	<i>Important Telephone Numbers</i>	4

**Election Day**

Residents are reminded the 2009 General Election is Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Highspire has two designated voting polls, the Fire House on Second Street and the Borough Office on Eshelman Street. Both polls provide ample parking and are handicapped accessible. To determine your voting poll and for complete details about the General Election and absentee ballots please call the Dauphin County Bureau of Election at 780-6360.

**Tree Lighting Ceremony**

The Borough of Highspire's 2009 Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at Second & Broad Streets, in front of Citizens Bank, at 6:00 pm. There will be holiday carol singing, light refreshments, children's gifts, and photos with Santa at the Highspire Fire House. We hope to see you there!

**Christmas Trees For Sale**

The Highspire Fire Dept will once again be selling Christmas Trees this holiday season. The trees will be available for purchase at the Fire Department on Second Street starting Thanksgiving weekend. Please consider purchasing your tree from the fire department as all funds received benefit training and equipment for the fire department personnel. Did you know the Fire Department Social Hall can be rented for your holiday parties? Please call the fire house at 939-6582 for more information.

**Christmas Tree Recycling**

Following the holiday season residents are strongly encouraged to bring their Christmas trees to the Borough's compost facility for recycling. Penn Waste will also accept Christmas trees at curbside with your normal pick up. Please be sure to remove all inorganic material from the tree. The restrictions for trees to be removed is that they may not be more than 6 feet long and have a trunk size more than 6 inches in diameter. Trees exceeding the maximum length and diameter must be cut to the appropriate size for removal.

**Police Department Winter Weather Reminders**

Officers urge motorists to slow down and maintain a safe driving distance between vehicles and to check their windshield wiper blades to make sure they are in proper working order for weather conditions. Drivers should keep their gas tank full as you don't want to be stranded in bad weather. Motorists should slow down and stop when you see a yellow traffic signal; the light could change faster than you can get through it, causing an accident. As a reminder motorists must stop when they see a school bus with flashing lights. Drivers caught driving through flashing bus lights will be subjected to fines and penalties. Also, motorists should be alert for children playing in the snow.

**Highspire High School Alumni Association**

The Highspire High School Alumni Association is looking for graduates of the Highspire High School or graduates who graduated from Steelton Highspire High School. The Alumni Association would like to include you in the Alumni Association newsletters and would like to invite you to the Alumni Association dinner on June 5, 2010. But in order to invite you they need your name and address. Please mail your information to:

Highspire High School Alumni Association  
P. O. Box 21  
Highspire, PA 17034

**Community Watch Program**

The Community Watch Members would like to thank the following businesses for their donations and contributions towards the Community Watch Program:

**AFSCME State Council 13**  
**Representative Ronald Buxton**  
**AFSCME H&W Fund**  
**230 Café**  
**Integrity Bank**  
**Jack's Auto Sales**

The last meeting in 2009 will be held on November 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at the Borough Building. We hope that you are able to join us as we help protect our neighborhoods.

**Winter Conservation Tips**

Winter is just around the corner and if you keep your thermostat set on 68° in the winter you may help to reduce your energy costs. For every degree you raise or lower the setting on your thermostat you may see a difference of up to 3% in energy costs on your utility bill. Many electric companies allow you to set up a payment plan for your electric bill that helps to spread the higher amounts out over the year so your bill is not just higher in the winter months. Contact your electric or gas company to find out if they have a budget billing plan to fit your needs.



Sealing air leaks is the most important step to home comfort. A 1/4" gap at the base of a 3' wide exterior door leaks as much air as a 3" hole in the wall of your home. Lack of adequate weather stripping can cost you \$50.00 or more a year in lost energy cost. Air can leak in and out of your home around plumbing, wiring, windows, doors, and where walls meet ceilings. You should install weather stripping on all windows, install storm windows, and seal any leaks around your exterior plumbing and wiring.

Installing a setback thermostat can also help lower your energy costs. You can program the thermostat to a lower temperature while you sleep and program it to raise automatically just before you wake up.

Your hot water tank is usually the second greatest energy user in your home. You will get significant savings by lowering the water temperature setting to 120° on your water heater. It takes far less energy to keep the water heated at the lower temperature.

## Highspire Borough's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Holiday Home Decorating Contest

Does decorating your home for the holidays bring back fond memories? Or maybe you would like to start a new tradition. If you are interested in spreading the holiday cheer to your neighbors then consider participating in the Highspire Borough's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Holiday Home Decorating Contest. The contest will include holiday decorations that can be seen from outside; including decorations placed in trees, windows, yards, on doors, and on your home. Decorations must be delineated according to one of the following categories: Most Festive, Colorful/Brightest, Whimsical, Victorian (all white), or Traditional. Representatives from the Borough will review the participating homes in the afternoon/evening of Saturday, December 19, 2009 and choose the winners of the contest. The winners will be announced and awarded at the beginning of Borough Council's January 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. All prizes for this event have been donated by local merchants. If you are interested in participating in this contest, please complete the information below and return it to the Borough Building by Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. Please note on the form which category you would like to register your home for. If you have any questions please contact Council Member Dorothy Matesevac at 939-3865.

**I will participate in the 2009 Highspire Holiday Decorating Contest**  
 All homes must be within the Borough of Highspire  
 Completed forms must be returned by Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup> to the  
 Highspire Borough, 640 Eshelman Street, Highspire, PA 17034  
 Unfortunately, late forms cannot be accepted.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please circle one (1) category**

<i>Most Festive</i>	<i>Colorful/Brightest</i>	<i>Whimsical</i>
<i>Traditional</i>	<i>Victorian (all white)</i>	

### **Winter Time Code Enforcement Reminders**

#### ***Fireplace, Wood and Coal Stove Maintenance***

When using your fireplace, wood stove, or coal stove be certain that the flue is open before lighting and burn only well seasoned wood to avoid creosote build up. It's a good idea to have your flue inspected and cleaned every year before using your fireplace, wood or coal stove. Don't use any fireplace without a screen and never leave a fire unattended.

#### ***Holiday Decorations***

Make sure all your holiday decorations are fireproof and all lights and wiring are UL approved. If you have a cut tree in your home, keep it fully watered at all times to maintain its freshness. Do not place it close to a heating source as it may cause a fire.

#### ***Snow Reminder***

Please remember during winter conditions it is the homeowner or renters responsibility to make sure that the sidewalks and walkways are clear of any snow or ice that may accumulate. Walkways must be cleared within 24 hours of the snowstorm ending. Failure to do so will result in a \$25.00 to \$300.00 fine being issued against you. Your mail may not be delivered if the sidewalk and the entrance to your mailbox is obstructed with snow, ice, or any other type of debris. Placing garbage cans or chairs to save parking spaces is prohibited in the Borough. This activity is subject to cost, fines, and loss of items. IT'S NOT THE BOROUGH'S INTENT TO ISSUE PARKING TICKETS OR HAVE VEHICLES TOWED. Through your cooperation and compliance we can provide a quicker and more efficient snow removal service.

#### ***Fire Safety***

Fire Hydrants are not visible when snow is piled high around them. It is extremely important that hydrants remain accessible throughout the year. Keep hydrants on your property clear of snow and ice. In an emergency you will be thankful you did.

## Upcoming Dates & Events

November 3, 2009 Election Day 7:00 am - 8:00 pm	December 1, 2009 Sewer Bills Mailed Due December 30 <sup>th</sup>	December 24-25, 2009 Merry Christmas Borough Office Closed
November 10, 2009 Council Workshop Meeting 7:00 pm	December 5, 2009 Tree Lighting Ceremony 6:00 pm	January 1, 2010 Happy New Year's!!! Borough Office Closed
November 11, 2009 Veterans Day Borough Office Closed	December 8, 2009 Council Workshop Meeting 7:00 pm	January 4, 2010 Council Reorganizational Meeting 7:00 pm
November 17, 2009 Council Meeting 7:00 pm	December 15, 2009 Home Decorating Contest Deadline Council Meeting 7:00 pm	January 12, 2010 Council Workshop Meeting 7:00 pm
November 26-27, 2009 Happy Thanksgiving Borough Office Closed	December 19, 2009 Home Decorating Contest Judging	January 19, 2010 Council Meeting 7:00 pm

### Borough Telephone Numbers

Borough Manager.....	939-3303
Borough Fax.....	939-3371
Sewer Billing & Collections.....	939-3303
Code Enforcement.....	939-3303
Waste Water Treatment Plant.....	939-6204
Highway Department.....	986-1034
Police Department Non-Emergency.....	939-9866
Police Emergency.....	911
Mayor John Hoerner.....	986-0438
Highspire Tax Collector.....	939-4369



### Other Important Telephone Numbers

Citizen's Fire Company.....	939-5111
Citizen's Fire Company Rental Hall....	939-6582
Comcast Cable.....	1-800-266-2278
District Justice Steve Semic.....	939-6996
Highspire Post Office.....	939-4902
Penn Waste.....	1-866-575-8720
PPL Electric.....	1-800-342-5775
Steelton Highspire School District.....	704-3800
United Water.....	564-3662
Verizon.....	1-800-660-2215

*"Your Community Since 1814"*

Borough of Highspire  
640 Eshelman Street  
Highspire PA 17034

PRSR STD  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 1  
Highspire, PA

Postal Customer  
Highspire, PA 17034