

Municipal Authority

Effective January 1, 2017, the Beaver Borough Municipal Authority (BBMA) will be fully reactivated by assuming operating and administrative responsibility for water and sanitary sewer operations in the Borough of Beaver. BBMA will remain headquartered at the Borough Building at 469 Third Street.

While BBMA operates independently of Beaver Borough, its directors must be residents of Beaver Borough and are appointed by Borough council to five-year staggered terms. BBMA was reactivated by the Borough to have a dedicated group of professionals concentrate on the increasingly complex issues associated with water and wastewater. We need look no farther than the lead in drinking water issue in Flint Michigan to feel its far-reaching effects.

The BBMA consists of five directors, along with a solicitor, a municipal authority engineer, an administrative professional, a licensed operating superintendent and two licensed operators. While the BBMA operates independently, the Borough looks for continuity by appointing two members of Council to serve on the Authority. These two council members are expected to provide an ongoing communication bridge between Beaver Borough Council and BBMA.

Two projects of immediate interest are the installation of



new water meters and the recent testing of household water for lead.

LEAD TESTING – in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, BBMA set up a program to test water quality at 20 homes in the Borough. About half of the homes were specially selected because they were known to have lead service lines. The test results are in and the Borough gets a passing grade with no action required. The vast majority of homes showed no detectable level of lead. However, BBMA is looking into further precautionary steps to make sure no homes are at risk.

WATER METER REPLACEMENT – Water meters were first installed in Beaver Borough homes in
Continued on pg 4.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

January 19—3rd Thursday on Third, Third Street Stores Open Late

February 16—3rd Thursday on Third, Third Street Stores Open Late

March 4—Lunch at the Library, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Beaver Area Memorial Library

March 16—3rd Thursday on Third, 3rd Street Stores Open Late

April 8—BACC Bunny Hop, 10 a.m. to noon, downtown Beaver

April 20—3rd Thursday on Third, 3rd Street Stores Open Late

April 22—Annual litter pick-up day meet at Café Kolache at 9 a.m.

April 29—Arbor Day Celebration, 10 a.m., Gazebo

May 13—Beaver Town Yard Sale, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. (no permit needed)

May 18—3rd Thursday on Third, 3rd Street, Stores Open Late

May 20—Spring Clean-Up, River Side of 3rd St.

May 29—Memorial Day Parade, 10:30 a.m., Beaver Area Heritage Foundation (BAHF)

June 3—Spring Clean-up, Hill Side of 3rd St.

June 3—Beaver VFD and Heritage Valley Health System 5K/10K Race, 9 a.m.

June 10—Garrison Day Show and Sale

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- Code Enforcement
- Beaver Station Cultural & Event Center
- Our Community Forest

HARB New Home and Preservation Awards

Beaver's Historical and Architectural Review Board (HARB) works to protect and preserve our town's many historic homes and buildings. However, in order to maintain a town's unique character, it's also important that new construction is done tastefully and in a way that enables the new home or building to blend seamlessly into the streetscape.

Throughout the year the HARB recognizes examples of both exemplary preservation and new construction in the borough that enhance our already charming neighborhoods and serve as a model for others.



This year's first HARB New-Construction Award goes to the Woodske family at 846 Bank Street. (pictured below) This Victorian-inspired home is a fine example of new construction that complements Beaver's Historic District.

This year's first HARB Preservation Award goes to the McGrew Family at 218 Insurance Street. (pictured above) This Queen Anne Victorian

home features a detailed "painted lady" inspired exterior, ornate iron lace roof crestings, and extensive copper work.

Congratulations to our award winners!



Lunch at the Library

Beaver Area Memorial Library will be hosting its annual "Lunch at the Library" on Saturday, March 4 from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Take-outs are available after 1 p.m. Come enjoy homemade soups, breads, and desserts.

A bowl of delicious soup with bread is just \$3.00. Dessert is just \$3.00, too. The event will be held in the meeting room of the library at 100 College Avenue. Sponsored by the Friends of the Beaver Library, all proceeds from the luncheon benefit the library. For more information, please call the library at **724-775-1132**.



Borough Facility Rentals

The Beaver Borough Community Room, Shaw Park Pavilion, and Gazebo are all available for rental to the community. Reservation forms can be found at www.beaverpa.us.

Reservations are based on a first-come, first-served basis, and the fee is due at the time of reservation. All reservations must be made in person at the Borough building at 469 Third Street.

To reserve the Community Room, contact the Police Department at **724-773-6702**.

To reserve the Gazebo and/or Pavilion, contact the Borough Office at **724-773-6700**.



Our Community Forest

If Beaver's Trees Could Talk...

They would say how great it is to live in Beaver, a Tree City USA for nearly 20 years, and that they love being honored every April at our Arbor Day celebration. After all, only 109 communities in Pennsylvania have earned the Tree City USA distinction by the National Arbor Day Foundation. Please plan to join our Arbor Day celebration on Saturday, April 29, 10 a.m., at the Gazebo, where we'll be having tree-care events, refreshments, students activities, and a recognition of a Community Tree for Arbor Day 2017. Learn more about Tree City USA at www.arborday.org/programs/treecityusa/.

They would say that Beaver truly understands how trees protect the environment by cleaning our air and water and providing habitats for our birds and squirrels. Beaver returns the favor by protecting our trees with Borough ordinances that require property owners to obtain a no-charge permit prior to planting, pruning, removing or replacing any tree that lives within the Borough Right-of-Way, or "Borough Strip," as it is often called. This permitting process ensures that tree maintenance work is performed by a qualified professional. Applications for a tree permit are available at and



returned to the police desk in the municipal building and are reviewed for approval by Beaver's Shade Tree Commission.

They would say that, during the winter season, when snowfall accumulations are heavy and deep, you can help our community forest by gently brushing off snow from our younger trees to maintain structural integrity. Also, while the canopy is not full of leaves, inspect for broken branches and other tree or trunk damage. Our Spring and Fall Tree Planting Program is coordinated by the Shade Tree Commission and is available to Beaver residents to replace trees that are declining due to maturity or hazard conditions. To take advantage of this program and significant savings on tree planting costs, contact J. Philip Colavincenzo, Chairman of the Shade Tree Commission, at jp.cola@verizon.net.

Annual Litter pick-up day April 22

Please join us for our annual Spring Clean Up Day on April 22. Volunteers will meet at Café Kolache on Third Street at 9 a.m. We will 'redd up' all the litter-filled entrances and exits of Beaver, including: Rt. 376, Rt. 68, and Leopard Lane. These spots are the first and last impressions visitors have of our town—let's make sure we give a good first impression! PennDot will supply safety vests, gloves, and trash bags. Come and bring a friend or two. For more information, please email Mary Anne at maryannepeluso@comcast.net.

Welcoming Committee

Did you know that the Beaver Business Authority has a Welcome to Beaver committee? We create gift bags with coupons and tokens from our local businesses and share information about our schools, the library, the Heritage Foundation and the Borough. If you know of any newcomers to our town, homeowners or renters, please let the committee know by emailing Jen Temple at jentemple13@gmail.com.



Beaver Alerts

Beaver Alerts allows you to sign up to receive periodic emails that provide timely information on Borough events, programs, and general news of interest. While over 600 households that have already signed up, we encourage you to help us reach the goal of having all 2,000+ Borough households linked electronically to town happenings. Simply provide your email address at www.beaverpa.us.

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the 1980s. While many of those meters are still in use, they typically have a useful life of 10 to 15 years. Most meters have exceeded their life expectancy. Additionally, the old meters have a brass casing that, by today's standards, may contain an unacceptably high level of lead. Back in the 1980s, those meters were fine.

The new meters contain no lead and are read by a remote electronic device. This will eliminate the need for a meter reader to visit your home or business. There will be no reduction in work force. BBMA has other projects awaiting availability of licensed operators.

Meters are scheduled for installation after the first of the year. A public meeting will be held to provide information on the new meter program.

BBMA meets at least once a month and the meetings are open to the public. The meeting schedule will be published in the Beaver County Times and listed on the Borough website.

For further information please contact Jan Mohrbacher at the Borough Building at **724-773-6700** or **beaverborough@comcast.net**.

Important Reminder!

In order to prevent theft in our borough, please remember to lock your vehicles at all times. If you see anyone suspicious looking in vehicles, please contact the police department as soon as possible.

Police Contact Numbers:

- Emergency – call 9-1-1
- Non-Emergency – **724-773-6709** between normal business hours Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Non-Emergency – **724-775-0880** or **724-775-0881** after normal business hours

Beaver Station Cultural & Event Center

If you've driven past Beaver Station recently, you might have noticed the newest addition to the grounds—the Belvedere (means “beautiful view”). This beautiful structure sits next to the station in the event lawn among newly installed trees, shrubs, and flowers. The top of the Belvedere is the repurposed turret that was rescued from the old 1890 Cunningham mansion that formerly sat at the corner of Beaver and Second streets. A copper-top, which was handmade by Beaver's own Chuck Copeland, sits atop the roof, which is made from recycled materials made to resemble real slate. The Belvedere features lights and electricity, and is handicapped accessible. We are already booking wedding ceremonies here for this spring! For more information, visit beaverstation.org.



Beaver Station will host its annual Valentine's Day Wine & Chocolate tasting on Saturday, February 11, 2017. Registration information can be found at **www.rsvp.beaverstation.org**.

PA Emergency Alerts

Register now to receive Beaver County, PA emergency alerts. The Beaver County, PA emergency alerts Swift 911 mass notification system is utilized to alert residents regarding emergencies such as fires, outages, floods, hurricanes, evacuations and more. Beaver County Emergency Alerts deliver messages via multiple contact methods including voice, text and email.

Please visit **<http://www.beavercountypa.gov/beaver-county-emergency-alerts-swift-911>** or call the Beaver County Emergency Service located in Ambridge at **724-775-1700**.

Beaver Area Police Department Citizen's Police Academy

What is the Citizen's Police Academy?

The Citizen's Police Academy (CPA) is an informative, ten week classroom series that gives an inside look at the Beaver Area Police operations, while discussing the principles of community policing. The purpose of the class is to promote a greater awareness and better understanding of local law enforcement's continuously changing role in the community.

It is the belief of the Beaver Area Police Department that education is most effective in gaining understanding and support from the community. The CPA offers insight into how police officers perform their duties and how the department serves the community.

Mission of the Academy

The purpose of the CPA is to foster better communication between citizens and police through education. The academy will create a nucleus of well-informed citizens who possess greater insight into police practices and services. Graduates of the academy can share their knowledge and experiences with the community as the opportunity arises. Everyone benefits from enhancing citizen understanding of the role and function of their police department.

Course Description

Presented in a friendly, casual environment, the class covers a wide variety of subject areas including police communications, criminal law and procedures (laws of arrest), street crime enforcement/ investigations, field identification, youth programs, and more. Graduates will receive a certificate of completion.

Instruction consists of one 3-hours class held each week, from 6 to 9 p.m. for a duration of 10 weeks. The instruction is comprehensive, covering a different area of police work each week. Certified police officers, supervisors, and civilian instructors with particular expertise will conduct each topic.

Requirements of Participation

- Minimum 18 years of age
- No felony convictions
- No misdemeanor convictions within one year of application
- Applicants must agree to criminal background check (no charge)

Applications can be picked up at the Beaver Police Station. Class starts March 13 and continues for 10 weeks on Mondays from 6-9 p.m.

Street Parking

For the safety and convenience of our residence, Beaver Police Department will suspend night-time parking enforcement from December 16, 2016 until March 1, 2017 for all streets excluding Third Street.

No tickets will be issued during this time – excluding Third Street

Rental Registration

In accordance with Ordinance #583 dated June 14, 1977, the Borough of Beaver is requesting owners of rental properties to submit the following information:

- Owner's name
- Owner's address
- Rental property address
- Number of units at each address
- Management Company (if other than owner)

Please forward your information to Debbie Hindman at **dhindman@beaverpa.us** or call **724-773-6700 x 206**.

Drug Take-Back Box

The Beaver County District Attorney's Office received a grant for a "Drug Take-Back Box". The goal is to significantly reduce the amount of prescription drugs in homes that are either no longer needed or expired. This box is located at the Beaver Police Department, 469 Third Street. Drop-offs can be made Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Pills and patches only; no needles, liquids or inhalers. Any questions, please call **724-773-6709**.

Code Enforcement and Zoning Information

Help Keep Beaver a Safe, Healthy, and Attractive Community!

Beaver is ramping up enforcement of its municipal codes relating to the health, safety, and living conditions of its residents. Code Enforcement officers are visiting all properties in the borough to identify code violations and working with residents to correct the violations. The Borough Code Enforcement Officers are Rick Sprecker or Randy Morrow at 724-773-6700 ext. 213 and George Lindemann at 724-773-6700 ext. 214.

A Few General Code Enforcement Ordinance Reminders

§15-303(1) Motor Vehicles: All vehicles parked on streets or alleys whether parking spaces are marked or not shall be parked only in the direction of the permitted traffic flow.

§21-403(2) Parking on the Borough Strip Prohibited: It shall be unlawful to park upon any portion of the Borough Strip. Sidewalks and curbs are considered part of the Borough Strip.

§15-304 Parking Prohibited: Parking is prohibited at all times in the front yard of any residential property on which a dwelling is erected, except upon a paved driveway extending from an authorized curb cut. As used herein, the term "front yard" means the open space extending across the entire width of the lot between the front setback line and the street right-of-way line. [Ord. 781]

Parking is also prohibited at all times in the side yard of any residential property on which a dwelling is erected, except upon a paved driveway extending from an authorized curb cut. As used herein, the term "side yard" means the open space extending across the entire depth of the lot between the front street right-of-way line and the rear lot line, to the adjoining property line (or, in the case of a corner lot, to the side street right-of-way line). [Ord. 800]

§212 Drainage Lines in Sidewalks: A drain crossing a sidewalk will be of a four sided metal or plastic box type channel. No circular pipe sections will be permitted. All curbs and sidewalks are the full responsibility of the abutting property owners. The owners shall construct, maintain, repair and/or replace any and all curbs, drainage lines and sidewalks abutting their premises and keep them in safe condition at all times.

§1401 Fences: A fence permit is required before proceeding with the installation of a fence and can be acquired through the borough office. A fence cannot be located in the front yard, unless the fence is ornamental in design and less than thirty inches (30") in height. No setbacks from the side and backyard property lines are required. A fence for the side and backyard can be no higher than 6 feet. It is recommended that applicants submit a survey plan with the application showing the location of the proposed fence. If the homeowner does not know where the property corners are located, then it is strongly suggested that they have their property surveyed prior to erecting a fence.

§103 Outside Burning Restricted.

Except as expressly permitted below, all outside burning of any material is prohibited.

Small charcoal, wood or gas fires kindled for the purpose of outside barbecues are permitted.

Campfire or ceremonial bonfires may be set, but only with the prior approval of the Chief of the Beaver Volunteer Fire Department as to location, material, duration and required safety precautions. (Ordinance 686, February 11, 1997, §1)

§6-403 Nuisance Ordinance: Any continuing physical condition of, or activity on, property which constitutes a danger to the health or safety of the general public or to the physical integrity, comfortable occupancy or use, or value of adjacent property. The term includes: The production of offensive odors or noxious gases or fumes perceptible beyond the property on which generated.

§304.3 All premises must have proper identification: Buildings shall have approved address numbers placed in a position to be plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property. These numbers shall contrast with their background. Address numbers shall be Arabic numerals or alphabet letters. Numbers shall be a minimum of 4 inches high with a minimum stroke width of 0.5 inch.

§25-104 Trees: A landowner, at their own expense, shall care for and maintain trees on their property or on the adjoining Borough strip, so as to keep them free from disease, free of damaged or dead limbs, and free from any other condition which may constitute a hazard to people and property. If required the landowner shall be responsible for the removal of trees growing on their property or on the adjoining Borough strip.

§25-201 Sidewalks & Curbs: All curbs and sidewalks within the Borough shall be the full responsibility of the abutting property owners. The owners shall construct, maintain, repair and/or replace any and all curbs and sidewalks abutting their premises and keep them in safe condition at all times. 302.3 All sidewalks, walkways, stairs, driveways and similar areas shall be kept in a proper state of repair, and maintained free from hazardous conditions.

§304.1 Exterior Structures: All structures shall be maintained in good repair, structurally sound and sanitary so as not to pose a threat to the public health, safety or welfare. 302.7 All accessory structures, including detached garages, fences and walls, shall be maintained structurally sound and in good repair.

For further details contact Borough Code Enforcement Officers:
Rick Sprecker or Randy Morrow at 724-773-6700 ext. 213 or George Lindemann at 724-773-6700 ext. 214.

Building and Zoning Permits

Most construction work within the borough requires both zoning and state building applications. These applications can be picked up at the Borough office. Zoning and building permits are required for change of use or prior to construction activity such as rebuilding, moving, enlarging, or physically altering a building or other structure, including but not limited to:

- Major Remodeling
- Changes to Rooflines
- Additions including Garages/Carports
- Fencing
- Signs
- Porches
- Decks or Patios
- Swimming Pools
- Storage Buildings
- New Electrical & Plumbing
- Demolition

Maintenance activities, minor repairs or alterations do not require a permit if the basic structure of an existing building is not affected such as new siding, painting, re-roofing, landscaping or replacement of same size doors or windows. Keep in mind that this is not a complete listing. For specific answers to questions regarding your situation contact Borough Zoning Officers Dan Martone **412-781-5908** or Rick Sprecker at **724-773-6700 ext. 213**.

Citizen's Code Enforcement Complaints

—Confidential Complaint Form Available Online.

Beaver is ramping up enforcement of its municipal codes relating to the health, safety, and living conditions of its residents. Beaver's administration and Council want citizens to know that they can file formal, written complaints when they see a need to do so. If you see any of the following conditions or others that you believe Beaver should address, please file a written code-enforcement complaint:

- Accumulated Garbage/Debris
- Deteriorated and Unsafe Sidewalks
- Excessive Number of Domestic Animals
- Broken Windows/Missing Doors
- Abandoned, Unlicensed, or Long-term Illegally Parked Vehicles
- High Grass/Untrimmed Bushes or Hedges
- Improper Outdoor Storage
- Rodent Harborage
- Substandard Building or Code Violating Conditions of Buildings

To assist residents submitting such complaints, Beaver Borough is providing complaint forms. Residents can obtain a copy of this complaint form at the Borough Building or by downloading it from Beaver's website at www.beaverpa.us. On Beaver's homepage, scroll down to the "Code Enforcement Complaints" section and double click on the "[Form]" link. The Complaint Form will appear in PDF format and is printer friendly. The form provides a checkbox to indicate that you want your information held confidential.

Mail or deliver your complaint form to:
Code Enforcement Officer
Beaver Borough
496 Third Street
Beaver, PA 15009
Or fax it to **724-773-6711**.

HELP KEEP BEAVER A SAFE, HEALTHY, AND ATTRACTIVE COMMUNITY!

Borough of Beaver
469 Third Street
Beaver, PA 15009



BEAVER BOROUGH NEWSLETTER

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Mayor Thomas Hamilton 724-773-6701

Solicitor John Petrush 724-775-8600

Beaver Borough Council Members

Walter McDermott – Ward 1

James Perini – Ward 1

Patrick Sims – Ward 1

Alexander Andres – Ward 2

Alex Sebastian – Ward 2

Sean Snowden – Ward 2

Daniel Deceder – Ward 3

Michael Deelo – Ward 3

Ron Embaugh – Ward 3

Borough Office

469 Third Street

724-773-6700

Office hours: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Meetings

(All meetings are held in the Beaver Municipal Building, 469 3rd Street. Check beaverpa.us for dates and times.)

- Beaver Council, 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.
- Municipal Authority, 3rd Wednesday of the month 6 p.m.
- Shade Tree Commission, 4th Monday of the month at 7 p.m.
- Planning Commission, 3rd Monday of the month at 7 p.m.
- Business District Authority, 4th Wednesday of the month at 8:30 a.m.
- Civil Service Commission (meets as needed)
- Zoning Hearing Board (meets as needed)

Call For News

The Spring Newsletter Deadline is March 15. please email your stories to Val@ValTheWriter.com.

Beaver Alerts

Beaver Alerts allows you to sign up to receive periodic emails that provide timely information on Borough events, programs, and general news of interest. While over 600 households that have already signed up, we encourage you to help us reach the goal of having all 2,000+ Borough households linked electronically to town happenings. Newsletters are available online at: [www.beaverpa.us/Residents/Newsletter Archive](http://www.beaverpa.us/Residents/NewsletterArchive)