

HAVEN HIGHLIGHTS

"The Little Town That Could"™

No. 79 - Issued Quarterly

BOROUGH OF SCHUYLKILL HAVEN, PA

NOVEMBER 2023

Small Business Saturday • Tree Lighting • Children's Party & Stroll

Enjoy the Holidays in the Little Town That Could

Great Christmas seasonal events planned in downtown Schuylkill Haven are sure to bring smiles and joy to residents and visitors of all ages. Mark your calendars and make your reservations!

Shop locally this season

The Greater Schuylkill Haven Area Business Association (GSHABA) will once again kick off the holiday season with a celebration of Small Business Saturday on Thanksgiving weekend, November 25. Participating local businesses will feature special offerings, treats, and discounts. Residents and visitors are encouraged to "shop small" this day and throughout the holiday season, supporting all of our fine businesses of the greater Schuylkill Haven area.

When you shop small, it leads to big things! Research indicates 52 cents of every dollar spent locally stays in the community, supporting local organizations and services.

Watch for signs posted at downtown and surrounding area establishments encouraging you to "shop locally" this holiday season. Enjoy this greater Main Street shopping experience.

Look for updates on the GSHABA Facebook page for more details as plans unfold, or e-mail GSHABAinformation@gmail.com.

Christmas tree lighting

The 39th annual Community Christmas Tree Lighting will be held on the Parkway at West Main Street on Sunday, Nov. 26 - beginning at 5 p.m. Come, sing carols, and be delighted in the lighting of the community tree and all of the other ornamental lights and scenes on Parkway and street decorations throughout the town.

Children's Christmas Party

GSHABA and the Schuylkill Haven Recreation Department will again host the annual Children's Christmas Party and Main Street Stroll on Saturday



SANTA IS SCHEDULED FOR AN EARLY VISIT

morning, Dec. 2. The celebration will again be a stroll up and down Main Street of the Downtown Business District, held rain or shine. Free parking is available at the municipal lot across the railroad tracks opposite the train station.

Participants are asked to check-in at the train station's covered walkway between 10 and 11 a.m. There, each child will receive a tote bag to gather "goodies" from participating businesses along their stroll.

Schuylkill VISION again invites families to participate in a free Schuylkill Haven scavenger hunt through the Goosechase app. VISION representatives will be available at check-in to assist with setting up the scavenger hunt on phones.

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SUPPORT YOUR LIBRARY

The Schuylkill Haven Free Public Library needs your help to maintain its services to the community. See page 9.

Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

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Children and parents/guardians will stroll up Main Street to the Lewis, Williams, and Caravan Law office. From that point they will cross Main Street and continue down the opposite side to The Little Dipper Ice Cream Shoppe side lot in order to see and speak with Santa who will make a special early visit to Schuylkill Haven.

During their stroll through the Downtown Business District, children are encouraged to study business and store windows in order to spot an Elf. Participating businesses will have someone outside to greet and distribute treats and/or other items to the children.

This event is open to children up to 10 years of age, living within Schuylkill Haven Borough or attending Schuylkill Haven Area School District.

Registration on or before Monday, Nov. 27 is required. Complete the form shown to the right; mail or drop it off at the Senior/Recreation Center, 340 Haven Street. Call the Recreation Office at 570-385-1313 or email to havenrec@comcast.net with questions or need for further information.

Christmas tree collection

Youngsters, parents, and leaders of Schuylkill Haven Boy Scout Troop 622 and Cub Scout Pack 622 will conduct their annual Christmas tree collection on

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY REGISTRATION

Name of Child	Age	Male/Female	Name of Child	Age	Male/Female
1. _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F	4. _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F
2. _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F	5. _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F
3. _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F	6. _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F

Number of Adults attending with child(ren): _____

Pre-registration is required on or before Monday, Nov. 27. Mail or drop off at:

Schuylkill Haven Rec. Department, 340 Haven St., Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

Saturday, Jan. 6. In the event of inclement weather, the collection may be delayed to Saturday, Jan. 13.

The tree collection will begin at approximately 9 a.m. Residents are asked to place their trees at a visible location for pickup. Donations will be greatly appreciated to help support the many activities of both scouting groups, sponsored by the George D. Keller Memorial Association.

All former members of Troop 622 are invited to participate in this annual community service project.

Borough holidays

The Schuylkill Haven Borough municipal office and employee operations will be closed in obser-

- Continued on Page 4



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Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

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vance of the following holidays this fall and winter - Thursday and Friday, Nov. 23-24 (Thanksgiving); Friday, Dec. 22 and Monday, Dec. 25 (Christmas); and Monday, Jan. 1, 2024 (New Year's Day).

How do holidays affect trash/recycling?

Anthracette Waste Services, LLC observes Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Years Day as official holidays that might affect trash and recycling collection.

As usual, Thanksgiving falls on a Thursday. Recycling pick-up that week will be delayed one day to Friday, Nov. 24.

Both Christmas and New Years Day fall on a Monday this year. Normal trash pick-up and recycling pick-up will be affected each of those weeks, each delayed by one day.

**CHECK US OUT
ON THE WEB...**

SchuylkillHaven.org

Garden Club decorates for fall

Members of the South Schuylkill Garden Club once again decorated the Reading, Blue Mountain & Northern train station prior to Borough Day. From left, members Carol Haldeman and Kathy Townley, both of Pine Grove, and Jane Kruse of Pottsville are shown with one of the decorated poles. Also helping were Nancy Russial of Schuylkill Haven and Kim Morgan of Pine Grove.



Adventures through scouting

Calling all youngsters from the greater Schuylkill Haven area who would like to start an adventure in life through scouting.

Scouting builds character and self-worth while teaching citizenship, teamwork, community service and many more new skills through camping, hiking,

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Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

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earning merit badges, completing group projects, and leadership.



Locally, the George D. Keller Association sponsors Cub Scout Pack 622 (ages attending kindergarten through fifth grade) and Troop 622 (ages 11 to 17). Since its inception in 1934, the troop has helped 70 scouts to achieve scouting's highest achievement, Eagle Scout.

Weekly meetings are held at Keller's Cabin (yes, it's a real cabin) on Shady Lane, off Rt. 443 (Long Run Road) just west of the Schuylkill Haven Borough limit. The Scout Troop meets on Mondays from 7:30 to 9 p.m. The Cub Pack meets each Wednesday from 7 to 8 p.m.

Discover more about the adventures that await through scouting. For youngsters eligible to join Cub Pack 622, contact Audra Grabowski at 570-573-1825 or email audrakg2@gmail.com. For older youngsters able to join Troop 622, contact Mike Grabowski at 570-449-3655 or email mxgrabowski@verizon.net.

Haven Library upcoming events

In addition to providing many community services, the Schuylkill Haven Free Public Library at 104 St.

John Street holds weekly and special event programming through the upcoming seasons and throughout the entire year.

Highlights for the coming months include "Porcupine Pat" McKinney presenting his interesting and popular "Old Tyme Toys" talk, complete with hands-on demonstrations for all ages on Tuesday, Nov. 28 at 6:30 p.m. A tasty fundraising event, the Schuylkill Haven Library Bake Sale will be held on Saturday, Dec. 16 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The date not nailed down yet, but the Sch. Haven Historical Society will be visiting the Library one evening with a "show and tell" of true stories from Schuylkill Haven's past history. Check the Library's Facebook page at [Schuylkill-Haven-Public-Library](https://www.facebook.com/Schuylkill-Haven-Public-Library) for this and other events as they are scheduled.

Join in with Senior Citizen activities

The Schuylkill Haven Senior Citizens Organization meets twice per month on the second and fourth Monday - February through December - at 6 p.m. in the Schuylkill Haven Recreation and Senior Center, 240 Haven Street.

The first meeting is informational about upcoming events that would interest seniors plus "game time" is held with members and friends. The second meeting provides updates and may include hired entertainment and/or important information for senior citizens. Annual membership to be part of this active group is just \$10.

Two events are usually planned away from the Senior Center - a picnic is held at Island Park (weather permitting) in July and a Christmas dinner along with entertainment and more is held in December at the Penn United Church of Christ, Route 61, next to the Penn State Campus.

The Senior Center building was originally built for the senior citizens of Schuylkill Haven and vicinity

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Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

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with a grant written by local concerned citizens of the town. It filled a need to allow senior citizens a place of refuge during very high or very low temperatures, as well as a gathering place for friends to have lunch (bring your own), play cards or just enjoy a day out with other seniors.

The group periodically organizes trips for members during the year. Non-members who would like to travel with the group on one of these trips can make a reservation, after the club members have the first opportunity to make a reservation.

The Senior Center building now houses Diakon, youth sports, and allows for other community rental events. It is under the direction of the Schuylkill Haven Borough Council.

Schuylkill Haven Lions Club



In existence since 1935, the Schuylkill Haven Lions Club is one of the longest standing service clubs in the area. The club has rebounded from the COVID-era that curtailed meetings and services. The addition of new members allows the Lions to continue community service projects that benefit the local community. Meetings are the first and third Mondays of the month. These meetings are held at the Friedensburg Restaurant from October to June. Summer meetings

are held in Bubeck Park. All meetings start at 6:30 PM.

The Lions Club helps support community projects through our fundraising efforts. We sponsor the Pancake Breakfast on Memorial Day and a food stand and basket raffle at Borough Day.

Anyone interested in joining the club or finding out more information, contact Jake Whetstone at 570-990-6821.

No reserved parking

We all know the frustration of having to spend hours shoveling out a vehicle in order to get to work. That frustration skyrockets when returning home to find another vehicle occupying that parking space. Unfortunately, the street is open to the public and you cannot reserve the space you worked so hard to shovel out.

Borough Tax Collector

One of the most asked questions is “Why do I pay two Per Capita tax bills?” You do receive two Per Capita bills – one on your Borough/County billing and one from the School District.

The Borough/County bill is mailed March 1. The amount has a discount period until the end of April; full price from May through June; and a penalty period from July to the end of the year. If unpaid, it will then be sent to collections as of the new year.

The School District Per Capita bill is mailed July 1. This bill comes from Berkheimer and has a discount period and other payment periods listed on it.

Office hours are by appointment

I’m usually in the office three times a week to check mail and messages. Simply call to arrange an appointment. The office is 570-385-1313 or you can also call 570-990-6821.

Because all Borough/County taxes are due by the end of the calendar year in my office, you may pay them in person on December 27, 28, & 29 from noon to 3 p.m. at my office located in the Schuylkill Haven Recreation / Senior Center, 340 Haven Street. As always, you can mail your Borough/County tax payments; but, please make sure your envelope is postmarked by December 31, 2023.

Please pay bills by check or money order only. If a receipt is requested, include a self-addressed and stamped envelope with your mailed-in payment.

Per Capita Tax updates need to be provided to the tax collector. If you know of someone that’s moved out of town, is recently deceased, or in a nursing home, contact the tax office right away so they can be removed from the tax rolls.

The Borough/County bill must be paid in full when due. No installment payments are permitted.

If you have any questions on the Borough/County Tax call the office at 570-385-1313, 570-990-6821, or email taxcollector@schuylkillhaven.org. If you have questions on the School Tax, call Berkheimer or the School District.

– Jake Whetstone, Tax Collector



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Schuylkill Haven Free Public Library

Your Financial Help Is Needed; Act Today!

The Schuylkill Haven Free Public Library's 2024 annual Fund Drive is currently underway.

The Library needs financial support from patrons, community groups, and local businesses to supplement the State aid and local Municipal monies it does receive.

The combined funding is vital to maintain the present level of library services for more than 8,600 community members. Some of the many important services provided include the following: access to computers, the Internet and free WiFi; ebooks, e-audiobooks, DVDs, newspapers, copying, faxing, books on CDs (audiobooks); programs for children, teens and tweens, and adults; magazines, large print books, inter-library loans, and of course, books for all ages and interests. Check out our Facebook page (Schuylkill Haven Free Library) for all upcoming activities, announcements and new additions to our collection.

Contributions from our local community members and groups through our annual fund drive appeal are so important. We would like to thank the following for their continued support: the Schuylkill Haven Borough, the Schuylkill Haven Area School District, South Manheim Township, and the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

The Library Board of Directors and the staff always strive to be good stewards of our funds and try to reduce costs whenever possible. That's why, over a decade ago, we eliminated the mass mailing of our annual fund drive letters and replaced it with an annual appeal for financial support through the



Borough's *Haven Highlights* newsletter. It is vital that the Library receives a strong response so that we can continue to offer free services to our community and not have to reduce our operating hours. The Library is free to use, but not free to operate. That is why we ask everyone to please consider helping your Library with a donation.

Please complete and clip the fund drive form below ... and mail it with your contribution to the Schuylkill Haven Free Public Library, 104 Saint John Street, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972; or, drop it off in person. We have provided a self-addressed envelope for your donation. The Library is a 501(c)3 non-profit institution. All donations may be tax deductible.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
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SCHUYLKILL HAVEN FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

104 St. John Street, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

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Street Address: _____

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My Donation: \$500 _____ \$100 _____ \$50 _____ \$25 _____ \$10 _____ Other _____

Please mail this completed form with your check or money order in the Library's pre-addressed envelope.

Borough Administrator's "State of the Borough"

Wastewater Plant upgrade is complete

Schuylkill Haven Municipal Authority's Wastewater Treatment Plant has been in operation since 1950 with upgrades completed in 1975, 1991, 1994 and, most recently, earlier this year 2023. The facility serves approximately 2,950 customers located in Schuylkill Haven Borough, North



Jessica Seiders
Borough Admin.

Manheim Township, Wayne Township, South Manheim Township, and receives wastewater from other approved locations.

The most recent \$6 million upgrade project was designed to improve energy efficiency in its operations, offer system automation, replace aged equipment that could no longer be repaired, and install a computerized system for monitoring and control of the new and existing equipment within the process.

Tropical Storm Ida

Tropical Storm Ida impacted many communities on September 1, 2021, including Schuylkill Haven. Borough employees, residents and our fire departments

won't forget the six inches of hard rain that fell that afternoon. Since then, the borough has worked with



the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to address and repair one area in the Borough that was severely impacted from the tropical storm.

Storm drains and stormwater pipes were installed on West Union Street from Tennis Avenue to St. Charles Street to mitigate water that caused severe flooding that day. While this effort took more than two years to

complete, this is a benefit to residents by avoiding a similar flooding event.

Warehouse energy efficiency upgrade

Earlier in 2023, an automobile accident damaged the Borough warehouse located on Haven Street. After careful consideration how best to repair the aging building, the Borough recognized it could also reduce the heat loss that escapes from it.

Employees installed smaller, energy-efficient windows and siding where the large painted windows once were, offering more natural light and significantly improving energy loss. Foam insulation was also applied along the ceiling to reduce the energy/heat loss in the area.

Child's play... or is it?

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FOREIGN & DOMESTIC REPAIRS

Keep Schuylkill Haven Beautiful . . . from The Code Guy

Do's, Don'ts & Tips for Maintaining Your Space

Fall spruce-ups; get ready for winter

Winter is just around the corner. Some of us have already had a glint of frost on our windshields. As always, we'll get a short window of opportunity of warmer weather allowing for one final last minute spruce up.

Here are a few chores that should be taken care of before old man winter applies his blanket of white:

- Cut grass one last time.
- Rake up all leaf litter and debris.
- Trim all shrubbery and tree limbs around buildings, sidewalk, and street areas.
- Organize trash storage areas; neatly stack firewood/lumber and other items that will be stored outside.
- Clean and store patio furniture, umbrellas, and children's summer toys.
- Touch up paint on trim, railings, and decks. Use a wire brush to remove flaking paint; prime bare wood first.
- Check caulk around windows and doors. Follow manufacturer's recommendations to re-caulk if needed.
- Inspect external doors and garage doors. Do they close tightly? Install weatherstripping, door thresholds if needed.

- Drain and store garden hoses. Install insulating covers on exterior spigots. If installed, have sprinkler systems blown free of water.

- Have chimneys and flues inspected and cleaned if necessary.

Leaf litter, safety and nuisances

The fall foliage is doing just that ... falling! The Borough's Property Maintenance Code requires residents to keep leaf litter cleaned up.



Allowing leaves and leaf debris to accumulate on public sidewalk areas, public streets or alleys is a violation of the Property Maintenance Code and carries fines and penalties of \$300 to \$1000 per violation.

Your mind in the gutter? Take control of your gutters and downspouts and be sure all dead leaves, debris and pine needles are removed, allowing the gutters to work properly during the cold, wet months ahead.



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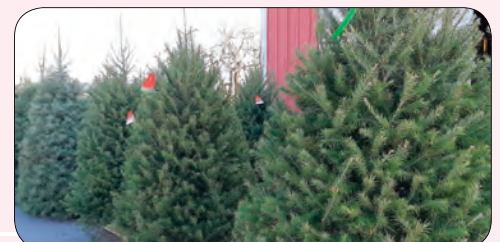
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Greater Schuylkill Haven Area Business Assoc.

Excited to Bring Seasonal Activities for All to Enjoy

Formed in 2004, the Greater Schuylkill Haven Area Business Association (GSHABA) was formed to focus on economic stability and growth for businesses and residents. Its purpose is to promote fellow businesses, welcome new businesses, and improve our community through coordinating special events, beautification, and supporting visions for the future.

Membership dues are \$50 per year when joining directly or a business can easily add GSHABA membership when joining or renewing as a member of the Schuylkill Chamber of Commerce. All business members, residents, community and political leaders – anyone who is interested in making and improving our community – are welcome.

GSHABA current membership stands at 63 active members. New members just added in 2023 include Haas Network Solutions, A&H Construction, The Cantina Restaurant, First Citizens Community Bank (FCCB), Columbia Casket Company, Schuylkill Haven Casket Company, Snyder Physical Therapy, and Gia Bridal & Formal.

Participating each year at Schuylkill Haven Borough Day, GSHABA held a “Train-themed” lottery ticket give-away. Theresa Lonergan – longtime active member and owner of the Stone House Bed & Breakfast – created the prizes shown here with the winners.

The first prize, won by Randy Kline, was a poster

depicting the iconic Borough Day steam locomotive train made entirely with PA Lottery scratch-off tickets. The second prize was won by Melanie Machamer, pictured with a coal bucket filled with “coal cash” lottery scratch-off tickets.



Upcoming GSHABA-sponsored events

Small Business Saturday – a traditional day to celebrate the economic lifeblood of any small town – will be celebrated on Saturday of Thanksgiving weekend, Nov. 25. GSHABA asks all residents and incoming Schuylkill Haven area visitors to “shop small” – supporting our small businesses. Many of our local businesses and GSHABA members will be offering specials and discounts, along with complimentary refreshments on Small Business Saturday.

In Pennsylvania, small businesses employ 2.5 million people. That is 46.2% of the entire state’s workforce. Small businesses have a huge impact on the economy and help keep it stable. Please think “small” as your first choice for holiday shopping.

Childrens’s Christmas Party and Stroll – scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 2 – is a team-coordinated annual event of the Schuylkill Haven Recreation Department and GSHABA. Free parking is available at the municipal lot across from the train station.

Participants are asked to check-in under the canopy at the train station between 10 and 11 a.m. to receive a tote bag. Schuylkill VISION again will invite families to participate in a free Schuylkill Haven scavenger hunt through the Goosechase app. VISION representatives will be available at check-in to assist with setting up the scavenger hunt on phones.

Children and parents will stroll up Main Street to the Lewis, Williams, and Caravan law office, then cross Main Street and continue down the opposite side to The Little Dipper Ice Cream Shoppe parking lot where Santa will be located. Along the stroll, children will be able to search for an Elf in business windows. Participating businesses will have someone outside to greet and distribute items to children.

GSHABA Annual Day of Giving – the organization giving back to our community – will be celebrated at its December regular meeting date – Tuesday, Dec. 5 at 6 p.m. Monetary awards are provided to deserving organizations.



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Borough Utilities and Recreation Services

Parks and Recreation

The Recreation Department experienced an extremely successful 2023 Summer/Fall season with our pavilions packed with rentals. Many are already reserved for the upcoming spring season.

Bubeck Park continues to have a constant influx of guests, including residents and many non-residents. The park continues to be the choice place for hosting many different community events and fundraisers.

Island Park was equally chosen by many for athletic events and organizers of community and organizational fundraising. It's very satisfying to see our facilities used to the fullest and enjoyed by so many!

The Recreation Department is very appreciative of the donation of paint by the Schuylkill Haven Lions Club to keep our pavilions looking beautiful and welcoming!

It's sad to say goodbye to the warm weather; but, happy to say, the Recreation Department doesn't go into hibernation. We simply head indoors for the winter! Our Biddy Basketball (youngsters in first thru sixth grade) and introductory basketball (kindergarten) programs will be starting soon.

Our annual Kline's Hoopfest (girls basketball) and our Cully Classic (boys basketball) tournaments are slated for February 2024. These tournaments bring in teams from around the county and surrounding areas, raising funds for our annual fireworks display in July.

In other news, the Recreation Department and the Greater Schuylkill Haven Area Business Association will host the annual Children's Christmas Stroll on Saturday, December 2. This program is intended for children up to 10 years of age who reside within Schuylkill Haven Borough or the Schuylkill Haven Area School District. The Stroll will take place on Main Street and include a special visit from Santa Claus. Those who plan to participate should pre-register with the Recreation Department no later than Monday, Nov. 27.

Lastly, our website has gotten a redesign. It is a new platform for us and, like many new things, it takes time to learn and maneuver through. Be patient as we transition to this platform and update our current pages and happenings.

Meanwhile, if you have questions about any recreation happenings, call us at 570-385-1313; email at havenrec@comcast.net; or follow us on Facebook at Schuylkill Haven Recreation Department.

Wishing all a very safe and happy holiday season. See you next time at the Rec!

- Mykal and Darle with the Rec Department

Highway Department

The Highway Department will collect leaves every Friday during November. Only leaves and other yard waste will be collected at these times and must be bagged, or tied in bundles, and placed curbside for

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Borough Utilities and Recreation Services

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pick up. Loose yard waste will not be collected.

The Borough uses a call system to contact residents in the event of an emergency such as power outages, "water boil" advisories, snow removal, and so on. This is done with the phone number you have registered with the Borough Office. If you have not registered or are unsure if you are, you can do so on the Borough website at schuylkillhaven.org or by calling the Borough Office at 570-385-2841. This is a great tool to reach you with vital information.

With snow falling soon, please help us by not depositing snow in the street or gutters and do not pile snow at intersections that could cause visibility problems for motorists. Do clear storm drains and fire hydrants near your property. This will reduce hazardous conditions when snow melts and refreezes, and will help firefighters access hydrants in case of an emergency. When driving, keep a safe distance when following any equipment plowing or removing snow. We sometimes lose traction, just as you do, during a storm, and may need to make quick maneuvers to gain control.

- Brian O. Murray, Foreman

Water Distribution / Wastewater Collection

One thing that is for sure, we are either smack in the middle of the winter season or it is just around the corner.

Newsletter Particulars

"Haven Highlights" is a quarterly newsletter of the Borough of Schuylkill Haven distributed to 3,000 households within the borough.

The newsletter is designed and printed by
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Publication dates for the next 3 issues are
February 15, May 9, and August 15, 2024

News Submittals

Nonprofit and community organizations within the Borough are invited to submit news items for consideration. Written submittals must be received by Kaitlyn Tinari in the Borough Offices, secretary@schuylkillhaven.org or call 570-385-2841 for info, four weeks prior to the publication date.

Advertising

Businesses wishing to reach every household in the Borough of Schuylkill Haven are invited to advertise in future issues. Contact South Schuylkill Printing & Publishing for more information by calling Barb @ 570-385-3120. All advertisements must be received at least three weeks prior to the publication dates. Ad content is subject to approval and acceptance by the Borough of Schuylkill Haven.

The upcoming winter season presents some interesting challenges for the Borough's Water Department - the dreaded water leaks in the middle of the night (usually during the coldest period of weather); the calls from frantic customers that their water pipes or water meters are frozen; they have no water or they have a leak from burst pipes requiring their water service to be shut off as soon as possible.

Please be patient. After normal work hours, it does take time for us to respond. We assemble a crew, dress appropriately for the weather conditions, respond from our home to the maintenance garage to pick up our vehicles, and respond to your address to assist you. This takes time.

As a property owner or occupant, take some time before winter weather arrives to assist us.

(1) Make sure your home has a street/unit address mounted on the front of your home or mailbox. Turn your porch light on after calling for assistance.

(2) Know ahead of time the approximate location of your water curb box which is over your water shut off valve. This is a small 4"-to-5" round metal lid marked WATER with a brass nut in it. If you do not know its location or you cannot find it, let us know and we can locate it for you. Perhaps during warmer weather?

(3) Check your home for drafts of cold air in the area of your water meter and where your water service line enters your home. Insulate or plug these drafts to prevent freeze-ups. A roll of insulation costs far less than damaged water meters or your pipes.

(4) Keep a path cleared of the snow or ice for our meter reader from your street or sidewalk to your electric meter and your outside water meter reading device. If we cannot read your meters, we must estimate your usage.

(5) If you live near a fire hydrant, please shovel the snow away and keep it clear for our fire department responders.

By assisting us in these small ways, we will all survive the winter blues and keep your utility services working. Stay warm, stay safe. Have a very happy and healthy New Year!

- Carter Hoffman, Foreman

Water Treatment Plant

Hello once again from the Tumbling Run Water Treatment Plant. The beautiful summer has ended and hunting season is upon us. In one of my previous articles, I made mention of the land owned by Schuylkill Haven Borough around the Water Treatment Plant and the Tumbling Run watershed. Although the area near the plant and the reservoirs are closed to hunting, the rest of the watershed is active with many types of wildlife and open for all types of hunting.

We only ask for one thing - if you bring it with you, please take it home. We want you to enjoy your time hunting in the watershed and walking the trail, but help us protect it by keeping litter to a minimum. Littering is problematic to the watershed. Enjoy yourself and be safe.

- Kevin Butz, Chief Operator

Borough Utilities and Recreation Services

Electric Department

Many of our customers are switching their homes and apartments to all electric heat. If you have changed your heating source to total electric, please tell the Code Enforcement Office or the Borough Office. Our system is built and working on the electric loads we currently have. When customers switch to electric heat it puts added amps to our transformers and secondary wires and could cause problems. So, if you do switch just let us know about it and we can make adjustments in the field to keep your power on.

When you see a street light out or blinking on and off, you can call the Borough Office to report the problem. If you could, please get a pole number and the closest address to the location. A call back number would also help if we need more information to locate the problem. This information will help us find the light and make repairs to keep everything working properly.

- Jim Haeseler, Foreman

Wastewater Treatment Plant

In nearly every issue of *Haven Highlights*, included are items that should not go down your drains nor flushed from your toilets ... in particular, the so-called "flushable" wipes.

Another "no-no" that is often failed to mention is prescription drugs. Flushing old medicines down the toilet has long been a common practice. Today's

medicines are way more diverse than ever, and some should not be flushed. Typically, each bottle will be marked whether or not it should be flushed down the toilet.

A much safer way to dispose of old medications is to give them to a "Drug Take-Back" location. Here in Schuylkill Haven, we are fortunate enough to have one of these at the front entrance lobby of the Police Station, located at 250 Parkway.

So, why not just flush any medication down the toilet? Out of sight, out of mind, right? Well, not exactly. Most wastewater treatment plants are not equipped to treat pharmaceuticals. This could lead to those medications being discharged into our receiving streams, affecting water quality for communities and cities that draw their drinking water from those streams. There are many articles online about how this can affect wildlife and humans.

To keep things simple when it comes to flushing a toilet, remember the "3 Ps" - poo, pee, and toilet paper. Anything else can cost you money as a homeowner or a tenant as it can cause issues with your sewer lines of your home.

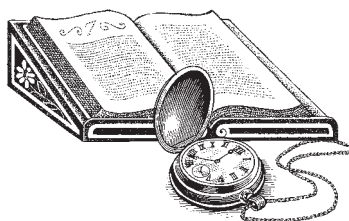
- Zack Faust, Foreman



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2023 Remaining Holiday Schedule

*Schuylkill Haven Borough Offices will be closed
the following days*

Thursday - November 23rd
Friday - November 24th | Thanksgiving
Friday - December 22nd
Monday - December 25th | Christmas
Monday - January 1st, 2024 | New Year's Day

*We wish you and your families a very safe and
happy holiday season and look forward to a
great new year of serving you.*

