

# Plumstead Township



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## Park Completion Nears!



Eager children, adults and local sports organizations are anxiously awaiting the grand opening of the Joseph E. Hanusey III Community Park. At the time of this newsletter going to print, plans are underway for a day-long celebration of the dedication of the park on Saturday, May 31.

Once dedicated this will become the fifth park in the Township's parks system and increase our park system to over 95 acres. This park will provide much needed sports fields, but will also include basketball courts, a pavilion, a paved walking path along the perimeter of the park for all to enjoy and a community building with a concession area and restrooms (including a "family" restroom).

To make the park more easily accessible to the neighboring residents of Patriots Ridge, a pedestrian path will be installed along Gordon Road leading to the entrance of the park.

We are hopeful that the community building will become a venue for organizations and individuals in need of a space to rent and for the Township to host events, classes and workshops that will bring our residents together.



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## "They Also Serve Who Stand and Wait"

*John Milton*

Milton's words were famously quoted by Winston Churchill who exhorted his countrymen to embrace a spirit of volunteerism. A similar call to the spirit of volunteerism applies to the thousands of fire companies from Maine to California who desperately need new ways to attract and retain members.

Plumstead Township is fortunate to have two independent all volunteer fire companies within our municipality, Point Pleasant Fire Company #1 and Plumsteadville Volunteer Fire Company.

Although both companies currently have functioning staffing and financial models, the Board of Supervisors concluded that we needed an outside evaluation of the current and future state of fire services in the entire Township over the next ten years and beyond. In 2012 the Board of Supervisors hired an industry recognized consultant. Volunteers from each fire company and two Supervisors formed the Fire Protection Services Committee.

A few months ago we received the evaluation. Both fire companies were commended for their dedication to community service and singled out for the many things they do well within their organizations. But the report also noted the many challenges that the fire companies face now and in the near future.

The need for new volunteers remains a constant challenge. Although we have two organizations with dedicated volunteers, these

men and women also have obligations relating to family, jobs and other responsibilities in their lives. Daytime coverage is important because many firefighters do not work in the Township, and when a call



comes rapid response time is critical. An additional impediment is that the State requires each new firefighter to devote hundreds of hours to training.

The availability of water for firefighting in the Township is another issue. Only part of the Township is served by fire hydrants. To that end, the Township will be contacting property owners with ponds on their land asking them to allow us to install a dry hydrant in the event of a fire in an area of the Township without fire hydrants.

The Township is also investigating what it can do to reduce the amount of false alarms being generated that require a fire company response. Options include educating our residents about the importance of maintaining alarms in good working condition to enforcement actions for property owners whose systems produce repeated false alarms.

Finance is another issue. Although both companies have developed workable capital plans, the Plumsteadville Volunteer Fire Company faces a special challenge, most notably the substation off Ferry Road which many of us pass when we travel along Route 611. The report noted that the substation needs to be fully repaired or replaced, and neither the Plumsteadville Volunteer Fire Company nor the Township has available funds to do so.

The Board of Supervisors has reappointed the Committee members for another year to continue both the dialogue and work necessary to ensure that our volunteer fire companies continue to receive the financial and operational support required to be able to serve the Township in the years to come.

Watch for updates on our website and in upcoming newsletters.

**Frank Froio and Wayne A. Stork**

Plumstead Township Board of Supervisors and  
Members of the Fire Protection Services Advisory Committee

## **URGENT NEED FOR BLOOD DONORS – GIVE NOW!**



**American  
Red Cross**

**Sign up:** [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) (Enter Sponsor Code: plumstead)

**Call:** American Red Cross 1-(800)-Red Cross / 1-(800)733-2767

Register online or Walk-ins welcome (Appointment Preferred)

**Blood Drive:** Plumstead Township  
Municipal Building

**Date:** *Friday, September 26, 2014*

**Where:** 5186 Stump Road

**Time:** 2:00 pm – 7:00 pm

## UPDATE ON VETERANS PARK "THIRD TIME'S THE CHARM"

At their public meeting on March 25 the Board of Supervisors reviewed details of the bids submitted for the proposed Veterans Park. Bids were submitted electronically using the PennBid website, and representatives of Quercus Studio, the Township's consultant for the project, were able to respond to the questions so that all prospective bidders benefited from the information.

The successful bidders were ThinkGreen, LLC of Glenside with a bid of \$99,780.00 for the site work and Langton Electric of Ottsville with a bid of \$13,969.53 for the electrical work.

Students of Delaware Valley College, whose design ideas were incorporated into the park when it was first planned will assist in the project with the college working on the pedestrian bridge that is part of the project.

Honor alcoves representing each branch of the armed services will be an integral part of the park and the Township will be seeking ideas for the design from local artists.

The work is scheduled to commence on June 2, weather permitting. The Township expects to accept dedication of the park at the end of September and the first ceremony will be to observe Veterans Day.

Members of the Veterans Ad Hoc Committee will be working on the details of the event and are looking forward to hosting the inaugural event for the park. The Township is still accepting donations for the park construction costs. Those individuals donating \$20 or more will receive a commemorative coin which contains the park design on it.

Check back on the Township's website and facebook page to watch the park's progress and stay informed about the Veterans Day ceremony.

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# Plumstead Township Information

## Contact Information

### Township Office

5186 Stump Road, P.O. Box 387, Plumsteadville, PA 18949-0387  
 Telephone: 215-766-8914 • Fax: 215-766-9831 • www.plumstead.org  
 Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

### Police Department

Office: 215-766-8741 • Dispatch: 215-766-8740 • Fax: 215-766-8509  
 For EMERGENCY Dial 911  
 Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM or by appointment

### Floyd S. Bryan Public Works Center

Office: 215-766-0189 • Fax: 215-766-1439  
 Hours: Monday - Friday 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM

### Tax Collector

6162 German Road, P.O. Box 433, Plumstead, PA 18949  
 Telephone: 215-766-3785 • Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM

### Water Department

Billing Questions: 215-766-0189 • Repairs & Maintenance: 215-766-0189

For after hours service disruption or non-emergency issues of concern, please contact Police Dispatch at 215-766-8740. Identify yourself as a Plumstead Township Water Department customer. The dispatcher will contact the on-duty officer, who will then contact the on-call Public Works personnel. For Police, Fire or Medical Emergencies: 911

## Administrative Staff

**Township Manager:** Carolyn McCreary  
**Assistant to Township Manager:** Debbie DiAngelo  
**Director of Public Works:** Alan Bleam  
**Administrative Assistant & Water Billing:** Pam Gravel  
**Chief of Police:** Duane Hasenauer  
**Police Dept. Administrative Assistant:** Linda Barratt  
**Police Clerk:** Jen Schmitt  
**Police Clerk:** Kathy Luff  
**Finance:** Jane Faunce  
**Accounts Receivable:** Virginia Bowling  
**Code Enforcement:** Keystone Municipal Services  
**Zoning Administrative Assistant:** Teri Murphy  
**Receptionist:** Maria Strycharski

## Board of Supervisors

Dan Hilferty, **Chair**  
 Stacey Mulholland, **Vice Chair**  
 Frank Froio, **Treasurer**  
 Wayne A. Stork, **Secretary**  
 Nick Lykon, **Asst Secretary/  
 Treasurer**

## Meetings

The **Board of Supervisors'** meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM. Work sessions are held on the last Thursday of the month, also at 7:30 PM.

The **Planning Commission** meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM

The **Zoning Hearing Board** meets at the call of the Chairman

The **Environmental Advisory Council** meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM

**All Meetings are at the Township Building**

## SAVE THE DATE



PVFC 90th Anniv Celebration .....	5/17
Joseph E. Hanusey Community Park Dedication & Grand Opening.....	5/31
P&R Kickball League.....	August
My Place Smoked Meats Annual Sportsman's Show (sponsors PPVFC) .....	8/23
3rd Annual Thompson BC Classic Bike Race .....	9/13
Township Blood Drive.....	9/26
Annual Tree Lighting.....	December

## ADVERTISE IN THE PLUMSTEAD NEWSLETTER!

### NEWSLETTERS SENT OUT TO LOCAL PLUMSTEAD RESIDENTS

<b>EIGHTH PAGE</b>	<b>\$210</b>
<b>QUARTER PAGE</b>	<b>\$375</b>
<b>HALF PAGE</b>	<b>\$600</b>
<b>FULL PAGE</b>	<b>\$1175</b>

**CALL KAREN ROWLAND TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE!  
 215-538-0350**



The Board of Supervisors formally recognized and thanked the Public Works staff for their efforts this past winter. Pictured with the staff is Dan Hilferty, Chairman.

## NEWS FROM EXPLORER POST 5708

Since the Spring Newsletter Plumstead Township Police Explorer Post 5708 has been extremely busy. We have been learning interviewing techniques and practicing mock interviews in getting ready to select candidates for the positions of Chief, Sergeant and Lieutenant for our established post. We have also been learning the technique of fingerprinting (see photo). Post members will be utilizing this skill at one of our community events by using Child ID Fingerprint Kits as part of keeping our children safe.



Cadets Brandon and Cody practicing fingerprinting

On April 6th members participated in "Survive UR Drive", a joint initiative by Fred Beans Ford and Central Bucks Family YMCA. The day's events included: a real life distracted driving "test", first-person accounts of distracted driving accidents, and updates on issues that affect teen drivers, and a panel discussion including police officers, EMT, a parent and criminal defense attorney. This was a very informative program.



Julian going through the "Survive UR Drive" Course

Of importance to the community on April 30th the Post hosted an American Red Cross Blood Drive. Members were given the challenge to sign up as many individuals as possible to donate. The challenge was accepted and the turnout was a success. Donating blood is important in that

it is safe ...simple ... and saves lives.

On May 31st Post Members will be participating in the Opening Day Ceremony of Joseph E. Hanusey Memorial Park on May 31st located in the Carriage Hill Development. It will be a wonderful day for the community to meet members of the Post and get to know what they are all about.

Mark your calendars for our Explorer Post 5708 car wash to be held June 14th in the Kmart parking lot from 10 Am to 2 Pm. Come out to get your car washed and to support our Post.

At present the Post is working on a mini-grant to obtain funding from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation through implementing peer-to-peer activities focused on teen traffic safety. Explorers will also be doing their own fundraising events such as: car wash, 5K run and pizza sales. As you can see the Explorers are participating in many worthwhile community affairs such as: the blood drive, serving at local community soup kitchen, and directing traffic at community events. To proceed forward like any new organization donations are welcome. Funds will be used to purchase Explorer uniforms, supplies and help with other projects. Checks can be made out to Plumstead Township Police Explorers. If you are interested in learning more about our program please feel free to contact the Plumstead Township Police Department or follow us on facebook at Plumstead Township Police Explorer's Post 5708. Meetings are held every other Tuesday and are open to the public. Please feel free to join us to see what we are all about.



Officer Lastowka teaching cadets fingerprinting techniques

Protect your community and become a volunteer Bucks County Firefighter. Give back and help out. Find out more at [bucksfire.org](http://bucksfire.org)

**BUCKSFIRE.ORG**

## EGG HUNT



This year's Annual Egg Hunt was a great success and fun event.. It was held on April 13th at Tohickon Middle School. Thank you to our Park & Rec Committee and all the volunteers for putting it together.



## Central Bucks Ambulance Thanks You!

With spring in the air and a difficult winter that has now passed we would like to take a moment to thank you for your continued support with our annual subscription drive. The annual subscription drive is a very important part of fundraising to all of the Emergency Medical Services that serve your community and your continued support is surely appreciated by those who serve you.

With this past winter came several challenges that affected a large part of the communities we serve such as deep snow removal, heavy icing and power outages. This year Central Bucks Ambulance started opening a comfort shelter during power outages in hopes that we could assist our community with a place to bring yourself and your family to warm up, have a warm beverage and a nap or even a shower. We could not have done this successfully without the support of local residents that donated the snacks and beverages. Please know that our primary mission is to provide the most effective and efficient emergency medicine in time of need but we also recognize that we play a much larger role in the community that involves being proactive in time of disaster and severe weather events. Together with your support and donations we will have the ability to continue serving our communities with more than just answering your call to 911.

For more information about Central Bucks Ambulance and how to get involved or support us please visit our website [www.cba-125.org](http://www.cba-125.org). We can also be found on Facebook and Twitter where we keep our communities up to date with the latest news that impacts our communities.

## GOT GRASS? MOW HIGH!

To make your lawn healthier, and less expensive to maintain, **CUT HIGH.** Three inches is the rule!

The roots of your lawn grow as deep as the grass grows tall, so taller grass has a deeper, healthier root system and it blocks out weeds that need more sun and water to grow. By keeping your lawn at 3" or higher and never cutting off more than 1/3 of the blade each time you cut, you will see a marked improvement in the quality of your lawn. And a healthy lawn tolerates hot, dry weather better — so you won't need to spend your summer watering (which uses a precious natural resource) and fertilizing (which can harm our creeks, streams, ponds, and rivers).

**Mow high.  
Save time.  
Save money.  
Save water.  
Save your lawn.**

## ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION NAMES PLUMSTEAD TOWNSHIP TREE CITY USA

Plumstead Township, PA was named a 2013 Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation in honor of its commitment to effective urban forest management.

Plumstead Township achieved Tree City USA recognition by meeting the program's four requirements: a tree board or department, a tree-care ordinance, an annual community forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters.

"Everyone benefits when elected officials, volunteers and committed citizens in communities like Plumstead Township make smart investment in urban forest," said John Rosenow, founder and chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "Trees bring shade to our homes and beauty to our neighborhoods, along with numerous economic, social and environmental benefits."

Cleaner air, improved storm water management, energy savings and increased property values and commercial activity are among the benefits enjoyed by Tree City USA communities.



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## PUBLIC WORKS INFORMATION

ROAD  
WORK

### SUMMER ROAD WORK SCHEDULED

Public Works crews will be busy this summer as maintenance and reconstruction projects are carried out. The following projects are budgeted and scheduled for completion:

- Maintenance seal coat work on a portion of Ferry, Twin Silo and Sladek Roads. McNeil and North Worthington Roads.
- Reconstruction and paving of Potters Lane between Stump Road and Geddes Way, a portion of Sladek Road and Silo Hill Road near Owls Nest Park.
- Complete reconstruction and paving of Applebutter Road between Miriam Drive and Haring Road.
- Microsurface paving of all streets in the Cabin Run development.



### TOT LOT REPLACEMENT

Public Works crews are in the process of replacing the play structure at Jennifer Schweitzer Park on Potters Lane. The previous structure was installed in the mid 1990's and replacement parts became unavailable. The new structure will have similar components to the original one.

A new solid surface will be placed under the structure to meet National Standards for Fall Zone Protection. The area is expected to be open by mid-May.



### EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

Plumstead Township maintains a database of water system customer service contacts in the event the need arises for us to contact you regarding an issue with the water system. If you are unsure if we have the correct contact information for you, please call Pam at the Public Works office at 215-766-0189 to confirm or update your information. The ability for us to contact you in an emergency is required by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.



### ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT NOTICE REMINDER

Plumstead Township is required to complete an annual Consumer Confidence Report for all water system customers. The report gives basic information on the system and test results. The reports will be available online at the township website: [www.plumstead.org](http://www.plumstead.org) by July 1. Click on the WATER DEPARTMENT tab and then the forms and documents tab. The reports are listed by system under 2013 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. Printed copies can be mailed upon request by calling the Public Works office at 215-766-0189.

### *Thank You from Your Public Works!*

Thank you for your patience, understanding and cooperation as we all endured one of the most severe winters – weather wise – in many years.

We started the winter season of 2013/2014 with 225 tons of mixed salt/anti-skid material on hand and currently have about the same. We have approximately 100 tons of straight salt on hand.

#### **According to our records for the winter of 2013/2014:**

There were 22 storm events that required action by PW forces.

Approximately 50 inches of snow fell.

We utilized 852 tons of salt and 670 tons of anti-skid material.

Each Public Works employee spent an average of 185 hours on snow related duties between December 8, 2013 and March 17, 2014.

## NOT YOUR ORDINARY ATTORNEYS.

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Warrington, PA 18976

[www.foxrothschild.com](http://www.foxrothschild.com)

## OPEN BURNING PROHIBITED

Just a Reminder to our residents that opening burning is prohibited in the Township, unless you are the owner of a working farm. Effective February 22 2012, the Township has officially rescinded its Open Burning Policy and will no longer issue permits. This action is a result of formal notification from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PaDEP) that we are a mandated community under Act 101 and thus any burning is regulated by the state and we cannot supersede its authority. Based on the state law, the only property owners permitted to burn are those considered to be "working farms", defined as the production of agricultural commodities in their unmanufactured state on the premises of the farm operation. Campfires and ceremonial fires are also permitted. Yard waste is NOT permitted to be burned. Yard waste is defined as leaves, grass clippings, garden residue, tree trimmings, chipped shrubbery, and other vegetative materials. Because the Township is a mandated community we are responsible for the enforcement of this Act, and will do what is necessary to ensure that the Township and our residents remain in compliance with it.

PLUMSTEAD PARK & REC  
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# ADULT CO-ED KICKBALL LEAGUE

Form your team and register.  
[www.plumsteadparkandrec.org](http://www.plumsteadparkandrec.org)

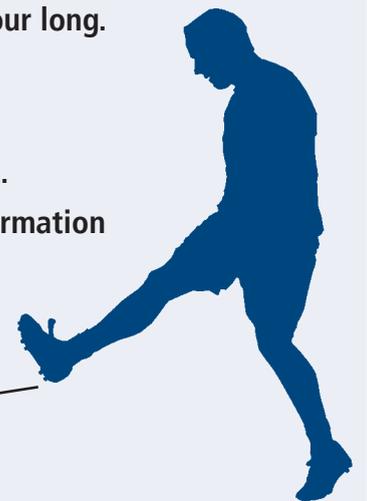
Games are once a week and are one hour long.

Good humor is mandatory.

Skill and ability is optional.

Season: Late August to mid Oct.

See Park & Rec website for further information



OPEN HOUSE

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

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March 16th 1-3pm

April 13th 1-3pm

May 4th 1-3pm

June 8th 1-3pm



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## TENNIS SEASON IS BACK IN PLUMSTEAD TOWNSHIP!

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[http://www.buckscounty.usta.com/BCTA\\_Programsby\\_Town/BCTA\\_Programsby\\_Town/](http://www.buckscounty.usta.com/BCTA_Programsby_Town/BCTA_Programsby_Town/)

### LEARN, PRACTICE & PLAY

**Pee Wees** (recommended ages 4–6): **\$62**

**Season 2:** 5 Saturdays, May 31 – June 28, 10:30 am–11:15 pm

**Season 3:** 5 Tuesdays, July 8 – August 5, 4:45–5:30 pm

**August Aces:** 3 Tuesdays and 2 Thursdays,  
 August 12 – August 26, 6:00–6:45 pm

**Little Aces** (recommended ages 7–10): **\$67**

**Season 2:** 5 Saturdays, May 31 – 28, 11:30–12:30 am

**Season 3:** 5 Tuesdays, July 8 – August 5, 5:30–6:30 pm

**August Aces:** 3 Tuesdays and 2 Thursdays,  
 August 12 – August 26, 6:45–7:45 pm

**Juniors** (recommended ages 11–13): **\$67**

**Season 2:** 5 Saturdays, May 31 – June 28, 12:30–1:30 pm

**Season 3:** 5 Tuesdays, July 8 – August 5, 6:30–7:30 pm

**August Aces:** 3 Mondays and 2 Wednesdays,  
 August 11– August 25, 6:00–7:00 pm

**Teens/Adults** (Beginners/Intermediates) (recommended ages 14 and up): **\$67**

**Season 2:** 5 Saturdays, May 31 – June 28, 9:30–10:30 am

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## GREAT GRIZZLY 5K RUN

A great day for a run.. this year we had approx. 677 runners at our event!! Thanks to everyone for a Great Time!! The over all winners were Steven Waites, Yardley 17:10 and Tracey Sawyer, Warrington 19:10 ~ Tiles were made by resident, Jerry Horan.



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## Plumstead Historical Society

### Upcoming Meeting dates:

May 19th & June 16th at the Township Building at 7pm.  
June 20th (Sunday) at Ralph Stover Park at 4pm.

### Recent Historical Happenings:

- The Plumstead Historical Society has received a donation of school records from the heirs of George Gayman who was the superintendent of Plumstead schools. Attendance books go back to 1861. There are records of meetings to decide to establish a common school system to succeed individually run schools, an album of students at Southwest and much more.

- The cornerstone, marked "WR 1760", of a historic home in Gardenville, has been given to the Plumstead Historical Society by Michael Tulio of NV Homes which is developing Garden Village on Pt. Pleasant Pike.



Thanks to the excavator who was hired to raze the house, the stone was saved from being rubble. The house is noted in W.W. H. Davis' chapter on Plumstead in "History of Bucks County, Pennsylvania". He relates that William Reeder petitioned the court to obtain a license to keep the tavern known as the Plow, but was rejected. Davis records that the old tavern-house burned in April 1871 and a new one was built on the same spot. The first tavern had been the dwelling of an aunt of Abraham and Mahlon Doane. When owned by William McCalla, during the Revolution, the site was a depot for forage collected from surrounding countryside. Chapter XXIV, page 14. The Plumstead Historical Society is very pleased to add this historic cornerstone to its collection of items of township history. The collection has been archived by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania's Small Archival Repositories Project. The catalog will be available on its website in the fall. Donations are welcome and appreciated as are the excavator who rescued the cornerstone and the donor who entrusted it to our care for preservation of this bit of history.

Books and postcards are on sale at the Municipal Building.

Monthly meetings on the third Monday of the month at 7pm, at the Township Building (5186 Stump Rd), except for August and December.

All are Welcome!

Like us on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Plumstead-Historical-Society/398042925843>

## WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Our Sanitary Sewer system currently overflows in Plumstead during heavy rain events into our streets and streams. BCWSA has been aggressively making system wide repairs both on the public and on the private side of the Sewer System in Plumstead. I am sure you have seen their repair crews out daily working in Plumstead since the fall of 2013.

What can you do? Please inspect your clean out stack in your yard for cracks or broken pipes. The easiest way to check for this is to remove the cap look down the clean out then try to wiggle the pipe, to see if this is loose or broken. Also, look for broken or missing caps. Vented clean outs should be raised above grade approximately 12" to prevent surface water from running in during heavy rains. Many times there can be damage from a lawn mower or a car to the cleanouts in your yard. If you observe a defect please contact a plumber.

In Plumstead Township we also have a problem with poor drainage soils. What does that mean? When it rains the water stays here longer, and your sump pump runs longer. Many residents have hooked up their sump pumps directly into the sewer system. This is against the law! The average sump pump will pump 72,000 gallons per day. This is equivalent to the average daily Sewer flow of 240 homes. So as you can see one home does make a difference. Please help keep our Streams, Creeks and Ground Water clean for generations to come, by disconnecting your sump pump from the public sewer system. It's the law! Please urge your neighbors to disconnect their sump pumps too.

If you are unsure where to discharge your sump pump contact the Township and we can make suggestions one of which is a rain garden, a great way to protect and preserve our clean drinking water here in Plumstead.

Modern technology of televising the sewer lines to find leaks in the sewer system is here in Plumstead and for over two years BCWSA has been identifying problem areas. Please make sure your repairs are done before Plumstead or BCWSA has to knock on your door.

From the desk of Nick Lykon Plumstead Supervisor

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# Plumstead Township

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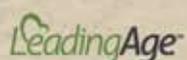
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