

CUMBERLAND TOWNSHIP

DISPATCH



Sach's Covered Bridge circa 1940s. Courtesy of the Adams County Historical Society. Big thanks!

From the Chairman's Desk...

For the past few years, the board and staff have been looking into ways to better communicate township information to the residents of Cumberland Township outside of the regular board of supervisor meetings and traditional publication methods. After looking into different methods of getting information out and looking at the successes of other townships, a newsletter rose to the top of the list. After discussion amongst the board and with staff, it was decided to move forward with a newsletter produced by Cumberland Township.

On behalf of the board of supervisors and the staff, I am excited to announce the publication of Cumberland Township Dispatch. The Cumberland Township Dispatch will be published biannually initially with more frequent publications over time. It will contain information about what is going on with the Cumberland Township Administration Offices, Cumberland Township Police Department, Cumberland Township Highway Department, Cumberland Township Authority, local events, local organizations, and much more!

The board of supervisors would like to give a big thank you to the staff, especially Mary Voss, who is taking the lead on the initial creation of the Cumberland Township Dispatch. The board looks forward to contributing to the content of the newsletter alongside the staff and other organizations moving forward.

Shaun Phiel
Chair of Cumberland Township Board of Supervisors

Meet your Supervisors...

Shaun Phiel, Chairman
Steve Toddes, Vice Chairman
Tiffany J.S. Ramsburg
Jeff Brauning
Christine Biggins

Your Board of Supervisors
meets every 4th Tuesday at 7:00pm
1370 Fairfield Road

Meet your Cumberland Township Office Staff...
Dave Blocher, Manager
Michele Long, Secretary
Camie Stouck-Phiel, Treasurer/Finance Director

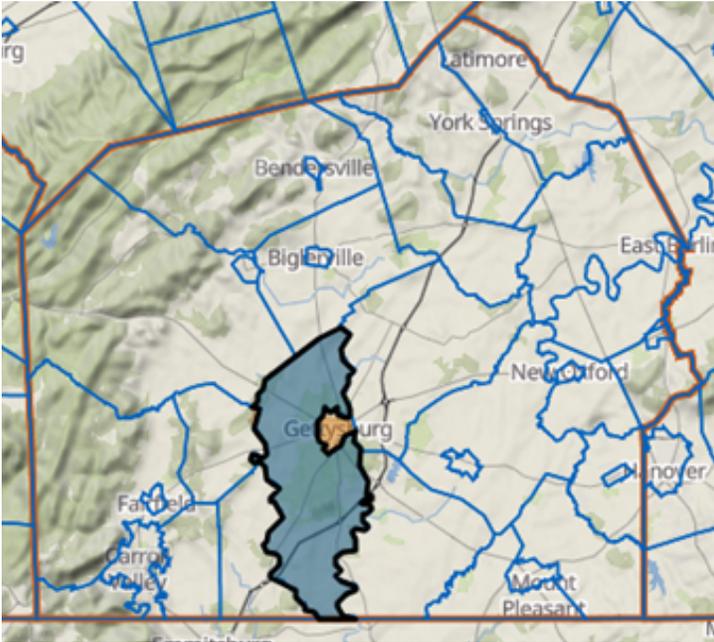


From the Manager's Desk...

Welcome to Cumberland Township!

In the first edition of the Cumberland Township Dispatch, we thought a brief overview of the Township would be a great beginning and beneficial resource of information for both new and deep-rooted residents of our community.

Cumberland Township is in the center of Adams County with a total area of 33.6 square miles and a population of over 7,000 residents. In 1863 the Battle of Gettysburg took place mainly in Cumberland Township, which surrounds the Gettysburg Borough on three sides as displayed on the map below.



**Mark your calendars!
August 1 4-7pm
Township Open House
Food and fun for the
whole family!**

Data released and collected by the US Census Bureau between 2020 and July 2022 showed Cumberland Township as part of the 750 growing populations in Pennsylvania with an increase of .7%. The data also showed 77 municipalities stayed neutral in population, while 1,745 municipalities saw a decline in total population.

The governing body of Cumberland Township consists of five Supervisors that are elected to serve six-year terms. Our current Supervisors are Shaun Phiel – Chair, Steve Toddes – Vice Chair, Tiffany Stouck-Ramsburg, Jeffrey Brauning, and Christine Biggins. In addition to the Supervisors, citizens help serve in many different areas. Some of those include the Planning Commission, Zoning Board, Sewer Authority, and the Historical Architectural Review Board. The positions served by our citizens are appointed by the Board of Supervisors in accordance with the Pa. Second Class Township Code. If you would like to be considered for any of those appointments a form is available on our website at www.cumberlandtownship.com under the document section and then selecting the Citizen Interest Form.

The Township staff is comprised of a Police Department, Administrative Staff, Maintenance Department, & Sewer Authority. Primary Fire and EMS services are provided by three nonprofit organizations. They are Adams Regional Emergency Medical Services, Barlow Fire Company, and the Gettysburg Fire Department. Both the Gettysburg Fire Department and Barlow Fire Company are 100% volunteers and are always looking for help. Those three organizations provide a professional service and tremendous value to our community. The Township will continue to work hard to Preserve our Heritage, Provide Quality Services, & Plan for our Future.

Thanks for doing your part to continue to make Cumberland Township a great place to live!

David Blocher

Manager

From your Chief of Police... By the Numbers...

Cumberland Township Police Department has always appreciated and accepted donations to make it a better place. These donations go towards non-budgeted items that help us protect the community or fund projects that enhance our operations. All Police Department donations received go towards projects that are supplemental and beneficial to acquire, however, they did not make the current operating budget. This year the Township is proud to say that we are "speeding" toward a device that will help us measure just that. We are only \$1,925.00 short of acquiring a Trafcon Shield Speed Display Trailer. This will remind Drivers of the speed they are traveling and provide detailed analytics that contributes to the enforcement efforts to keep speeds down and make the Township safer for everyone. I cannot overemphasize the appreciation we have for the residents and businesses who have made donations to the Cumberland Township Police Department over the years. These donations fund the purchase of specialized equipment that allows our Officers to go above and beyond to protect our community.

Chief Matthew S. Trostel

Meet your PD...

- Det/Sgt Steve Higgs
- Sgt Josh Rosenberger
- PFC Dan Barbagello
- PtIm Ryan Eiker
- PtIm Eric Yost
- PtIm Rich Keefer
- PtIm Josh Goodling
- PtIm Lane Hartley
- PtIm Brian Weikert
- Cadet Dakota Myers

January		February	
Calls	237	Calls	254
Traffic Stops	81	Traffic Stops	111
Investigations	14	Investigations	14
Patrol Miles	5868	Patrol Miles	6583
March		April	
Calls	249	Calls	255
Traffic Stops	96	Traffic Stops	139
Investigations	15	Investigations	11
Patrol Miles	5762	Patrol Miles	6280

Mark your calendars!
August 1 4-7pm
National Night Out
Meet your PD! Tour
Emergency Vehicles!
Food & Fun for
everyone!

Did you know? Emergency alerts are broadcast through the Savvy Citizen App! Sign up today!



From your Roadmaster...

The Cumberland Township Maintenance Department maintains 47.9 miles of roadways! These roads include high-volume paved roads, low volume Seal Coated Roads (tar & chip), and dirt & gravel roads. The crew is on call 24/7 and consists of 6 employees, including a full-time mechanic that performs maintenance on all township & pd vehicles. Various maintenance tasks include snowplowing/ice control, roadside mowing, storm sewer repairs and replacement, tree trimming/removal, storm clean-up, shoulder grading, asphalt paving, traffic sign installation, traffic signal management, not to mention building and grounds care of the township campus! Upcoming 2023 projects include:

- Shoulder grading, crack sealing, seal coats, and fog seal on Ridge, Natural Dam, Horner, Swetland, and Chapel Ridge Ext. roads.
- Paving and rebuilding of Phase 4 of Twin Lakes 1/Lakeview Dr.
- Stormwater upgrades Twin Lakes 2/Twin Lakes Dr.

Meet your Road Crew...

Louis Holbrook
Mike Redding
Jordan Reichart
Ben Plank

Chris Walter

Superintendent of Roads

Did you know? Road closures, road work, and road emergencies will be broadcast via the Savvy Citizen App. Sign up today to stay in-the-know!



Need a permit? Questions about zoning or ordinances?

Cumberland Township is partnered with PMCA, the PA Municipal Code Alliance, for all your permitting, zoning, and code enforcement needs. Give them a call at

717-496-4996

Cumberland Township Residents, Savvy Citizen® is now available!



Cumberland Township would like to introduce Savvy Citizen. Savvy Citizen is a free notification system for Apple and Android users that will enable the township to send information about important township news and events directly to residents' mobile devices. Residents may access Savvy Citizen by downloading the smartphone app, visiting the website below or scanning the QR code with your phone's camera.



For more info:

SavvyCitizenApp.com

Sign up and become a savvy citizen!



We want you!

If you'd like to be featured in our next Dispatch, please reach out! You can submit articles, topics you'd like to learn more about, or photographs from around our beautiful township! Please send all correspondence to mvoss@cumberlandtownship.com with NEWSLETTER in the subject line. We appreciate you!

Cumberland Township is also looking for local organizations to take part in our upcoming Open House and National Night Out festivities on August 1st from 4-7pm. If you or your group is interested in setting up a booth, please send an email to mvoss@cumberlandtownship.com with OPEN HOUSE in the subject line. We look forward to sharing your organization with the community! See you there!

Preserve our Heritage - Provide Quality Services - Plan for our Future

Meet your CTA Board...

Rich Redding, Chairman
Tom Shealer, Vice Chairman
Steve Niebler, Treasurer
Tracey Barrick, Secretary
Steve Toddles, Member
Jim Williams, Member



The CTA Board meets
the 2nd Monday of
each month at 3:00pm
1370 Fairfield Road



Fatbergs... Keep your sewer lines flowing!

Fatbergs, massive congealed masses of fat, oil, and grease (FOG) mixed with non-biodegradable materials, are wreaking havoc in sewer systems worldwide. These monstrous blockages pose environmental risks and cause significant damage and financial burdens. However, by adopting a proactive approach, we can mitigate this problem and protect our township's sewer infrastructure. Fatbergs form when FOG, flushed or poured down drains, combines with solid debris like wet wipes, sanitary products, and other non-biodegradable substances. Over time, this mixture solidifies into hardened masses that can block sewer pipes, leading to overflow, sewer backups, and even flooding. These obstructions can be massive, spanning several meters and weighing several tons, causing substantial damage and disruption to the sewage infrastructure.

How you can help:

1. Proper FOG Disposal: Dispose of fats, oils, and grease in designated containers or recycle them. Allow FOG to cool and solidify before scraping it into a sealed container for disposal.
2. Avoid flushing anything but toilet paper. Wipes, floss, sanitary products, condoms, cotton swabs, hair, and paper towels. These items can clog up the works even if they are labeled flushable.
3. Properly dispose of medications through Cumberland Township's medication take-back program. Drop-off is at 1370 Fairfield Road, rear of the building in the police lobby. Do not flush chemicals or paint.

Fatbergs are an escalating problem, but by implementing preventive measures and educating the public, we can mitigate their impact on our sewer systems. Through responsible FOG disposal, proactive maintenance, and upgraded infrastructure, we can protect our township and safeguard the environment from the menace of fatbergs.

Meet your CTA Crew...

Todd Williams, Operations Manager
Shawn Kessel, Plant Superintendent
John Flickinger, Plant Operator
Tom Shealer, PT Plant Operator
Jordan Reichart, PT Plant Operator
Tracey Barrick, Office Manager
Mary Voss, Office Assistant

! Beware of Payment Scams! **!**
www.doxo.com is NOT an
affiliated billing partner.

Pay your sewer bill online!
<https://cta.authoritypay.com>

Want to set up an auto-pay? Fill out the ACH
authorization form on cumberlandtownship.com
located in the doc center!

Chief Larry Weikert
www.gettysburgfd.com



Mark your
calendars! The 2nd
Annual CASH BASH
takes place on Sept
30!

A message from Chief Weikert.....

It's a great honor for the Gettysburg Fire Department to be invited to participate in this newsletter! We would like to take this opportunity to share a little bit about our department, the services we provide, the importance of the work done by the volunteers as well as upcoming events and fundraisers.

In 2022, Gettysburg Fire Department responded to 848 emergency calls. Of those calls, 186 were in Cumberland Township. To date in 2023, our department has responded to 270 emergency calls and 62 of them were in Cumberland Township.

It goes without saying, that when you have an emergency, you want a quick, efficient response to your home or business. However, did you know that the nature of how your local fire department operates also affects your homeowner's insurance? Fire Departments are given an ISO (Insurance Services Office) rating. These ratings are evaluated every three years based on the fire department's apparatus, response times, number of personnel per call, training, water supply, and types of apparatus available. When the ISO rating improves, so do your homeowner insurance rates. Gettysburg Fire Department's most recent assessment has resulted in an improved score that will take effect on August 1.

The success of our department is dependent on the volunteers that make up our membership. Our members are dedicated not only to a quick response when there is an emergency but also to training, community, fundraising, education, and fire prevention activities. We invite you to stop by the station to learn more about the many opportunities for volunteers.

On September 30th, the Gettysburg Fire Department will be hosting the 2nd Annual CASH BASH. The event will be held at the Gettysburg Rec Park and for just \$10 includes a meal and a chance at 15 cash prizes!! This event is our main fundraiser for the year, replacing the Fireman's Carnival. Tickets are available from GFD members, online at www.gettysburgfd.com or in person at the Gettysburg Fire Department business office. We would like to thank Ernie's Texas Lunch for sponsoring our tickets! If you are interested in being an event sponsor, please contact the GFD business office at 717-334-7548 for more information.

Thank you to everyone for your continued support of the Gettysburg Fire Department. We look forward to sharing more about our department and meeting more of the Cumberland Township residents in the coming months.

Did you know?
You must call the Non-Emergency
line before any open burning.
The Township will post active burn
bans via Savvy Citizen. Sign up
today!



For all your burning
questions, please
contact the Adams
County Non-
Emergency line at
717-334-8101

A message from your SPCA...

Abigail Avery, Director
Adams County SPCA

People ask me all the time if the Adams County SPCA is a "no kill" shelter. Well, the answer is, it depends on your definition of "no kill". Some people think it means you must save them all while others understand that you can't. Some say you must have a 90% live release rate however it can also mean that you don't euthanize for space. Are you confused yet?

I'm going to tell you what we do and you can decide for yourself what you want to call it. I apologize in advance if you are offended, I'm just being honest. We do everything medically possible, however, when an animal comes into the shelter that has been suffering for days due to a critical injury or has been hit by a car and left to die you look into that animal's eyes and see its pain. We believe the right thing to do is to end the animal's suffering immediately and as humanely as possible. Hold them, let them know it's going to be OK and it's not their fault. Why would we let them suffer any more than they have to?

When a dog has attacked a child for walking down the sidewalk and that child is flown to the hospital with life-threatening injuries, what would you do? Do you adopt it out to another home? NO, you must make the hard choice and put the dog down. Would you want that dog living next to you or your grandkids? You must put down that dog because even though a human failed that dog it's the right thing to do. It takes an extraordinary person to work in a shelter but that's another story for another day.

Yes, we would love a world where everyone loved and cared for their pets and strays were happy, healthy, and friendly but the reality is people are mean. They abuse, starve, neglect, and abandon their "beloved" pets. When an animal is truly suffering, we must ask ourselves what is best for the animal, not what is best for us.

Years ago, Adams County SPCA had to euthanize for space, however, we are blessed that we no longer have to because of several changes. Our expansion in 2014 gave us five cat condos, in 2015 we opened our low-cost spay/neuter program to the public to help eliminate unwanted litters, and in 2017 we started working with PetSmart to help get cats adopted. On January 1st 2023 we partnered with Best Friends Animal Society which provided us with a \$30,000 grant for our TNR (Trap-Neuter-Return) program. With this grant, we are offering free TNRs to residents of Adams County. You can call us to set up an appointment. All cats must come in a live trap to be spayed/neutered, and given rabies and distemper vaccination, after which we tip the end of the left ear to show the cat has been sterilized and vaccinated. We feel this has given us the opportunity to help the community and the animals that live here.

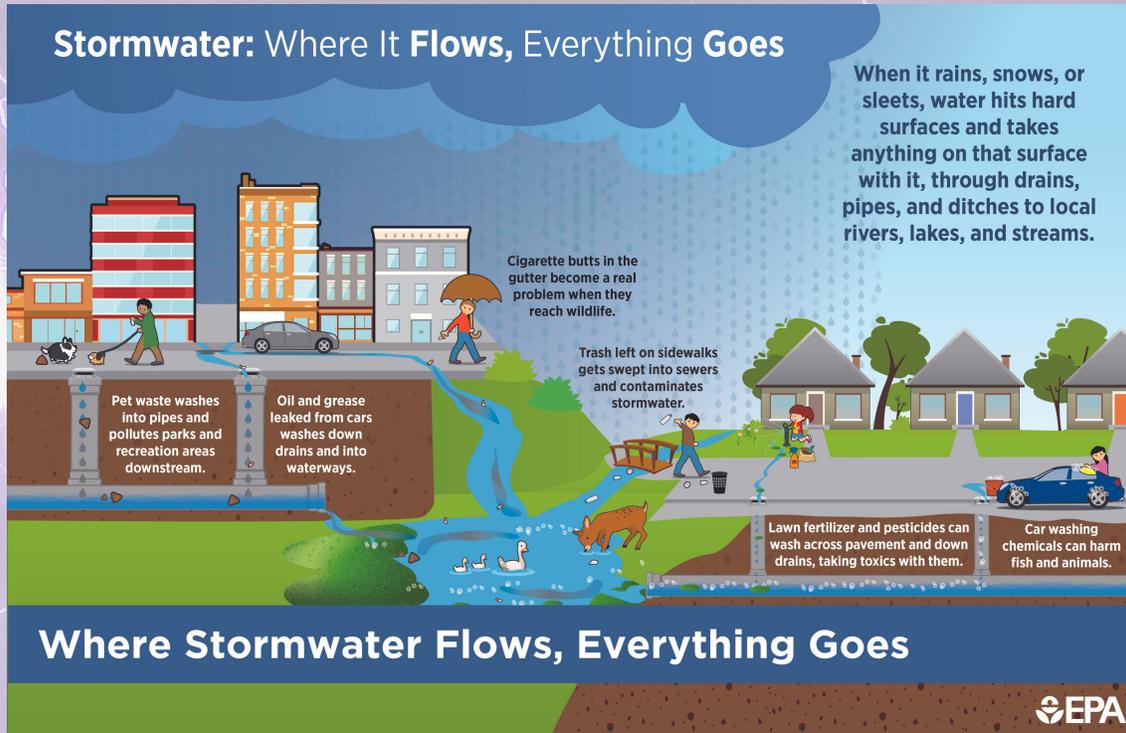
So, to answer your question, I don't like the phrase "no kill" because it's misleading. My answer is that the decision to euthanize is NEVER taken lightly. You don't have to like it, but the Adams County SPCA will always do what we feel is best for the animal and the safety of the public.

Please visit <https://www.adamscountyspca.org/spay-neuter-services> to
schedule a low-cost spay or neuter today!



Let's Talk Stormwater!

But...why? As our township continues to expand and climate patterns shift, it has been increasingly crucial to address the issue of pollution, particularly when it comes to stormwater runoff.



Effective stormwater management plays a vital role in reducing pollution and preserving the quality of our water resources. By implementing sustainable practices and infrastructure, we can mitigate the harmful effects of stormwater runoff. Green infrastructure, including rain gardens, bioswales, and permeable pavement, allows water to infiltrate into the ground, filtering out pollutants and replenishing groundwater supplies.

Protect our waterways and ensure clean drinking water for the future!

Municipalities and organizations are also implementing stormwater management programs that incorporate innovative technologies. These range from the use of stormwater detention basins and constructed wetlands to the installation of advanced filtration systems and stormwater treatment devices. These measures aid in capturing and treating stormwater before it enters our water bodies, preventing pollution from spreading further.





Customer Service- 1-800-632-9063
PA Relay- 7-1-1 (for individuals with a
hearing or speech disability
info@rabbittransit.org

Hop aboard the GHC!

Do you need to go to Hanover? With the Gettysburg Transfer Center less than three miles from Cumberland Township, hop on rabbittransit's Gettysburg-Hanover Connector (GHC) to get there and back. The route provides round-trip services to and from the Gettysburg Transfer Center and downtown Hanover every two hours, with many stops in between!

Whether you are going to work, school, shopping or visiting family, Route GHC offers an affordable and convenient commute between the two communities. Operating Monday through Friday, from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., passengers can pay a cash fare of \$1.60 one way or save ten cents and purchase prepaid passes for \$1.50 one way. Seniors 65 and older can ride Route GHC for free with a free fare ID. For more information, visit:

<https://www.rabbittransit.org/schedules/gettysburg-hanover-connector/>

By linking to the Gettysburg and Hanover fixed route systems, Route GHC can take you even further. The Gettysburg fixed route system offers the Blue Line, Gray Line, Lincoln Line, and, seasonally, the Gold Line. The fixed routes that service Hanover include routes 20N, 20S, 22N and 16. Looking for a way to get to York? No problem – York is easily accessible via Route 16, which connects Hanover & York. For more information, visit:

<https://www.rabbittransit.org/schedules/gettysburg/schedules-maps/>

Ride the GHC and get where you need to go. Plan your trip through the Google Transit Trip Planner and track your bus in real-time with the myStop app. For more information, visit: <https://www.rabbittransit.org/general-information/rider-tools/google-transit-trip-planner/> and <https://realtime.rabbittransit.org/infopoint/>.

Download the myStop app for easy planning!

Battlefield Paving Project Underway June 12!

Beginning on June 12, park roads on the southern portion of the battlefield will be repaved. This four-month project will address road surfaces that are at the end of their lifespan.

We have created a new webpage for this project at [Road Construction Projects and Closures - Gettysburg National Military Park \(U.S. National Park Service\) \(nps.gov\)](#).

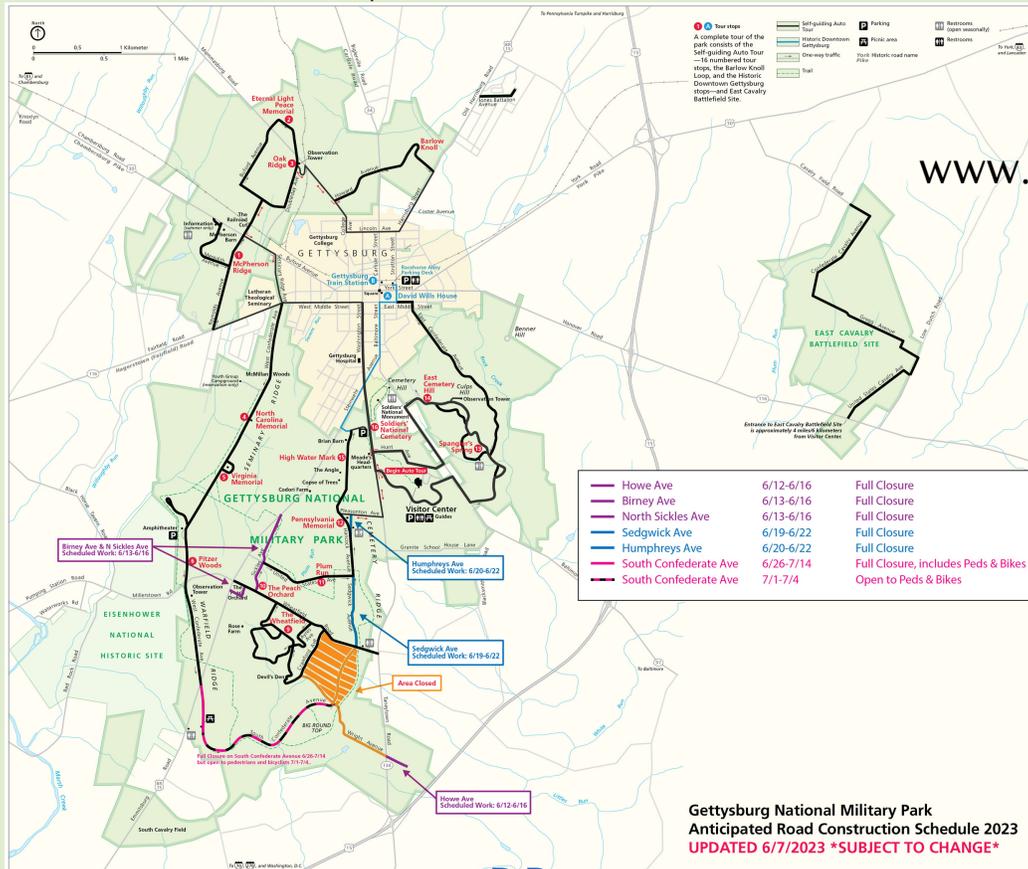
This project requires road closures that will temporarily interrupt the ability to visit portions of the battlefield while work is ongoing. Park roads may be fully closed or reduced to a single lane of traffic. However, no work will occur during the events of the 160th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg commemoration from July 1 to 3.

Roads to be repaved beginning in 2023 include: (dates may change due to weather or other impacts)

- Howe Avenue: 6/12-6/16 – Full Closure.
- Birney Avenue: 6/13-6/16 – Full Closure.
- North Sickles Avenue: 6/13-6/16 – Full Closure.
- Sedgwick Avenue: 6/19-6/22 – Full Closure.
- Humphreys Avenue: 6/20-6/22 – Full Closure.
- *South Confederate Avenue: 6/26-7-14 – Full Closure, includes pedestrians and bicycles.*
 - *South Confederate Avenue: 7/1-7/4 – Open to pedestrians and bicycles during the 160th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg.*

Additional roads to be repaved later in the summer of 2023. Please visit the website mentioned above for more details.

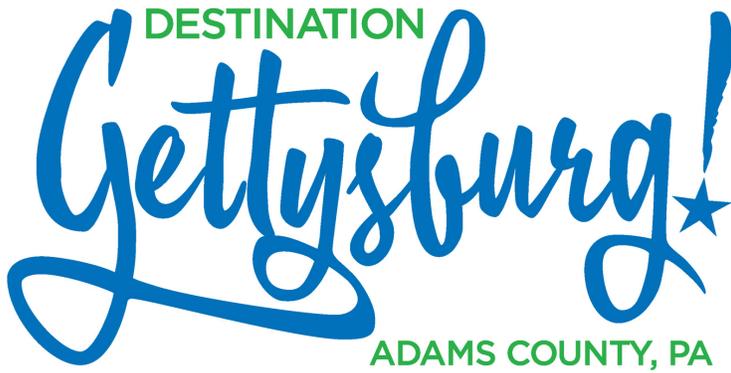
Scheduled paving dates are subject to change. Every effort will be made to complete the work as expeditiously as possible as well as minimize disruptions for park visitors. Full details on the schedule of road work will be made available on the park website and social media platforms as details become available.



www.nps.gov



From our friends at



This summer, the Adams County tourism community will commemorate the 160th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg with dozens of events, special programs and tours, as well as live performances over the course of 12 days, starting June 23 and culminating with the community's Independence Day celebration on July 4.

Among the highlights of this commemoration are two major battle re-enactments, programs throughout Gettysburg and beyond, speaker presentations, tours of both the town and Gettysburg National Military Park, as well as special anniversary performances throughout area, including "The Night Before Gettysburg," to be held at the Historic Gettysburg Railroad Station.

These every-10-year anniversaries are a boost to tourism in the community, as we prepare to welcome tens of thousands of visitors— each spending money and supporting businesses and jobs in our community. Cumberland Township businesses and organizations, as well as tourism-related employees who live in Cumberland Township rely on these busy travel seasons.

Adams County enters this summer season with momentum coming off a strong year for tourism in 2022 with higher hotel occupancy, and overall hotel revenue setting numerous records. Likewise, the first four months of 2023 have been strong — even topping 2022 levels in three of the four months this year.

Destination Gettysburg encourages residents of Cumberland Township to enjoy the many events and programs throughout the 160th anniversary and beyond. The township, as well as the entire Adams County community has a lot to offer residents and visitors alike.

You can learn more about the 160th anniversary commemoration and the variety of attractions, tours and other things to do in our community by visiting DestinationGettysburg.com.



EVENTS!

JUNE

- 6th- 5:30pm Special Walking Tour of Gettysburg National Cemetery to Commemorate the 79th anniversary of D-Day www.nps.gov
- 8th- 7pm The Fight for Barlow's Knoll ACHS
- 8th- 5:30pm Planning Commission Meeting
1370 Fairfield Road
- 12th- 3pm Cumberland Township Authority Board Meeting 1370 Fairfield Road
- 17th- 7pm Embattled Borderland: Harpers Ferry & The Crisis of the Civil War ACHS
- 27th- 7pm Board Of Supervisors Meeting
1370 Fairfield Road

AUGUST

- 1st- 4-7pm Cumberland Township Open House & National Night Out
- 10th- 5:30pm Planning Commission Meeting
1370 Fairfield Road
- 10th- 7pm A Civil War Captain and His Lady ACHS
- 12th-13th United Way food stand at Hollabaugh Bros Peach Fest
- 14th- 3pm Cumberland Township Authority Board Meeting 1370 Fairfield Road
- 22nd- 7pm Board Of Supervisors Meeting
1370 Fairfield Road
- 24th- 6pm Research Seminar: Mapping the Gettysburg Battlefield ACHS
- 19th- 7pm The Ultimate Sacrifice: Adams County Dead in Korea and Vietnam ACHS

ACHS- Adams County Historical Society
625 Biglerville Road
Tickets available at www.achs-pa.org

JULY

- 1st-3rd- 160th Battle of Gettysburg Anniversary Programs
ACHS/NPS
- 10th- 3pm Cumberland Township Authority Board Meeting 1370 Fairfield Road
- 13th- 5:30pm Planning Commission Meeting
1370 Fairfield Road
- 25th- 7pm Board Of Supervisors Meeting
1370 Fairfield Road
- 27th- 6pm Research Seminar: The Civilian Accounts of 1863 ACHS

SEPTEMBER

- 7th- 6pm Research Seminar: Searching Historic Newspapers ACHS
- 9th- 1pm McAllister's Mill Walking Tour ACHS
- 11th- 3pm Cumberland Township Authority Board Meeting 1370 Fairfield Road
- 14th- 5:30pm Planning Commission Meeting
1370 Fairfield Road
- 14th- 7pm The Gettysburg and Pine Grove Furnace Prisoner of War Camps ACHS
- 16th- 8-10am E-cycling Collection Event
1370 Fairfield Road
- 26th- 7pm Board Of Supervisors Meeting
1370 Fairfield Road
- 30th- Gettysburg Fire Department's 2nd annual CASH BASH
Gettysburg Rec Park

Essential Township Contacts

For all your township needs...

Cumberland Township Municipal Building

717-334-6485
1370 Fairfield Road
www.cumberlandtownship.com

For all your sewer needs...

Cumberland Township Sewer Authority

717-334-6485
1370 Fairfield Road
Emergency line- 717-253-0122
www.cumberlandtownship.com

For all your garbage and
curbside recycling needs...

Waste Connections

717-709-1700
3747 White Church Rd, Chambersburg
www.wasteconnections.com

For all your large item recycling
needs...

Adams Rescue

Mission

717-334-7502
2515 York Road
adamsrescuemission@yahoo.com
www.adamsrescuemission.org

For all your permitting and
zoning needs....

PMCA

717-495-4995
1895B York Road
www.pacodealliance.com

For all your water needs...

Gettysburg Municipal Authority

717-334-6738
601 E Middle Street PO Box 3307
www.gettysburgma.com

For all your electricity needs...
Adams Electric Co-Op

1-800-726-2324
1338 Biglerville Road
www.adamsec.coop

Met-Ed

1-800-545-7741
261 S Franklin Street
www.firstenergycorp.com

Adams County Department
of Emergency Services

NON-EMERGENCY

number

717-334-8101