



# Lower Moreland Township

Summer 2020

## Physically Distant, Socially Closer



**I**n the upside-down world and in a world turned inside-out – where do we go from here? A global pandemic in the form of COVID-19 came at us like a runaway train and by mid-March, we were in a form of lock-down based on the little that we knew about the virus, but in

reality, more out of caution from what we did not know. It is a crisis that impacts every corner of the entire population of the world and the world is responding as quickly as possible. The global response has become centered around the call to remain “socially distant” but in reality, it is about being physically distant to avoid the spread of infection.

Another crisis came upon us at a different speed – it has been here before, but reared its ugly head again. The horrific death of George Floyd provided a laser-focus on a global problem that is more well-known than COVID-19, has existed for centuries, has been studied and yet, often is ignored or minimized by those who are least impacted by it – RACISM. To respond to it requires that you open your eyes to see it, open your heart to understand it, and open your mind to help solve it. The peaceful protests that have been occurring are one way that many have chosen to express their frustration in not being able to find this solution.

To work on both together at the same time requires that we remain *physically* distant, but socially *closer*. Physical distancing to avoid COVID infection means to stay away from large crowds, reduce the amount of time spent in close proximity to others, and prudently wear a face mask as needed. To better work toward being a part of the solution

to racism is to become socially closer to the problem and not dismiss or ignore it. For many it is easier to see the world from a lens of comfort, to exist in a chosen echo chamber, or to believe that you’ve done enough and it’s not your problem.

Likely, there will be a vaccine or treatment that eventually will help reduce the toll of COVID on society and especially its most vulnerable; scientists are searching for these solutions every day. There will be however, no vaccine for racism and work towards a solution requires an even greater global effort and concern in all corners of the world. You can be a catalyst for change in your corner if you choose to be and perhaps with a little soul-searching, that may be a good start for all of us.

Throughout all the crises, local first responders including Police, Fire, and EMS have been on the front-lines protecting and serving and keeping us safe; please do take a moment to let all first responders you see in Lower Moreland know how much you appreciate them whenever you can.

Sincerely,

**Dr. David H. Sirken, President**

**Lower Moreland Township Board of Commissioners**



Township of Lower Moreland • 640 Red Lion Road • Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

215-947-3100 • Fax: 215-947-3615 • [info@lowermoreland.org](mailto:info@lowermoreland.org) • [www.lowermoreland.org](http://www.lowermoreland.org)



# Township of Lower Moreland

640 Red Lion Road  
 Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006  
[www.lowermoreland.org](http://www.lowermoreland.org)



Standing (from Left to Right): Commissioner Blumhardt; Commissioner Canale; Commissioner Hausen  
 Seated (from Left to Right): Commissioner Kuritz; Commissioner Sirken, President; Commissioner McQueen, Vice-President

## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

- |   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| <b>Ward 1:</b> Ruth A. Hausen                         | Rhausen@lowermoreland.org    |
| <b>Ward 2:</b> Jill Blumhardt                         | Jblumhardt@lowermoreland.org |
| <b>Ward 3:</b> Clay D. McQueen, <i>Vice President</i> | Cmcqueen@lowermoreland.org   |
| <b>Ward 4:</b> Joseph A. Canale, Jr.                  | Jcanale@lowermoreland.org    |
| <b>Ward 5:</b> Dr. David H. Sirken, <i>President</i>  | Dsirken@lowermoreland.org    |
| <b>Ward 6:</b> Denise A. Kuritz                       | Dkuritz@lowermoreland.org    |

## TOWNSHIP DIRECTORY

- Christopher R. Hoffman, *Township Manager*  
 E.J. Lee, *Assistant Township Manager/Finance Director*  
 David J. Sciroto, *Chief of Police*  
 Stephen D. Woerner, *Director of Public Works*  
 Robert D. Schadegg, *Code Enforcement Officer/ Zoning Officer*  
 Robert Scholly, Jr., *Fire Marshal/Emergency Management Coordinator*  
 John B. Rice, *Township Solicitor*  
 Timothy P. Woodrow, P.E., *Township Engineer*  
 Stephen R. Gabriel, *Township Planner*  
 Jane Anne Saile, *Tax Collector*

## MEETING DATES & TIMES

- Board of Commissioners:** Monthly Meeting- 7:00 p.m. Second Tuesday of the month  
**Building Code of Appeals:** No monthly meeting. Chairman calls as assignments require  
**Civil Service Commission:** No monthly meeting. Chairman calls as assignments require  
**Historical Architectural Review Board:** 7:00 p.m. First Monday of the month  
**Lower Moreland Township Authority:** 7:00 p.m. Meets quarterly, first Wednesday of the month  
**Planning Commission:** 7:00 p.m. Fourth Thursday of the month  
**Zoning Hearing Board:** 7:00 p.m. Third Thursday of the month

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## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency:** .....9-1-1  
**Lower Moreland Township Police** (non-emergency): .....215-947-3132  
**Lower Moreland Township Building:** .....215-947-3100  
**Huntingdon Valley Fire Company** (non-emergency): .....215-947-2454  
**Bryn Athyn Ambulance:** .....215-947-1100  
**Huntingdon Valley Library:** .....215-947-5138

# Public Works

## Trash & Recycling Reminders & Information

Trash and recycling materials must be placed curbside the night before your collection, but not before 6:00 p.m. A limit of six trash cans, bundles or bags is enforced. Containers and bags may not exceed fifty pounds each. Please note that hazardous materials, concrete, dirt and tires, to name a few, may not be placed curbside for collection.

### Holiday Collection Schedule

#### Labor Day - Monday, September 7, 2020

- If your trash day is typically Monday, it will be collected on Thursday, September 10th (up to 12 trash bags allowed)
- If your recycling day is typically Monday, it will be collected on Monday, September 14th

#### Thanksgiving Day - Thursday, November 26, 2020

- If your trash day is typically Thursday, it will be collected on Monday, November 30th (up to 12 trash bags allowed)
- If your recycling day is typically Thursday, it will be collected on Thursday, December 3rd

#### Christmas Day - Friday, December 25, 2020

- If your trash day is typically Friday, it will be collected on Tuesday, December 29th (up to 12 trash bags allowed)



### White Goods

Residents are required to obtain a sticker for the collection of appliances known as white goods. White goods include stoves, refrigerators, washers, dryers and hot water heaters. Collection of white good items occurs the third Monday of the month and there is currently no additional fee. To obtain a sticker, please call 215-947-3100 or stop by the Township building to pick one up.

### Yard Waste Collection

Republic Services will be collecting yard waste every Wednesday until the end of the year. We ask that all residents adhere to the following yard waste guidelines:

- Yard waste must be placed in a biodegradable bag or container up to 32 gallons and weigh less than 40 lbs. The container must have a designated yard waste collection sticker, which can be obtained free of charge from the township administration building.
- All sticks and tree limbs may not exceed a diameter of 2 inches or a length of 36 inches. Bundles should weigh no more than 40 lbs and be tied with manila rope or jute twine.
- Yard waste resulting from contractor services must be removed by the contractor.

### E-Waste Collection

- A collection bin for e-waste items is available at the Public Works Building. **Residents may drop off e-waste items Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. by appointment only.** Collection is for Lower Moreland residents only and I.D. is required.

- Accepted materials include audio and video equipment, vacuums, PCs, car batteries, cell phones, to name a few. A full list of items is available at [www.lowermoreland.org](http://www.lowermoreland.org).
- To make an appointment, please contact Kelly Jones at 215-947-3100 or [kjones@lowermoreland.org](mailto:kjones@lowermoreland.org).



### Leaf Mulch Available

- Leaf compost is available at no charge to residents and can be picked-up during business hours. The leaf compost available comes from the Township's collection of residential loose leaves.
- Leaf mulch is an eco-friendly way to provide nutrients to vegetable and flower beds as well as spread at the base of a tree.
- For more information, contact the Public Works department at 215-947-3100.



# Police Department

## Internship Program

Under the direction of Chief Scirrotto, in 2019 the Lower Moreland Township Police Department began offering internship opportunities to criminal justice students from local colleges and universities. Police Department interns earn college credit while participating in a variety of activities.

In exchange for the opportunity to earn college credits while learning first-hand about police work, interns help the police department with various community outreach activities including back-to-school nights, the “coffee with a cop” program, and giving crime prevention talks to residents and community groups.

Recent interns include Robert Covely (Penn State, 2019), Orenda Geller (Temple University, 2020), Lindsay Joyce (Bloomsburg University, 2020) and Amit Zach (Temple University, 2022). The Police Department also provides opportunities for high school seniors to participate in community service projects through the LMHS Community Action Project for Seniors (CAPS) program. In 2019, police interns provided over 600 hours of service to the Lower Moreland community.

Prospective interns are encouraged to contact Rich Worthington, police training coordinator, at 215-947-3132 for more information.

## Accreditation Program

In 2001 the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association introduced the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Program. Accreditation is a voluntary program which allows municipal police departments across the commonwealth to demonstrate and maintain a commitment to professional, consistent policing within their jurisdiction.

Under the direction of Chief Scirrotto, the Lower Moreland Police Department has started the process towards becoming an accredited agency. The department has begun with a systematic review of all existing policies and procedures, which will be followed by the creation and promulgation of a new body of professional standards to more clearly define the mission and role of the police department within the Lower Moreland community. As part of this process, all aspects of police department operations are being reviewed to ensure they match both organizational values and applicable professional standards. The accreditation process will culminate in an independent evaluation of the department by law enforcement professionals. The accreditation process is both time and labor intensive. To date, only 300 of Pennsylvania's more than 1,100 law enforcement agencies have sought PCPA accreditation, and only 117 agencies have achieved it.

Accreditation will have many benefits for the Police Department and the Lower Moreland community. Some of the benefits that communities typically see from accreditation are an improvement in police-community relations, a decrease in liability insurance expenditures, reduced agency risk and exposure to lawsuits, the development of improved and innovative methods of providing



- law enforcement services to the
- community, and enhanced transparency
- and accountability to both the public and
- elected officials. By achieving accreditation,
- the Lower Moreland Township Police
- Department will be well positioned to continue to provide effective
- law enforcement while ensuring that all people are treated with
- consistent professionalism and respect.

## Medication Drop-Off

- Do you have old, expired or unused medications sitting in your
- medicine cabinet? You can dispose of them safely and free of
- charge at the Lower Moreland Police Department! A secure,
- confidential drug drop box is located in the police station lobby
- and is available during business hours, 7:00 a.m.-10:30 p.m.
- Monday through Friday and 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. on Saturdays.
- All medications are accepted, with the exception of needles
- (sharps) and liquids. Help us keep prescription medications away
- from children and out of our waterways!

## Waze Police Partnership

- Lower Moreland Township has partnered with Waze and Google
- Maps through the Waze for Cities Connected Citizens Program.
- This program will connect the Lower Moreland Township Police
- directly with Waze and Google Maps to assist motorists with
- immediate information about closed roads and other traffic
- hazards as well as detours. Through the Waze for Cities program
- the Lower Moreland Township Police hope to assist in lowering
- traffic congestion and address community concerns related to
- traffic in Lower Moreland Township. For more information about
- the Waze for Cities Connected Citizens Program please visit
- <https://www.waze.com/ccp>.

## Lower Moreland Police Department joins forces with Ring

- The Lower Moreland Police Department recently partnered with
- Ring, a home security and smart home company owned by
- Amazon, and the Neighbors by Ring app. This app allows police
- departments to solicit possible video evidence from residents
- who are part of the program. Residents in the “Neighbors Group”
- can also post videos of unreported crimes, which the Lower
- Moreland Police Department can view. Our Department can
- also post warnings about possible problems or crimes in the
- area, further providing Lower Moreland residents with real-time
- information. The app can be downloaded from the Apple App
- Store or Google Play.

## ATV Regulations

- We would like to remind residents that Pennsylvania Vehicle
- Code strictly prohibits the operation of all-terrain vehicles (ATVs)
- or snowmobiles on roadways. The operation of ATVs or similar
- sized vehicles in Township parks is also prohibited by Township
- Ordinance 132-1(28). If you see these vehicles on roadways or
- parks in the community, please call 911.

## A Message from Chief Scirrotto



### Dear Members of the Lower Moreland Community:

In light of recent current events, I would like to take this opportunity to address how the Lower Moreland Township Police Department is taking steps to provide the highest level of police services.

### Competitive Hiring Process

The Lower Moreland Township Police Department has established a rigorous and competitive hiring process which includes physical fitness testing, mental health evaluations and extensive background investigations. Through this process, the department has been able to employ outstanding, professional and diverse men and women to serve the Lower Moreland community.

### Community Policing Programs

During my first year as Chief of Police, I introduced several community policing programs aimed at strengthening partnerships with people who live and work in the community. These programs can help foster trust and transparency, leading to more efficient and effective policing. The Department has completed over thirty community events including: Bus Stop Buddies, Mock Teen Bedroom, attended Back to School Nights at local schools and participated in active shooter education and training. Also, our department has partnered with the Lower Moreland Township School District to hire a School Resource Officer (SRO), responsible for safety and crime prevention in the district's schools.

### De-escalation Training

The Lower Moreland Police Department prides itself in having one of the most progressive Arrest and Control Tactics Training

- programs in the region. Established last year, the program utilizes
- techniques associated with Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, a self-defense
- martial art. These techniques aim at reducing the intensity of
- an encounter with a suspect and decreasing the need to use a
- higher level of force, all while maintaining control of the situation.
- Officers receive mandatory annual training with the option of
- additional training as well. Classes are taught by LMPD Officer
- Aleksander Sireev and me, as we have both attained black
- belts in Jiu Jitsu. I have also taught this program for the Temple
- University and Montgomery County Community College Police
- Academies for over a decade and have engaged the Municipal
- Police Officers Education and Training Commission in hopes of
- using our program as the model Defensive Tactics Curriculum
- for the entire state.

### New Policing Technology

- The use of technology has greatly helped transform current
- police work. All police vehicles are equipped with a dash
- camera. Video from these cameras are reviewed by department
- supervisors to ensure that officers are maintaining the highest
- professional and performance standards during their patrols. Any
- use of force incidents are thoroughly reviewed and critiqued to
- provide improvement among our ranks and safeguard against
- any improper actions. The department is working towards a
- bodycam program, which will provide additional oversight.

- I believe that our police department is leading the charge in
- hiring the best candidates, fostering strong relationships with
- our community, implementing safe policing techniques and
- utilizing state-of-the-art technology. Should you have any
- questions or concerns regarding the department's operation,
- feel free to contact me at 215-947-3132 or [dsCirrotto@](mailto:dsCirrotto@lowermoreland.org)
- [lowermoreland.org](http://lowermoreland.org).

- Yours in Service,
- Chief David J. Scirrotto

## Tax Collector

What a spring we have had! I hope that you and your families have been able to make it through these trying times. Although it has been a lot of togetherness, it has allowed all of us the opportunity to take a step back and re-evaluate the important things in our lives, family.

In light of the pandemic, tax due dates have been changed on the Lower Moreland Township and Montgomery County real estate tax bills. **We are now in the FACE DUE date period which will expire on AUGUST 20, 2020.**

The operations of the tax office have changed a little due to the Township Building's closure. I have been working mostly at home but will be returning to the Township Building over the summer. One thing that will not change is that CASH

- WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED for the
- remainder of this year.
- Even though the Township Building
- has reopened, the lobby is not large
- enough for residents to socially distance
- to accommodate the number of in-person
- payments. I still strongly recommend that you
- mail your Township, County and School tax payments into the
- office or drop off in a sealed envelope into the lock box outside
- the building.
- If you have any questions please call 215-947-7661 or email
- [lowermoreland.taxcollector@gmail.com](mailto:lowermoreland.taxcollector@gmail.com).
- Thank you,
- Jane Ann Saile, Tax Collector



# Code Enforcement Department

## Building Permits

Considering the installation of a new fence, pool, or deck this summer? It is important to understand when a permit is needed. Permits need to be obtained for most general construction, plumbing and electrical projects. A permit is also required for signs, fences (new or replacement), sheds, gazebos, pergolas and sidewalks. Permits are not required for painting or wall covering, general landscaping, re-shingling a roof, replacing but not moving plumbing fixtures (except water heaters), cabinets or counter tops and siding.

Please note, permits usually take about 15 business days to process. Once your project is ready for inspections, please notify the Township so we can properly close out your permit. If you are unsure whether a permit is needed, call the Code Department at 215-947-3100. **Work performed without obtaining a permit first can result in the doubling of fees.**

## Grading Permits

The enactment of Act 167 in Pennsylvania passes the responsibility to manage stormwater runoff to local municipalities. The result is an obligation on a landowner to manage even the most minor of construction projects through proper design of stormwater management facilities. In general, most patio, building addition, pool and driveway expansion projects require a grading permit. To find out if your project requires a grading permit, call the Code Department at 215-947-3100.

## Fire Marshal

**Be Alert • Be Informed**  
**READYMONTCO**

### Stay Informed- Sign Up for ReadyMontco

Want to receive notifications regarding emergencies, severe weather, crime alerts and disasters in Montgomery County? Sign up for ReadyMontco, a mass notification system administered by the Montgomery County Department of Public Safety that allows you to receive emergency and community notifications via your preferred delivery method. The service is free of charge but text messaging and voice rates may apply.

To sign up, visit <http://readymontco.org/>. You will need to create a profile, provide a method of contact (text, personal or business email or phone) and add a location. Select "Lower Moreland Township" under Community Info to receive Township alerts. There is also an option to receive County alerts, weather alerts and school information as well.

## Six Easy Ways to Prevent Stormwater Runoff Pollution

When stormwater flows over lawns, sidewalks and driveways, it picks up chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants. The stormwater then travels through a system of pipes and roadside ditches that make up stormwater systems. This water eventually flows directly to creeks, rivers, lakes, wetlands or coastal waters. Prevent stormwater runoff pollution at your home by following these guidelines:

- Wash cars at the car wash
- Pick up after your pet
- Never dump anything down a storm drain
- Check cars for oil leaks
- Use fertilizers and pesticides sparingly
- Compost your yard waste and organic waste

For more information and additional resources regarding stormwater, visit the Township's website at <https://lowermoreland.org/residents/stormwater>.



## Help Us Find Your Property in an Emergency

In an emergency, it is imperative that first responders are able to locate your home quickly. The Fire Code requires that new and existing buildings have approved address numbers, building numbers or approved building identification placed in a position that is plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property.

- Address numbers shall be Arabic numerals or alphabet letters, contrast with the background and be a minimum of 4 inches high with a stroke width of 1/2 inch. **Address numbers should be mounted on both sides of your mailbox or on your mailbox post and on the house in a visible location from the street.** Please note that numbers should not be spelled out. Numbers can be purchased at your local hardware store. Should you have any questions, contact the Fire Marshal at 215-947-3100.



# Huntingdon Valley Library

IMAGINE  
YOUR STORY



## Huntingdon Valley Library's Summer Learning Program begins on June 22!

Children, teens, and adults are all invited to participate in **Imagine Your Story** this summer. The new Beanstack app or website will allow you to log reading time & activities, plus submit raffle tickets for prizes, all online. Virtual events will include storytimes, author visits, trivia games, escape rooms, and a Mad Hatter Tea Party. Visit [www.hvlibrary.org/summer-learning](http://www.hvlibrary.org/summer-learning) for more information.

## MILLION MINUTE CHALLENGE!

Join our community reading challenge.



Who will read the most?

Adults, Teens or Children?



SPONSORED BY FRIENDS OF  
HUNTINGDON VALLEY LIBRARY  
2020

## Join the Million Minute Challenge!

Participate in the Summer Learning Program and join our Million Minute Challenge. We have set a community goal of reading one million minutes between June 22 and August 9. Who will read the most—children, teens, or adults? The winning team will earn something new for their area of the library. Visit the website at <http://hvlibrary.org/2020/06/million-minute-challenge/>

## Get Your Card Today!

Though the building may be closed, many of the materials owned by Huntingdon Valley Library can be accessed in their digital form through platforms like Overdrive, Libby, Hoopla and RBDigital. Visit [www.Hvlibrary.org](http://www.Hvlibrary.org) and get your card today! Sign up for our newsletter online to receive up-to-date information every Friday.



## **Lower Moreland Township**

640 Red Lion Road  
Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

Presort Standard  
US Postage  
PAID  
Philadelphia, PA  
Permit # 5634

# Community Organizations



## **Huntingdon Valley Fire Company**

The Huntingdon Valley Fire Company, a volunteer organization, provides fire protection to residents and businesses in Lower Moreland Township.

**636 Red Lion Road, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006**  
**215-947-2454 | [www.hvfire.org](http://www.hvfire.org) | [www.facebook.com/hvfc8](https://www.facebook.com/hvfc8)**



## **Huntingdon Valley Library**

Established in 1871, the Huntingdon Valley Library strives to enrich the community by providing an environment where people can gain knowledge by exchanging information and ideas. The library offers a variety of programs and events for people of all ages.

**625 Red Lion Road, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006**  
**215-947-5138 | [www.hvlibrary.org](http://www.hvlibrary.org) | [www.facebook.com/hvlibrary](https://www.facebook.com/hvlibrary) | <https://twitter.com/HVLOnline>**



## **Huntingdon Valley Athletics Association**

For more than 60 years, the Huntingdon Valley Athletics Association has provided youth sports and activities to Lower Moreland residents and the surrounding community. HVAA sponsors recreational and travel programs including soccer, baseball, softball, basketball, roller hockey, chess and martial arts. Visit **[www.hvaa.net](http://www.hvaa.net)** for more information.