



Upper Salford Township

January 2025 Newsletter

Supervisors

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

SAFETY IS PRIORITY #1!

ROAD SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS – Upper Salford Township, in conjunction with PennDOT, has reduced accidents and the need for emergency fire and EMS calls at the Roundabout at Old Skippack/Shelly/Schwenksville Roads and the Barndt Road/Route 63 intersection. Also, the streetlights at the Roundabout are effective and beautiful.

FIRE, AMBULANCE AND EMS SERVICES - Upper Salford Township was a major contributor to the purchase of TWO fire trucks for the Upper Salford Volunteer Fire Company in 2024. These trucks help to update the fleet. The fire company is based on volunteer service and community donations. Upper Salford does not have a fire tax but contributes from the General Fund. Your donations make up the shortfall, please donate to the USVFC!

EMS service providers depend on your address. You have EMS services from either Plymouth Community Ambulance <https://medic308.org/membership/> or Freedom Valley Medical Rescue; <https://fvmedrescue.org/> (formerly Harleysville Ambulance). The Spring Mountain side of Old Skippack Road is covered by Plymouth Community Ambulance; and the Salford Hills side of Old Skippack Road is covered through Freedom Valley Medical Rescue. Both organizations offer annual memberships – members receive capped costs for services; otherwise, service costs are substantially more expensive. Please JOIN whichever EMS service is applicable to you, to help the EMS Service and to save in case you need their services. The Township pays \$22,500 annually to each provider but the EMS organizations NEED your annual membership help to cover their operating expenses. EMS service is 24/7, highly regulated and is very expensive. Your contribution is most welcomed and NEEDED!

2024 FIRE CHIEF'S AWARD – The Township Supervisors and Staff were honored to receive the 2024 Chief's Award presented by Tom Burgmeier, Fire Chief for Upper Salford Volunteer Fire Company. At the presentation, Chief Burgmeier remarked that the award was given for the cooperative efforts between the dedicated fire company volunteers and the Upper Salford Township Board of Supervisors and Staff – Marty Lynch Jr, Sheldon Smith, Aaron Doremus, John Klavon, Jr, Amy Shafer, and Lori Smith.

2025 BALANCED BUDGET PASSED - *For the 21st consecutive year, the Upper Salford Township local tax rate remains the same!* The prudent fiscal management of Upper Salford Township supervisors and staff require no municipal TAX increase. We are proud of our safe, peaceful, beautiful, and responsibly developed township. We take care of our environment and open space to preserve our Quality of Life. The supervisors are especially proud to provide beautiful parks and trails and other recreational opportunities, relaxing free township concerts, free historical presentations, as well as providing support for our fire company and ambulance EMS providers and local library with no additional taxes required from our residents.

The Township balance sheet surpassed \$11 million dollars in assets. Our assets include Upper Salford Park, Spring Mountain Ski Area preserved property (not the business), the Wolford Road Lot Park, the 125-acre Roger/Heister/Ganter conservation district, the Park to Perkiomen (P2P) Trail, Salfordville Park, Rahmer Park, and the updated playground equipment in Upper Salford Park. Almost all these assets were funded by donations and grants with less than 5% paid for from Township tax revenues. Smart efficient fiscal management makes Upper Salford Township a GREAT township!

Note: At the Township office, posted for public access, are years of positive audit reports and the current Township budget.

UPPER SALFORD SUPPORTS THE LIBRARY: Since 2015, the Perkiomen Valley Library has been Upper Salford's home library. The annual Township donation to PVL is \$16,000. Upper Salford Township **saves \$55,000/year** as our home library. PVL is less than **2 miles** from Upper Salford Township's border. With a Perkiomen Valley Library card you can visit most libraries in **Pennsylvania**. Libraries receive state grant money - so these libraries are mandated to serve all PA library card holders no matter the home library.

ANNUAL TRADITIONS:

- **The Philadelphia Folk Festival:** The 61st festival at the Old Pool Farm was a SUCCESS! And the good news is that the 62nd Annual 2025 PFF is scheduled for August 15-18. Please support the PFF by buying tickets to a wonderful weekend of great music. Supporting PFF also helps support the Upper Salford Volunteer Fire Company and the Township Open Space Fund!
- **Memorial Day Flag Ceremony at Upper Salford Park** honors Upper Salford Veterans from the Revolutionary War 1776 to the present. This is a moving and beautiful event with each name read!
- **Summer in the Park Concerts:** Free concerts are held in Upper Salford Park on the 1st Thursday of June, July, and August.

- **Upper Salford Citizen's Group's Annual Fourth of July Parade:** Mark your calendar for July 4, 2025, to enjoy the 37th annual parade.
- **The Annual Christmas Tree Lighting** is held on the first Sunday of December.

WE ARE TRULY A COMMUNITY OF EVENTS AND TRADITIONS! THANKS TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS!

RESIDENT RESPONSIBILITIES AND ACTIVITIES

- **Snow Removal: Vehicles on Roads:** Please do not park your cars/trucks on roads for safety reasons. In particular, make sure roads are clear of vehicles, trash cans and other items for snow plowing operations!
- **Township Septic Pumping Program:** It is **your responsibility to pump** your septic system once every 3 years **AND to provide a copy of the pumping receipt** from the septic pumper to the Township office. The Township sends pumping reminders via email. Please help us help you by sharing your email address.
- **Tree Removal:** Residents are responsible for the removal of dead trees on their property that border public roads. Increasing number of dead trees caused by Emerald Ash Borers, Lanternflies, and other damages are becoming a safety hazard.
- **Upper Salford Park Pavilion Reservations:** Beginning February 3, 2025, Upper Salford Township is accepting reservations for the pavilion at Upper Salford Park for private events. Please call the Township office for information, rental rates, and availability. NO alcohol is permitted in the park. *Township residents have a discounted rate for pavilion rentals.* Information can also be found on our website.
- **Township Park Concert Series Sponsors:** Upper Salford Township offers a free concert in June, July, and August. The Township is seeking financial sponsorship for these concerts. If you or your business is interested in sponsoring a concert – that would be greatly appreciated! Concert details are posted on the website.
- **Upper Salford Historical Society:** - This group hosts wonderful historical educational events throughout the year. Check out the USTHS Facebook page for scheduled events. Although the events are so much better in person, you can access event recordings on YouTube. Email usths1441@gmail.com or check Facebook for more information.

STAY CONNECTED! Township Website, Facebook & Email: Visit <https://www.uppertsalfordtownship.com/> for Township updates and event information. 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 uppertsalfordtownship@gmail.com or amy.uppertsalford@comcast.net. Emails will never be shared or sold. "Like Us" on Facebook.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: The **Upper Salford Volunteer Fire Company** always needs **VOLUNTEERS** - for firefighting, as well as for fire police, fundraising and other supporting activities. Consider volunteering to help at the PFF food stand or with the french fry trailer throughout the year. The **Upper Salford Volunteer Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary** is also looking for new members and volunteers to help with Penny Auctions (twice a year) and the Easter Egg Hunt for Township children. Other Township organizations need help such as our local churches and the Upper Salford Citizen's Group (for the 4th of July parade). Be a good neighbor and please consider donating your time and talents to an organization or two. *You do not have to join the group to volunteer your time!*

Upper Salford Township 2025 Board of Supervisors

KEVIN O'DONNELL, CHAIRMAN

TED POATSY, VICE CHAIRMAN

RICK SACKS, MEMBER

CONTACT Us:

MONDAY – FRIDAY: 8 AM – 4 PM

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TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS 2nd TUESDAY EACH MONTH @ 7:30 PM

JOINT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS & PLANNING COMMISSION..... 1st TUESDAY EACH MONTH @ 7:30 PM

PLANNING COMMISSION..... 3rd TUESDAY EACH MONTH @ 7:30 PM

HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMITTEE..... 4TH MONDAY EACH MONTH @ 7:00 PM