



Upper Salford Township

January 2023 Newsletter

Supervisors

Theodore F. Poatsy Jr.
Kevin C. O'Donnell
Richard E. Sacks

2023 Balanced Budget Passed - NO TAX Increase, AGAIN! For the 19th consecutive year, the Upper Salford Township Tax Rate has remained the same! The prudent financial management of Upper Salford Township supervisors and staff results in no increased tax rates. The supervisors are proud to provide beautiful parks and trails and other recreational opportunities such as skiing and ice-skating activities, relaxing free township concerts as well as the Philadelphia Folk Festival. We are proud of our safe, peaceful, beautiful, and not overdeveloped township. We take care of our environment and open space to preserve our Quality of Life. Below are the 2022 accomplishments.

COMPLETED: Upper Salford Park to the Perkiomen Trail (P2P). The P2P from Upper Salford Park to Spring Mount Road to the Perkiomen Trail is OPEN. The 1.2-mile trail is a beautiful walk through nature and woods that connects two township assets (the park to the ski slope) then connects to a county asset the Perkiomen Trail. This is a great local and regional accomplishment. A formal ribbon cutting event is planned for April 2023.



COMPLETED: Upper Salford Township purchased a previously owned Rescue Truck and donated it to the Upper Salford Volunteer Fire Company. The fire company was grateful for the township's additional financial donation in 2022.

COMPLETED: Upgraded playground equipment including a 'crab trap' and a new climbing structure, was installed in the Upper Salford Park as part of the celebration of the park's 25th anniversary.



CONTINUED TRADITIONS: 2022 marked the return of the 60th Philadelphia Folk Festival at the Old Pool Farm. Yes, the Folk Festival was back – folk music under the stars of Upper Salford's dark night skies. The Upper Salford Citizen's Group's Annual Fourth of July Parade had a large 2022 turnout to participate as well as watch the parade. Truly a community event and tradition!

PENNDOT ROUNDABOUT UPDATE:

Work on the PennDOT and US Department of Transportation (US DOT) funded roundabout project between Shelly, Old Skippack and Schwenksville roads has begun. This Upper Salford Township intersection was considered dangerous by PennDOT, Montgomery County and the US DOT. A federal grant of \$2 million was awarded to PennDOT to construct this modern roundabout roadway improvement. This PennDOT project will improve the safety of our township.

According to studies by the IHS and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) roundabouts typically achieve:

- a 37% reduction in overall collisions,
- a 75% reduction in injury collisions intersections where stop signs or traffic signals were previously used for traffic control,
- a 90% reduction in fatality collisions, and
- a 40% reduction in pedestrian collisions.

For more information on roundabouts visit the link: <https://www.penn.gov/travel/safety/methods/roundabouts/>



PENNDOT'S CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE: (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Pre-stage 1 (Utility Works) Work Duration: 10/3/2022 to 2/10/2023. Flagging operation. NO ROAD CLOSURE

Stage-1 Construction: Work Duration 2/15/2023 to 5/30/2023

- Shelly Road and Schwenksville Road to be closed and detoured from 2/15/2023 to 5/30/2023. Note: Old Skippack Road remains open.

Stage-2 Construction: Work Duration 5/30/2023 to 10/11/2024

- Entire intersection closed and detoured (Old Skippack Road and Schwenksville Intersection), starting 5/30/2023 anticipate to reopened by 7/13/2023.
- Install Planting and Landscaping - 10/13/2023 to 11/14/2023
- Plant Establishment Period - 11/15/2023 to 10/11/2024

RESIDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Township Septic Pumping Program: It is your responsibility to have your septic system pumped once every 3 years to protect our well water and public health safety. You must provide a copy of the pumping receipt from the septic pumper to the Township Office. Reminders to pump are sent via email. Please help us to help you by sharing your email address with the Township.

Tree Removal: Due to the increasing number of dead trees caused by Ash Bore disease, Lantern Flies, and other damages, residents are responsible for removing dead trees on your property next to roads before they become a safety hazard.

Township Park Pavilion Reservations: Beginning February 1st Upper Salford Township is accepting reservations for the pavilion at Upper Salford Park for your private event. Please call the Township office for information, rental rates, and availability. NO alcohol is permitted in the park. *This year, township residents will have a discounted rate for pavilion rentals.*

Township Park Concert Series Upper Salford Township Park Board plans to continue to offer three free concerts in the park in 2023. Check the Township website for concert details.

Upper Salford Township Historical Society Upper Salford Township Historical Society held several interesting programs this year including

- Rahmer Racing - 3 generations of Salfordville stock car drivers
- The 75-year history of the fire company
- The History of the Old Factory
- The history of Spring Mountain Ski Area
- The 25-year history of Upper Salford Park
- The story behind the large Christmas light display on Old Skippack Road

Upper Salford Historical Society hosts local historical educational events throughout the year. Most of these presentations are on the Upper Salford Historical YouTube channel so you can watch them at your leisure. Contact the Historical Society at usths1441@gmail.com for more information about this group, or visit their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/upperSalfordHistory/>

Upper Salford Volunteer Fire Company, Fire Police, & Ladies Auxiliary.

The Community celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Upper Salford Volunteer Fire Co. Local and state officials helped commemorate the event. The group picture shows many of the fire company volunteers both past and present who attended the May 14 event. In addition, The USVFC dedicated and named the fire hall meeting room as The Frank Poatsy Memorial Fire Hall to honor the only USVFC fallen firefighter.



The Township supports the USVFC as our township's first responders. Upper Salford Township does not have a dedicated fire tax, but makes a large donation each year from the township's general fund in lieu of taxing our residents. The township donation is a similar financial contribution to what neighboring townships make via a per person tax. Upper Salford Township financial support helps the USVFC in various ways from assistance in purchasing large and small fire trucks and apparatus, funding various insurance needs, providing workman's compensation coverage plus many other financial needs of the fire company.

BUT the fire company also NEEDS your donations to continue their important mission (This is your voluntary donation, not forced like a tax). The fire company sends an annual donation letter to everyone in the community. Your donation helps to fill in the gaps and fund unexpected expenses. *Please support the fire company as they have kept us safe through many difficult situations.* In addition to helping protect our community and respond to emergencies, the fire company, works hard to raise money through various fund raisers. Please consider helping this critical organization by donating funds, volunteering your time or attending any of their fundraisers. Call the fire company at 610-287-9324 or visit their website (<http://upperSalfordfire.org>) for more information.

Stay connected! Township Website, Facebook & Email It's a good idea to regularly visit the website for updates on Township happenings. We periodically send out emergency warnings, official notices, septic pump reminders, and other information via email. If you would like to receive informative Township emails, please send your email address to upperSalfordTownship@gmail.com or amy.upperSalford@comcast.net. Emails *will never be shared or sold*. "Like Us" on Facebook.

Upper Salford Township 2023 Board of Supervisors

KEVIN O'DONNELL, CHAIRMAN

TED POATSY, VICE CHAIRMAN

RICK SACKS, MEMBER

TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

Please join us at our Township Meetings

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS	2 nd TUESDAY EACH MONTH @ 7:30 PM
JOINT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS & PLANNING COMMISSION	1 st TUESDAY EACH MONTH @ 7:30 PM
PLANNING COMMISSION.....	3 rd TUESDAY EACH MONTH @ 7:30 PM
PARK BOARD	4 th TUESDAY EACH MONTH @ 7:30 PM
HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMITTEE.....	4 th MONDAY EACH MONTH @ 7:00 PM