

**MOSCOW BOROUGH NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER 2020 THROUGH MARCH 2021**

MOSCOW BOROUGH OFFICE HOURS: The Moscow Borough Office hours are Monday and Tuesday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Wednesday, Thursday and Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

MOSCOW BOROUGH WEBSITE: The Moscow Borough website is www.moscowboro.com.

DEPARTMENT TELEPHONE NUMBERS/EMAIL ADDRESSES:

DEPARTMENT	TELEPHONE NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Moscow Borough Office	570-842-1699	Office@Moscowboro.com
Moscow Borough Police Department	570-842-2061	Police@Moscowboro.com
Moscow Borough Street Department	570-848-1265	DPW@Moscowboro.com
Moscow Borough Office Assistant/Treasurer	570-842-1699	WageTax@Moscowboro.com

BOROUGH OFFICIALS:

POSITION	OFFICIAL	POSITION	OFFICIAL
Mayor	Rosemarie Warner	Junior Council Member	Jacob Bianchi
Council President	Arthur Pencek	Solicitor	Bruce Zero
Council Vice President	Edward Gaughan, Jr.	Real Estate Tax Collector	Constance Sanko
Councilmember	Thomas Lynch	Office Assistant/Treasurer	Elizabeth Murray
Councilmember	Joseph Castrogiovanni	Secretary	Constance Sanko
Councilmember	Marc Gaughan	Police Chief	Ivy L. Brenzel
Councilmember	William Heim	DPW Superintendent	Mark Mecca
Councilmember	Daniel Hanna	Zoning/Code Enforcement	George Parker
Junior Council Member	Brian Castrogiovanni	Building Inspections	BIU of PA, Inc.

MEETING DATES AND TIMES

Moscow Borough Council meets on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 P.M. at the Moscow Borough Building, except if there is a holiday on the first Monday, Council will meet on the following Tuesday. The Planning Commission meets on the last Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Borough Building. The Zoning Hearing Board meets on an as needed basis.

NEWSLETTERS

In an effort to ensure that all residents, business owners and tenants have access to the newsletter we are mailing a hard copy. We feel that not everyone remembers to view the newsletter online, or does not have access to a computer, and they are missing important information contained in the newsletter. Please make this newsletter available to everyone at your location. If you need additional copies please contact the Borough Office.

SUPPLEMENT TO NEWSLETTER

A revised supplement to the newsletter will be mailed in the near future that contains recurring information that pertains to the Borough. This supplement will also be on the Borough's website and can be obtained by contacting the Borough Office.

MOSCOW BOROUGH NOTIFICATIONS

Notifications pertaining to upcoming events are posted on the Borough's website, sent via email, or on NextDoor Moscow, a private social network for your neighborhood. Log onto www.nextdoor.com, enter your street address, zip and email address and join your neighbors in a private social network only for Moscow Borough residents. **If you have an email address we strongly encourage you to have your name added to our distribution list for notifications. If you would like to be added to the email list to receive notifications please send an email to the Borough at office@moscowboro.com.**

MAYOR'S MESSAGE
Rosemarie Warner, Mayor

As the leaves are turning and we notice the abrupt change in temperatures, there is no doubt that fall has indeed arrived in Moscow and the North Pocono area. I look forward to this time when nature takes on a pallet of colors and the smells and sounds of autumn fill the senses. Our world is certainly not in a state of normalcy during this beautiful season. As a community we have come together to stay safe while continuing to function as best we can in our everyday lives.

This summer so many traditional events that have become staples of a Moscow summer were cancelled including the Minisink Lions Fireworks, the Moscow Volunteer Fire and Hose Company's Chicken Barbeque and the Run for the Hoses, as well as the Moscow Country Street Fair. Yet our community continues to persevere as best we can.

I am encouraged to see so many people safely and responsibly enjoying the outdoor activities now more than ever. I myself have spent so much more time walking the North Pocono Trails and am so encouraged by the great amount of people that take advantage of "our magical forest". If you have not done so, this is a place to put on your "TO DO" list. As you walk be aware of the gnomes, fairies, and yes even dinosaurs that are hidden along the path amid the woods. I would like to acknowledge all the

volunteers of the North Pocono Trails Association who take the time and hard work that goes into making this a welcoming, peaceful zone in our community, one that is so needed during this stressful time. The recent additions of benches along the path truly make this a place to appreciate the wonders and the beauty that surrounds us.

I would like to acknowledge the time and planning of the members of the North Pocono Cultural Society who have stepped up tremendously with beautifications and activities to help fill the void felt by so many. I hope you took notice of the beautiful plants and flowers that adorned our Main Street area this summer. In addition, individual gardens were showcased via a Virtual Garden Tour, and beautifully handmade quilts were showcased via a Virtual Quilt Show. The North Pocono Cultural Society is also happy to announce another fun virtual event for our communities during this time of social distancing. They would like to encourage the young people of the North Pocono community to participate in their very first Virtual Scarecrow contest.

Also, in August we postponed our traditional National Night Out which puts the deserved focus on our police, fire and EMS that serve Moscow Borough. It too took a different form as collections were done for the North Pocono Food Pantry as well as the Griffin Pond Animal Shelter, which was a huge success. All donations are very much appreciated! It is encouraging to see that our community continues to rise up to meet any challenge that we may face.

As we move forward into our fall and winter season, please continue to support and shop at local businesses. Get involved and be an integral part of the Borough of Moscow community. As we continue to battle our way through this pandemic always be mindful of the part we must all play in staying safe.

**Stay smart, stay apart, wash your hands and wear your mask.
Better days will follow if we all work together.**

MOSCOW BOROUGH BUILDING INSPECTOR/ZONING OFFICER

David Lamm recently retired from his position as Building Inspector/Zoning Officer for Moscow Borough. We would like to thank Dave for his thirty three years of loyal service to the Borough and for everything he has done in helping our community grow and develop.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Building Inspection Underwriters of Pennsylvania, Inc., (BIU), was contracted to replace David Lamm as Building Inspector. New procedures are in place so call the Borough Office prior to beginning any type of construction work to verify whether or not a building permit is required. You may also call the office of BIU at 570-344-9681.

ZONING OFFICER AND CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER: George Parker was hired to replace David Lamm as Zoning Officer and Code Enforcement Officer. New procedures are now being followed. You may call the Borough Office or George Parker at 570-840-9693 regarding any questions prior to beginning any construction for clarification on zoning requirements and whether or not a permit is required.

MOSCOW BOROUGH CLEAN AND GREEN PROGRAM

SPRING CLEAN UP (CLEAN AND GREEN): Moscow Borough has an annual spring clean up in May or June of each year. Electronics and televisions can no longer be placed curbside for Clean and Green (see Recycling Department for information on how to dispose of these items).

MOSCOW BOROUGH EVENTS

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic National Night Out 2020 was postponed from August 4, 2020 to October 6, 2020. The National Night Out Committee opted to hold a food drive for the North Pocono Food Pantry and the Griffin Pond Animal Shelter in place of holding an in-person event. The committee would like to thank all those who donated food and pet supply items, as well as those who made monetary donations. The committee would also like to thank Peoples Security Bank for donating a raffle basket for this event, as well as making a monetary donation to each organization.

ELECTION DAY: General Election Day is Tuesday, November 3, 2020. Moscow Borough residents vote at the Moscow United Methodist Church on the corner of Church and Spring Garden Streets from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Please note that if you choose to do a write-in vote that you take it seriously because the tallying of write-in votes can be a time consuming task for the election officials; write in only legitimate individuals.

MAIL-IN AND ABSENTEE BALLOTS: The Moscow Borough Office has blank Pennsylvania mail-in and absentee ballot applications available to be submitted to the Lackawanna County Office of Voter Registration.

In order to apply for a mail-in or absentee ballot, you must supply your PA Driver's License or PennDOT issued photo ID card number in the Identification section. If you do not have a PA Driver's License or PennDOT issued photo ID card, you must supply the last four (4) digits of your Social Security Number. If you do not have a valid form of either of these types of identification, you must enclose a photocopy of an acceptable ID.

The deadline to apply for a Pennsylvania mail-in ballot is 5:00 p.m. on the Tuesday before the election (October 27, 2020). Please note your application must be received in the county board of election's office by that time. Postmarks do not count. The deadline to return your completed ballot is 8:00 p.m. on Election Day. Please note your completed ballot must be received in the county board of elections office by that time. Postmarks do no count.

The deadline to apply for a civilian absentee ballot is 5:00 p.m. on the Tuesday before the election (October 27, 2020). Please note your application must be received in the county board of elections office by that time. Postmarks do not count. The deadline to return your completed ballot is 8:00 p.m. on Election Day. Please note your completed ballot must be received in the county board of Elections office by that time. Postmarks do not count.

If you requested and received a mail-in ballot or absentee ballot, and voted and returned the ballot to the Lackawanna County Voter Registration Office, you cannot go to the polling place and vote in person. If you requested and received a mail-in ballot or absentee ballot, but did not return the ballot to Lackawanna County Voter Registration Office, you may go to the polling place to vote in person but you must take your unvoted ballot with you to surrender it to the appropriate election officials, after which time you may then vote in person.

Official Ballot Drop Box Location: Mail-in and absentee ballots can be dropped off at a Lackawanna County Official Ballot Drop Box located at the Roaring Brook Township Municipal Building, 430 Blue Shutters Road, Roaring Brook Township, PA, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

HALLOWEEN TRICK OR TREATING: Trick or treating in the Borough will take place on Saturday, October 31, 2020 between the hours of 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Please continue to follow CDC guidelines for social distancing.

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY: Moscow Borough will not be holding a Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony this year.

RUSSIAN CHRISTMAS IN MOSCOW: Watch for upcoming details from the North Pocono Cultural Society for this event.

MOSCOW BOROUGH GRANTS

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOCAL SHARE ACCOUNT GRANT: Moscow Borough recently received a grant in the amount of \$200,000.00 to purchase a new dump truck and backhoe/loader.

The Borough will be applying for a grant this year for the paving of the portion of McAnndrew Road that has not yet been repaved.

Miscellaneous Grants: The following organizations recently received funding from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development Local Share Account through Moscow Borough: the Moscow Train Station, the American Legion and the Moscow Sewer Authority. This year the following organizations will be submitting grant applications through the Borough: the Moscow Volunteer Fire and Hose Company and the North Pocono Public Library.

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION RECYCLING GRANT: Moscow Borough recently received a grant in the amount of \$168,745.00 to purchase a new recycling truck, skid steer, recycling bins, camera system, concrete barriers, covers for roll off containers and signage.

PENNSYLVANIA REDEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE CAPITAL PROJECT GRANT: Moscow Borough recently replaced the sidewalks in the front of the Borough Building using funds from a \$500,000.00 grant received several years ago for renovations to the Borough Building.

MOSCOW BOROUGH JUNIOR COUNCIL MEMBERS

The Junior Council Program provides high school juniors and seniors across the Commonwealth an opportunity to learn about and actively participate in Borough government. It serves to strengthen a youth's community involvement and become a leader for future generations of public service minded individuals. Moscow Borough Council has been very fortunate to have had great representation with our Junior Council members. **This year our Senior Member is Brian Castrogiovanni and our Junior Member is Jacob Bianchi.** Junior Council members attend all Borough Council meetings. In addition, they also become involved with Borough activities and projects. They are involved with leading our Young Visionaries Committee, assist in National Night Out and Christmas Tree Lighting program, and coordinate service projects in which other North Pocono classmates may participate. Junior Council members are also encouraged to pursue a Borough activity or project that sparks their interest.

MOSCOW BOROUGH LOCAL WAGE TAX INFORMATION

The Local Earned Income Tax (EIT), sometimes referred to as Local Wage Tax, is collected by Berkheimer Tax Innovations, who was appointed as the collector for Lackawanna County. If you are a new resident to Moscow Borough please make sure that your employer has given you a Residency Certification Form to ensure that the local tax withheld is being remitted to the correct municipality. Please note that Moscow Borough's Resident PSD Code on the form is 350606 and the Total Resident EIT Rate is 1%. You should receive from Berkheimer a Local Earned Income tax form for Moscow Borough and North Pocono School District combined in one form or a postcard reminding you to file prior to the April deadline for filing all taxes.

Berkheimer also collects the Local Services Tax for the Borough. If you are new to Moscow Borough as an employer, business owner, self employed, etc., please contact Berkheimer for filing procedures for this tax. You may contact Berkheimer regarding either of these taxes at 1-800-360-8989 or go to www.hab-inc.com. You may also call the Borough Office at 570-842-1699 if you have any questions.

MOSCOW BOROUGH MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

BEARS SIGHTINGS: There have recently been numerous bear sightings throughout the Borough. The Pennsylvania Game Commission was contacted; they will not do anything to remove the bears unless they become a direct threat. In the event that you see a bear, you should calmly walk away in a different direction. Residents and businesses are asked to be sure all garbage containers are clean, odor free and tightly secured in an area where the bears are not able to access them, do not put garbage containers curbside until the morning of collections, clean barbecue grills after every use, and bring in all bird feeders and pet food pans at night. Dogs should not be allowed to roam far from your house and should be leashed while walking throughout town and on trails. You can go to the Pennsylvania Game Commission's website, www.pgc.state.pa.us for additional information.

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECTS: There have been many Eagle Scout projects completed in the Borough over the years which have been wonderful enhancements to the Borough. Anyone wishing to complete an Eagle Scout Project in the Borough should contact the Borough Office.

FREE LITTLE LIBRARY: A "Free Little Library" is located near the entrance to the Moscow Borough Building. We encourage you to take advantage of this service to the community. Please feel free to stop by to take a book or leave a book of your own.

LANDLORDS/TENANTS - REGISTRATION:

Landlords: Landlords are to provide all tenants with a newsletter or make them aware of it being online.

Tenant Registration: Moscow Borough requires every property owner who rents a parcel of real estate to provide semi-annually by March 31st and September 30th of each year a list of names of all tenants and addresses to the Borough of Moscow. Forms may be obtained at the Borough Office or from the Borough website.

Multi-Family Dwellings: Owners of multi-family dwellings are required by the Moscow Borough Zoning Ordinance adopted June 2, 2008 to have exterior storage areas for trash and rubbish screened from public view on three sides, and garbage shall be contained in covered, vermin proof containers.

LOCAL ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION TAX ASSISTANCE (LERTA): Moscow Borough, the North Pocono School District, and the Lackawanna County Commissioners recently adopted the **Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance Act (LERTA)** to spur economic development in the C-1 or commercial zones of the municipality. Its purpose is to encourage building or expansion of commercial business within the Borough limits in the designated zones. If a business builds or expands, and if the assessed value increases with the expansion, the taxes will hold at their pre-development rate for five years. In the sixth year the taxation will be 25% of the new assessment; 30% the seventh year; 35% the eighth year; 40% the ninth year; 45% the tenth year; and 100% in the eleventh year. Moscow Borough Council must grant an approval for each project submitted. Contact the Borough Office for further information.

REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO ANIMALS: Moscow Borough Ordinance #195-2007, pertains in part to specifying time limits and limited hours for dogs barking and that dogs **MUST** be leashed at all times, and also that if any animal (dog or cat) defecates in any area other than the private property of the owner, the pet owner is required to immediately remove and dispose of feces properly. The Borough Office has received complaints about individuals allowing their pets (dogs and cats) to stray off of their property and complaints about individuals not cleaning up after their pets when walking them along Borough streets.

REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO OUTDOOR BURNING: Moscow Borough will be acting on a proposed ordinance regulating outdoor burning, including the use of outdoor open flame devices, and repealing all prior ordinances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the proposed ordinance.

MOSCOW BOROUGH POLICE DEPARTMENT

RAPE AGGRESSION DEFENSE COURSE FOR WOMEN (SELF-DEFENSE): Ivy Brenzel, Police Chief of the Moscow Borough Police Department, is offering classes for this self-defense course for females of all ages at the Borough Building or at a location that suits your group. Please check the Borough's website for upcoming class information or contact Chief Brenzel at 570-842-2061 for your group to have a personal class.

ANNUAL OPERATION SAFE STOP AWARENESS DAY: Operation Safe Stop is a proactive approach to educating the motoring public that passing a stopped school bus when children are loading or unloading is both dangerous and illegal. Law enforcement agencies, school transportation providers, pupil transportation associations, and PennDOT have combined their efforts to raise public awareness about the potential consequences of illegal school bus passes and to reduce their occurrence in the spring.

NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK DAY: The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration and local sponsors are holding their nineteenth National Drug Take Back Collection Event. The purpose of this is to provide a venue for persons who want to dispose of unwanted and unused prescription drugs. This effort was a huge success in 2019, removing potentially dangerous prescription drugs, particularly controlled substances, from our nation's medicine cabinets. The Moscow Borough Police Department will be holding a collection on Saturday, October 24, 2020 at the Borough Building. If you are unable to attend the event, the police department has a collection box in its office that can be accessed from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

radKIDS: radKIDS is a comprehensive, foundational safety education program for children (boys and girls), ages 5-7 and 8-12. It focuses on seven core areas: Home Safety (including gun safety and Internet safety), School Safety (including bullying prevention and defense), Out and About Safety, Vehicle Safety, Stranger Tricks (including physical defense against abduction), Personal Safety (including good, bad and uncomfortable touch) and Self-Realization of Personal Power. The program is designed to help children recognize potential hazards, and provide them with realistic options for effective response. By empowering them to make positive choices we hope to enable them to avoid or escape the cycle of violence. Please contact Chief Ivy Brenzel if your group wishes to set up a class.

SNOW REMOVAL: The Police Department strictly enforces the Borough ordinances pertaining to snow removal, parking bans on streets, and clearing of sidewalks. Please refer to the Street Department for specific information on these rules and regulations.

MOSCOW BOROUGH REAL ESTATE TAXES

Moscow Borough Council waived the ten percent (10%) late penalty fee for this calendar year for taxes imposed on the assessed value of real property located in Moscow Borough if the taxes are paid in full by December 31, 2020. The acceptance of all in person tax payments has been suspended for the remainder of the year.

MOSCOW BOROUGH RECREATION DEPARTMENT

It was great to see the community get outside and use our beautiful parks this summer during the pandemic. The parks are looking better than ever thanks to Mark Mecca and his DPW crew...many, many thanks to all! Still to come this fall will be finishing the re-grading and re-seeding at Harmony Park, along with some parking lot repairs at both Golden Park and Old Mill Park. Next spring, we hope to continue to upgrade Old Mill Park with a few waterfront benches, a few picnic tables, and a discretely screened-off area for a port-a-john.

MOSCOW BOROUGH RECYCLING DEPARTMENT

NEW RECYCLING GUIDELINES: Moscow Borough Council and the Department of Public Works would like to thank everyone for their continued patience and understanding as we navigate the difficulties caused by COVID-19 with regard to recycling.

As most of you are already aware the Borough has resumed the curbside pickup of paper and cardboard, which must be placed in separate recycle bins, and shredded paper which must be placed in brown paper bags.

The Borough has also resumed the pickup of comingled materials. We will continue to follow the recycling schedule as in the past, which is included with this letter and can also be found on the Borough website at www.moscowboro.com.

REVISED COMINGLED REQUIREMENTS: The Lackawanna Recycling Center, which is a private entity that takes recyclables from the Borough, has recently announced that they will now be charging municipalities a fee of \$40.00 per ton to accept recycled comingled material.

Acceptable comingled materials consists of glass bottles and jars; aluminum and tin cans; plastic bottles, jars and jugs. **All** lids from glass bottles and jars must be disposed of in your garbage; lids from aluminum and tin cans must be attached or disposed of; and plastic lids may remain on plastic bottles, jars and jugs. **Loose lids cannot be put with your recycling.**

All residents and businesses were sent a letter in early September that included a flyer from the Lackawanna County Environmental Office that has pictures of acceptable comingled materials. If an item is not included in this flyer, please do not place it in your recycle bin. **If there are items in your recycle bin that will not be accepted by the Lackawanna Recycling Center, the Department of Public Works employees have been instructed to leave your recycling and not pick out non-recyclable items.** The Lackawanna Recycling Center may reject the items and the Borough would be required to send the material to the landfill which is a higher cost per ton for disposal.

INDEPENDENT GARBAGE CONTRACTORS: Some of the local, independent garbage contractors that service the Borough, such as County Waste and Waste Management, offer curbside pickup of recycling. They do, however, charge an additional fee. Please contact them directly for their program requirements and costs.

YARD WASTE: The yard waste drop-off area continues to remain open. **The Lackawanna Recycling Center now requires that ALL branches and logs be shorter than twenty-four (24) inches.**

DROP-OFF RECYCLING: Please note that drop-off of recycled material behind the Borough Building is still not allowed at this time. We will continue to evaluate our recycling program and notify residents of any changes. The best way to stay informed about recycling and all Borough activity is to check our website at www.moscowboro.com.

CAMERA SYSTEM: An updated camera system was recently installed at the Borough Building recycling areas.

FENCE: A fence was installed last fall around the recycling area at the rear of the building.

RECYCLING SCHEDULES: Recycling is being picked up on Mondays throughout the entire town, however, there may be instances where it may not be picked up on Monday so just leave your recycling curbside and it will get picked up on a later day. **A 2021 recycling schedule is included with this newsletter and may also be obtained at the Borough Office or on the Borough's website.** Recycling bins should be placed curbside no later than 6:00 a.m. on Monday mornings.

LEAF PICKUP 2020: The Moscow Borough Street Department will pick up leaves curbside during the weeks of: October 19 - 23; October 26 to 30; November 2 to 6; and November 9 - 13. **When raking leaves curbside please be sure that no other debris such as grass, dirt, stones, plants, sticks, wood, mulch or animal droppings are mixed in. PLEASE DO NOT** rake leaves onto Borough streets or state highways; keep the leaves on your property and out of ditch lines. If you have sidewalks keep the leaves on the house side of the sidewalks. If a drain is located near your property do not allow leaves or debris to cover the drain. Leaves will be picked up only once per week on each street. If you cannot wait until the dates previously listed to have your leaves picked up curbside by the Borough, you may bring the leaves to the Borough Building to be recycled but we ask that you empty all bags and take the bags home with you to be disposed of. Also, if it snows on any of those days, leaves will be picked up at a later date.

CHRISTMAS TREE DROP OFF: Borough residents may drop off Christmas trees at the yard waste area when the holiday season is over. There is no curbside pickup for Christmas trees. Please remove all trimmings and ornaments.

RECYCLING KITS FOR FLUORESCENT BULBS: The Borough is purchasing recycling kits for fluorescent lamps, particularly the four foot fluorescent tubes. You may drop the lamps off at the Borough Building during normal business hours.

APPLIANCES: Borough employees will now pick up appliances (white goods) throughout the year. You must contact the Borough Office first to purchase a \$15.00 sticker prior to placing the item curbside for pickup. Do not leave these items on Borough property.

TIRES: Tires can be dropped off at the Borough Building throughout the year. Please call the Borough Office to make arrangements ahead of time. There is a fee of \$3.00 per automobile tire, and a fee of \$8.00 per truck tire. Rims must be removed.

ELECTRONICS AND TELEVISIONS: Electronics and televisions will be accepted at the Lackawanna Recycling Center, 3400 Boulevard Avenue, Dickson City, for a fee of \$1.85 per pound, cash only. For additional information call 570-963-6868.

STYROFOAM - BLOCK AND PEANUT: Clean, block styrofoam can be recycled at Corestates Recycling in the Stauffer Industrial Park (570-562-6483). Styrofoam peanuts can be taken to any UPS store to be reused.

STYROFOAM COOLERS: Styrofoam coolers may be dropped off at the Borough Building for a local business to reuse for shipping purposes.

MISCELLANEOUS RECYCLABLE ITEMS: The following items can be dropped off at the Borough Building to be recycled through various organizations: used cellphones, used eyeglasses, cancelled postage stamps, Campbell's Soup labels, aluminum ring tabs, used ink cartridges, used CFL bulbs, used American flags, used rechargeable batteries, and used library, membership and gift cards.

MOSCOW BOROUGH SHADE TREE COMMISSION

TREE CITY USA: Moscow Borough recently received a Tree City USA designation for the thirty-first (31st) consecutive year from the National Arbor Day Foundation.

TRIMMING OF TREES ON BOROUGH RIGHT-OF-WAY: Property owners are responsible for trimming and maintaining all trees on their property including the ones located on Borough right-of-way. All trees shall be kept trimmed so that the minimum clearance where they overhang any public walk shall be eight (8) feet, and the minimum clearance where the trees overhang any public street or highway shall be fourteen (14) feet. However, the Commission reserves the right to designate a higher clearance on certain highways where heavy traffic or other conditions make it expedient. All trees standing on private property and having branches projecting over a public highway shall be kept trimmed by the owner of such private property so that the lowest branches shall have a minimum clearance specified above or such other clearance as may be specified by the Commission. There is also a benefit to keeping the trees trimmed so that they will not be damaged during heavy snow or ice storms.

MOSCOW BOROUGH STREET DEPARTMENT

PARKING BAN ON STREETS: Parking is prohibited on streets in the Borough from 2:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m., November 15th through April 1st and at all times (including day time hours) during a snowstorm until the streets have been cleared. If you have visitors during a snowstorm please ask them to move their vehicles off the streets so that the streets can be properly plowed.

SNOW REMOVAL: Plowing, blowing, shoveling, or pushing of snow from private property onto Borough streets, whether before or after the streets have been plowed, is prohibited. Doing so creates an unsafe and difficult situation when chunks of snow become frozen, or even when a thin layer of snow freezes causing slippery conditions. It is also illegal to blow or plow snow onto a neighbor's property. Property owners will be held liable, not the contractors, so please inform your contractor of this policy.

SNOW ON SIDEWALKS: All residents and businesses are required to have their sidewalks cleared within twenty-four hours after any snowfall. Sidewalks must be cleared the whole width, not just a small pathway. If you live on a corner lot, you are responsible for clearing and removing snow from the sidewalks located in front and on the side of your property, as well as the sidewalk out to the street so that access can be made from there. If your sidewalks have been cleared but get covered again due to drifting, you are responsible for clearing the snow after the drifting.

GARBAGE CONTAINERS/RECYCLING BINS: Garbage containers/recycling bins must be placed behind the curb or off the street/road, not in the driving lanes. This is for safety reasons as well as to allow for proper snow removal during the winter.

DRAINS/DITCH LINES: If drains or ditch lines are located near your property do not allow them to become blocked with any type of debris, especially during rainstorms. If drains or ditch lines become blocked, water tends to backup which may cause flooding onto your property. Please notify the Borough Office if you are aware of any blocked drains.

BOROUGH RIGHT-OF-WAY: The Borough has a right-of-way that is twenty-five feet from the center of the street to each side of the street; therefore you should notify the Borough Office prior to doing any work in this area.

MOSCOW SEWER AUTHORITY

The office for the Moscow Sewer Authority is located at 309 Market Street, and is open Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. You may contact the Sewer Authority at 570-842-6477. In the event of an emergency contact 570-430-7254.

MOSCOW TRAIN STATION

Brass Christmas ornaments depicting the Moscow Train Station are available for purchase at the Borough Office for \$19.50 each, and ceramic train ornaments are available for \$2.50 each.

MOSCOW VOLUNTEER FIRE AND HOSE COMPANY/EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

FIRE DRIVE: The annual Fire Drive is scheduled to go out in December. This is separate from the Ambulance Drive. The department thanks you for your continued support.

FIRE PREVENTION MONTH: October is Fire Prevention Month. This is a good time to go over emergency escape plans with your family and remind children/teens never to play with matches or lighters. Chimneys and heating systems should be serviced at least once a year. Smoke detectors and batteries should be checked and replaced as per manufacturer recommendations. Carbon monoxide alarms should be installed if you have oil, gas or propane heat. Do not leave space heaters on when sleeping or when not at home, and make sure to have proper ventilation.

SMOKE ALARMS: Please remember to check the batteries in your smoke alarms, which every home should have. A good time to check batteries is in the spring and fall when you turn your clocks ahead and back. If you cannot afford alarms please contact the fire house at 570-842-7211 for assistance in obtaining them.

VOLUNTEERS: We are always looking for volunteers. . . not just to help us run ambulance calls or put out fires, but we need other kinds of support staff as well. Volunteers as young as 14 may become members. If you are interested in helping us by baking, getting donations or donating gift baskets, or working at our fundraising events please call 570-842-7211.

What does a Volunteer Firefighter Make

I make holding your hand seem like the biggest thing in the world as my fellow firefighters cut you out of your car.

I can make five minutes seem like a lifetime as I go into a burning building to save your family.

I make those annoying sirens sound like angels singing when you need us.

I help make your children breathe after they have stopped.

I can help make you survive a heart attack as others walk around you.

I make myself get up at any hour of the night to risk my life for people I have never met and never ask for a thank you.

I make a difference.

NORTH POCONO CULTURAL SOCIETY

The North Pocono Cultural Society has been meeting virtually since March and continues to promote cultural events for the community during the current pandemic. Over the summer a very successful virtual Garden Tour engaged a great number of North Pocono gardeners. The virtual Quilt Show which followed showcased many local quilters after the Moscow Country Street Fair and annual quilt show were cancelled. A virtual Scarecrow Contest is now in progress through cooperation with North Pocono municipalities and plans are under way to carry on the annual Russian Christmas in Moscow celebration in January 2021. The Cultural Society looks forward to a schedule of live events in 2021.

Contact npculturalsociety@gmail.com or visit the North Pocono Cultural Society website www.northpoconoculturalsociety.org for more information or to become involved with upcoming programs.

NORTH POCONO FOOD PANTRY/DRY GOODS

Donations to the North Pocono Food/Dry Goods Pantry can be made on an ongoing basis. Contact Beth Czulada at 570-241-2537 for information on the Food Pantry and Debbie Lohnes at 570-279-9008 for information on the Dry Goods Pantry.

NORTH POCONO PUBLIC LIBRARY

GENERAL INFORMATION: The North Pocono Public Library offers something for everyone. Use your library card or stop in to register for a free library card to check out books for adults, young adults and children in hardcover, paperback, large print or audio formats in fiction or nonfiction. We have DVDs, CDs, magazines and free Wi-Fi for your laptop or in-house computer use and offer Everhart Museum passes for checkout. For a fee the Library offers copy and fax services. The North Pocono Public Library has weekly, monthly, and special events throughout the year. Call 570-842-4700 or go to lclshome.org/north.

NEW HOURS: The Library's new hours are Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; Tuesday, Thursday: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; and Saturday: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (Note: 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. for vulnerable patrons on all days the library is open.) When you visit the library, your visit will be limited to thirty (30) minutes. You will also have the option of one twenty (20) minute computer session. Please wear your mask - use the provided hand sanitizer - keep a safe distance from others.

BAG OF BOOKS SALE: You are invited to the Friends of the North Pocono Public Library Drive-Up "Bag of Books" Sale, Saturday, October 24, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For more details call the library at 570-842-4700 or go to Facebook.

NORTH POCONO TRAILS ASSOCIATION

The North Pocono Trails Association is a volunteer group dedicated to the creation of a trail system in the North Pocono region that meets on the third Wednesday of each month at various locations at 7:00 p.m. Check Facebook Page "North Pocono Trails Association" for upcoming meeting dates, hiking events, trail maintenance schedule, and future fundraisers.

Dogs: If you have been to the trails recently, we are sure you noticed the tremendous use by the North Pocono community of our trail system located in Roaring Brook Township, Madison Township, and Moscow Borough. Out of respect for others we ask that **dogs be leashed at all times. There have recently been instances with an individual being bitten by a dog, a dog being attacked by another dog, and unleashed dogs approaching walkers, including those with young children.**

Parking: Parking for the trail that begins near the entrance to the Moscow Sewer Authority on Market Street is available in Old Mill Park across the street. **Be aware however that no parking is allowed along a portion of Roaring Brook which is marked "no parking".** This is necessary as Roaring Brook is a water source for local fire departments in the event of a fire. Everyone is asked to respect adjoining landowners' properties and stay off of private property.

Park Benches: Recently, community volunteers spent two weekends preparing and installing three new park benches along the Roaring Brook Creek in the Roaring Brook Grove #1, which is located only a few hundred yards from the trailhead.

Volunteers of the Month: The North Pocono Trails Association is proud to announce that Moscow Borough residents, Liam and Grace Hamilton, have been selected as "Volunteers of the Month". Grace hiked and mapped the entire trail system and Liam took that information and created trail maps on the app "All Trails". Now, users of the trails can download trails on their smartphones and it will show where you are on the trails, in real time. This brother/sister team are tri-athletes and use the trails for their run training.

Web Page: Liam Hamilton and his employer "BlackOut Design and Marketing" of Dunmore, volunteered their time to create a new website, North-Pocono-Trails.com. The site has all types of trail information along with downloadable trail maps.

Trail Maps: Links for downloadable maps of the trails are available at the North Pocono Trails Association's Facebook page, the app "All Trails", or at DCNR/Forestry maps section of their web site. Maps are also available at the Moscow Borough Building. There are now a total of 13 trails.

New footbridge: Eagle Scout candidate Will Trygar, a Moscow Borough resident, organized and carried out the construction of a footpath bridge on the Roaring Brook Trail (red). This bridge eliminates a very rocky portion of the trail which hindered some people's enjoyment. We thank Will and members of Boy Scout Troop 132 of Spring Brook Township for this amazing trail improvement.

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGE

The Magisterial District Judge's Office has relocated from 119 North Main Street to 113 North Main Street. The Magistrate's Office can be reached at 570-842-2111.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE MIKE CARROLL

State Representative Mike Carroll's North Pocono office is housed in the Moscow Borough Building. It is open Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and on Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Residents are welcome to contact the office to share their opinions on issues being debated in Harrisburg or for assistance with any matter related to state government including PennDOT problems, Pennsylvania Property Tax Rebate and PACE applications or copies of legislation, to name a few. The office is staffed by Jake Thomas and the phone number is 570-842-8116.

We would like to thank Mike for his assistance over the years in securing grants for the Borough, and non-profit organizations located in the Borough, through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development Local Share Account Grants program. The more recent grants secured were for Moscow Borough in the amount of \$200,000.00 to purchase a dumptruck and backhoe/loader; the American Legion in the amount of \$50,000.00 for building renovations; and the Moscow Train Station in the amount of \$22,500.00 for building renovations.

"It is my honor to serve the residents of Moscow in the State House and I welcome their input. Moscow is a wonderful community and I look forward to working with other community leaders to enhance the Borough's many existing attributes in the coming years," Mike Carroll stated.

LACKAWANNA COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING

The Lackawanna County Area Agency on Aging is an advocate for the rights of older adults and adults with disabilities. The following services are available: Home-delivered Meals, Adult Day Care, In-home Personal Care, Personal Emergency Response Systems, Chore Services (includes minor renovations to help safeguard people inside their homes), Legal Services, Senior Centers, Rent Property Tax Rebates, PACE, Fuel Assistance, as well as other community based programs and resources. To qualify for In-home Care options, residents must present a need and be financially eligible. Some cases may qualify for partial eligibility. For more information, contact the Area Agency on Aging at 570-963-6740.

LACKAWANNA COUNTY COORDINATED TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

Reduced fare transportation may be available for persons with a disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act, if aged 18-64, and a resident of Lackawanna county. Fare is free for individuals age 65 and over; ages 18-64 are reduced fare. Applications are available by mail from Lackawanna County Coordinated Transportation System, 800 North/South Road, Scranton, PA 18504, or by calling the office at 570-963-6795.

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION CUSTOMER CARE CENTER

Contact the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Customer Care Center at <https://customer care.penndot.gov/> or 1-800-FIX-ROAD to report issues such as drainage, potholes, dead animals, etc. located on Brook Street, Church Street, Main Street, and Market Street (all state roads).

SUPPORT THE LOCAL BUSINESSES

"Shop Local. Eat Local. Spend Local. Enjoy Local. It takes you to start a trend.
Support the local businesses that support the area where you live, work and play."

LOCAL CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS

AMAZING GRACE BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH: Website: www.amazinggrace4u.org

MOSCOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH: Website: www.moscowumc.com

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH: Website: www.northpoconocatholic.com

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH: Website: www.stmarksmoscow.org

NORTH POCONO SCHOOL DISTRICT: Website: www.npsd.org

NORTH POCONO AREA YOUTH SPORTS LEAGUES

NORTH POCONO AMERICAN SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION: npbombers.com

NORTH POCONO CAL RIPKEN BASEBALL LEAGUE: Website: npcrb.com

NORTH POCONO DANDY LION LITTLE LEAGUE: Website: northpoconobaseball.com

NORTH POCONO JUNIOR BASKETBALL: Website: npjrhoops.com

NORTH POCONO JUNIOR TROJANS FOOTBALL: Website: np-jr-trojans.com

NORTH POCONO YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE: Website: npysl.com

NORTH POCONO YOUTH WRESTLING: Facebook: facebook.com/npmatmen