

NAVIGATOR

2022 FALL/WINTER ISSUE



Moving Forward!



FINANCIALS



INFRASTRUCTURE



POLICE & FIRE



COMMUNITY

SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO MOHNTON! DECEMBER 2nd

After Santa's fire truck ride through Mohnton, he will head to the Mohnton playground for the annual holiday tree lighting. Santa will arrive about 6:00 pm.

Please join us! The tree lighting will begin with the singing of Christmas songs. Children are welcome to visit with Santa and share their Christmas wishes. *Complimentary hot chocolate will be served by the Mohnton Lions Club.*



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Jon Davis, Council President

As our county goes through difficult times encompassing elevated inflation, and a world that reflects instability, these impacts can be felt by all citizens. One of the main tasks of the Council is to evaluate the budget and make the adjustments needed to fund and operate the Borough processes while maintaining fiscal responsibility. The monies needed to run our Borough is carefully allocated to categories such as; sewer infrastructure, emergency services, grounds and roadways, community awareness, codes and engineering, and playground/community events.

The Council manages a solid foundation of people all focused on delivering the best for the borough. This small group of dedicated workers include, administration, public works, police/fire and various volunteers who all come together to make this all happen.

We need your help to make Mohnton Borough a wonderful place to live.

We ask that our residents take a hard look at their property and make sure it is up to code. This means taking steps to make repairs that may be needed. Taking pride in your property should be very important to you. Your positive actions adds to the health of the community. This also means your neighbors enjoy living next to you. No one wants to live next door to someone who does not take care of their property, whose dog barks excessively, lawn care lacking etc. Please address these areas if you know improvements are needed. Property owners as well as people who rent need to make positive steps to create a healthy and well maintained home.

VOTING

You may have noticed that the Parish House was for sale. It has been sold. We want to let our residents know there will be no voting location change for the November elections. You can still vote there. If there are any changes in the future, the Borough will communicate this on our website and in the next Navigator newsletter.



HOLIDAY TREE REMOVAL - After the holidays...trees may be dropped off at the borough hall behind the garage next to the cell tower. Deadline: January 5th.

FIRE COMPANY (Help support our Fire Company!)

For a small donation, The Mohnton Fire Company will also pick up your tree from your residence (place at curb). Forms must be submitted for this. Mohnton Fire Dept tree form, available on our website.





BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT pladis North America

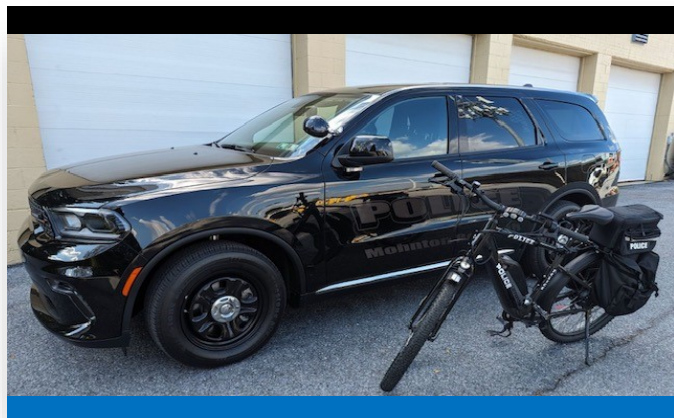
We are pleased to announce to the Mohnton Community that the former DeMet's Candy plant has undergone a name change. We're excited to re-introduce ourselves as pladis North America Inc.

Most of the community already knows us for the DeMet's products we continue to make at our small facility with 80 employees working in Mohnton, which has been here for four years.

This name change reflects our nationwide and global focus as part of pladis Global, a leading name in snacking and confections.

Here in the United States, pladis also operates a manufacturing facility in Big Flats, New York and we are a sister plant to Godiva Chocolatier located in nearby Reading, PA. You can learn more about our company at www.pladisglobal.com.

Our products, like our delicious Flipz fudge – coated pretzels can be seen in local retailers like GIANT Food Stores – Redner's, Costco, Sam's Club and local convenience stores as well as around the world.



POLICE SPOTLIGHT

New Patrol Car

We are excited to announce that a new 2023 Dodge Durango was added to our Police force. Delivery, October 2023.

Baseball Trading Cards

Our Police Force is getting trading cards! This nationwide program was developed as an incentive for residents to get to know Police Officers. Stop an Officer, and start your collection!

Cards purchased with donations. Thank you!



EBike

In the Summer of 2023 the Mohnton Police Department added a Cannondale Ebike to assist our police force with patrolling. The bike has extra storage to carry first responder and police equipment. This would not have happened without the generous donations by the following local business: MGS Insurance Agency, Mail Shark, Newcastle Lawn & Landscaping, and the VFW & VFW ladies Auxiliary Post 9045.

MOHNTON FIRE COMPANY — SOCIAL QUARTERS! ALL EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

HALLOWEEN PARTY SATURDAY 10/28 5PM-11PM
FOOD, FUN, MUSIC RAFFLES! DJ Steve taking requests, 5-9pm
ADVANCE TICKETS \$10, \$15 at door. (TICKETS INCLUDE 10 FREE RAFFLE COUPONS)
DONATE A NON-PARISHABLE FOOD OR PANTRY ITEM TO OUR FOOD DRIVE & GET A SPECIAL TREAT!

BINGO SUNDAY 11/5 1PM-4PM DOORS OPEN AT 11:30AM
ADVANCE TICKETS \$25, \$30 AT DOOR, CASH AND DOOR PRIZES LOTS OF FUN!
FOOD AND DRINKS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE, UPSTAIRS HALL

KA-MOTIONS KARAOKE SATURDAY 11/18 8PM-11PM with ANGIE & BRUCE
\$5 COVER CHARGE NON-MEMBERS, MEMBERS FREE—MUST SHOW MEMBERSHIP CARD AT DOOR, FOOD AVAILABLE

FIREMANS BREAKFAST SUNDAY 11/19 OPEN TO EVERYONE!
8AM-11AM UPSTAIRS HALL Adults (13-64) \$13, Seniors (65+) \$11,
First Responders & Military \$11, Kids (6-12) \$8, under 5 free
Takeout available \$10, Handicap seating available.
JOIN THE FIREFIGHTERS EVERY 3RD SUNDAY of the month
BREAKFAST WITH SANTA! 12/17

DAY AT THE RACES! Saturday 11/25 2PM-6PM
Advance tickets recommended \$10 (includes buffet)
This is a fun and exciting event! EVERYONE WELCOME!

KA-MOTIONS KARAOKE CHRISTMAS PARTY SATURDAY 12/16 8PM-11PM
\$5 COVER CHARGE NON-MEMBERS, MEMBERS FREE—
MUST SHOW MEMBERSHIP CARD, FOOD AVAILABLE

WINTER DRIVING TIPS

Be aware of road crew snow removal vehicles. Stay clear for safety.

Adjust to driving conditions and other drivers. *Slow down!*

Do not use cruise control.

Keep your gas tank full.

Take extra care on ramps and bridges.

Remove snow/ice from windshield, lights, and top of vehicle.

Pack a winter emergency kit.

Winterize your car—Check all systems including: fluids, brakes, tire pressure and tread.





How can property owners prepare?

Power outages happen in just about every region of the United States. Some outages may be brief or can last for several days. Bad weather, fallen trees on lines may result in power outages, or even a playful squirrel can take out power lines. Regardless of the cause, preparing for a power outage will keep your home and family protected.

First, alert Met-ed about the outage. The power company should give a reason for the outage and possible recovery time.

Please note: Mohnton Borough and the Fire Company does not have the ability to turn electric on.

Assemble an Emergency Preparedness Kit.

Place items in a big, waterproof tub:

- Basic first-aid kit
 - Chargers for cell phones
 - Cash
 - Flashlights (one for each family member)
 - Garbage bags for sanitation
 - Hand-crank or battery-powered radio and an NOAA Weather Radio
 - Hand sanitizer, baby wipes, and dry shampoo
 - Tool kit
 - Whistle (to signal for help)
- When assembling your kit, include: batteries in various sizes, camping lantern, and any other vital tools or appliances that run on battery backup. Make sure you store any batteries in a dry place at normal room temperature without the contacts touching.

Don't forget to label your kit and store it where it's easy to find. Make sure every family member knows where it is. Finally, check it every six months to stay on top of replacing expired items and updating your supplies as your family's needs change.

Stock Up on Food and Water

The National Safety Council suggests that when preparing for a power outage, you must stockpile enough water for at least three days. You'll need one gallon of water per person per day. Also, stow additional water for cooking, cleaning, personal hygiene, and pets.

Because gas stations power their pumps with electricity, it's important to fill your car's gas tank before the storm hits. No power means no fuel. If you have one, you may want to get gas for your backup generator. (Portable generators emit carbon monoxide, so never use one inside your home or garage.) Fully charge all your electronic devices, as well as any plug-in hybrid cars, to maximize the amount of time you'll be able to use them.

ABANDONED & BLIGHTED PROPERTIES

Many communities face a serious and challenging problem—blighted and vacant properties. Revitalizing blighted neighborhoods is not an easy task. This problem changes the character of the neighborhood and perpetuates a negative cycle. This may create an environment which intensifies poor living conditions, impacting the economy, community, housing stock, which in turn fuels more vacancy and abandonment.

Borough Council will be assembling a blighted property commission. Property owners and absentee landlords will be held accountable for their lack of property upkeep. If your property falls into this category, please do not wait for the Council to address the issue, start making positive steps now.

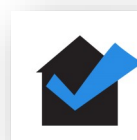


The Borough of Mohnton requires permits for certain kinds of work to your property, residential or commercial. Examples include, but are not limited to, roofs, decks, patios, sheds, fences, pools, driveways and sidewalks.

Permits also are required for dumpsters, and solicitation in the Borough. When in doubt, please view the PERMIT section on our website.



All residential and commercial permit applications must be returned to the Borough office along with the non-refundable application fee, checks payable to Mohnton Borough. Any permit fee balance is due when the permit is ready for picked up.



If you have a rental property in Mohnton Borough, you are required to register every year with the Borough. Inspections of rentals occur every other year. Additional information on Borough website.

PUBLIC WORKS FOCUS



LEAF COLLECTION

Leaf pickup will begin
October 9 to December 15.

Leaves should be raked to the street along the curb. Our road crew will be collecting at different times throughout the day, there is no daily schedule. We ask our residents to be patient with collection.

Please refrain from calling the office unless your leaves have not been picked up for many days.

Please make sure your vehicles are clear from blocking leaf collection equipment.



REPORT STREET LIGHT OUTAGES

Fill out email form located on website:
mohntonboro.org

Or
Contact the Borough Hall Office:
610 775-0660

If possible, find the pole number and report this with your request.

METAL AND ORGANIC WASTE DUMPSTERS

For residents only: Dumpsters are available at the Borough Hall parking lot.
Accepts: 1 Dumpster: All types of metal. **2nd Dumpster:** Organic waste only.
Clothing Drop off box: Located rear of parking lot.

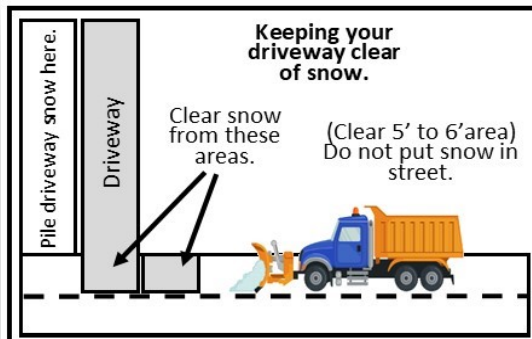


STREET SWEEPING

- Scheduled for December -
See website for updates.

Residents are advised to monitor local weather stations for information regarding snow emergency declarations. If you encounter a plow truck on the roadways please remember to maintain a safe distance.

Our crew does not want to plow in your driveway, please use this diagram as a guide to avoid this situation.



SNOW EMERGENCY PARKING LOTS

In the event of a snow emergency, these parking areas are available to our residents during snow clearing hours.

DIAMOND STREET & ORANGE STREETS
Behind Borough Hall
(One side only ballfield side)

MOHNTON PLAYGROUND - SKATE PARK
(Front St. off of Lake St.)

MOHNTON PLAYGROUND
(at the foot of Walnut Street)

MOHNTON FIRE COMPANY PARKING LOT
(Summit & Mohn Streets)

ZION CHURCH PARKING LOT
(Church & Summit St.)

PARKING LOT
(South Church Street)

WOODLAND AVE
(adjacent to W. Wyomissing Ave.)

SNOW & ICE REMOVAL

Borough residents have **24 hours** after the snow ends to shovel or receive a fine.

This means, sidewalks, fire hydrants, and handicap ramps. Be sure not to blow snow into the roadways!

Please make sure to cut your properties vegetation back from hanging over sidewalks and roadways.

Our plows need a clear path at all times to make efficient passes, please move vehicles to assist with our plowing.





SEWER BILLING—CREDIT CARDS — ONLINE ONLY—

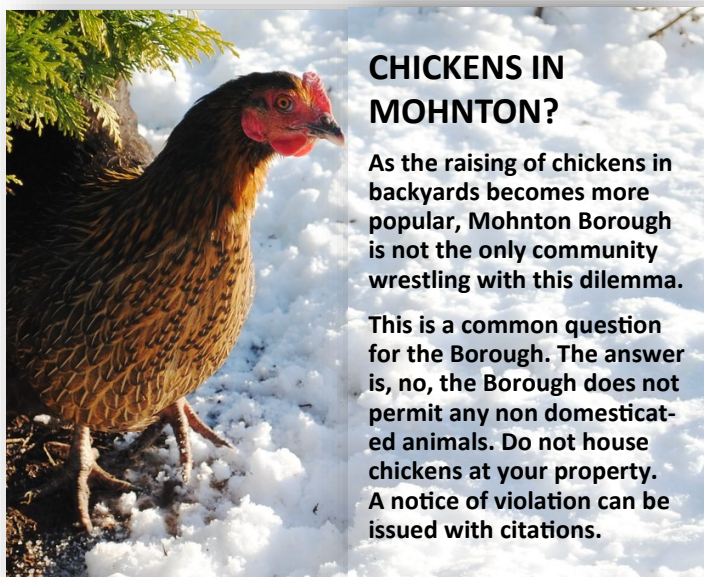
Mohnton Borough sewer customers, as part of our commitment to provide property owners with efficient and convenient payments services, Mohnton Borough has partnered with an outside company, Municipay to offer **credit card payments**.

You can still pay your bill with a check written to Mohnton Borough. Mail check to the Borough Office, or place in the 24/7 drop box located outside of the Borough Hall. If needed, remember to include a self addressed stamped envelope for a returned receipt.

This payment process will start the first quarter of 2024. If you are interested in paying your sewer bill with a credit card please go to mohntonboro.org. Information on how to pay your sewer bill will be available there. Autopay will also be available with this new service. ***Fees are associated with credit card payments.***

Note: This is for Mohnton Borough residents who pay their sewer bill to Mohnton Borough only. If you pay your bill to Shillington Borough, please continue to do so.

Future credit card payments. We are also looking into having this convenience expand to trash/recycling payments, and other forms of payments such as: permits, police tickets, landlord registration/inspection fees etc. Residents will be notified when this is available.



CHICKENS IN MOHNTON?

As the raising of chickens in backyards becomes more popular, Mohnton Borough is not the only community wrestling with this dilemma.

This is a common question for the Borough. The answer is, no, the Borough does not permit any non domesticated animals. Do not house chickens at your property. A notice of violation can be issued with citations.

MS4 WINTER TIPS

SHOVEL

Always shovel storm drains from the sidewalk, Shovel snow into vegetated areas, where meltwater can soak into the ground. This reduces runoff that goes down storm drains and directly to rivers and streams.

MAINTAIN

Winterize vehicles to prevent leaks. Wash cars at a commercial carwash, where soapy water does not enter the storm sewer system.

USE LESS

A little salt goes a long way. Apply sparingly and remove slush once snow melts to prevent refreezing. Salt in stormwater systems can be harmful to aquatic life.

STORE SAFELY

Store salt and other deicers under cover to minimize polluted runoff.

PET CARE

Pets can get frostbite on their ear tips, noses, tails and paws. Don't leave your dog outdoors for too long and make sure your pets have a warm place to sleep.

If you're cold,
so is your pet!



HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTIONS

Our residents frequently ask about how to dispose of Hazardous Waste/Electronics/Paper Shredding/Pharmaceutical Collections.

Please go to The Berks County Solid Waste Authority website for this information.. www.co.berks.pa.us/Dept/SWA

The mission of the Berks County Solid Waste Authority is to manage solid waste and recyclable materials in an environmentally safe, reliable and efficient manner.

2024 Trash and Recycling Pickup Schedule will be available on our website, or at the Borough Office by the end of December





COUNCIL /ADMINISTRATION

Eric Burgis—Mayor

(Police & Fire)

Jonathan Davis—President

(Personnel & Public Safety)

Gary Hafer—Vice President

(Building, Grounds & Zoning)

Alicia Bressler—Council

(Health, Sanitation, Water & Sewer)

Jason Kercher —Council

(Streets & Lights)

Daniel McDevitt —Council

(Finance & Administration)

Kerry Hoffman—Council

(Recreation Programs)

Brian Simmon—Council

(Grants, Community Relations)

Loretta Imbody—Operations Manager

Kim Shrom—Finance Manager

CODES ENFORCEMENT/ZONING

Technicon Enterprises Inc. II

SOLICITOR: Gross McGinley

SEWAGE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:

ENGINEER: Berks Envirotech Inc.

MOHNTON BOROUGH HALL

21 North O'Neil Street

Phone: 610 775-0660

Fax: 610 775-4419

Mohntonboro.org

Police Emergency: Dial 911

Police Non-Emergency Phone:

610 655-4911

NAVIGATOR:

Loretta Imbody—Design and Editor

MEETINGS:

7PM (OPEN TO THE PUBLIC)

Workshop: 1ST Weds. of the month

General: 2ND Weds. of the month

Zoning Board: As needed

Planning Commission:

4TH Monday (6:30pm)

