



The Borough of Newtown



Fall/Winter 2024

THE 2024 MCCAFFREY'S NEWTOWN HOLIDAY PARADE

Sunday, December 8 @ 2:00 pm

Organized by the Newtown Business Association, this parade is a huge event that continues to provide a magical experience for the whole community. In past years the parade has boasted over 1,800 participants and 5,000+ community members lining the streets! This year, the parade will be bigger and better than ever with lots of surprises in store for spectators. Stay tuned!

The parade promptly kicks off at 2PM from South State Street at the Stocking Works. It then continues north to Washington Avenue and makes a left turn, then turns right onto Sycamore Street, ending at the corner of Sycamore St. and Durham Rd. Come early to get prime spectator seating along the parade route.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Although these newsletters are helpful in providing relevant information to Borough residences, businesses, and visitors, we recognize that immediate updates cannot be communicated in this format. If you would you like to stay current on what is happening in Newtown Borough government, we invite you to check out our website and subscribe to email news. Please visit www.boroughofnewtown.com, click on Email Updates at the bottom of the home page, and receive monthly emails pertaining to important meeting topics, annual street sweeping, Borough-wide surveys, and more. While on the website, check out all of the resources available to you including those in the codes section, permits & forms page, on the website calendar and in our news, meetings, and events sections.

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MAYOR'S MESSAGE

As we close out the fall season, we shift our focus towards State Street.

Several organizations celebrate holidays and groups are promoting fundraisers. It's a time when we come together as a community and embrace this great town of ours.

In the spirit of the season, and to offer its own support for holiday shopping, the borough will be waiving time limits for parking in the commercial district Thursday-Sunday from November 24th through December 31st, except for those spaces with 30-minute limits. On behalf of Borough Council we wish you a happy and healthy holiday season!

Mayor John S. Burke

NEWTOWN BOROUGH MEETING SCHEDULE

Borough Council Work Sessions, and all the meetings of Boards, Commissions and Committees of Council, are held in Borough Council Chambers, 23 North State Street, Newtown. All Work Sessions are held at 5:30 P.M. on the Wednesday preceding the second Tuesday of the month. The semi-monthly meetings of the Council are held the second Tuesday at 7 PM in the auditorium at The Chancellor Center, 30 North Chancellor Street, Newtown and when applicable, the fourth Thursday at 5:30 PM in Council Chambers at 23 N. State Street, Newtown. Please see the borough website calendar <https://www.boroughofnewtown.com/calendar> for meeting details of the various Committees of Council.



BOROUGH DIRECTORY

BOROUGH OFFICIALS

John Burke Mayor

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Emily Heinz President

Kris Bauman Vice-President

Gail Foley Councilor

Josh Phillips Councilor

Gina Tognini Councilor

Julia Woldorf Councilor

Borough Council meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm and the preceding Wednesday at 5:30pm. See the website for further details.

BOROUGH STAFF

Craig Totaro Borough Manager

Judy Musto Borough Secretary

James Sabath Chief of Police

Ana Gindhart Building Inspector & Zoning & Code Enforcement Officer

Gilbert, Wilson & Hunter LLP Bookkeeping & Accounting Services

Judy Musto Tax Collector

HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Bucks County Visitor's Bureau: 215-639-0300

Bucks County Court House: 215-348-6060

Bucks County Department of Health: 215-345-3318

Newtown District Court: Michael W. Petrucci 215-968-1657

Newtown Post Office: 215-968-6697

PennDOT: 215-345-6060

Council Rock School District: 215-944-1000

Police Non-Emergency: 215-860-7835

State Representative: Perry Warren: 215-493-5420

State Senator: Steve Santarsiero: 215-736-5960

U.S. Representative: Brian Fitzpatrick: 215-579-8102

Newtown Library Company: 215-968-7659

Newtown Building & Zoning Office: 215-968-2109 ^{press 1}

Newtown Bucks County Jt. Municipal Authority: 215-968-4109

Newtown Borough Tax Collector: 215-968-2109 ^{press 4}

Newtown Fire Rescue Non-Emergency: 215-968-2800 x255

Newtown Emergency Medical Services: 215-968-3500

PARKING PERMIT REGULATIONS

Parking permits are valid from **1/1/2025** through **12/31/2025**

- The cost of the permit is \$200.00
- Permits are **ONLY** valid in the municipal parking lot located at 10 West Centre Avenue by the Old Newtown Beer Store and Wine and Spirit Shop.
- The permit allows you to exceed the 3 hour parking limit
- Permits are required **Monday** through **Saturday**
- Permits **must be visibly** displayed on the inside rear-view mirror
- If the permit is not properly displayed and a ticket is issued, there will be a **\$5.00** Administrative withdrawal fee. Repeated violations of this violation and failure to pay this fee may result in the cancellation of the permit.
- Permits are **NOT** valid for **ANY** on-street parking (example: state street and centre avenue)
- Expired permits **MUST** be returned to the newtown borough police department. If permits are not turned in, then you can not purchase a new permit for the next year
- Follow us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/newtownboroughpolice>) for any parking restrictions or snow removal.



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NEWTOWN BOROUGH TAXES

In Newtown Borough, we have a few different types of local taxes:

1) Judy S. Musto, Elected Tax Collector

- **Real Estate Tax** – The elected tax collector issues two real estate tax bills to every property owner each year. The first bill is mailed by March 1 and those funds go to Bucks County and Newtown Borough. The second bill is mailed by July 1 and those taxes go to the Council Rock School District.
- **Occupational Tax** – The elected tax collector issues this tax bill by July 1 to everyone 18 years old or older who resides in Newtown Borough and works full or part-time. These funds also go to the Council Rock School District. **For those who have retired, moved, taken a new job, changed occupations, or have any other questions relating to their Occupational Assessment, please contact taxoffice@crsd.org.**



2% discounts are available to taxpayers who pay within the first two months of billing. Further questions regarding these two types of taxes should be directed to Judy at taxcollector@boroughofnewtown.com or by visiting website <https://jsmusto.wixsite.com/boro>.

2) Keystone Collections Agency, Appointed Tax Collector

- In addition to the above, Keystone Collections Agency is the Bucks County appointed collector of earned income tax (EIT) and local services tax (LST), and they can be reached at www.keystonecollects.com. The 1% EIT is split evenly between the Council Rock School District and Newtown Borough. Like federal and state income tax, residents file local tax returns by April 15 each year.

Delinquent taxes are handled differently, depending on the type of tax and taxing authority to whom the funds are paid. Collections of these taxes are as follows:

Real Estate Tax/County & Municipal – Bucks County Tax Claim Bureau <https://www.buckscounty.gov/323/Tax-Claim-Bureau>

Real Estate Tax/School – Portnoff Law Associates <https://www.crsd.org/Page/60311>

Occupation Tax/School – G.H. Harris & Associates <https://www.crsd.org/Page/60311>

Earned Income Tax/School & Municipal – Keystone Collections Agency www.keystonecollects.com

In 2023, the Council Rock School District enacted a Property Tax & Rent Rebate Program similar to the existing rebate program offered by the state of PA and administered by the PA Dept. of Revenue for seniors and individuals with permanent disabilities. Eligibility requirements are age and income based. Contact www.crsd.org.

In 2024, the PA Dept. of Revenue raised the maximum rebate from \$650 to \$1000 for property owners and renters earning up to \$45,000 per year. Visit revenue.pa.gov for more information.

KIDS ON CAMPUS
Save the Dates:
June 16 – August 8, 2025

SUMMER CAMPS & TEENS on CAMPUS PROGRAMS

We offer a variety of week-long specialty camps for ages 5-6, 7-9, 10-12, and 13-15.

BUCKS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE | *More than 50 Summer 2025 camp offerings will be available in January on bucks.edu/kidsoncampus.*

How to Continue to Practice Sustainability over the Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa Holidays

As enjoyable as the holiday season is, it's also a time when waste soars to alarming levels. Household waste increases by 25% between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day in the United States alone—that's about 5 million tons of garbage produced. (Architectural Digest, 10/23)

However, breakneck buying and excess waste that happens over the holidays is hurting the planet. It is part of an unsustainable consumer culture that is feeding a triple planetary crisis of climate change, nature and biodiversity loss, and pollution and waste.

Ultimately, by integrating sustainability into holiday practices, you help foster a healthier, more equitable world for everyone.

12 tips that will contribute to a healthier planet while enjoying the season:

1. **Eco-Friendly Wrapping:** Use reusable gift wrap like fabric or old newspapers, or get creative with materials you already have around the house. Gardening pots are easy to fill with gardening supplies. A mixing bowl or stockpot makes an excellent package for your favorite cook. (Then save clothing boxes, ribbons, bows and wrapping paper to reuse next year).
2. **Sustainable Decorations:** Decorate with natural elements like pinecones, dried fruits, or potted plants that can be reused or composted after the season.
3. **Conscious Consumption:** Plan meals carefully to minimize food waste. Use leftovers creatively and compost scraps when possible.
4. **Support Local:** Shop at local markets or small businesses to reduce transportation emissions and support your community.
5. **Digital Cards:** Consider sending e-cards instead of paper cards, or choose cards made from recycled materials.
6. **Travel Smart:** If traveling, consider carpooling, using public transport, or offsetting your carbon footprint through reputable programs.
7. **Look into alternative Christmas trees** – rent, or turn your houseplant into a tree! (cut trees are a greener choice than artificial trees.)
8. **Switch to LED lights**, which use up to 80% less energy. Use Energy Star qualified LED (Light Emitting Diode) lights. They are 90 percent more efficient than traditional lights and LED's last longer.
9. **Experiences over things:** Consider gift options such as a spa day, cooking class, or weekend getaway. Also great are gift certificates to local museums, concerts, restaurants, theaters, etc.
10. **Online shopping hacks:** Today, most people shop online. To reduce waste, bundle your online purchases and look for retailers that use minimal packaging or eco-friendly packing materials.
11. **Reusable tableware:** Opt for reusable dinnerware and cloth napkins instead of disposable options to reduce the pile-up of plastic and paper products. Then, store leftovers in reusable glass containers rather than single-use plastic ones to keep them fresh and curb additional waste.
12. **Look for gifts that don't require batteries:** If you must buy a product that needs batteries, buy rechargeable batteries and give them with the gift.

Embrace the spirit of the season while being kind to the planet!

2024 HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS AT THE HISTORIC NEWTOWN THEATRE

December is packed full of holiday cheer at the historic Newtown Theatre on North State Street. Here is the lineup***:

- "Rat Pack Christmas Special" (concert) – Sunday, November 24 at 3:00 p.m.
- "White Christmas" (live theatre presented by the Newtown Arts Company) – December 5 – 8 at various times
- "A Carpenters Christmas" (concert) – Monday, December 9 at 3:00 p.m.
- "The Bells of St. Mary's" (movie) – Tuesday, December 10 at 3:00 & 7:30 p.m.
- "Merry Christmas Darling with the Sassies" (concert) – Wednesday, December 11 at 3:00 p.m.
- "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation" (movie) – Wednesday, December 11 at 7:30 p.m.
- "Broadway in Newtown PA: Holiday Edition" (concert) – Thursday, December 12 at 8:00 p.m.
- "Bad Moms Christmas" (movie event) – Friday, December 13 at 8:00 p.m.
- "A Very Valli Christmas" (concert) – Saturday, December 14 at 2:00 p.m.
- "Dueling Pianos Christmas Special" (concert) – Saturday, December 14 at 8:00 p.m.
- "Home Alone" (movie) – Sunday, December 15 at 9:00 a.m.
- "It's a Wonderful Life" (movie) – Sunday, December 15 at 7:30 p.m.
- "An Illuminated Classical Christmas Concert" featuring the Newtown Chamber Orchestra – Tuesday, December 17 at 8:00 p.m.
- "White Christmas" (movie) – Wednesday, December 18 at 3:00 p.m.
- "White Christmas Singalong" (movie) – Wednesday, December 18 at 7:30 p.m.
- "Big Band Christmas" (concert) – Friday, December 20 at 8:00 p.m.
- "Polar Express" (movie) – Saturday, December 21; Sunday, December 22; Monday, December 23; Tuesday, December 24. All at 9:00 a.m.
- "The Muppets Christmas Carol" (movie) – Saturday, December 21 at 1:00 p.m.
- "Motown Christmas Concert" (concert) – Saturday, December 21 at 8:00 p.m.
- "It's a Wonderful Life" (movie) – Sunday, December 22 at 1:00 p.m.
- "A Christmas Story" (movie) – Monday, December 23 at 1:00 p.m.
- "Slambovia Circus of Dreams Christmas Concert" – Monday, December 23 at 8:00 p.m.
- "New Year's Eve Comedy Shows" – Tuesday, December 31 at times TBD



For the latest theatre schedule, visit TheNewtownTheatre.com. The theatre is located at 120 N. State Street in Newtown Borough.

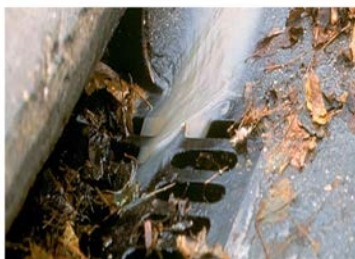
***Event titles, days and times subject to change

HELP KEEP OUR STREAMS CLEAN

Storm drains & roadside ditches lead directly to our streams, lakes and rivers.

How can you help?

- * Use a broom instead of a hose to clean sidewalks & driveway.
- * Sweep fertilizer off driveways & sidewalks back onto your lawn.
- * Keep leaves, grass clippings, trash, & fertilizers out of storm drains
- * Do not dump motor oil, chemicals, pet waste, dirty or soapy water, or anything else down the storm drain.






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Newtown Historic Association 2024 Holiday House Tour



198 North Chancellor Street



106 South Chancellor Street



207 Penn Street



212 Washington Avenue



156 North Lincoln Avenue



100 South Chancellor Street

Featuring thirteen private homes and public buildings. **Saturday December 7, 2024 10 am – 4 pm.** Free Parking at The Stocking Works, 301 South State Street. Advance Sale **tickets \$30 members, \$35 nonmembers.** Available after Nov 15 online at newtownhistoric.org or Newtown Book & Record Exchange, 102 South State Street. Cash or Check Only. Day of Tour, **tickets \$40 members and nonmembers.** Available at Half Moon Inn (Court Inn), 105 Court Street, 215-968-4004 or The Stocking Works, 301 South State Street.



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NEWTOWN BOROUGH POINTS OF INTEREST

- 1** **Bird in Hand** *Private Residence*
111 S. State Street
Built prior to 1690 and one of the oldest frame houses in Pennsylvania. A marker in the garden describes a skirmish at this site in 1778 with British troops.
- 2** **County Office Building** *First National Bank Offices*
34 S. State Street
Built in 1796 as the County Office Building when Newtown was the county seat from 1726 to 1813.
- 3** **The Court Inn (Half-Moon Inn)*** *Newtown Historic Association, Inc. Open to the Public*
Court Street & Centre Avenue 215.968.4004
Built in 1733 and originally called The Half Moon Inn. It is known as The Court Inn because it is located diagonally across from the former site of the Court House building and was a popular pub in town.
- 4** **Edward Hicks House** *Private Residence*
122 Penn Street
Built in 1821 by Edward Hicks. This house is constructed of Pennsylvania fieldstone and was considered a modest home at the time it was built.
- 5** **Newtown Borough Council Chambers***
23 N. State Street
Built in 1854 to house the Borough offices and jail. Newtown Borough was incorporated April 16, 1838.
- 6** **Newtown Common** *Historic Marker*
100 N. State Street (rear)
In 1683 when Newtown was surveyed, thirty acres along Newtown Creek were reserved for free use of water and pasture land. This tranquil small park still remains public property.
- 7** **Newtown Creek Bridge***
W. Centre Avenue
Built in 1796, this double-arched stone bridge is the oldest stone bridge in Bucks County and the fourth oldest in Pennsylvania.
- 8** **Newtown Friends Meeting House and Burial Grounds***
219 Court Street
Built in 1817. Painter Edward Hicks, recognized as a leading minister of the Meeting, was often in attendance. Hicks is buried in the graveyard.
- 9** **Newtown Library Company** *Open to the Public*
114 Centre Avenue 215.968.7659
Third oldest library in Pennsylvania, serving the community since 1760.
- 10** **Linton Memorial Park**
199 S. Lincoln Ave.
Family Park features a Peaceable Kingdom sculpture.
- 11** **Brian S. Gregg Memorial Park**
129 N. Congress Street
Playground and park located next to the Chancellor Center.
- 12** **Newtown Theatre**
120 N. State Street
Built in 1831, it is the oldest continuously operating movie theater in the US.
- 13** **Patriots Park**
112 Court Street
Site of the Revolutionary War skirmish in 1778, when Loyalists raided the property where tailors were making and mending uniforms for the soldiers camped at Valley Forge.

** Listed on the National Register of Historic Places*

For a more complete listing of historical sites in the Borough, stop by Borough Council Chambers or The Court Inn for a free walking tour brochure.





McCAFFREY'S FOOD MARKETS



Hosting a Party This Winter?

It's *always* party season, and we can help with delicious food and custom cakes! Our menu has something to please everyone:

- Bruschetta Trays with Crostini
- Hoagie Platters
- Custom Cheese Boards
- Roast Pork Spring Rolls
- Mini Philly Cheesesteaks
- Grilled Pear Salad with Balsamic Vinaigrette
- Petite Lobster Tail & Shrimp Combo
- Chicken Marsala
- Pork Sausage, Onions & Peppers
- Lasagna Rolls
- And more!

Scan to see our full menu & place your order today at your neighborhood store!

Village at Newtown Shopping Center
2890 South Eagle Road
Newtown, PA 18940



Environmental Disposal Hazard Notice to our Customers – Please Read!

Dear Valued Customer,

Please be advised of the following environmental disposal hazard notice which is becoming more prevalent and dangerous to our customers, our drivers, and our communities.

The use of lithium-ion batteries, also known as “button batteries,” has been steadily increasing over the last 15 years. They can be found in consumer electronics, power tools, medical equipment, electric cars, and many other devices. While lithium-ion batteries have proven to be a low cost and effective power source, they are extremely volatile in the wrong conditions and therefore, can be a serious fire hazard.

Leck Waste Services experienced 3 waste truck fires within the last year because of lithium-ion batteries in the waste stream. These batteries ignite when ruptured and should never be disposed of in regular trash. Below is a photo of what will occur when a lithium-ion battery is ruptured. When these batteries are ruptured in a trash truck, a fire will surely result and the potential for injury, death and property damage is very significant.

To our Commercial Customers: improperly disposed of lithium-ion batteries puts your employees and facilities at risk as well as Leck Waste Services employees and equipment.

To our Residential Customers: At residential locations, improperly disposed of lithium-ion batteries puts yourself, your home, and your property at risk.

To ALL Customers: We strongly encourage all our customers to inform all employees of your commercial business or all members of your household of the proper disposal for lithium-ion batteries.

The EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) states that lithium-ion batteries must be processed by an appropriate recycler and never disposed of with your trash. You should never store lithium-ion batteries touching each other and to prevent fires, tape battery terminals and/or place lithium-ion batteries in separate plastic bags. <https://www.epa.gov/recycle/used-lithium-ion-batteries>



Addition items that should not be placed in the waste stream; flammable liquids, propane tanks, car batteries, oil-based paint, any compressed gas cylinder, hot coals, paint thinner, and pool chemicals. Under PA law anyone who is found to be disposing of these items can be held legally and financially responsible. Please do your part to keep yourself, your home, and your employees safe, as well as the Leck Waste Services employees.

Sincerely,
Leck Waste Services.

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WEEKDAYS (Monday-Friday, Excluding Holidays)

	Walking	Riding
Seniors	\$26.00	\$38.00
Regular	\$33.00	\$45.00
Heroes (Military, Fire, Police, Ambulance)	\$26.00	\$38.00
After 1:00 (Everyone)	\$26.00	\$38.00

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Newtown's Annual
**Holiday
Weekend**

*The First Saturday
in
December*

Event details at
newtownhistoric.org

Friday before

**Tree
Lighting**

First Saturday in December

**Holiday
Open
House
Tour**

Sunday after

**Holiday
Parade**

Join the festivities in
December!



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Experience!**

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Volunteers Needed

Newtown Fire Association is Seeking Volunteers
for more information: www.newtownfire.com

215-968-3731

As spring blossoms around us, Newtown Fire ~ Rescue is gearing up for another season of serving and protecting our beloved community. We hope this newsletter finds you well and safe.

Our department is continuously seeking dedicated individuals who are passionate about serving their community as volunteer firefighters. If you have the courage, commitment, and desire to make a difference in Newtown, we invite you to join our team. Volunteering with Newtown Fire ~ Rescue is a rewarding experience that allows you to learn valuable skills, forge lifelong friendships, and contribute to the safety and well-being of our community. Visit our website at www.newtownfire.com to learn more about the application process and requirements.

As a combination volunteer and career organization, we heavily rely on the generosity of community members like you to sustain our operations and provide essential services. Your donations enable us to purchase necessary equipment, maintain our facilities, and enhance our training programs. Every contribution, no matter the size, makes a meaningful impact and helps us better serve the community in times of need. Please make checks payable to: Newtown Fire Association, PO Box 215, Newtown, PA 18940

Stay up-to-date with the latest news, events, and safety tips from Newtown Fire ~ Rescue by following us on social media. We are committed to keeping our community informed and empowered to stay safe. Thank you for your ongoing support!

Install Smoke Alarms

- Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, inside bedrooms, and outside sleeping areas
- Interconnect smoke alarms throughout the home. When one sounds, they all sound.

Test Smoke Alarms

- Test smoke alarms at least once a month and replace batteries once a year or when the alarm "chirps" to tell you the battery is low. Replace any smoke alarm that is more than 10 years old.

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THANK YOU

The Borough of Newtown would like to thank the businesses that appear in this newsletter and to recognize them each as supporters and cornerstones of our community, for it is with their contributions that this newsletter has been produced at no charge to our residents. The Borough would like to further request that citizens, in response, patronize these businesses first when given a choice as these businesses are saving each citizen tax dollars.

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SUNDAY
12/8 2PM - 4PM



NEWTOWN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

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Mary Dinneen

PA Licensed Realtor
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Mary.Dinneen@FoxRoach.com

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Fox & Roach, REALTORS
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Newtown PA, 18940
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Katie Dinneen

PA/NJ Licensed Realtor
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Fall/Winter 2024



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For more info: Send us a direct message on instagram: [@bogradexperience](https://www.instagram.com/bogradexperience)