



# HOUSING CONCERNS



*Facilitating communication  
and exchange of ideas in  
local municipal planning*

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*Surely, these terms are familiar to you. They have been in the news nationally, statewide, and locally. Data-driven reports have demonstrated that Pennsylvania is facing a severe housing shortage across the Commonwealth that is driving up the cost of housing, affecting the availability of accessible and adaptable housing for the aging population, and impacting economic development.*

As a result, legislators have introduced Senate and House bills that, if passed, would impose requirements on local municipalities to address housing affordability, housing availability, and diversity of housing choices.

Furthermore, on September 12, 2024, Governor Shapiro signed an Executive Order creating the Commonwealth's first Comprehensive Housing Action Plan to address affordability and homelessness. It directs the PA Department of Community and Economic Development to, within one year, develop a Plan that would lead to building more affordable housing. It also directs the PA Department of Human Services to bring together a variety of stakeholders to work on ways to address homelessness. The primary goals are to create a road map for how to preserve existing housing, increase housing supply, build more affordable units, and address homelessness.

## **Did you Know.....**

The animal crackers that we're familiar with today were first made in England in the mid-1800s. They were slightly sweet biscuits shaped like animals.

For a while they were imported to the United States, but in 1871 the **D.F. Stauffer Biscuit Company** in York, Pennsylvania, started producing them.



## **What the County is doing.....**

Three components of the County Comprehensive Plan, the [Growth Management Plan](#) (2017), [Housing and Community Development Plan](#) (2020), and the [Economic Action Plan](#) (2020), as well as the [Senior Housing in York County Story Map](#), address housing concerns. [SEE MORE](#)

**YCPC Project 24-035** - Red Lion Borough: Zoning Ordinance Amend  
Map: Industrial (I) to Residential-Town (R-T)

Adopt

Adopt

Adopt

**YCPC Project 24-036** - Peach Bottom Township: Zoning Ordinance Amend  
Text: Prime Farmstead Lots

Not Adopt

Not Adopt

Not Adopt

# An Introduction to Cryptocurrency and Data Mining Centers

The rapid emergence of cryptocurrencies has taken many involved in the energy sector by surprise. Interest in this activity exploded towards the end of 2017, leading to questions about how much electricity demand would be affected by this technology. Because energy infrastructure is expensive and difficult to build, questions about rapid growth of electricity demand has taken on a particular urgency for utilities and policy makers responsible for managing the costs and environmental effects of the electricity system.



One of the challenges associated with the development of data mining centers for municipalities is determining where these uses should be permitted. As is the case with any new type of land use, municipalities should be aware of the types of impacts that data mining centers can have on their community and be prepared to provide clear guidance and requirements to any potential developer if approached, while ensuring that their residents are protected from any potential impacts from such development.

A basic overview of cryptocurrency and data mining centers was provided in the May edition of our LGAC newsletter as a Frequently Asked Question. More detailed research and explanations of this activity would be recommended should a data mining center developer come through your door looking for development guidance/permission.



**[CLICK HERE](#)** for model ordinance language provided to you as “food for thought” from our office. Understanding the evolving nature of this industrial activity, flexibility will be key when planning on providing appropriate oversight and public protection.

# YORK COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY APPROVES 2025 BUDGET FEE INCREASE TO FUND LONG TERM COUNTY NEEDS

The York County Solid Waste Authority has approved its budget for fiscal 2025, including a tipping fee increase to address rising costs and to fund projects for long term system stability. The tip fee for York County processible municipal solid waste at the York County Resource Recovery Center (YCRRC) for 2025 will increase to \$83 per ton in response to fiscal pressures created by rising operational costs, current and future environmental control upgrades at the YCRRC, and the YCSWA's obligation to prepare for the future and ensure York County's waste is properly managed with sustained environmental protection. With uncertainty over future local landfill capacity, YCSWA must prepare now to meet the future waste management needs for York County.



Under this increase, the cost of waste disposal alone for an average York County household will be less than \$2 per week (This does not include collection costs charged by private waste hauling companies hired to provide trash removal services). The minimum fee for residents delivering waste from their homes will be \$20 for up to 480 pounds.

Tipping fee revenues help to fund operations of the York County Resource Recovery Center, operations and maintenance of the York County Sanitary Landfill/Hopewell Area Recreation Complex, electronics recycling, household hazardous waste collection, secure drug take-back programs, public education and community outreach efforts, and other programs aimed at waste reduction and recycling.

YCSWA facilitates responsible solid waste management through an integrated strategy that emphasizes waste reduction, reuse, recycling, and resource recovery.



## Are you wondering what you should do with your yard waste as we are in full swing in the season of raking leaves?

Most municipalities offer yard waste pick-up at your curb which makes yard waste disposal very easy. Contact your municipality or waste hauler directly to find out what services are available to you. If yard waste services are not available to you, no worries. There are other options to help you.

If you simply have leaves and grass, you can use a mulching mower to mulch them. Your back will thank you and the clippings on the lawn will help prevent weeds from germinating. Another option for disposal of grass and leaves is to place them in your garden beds and around trees and shrubs to prevent weed growth. Composting your clippings and leaves is another great way to make use of them. If you are unsure how to do this, do an internet search for "composting". You will find instructions for different composting methods and a list of materials needed.

If those options aren't your cup of tea, you can dispose of vegetation and small branches with your regular garbage or bring your yard waste to the York County Resource Recovery Center (YCRRC).

Be sure to visit [www.ycswa.com/services/waste-disposal/](http://www.ycswa.com/services/waste-disposal/) for specifics on what can and cannot be accepted at the YCRRC. There are some items that we cannot accept, however our website will direct you to a business that can help you if the YCRRC cannot accommodate your needs.



From Leaves and Tree Trimmings to Weeds and Stumps, You Will Find a Quick Answer to How to Manage Your Yard Waste By Visiting Our Website  
[www.ycswa.com/services/waste-disposal/yard-waste/](http://www.ycswa.com/services/waste-disposal/yard-waste/)



**York County's Election Office is hard at work, gearing up for the upcoming general election. From processing registrations and mail in ballot requests, to organizing poll workers, to coordinating mailing of ballots, there is a flurry of activity underway.**

**A few important dates to remember:**

- **October 21, 2024 - Last day to register to vote**
- **October 29, 2024 - Last day to apply for a mail in ballot or absentee ballot (VBM)**
- **November 4, 2024 - Last day to submit for a military or overseas absentee ballot**
- **November 5, 2024 - General Election Day**



For those voters who have requested a VBM Ballot and would like to drop their ballot off in person, there are two options. You may go to either the Downtown Elections office, located at 28 East Market Street, York, PA 17401 or the East York Elections Office, located at 2401 Pleasant Valley Road, York PA 17402 and hand your ballot in over the counter.

This option is available during normal business hours 8:00am - 4:30pm Monday - Friday. Additionally, the County will be providing drive up service at the County Administration Building, located at 28 East Market Street, York PA 17401 and East York Office Building located at 2401 Pleasant Valley Road, York PA 17402. The hours for this service are from 10:00am - 2:00pm on the following dates: October 26, November 2, and November 3, 2024.

During these times, county staff and sheriff's deputies will be present. You may find additional information on the County website [www.yorkcountypa.gov](http://www.yorkcountypa.gov). For general questions regarding the process for the general election please call the Elections Office at 717-771-9604.

***The York County Elections Office is working diligently to provide accurate and timely services to the residents of York County.***

***We encourage everyone to get out and vote!***



# Shapiro-Davis Administration Announces New \$20 Million Main Street Matters Program is Open and Accepting Applications for Funding

***September 3, 2024 - Governor Josh Shapiro's 2024-25 bipartisan budget includes the Main Street Matters program to create vibrant downtowns and commercial corridors across the Commonwealth.***

Ambridge, PA – Today, Lt. Gov. Austin Davis and Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) Secretary Rick Siger announced the opening of the new \$20 million **Main Street Matters** program, created by Governor Josh Shapiro to support main streets, downtown business districts, small businesses, and local communities across Pennsylvania.

Included in the Governor's bipartisan **2024-25 budget**, Main Street Matters funding is available for community revitalization efforts in planning, business support, aesthetic improvements, and increased safety and security. Applications for Main Street Matters funding will be accepted through November 15, 2024. [SEE MORE](#)

## PENNSYLVANIA MUNICIPALITIES PLANNING CODE - CERTAIN TRANSMITTALS AND SUBMISSIONS TO GOVERNMENTAL BODIES

HB 1477

Act of Jul. 8, 2024, P.L. 522, No. 44  
Session of 2024  
No. 2024-44

AN ACT

Cl. 53

Amending the act of July 31, 1968 (P.L.805, No.247), entitled "An act to empower cities of the second class A, and third class, boroughs, incorporated towns, townships of the first and second classes including those within a county of the second class and counties of the second through eighth classes, individually or jointly, to plan their development and to govern the same by zoning, subdivision and land development ordinances, planned residential development and other ordinances, by official maps, by the reservation of certain land for future public purpose and by the acquisition of such land; to promote the conservation of energy through the use of planning practices and to promote the effective utilization of renewable energy sources; providing for the establishment of planning commissions, planning departments, planning committees and zoning hearing boards, authorizing them to charge fees, make inspections and hold public hearings; providing for mediation; providing for transferable development rights; providing for appropriations, appeals to courts and penalties for violations; and repealing acts and parts of acts," in general provisions, providing for certain transmittals and submissions to governmental bodies.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:  
[SEE MORE](#)

# York County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update



We are almost there! Where, might you ask? Having an approved York County Hazard Mitigation Plan. YCPC staff have been working with PEMA and FEMA through the Plan review process. Although many complimentary comments were received, staff have been tasked with further demonstrating participation by all municipalities in the planning process and incorporating additional information to meet new FEMA requirements. The revised Plan will be resubmitted to FEMA for final review and approval of the Plan is expected soon thereafter.

Following FEMA approval, the Plan adoption process will be initiated. This involves presenting the Plan to the York County Planning Commission Board for a recommendation to the York County Board of Commissioners regarding approval. A Public Hearing will then be hosted by the Board of Commissioners to solicit any further comments on the Plan. At a subsequent Board of Commissioners meeting, barring no critical changes or comments, the York County Commissioners would adopt the Plan as a component of the York County Comprehensive Plan.

The final step, as in the past, will be asking all 72 York County municipalities to adopt the Plan by resolution and meet the requirement for having a local Hazard Mitigation Plan as outlined under the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. The contents of the Plan should be of no surprise to municipalities given the extensive outreach conducted during the planning process and the Plan being based on input from York County municipalities, stakeholders, and residents. To help facilitate Plan adoption, a sample resolution will be provided, which can be modified if necessary to accommodate each municipality. YCPC staff hopes to be in contact with municipalities in the next couple of months regarding adoption. In the interim, should have any questions, please contact Roy Livergood at [rlivergood@ycpc.org](mailto:rlivergood@ycpc.org) or (717) 771-9870 ext. 1756. For more information, please visit

[www.yorkhazmit.org](http://www.yorkhazmit.org)

## MUNICIPAL SPOTLIGHT - FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP

That portion of York County, which is now Franklin Township, was probably first settled about 1760. Franklin Township was formed in 1809 from a part of Monaghan Township. The petition for the new Township was signed with names such as: Logan, Prosser, Gatticart, Anderson, Elcock, Mumper, Smyser, Lau, Klugh, and Knisley. There was a considerable difference of opinion as to what name should be given. It was proposed to call it Dill Township, but this did not receive sufficient support, and the new district was named Franklin. By 1810 it had 175 taxable inhabitants and a property valuation of \$97,521.

In that same year, the following businesses were in Franklin Township: three innkeepers, two physicians, one tannery, 11 weavers, four sawmills, four distilleries and three gristmills. Franklin Township was reduced to its present size in 1831, when part of it was taken to form part of Carroll Township. [SEE MORE](#)

