

# BOROUGH OF CHURCHILL

2300 William Penn Highway • Pittsburgh, PA 15235  
 Telephone: 412-241-7113 • office@churchillborough.com • Fax: 412-241-0503

March 2016



## Annual Bunny Parade: SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 2016

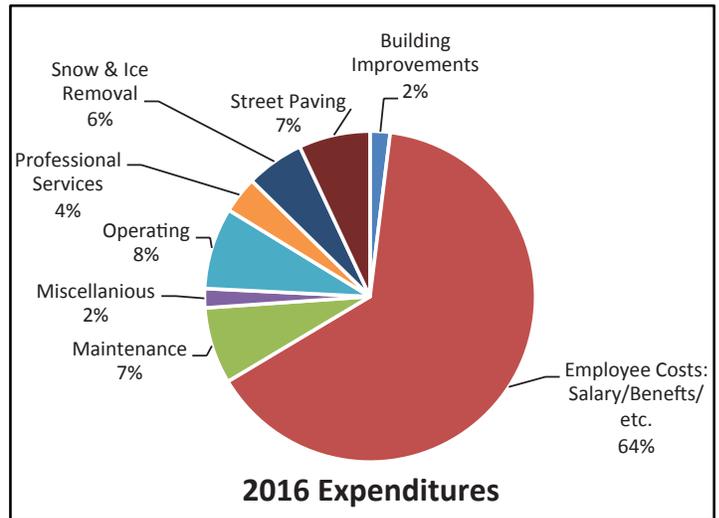
The Bunny is back! Don't miss the Churchill Bunny welcoming the arrival of spring! The Bunny will be visiting the following streets: (The times are approximate - listen for the police sirens.)

- 10:00 AM Leave Borough Building
- 10:05 Forest Dr
- 10:15 Williamsburg Pl - upper
- 10:20 Hollywood Dr
- 10:30 Collins Rd
- 10:35 Williamsburg Pl - lower
- 10:45 Greensburg Pike
- 10:45 Marbury Rd
- 11:15 Garden Terrace
- 11:25 Henley Dr
- 11:35 Thornberry Dr
- 11:40 Garrick Dr
- 12:00 Fenwick Dr
- 12:10 Beulah/Old Beulah Rd
- 12:20 Kings Dale Rd
- 12:25 Woodland Hills Dr
- 12:35 Homer Dr
- 12:40 Hampstead Dr
- 1:00 Holland Rd
- 1:10 Huntingdon Dr
- 1:20 Ridgewood Dr
- 1:30 Nottingham Dr
- 1:35 Churchill Rd



## 2016 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Category	Amount
Building Improvements	\$ 50,000.00
Employee Costs: Salary/Benefits/etc.	\$1,643,899.27
Maintenance	\$ 190,850.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 47,800.00
Operating	\$ 203,250.00
Professional Services	\$ 91,500.00
Snow & Ice Removal	\$ 145,000.00
Street Paving	\$ 177,809.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,550,108.27</b>



The total expenditures for the Borough of Churchill for 2016 are budgeted to be \$2,550,108.27 (excludes sewer expenditures which are managed under a separate budget). In December 2015, the Churchill Council approved a millage increase of 0.5 mills, or \$50/\$100,000 house. The increase in millage was allocated for road paving improvements and will remain in the budget for the foreseeable future. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Finance Committee via the Borough Office.

Thank you, Churchill Borough Finance Committee

## 2016 TAX MILLAGE RATE

The increased rate for the Borough is 5.98. Tax statements were mailed and should have been received in early March. A 2% discount period will be applied through April 30, face amount will be due June 30 and a 10% penalty will be added thereafter. Contact the Borough Office to obtain a duplicate tax bill if you paid off your mortgage recently or refinanced and did not have the real estate taxes escrowed.

## PRIMARY ELECTION DAY is APRIL 26, 2016

Harbingers of spring will be here soon - first, a succession of crocuses, daffodils, and trilliums; then, best of all, the **PRIMARY ELECTION** on April 26th.

The 2016 Primary is when the men and women who want to govern us in Washington and Harrisburg will be selected from candidates competing within the qualified political parties. Positions on the Churchill ballot this year include:

- Federal - **President** and **Vice-President** of the United States. **Senator** from Pennsylvania (1 of the 2 we send to Washington)  
**Representative** from Congressional District 14  
Delegate and Alternate Delegate to the National Republican and Democratic Conventions
- State - **Senator** -Pennsylvania District 43  
**Representative** -Pennsylvania District 34  
**Attorney General** -Pennsylvania  
**Auditor General** -Pennsylvania  
**Treasurer** -Pennsylvania

If you are already registered to vote as a Democrat or a Republican you will be able to select your party's candidates for the **November General Election** from those who have applied to run in the Primary. This is where the real action and voter power lies. No one will be on the fall ballot who does not first win in the Primary.

If you are not yet registered, but are an American citizen who will be at least 18 years old by April 26th, pick up a **registration form** at the Borough Office or go to <register.votesPA.com>. The deadline is March 26, 2016, but don't wait until then; do it NOW! Voters who register as Independents may not vote for any candidates in the Primary, but can vote for referenda or ballot questions (if any). If you do not want to be thus disenfranchised, the **registration form** can also be used to change your party affiliation (or to enter a new address if you have moved

recently).

Anyone who is incapacitated or expects to be out of town on April 26th can vote by **Absentee Ballot**. These must be voted, returned, and received at the County Election Bureau by April 22nd. Make sure you get one of these ballots for your college age children. They are available at the Borough Office or by phone request (412-242-4518) to the Election Bureau. Start the process early because it involves several steps to complete.

If you live in Churchill's voting Districts 2 or 3, remember that your polling place has been relocated to St. John Fisher Church, Beaufort Hall (at the rear of the church), 33 Lewin Lane. Those who are new to Churchill or unsure of their voting district and location can phone the Borough Office at 412-241-7113 or go to <churchill-borough.com> and scroll down to #5 on the "Frequently Asked Questions" menu. The Churchill Polling Districts street list is hyperlinked.

Are you planning to post a favorite candidate's sign in your yard? Churchill has a long tradition of limiting such postings to two weeks prior to election day. For the primary that would be no earlier than Tuesday, April 12, 2016. All signs should be removed promptly after the election. Your voluntary cooperation is appreciated.

## From the Mayor's Desk



Welcome to spring...at least I hope we are enjoying warmer temperatures as we read our borough newsletter! This will be my annual appeal to join THE CHURCHILL GARDEN BRIGADE. Our volunteers, many who also belong to the CHURCHILL GARDEN CLUB, meet on Saturday mornings at 9am at the CHURCHILL COMMONS which is located at the corner of Beulah & Churchill Roads. We also maintain the Churchill parkway exit & help with several new green areas that have been more recently developed. These areas include the garden at Woodland Hills Drive, the entrance to Thornberry Drive and a new garden this spring on the corner of Beulah & Lewin Lane. You may have noticed the improved visibility at this intersection as well as the exposure of a beautiful stone wall built in 1937 by the WPA. The Works Progress Administration was a New Deal agency to provide jobs for millions of the unemployed to carry out public works projects. With all these projects we are in need of more volunteers! The good news is we only ask for ONE HOUR every other week! This effort benefits everyone who lives in the borough so please consider VOLUNTEERING. Our schedule for

the next several months is as follows: March 26th, April 9th & 30th, May 14th & 28th, June 11th & 25th & July 9th & 23rd. For people who may prefer a weekday opportunity I will also be at the COMMONS on Wednesday afternoons at 3 o'clock.

The Churchill Garden Club is also committed to picking up the incredible amount of trash at the 3 parkway exits/entrances located in the borough, so if you'd rather do that than weed we've got a job for you! If you have any ideas or questions please call me at 412.371.8552. Looking forward to seeing you at the COMMONS...Mayor Paul McKenna

## LITTER

While the Churchill Garden Club handles picking up litter at various locations, there are many more streets throughout the Borough that need attention. We have a group of residents who have committed to helping with this endeavor and would welcome volunteers. Please call the Borough Office or send an e-mail with your contact information.

## Churchill Borough Police Department News Alert!



The Churchill Borough Police Department would like to remind all residents to keep their vehicles locked at all times. Please do not leave items such as cash, computers, wallets, or any other valuables inside vehicles. If you observe or hear any suspicious activity, please call 911.

## Beware of Telephone Scams

Please be aware of phone scams in our area! Telephone solicitors have recently been targeting Churchill residents. Here is an article that can help you identify if a phone call is a scam and what to do in the event you feel victimized - <http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0076-phone-scams> If you do not have computer access you can telephone the Federal Trade Commission at 1-877-FTC-HELP.



## RECREATION BOARD EVENTS

### Incredible Penn Avenue: A Presentation

"Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation returns to Churchill for another of its enjoyable presentations, "Incredible Penn Avenue" - Saturday, April 9th at 2pm in the Yagle Community Center.

Come listen to presenter Louise Sturgess as she takes you along Penn Avenue from Wilksburg to Pittsburgh's Point in this narrated 300+ photo pictorial, exploring the rich history, architecture and people of each neighborhood along the way. It should prove to be one of the most enjoyable 8 mile trips you've taken in some time. Presentation and discussion will last approximately 75 minutes."



### Community Day and Picnic at Bullock-Pens Park

"Come celebrate our spring event in the park (weather permitting) on Saturday, May 21st from 11-2pm.

Bring your family and neighbors young and old. Enjoy a guided nature walk - games for the kids - good conversation. Picnic lunch will be provided. Bring a side dish to share. See you there."

### 2nd Annual Churchill Art Event

"The Churchill Recreation Board is hosting its 2nd Annual Art Event on Saturday, June 25th from 12-4pm in the Yagle Community Center. Come view local artists' creations in varying forms of art. Entertainment - Refreshments - Fun for all. (Artists: There are still a few tables available so if you would like to display your specific art please contact us at [churchillrecboard@gmail.com](mailto:churchillrecboard@gmail.com))"





**Celebrate the Rain! Watershed Awareness/Rain Barrel Workshop** celebration of the season the PA Resources Council, in partnership with the Borough of Churchill is offering a Watershed Awareness/Rain Barrel Workshop. Rain barrels are a great way to conserve water, to supply non-chlorinated water for gardening, and to keep excess water out of the stormwater

system, thus alleviating one of the causes of flooding, water pollution, and combined sewer overflow in the region. A rain barrel is a system that connects to your downspout to collect and store rain water from your roof that would otherwise be lost to runoff and diverted to storm drains, streams and rivers.

Participants will receive a *FreeGarden RAIN 55-gallon rain barrel*. Designed with the homeowner/gardener in mind it is affordable, attractive, easy to move, and easy to install.

This workshop is hosted by the Pennsylvania Resources Council.

Churchill Borough Building, Yagle Room, on Monday, April 18, 2016

6:30 -8:00 PM \$80 per person | \$85 per couple Pre-registration is required. To register, visit <http://prc.org/programs/conservation-workshops/watershed-rain-barrels/> or call 412/488-7490, ext. 247.

## Spring and Summer Reminders

Please keep your lawn trimmed neatly and driveway free of debris. Grass clippings should never be blown into the street. They can clog storm sewers, and chemicals may eventually end up in your drinking water.

If we want to eliminate skunks and other nuisance critters, it is important to eliminate their food source. Bird feed scattered on the ground attracts these unwanted visitors.

Yard waste should only be used in compost piles. The smallest amount of food waste attracts rodents.



A small amount of stagnant water can provide a breeding ground for mosquitoes.

Garbage cans should be placed at the curb only after 6:00PM on the evening prior to pick up, remembering to remove them promptly on garbage day.

Contractor advertising signs are prohibited by Borough Ordinance.

## 2016 Spring Leaf and Yard Waste Program

### Leaves Only

- Dates: April 11th, 18th, 25th.
- Managed by Allied Republic, Churchill's waste hauler.
  - No appointment necessary.
- Place leaves in paper biodegradable bags on evening prior to pick-up at the curb
  - No plastic bags.
  - No taping or stapling bag shut.
  - No other yard waste except for leaves.

### Yard Waste

- Dates: May 16th, 31st June 13th, 27th, August 1st and September 12th
- By appointment only- via phone or email.
  - Call in to Borough Office at 412-241-7113 by Friday afternoon prior to pick-up.
  - Email to Borough Office, [office@churchillborough.com](mailto:office@churchillborough.com), by 8 AM on day of pick-up.
- Leaves and yard waste placed into paper biodegradable bags and place at the curb.
  - **Acceptable items**
    - Leaves
    - Trimmings, cuttings and clippings from trees.
    - Small bushes and other plants, garden residue.
    - Longer branches-less than 3 feet in length-bundled together.
    - No dirt, stones, or grass clippings. No heavy tree trunks, stumps, excessively large items.
    - Please place in paper biodegradable bags.
    - Please do not staple or use tape to close bags
  - **Non-acceptable items**
    - Dirt, stones, or grass clippings not accepted. No heavy tree trunks, stumps, excessively large items accepted.
- Managed by Churchill Public Works
  - Public works crew needs to be able to lift bag into truck and then toss from truck to a dumpster.
  - Heavy, large, or excessive amount of material will not be accepted.

## STREET SWEEPING

Street sweeping will be conducted throughout the Borough. Spring Dates: April 13th, 14th and 15th. Fall



Dates: September 7th, 8th and 9th. Please assist by not parking your vehicle on the street during the hours of 7am – 3:30pm on these dates. Your cooperation will be appreciated.

## OUR FAMOUS “BLACK GOLD” WILL BE AVAILABLE IN JUNE

It's a finished, fibrous compost that the borough makes over the winter and spring from autumn leaves that residents rake into special, biodegradable, paper bags. Use it liberally as a mulch around all plants, including vegetables, flower beds, shrubs, and trees, leaving a 6-8” mulch-free “moat” around tree bases to discourage rodents from nesting and feeding at the bark. Your black gold will continue to age, retaining moisture, releasing plant nutrients (minerals) and improving the texture of your soil.

It will be ready for distribution on Saturday, June 11 and 18. Pick up a supply from the Joint Compost site located at the corner of Business Route 22 and Rodi Road between the hours of 8AM-1PM. Bring your own containers and there is a suggested donation of \$2/vehicle. Delivery is available at a cost of \$10/bucket of mulch (2 buckets equals 4 cubic yards), plus \$30 for delivery. Please contact the Borough Office for delivery arrangements

**ALL ORDERS MUST BE PRE-PAID AT THE BOROUGH OFFICE BEFORE DELIVERY CAN BE MADE**

## RECEPTACLE OUTLETS

FROM CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER—  
JASON HEIDER

Questions have been brought up regarding what is being looked at or what the requirements are regarding electrical receptacle outlets for the Occupancy Inspection program that is being completed at transfer of real estate or change in occupancy.



The Code section being referenced is: International Property Maintenance Code Section 605.1 – Electrical Equipment, Installation; All electrical equipment, wiring and appliances shall be properly installed and maintained in a safe and approved manner.

The question that keeps rising to the surface is; do I need to install grounded outlets or GFCI's in my living room or bedroom? The short answer is no. The underlying issue is when outlets are converted from original 2 prong outlets to modern style 3 prong outlets that the 3 prong receptacles are properly installed. Meaning that an equipment ground is present at the outlet and protection is provided when utilizing an appliance or equipment with a corresponding plug. If no ground is built into the branch circuit that the 3 prong outlets are installed on, then alternative methods to meet the applicable code are identified below.

When doing the inspection, the Inspector checks accessible 3-prong receptacle outlets using a handheld tester, lights on the tester indicate if the wiring to the receptacle terminals show an open ground, open neutral, open hot, hot/ground reverse, hot/neutral reverse or if it is correct. When it is indicated on the tester that the wiring is not correct that receptacle is listed as a deficiency on the inspection report to the affect;

*Receptacle outlet located on the right side of the room to the lower left of the window in the master bedroom showed open ground when tested. Please repair or replace the receptacle with the open ground.*

For the issue of open grounds indicated on the tester, a licensed and qualified electrician or handyman will remedy the condition in one of several ways;

- Repair / replace the missing ground
- Replace and revert the 3 prong receptacle outlet back to a 2 prong outlet.
- Install a GFCI receptacle that is properly labeled indicating a lack of equipment ground
- Install a GFCI receptacle properly labeled no equipment ground and properly labeled 3 prong receptacles indicating they are GFCI protected with no equipment ground if controlled by that GFCI

The best solution to any potential electrical concern would be to contact a licensed and qualified electrician to look into the condition further to provide electrical expertise resolving the potential faulty or damaged installation and repairing the receptacle based on current electrical practices and Codes. If you have additional questions or would like to talk in greater detail please feel free to contact my office at 412-372-3831.

## PEOPLES GAS REMINDS CUSTOMERS ABOUT CARBON MONOXIDE SAFETY

Free Carbon Monoxide Detection is Available to Qualified Residents as Part of 11-County Program



**PITTSBURGH, PA (February 22, 2016)** – As people in Southwestern Pennsylvania are reminded to “spring ahead” to Daylight Savings Time on Sunday, March 13, many local fire departments will remind residents to change the batteries in their home smoke alarms. Peoples is taking this timely opportunity to also remind people about the importance of carbon monoxide detectors and the potential dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning.

Carbon monoxide (CO) is an odorless, colorless and potentially dangerous gas produced when fuel is burned without enough air for complete combustion. The flame in gas appliances should be blue, possibly with flecks of orange. If the flame is mostly yellow, it indicates that the gas is not burning properly and is giving off carbon monoxide. During cold weather months, as buildings remain closed and fuel is burned for heating, inefficient combustion and poor ventilation can lead to a build-up of carbon monoxide inside.

Carbon monoxide can also be emitted by space heaters and automobile engines. In large amounts, the gas can cause headaches, unconsciousness, brain damage and even death. Carbon monoxide can be detected with a simple home monitor that plugs into a standard wall outlet. It’s important, also, for people to recognize the signs and symptoms of potential carbon monoxide poisoning, to know what to do if they occur, and to learn how to prevent this dangerous hazard.

### Symptoms of Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Include:

- Headaches
- Drowsiness/fatigue
- Nausea
- Irregular breathing
- Overall paleness
- Very red lips and ears

### What You Should Do:

- Open windows and doors
- Move outside
- Call 911 or your local fire department

### Steps You Can Take to Prevent Carbon Monoxide:

- Have your appliances checked annually by a certified heating contractor
- Make sure your chimney is cleaned periodically and free of obstructions
- Keep air vents for your gas appliances clear
- Never use a gas oven or stovetop for heating your home
- Do not use portable charcoal or propane grills indoors
- Do not run an automobile or gasoline engine in an enclosed space
- Use only space heaters that are approved by local fire codes and properly installed
- Check fireplaces for closed or blocked flues
- Periodically check range pilots for soot or carbon build up

### Residents in 11 Counties May Qualify for a Free Carbon Monoxide Detector:

The Allegheny Health Department manages a “Lead Paint and Healthy Homes” program covering 11 counties in Southwestern PA. Visit [www.achd.net/lead/index.html](http://www.achd.net/lead/index.html) for program details.



## RETIRE "OLD GLORY"



The "Retire Old Glory" bin is located in the lobby of the Borough Building. To date, we have honorably retired 171 flags. All American Flags, respectfully known as Old Glory, should be retired in a dignified and respectful manner when they are no longer a fitting emblem for display and replaced with a new flag, as outlined in the United States Code Title 4 Chapter 1-The Flag. For more information visit their website, [www.retireoldglory.com](http://www.retireoldglory.com).

All flags will be properly retired by Forest Hills Boy Scout Troop 90.



## CHURCHILL VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

### 2016 FUND DRIVE STARTED

Churchill Fire Company has started its 2016 Fund Drive to

raise money to support our operating expenses. We encourage you to review the donation information and respond. Each year, all Churchill households and businesses receive a donation letter. If you have not received a letter and wish to donate, please contact us at [info@churchill-fire.org](mailto:info@churchill-fire.org) or leave a message at 412-241-3449.

Community support is very important to the Fire Company. If you already donate each year, thank you. If you have not donated, please consider making a tax-deductible contribution. Only 42% of Churchill residents make contributions each year; help increase that number.

Also, the Fire Company is always in need of volunteers. If you are interested, you may call the number listed above and leave a message or you can always stop by every Thursday evening at 7:30 and discuss the possibility of volunteering your help in various areas. The Fire Company is located directly behind the Municipal Building.

## PENNSYLVANIA SENIOR CITIZEN TRANSIT IDENTIFICATION CARD

Applications for PA Senior Citizen Identification Cards are available at the Borough Office. Applications must be completed at the Borough Office (no take home applications), and must be in person. When applying, the senior whose name will be on the card must present of the following as proof of age: photo driver's license, birth certificate, armed forces discharge/separations papers, baptismal certificate, PACE ID card, passport/naturalization papers, Pennsylvania ID card, a statement of age from the US Social Security Administration. Applications for PA Senior Citizen Identification Cards are available at the Borough Office. Applications must be completed at the Borough Office (no take home applications), and must be in person. When applying, the senior whose name will be on the card must present of the following as proof of age: photo driver's license, birth certificate, armed forces discharge/separations papers, baptismal certificate, PACE ID card, passport/naturalization papers, Pennsylvania ID card, a statement of age from the US Social Security Administration.

Applicants should receive their senior transit ID cards at their home address in 1 to 3 weeks, and cards can be used on most public transit systems in the state of Pennsylvania (check with the transit system if in doubt).

Senior citizens (age 65 or over) presenting a Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Senior Citizen Identification card (blue for men and yellow for women) or a Medicare card at the time of fare payment, can ride Port Authority service for free at all times.

Please note that bus schedules for routes servicing the Churchill area, the East Busway and the Airport are available at the Churchill Borough Office.



**BARKING DOGS** can be a neighborhood nuisance. If you have a problem with a neighbor's dog that is barking incessantly, please do not call the Borough Office. Instead, use the 911 system and the dispatcher will notify the police department of the issue.



The Borough of Churchill  
2300 William Penn Highway  
Pittsburgh, PA 15235

PRSR STD  
US Postage  
PAID  
Pittsburgh PA  
Permit No 1180